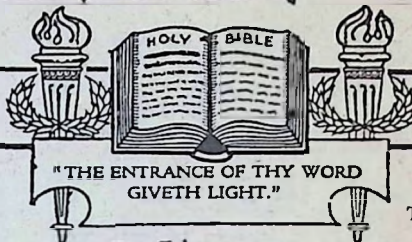


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

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VOL. XLIV., No. 40.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1941.

The Challenge to Youth.

W. J. E. Lewis.

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We hear much these days of world reconstruction and a "new order," and my thoughts began to revolve round these words. I recalled the words of President Roosevelt, Churchill, and other leaders of thought and action to the effect that, in the consideration of a new world order, the world must needs look, not to material forces, but to spiritual, if any lasting good is to be accomplished. Then I thought of an old order, which our Lord came down from heaven to inaugurate, and which has not yet been universally accepted by the nations. An order, which if accepted and put into practice, would so obviously do what all the world in its heart wants doing, that the marvel is why the world has rejected it, for under its sway, love, brotherly kindness, liberty and justice would follow, as the "day the night."

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Whether this "order" of Christ's is to be given a chance in the reconstruction of a new world depends on the young people of to-day; depends upon how they work for and support the church which is the body to which Jesus entrusted the work of carrying out his mission to save the world from sin, the consequences of which the world is paying for now in blood and tears of anguish unspeakable. Young people, if you and your children of the future would live in a world of peace, it is for you to choose the narrow way. Christ's challenge is to you; will you accept?

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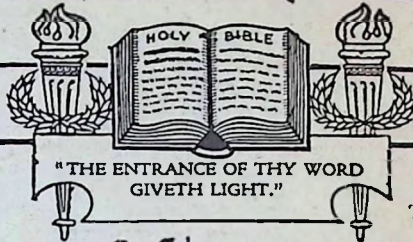
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Devotion to Christ.

RARELY if ever, we think, have a plea for loyalty to the Word of God and a loving Christian spirit been so combined than in the famous "Declaration and Address" written by Thomas Campbell. This is one of the great documents of Christendom, which is worthy of the attention of the whole Christian world, and which could be read with special profit by every member of the church. In the "Memoirs of Elder Thomas Campbell" the following beautiful tribute is paid to this great reformer and loyal Christian: "A supreme devotion to truth in general, but especially to the Truth, and to him who is THE WAY, THE TRUTH, and THE LIFE, characterised his public and private life."

At the Table of the Lord

BLESSINGS OF FORGETFULNESS.

"I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more."—Jeremiah 31: 34.

THE pleasures and uses of memory have often been extolled. "Mnemosyne, or Memory," was called by the ancients the mother of the Muses, because all the arts and the sciences depend on memory for their existence and progress. Education, many of life's dearest enjoyments, the continuity of personality and therefore much of immortal bliss, are dependent upon memory.

Over and over again the Scriptures bid us "remember." The Lord's Supper was instituted by him who knew our needs and the great dangers of forgetfulness. But we must be sadly aware that there are sorrows as well as pleasures attaching to memory. What would not the world give for that which would banish the horrors of remorse! In all our lives there have been bitter experiences—many of them sinful, some foolish, and some over-weighted with sorrow—which have lingered with us and at times unmanned us. One writer remarks: "Strange how ugly things, painful experiences, missed opportunities, stand out as cruel, jagged peaks in memory. Am I wrong when I say that a single unkind word lingers longer in the mind than one hundred kind words?" If this is true, it is a very sad thought. Alas, too often lives are marred by memories of failures on our part and the thoughtless, even cruel, words and acts of others. Reflection upon these things shows us the wisdom of the apostle's words about "forgetting the things which are behind." To dwell in memory too much upon past achievements develops a spirit of complacency and encourages us to sit at ease in Zion. To brood upon the failures of other days may lead to discouragement and defeat. The dead past must be buried.

While in the Bible the need of remembrance is often inculcated, some great passages declare or suggest the blessing of forgetfulness. The supreme text tells of God's forgetfulness. Few verses in God's Word mean more to the redeemed soul than that containing the promise: "I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin will I remember no more." Oh, the blessed forgetfulness of God, who puts our sins behind his back and removes them from us as far as the east is from the west! And God desires us to be forgiving and forgetful as he himself is. As we surround the table which is a memorial of the forgiving love of God, we are to forgive others their trespasses against us, to lay aside thoughts of injuries received, of petty spite, meannesses, slights, innuendoes, nasty words. We are to forgive fully and enjoy the blessings of divine forgiveness. God's memory of us and his forgetfulness of our sins are twin truths which cheer and comfort his people. Thus, though it seems a paradox, it is true that thoughts of forgetfulness are most helpful in leading to a proper observance of the memorial feast.

Christian Homes.

Gordon R. Clark, B.A.

HAVE you ever noticed how the Lord's Prayer may be fulfilled in a good Christian home? There the father is worthy of the love and reverence of the family of which he is the head. He orders the home by love, and not according to law. He grants such of his family's petitions as will be best for them. He provides their food each day. He forgives their trespasses, even if he must first meet the demands of justice by punishing the offenders. He guards them from temptation and evil.

But any father who tried to satisfy his family's physical needs would thus fulfil the Lord's Prayer. The Christian father must go further, and make God pre-eminent in the home as he is in the prayer. For each personality may conveniently be divided into three parts—the body, which craves food; the mind, which seeks knowledge; and the soul, which thirsts for God. At home we supply the physical wants; at school the mental faculties are trained. But where shall the child receive its spiritual education?

At present religious instruction occupies half an hour each week in day schools and about as much time in Bible schools. It takes at least an hour a day to feed the body, and yet we are content to starve the soul by allowing it a brief hour a week. Would you be content if your child was taught English and arithmetic for only one hour each week? How, then, can you be satisfied to neglect the spiritual education of your child? Secular education is compulsory—but it cares only for the mental and physical needs, and spiritual education is optional. The school is failing in its task—it can produce nothing but educated beasts, and we must turn back to the home for soul culture.

In the home the young child first learns of the love of God as he listens to Bible stories. There, too, he learns to pray. But as he grows older he is allowed to drift, possibly because his parents notice that he retreats into his shell when religion is mentioned. Most children are reticent, especially with their parents, about religious matters. Yet they yearn for instruction in these things which puzzle them so much. Many times I have been surprised at the interest shown by adolescent boys in a scripture lesson, and the questions they ask should fill with shame the

parents who have disregarded the opportunity of speaking often with their children about the soul and its needs.

For the older child, Bible-reading is not enough. Many times I have sat at the tea-table and looked at the faces of the boys seated there while the Bible was being read. In many faces there was no sign of interest or understanding, and rarely, if ever, has any of the glorious truths been carried away from the table. Yet the Bible must be central—it must be read, studied, explained. Question the children on what they have heard; ask questions that will test what they have learned as they listened; ask questions that will stimulate thought on what they have learned. Encourage the children to think and to ask questions about the passage you have read. Invite them to retell the story, or explain the passage in their own words—either at the end of one study or before you read the portion for the next day. This is what you expect teachers to do for your children at school; it is the least you can do for them at home. And you have a great advantage over the teacher; you can be informal and personal in your home as no teacher can in class. But above all, introduce variety, changing your methods from day to day.

Again, you can help your children much by bearing witness to the power of God in your life. They do not know what to expect, because life now is so different from what it was in biblical times. Jesus commissioned the apostles to be witnesses unto him first where they were (Acts 1: 8); he makes us his witnesses first where we live—in our own homes. John declared the things he had seen, heard, experienced (1 John 1: 1, 3); we must tell others—especially our children—what we have experienced of the power of the Lord. If we can break down our reticence to speak of spiritual things to our children, they will find that the barriers have gone—their reticence will vanish, and the soul's thirst will be quenched as naturally as the body is fed and the mind developed.

Let your children be as so many flowers, borrowed from God. If the flowers die or wither, thank God for a summer loan of them.—Samuel Rutherford.

What Would Happen?

WHAT would happen, Dr. Boreham asked recently at Scots Church, Melbourne, if a great religious revival were to sweep across the world just now? The histories of the great revivals of the past showed, he said, that no two revivals were alike; each was attuned to the conditions of the place and time; yet, in certain fundamental respects, they closely resembled each other. Every great revival, for example, had stressed the unutterable preciousness of the individual. Life assumed a new value. After the historic revival of the eighteenth century, the death-rate in England was sensationally reduced. By intensifying the sense of the value of life, a revival gives fresh impetus to medical research and it abolishes the filthy conditions on which disease battens. On the same principle, the revival of two centuries ago uplifted the slave, stopped the wholesale destruction of new-born babies and paved the way for democracy. Democracy, Dr. Boreham said, is not merely a political principle. It is a recognition of the spiritual value of the ordinary man. For this

reason the war is a great crusade. Nazism stands for the obliteration of all spiritual value in the individual; it represents the harnessing of a soulless man to a soulless machine. A new revival, by emphasising the unspeakable worth of human life, would abolish war as earlier revivals had abolished other sinister forces that made life cheap. Moreover, a recognition of the spiritual and eternal value of the human soul would inevitably produce a more sacred relationship between one man and another. Each man would feel his responsibility for the welfare of others and such a sentiment would strike at the roots of all our petty industrial squabbles. A new revival, Dr. Boreham declared, would speedily bring to a triumphant close the missionary enterprise of the church. But, he added, such a revival cannot be engineered. A spiritual conquest can only be achieved by spiritual forces. The divine fire must fall. But fire spreads, and, if only the flame were ignited in the soul of one member of that congregation, the whole city, the Commonwealth, the world, would be infected by the holy conflagration.

Federal Conference.

Wilkie J. Thomson.

IT was a great disappointment to many, and particularly to the West Australian brethren, that the 19th Federal Conference could not be held in that State, but the decision to hold it in Adelaide has been fully justified. It is a matter for the highest commendation that, having only six months to prepare, the S.A. executive, under the presidency of Bro. A. L. Read, M.V.O., I.S.O., with Bro. A. Anderson as secretary, should have so efficiently organised the conference in Adelaide from Sept. 23 to 27. Delegates came from every State, and considering the exigency of the times, each State was well represented. The numerical registrations were as follow: N.S.W., 36; Queensland, 21; Victoria, 112; Tasmania, 10; Western Australia, 21, making a total of 200 visiting delegates. The meetings were large, the business sessions were well attended, and the fellowship was good.

Bro. Read presided over the gatherings in his usual gracious and efficient way. He was capably assisted by the vice-president, Bro. Chas. Schwab.

The reception to delegates, tendered by Bro. and Sister Read in Birk's "Piccadilly," was a happy occasion. Visitors were welcomed by the president, and leaders of each State delegation responded.

Following upon the devotions at the opening of the business sessions on Wednesday, Sept. 24, a resolution of loyalty was carried. Among the greetings received were those from Jesse M. Bader, secretary World Conference of Churches of Christ, and the vice-president, Reg. Enniss; the N.Z. brotherhood, and the missionaries in the Indian and New Hebridean fields. The Hon. T. Playford, Premier of S.A., personally attended and welcomed the delegates. He said that any new world order must be built upon two things, viz., Christian life and Christian service. The president, in his address on "The Call of To-day," reviewed the growth of the work and appealed to the churches for the future.

Conference stood in memory of the late Bro. C. J. Garland and carried the following resolution: "That this conference meeting in Adelaide places on record its appreciation of the services rendered to the Australian Churches of Christ by our late beloved president, C. J. Garland. It also expresses its deep sense of loss occasioned by his death and that the deepest sympathy is extended to Sister Mrs. Garland."

Business Sessions.

The business sessions were held in the Grote-st. chapel, and were marked by good feeling, interest, esteem and constructive discussions.

Next conference is to be held in Queensland, and the following officers were elected: President, C. R. Burdeu; vice-president, L. A. Trezise; secretary, H. E. Greenwood; assistant secretary, W. Rothery; treasurer, H. G. Payne.

Committee.—R. L. Williams, R. L. Arnold, G. McKelvie, F. Enchelmaier, W. A. C. Wendorf, G. Taudevin.

It was resolved by the conference: "That the present executive in S.A. retain office until March 31, 1942, so as to satisfactorily complete the records of this conference, as agreed to by the Queensland executive."

Foreign Missions Board (S.A.).—A. L. Read (chairman), A. Anderson (secretary), O. V. Mann (treasurer), J. W. Cosh, R. J. Finlayson, Dr. P. S. Messent, Keith A. Jones.

College of the Bible (Vic.).—Robert Lyall (chairman), T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed. (ex officio), F. T. Saunders (secretary), R. L. Lenne (treasurer), W. T. Atkin, A. W. Cleland, T. Hagger, Dr. W. A. Kemp, F. N. Lee, G. L. Murray, H. J. Patterson.

Preachers' Provident Fund (N.S.W.).—T. E. Rofe (chairman), W. H. Hall (hon. secretary and

treasurer), H. E. Bell (assistant hon. secretary), C. Graham, J. Crawford, F. S. Steer, Dr. C. A. Vercu.

Social Questions and Services Board, Vic.—W. T. Atkin (president), L. A. Collyer (vice-president), G. M. Mathieson (vice-president), F. P. Chipperfield (treasurer), W. H. Clay (secretary), W. G. Graham (assistant secretary), J. E. Austin, F. Rodgers-Wilson, F. J. Funston, W. A. Brown.

Canberra Committee (N.S.W.).—T. E. Rofe (chairman), W. J. Crossman (secretary and treasurer), R. A. Fox, H. G. Harward, W. H. Hall, F. S. Steer.

Hymn Book Committee (Vic.).—Robert Lyall (chairman), F. T. Saunders (secretary), T. H. Scambler, D. E. Pittman.

Australian Aborigines' Mission Board (W.A.).—Albany Bell (president), J. Wiltshire (vice-president), A. G. Elliott, B.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed. (secretary), A. C. Olds, A.I.C.A. (treasurer), T. Marsden, R. Raymond.

The Victorian Bible Schools and Young People's Department will continue to act as a Federal committee.

Executive Reports.

The W.A. executive report was presented by R. Raymond. It was not Western Australia's inability to manage a Federal conference, but the difficulty of interstate transport that caused W.A. to surrender its privilege. A great deal of organisation had been carried out.

Statistics showed that the total membership of the churches at last Federal Conference was 32,969. The aggregate at present reported is 33,305. There are 23,692 Bible school scholars and 3739 teachers.

The work accomplished in the production of the directory has revealed the necessity of the appointment of an archives officer to preserve historical documents. By resolution of conference the appointments were made by the executive. Such matters as "Chaplains," "Darwin," "conscientious objectors" had received attention.

Aborigine Work.

This was a major item arising, as the last conference had instructed the executive to explore the possibilities of this work. The W.A. delegation came with a proposal to amend the constitution to permit of the creation of an aborigines' board. The amendment to the Federal constitution was presented by Bro. Albany Bell (W.A.) and carried unanimously. It creates a new board known as the Australian Aborigines' Mission Board, to be comprised of seven members elected by the Federal conference from members of the West Australian churches nominated by the conference executive of that State. The board will be located in Perth. Each State shall be entitled to appoint a State Aborigines' Committee comprised of not more than seven members. Such committees shall be appointed in the respective State according to the custom and rules applying to that State. Subject to the approval of the Federal conference and the consent of the co-operating State committees. The board shall have the direction and control of all work among the aborigines, including the raising and dispensing of funds. The State committees that are appointed shall be kept informed of all business dealt with and to be dealt with by the board, and shall be guided in its decision by the wishes of the State committees. Any vacancy occurring on the board shall be filled by the remaining members subject to the approval of the Federal executive. The board shall be elected at each Federal conference, and shall submit complete reports of its operations and financial position to each State and Federal conference.

A further resolution was adopted: "That in

order to facilitate prompt action, each State conference executive be requested to appoint an interim committee on the aborigines question pending the holding of the respective conferences."

College of the Bible.

The report presented by the chairman of the board said that J. Adams and A. R. Main had retired from the board at the end of 1940 and A. W. Cleland and T. Hagger were elected to fill the vacancies. On the retirement of A. R. Main, M.A., as principal, T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed., had been appointed. E. L. Williams, M.A., joined the faculty in 1939. As the present diploma course was three years the board of management under mandate from last conference had, together with a commission appointed by the Victorian executive, made enquiries with a view to adding a fourth year to the diploma course. The following recommendations had been approved: (1) A Bible course of at least four years, during which three university subjects would be taken; or (2) Three years' lectures plus a year's course of directed reading. Entrance requirements had been simplified without lowering the standard for admission to the Bible course. There are now nine scholarships extant. Last year a correspondence course had been inaugurated and a refresher course was held this year. Evangelistic missions had been conducted by the principal and students. Consideration had been given to the setting apart of students by a service of ordination at the completion of their studies, and it is hoped to hold the first of these this year.

The College had benefited considerably from the C. H. Chown bequest of £3000 to provide a fourth year of study, £500 providing a scholarship for that year, and £2000 for a chapel building. Other bequests were from Mrs. A. R. Bolduan (Vic.), Miss M. Silvester (W.A.), F. P. Shaw (Vic.), and C. J. Garland (W.A.). The 1940 offering exceeded £1100—the highest since 1929. Total assets amounted to £18,478. To help reduce the overdraft an appeal was made by A. A. Hughes at the Friday night's meeting, when £236 was raised in cash and promises.

A notice of motion to amend the constitution so as to arrange for the State college committees to be appointed by each State conference was agreed to. The following resolution was heartily carried: "That this conference meeting in Adelaide express its confidence in the board of management, the principal and faculty of the College of the Bible at Glen Iris, and records its appreciation of their service to the Australian brotherhood."

Foreign Mission Board.

Presented by A. L. Read, the report regretted the resignation of A. J. Gard and John Fisher, the former having given 14 years' and the latter 26 years' unbroken service.

Since last conference a number of those who were engaged in our missionary work had been called to higher service: G. T. Walden (secretary emeritus), Rosa L. Tonkin (Shanghai), Mrs. Strutton (India), Mrs. Cameron (China), Mrs. Waters (New Hebrides). The service of five missionaries had been lost to the fields, but seven had gone to take their places or reinforce the work. Since the outbreak of war 25 (missionaries and children) had crossed the seas safely. Eleven missionaries were now living links of churches, sisterhoods or individuals.

The new chapel at Dhond, the gift of R. Campbell Edwards, is in course of construction. That the government now considers the reclamation of the criminal tribes complete is a triumph of missionary care and oversight.

The reports covered in brief the work on the fields. India: Baramati, Dhond, Diksal, Shrigonda, Indapur. There were four main churches with a total membership of over 400 and 540 Bible school scholars. New Hebrides: Maewo, Pentecost, Aoba. There were more than 40 churches on the three islands with a total membership of 1200. Aoba had the greater

number of these, showing 26 churches with a membership of 1000.

The support given to the Chinese Home Missionary Society enabled evangelistic, educational and medical work to be carried on despite the war there. Pearl Anderson had done noble work in bombed areas. The receipts totalled £29,533. Endowments had risen from under £3000 to nearly £7000.

Federal Social Questions Board.

Presented by G. Mathieson, the report showed that much thought had been given to the matter of social re-construction. The notice of motion brought forward by the Federal president (A. L. Read) bearing upon this matter was carried unanimously: "That the States' executives be recommended to establish a post-war reconstruction sub-committee in each State to assist in every spiritual proposal for planning and effecting the return of the men and women of the fighting services to church association and regular employment. Also to act as panel for advice to those associated with the churches in vocational and all difficulties which they may encounter in returning to civil life."

There was a good deal of discussion concerning Darwin, and a resolution forthcoming is appended at the end of this conference report.

The Ashwood House for women and the Christian Guest Home for both sexes in N.S.W. and Victoria had solved a problem of necessities old age in these States so far as our own folk are concerned. The Boys' Home in N.S.W. had fully justified itself. The Christian Fellowship Associations in Victoria, N.S.W. and Queensland had a total membership of 4000 and weekly contributions amounted to £30. The C.F.A. is a no liability concern and never overdraws its account.

Preachers' Provident Fund.

The report was presented by T. E. Rofe. C. J. Morris had received the home-call, and his place had been filled by G. Graham. Amounts received from all sources totalled £6659. Two bequests of £100 each from the estates of the late Sisters M. H. Dickson and L. Colvin had been received. Assets now amounted to £17,000. The committee has under consideration a scheme to erect a small cottage in each State to accommodate a retired preacher and his wife free of rent.

A notice of motion from W. H. Mall, the hon. secretary, that a clause be altered in the constitution allowing a cover of £50 being given to each contributor, providing that not less than £5 per annum be paid into the fund, was agreed to, and that the amount be increased to £75 as soon as the Board saw fit to do so.

Hymn Book Committee.

The hymn book has been in circulation ten years and 28,000 copies have been issued. It was hoped that all churches would soon have adopted the use of the book.

Canberra Committee.

There has been no change in the prospects of establishing a church in that city. £1800 had been loaned to the City Temple (Sydney), leaving a credit of £175.

Bible School and Young People's Department.

Presented by R. P. Morris, the report stated that the Victorian department had continued to act as a Federal Board. Examinations had been arranged, all States but W.A. co-operating. The balance sheet showed the receipt and payment of £78.

Public Meetings.

The home and foreign mission meetings were held in the Adelaide Town Hall and were combined as State and Federal. Roy Raymond represented Federal interests at the former meeting, when the City Hall was filled to capacity. It was a joy to have Miss Caldicott and Mr. and Mrs. Colin Thomas present, and their addresses were much enjoyed.

One of the most enthusiastic meetings was the Christian union rally, at which J. R. Blanchard, B.A., of Scots Church, Adelaide, spoke on "A United Church for a World Task," and Principal T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed., took as his subject, "Churches of Christ in the Programme for Christian Unity."

The two addresses given on the Christian education night were entitled "Christian Education Through Teaching" and "Christian Education Through Training," the speakers being Frank Hunting, youth organiser, N.S.W., and A. A. Hughes, of Swanston-st., Melbourne.

Devotions.

These sessions were not the least of the helpful times enjoyed. The themes were, "Christ Our Lord," "Christ Our Peace" and "Christ Our Hope," and were taken by Roy Vincent W.A., J. E. Allan (Vic.), and Stuart Stevens (N.S.W.) respectively. I. Paternoster addressed the preachers at their session on "The Ministry of Reconciliation."

Sectional Groups Conferences.

All were agreed that these were most helpful and enlightening, and the finding of these groups is worthy of publication at a later date.

Social.

Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Downs and all the ladies of the churches who so magnificently responded to providing for the material needs. Much happy fellowship was enjoyed around the luncheon and tea tables.

The College of the Bible Old Boys' re-union was the usual happy festive occasion. A. Anderson was elected Federal president of the Glen Iris Old Boys' Association and H. Earle secretary. Forty-eight delegates enjoyed the unpremeditated hospitality of Robert Lyall at Moore's Roof Gardens, whilst a group of old Kentuckians dined together. Buses took about 90 delegates to a visit to the Morialta Protestant Children's Homes.

Other Resolutions.

"This Federal Conference meeting in Adelaide sympathises with the conference in W.A. in the inadvisability to hold this 19th Federal Conference which under normal conditions would have been in the city of Perth, and appreciates the surrender of its claims in order to give the Australian brotherhood an opportunity of meeting in conference."

"Now that the college in N.S.W. has come into existence, it is resolved that this Federal Conference prays that it be used by God to the glory of his name. This conference respectfully urges the N.S.W. conference in making its financial arrangements to choose a day for the annual offering other than the first Lord's day in October, and do all in its power to work in harmonious co-operation with the board of management of the College of the Bible at Glen Iris."

"That this conference places on record its appreciation of the long and honored services of Bro. Robert Lyall to the Australian brotherhood both as a member of Federal Conference since its inception and of which he was twice president and also as a member of the board of management of the College of the Bible for 34 years and chairman for the past 27 years."

"That this conference urges its executive to do all in its power to encourage the members now meeting in Darwin. That in view of the existing social conditions there we request the executive to explore the possibility of co-operation with the religious bodies already there, as to united action; or alternatively to enquire into the possibility of co-operation with the Baptists, and to this end conference directs its executive to take such action as is wise and possible. That concerning any action for the establishment of a strong cause when and if the executive deems wise, we urge that efforts be made to secure the services of the Hinrichsen mission party."

"That the Preachers' Provident Fund be asked

to investigate the pension fund of our American churches and endeavor to develop a comparable scheme for the preachers of the Australian churches."

"That this conference notes with interest the appointment in Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia of united committees representing Baptists and Churches of Christ to foster closer fellowship in united efforts in life and service, and recommends that similar action be taken in other States."

"That in States where a standing committee of the Federal Conference is located (viz., Preachers' Provident Fund, College of the Bible, Foreign Mission Committee, etc.) the State Federal Executives be constituted a Nominating Committee, whose duties shall be the nominating of brethren suitable for election to the respective committees. Such nominations to be in the hands of the Federal secretary seven days prior to conference; provided always that further nominations may be made in open conference until an appointed hour."

"This conference, whilst recognising the reasonable treatment so far accorded to conscientious objectors to military service, regrets that no provisions have been made, similar to the law in Britain, to cover the objector who is unable to accept any service under military control, and unable to take the military oath for conscientious reasons, and requests an early amendment of the Defence Act to make such provisions. This conference requests the executive committee to take the necessary action to acquaint the Minister for War of this resolution."

"That this conference strongly recommends to all churches and preachers in Australia and New Zealand that preachers change their appointments in the month of January in any stated year, to promote a more reasonable, economical and satisfactory placement of preachers."

"That this recommendation be forwarded to all churches concerned, through the medium of State and Federal papers, together with an explanation of the recommendation."

Women's Federal Conference.

THE first constituted Women's Federal Conference was held in Mile End chapel, S.A., on Friday, Sept. 26, with an attendance of from 350 to 400 women, including about 100 interstate delegates. Mrs. A. L. Read, the president, opened the meeting with an expression of loyalty. Morning devotions were led by Mrs. T. H. Scambler, of Melbourne, her thought provoking theme being "The Time is Now."

Business session was opened by the president, who explained the reason for the conference being held in Adelaide, and expressed regret that the women of Western Australia had been deprived of the privilege.

A roll-call showed following delegations: India, 2; Victoria, 45; New South Wales, 13; Queensland, 12; Western Australia, 8; Tasmania, 5.

Later in the day the number of interstate visitors reached approximately 100. The delegates were very cordially welcomed by the president, Mrs. J. Gordon, of Western Australia, responding on behalf of all.

The main business of the conference was the ratification (with two slight alterations) of the constitution which had been compiled from suggestions submitted from all the States.

Mrs. Green said that on the constituting of the Women's Federal Conference we had reached a landmark in our women's work, and moved that we place on record the efforts of all who had worked to establish a Women's Federal Conference.

Correspondence included greetings from all the women missionaries in India, and Queensland, Western Australian, and New South Wales State women's executives, and the general Federal Conference.

The location of the next Federal Conference having been fixed for Brisbane, the Queensland delegates nominated the Federal officers: President, Mrs. Allen Brooke; vice-president, Mrs. W. A. C. Wendorf; secretary, Mrs. Bates; assistant secretary, Mrs. W. Wiltshire; treasurer, Mrs. H. W. Hermann.

The following resolutions were then presented:

"That conference affirms its abhorrence of war as a means of settling the disputes of the nations, and determines to work more devotedly in the extension of the kingdom of God on earth. Also that women's organisations of the churches be encouraged to include panels or study circles to consider post-war and present-day problems of human society throughout the world, thereby making an intelligent contribution towards a Christian national standard and a lasting peace to the glory of God."

"That conference commends the Commonwealth Government for its child endowment proposals, and for the inclusion of certain aborigines in the scheme. Further that conference considers that a fully considered programme should be undertaken by the government for the education and development of aborigines to bring them into full citizenship."

At luncheon, prepared by the women of Mile End church, a time of happy fellowship was spent.

In the afternoon further business was considered. N.S.W. women's executive presented a notice of motion dealing with missionary education. "The N.S.W. women's conference having proved that missionary education is vital to the life of local women's organisations suggested a two-year national programme. A committee composed of two members from each State to be elected at Federal Conference. This committee to outline the work together while at conference. The committee to elect its own chairman."

The Missionary Department of Victorian Women's Conference recommended: (1) That if a special missionary work be resolved upon, it should be for preference the support of a woman missionary to the aborigines of Australia. (2) That this Federal Conference of women requests the Federal Aborigines' Board to appoint two women to represent the women of the Australian Churches of Christ on the Board. (3) That this Federal Conference of women request that each State, when appointing their State aborigine committee, include women representatives on the said committee.

Western Australia's women's auxiliary said the women of Western Australia would support all plans for improvement of youth relationships, and suggested something in the nature of pen-friends' club to interest young people in what they are doing in different States. After the discussion of above recommendations, the suggested committee of two delegates from each State was formed and discussed the missionary education and aborigine question.

Greetings were given by Mrs. C. V. Thomas and Miss E. Caldicott, India; Mrs. McCallum, N.S.W.; Miss Williams, Queensland; Mrs. Smillie, Western Australia; Mrs. Younger, Tasmania; Mrs. Bischoff, Victoria; Mrs. Nankivell, South Australia.

Greetings were interspersed by an elocutionary item by Miss Dorothy Hall, A.L.C.M., S.A., and a solo by Mrs. J. Turner, Melbourne. Women adjourned to the Town Hall for the reception and afternoon tea.

A presentation of a church hymn book was made to Mrs. Read in appreciation of her services as the Federal president. Mrs. Read moved a vote of thanks to all who had helped to make the conference such a success, and a special vote of thanks to the Mile End women for their untiring efforts and willing co-operation in preparing the luncheon and afternoon tea for so many women. A beautiful bouquet of flowers was presented to Mrs. Brice, convener of the catering, for her splendid effort.—Eva V. Anderson, assistant secretary.

The Call of To-day.

Federal Conference President's Address.

BRO. READ first gave a statement regarding the progress of our work since our first Federal Conference was held in 1889. The following particulars given by him will be of general interest:—

In the 52 years, the number of members has shown a marked increase. In the following table the States are listed in order of population:

	1889	1941
New South Wales	952	6205
Victoria	4500	12,681
Queensland . . .	480	3024
South Australia .	2023	7078
Western Australia	—	2466
Tasmania	—	851
	7955	32,305

News has been received of a growing group being gathered together at Darwin, where a large number of defence troops have been located.

Probably one of the most outstanding achievements of our work was the establishment of overseas missions in 1889 in response to the appeal of the late Bro. G. L. Wharton. The work has been specially blessed in India, China and the New Hebrides. From a matter of a few hundred pounds in 1889, the response has grown to approximately £9000 for all purposes (1941), whilst nearly a quarter of a million pounds has been given in the past fifty years for overseas work. The endowment fund, including investments, now stands at £7059, whilst more than seventy missionaries have been sent overseas.

In the year 1907 the College of the Bible was established for the preparation of young men and women for the work of the gospel at home and abroad. As an Australian-wide work, it has proven of wonderful benefit, and nearly all the preachers serving in the churches in these latter years have passed through our own college.

In addition, many men and women have gone overseas. Very heavy financial costs have been undertaken, and the college is now in possession of splendid lands and buildings approximating a capital value of over £18,000.

Intense periods of special evangelism have been successful over the years. The Preachers' Provident Fund has been established and young people's and social work undertaken with marked success.

Surely our record is no mean measure of growth and success, and we do well if we heartily and humbly thank our heavenly Father for being permitted to have a part in such a spiritual enterprise.

Towards the close of his address the president spoke as follows of the new world order:

We hear many conflicting views and ideas expressed in these days of a "new order" to arise out of the present conflict of the nations; but it seems that we are now being forced back to the Sermon on the Mount and the need of the extension of the kingdom of God on earth. Christ is the way, and without his way any new order will only mean a new chaos. There is, however, much good evident in the fact that there is a dissatisfaction more general and thoughtful than ever before, and, if spiritual values govern the changes to be made in the affairs of men, progress can be made towards the goal of a righteous peace and goodwill among men.

Dorothy Sayers in one of her books states that "the world is startled awake, complacency is destroyed, and even the vested interests are rocking uneasily on their foundations."

Another writer, Basil Mathews, in his readable book, "We Fight for the Future," in dealing

with subject peoples of civilised nations pays an extraordinary tribute to the influence of Christian teaching. He says: "The largely anonymous educational, medical, industrial and preaching work of thousands of missionaries, British, American and European, during a hundred and fifty years has been a strong, continuous influence, in creating and fighting for the conviction of the value of the individual, irrespective of race, throughout all the subject peoples of all the empires and in the western governments. Their efforts have been intermittently, and all too inadequately backed up by the pressure of outstanding Christians in commerce, in Parliament and in the government services." We are glad to have such a commendation in respect of subject peoples, and believe that it applies in a marked degree in our own British Commonwealth of Nations.

One can only view with alarm (whether the war continues or if it ceases) if our churches are not carefully taught and prepared for the reconstruction talked of by the secular press. At the close of the last war, the Christian church had little or no concerted contribution to make on the return of the fighting forces. It is our duty and responsibility to be ready to re-establish the returning, disillusioned, discouraged men and women, in the work of the church. It would seem that some central channel in each State should be formed whereby our brethren and sisters can obtain intelligent and patient guidance in the many vocational and other difficulties which will beset them. It seems very evident that it is the business of the church not only to bring people to the household of faith, but always to be able to assist them in translating into their lives the Christian religion.

Contrast.

THE following striking contrast is reprinted from the "Messenger":—

Adolf Hitler in "Mein Kampf": "The whole character and education of the true National State must find its apex in its racial instruction. It must brand the sense of race and the feeling of race in the instincts and the understanding of the hearts and the brains of the youth entrusted to it. No boy and no girl shall be permitted to leave school until he or she has been initiated into the deepest knowledge about the inner necessity and essence of blood purity."

From the Madras Meeting of the International Missionary Council (1938): "God has made all people of one blood. We would look on every man as a man, without prejudice or discrimination on account of race, birth, color, class or culture. The sacredness of a human personality becomes a working fact. A man is no longer a man—he is 'a man for whom Christ died.' In this new kingdom there cannot be Greek and Jew—racial discrimination; there cannot be Barbarian or Scythian—cultural discrimination; there cannot be bond or free—social discrimination; there cannot be male or female—sex discrimination. . . . Mankind is one. There are undeveloped races and classes, but none permanently superior or inferior, for every man has within him infinite possibility."

Under the heading "'Christian' Quislings," the editor of the London "Christian World" publishes the following paragraph: "Rev. W. T. Elmslie, the Presbyterian general secretary, tells me that attempts are being made in Norway to found a Christian Quisling movement, whose motto is 'For God, Quisling and Fatherland.' No great success, says Mr. Elmslie, appears to have been achieved in this direction so far."

Here and There.

Bro. H. E. Paddick has closed his labors with the church at Stirling and Aldgate Valley, S.A. We learn that he was to begin his new work with the church at Semaphore on Oct. 5.

On Monday morning we received the following telegram from Wagga, N.S.W.:—"Hinrichsen-Morris mission Wagga growing in interest; membership attendance about 100; prospects bright; four decisions.—Stow."

Bro. A. Anderson, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A., asks us to state that a few copies of the Federal Conference souvenir programme are still available, and that he will be glad to send one to any address on receipt of 1/- in stamps.

Members of the Victorian General Dorcas will meet on Wednesday next, Oct. 15, from 10.30 a.m. till 4 p.m., in Swanston-st. lecture hall, Melbourne. At 2.30 there will be the annual gift sale. All sisters interested are invited to attend.

Morning meeting at Marrickville, N.S.W., on Oct. 5 was fairly well attended. Mrs. Paine has been welcomed back after illness. Mr. Thomas spoke on "Individual and United Effort." In the afternoon the town hall was crowded for the opening of the Lionel Fletcher campaign. All district churches are wholeheartedly uniting in this final mission of the present campaign.

Bro. Albany Bell, of Perth, W.A., informs us that Miss Bentley, a former student of the College of the Bible, and Miss Eadie, are doing excellent work as missionaries to the aborigines at Norseman, W.A., and also that Mrs. Wade (who was baptised at Swanston-st. church by Bro. Horace Kingsbury) is, with her husband, a splendid worker with the aborigines at Warburton Ranges, near Morgan, W.A.

Bro. R. L. Williams has commenced his ministry at Albion, Qld. On morning of Oct. 5 Bro. Allen Brooke conducted an inspiring induction service, after which Bro. Williams spoke on "I Believe in God." Bro. C. R. Burdeu was congratulated on his appointment as president of Federal Conference. During the year the intermediate C.E. has raised £9 for home missions. Bro. Burdeu received this amount on behalf of the Home Mission Committee.

Bro. W. J. Murnane, of 73 York-st., Sale, Vic., where a successful rally of Gippsland isolated members was held on Sept. 28, as reported in our last issue, writes to recommend that such rallies be held at frequent intervals. He would like isolated members to write him and give their opinion of this. Bro. C. F. Houston, of Dargo, travelled 120 miles to attend the meeting. He is doing a fine work in the Sunday school at Dargo.

Brighton church, Vic., celebrated its 81st anniversary on Oct. 5. 150 people were present in morning, when Bro. A. W. Connor spoke on "Man shall not live by bread alone." Many past members met at home of Bro. and Sister T. R. Morris during afternoon, and a time of reminiscences was enjoyed. 60 members, past and present, gathered for fellowship tea, when some former members told of the early history of the church. Bro. Withers conducted gospel service, and the choir rendered special music. One young woman made her decision for Christ.

At recent sewing afternoon by Ladies' Guild, Glenelg, S.A., 200 articles were prepared for children's hospital. On Sept. 21 Bro. Thomson's subject was "The Springs of Endurance." At night Bro. G. Mathieson (conference visitor) preached. On Sept. 28, at Bible school anniversary, Bro. C. Schwab conducted a dedication of teachers at morning service. In the afternoon a crowded chapel was delighted with singing of school, under leadership of Mr. N. Haddick. The address was given by Dr. Beryl Bowering, of Bengal. The chapel was again filled at night, when Bro. Colin Thomas preached. Fellowship with interstate visitors was enjoyed. Sister Mrs. Dunstan, aged 89 years, passed away on Sept. 11.

Box Hill, Vic., S.S. anniversary services and concert held during past fortnight in Box Hill City Hall were of a high standard. Speakers were Bren. Candy, R. Baker, H. J. Patterson, M.A., and H. A. G. Clark, M.A. Attendances and the financial result were satisfactory. Mrs. Broderick, for years an active member at Box Hill, recently passed away. Annual civic service was held on morning of Oct. 5. Councillor R. H. Sparks, a deacon of the church, is this year's mayor.

At annual business meeting at East Kew, Vic., on Sept. 25, reports revealed a most successful year. Bro. Candy, on behalf of the church, received a communion table and three chairs given by Sister Mrs. Bryce, and a fourth chair given by Bro. Fairclough. These beautiful gifts will be of great service and are much appreciated. During the year over £600 was raised. Sunday school has commenced an efficiency campaign and new scholar drive. Bro. K. A. Macnaughtan will be the evangelist at a Victory Crusade in November.

I am the Church Hymnal.

A MESSAGE TO YOUNG PEOPLE.

I am the Church Hymn Book, the product of many minds in many ages.

I am a treasury of the spiritual thoughts and record the spiritual pilgrimage of noble souls.

Within me reside the elite of the Christian centuries and communions. You may hear them think their thoughts aloud if you keep company with me.

Wed me to the eternal harmonies made vocal in music, and you will find that I will cause your heart to glow with affection; I will stir you to worship God in thanksgiving and adoration; I will challenge you to confess, commune, surrender and serve God.

If I am too clumsy for daily use, imprint my messages on your mind and I promise to comfort, cheer and befriend you when no one else is nigh.

Peruse me! Use me! Reverence me!—It is my mission to stimulate the soul and to glorify God.

I am the Church Hymnal.

—W. R. Hibburt.

"Moody Monthly" says, editorially: "Safety first as a philosophy of life makes for compromise rather than conviction. . . . It makes men cringing rather than courageous. It does every honest thing it must, and every dishonest thing it can get away with. It makes for softness in civilisation."

We note that Mrs. W. Morrow has been appointed president of the Adelaide Y.W.C.A. The S.A. "Advertiser" mentions that she is the widow of Hon. Wm. Morrow, M.L.C., and that she has been a member of the Y.W.C.A. board for 15 years and a vice-president for four years. It also states that Mrs. Morrow will bring to her presidential office the energy and organising ability which have characterised her many years of work with the association, a genial nature, and a keen appreciation of the needs of young people of to-day.

During Federal Conference interstate speakers filled the pulpit at Henley Beach, S.A.—Principal Scambler at gospel service on Sept. 21, Bro. J. A. Wilkie (Ballarat), and Bro. Thos. Hagger (Gardiner) on Sept. 28. Oct. 5 was observed as Youth Day, F. C. Hunting (N.S.W.) being speaker at all services. Films were shown to Bible school in afternoon, and at night a full church gathered for youth rally. A choir formed of young people gave the anthem. After Bro. Hunting's message a young lady from the Bible school confessed Christ.

On Sept. 28 Bro. G. D. Verco, preacher of Hamilton church, N.S.W., delivered appreciated addresses, to the churches at Taree and Wingham. At Taree a duet by Mrs. A. G. Saunders ham. At Taree was enjoyed. Outstanding success marked the annual social of Sisters' Aid and Missionary Class on Sept. 30. On Oct. 5 Bro. R. V. Amos, preacher of Georgetown church, spoke at Taree in the morning, conducted gospel service at Wingham in the afternoon, and preached at Taree in the evening. An offering was taken on Oct. 5 for the College of the Bible, Glen Iris.

The Melbourne Philharmonic Society, in announcing its rendering of Judas Maccabæus at its third subscription concert to be held in the Town Hall on Oct. 18, refers in the following appreciative terms to Miss Amelia Scarce, of South Yarra church, who has greatly assisted our Melbourne and suburban churches with her beautiful singing:—"Amelia Scarce: first appearance with the Melbourne Philharmonic Society and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra of the most important 'discovery' for many years. Her perfectly lovely voice will be a revelation to concert-goers, and is definitely in the same class as those of the greatest women singers whom Australia has produced."

Dr. J. H. Rushbrooke in a recent letter wrote as follows regarding religious liberty: "We could name more than half a dozen 'sovereign States' which in recent years have restricted or suppressed religious freedom. Even full political liberty within the nation will not necessarily ensure personal freedom; the tyranny of a majority remains possible. What is needed is the universal application of a definite principle such as Lord Halifax has formulated in the words: 'the right to believe and worship as conscience may dictate.' This principle is entirely just to every nation, confession, and person. Nor can its recognition be confined within the limits of 'an agreed European order.' Africa and Eastern Asia also afford examples of serious inroads upon religious liberty. We have to do with a world issue, and the settlement after the war must needs be a world settlement. I need not deal with the contention in certain quarters that the internal government of a country is exclusively its own concern; the present war has effectively refuted that idea. The denial of religious freedom is a peril both to internal and international peace."

ADDRESSES.

R. A. Dinning (secretary Wampony church, S.A.).—Mundalla.

E. J. Waters (preacher Merbein church, Vic.).—Dareton, via Mildura, N.S.W.

E. Mellhager (preacher North Richmond church, Vic.).—5 Barry-st., Kew, E.A. 'Phone, Haw. 4610.

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News of the Churches.

TASMANIA.

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—Services have been conducted recently by Bren. Buck (Melbourne), F. T. Morgan, H. Nicholls and H. E. Tomlinson. Service on Sept. 28 was broadcast. Mrs. M. Alderton and Miss J. Gullidge were soloists. Splendid attendances are recorded at C.E. meetings on Tuesdays. Bro. P. C. Prichard is still seriously ill.

Devonport.—On Sept. 21 Bro. Street gave good addresses both morning and night. At night Sisters Howard and A. Burt sang a duet, and Sister Howard rendered a solo. On Sept. 27 there was a good attendance, and Bro. Street gave a very helpful message on "Christ in the Home." His evening address was also enjoyed. Misses P. Byard and A. Burt sang a duet. On Sept. 28, at quarterly fellowship social, an enjoyable time was spent. The church accepted with regret Bro. Street's resignation. Bro. Street spoke on morning of Oct. 5 on "See that Ye Walk Circumspectly," and at night gave an appreciated address on "The Good Confession."

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Kalgoorlie.—On morning of Sept. 28, Bro. H. Fitch spoke on "The Church's One Foundation." Gospel meeting was well attended; subject, "The Man God Called a Fool." Bro. Owen Cannon rendered a solo. On Sept. 24 the half-yearly business meeting was held. Commencing from Oct. 19, Bro. Fitch intends holding a week of special meetings. A social was held by W.H.O. Club, proceed to aid a sale of work.

Perth.—Bible school anniversary celebrations began on morning of Sept. 28. In a teachers' recognition service warm appreciation was passed to the teachers for their splendid work. Bro. J. Wiltshire exhorted on "Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children." Visitors included Sister Mrs. Ritchie (Grote-st., Adelaide). In the afternoon Bro. A. G. Elliott gave an inspiring talk in addition to impressive items by the scholars. At night a children's choir sang choruses, and Bro. Wiltshire delivered a powerful address on "Samson, where is the secret of thy great strength?" On Sept. 29 an attractive programme included a talk by Bro. Ernest Sherman, young people's organiser, on "Great Possibilities in Unexpected Places." He also distributed the prizes.

QUEENSLAND.

Monkland.—J.C.E. members are participating in regular C.E. meetings by means of hand-work exercises. Bren. A. Kingston and E. Trudgian addressed church during Bro. Fisher's absence. On Sept. 28 the school enrolled several new scholars.

Gympie.—During Bro. Fisher's absence at Kingaroy, Bren. P. Stalley, E. Trudgian, B. Marshall, V. T. Fittell and N. Kingston helped with addresses at various services. On Sept. 28 C.E. society took charge of gospel service. A successful Y.P. social was held on Sept. 26.

Kingaroy.—From Sept. 21-28 a pictorial mission was conducted by Bro. A. J. Fisher, of Gympie. The addresses were illustrated by charts and pictures. Meetings were well attended, and the church is deeply grateful to our brother for his excellent messages. On Sept. 28 a young man, who confessed his faith during the mission, was baptised, and two believers previously baptised were received into fellowship.

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—Bro. R. L. Arnold spoke at both services on Oct. 5. There was a splendid congregation in morning, when the subject was "Christ Loved the Church." Title of evening address was "Rise Up and Walk." Bro. Allen Brooke is expected to resume his ministry with the church on Jan. 4. The outstanding service rendered by Bro. R. L. Arnold during the months he has been with the church has been much appreciated.

Bundaberg.—Officers and their wives and members of Women's Guild entertained the old folk of the church at a tea on Sept. 25. Later Bro. Larsen addressed a meeting in the chapel, where an appropriate programme was given. Presentations were made to Bro. Asmus (elder) and Sister Christensen, who were the two oldest present. Morning's service on Sept. 28 was broadcast. Sister Hazel Brown and Bro. Eric Enchelmaier rendered solos. At night Bro. Larsen commenced a series of addresses entitled "World Crises." The recently formed orchestra took the place of the choir and gave delightful items. Bro. Walter Proudley is conductor.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Prospect.—At morning service on Oct. 5, Mr. F. T. Saunders, of the College of the Bible, gave a very helpful message. In the evening Mr. Schwab conducted a special service for installation of Phi Beta Pi officers. A choir of ladies rendered anthems, and several members of the club took part in the service.

Stirling and Aldgate Valley.—On Sept. 14 Bro. Paddick completed his labors with the church. Meetings at both places are being well maintained. Stirling Bible school is preparing for anniversary. On evening of Sept. 28, the church enjoyed happy fellowship with brethren from Melbourne. Bro. Robert Lyall was the speaker; subject, "Thanksgiving." Later he led community singing, which was enjoyed by all.

Maylands.—On Oct. 5, Bible school anniversary services were continued with crowded audiences. In morning Mr. G. T. Fitzgerald gave a very fine message. In afternoon Mr. Bailey, Youth Director of Methodist Church in S.A., was speaker. Another visitor was Mr. Sorrell, who occupies that position in N.S.W. Bro. Keith Jones at night presented a fine message to young and old. The school choir, under leadership of Mr. Skurray, rendered excellent singing.

Wampony.—Worship services are fairly well maintained under Bro. Russell with help of local brethren. Bro. J. E. Thomas delivered an appreciated address on Sept. 28. At annual business meeting on Sept. 10, Bro. F. R. Dinning asked to be relieved of the position of secretary because of ill-health. He has held this position for over thirty years, and a motion of appreciation was recorded for the services he has rendered. R. A. Dinning has been appointed in his place.

Hindmarsh.—On Oct. 6 Bro. W. L. Ewers commenced his third year with the church, and the presiding brother, on behalf of the church, expressed appreciation of his work. Bro. Ewers delivered a good address from Eph. 5: 15-33. Fellowship with Bro. Whitford again after illness was enjoyed. Bro. Will Manuel is progressing after operation. At gospel service, among visitors were Bro. and Sister F. T. Saunders. Bro. Ewers' address was on "Without a Wedding Garment." The choir sang an anthem and Mrs. Russell a solo. Bible school is preparing for anniversary under leadership of Bro. Geof. Trevaskis.

Cowandilla.—On morning of Sept. 21 Bro. Mathieson, Black Rock, Vic., gave an inspiring address. Interstate and country visitors were present. At night Bro. F. T. Saunders, Vic., gave a powerful message. More visitors were present at morning service on Sept. 28, when the church was exhorted by Bro. H. Dunkerton. Bro. Hollams preached at night. During State and Federal conferences church auxiliaries did not function, but have now resumed their activities. Attendances at Lord's table during past few weeks have improved. Among visitors present at morning service on Oct. 5 were Mrs. Jas. Gordon and Miss C. Gordon of W.A. Bro. F. Hollams has commenced his third year of ministry with the church.

Kadina.—On Sept. 14 Bro. Trenwith exhorted church; Bro. Albright, of S.A. Alliance, spoke at gospel service. On Sept. 21 Bro. E. Keith Russack exhorted church on "Christian Education," and at night Bro. A. P. Russack preached on "Old Wells Dug Out." Bro. Roy Raymond, from W.A., spoke to church on "Unless I had God," and Bro. Lawrie conducted gospel service on Sept. 28. School is practising for anniversary. J.C.E. and Y.P.S.C.E. hold good meetings, although military call-up has affected them.

Victor Harbour.—During last few weeks five have been received by transfer: Bro. and Sister Vawser, from Wudinna; Sister Swincer and her son, Bro. Max Swincer, from Tarlee Baptist; Sister Dorothy Cornelius, from Cowandilla. Three girls have been received by baptism. Others have left the district for the city. Bro. Percy Alcorn, of Queensland; Sister Waterman, of Victoria; and Bro. Gordon Newell, of Ungarra, have given messages to the church the last two Sundays and have been appreciated. Bro. Manning commences Cottonville mission on Oct. 12.

VICTORIA.

Portland.—On Oct. 5 Bro. Roberts gave a splendid address on "Just a Door." Offering for College of the Bible to date is £2/9/6.

Castlemaine.—At close of an address by Bro. Curtis on evening of Sept. 28, a young man made the good confession; he was baptised last Sunday evening. Bro. Clarrie Hall has recovered from a recent operation.

North Carlton (Rathdown-st.).—On evening of Oct. 5 one of the Bible school scholars was baptised. Bro. Lionel Johnston's subject ("Baptism, How? For Whom? Why?") was illustrated by chart. There was an improved attendance.

South Melbourne.—September attendances and interest were well sustained. A Bible school scholar, Miss Shirley Legg, made the good confession. On Oct. 5, Y.P.S.C.E. anniversary, members of society took part in gospel service. Youth work generally is in good heart.

Northcote.—On Sept. 28 Mr. Atkin was speaker. At evening service six who had made their decision at the mission were baptised, and a lady decided for Christ. On Oct. 5 the seven baptised the previous week were received into fellowship. Mr. Atkin was speaker morning and evening.

Hampton.—College offering on Oct. 5 was £8/11/3. Bro. Stephenson gave the church a very helpful address. Bible school anniversary was continued in afternoon, when Bro. N. Jame gave the talk, and at night, when Bro. Stephenson spoke. The school again sang splendidly under leadership of Bro. Machin.

Croydon.—On Sept. 21, anniversary services of the church were carried out; attendances for the day, 28 morning, 39 at gospel service. Thankoffering amounted to £4/5/-. Services continue to progress. In the morning Bro. L. E. Jones, of the college, was speaker; at night Bro. W. J. Evans gave a special address.

Ballarat (York-st.).—The church has received notification of the acceptance by Bro. Hubert Edwards, of Brim, of the invitation to labor as minister in succession to Bro. Ritchie. Bro. and Sister Edwards are expected to commence duties on Dec. 7. Recent speakers have been Bren. Feary, Saunders, Wilkie, Comer, Reid, Steele and Sheppard.

Preston.—Bro. Robinson spoke at both services on Oct. 5. Bro. D. Paterson was welcomed by transfer from Carnegie. Bro. J. Shaw, of Thornbury, presided in morning. Preparations are in hand for a spiritual rally with Bro. Gordon Andrews, of Surrey Hills, as preacher. College offering, £4/14/6, is an increase on last year's.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Bro. Baker spoke morning and evening on Oct. 5. A young lady was baptised in the evening. Two services at Guest Home have recently been conducted by groups of young people. Bro. Jeff. Emerson is at present in Heidelberg Military Hospital. Sympathy is extended to Bro. Frank Brown in his recent sad bereavement.

Newmarket.—On Sept. 28 Bro. Robb addressed both meetings. Tennis club has won premiership of North Suburban B Grade. Bro. Robb addressed both meetings on Oct. 5.

Maryborough.—On Sept. 28 Bro. Burn presented inspiring addresses on "The Christian Budget" and "Living in a Blackout." Subjects on Oct. 5 were "Acknowledging God" and "Acknowledging His Way."

West Preston.—Oct. 5 was family worship day, the theme being "Thanksgiving." Bro. Scambler addressed morning service, when there was a full chapel. To reduce building debt an offering of £129/10/- was received. In evening Bro. Ira Paternoster spoke on "What Christ has Meant to Me." P.B.P. basketball club were runners-up for year.

Middle Park.—On Sept. 28 Bro. Stewart spoke on behalf of the College of the Bible. A roll-call service was held on morning of Oct. 5. At gospel service Bro. Stewart delivered an instructive chart address on "Holy Spirit Conversions." On Sept. 30 the mission band united with sisters of St. Kilda mission band in a visit to the Guest Home at Oakleigh.

Coburg.—On morning of Oct. 5 Bro. J. H. Barnden gave a talk on archaeology entitled "The Bible is True." In the afternoon a successful youth tea was held, at which the speaker was Bro. R. P. Morris. The meeting following took the form of a youth service, and several young people participated. Bro. Wakefield spoke on "The Religion of Daniel."

Warrnambool.—Splendid services on Oct. 5 were crowned by eight decisions at close of the gospel meeting (three boys and a girl from Bible school and three young men and a young lady from Young People's Fellowship). Mr. Methven spoke on "Christian Unity" in morning and at night on "What Will I Do with Jesus?" Offering for College of Bible, £37/-.

Essendon.—On Oct. 5 Bro. A. E. Illingworth spoke at both services, morning subject being "The Authority of the Master," and evening theme, "Shelters—Human and Divine." Bro. Will Alves, who has been seriously ill in hospital with appendicitis, has been transferred to Caulfield Convalescent Institution. A daughter of Bro. and Sister W. Pearce is in Children's Hospital.

Kaniva.—The church enjoyed fellowship with visitors passing to and from Federal Conference, among them Bro. Scambler, who addressed services throughout the circuit on Sept. 28. Mrs. Colin Wills has to undergo a period of rest in bed. Deepest sympathy is felt for relatives of Bro. Bert Thompson, R.A.A.F., who passed away in Sydney on Oct. 3 as a result of an attack of meningitis. College offering to date is £34.

Geelong.—On Sept. 28 Bro. Macnaughtan gave helpful addresses. The Ladies' Guild held a pleasant Sunday afternoon, with organ recital, and leading Geelong artists taking part. There was a large audience. On Oct. 4 the officers held a social in aid of kindergarten piano appeal. Mr. Gibson, from B. and F. Bible Society, gave morning address on Oct. 5. At night Bro. Macnaughtan gave a fine address on "The Man who Robbed God."

Ascot Vale.—Bro. Coventry has accepted the invitation of the church and will commence full-time work in January. J.C.E. helped to entertain some of the old folks at the Guest Home. On Oct. 5 a number of R.A.A.F. men, with young people of the church, were entertained at tea by the teachers, the speaker being Mr. Wridgeway, of Congregational church. Some of the R.A.A.F. took part at an inspirational gospel service which followed.

Bayswater.—All branches are in good heart, and great interest is shown. A visit by Bro. Ken. Finger—a former resident of the district now home on furlough from Solomon Islands—was greatly enjoyed. He gave an excellent address on morning of Sept. 28, and in afternoon gave the young an illustrated address on his missionary work. Oct. 5 was observed as World Communion Sunday, when 55 gathered for breaking of bread, and Bro. Burns spoke on "Lest We Forget."

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.).—Oct. 5 commenced a Go-to-church campaign. Bro. A. R. Main spoke in morning on "A Glorious Church," and Bro. Clipstone at night on "Why Attend Church?" A young man was immersed. Mrs. Phillip was soloist. Bible school made a presentation to Miss L. Smart and Mr. H. Swenser in honor of their approaching marriage. Mr. R. Storey gave an interesting lecture on Amazonia on Oct. 2. Bro. White is in Alfred Hospital and Sister Grenfell in Fairfield.

Blackburn.—Meetings are well attended. Preparations are being made for a mission by combined Blackburn churches. On Sept. 28 J. Hodgins spoke in morning and H. C. Bischoff at night. On Oct. 5 R. Davis (Campaigners for Christ) spoke in morning and H. H. Simpson, of Cairns, at night. Mrs. Sharp, of Doncaster, has helped as pianiste. Messages in song have been enjoyed from Mrs. Sharp, Mr. Gill, Mr. Tully, and Mrs. Younger, of Tasmania. A rally has been commenced in S.S.

Yarrowonga.—Church anniversary was held on Sept. 7, when Bro. Pittman gave appropriate messages. A happy time was spent at the fellowship tea on Tuesday. £42 was given as an offering. Bro. Pittman has given two fine addresses on Temperance and on Bible Sunday. Y.P. club had a visit from Congregational young people. Sunday school farewelled five regular scholars. Endeavor society held a communion service at home of Bro. Phil. Smith, who has been laid aside for many months.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—Wet weather interfered with attendance on Oct. 5. Bro. Hughes conducted both services. Among visitors were Bro. and Sister Albany Bell, of Perth, W.A., also Bro. Steer, Bro. and Sister Jackson, of Chatswood, N.S.W. After evening service a social hour was spent and Bro. Albany Bell spoke concerning the work in W.A. amongst the aborigines, and Bro. Hughes gave an account of Federal Conference in Adelaide. Offering for college came to £46/15/- for first day.

Hamilton.—A church fair on Sept. 25 resulted in £35 for building fund. On Sept. 27 Christmas hampers were packed and despatched to members overseas. Good meetings were held on Sept. 28. Bro. Hargreaves' gospel message being on "The King's Folly." Many visitors have been welcomed. After-church fellowship followed gospel service on Oct. 5. Sympathy is extended to Sister Mrs. Cotter and family in the loss of Bro. W. Cotter, who was laid to rest at Casterton on afternoon of Oct. 5. Bro. Hargreaves officiating.

Moreland.—During absence of Bro. Graham in Adelaide, the church has appreciated addresses of Bren. Collyer, Funston and Wilson. Bible school anniversary services commenced on Oct. 5. Speakers were Bren. Wakefield, Turner and Clay. Singing of the scholars, conducted by Bro. Barber, was excellent. A new boys' club, "Junior Crusaders," formed some weeks ago, is making fine progress. Whilst holidaying in South Australia, Sister Mrs. Graham had to enter hospital to undergo an operation. She is making favorable progress.

Ormond.—On Sept. 28 Bro. C. L. Lang gave good messages for the day. At prayer meeting he gave a fine talk. Ladies' Aid on Sept. 30 had a meeting of social fellowship to augment their £50 fund. On Oct. 2 the ladies had a special meeting and a visiting speaker. On Oct. 5 Bro. C. L. Lang gave a good address in morning, and at night spoke on "We would see Jesus." There were 105 scholars at Bible school. The school concert was well attended. Bro. B. Thorpe, sen., of Bairnsdale, an isolated member, passed away on Oct. 5.

Ringwood-Mitcham Circuit.—At Mitcham Bro. and Sister Whitford have been received by transfer from Glenferrie. Morning services have improved in attendance. Y.P.S.C.E. has kept up in attendance. A teacher training class has been commenced with good attendances. Young people of Bible school are practising for anniversary under leadership of Mr. McClean. Interest is well maintained in the work. Bro. A. Saunders is in the militia, making a total of four of our young men, two

of whom are overseas. At Ringwood Bro. A. Wieland resigned office as Bible school secretary, having joined up in the militia for duration of the war. Bro. T. Williams has been elected to secretaryship of Bible school. Bro. and Sister Purton have been received into fellowship by transfer from Yarrowonga. Mr. Pratt is supervising boys' club. Bro. Pratt is preparing school for anniversary. Appreciated addresses have been given by visiting speakers both at Ringwood and Mitcham.

Bentleigh.—On morning of Sept. 21 Bro. Nance-Kivell gave a fine address, and at night L. A. C. Emmett related how various hymns originated. Solos were rendered by Miss P. Hodson, Sisters Arnott and Kindred and Bro. C. Dahl. On Sept. 28, Mr. D. Abbey gave a good address. In the evening Miss G. Bradley, on behalf of girls' Good Companions' Club, presented a pulpit to the officers of the church. Several girls took part in the service. At conclusion of Bro. Nance-Kivell's splendid address five girls made the good confession.

Hawthorn.—Junior Endeavorers, under superintendent Miss Waller, held a successful rally on Oct. 4. Sixty-eighth church anniversary was held on Oct. 5. Chaplain C. Young addressed morning meeting and Bro. Jack Methven spoke in afternoon. Endeavorers, girls' and boys' clubs and Cubs attended at night, when Bro. S. Neighbour spoke on "Christ—God's Answer." Bro. Bower was soloist. Emmanuel Quartette and choir contributed beautiful vocal items. Well-attended meetings, challenging messages and happy fellowship were an encouragement to all.

North Essendon.—Bro. David Ploog and Sister Phyllis Holmes (who had served as deacon and in P.B.P. respectively) were tendered a kitchen tea prior to their marriage on Sept. 20. Very successful Bible school anniversary on Sept. 28 and Oct. 5, speakers being Bren. T. Fitzgerald (Collingwood), R. P. Morris (Brighton), E. W. Roffey and C. G. Sandland. School rendered items under conductorship of Bro. J. Burns, and prizes were given to cradle roll, kindergarten and Bible school. Morning service on Oct. 5 was a dedication service for teachers.

Cheltenham.—During absence of Bro. Allan at Federal Conference, the church was assisted by Bren. Gale, Wallingford, Huntley and W. White. At morning and evening services on Oct. 5 Bro. Allan gave news of Federal Conference. Mrs. Mills rendered a solo and the choir an anthem at evening service. Bible college offering was £12. A social evening and presentation were tendered to Bro. E. Lewis and Sister Miss E. Stone on the eve of their marriage. Parkdale ladies visited and gave an enjoyable programme at the snowball meeting. Bro. F. Smith, secretary of the church, is now home from hospital.

Ballarat (Dawson-st.).—Bro. W. Reid conducted midweek meeting on Sept. 24. On Sept. 28 Bro. B. Feary, of York-st., addressed morning meeting; Bro. Saunders preached at night. Bro. Saunders, back from Federal Conference, gave "echoes" at Doveton-st. in morning. Bro. W. Reid was evening speaker. Sunday school broadcast in Sunday School of the Air from 3BA. Bro. Saunders conducting session and speaking. Bro. L. Morris spoke at Mt. Clear. Endeavorers visited hospital and sang to patients on Oct. 2. P.B.P. conducted devotional meeting, Bro. Saunders speaking. Tennis club opened 1941-42 season on Oct. 4. Girls' hockey team won premiership in churches association. Choir and C.E. broadcast over 3BA in C.E. session. Sympathy of church is extended to Wigley and Preslon families in recent bereavements, and to Bro. A. Broderick in death of his mother.

Parkdale.—Bro. and Sister W. H. Downing have been received into fellowship from Chelsea. Bro. W. H. Clay was speaker on morning of Sept. 7. After worship service on Sept. 28 Bro. C. G. Taylor's resignation as preacher was read to the church. At gospel service Misses V. Clarke and Ruth Barnes confessed Christ. A social evening was held on Oct. 4 in aid of

Christian Guest Home and £5/12/6 was raised. Oct. 5, Y.W.L. celebrated 16th anniversary. Good attendances, with many former members. The parts of the services were well carried out by members of league. The league made a birthday gift of £1 to College of Bible, and eight shades for chapel lights. Bro. R. P. Morris gave an interesting message. Bro. H. C. Burris led song service, and at gospel service certificates and awards for satisfactory attendances ranging from 13 years to 6 months were presented. Mr. Victor Tate (former member) rendered a solo and the choir an anthem. After Bro. C. G. Taylor's message on "Thomas," Miss Norma Willis and Ken. and Cliff Jones confessed Christ. New matting presented by the Ladies' Guild adds to appearance of chapel.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Lismore.—Sister Paul, of Sydney, spent two months in the district. The sisters have been busy preparing articles for mission box, and are meeting regularly as a guild and mission band. Sister Skierlo, who has recently come from Bargo, and was a member in Lismore about 30 years ago, has been welcomed. Anniversary tea meeting on Sept. 20 was a great success. 57th anniversary services were continued on Sept. 21 and were appreciated by all. On Aug. 30 two weddings were held at the Temple. Sister Lois Savill and Bro. Percy Oakes were married and their home is now at Katoomba. Sister Phyllis Volekman was married to Mr. Les. Copeland, and their home is at Hay. Bro. and Sister W. Cottee, of Brisbane, are at present meeting with the church.

Albury.—The church has enjoyed fellowship with Bro. and Sister J. E. Webb, of Hartwell, Vic. Bro. Webb conducted a "Victorious Life Campaign" from Sept. 23 to 29. All meetings were well attended, and the church received a spiritual uplift. On Sept. 28 the church celebrated its 13th anniversary with splendid meetings. At the tea on 29th about 120 enjoyed the banquet prepared by Dorcas Society. Visitors were present from Wangaratta and from local Baptist and Lutheran churches. Bro. Walmsley presented Bro. and Sister Webb, on behalf of the church, with a silver sugar bowl as a memento of their stay. Bro. Webb then presented the final message of the campaign, on "Christian Unity—How?" Birthday thank-offering was over £25, £10 being given by Dorcas Society.

POSITION WANTED.

Member, master draper, 46 years, married, highest credentials, seeks position, managerial, clerical, travelling, collections, etc. Part or full time. Write L.K., c/o "Australian Christian."

TO LET.

Vacant Christmas and after, s.c. flat accom. 6, wireless, ice chest, sew., third house beach. —18 Bristol-ave., Chelsea.

BIRTH.

ROBERTS (nee Edna Rasmussen).—On Sept. 28, at Maristown Private Hospital, Fairfield, to Mr. and Mrs. G. Roberts, 8 Langridge-st., Fairfield—a daughter (Christine Elizabeth).

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE.

Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Carr and family desire to thank all relatives and kind friends for letters, cards, telegrams, floral tributes and personal expressions of sympathy during their recent sad bereavement.

IN MEMORIAM.

LEWIS.—In loving memory of our younger son, Stuart David, who passed away on Oct. 12, 1936. "Till the day dawn." —Inserted by Fred and Ada Lewis.

COMING EVENTS.

OCTOBER 12.—A fortnight's mission begins at Hampton with Bro. T. Hagger as preacher and J. Machin song-leader. Visitors heartily welcomed.

OCTOBER 12.—Ascot Vale Bible school anniversary. 11 a.m., Mr. L. E. Snow; 3 p.m., Mr. A. W. Candy; 7 p.m., Mr. B. Coventry. Bright singing. A welcome to all old scholars and friends.

OCTOBER 18.—Newmarket. A sale of gifts will be held on afternoon of Oct. 18, to be opened by Mrs. Stephens at 3 o'clock.

OCTOBER 26.—Brunswick church 59th anniversary. Principal T. H. Scambler will speak at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. All old members and friends welcome.

BROADCAST SERVICES.

October 12.—North Sydney evening service, over 2 CH., Ira A. Paternoster preacher.

November 2.—Evening service of Prospect church, S.A., through 5 CL (7 p.m. Adelaide time). Speaker, Mr. C. Schwab.

CHELtenham BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Oct. 12—

3 p.m., speaker, Mr. A. B. Withers, of Brighton.

7 p.m., speaker, Mr. J. E. Allan, conf. pres.

Oct. 15, Anniversary Tea and Concert.

Special singing by the scholars.

All welcome.

LYGON STREET, CARLTON.

BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Oct. 12, 3 p.m., Mr. John Turner, B.A.

7 p.m., Mr. L. E. Brooker.

Oct. 19, 7 p.m., Mr. S. Russell Baker.

Oct. 22, 7.45 p.m., Children's Concert and Distribution of Prizes.

Join in the brightness and happy fellowship of these meetings.

NORTH RICHMOND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

Saturday, Oct. 18, Temple Day,

9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 19,

11 a.m., D. H. Pike.

5 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., E. McIlhagger.

Tuesday, Oct. 21, 8 p.m., Church Social.

Past members welcome.

SURREY HILLS BIBLE SCHOOL

(The Avenue, Surrey Hills).

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS,

Sundays, Oct. 19 and 26, 3 and 7 p.m.

SPECIAL BIBLE SCHOOL EXHIBITION,

Sat., Oct. 25, 3.30 and 7 p.m.

VICTORY FOR CHRIST CRUSADE.

Week of Inspiration and Evangelism.

MIDDLE PARK CHURCH,

Cnr. Mills and Richardson Streets.

(Take Sth. Melbourne-St. Kilda Beach tram, Swanston-st. to Richardson-st.)

OCTOBER 19 UNTIL OCTOBER 26.

(Each night except Friday.)

Special theme for the series, "Victory."

Sun., Oct. 19, 7 p.m., D. D. Stewart, "The Victory Vision."

Mon., Oct. 20, 8 p.m., W. G. Graham, "The Victorious Christ."

Tues., Oct. 21, 8 p.m., C. B. Nance-Kivell, "The Victory Evangel."

Wed., Oct. 22, 8 p.m., E. W. Roffey, "Heralds of Victory."

Thurs., Oct. 23, 8 p.m., J. E. Webb, "Potential Factors in Victory."

Sat., Oct. 25, 8 p.m., F. E. Buckingham, "The Church Victorious."

Sun., Oct. 26, 7 p.m., D. D. Stewart, "Crowning the Victors."

Fifteen minutes' song service each night.

Special vocal items.

Pray for Victory in this Crusade.

Plan to attend the series.

25th Anniversary Services, Camberwell.

A Oct. 19, 11 a.m., Mr. A. L. Gibson.

N " 21, 8 p.m., Mr. A. R. Main, M.A.

N " 22, 8 p.m., Mrs. Brownbill, M.L.A.

I " 23, 8 p.m., Fellowship Meeting.

V Special pictures will be shown at this gathering, illustrating people who have labored with the church.

E Oct. 26, 11 a.m., Mr. A. W. Stephenson, M.A. 3 p.m., special programme by Bible school.

R Special musical items at all services.

Y Past members, please come or send greeting to B. F. Huntsman, 624 Burke-rd., Camberwell, E.6, now.

HARTWELL BIBLE SCHOOL (Highfield Rd., Burwood)

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS.

Sunday, October 26,

11 a.m., Mr. Jas. E. Webb.

3 p.m., Mr. W. Pike.

7 p.m., Mr. J. B. White.

Sunday, November 2,

11 a.m., Mr. Eric Evans.

3 p.m., Mr. John Turner, B.A.

7 p.m., Mr. Jas. E. Webb.

You are invited.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

Will all past members of the late Burwood and now Hartwell church note that a great homecoming day will be held to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the church on Lord's day, Nov. 16.

Keep this Date Free. Details Later.

Please forward your present address to A. H. Tyler, 8 St. Andries-st., Camberwell, E.6.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, PARKDALE.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

"HOME-COMING DAY,"

Sunday, November 30, 1941.

All past members and friends keep this date free to come to Parkdale.

BETHESDA ABORIGINES' MISSION,

Melbourne (undenominational).

This mission, after meeting in various private homes for many months, has now secured an unfurnished hall for meeting.

An organ, reading desk, table, chairs and seats will be wanted.

If any church or private person near Melbourne can help with articles of furniture, or any person anywhere interested in the spiritual uplift of aborigines can help with a small donation, the undermentioned will see that all is put to good use.—A. P. A. Burdeu, 21 Amelia-ave., Essendon, W.5. FU 7875.

THE BOOK OF THE HOUR.

"INEVITABLE."

Read "Inevitable" and cheer up!

"Inevitable" shows the present Satanic conquest of the nations; final overthrow of Britain's enemies.

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When Shall These Things Be?

Luke 21: 1-33.

Prayer Meeting Topic for October 15.

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

"THESE things" is variously interpreted by different readers. In Luke the point of reference seems clear, for verse six tells what it was, viz., the destruction of the temple. And the signs were those which should precede that great calamity. But the whole apocalyptic in Matthew 24 and Mark 13 and Luke 21 when taken together is not so clear.

These Things.

The questioners were the disciples, and "these things" of Luke and Mark are expanded in Matthew to include in addition to the destruction of the temple the coming again of Christ and the end of the world or age. We cannot in such a short message as this pretend to deal with all the gospel records or fully with any one. We point out the problem, as we pass to a consideration of Luke's record. One of the main questions in all the records is that related to exegesis and a determining of what refers to the destruction of Jerusalem and what to the coming again of Christ.

The Destruction.

No one would venture to deny Christ's prophecy that the temple and Jerusalem would be destroyed. Surely it is as clear as the noonday sun, and it could only be with an obsession for extreme higher and destructive criticism that such would be denied. In Luke's record and down to verse 24, at least we have reference to it and signs preceding it. That at least is the natural reading. It might be well to note that wars and rumors of wars and commotions and earthquakes and famines and pestilences are all mentioned as coming before that awful event. That doesn't mean that such could not occur at any other time, but it is sure they were to precede the destruction of Jerusalem, and history tells us that such did occur. There was a time of great persecution. But disciples were not to be perturbed, but rather use such dreadful days as an opportunity for witness. They were to recognise that Jerusalem, however, was doomed. Think of what that meant for Jewish folk, and contrast with it the calm confidence of the Christian. "Lord, give us such a faith as this."

Second Coming.

Verse 24 tells of the treading down of Jerusalem till "the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled." Do the succeeding verses 25 and following refer to another event such as the second advent or not? No such question in relation to the coming of Christ is propounded in this gospel. But surely we ought to interpret in the light of the other gospels. But even that doesn't solve the whole problem, for verse 32 says, "This generation shall not pass away till all be fulfilled." Many are the interpretations offered concerning the whole section, and because the references are obscure and wanting in clearness can any of us afford to be dogmatic in our own interpretation and to the exclusion of all others? Did Christ come in judgment in the destruction of Jerusalem? If he did we must not think of it as vindictive or vengeful in spirit, for our Lord is not like that, but rather as the result of the rejection of all that was best by the people. "The wages of sin is death."

But can we say that such was a fulfilment of the coming "with power and great glory"? Hardly so. But let us not be stargazers, for such are likely to fall into a ditch. "Watch therefore and pray, that ye may be accounted worthy." Let us exhibit radiant countenances, the natural expression of a life of faith in service for Christ.

TOPIC FOR OCTOBER 22.—IN THE ABSENCE OF THE MULTITUDE.—Luke 22: 1-6.

The Family Altar.

J.C.F.P.

TOPIC.—GOOD WORK PERFECTED.

Monday, October 13.

MY power is made perfect in weakness.—2 Cor. 12: 9.

Because of that, Paul declares that when he is weak, then he is strong. Consciousness of weakness is an indispensable prerequisite to the reception of divine strength.

Reading—2 Corinthians 12: 1-10.

Tuesday, October 14.

Having begun in the Spirit, are ye now perfected in the flesh?—Gal. 3: 3.

Logically, this should be their view, for after receiving the gospel they had gone back to the law. After subjecting themselves to the higher influences of grace, they had drifted back to fleshly observances. The work of grace is not thus helped, but greatly hindered.

Reading—Galatians 3: 1-14.

Wednesday, October 15.

That we may make every man perfect in Christ.—Col. 1: 28.

Christ in us, the hope of glory, is our only means of obtaining perfection. The secret of obtaining everything worth while is partnership with our Saviour. That he might present every man perfect in Christ was Paul's chief aim.

Reading—Colossians 1: 24-29.

Thursday, October 16.

Night and day praying exceedingly that we may see your face, and may perfect that which is lacking in your faith.—1 Thess. 3: 10.

That he might again visit his Corinthian brethren and perfect what was lacking was Paul's constant and fervent prayer. He had been with them but a short time, and desired that he might, by personal contact with them, supply whatever was deficient in their views or manner of life.

Reading—1 Thessalonians 3.

Friday, October 17.

That the man of God may be complete, furnished completely unto every good work.—2 Tim. 3: 17.

Our aim should be not only to convert men, but to assist them towards sanctification and service for their Lord. Study of the scriptures is one of the divinely appointed means by which Christians may be made "complete, furnished unto every good work."

Reading—2 Timothy 3: 14-17.

Saturday, October 18.

Let us therefore go forth unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.—Heb. 13: 13.

No sacrifice is comparable with that which Christ made for us; yet even we can, like him, go forth unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach. No life is complete without sacrifice. We must lay our all upon the altar

in order that God may sanctify that which we have consecrated to him.

Reading—Hebrews 13: 10-15.

Sunday, October 19.

He who began a good work in you will perfect it.—Phil. 1: 6.

Whilst God permits us to co-operate with him in service, he promises to perfect every good work. Like a master artist, he will give the finishing touches. He is willing to complete the work, for he began it.

Readings—1 Samuel 12: 16-25; Philippians 1: 1-17.

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WHEN THE SUN SHINES

—WINTER SEEMS FAR AWAY.

There is, however, no good reason for thinking that one will never be caught in the rain. It is wise to build up a bank balance for protection against life's rainy days. It means peace of mind, and if, luckily, no emergency arises, then the money saved will surely be most useful.

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Tasmanian News-letter.

Folliott T. Morgan.

New Bible House.

UNTIL the present time the State of Tasmania has been the only State in Australia in which the British and Foreign Bible Society has not had its own Bible House. The society's headquarters have been in rented rooms in the Y.M.C.A. building in Launceston. The policy of the Bible Society has been that no money from the general funds shall be spent on buildings. The deficiency has now been rectified, as a legacy of £3000 from the estate of the late Wm. Cripps, jun., has been provided for the building of a Tasmanian Bible House. The Bible Society has been working in Tasmania since 1819, only one other State having had a longer experience of the society's activity. The new Bible House is to be alongside the present location in Brisbane-st., Launceston.

United Service with Baptists.

The united communion service held in the Baptist Church in Elizabeth-st., Hobart, on Sept. 21 has received notice elsewhere, but is of sufficient importance to be mentioned again. An outstandingly important feature of the occasion was a meeting that was held on the following evening, when the young people of the Baptist churches and the Churches of Christ met in an inspirational gathering at which members of the joint committee outlined the findings of the committee and the young people had opportunity to express themselves on the matter.

"War Effort" Versus Sunday Observance.

It is a deplorable fact that many people see no other way to help the nation in the present time of crisis than by raising money by any means, however questionable morally, or bolstering "morale" by the hectic excitement of different and novel pleasures. The position is not improved when the institutions that have a real contribution to make to morals and morale are over-ridden. The United Social Services Committee, which represents all Protestant churches in Tasmania on social questions, raised its voice in protest on the occasion of a barbecue arranged in Hobart for Sunday, Sept. 28, to raise funds for war purposes. Dr. R. S. Hay, Anglican Bishop of Tasmania, who is president of the committee, said, "The churches are not going to sit back and take no notice of this misuse of Sunday. We intend to act aggressively in the matter."

"Without are Dogs."

It is not stated whether the dogs are to be considered outside the pale of those who are fittingly named after Biblical characters or whether the names are not fit for the dogs, but the Australian and New Zealand Greyhound Association has decided that no dogs on its register shall be allowed to have scriptural names. Since names of well-known people and vulgar or indecent names are included under the ban, the former suggestion is probably correct. It is good to know that at least some of the minor objectionableness is to be removed from this rather unsavory sport.

Open Forum FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS.

OUR PREACHERS.

MISS MARJORIE BUCKINGHAM, writer of the article "Set Thine House in Order," sends a letter of explanation and reply, from which in fairness to her we print the following paragraphs:—

"That previous statements may have been too sweeping and too general the writer admits, and sincerely regrets that any reflection should have been cast upon the whole body of our preachers, the great majority of whom are true to their high calling. But while conceding

this, I still maintain that the charges made are true, in some degree, not of our movement only, but of the church universal. In the light of the Word of God, it is a sign that we are living in the 'last days,' and in such perilous times a plea to hold fast to our faith seemed quite in order."

"The charges are not made against the great number of our men who consistently and faithfully preach what we know as 'the Gospel.' It is out of love for our brotherhood, which alone in the past has stood for a simple Bible faith, that these words are written; that we might give the more earnest heed to the truths entrusted to us, lest at any time, through complacency or indifference, we should let them slip."

[With this statement the correspondence on this subject is closed.—Ed.]

Obituary.

Fredrick Stanley Adams.

ON Nov. 11, 1927, Frederick S. Adams and his wife were received into the membership of the Gardiner (Vic.) church. They came by faith and baptism. That was during the ministry of the late Ralph Gebbie. He proved to be a very faithful and useful member. That usefulness, however, was checked by a serious illness, from which he suffered for about six years and four months. And now he has gone from the church on earth, having been called hence on the morning of Sept. 22. He has left behind a very brave wife, two fine daughters and a faithful son, all of whom are members of Gardiner church. They are cheered and helped by the glorious hope of the gospel, and by the Christian sympathy of the many brethren in Christ who know them.—T.H.

George Adcock.

ON Tuesday, Sept. 2, at the General Hospital, Gympie, Qld., Bro. George Adcock entered into the presence of the Lord, his last week overshadowed by unconsciousness after a stroke from which he never recovered. Born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1860, he came to Australia in 1888 and remained in the Gympie district ever since. In 1893 he was immersed by Bro. Mahon, and was the oldest member in the Eel Creek church, rendering quiet, faithful service to the best of his ability. When the church ceased to meet at Eel Creek, he was associated with Gympie, but owing to failing health was not able to attend often. His quiet faith was maintained right to the end, and a large number gathered around the graveside to pay a last tribute of respect. The loving sympathy of the church is extended to his widow and two sons, who, with several grandchildren, will long cherish the memory of their loved ones.—A.J.F.

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The Enemy Within.

(Acts 5: 3.)

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opening pippies for bait, one occasionally dis-
covers that, at some time when the shell had
been opened slightly, a tiny crab had crept in
and grown there—an enemy within.

The discovery has often reminded us of the
sad story of Ananias and Sapphira, recorded in
the Book of Acts (5: 1-11). They had per-
mitted Satan to enter and fill their hearts, and
bring them into the shame and tragedy of an
awful act of deceit. "Why hath Satan filled
thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit?" asked
the Apostle Peter.

Satan's beginnings are often extremely small.
A tiny desilement, a wee bit of laziness, a very
small selfishness, a very little lie. But little
by little the enemy is reinforced within. To be
on our guard is not enough. The only real
security against evil is the sincere surrender
of our heart to the Lord Jesus Christ.—G. J.
Andrews.

THOUGHT.

*No furnace so fiery hot that there
does not walk through it with us a
divine companion, from everlasting to
everlasting God.* —H. E. Fosdick.

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