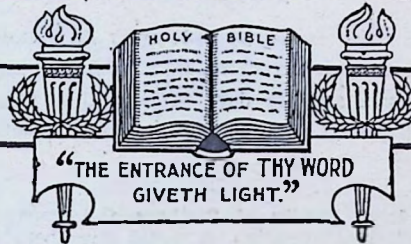


# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



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## Training Aborigines<sup>230</sup> for a Vocation

WHAT are we to do with the aboriginal peoples of this continent? Australians who live in the larger cities of the Commonwealth are hardly aware of the existence of these men and women. Only on rare occasions do we see them on our busy streets or in our comfortable suburbs. By being out of sight they are out of mind. But never has the ostrich policy of burying our heads to ignore the existence of difficult facts been successful. The Department of the Interior is aware of these people, and it announces that there are 51,615 full-blood natives in the Commonwealth and 24,325 half-caste people. Whatever may be said of the full-blood aborigines, it is evident that the communities of half-caste natives are increasing in numbers. The largest number of full-blood natives is found in the Western State; there we have 22,118, and in addition 4209 half-castes. Queensland is next with 12,160 full-bloods and 6461 half-castes. In Victoria there are only 92 full-blood natives. It is evident that, if we are to help these people, we must create mission-centres in those States where the natives live in large numbers. It is only right, then, that much of the activity of the Federal Aborigines Board be directed to assist the natives in a State like Western Australia.

THE policies or attitudes adopted regarding the aborigines may be gathered under three headings.

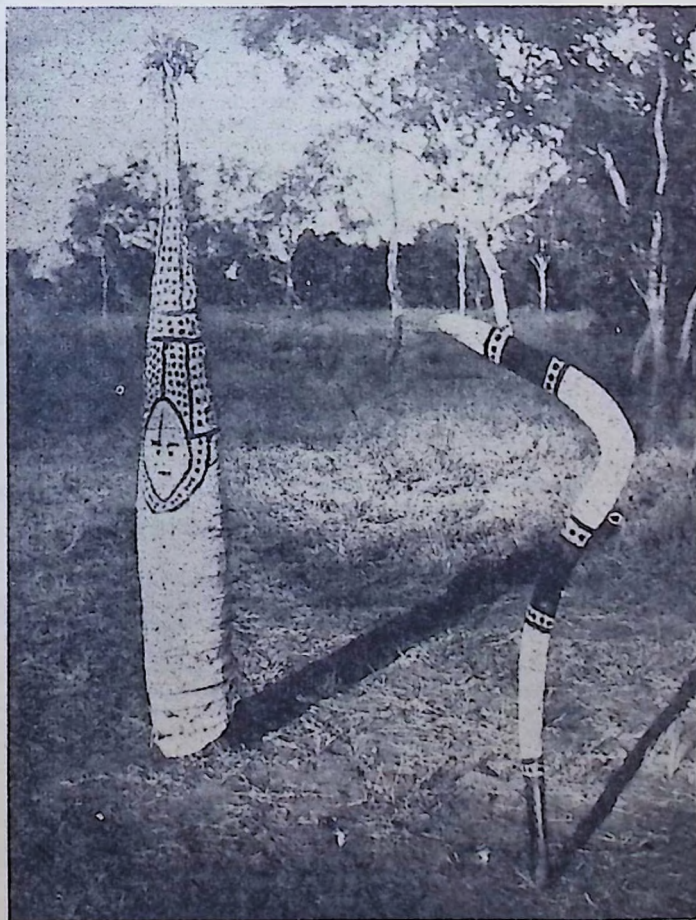
### ★ Indifference

There are many who look upon the dark-skinned people of this land as beasts or sub-human creatures. In the past the natives have been hunted down and killed like native

fauna such as the kangaroo. Within recent weeks papers reported the action of a station-owner chaining natives to a tree in the manner we might fasten a dog by a chain and collar. We would not do such a thing, but if we are prepared to allow these people who have been deprived of their best hunting grounds to continue to live in a neglected manner, we, too, shall be treating them with indifference. It is not very pleasant to look upon the faces of these people, and to see their wretched state, and then to realise that it may be due to our indifference as white citizens of the nation that they continue to live in such shocking circumstances.

### ★ Racial Superiority

A more refined and "scientific" approach in recent years has been advanced by anthropologists. They consider the natives to be primitive beings, who ought to be preserved in their native state like the koala bears. While the standards of civilisation attained by the aborigines may be considered primitive, that ought not confuse us and prevent us from looking beneath the surface and realising that, since God "hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth," these aborigines are not in essentials different from ourselves. Prof. J. B. Cleland is reported to have said in a lecture that "the leading characteristics of the British and the aboriginal were much alike, for there was a similar outlook and a sense of humor as well as other gifts which flowered under favorable circumstances. It might be said generally that but for the color of the Australian aboriginal he is not much unlike Europeans."



Aboriginal Totems.

(By permission of W.A. Govt. Tourist Bureau.)

(Please turn to page 29.)

# An Open Door

*D. G. Hammer, of Carnarvon, W.A., illustrates by interesting incidents how the work among natives is developing, and how a great and effectual door is being opened (1 Cor. 16: 9).*

**G**OD opens doors. Even if he closes some he never leaves us with every door closed for long. It is his way of guiding. Since coming to Carnarvon we have found many open doors of service amongst the native people, and we dare to hope that before long the doors will be fully open to the establishment of a permanent mission station in this needy district.

## To the Hearts of the Dark People

**B**EFORE our coming, one of the "many adversaries" of whom Paul wrote in our text had been at work, warning the natives that, if a mission were established, we would take the people's children away from them, put them into a mission, and they would never see them again. It was a shrewd stroke. Native people love their children, even if they do not always know what to do for the best for them. So we found that people were keeping out of our way, and numbers even dropped off from the little Sunday school we were holding in the dry bed of the river. But what a change there was when we were able to go amongst the people, and be of service to them in little ways. God opened the door. He gave us the opportunity of driving sick ones to hospital, and visiting them there. Then the time came when, at race week, many people gathered in the river bed, coming from stations scattered over hundreds of miles. What did we want to do with their children? We were glad to explain to them what we considered Christ would do for them. While we were still talking, a man from several hundred miles inland, called me aside and asked us when we could take his two girls into the school. He wanted them to have a chance in life. The next day a native stopped me in a shop in town. He wanted us to take his boy and girl into our school before they were too old to learn anything. And one by one, others have shown their interest and their willingness to have our help. Isn't this an open door?

## To the Needs of the Children

Recently one of the girls who attend our little Sunday school gave birth to a baby. No one seems to know who its father is, not even the girl herself. Some of our respectable people will be horrified, and want the girl put out of our Sunday school. But what chance has she ever had in life? Brought up in a tent in the scrub near the town, with

a large family of brothers and sisters, and little real attention, it would have been a relief to her to go out to a station to work as soon as she was old enough. There she was at the mercy of wandering natives and unscrupulous whites. She had had no education, and has never been given any idea of morality, as far as we can find out. She is still only a child herself, and this is her first year out at work. What possible hope for her is there of anything better in life? The babies and young children of the natives are as a doorway of opportunity to a brighter and better future for these for whom Christ died.

Another Sunday school scholar, a boy, has gone out to work. He is still a child, but has never gone to school, and has wandered wild around the bush. Work is a welcome relief to him. He draws £1 a week as a station hand. He may be twelve years old. He is learning to gamble, and is rapidly accumulating sufficient money to be able to buy wine at the exorbitant prices at which it is sold illegally to natives. Within a few years he will be pointed at, as an example of how low the natives are. But who ever did a thing to lift him up? What chance has he ever had? Again the need is shown, and an open door which must be entered, to help the children before it is too late.

## The Old People

Recently an old native was discharged from hospital. He had had pneumonia and was convalescent. But where could he go? He had no friends, no home and no money. Too ill yet to find a job on a station, and too ill to camp out in the scrub, subject to the wind that whistles across these exposed plains. We were able to make some temporary provision for him in a galvanised iron shed, which we re-erected on the reserve for his use, and he was able to draw government rations. But even at the best our arrangements were only temporary. This man represents an open door—a doorway of usefulness to help those who are unable to help themselves.

Or what of another old man, partially blind, groping his way around his humpy in the wind, vainly hoping to re-arrange the torn strips of canvas to keep the wind out. This man had lived in civilised conditions all his life, on stations, as police tracker. After years of living in houses that was all the shelter he had.

Or what of a widow woman, whose husband had died hundreds of miles away and left her there with her children. She took a trip to town but had no place to which she could go, except right back into the bush—with the children she could barely look after, and suffering from a rheumatic condition. These people actually exist, and we have met them, and more within the last few months.



Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Hammer (Carnarvon Field) with canopy of Mission Car Showing.

They challenge us to enter in the name of Christ—through the doors that are open.

## Public Opinion

Perhaps God's hand in opening doors can be shown best in the change of public opinion. We were told in the beginning that no mission was wanted—the natives were enough trouble now, and they would be worse when a mission started. Everything possible was done to block our moves. But what a change! First one or two station people listened to the proposition we had, and then others. Recently a meeting of all pastoralists in town at the time discussed the matter, and gave unanimous support to the project. The planters who grow bananas along the river bank also discussed it. And they voted their unanimous support. Others are taking the matter up. "This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes." We can say now that the public opinion is with us. It may be that this is the Lord's way of opening the door to a suitable site.

## "Many Adversaries"

Even Paul had opposition to his work. We are not expecting a day to come when everyone will want Christ's work to be done, and we have certainly had opposition. Possibly, if we go far enough back, we should see that the adversaries had back behind them only "the Adversary," and he has proved not to be invincible! He has been beaten before, and through the power of Christ he can be beaten again.

Will you please continue to remember us in prayer, that God will open the door by providing a suitable site to build a mission station—an outpost of the cross in a wilderness of human need?

**PRAY THAT  
ABORIGINE MISSION DOORS  
MAY BE OPENED.**

**Early stages in aborigine  
mission work demand prayer,  
faith, courage, determination,  
personal sacrifice, hard work  
and heavy expense.**

**£2500 — FEBRUARY 3.**



Aboriginal Making Fire.

*The Australian Christian*

# Community Centre For Natives

*New developments in the Norseman mission, W.A.,*

*promise to provide a new approach to a national problem.*

## Norseman Advances

*Maston Bell, secretary of the Federal Aborigines Mission Board, tells of interesting changes.*

THE acting chairman and secretary of the Federal Aborigines Mission Board recently returned from an important visit to the Norseman field greatly encouraged.

Norseman promises to be the home centre for natives, where we have opportunities now facing us to provide a Christian native village eight miles from the township and on a large native reserve of nearly 20,000 acres. An option has been taken over a settler's plant, stock, equipment and rights for £700, whose lease is right in the way of our proposed mission village. Particulars appeared in Albany Bell's article in last issue.

Ken Roberts is entering happily into his part of the work, realising that his experience, and continued service, can contribute to this big advance. The responsibility and work will be heavy. Let us pray for Mr. Roberts.

While the board's representatives were there Nurse A. L. Ball arrived and was warmly welcomed. She takes over the care of the children, thus relieving Miss Elsie Roxburgh to specialise in their schooling. Both have spheres of golden opportunity for spiritual influence on the boys and girls and their parents.

Miss Roxburgh has nobly carried a double load of responsibility, and with Miss Ball's co-operation looks forward to catching up on the children's needs.

Norseman field now presents a call to become a Christian community centre for natives from north, south, east and west as far afield as the trans. line, Esperance, Kalgoorlie and Southern Cross. May our Australian churches of Christ readily answer this call! It needs a long, persistent, patient and strong pull together for the cause of Christ and the natives.



Nanny with Two Nanny Kids Two Days Old—Norseman. Mission goat herd provides butter, meat and skins.

## Katie

KATIE trots happily around the mission verandahs and pathways handing out picture pages, draught-board or other item of intense interest to her. She loves to grasp unnoticed a shining kitchen table knife with the clean white handle firmly but correctly held in her dark right hand. A mission grown, freshly washed carrot from among the array for dinner is the counterpart to her delight. With these two she would contentedly play for hours, except for the inevitable correction from the first mission worker to pass by. But Katie willingly hands over the knife with a cute little twinkle in her large dark eyes.

Katie, only two years and three months old, is obviously happy. She is responding nicely to the foods of fresh mission grown vegetables, eggs, goat's milk, wheatmeal porridge and other things included in her diet by her keenly interested "mothers," Miss Elsie Roxburgh,



Katie Refuses to Give Her Usual Smile to the Camera.

Mrs. Roberts and now Miss Ball. The little, undernourished body, with at first, its terribly distended stomach through violently indigestible foods as a baby, is now becoming the shapely form of a normal child. It is delightful to see how contented she is, and to feel the urge to give her a reasonable chance for a useful life.

Yet Katie doesn't so far speak a word of decipherable English. She readily makes herself understood by her inimitable signs, especially to her brother to whom she often looks for a "walk-about." Until rescued from the listlessness of a grossly undernourished body she had not the desire to make a move at imitation of speech.

Born in camp with Mrs. Roberts and Miss Roxburgh in attendance, a tiny baby of only three pounds, her mother kept her but brought her every day to be bathed at the mission. The mother proved lazy and indifferent, spending endowment money on other things than her child. Meantime Katie lived on anything picked up around the camp. Eventually she

became so much a neglected child that the Commissioner for Native Affairs committed her to the care of our mission. The young people of Prospect, S.A., provided support for special milk supply, and are still helping to rescue this little under-privileged life.

How grand that now, through the patient, persistent, consecrated efforts of our appointed representatives at Norseman, we are giving Katie the facility and the invitation to become one of Christ's robust, healthy jewels. There are potentialities of one who could witness for Christ to her own people and perhaps to serve in full-time work. Let us pray for Katie!

## Missioner's Appeal

*K. N. Roberts, after several years' experience in Norseman field, writes hopefully of future.*

THE problem of the aborigine is one to which the average Australian, including those in political circles, has not yet fully awakened. The new order is here and the aborigines demand a place in it.

Australian churches of Christ have for some time realised the need, and have prepared for the coming of the present opportunity. For three difficult war years some pioneering work has been going forward at Norseman, an inland mining town in W.A., where a community of almost entirely full-blood natives still exists. Up to the present the work has been very difficult. It has been almost impossible to get materials or to get things done as desired. But through it all, the support of the Australian brotherhood has been magnificent. The Federal Board has been encouraged to launch out into other needy fields in this State where there are still 22,000 full-blood natives. A mission has been opened at Carnarvon.

Here at Norseman, too, great extensions are being undertaken. We want to make this a model of all that mission work can be. The climate and locality are inhospitable; but even the desert can be made to blossom as the rose, and children of the bush can be made citizens of the British commonwealth of nations and members of the kingdom of Christ. That is our programme.

The war is over. This is the day for which we have been preparing. Let us launch out. The work is costly and progress is slow, but the result may be glorious.

I could ask nothing more of the Australian brotherhood than that its support should be worthy of this day of opportunity.



Cauliflowers and Mission Personalities. Mr. Fitch, of Kalgoorlie, frequently helps.

# A New Order for Aborigines

*State leaders unite in an appeal to brotherhood  
to provide support for New Mission Programme*

## A Golden Opportunity

THE whole world is becoming conscious of a debt owing to the backward peoples of the earth. A deepening realisation of the injustice done these people in other days by greedy, self-seeking exploiters is at last dawning upon us. No longer are they to be treated as beasts of burden. They are to be given opportunity to develop intellectually and industrially. Their own cultures are to



Nurse A. L. Ball,

Welcomed at Norseman by board representatives and missionaries on Dec. 2, 1945, and commenced duties which include those of matron to the children.

be preserved, and their lands are to be reserved for them to develop for themselves and their children after them.

Such a view has been held by the Christian church ever since the re-birth of Christian missions, but too often little credit has been given by the governing bodies to this fact.

It is well for the church to realise that a struggle is ahead for her to continue the work she has been doing. Some well-meaning governments are proposing to remove the education of the natives from the control of missionary bodies and do the work themselves. This will spell failure for the natives, as it is only upon a spiritual basis true prosperity can be built.

In facing the work to which we are committed at Norseman, Carnarvon and elsewhere, some things should be kept in mind.

First. It is a new work upon which we are engaged. Such a work must not be ex-

pected to produce spectacular results immediately.

Second. It is a work in which the initial expense must be heavy. It is too early to expect much in the nature of self-support. That will come later.

Third. The larger portion of this expense must be met by the brotherhood. Government aid in the form of child endowment cannot be expected to more than provide the upkeep of any work among the children.

Fourth. In proportion to our faith, we may expect the need to be met. God is able if we are willing.

Our Australian native people represent one of the backward races. Given a reasonable chance we have every right to expect their standards of life to be lifted. Past experience shows them to be a highly intelligent people, faithful and appreciative.

Are you having a share in their emancipation? Have you included them and the work being done in Christ's name for them on your prayer list? If not, you are missing out in what is proving to be a golden opportunity.—Ira A. Paternoster, N.S.W.

## Why Bother About Them?

WE have neglected the aborigines so long, why bother about them now, when they are a decreasing and dying race? Yet we cannot escape the responsibility, for we have taken their land and driven them out of their natural haunts; we have taken their water supply and often desecrated their sanctuaries. We, in return, have given them little, other than our diseases and social evils. As Dr. Elkin, of Sydney University, states, "Since we came here in 1788, the black population has decreased from 300,000 to 60,000—the direct action of killing, poisoning, and the law of the jungle."

On the other hand, how striking is the testimony of a missionary as to the worth of the aboriginal: "In no branch of the human race can there be found so many convincing proofs of gratitude and affection. Many a traveller and settler could relate instances of blacks who, once assured that the white man was their friend indeed, held to him in danger and distress with unalterable attachment. Many a lost child has been saved from a miserable death in the bush by earnest and clever search by aboriginal trackers, and many a colonist has been rescued from floods. Many a time has the poison of a snake been sucked from a settler by a blackfellow."

Why bother about them now? They are

some of Christ's "other sheep" for whom the Good Shepherd died, and God will require their blood at our hands. Only about 5000 out of 60,000 aborigines in Australia are being evangelised. Through our own missions, recently established, our churches now have a wonderful opportunity of measuring up to the obligation of helping this needy race. Let us fill the treasury to overflowing so that our missions may be firmly established and developed, for "growing boys need larger clothes and more food."—W. L. Ewers, S.A.

## Fitzroy Aborigines' Mission

THE work at Fitzroy, Vic., is conducted by Doug Nicholls, under the supervision of the Victorian committee. Mr. Nicholls is highly esteemed by all, not only for his athletic prowess, but also for his preaching ability and Christian character. The gospel is preached every Sunday evening to 50 or 60 of the dark folk who come from various suburbs around the city.

A Bible school has been commenced under the leadership of Mrs. Nicholls. There are 32 children on the roll, but the attendance has fallen lately, as a number of families have gone to the country. The young men's club is a notable feature of the work where the physical and spiritual needs of the young men are catered for. The Fitzroy Municipal Council was impressed by the work being done to assist the young men, and recently donated the sum of £25 to assist this work.

It is the desire of the Victorian committee to make Fitzroy a cultural centre, where folk of promise may be encouraged to cultivate their talents. We believe that the natives are quite capable of taking their place as citizens in the community, and that efforts should be made to encourage the children especially that they may have the same facilities as other children. Encouragement will be given to young folk of talent with a view to their adequate placement in society.

A real work of uplift is being conducted at Fitzroy under the control of a council composed by the natives themselves. The Fitzroy mission is not only a meeting place for natives living in or visiting the city of Melbourne, but a spiritual centre where the gospel is being presented in various ways. A worthwhile work is being accomplished here which should appeal to all who desire to see the uplift of our aboriginal friends.—C. L. Lang, secretary, Victorian Aborigines Committee.



Doug Nicholls Officiating at a Wedding.

# Meeting Needs of Aborigines

(Continued from front page.)

## ★ An Equal

**B**ACK in the history of early settlements there were those who sought to treat the natives as equals. This was set out with force in a proclamation made by Governor Hindmarsh at Glenelg, S.A., on December 28, 1836. In it he urged that just and fair treatment be meted out to the aborigines, and the blessings of the Christian religion be extended to them also. That these people can be reclaimed and be regenerated and be made worthy citizens is made manifest in the life and work of a man like Doug Nicholls.

It is not enough to try to give self-respect and love for the better life to these people. They must have training and opportunity to make themselves economically free and independent. The trade or industry taught must fit their racial type; that implies an application of the vocational guidance and principles on a racial scale. The nomadic back-

ground of the people must therefore be taken into consideration. We are glad to note a growing appreciation of this truth among those seeking to minister to the aborigines.

**B**ECAUSE the new venture at Norseman, W.A., discussed so helpfully in our last issue by Albany Bell, of Western Australia, is adaptable to meet the industrial needs of the natives, there is evidence that a statesman-like approach is now being made by the Federal Board to meet this problem. If the new mission grant of 20,000 acres will provide economic security and independency for the converted aborigines, it will become a national asset, returning dividends for the benefit of natives, nation and church. The request of £2500 for such an enterprise and similar undertakings ought to meet with a ready response from men of business foresight and goodwill. May the offering on February 3 be worthy of the lead being given by our Federal and State Aborigines Committees!

## Missionaries to Aborigines



K. N. Roberts.

### NORSEMAN—

Mr. K. N. Roberts.  
Mrs. K. N. Roberts.  
Miss E. Roxburgh.  
Nurse A. L. Ball.

### CARNARVON—

Mr. D. G. Hammer.  
Mrs. D. G. Hammer.

### MISSIONARIES. ELECT—

Mr. N. Kingston.  
Miss D. Holmes.



Miss E. Roxburgh.

## Our Aborigines

Thoughts suggested by Maston Bell, the new secretary of the Federal Aborigines Board.

**D**ESPISED and under-privileged natives are in their own sphere highly skilled.

We self-termed superior people, given the same tools, would never make their weapons.

If wet and cold in the wilderness without our box of matches we may die for want of the fire. The native can make fire without our civilisation.

If landed in Northern Australia without our 20th century weapons we would die of starvation, while the native in his skill has abundant food, meat, vegetable roots, and even water from the trees.

The fear of and ignorance on evil spirits within our own borders is a call to every care-free, fearless Christian. Even our detribalised natives will not sleep in double-decked or high

beds because the spirits can get underneath them.

Except in isolated cases the only one willing to get down to the contacts needed to help them is the fully surrendered Christian missionary. Nothing short of an unshakeable confidence in the illimitable Christ and his atoning blood can supply the dynamic force for both aborigine's and missionary's salvation. In the sight of the Creator the soul of one is as important as the soul of the other.

These are our neighbors in very truth. We shall not escape responsibility in that day if we live any longer not heeding the call.

Board and missionaries can go only so far as a lively, spiritually determined brotherhood demonstrates towards aborigines.

# The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

## THESE ABIDE

**T**HE look of sympathy, the gentle word,  
Spoken so low that only angels heard;  
The secret act of pure self-sacrifice.  
Unseen by men, but marked by angels' eyes;  
These are not lost.  
The kindly plan devised for others' good,  
So seldom guessed, but little understood;  
The quiet, steadfast love that strove to win  
Some wanderers from the ways of sin—  
These are not lost.

## CRYING FOR NEW STARS

**O**N a voyage a slave had been given the helm while his master slept, and he was instructed to sail straight towards a certain star. Under his unskilful handling the boat wobbled, until the star was behind instead of in front. Thereupon the man woke his master with, "Massa, massa! Come, gimme 'nuther star; I've sailed a-past that one!" A great deal of our crying that we have got past certain old standards—for example, the Bible—is due to our own ignorant shiftings rather than to any real progress. The star and the standards are fixed, and they are still far, far ahead.

## THE CAREFUL SCOT

Shop assistant.—"What can I show you, sir?"

Sandy.—"I'm wondering whether you have a mouse trap that will kill the wee fellow before he has time to eat the cheese?"

## The Family Altar

TOPIC.—SAVIOUR AND SOVEREIGN

Jan. 21—Psa. 22: 22-31.

" 22—Psa. 29.

" 23—Psa. 40.

" 24—Psa. 72.

" 25—Isa. 35.

" 26—Isa. 40.

" 27—Isaiah 9: 1-7; Luke 2: 1-20.

**B**BETTER news never came to mortal man than that of the angel to the shepherds announcing the birth of "a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord." A Saviour and a sovereign! It has been said that many dwell simply upon the "Jesus-ship" of our Lord, but think little if at all of the Lord-ship of Jesus." They love to ponder upon what Jesus was and did whilst upon earth, but fail to realise what he is now, and what he is still doing for us in heaven. Their thoughts dwell much upon the wonders of the incarnation, the earthly ministry of Jesus, and his crucifixion, yet scarcely do they give a moment's thought to the glorious theme of his present sovereignty, as "Lord of lords and King of kings." Whatever views men hold concerning future manifestations of glory and power, they must not close their eyes to the fact that he who is now our Saviour is also our Sovereign. From him we receive redemption, and to him we surrender all in loving service. By him we are set free, and to him we become bond-servants.

"My Saviour and my Lord, my Conqueror and my King!

Thy matchless power and love, thy saving grace I sing:

Thine is the power, oh, may I sit, in willing bonds beneath thy feet."

## The Australian Christian

January 16, 1946

Page 29

# Here and There

After more than six years' service as a chaplain with the Forces, Chas. Young has returned to Melbourne for demobilisation.

Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Garnett expect to arrive in Australia from America towards the end of February to visit relatives and to enable Dr. Garnett to write a book on the social philosophy of Australia and New Zealand, under the auspices of the Special Research Fund of the University of Wisconsin, U.S.A.

Mr. J. A. Wilkie, of Ballarat, Vic., has accepted the invitation to address the annual public inaugural session of the Federal College of the Bible, which will be held in the Lygon-st. chapel on Monday, Feb. 25. The choirs of the churches at Cheltenham and Parkdale are combining to provide a musical programme.

The home secretary of the British & Foreign Bible Society, W. J. Platt, an able speaker and experienced missionary, accompanied by Miss Mildred Cable and the Misses French, whose names are household words in missionary circles, is to visit Australia within the next few weeks in connection with the coming-of-age celebrations of the society's Commonwealth Council. These distinguished ladies, as well as Mr. Platt, will address gatherings in Australian capital cities.

With the election of Australia on Jan. 12 to the Security Council of the United Nations Organisation, the vital part Australia must play in the future affairs of the nations in the Pacific zone is being recognised by the world. It is evident that Australian leadership ranks high in world opinion. The responsibility of helping to guide the destiny of the nations will rest directly and heavily upon our representatives. We trust therefore that men of highest character will be called to act on behalf of the Commonwealth.

The British and Foreign Bible Society promised to contribute £200,000 to the £1,000,000 to be raised by British Christendom for the Christian reconstruction of Europe. To meet this need, it was agreed by the society, at the annual meeting, 1944, to donate the balance of income over expenditure. As a consequence £183,472 of the £200,000 has been raised. This includes record sums contributed by nations within the British Empire: Canada, £67,258; New Zealand, £14,769; Australia, £24,624; South Africa, £8918; and Ireland, £8819.

In "The Messenger," Jan. 11, A. C. Welsh, B.A., of Hay Memorial High School, presents a fine tribute to the memory of Mr. Hugh Kelly, M.A., a Presbyterian minister. Among other things he writes: "Mr. Kelly was an extremely well-read man, and his leading articles in 'The Age' newspaper must have influenced thousands. It had been his intention on retirement to collect some of his literary papers in book form. Now that our dear friend has passed beyond these voices, I trust that this project will not be abandoned. Such a book would prove a worthy memorial to a thoughtful and eloquent man."

Mr. O. Fieldus, a past-president of the Western Australian conference, and an elder of the church at Fremantle, W.A., was honored at several functions held during December marking his retirement from the Western Australian Education Department. Mr. Fieldus was first assistant of the Fremantle Boys' School at the time of his resignation. Senior Inspector T. S. Edmondson spoke of the lasting influence which Mr. Fieldus had made on the boys who had passed through his hands. Mr. Fieldus spent 32 years in England as a teacher, joined the Western Australian Education Department in 1913, has served at Perth Boys' School, Bunbury High School, Geraldton, and for the last 20 years at Fremantle Boys' School. In these centres Mr. and Mrs. Fieldus also made valued contributions to the spiritual life of local churches of Christ.

"In view of the lowering of moral standards, the Ilford School of Social Study, which represents all the churches, has urged leaders in civic life to keep Christian ideals in the forefront of all social legislation and to support in every possible way the churches in calling the people to acknowledge God in public worship."

Advice from A. Anderson, secretary of Federal Overseas Board notifies that Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith left Sydney for the New Hebrides mission field last week-end. Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Finger, with their baby, are expected to arrive in Australia toward end of January.



H. J. Finger.

A. L. Jones, of Port Lincoln, S.A., writes that an appeal has been made to churches in South Australia to give consideration to the claims of the Port Lincoln church. It has been planned to hold a tent mission, and P. R. Baker has been invited to lead as missionary. Prayers of brethren on behalf of this effort are sought.

The Victorian Young People's Department has just completed a successful Christmas camp and is busy arranging three others: Leaders of boys' work, Jan. 19, 20; Leaders of Good Companion Clubs, Feb. 2, 3; and Hall's Gap camp, catering especially for young people in the rural areas, is planned for Feb. 13-20. Intending campers are urged to register immediately.

A report of the Church of England entitled, "Towards the Conversion of England," states that "in the advertising columns of the Press we have a vehicle for a modern form of tract. By it a message can be carried into almost every household over and over again, and in ways whereby the millions of readers must eventually see it and grasp something of its meaning."

The Executive Committee of the Federal Conference has endorsed the proposal to perpetuate the memory of the life and work of the late Principal A. R. Main by a suitable memorial. The following have been approved by the Federal Executive to serve as a committee to organise the appeal: Messrs. J. McG. Abercrombie, F. Lewis, R. T. Pittman, A. W. Stephenson and W. A. Strongman.

"Speaking at Holywell, Alderman H. R. Thomas, chairman of the Flintshire Higher Education Committee, Great Britain, said that his experience as a magistrate had convinced him that drink held a threat to young life. On official visits to public houses he had been horrified by the spectacle of young men and women not yet in their twenties consuming alcohol freely and unashamed. He saw a marked increase in drinking among juveniles, adolescents and women. Alderman Thomas expressed the opinion that there should be a

complete revision in methods of teaching temperance."

At Maryborough, Qld., Bible school Christmas tree celebrations were held on Dec. 11. Every scholar was presented with a gift off the tree. A church social was held on Dec. 13. H. E. Greenwood (conference secretary) spoke at morning meeting on Dec. 23. In absence of H. C. Spratt on Jan. 6, Erle Spratt spoke in morning and C. Hamann at night. Fellowship has been enjoyed with visiting brethren, 15 being present on Dec. 23. On morning of Jan. 6, V. S. Dallinger, of Townsville, presided. Sisters Hansen and Ingham, who have been ill in hospital, have returned to their homes. W. Dau has recovered from his bicycle accident and is attending meetings again. Meetings held fortnightly at Urraveen are encouraging.

W. Gale writes: "Our mission programme for 1946 is now being prepared. Churches desiring a tent mission with Messrs. Macnaughtan and Saunders should contact the Home Missionary Committee at the earliest. The party is not being retained for home mission churches only. The next mission is due to commence on Sunday next, Jan. 20, in a tent on the corner of Victoria-ave. and Beaconsfield-pde., Albert Park. The churches of the Middle Park and South Melbourne circuit have undertaken this sea-front venture at the height of the beach season. The tent is at the terminus of the South Melbourne Beach tram, which may be boarded in Collins-st., city. The committee announces that it has secured Chaplain J. K. Martin for the work at Ormond. He will commence immediately upon his release from the army. A. C. Mudford will begin his ministry in the Ararat-Stawell circuit on Feb. 10. The making of the new home mission tent is in hand, and is promised for the mission at Balwyn, which is to be held by Messrs. Macnaughtan and Saunders, commencing on March 3."

## SOME FIGURES

THE statistics of church membership reported by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America seem fabulous in the light of what can be shown in our own small islands. The total membership for the United States has reached an "All-time record," and is said to be 72,492,669, or more than half of the population. The total membership, which increases steadily, as reported by 256 religious bodies, represents an increase of almost four millions on similar returns two years ago. Taking the separate denominations, the figures are: Methodism eight million communicants, the Baptists, however, having a still larger number if a total is taken of three large sections. The membership of the Presbyterian Church in America exceeds two millions. Thirteen churches top the million mark—"The British Weekly."

## HOPES FOR WORLD PEACE

THE momentous gatherings of the United Nations Organisation being held at London, promise to restore some order into the confused affairs of the nations. Delegates are making a realistic approach to problems, and this means there will be more frankness and less sentiment than demonstrated at League of Nations meetings. This readiness to bring difficulties into open discussion suggests that fewer secret agreements are being planned among nations. The more ordinary citizens know of the world situation the more likely the world will be kept to the path of peace. Let us pray for the success of these vital meetings!

## ADDRESS

A. B. Withers (preacher West Preston church, Vic.).—92 May-st., W. Preston. JU2092.

## The Australian Christian

# News of the Churches

## Tasmania

**Devonport.**—During holiday season fellowship with visitors was enjoyed. Amongst them were Mr. Prentice and his mother (Brunswick, Vic.). On Jan. 6 a scholar of Bible school, who was baptised on Dec. 30, was received into fellowship. Mr. and Mrs. Stan Bruton, who have come to live here, were also received. Addresses during Christmas season have been appropriate and ably presented by Mr. Grainger, who has completed a year of service with the church.

## Western Australia

**Perth.**—Food for Britain appeal brought in £29/2/-. Mr. and Mrs. G. Elliott received a welcome home after visit to Melbourne. Appreciated help as speakers was given by A. M. Bell and Frank Evers in absence of J. K. Robinson at youth camp. Mr. Robinson spoke at both services on Jan. 6. Morning service was broadcast.

**Wembley Park.**—On evening of Dec. 9 Mr. and Mrs. Hall and son, American missionaries to India, and Mr. Jane, of Melbourne, were welcomed. Mr. Jane told a story to the young people, and Mr. Hall preached. There was a large attendance of kindergarten scholars, together with cradle roll members and their mothers, at Christmas tree on Dec. 15. Christmas services were held on Dec. 23. Mr. Pyne spoke on morning of Jan. 6, Mr. Whiting being at Waterman's Bay assisting with boys' camp.

## Queensland

**Ma Ma Creek.**—Several visitors were present during holidays. Four young people attended youth camp. After nearly sixty years of service, aged Mr. Francis has entered into rest. An offering of £8 has been received towards Food for Britain appeal.

**Charters Towers.**—Christmas activities were continued on Dec. 25 with an early morning service. Dec. 26 and 31 were enjoyable picnic days at river-side. Discharged Servicemen farewelled were L.A.C. Homas, of Coburg, and L.A.C. Mev. Rogers, of Annerley. Discharged Servicemen welcomed home were C. Tucker, J. Duval, L. Wales and F. Lewis.

**Gympie District.**—A splendid service was held at Rossmount on Dec. 23, and a C.E. social and watch-night service on Dec. 31. Monkland monthly gospel service on Jan. 6 was conducted by A. Kingston and J. Venning. Several visitors have attended, including W. Barnes, who took part at Monkland, and N. Watson and F. Collingwood, who helped at Gympie. Jan. 6 was observed as a united day with the Baptists, they attending our morning service and we attending their evening service.



The Chapel at Gympie.

**Bundaberg.**—On morning of Dec. 30, 52 gathered for worship. Welcome was extended to E. McIlhagger, Reg. Voss, W. Pohl, J. Steffen and Mr. and Mrs. R. Labinski. The service was conducted by W. Proudley owing to absence of A. B. Clark at young people's camp. E. McIlhagger, of Rockhampton, conducted evening service; there was a large attendance. Sister S. Haaman sang a solo.

## Victoria

**Portland.**—Speakers during December were A. Rivett, T. Robb, T. Davey, Miss George and Mr. Butler. Mrs. Short was soloist on Dec. 30. Following were offerings taken in December: Home missions, £1/10/-; local hospital, £1/10/-; British food appeal, £1. A Christmas tree for school was held on Dec. 13, when 58 parents and scholars held an enjoyable evening.

**St. Arnaud.**—On Dec. 18 Christmas tree and evening took place. Gifts were presented to Mrs. Hurren from ladies, and to Max and Geoff, prior to their departure for Coburg. On Dec. 30 C. Jackel, of Horsham, conducted morning and evening services. Visitors were welcomed. E. Randall, of Middle Park, conducted morning and evening services on Jan. 6. R. Cooper, now discharged and residing in the town, is welcomed back and assists at services.

**Ballarat (Peel-st.).**—Meetings have been well attended, and interest is maintained under A. Graham. Carol singing on Christmas eve was appreciated by many folk who are ill. On Christmas Sunday visitors were present at both services. Ladies' Guild held sale of works on Dec. 15, and raised £89 throughout year by their special efforts. Home mission offering amounted to £10. Endeavorers and friends held an enjoyable picnic at Creswick on New Year's Day.

**North Fitzroy.**—The choir sponsored a successful Christmas tree to which every member was invited and received a gift. About 120 members attended. Appeal for "Food for Britain" fund resulted in £6/18/1 being contributed. The husband of Mrs. Scriven has returned from service abroad. Mrs. Paradine, from Brisbane, attended service on Jan. 6. Young people spent an enjoyable holiday under canvas at camp on Belgrave site under leadership of P. Foster. The church looks forward to commencement of John Turner's ministry on Feb. 3.

**Kyneton.**—On Nov. 24 H. M. Clipstone officiated at wedding of Miss U. Saunders, of Lauriston, and Sig. E. Harridge, of Kerang. Special services and a fellowship tea marked fortieth anniversary of church on 25th. A quartette party and W. Trickey rendered musical items. Deputation attended youth gathering at Castle-maine on Dec. 1. On 15th the Bible school hiked to South Kyneton mineral springs. A Christmas tree was enjoyed on 22nd, also special services on 23rd, when there were many visitors. Mrs. Emily McKay, of Lauriston, is in hospital recovering from serious illness. Addresses and visitation by P. Whitmore are appreciated.

**Woorinen.**—Attendances have been smaller as many members are away on holiday. A concert given by Swan Hill S.S. scholars held in chapel raised £2/12/-, which was donated to children's ward in district hospital. Teachers and parents of Sunday school scholars gave children a break-up social and Christmas tree, which was well attended. On Christmas day combined churches of Woorinen held a service at 8 a.m. in chapel. Mr. Miller (Presbyterian church) conducted, assisted by D. A. Cockroft. Members journey to Swan Hill on first Sunday evening of each month to join in a combined fellowship service with members there. Broadcast service is received once a month, and Mr. Walmsley's addresses are enjoyed and are of great benefit to members here.

**Thornbury.**—Three brethren were received into the church on Jan. 13, one member being A. G. Thurgood, from Whyalla, S.A. Church attendance has increased since Christmas vacation, when many members were away on holidays.

**Boort.**—On evening of Dec. 18 a happy time was spent, when Bible school held Christmas tree. Every teacher and scholar received a gift. Mr. Streader and Mr. Lanyon, with help of Mr. Coventry, are giving some fine addresses. The church welcomes home from Forces Edwin Dyer, R.A.A.F., Cpl. Lanyon and Jones.



The Chapel at Boort.

**Emerald.**—On Dec. 23 J. W. Tomkinson, of China Inland Mission, took Bible school meeting at 10 a.m., and both morning and evening services; his addresses were greatly appreciated. On Dec. 30, many holiday visitors helped to fill chapel to capacity both morning and evening. A. A. Hughes was speaker for day. A feature of evening service was delightful rendering of Hallelujah Chorus by "Heathermont" guest house holiday choir of Belgrave, conducted by Mr. Barber, of Moreland church, also a solo by Fred Lang. On Dec. 31 a watch-night service was held. Geo. Seal, of West Preston church, conducted. Miss Green, also of West Preston, was organist.

**Box Hill.**—Well-attended services marked special Christmas meetings on Dec. 16. With aid of fully augmented choir, the story of the Advent was told in song and scripture. A happy time was spent by many at wind-up social for year held by men's meeting on Dec. 14. A van-load of singers spent evening of Dec. 23 visiting houses of members and singing carols. Many of the young people spent holiday at youth camp at Monbulk, where the preacher, F. T. Morgan, was one of the camp leaders. A Christmas party for kindergarten was held in Box Hill Park. Bible school has resumed after Christmas break. During absence of preacher at youth camp and on holidays, pulpit has been filled by Messrs. Sandells, F. T. Saunders, R. Sparks, Muller and Dr. Kemp.

**Ballarat (Dawson-st.).**—Anniversary services of Doveton-st. and Mount Clear Bible schools were of high order, and a tribute to training at Doveton-st. of Edgar Davey, Clem Hill and Mrs. Thomas, and at Mt. Clear of J. Blackie and Miss R. Petchell. Addresses at Doveton-st. were given by F. N. Lee and A. W. Cleland (conference president), at Mt. Clear by Albert Graham and T. Maxwell. J. Methven has encouraged by offering to continue until G. J. Andrews, who has accepted an invitation to spend three years with the church, comes in February. His addresses are fruitful in inspiration toward higher things, and closing gospel service of 1945 influenced one to accept Christ. Since then another of the older Bible school boys has taken the Lord as Saviour. W. W. Saunders spent part of holiday season with church, and at one morning service gave an outline of the work Mr. Macnaughtan and he are endeavoring to do. E. H. Price is still critically ill, and members are much concerned for his recovery.

Oakleigh.—Attendances have been maintained over holiday period. During school holidays S. Neighbour is giving illustrated gospel addresses, using slides lent by G. J. Andrews.

Footscray.—Under leadership of H. Easton and I. Buckley, eight young men of K.S.P. club camped at Lorne during Christmas holidays. T. Hampton has accepted superintendency of school.

Mont Albert.—Special Christmas service was conducted by Mr. Hillier on Dec. 23. Mr. Luke and Mr. Smith officiated at services on Dec. 30. On evening of Jan. 13, two Bible school girls who had previously made their decisions were baptised by A. R. Pigdon, who was on holidays from Port Pirie, S.A.

Geelong.—At gospel meeting on Jan. 13, one lady, who confessed Christ on previous Sunday, was baptised. At close of meeting one young lady made the good confession. After a long and painful illness Mrs. H. McGregor passed away on Jan. 8. Total donations by straight-out giving to building fund during 1945 amounted to £375.

Brunswick.—Carols and solo by Mrs. Rogers were enjoyed on Christmas Sunday. While Mr. Prentice was on holidays, services were conducted by A. Marsh, J. Roberts, D. Hibburt, A. Mann, H. Barnden and F. Funston, who spoke on behalf of Local Option Alliance. Miss Hopper was received by letter from Moreland. Final drive for payment of heaters amounted to £32/16/-.

Bayswater.—Christmas services were conducted on Dec. 23, with good numbers present, including many visitors. During absence of Mr. Combridge, appreciated addresses were given by Mr. Collings and Mr. Mott. Bible school and C.E. have resumed after recess. Clive Peck, A.I.F., has had fellowship with church. Sympathy is extended to W. and L. Bullen in loss of their mother. Mr. and Mrs. O. Finger have removed to Mooroolbark. Mr. Combridge has commenced second year of ministry.

North Essendon.—On Jan. 6 L. A. Trezise commenced his ministry with church. R. L. Williams conducted an impressive induction service in morning, and Mr. Trezise preached at night. On Jan. 10 a welcome evening was given to Mr. and Mrs. Trezise and family, presided over by conference president, A. W. Cleland. Greetings were brought from brotherhood committees and from past preachers of church. Mrs. Cleland welcomed Mrs. Trezise on behalf of Women's Conference. Mr. Trezise spoke at both services on Jan. 13.

Middle Park.—On Dec. 23, Christmas addresses were delivered by Mr. McDowell and Mr. Randall. Mr. Brooker gave a helpful new year address on Jan. 30. At gospel service 22nd united service was held with Baptist church, when Mr. Lowson delivered the address. D. Grant, of the college, and Mr. Grogan, of B. & F. Bible Society, were speakers on Jan. 6. Mr. Randall was welcomed back from vacation on Jan. 13. Mr. Gale brought a message of encouragement for tent mission to commence on Jan. 20. Church has enjoyed fellowship with several visitors over holiday season. All meetings have been well attended.

Black Rock.—On Dec. 14, Christmas tree and party for kindergarten children were a success, special feature being a large number of wooden toys made and donated by a member. Christmas services on Dec. 23 were inspiring. After evening service a session of "carols by candlelight" was enjoyed. Many members have been away on holidays, but recent services have been well attended by visitors to district. Fellowship with Norm Hardham, of the Services, has been enjoyed. One young man, John Adams, on confession of faith has been baptised and received into fellowship. Choir continues to give uplift to gospel meetings. Mrs. G. Holloway was soloist on Jan. 6. G. P. Pittman's addresses are of much help and blessing.

## New South Wales

Broken Hill.—Meetings were well maintained throughout Christmas season. Mr. Paddock conducted both services at Wolfram-st. on Jan. 6, and left for annual holidays following day. A. Thurgood spoke in morning at Wills-st. on Jan. 6. On Dec. 26 a special meeting of sisters at Wills-st. met in home of Mrs. Dyer, when decision was made to form a sisters' auxiliary, which will hold first meeting in February. A new organ has been installed at Wills-st., and the sisters have made this their first responsibility.

## South Australia

Prospect.—Services on Jan. 6 were well attended. A. E. Brown exhorted. Fellowship was enjoyed with Mesdames Brodie and Smith, from Victoria, and others. Work in auxiliaries has commenced after vacations. Mr. Brown concluded his work with church on Jan. 13.

Victor Harbour-Goolwa.—Meetings have increased in size, notwithstanding lack of transport for holiday visitors. At Port Elliott about 40 broke bread, when C. M. Verco, of Blackwood, was preacher. Larger attendances at Goolwa. A young people's society has been formed, to commence meetings on Jan. 17. At Victor Harbour C. M. Verco exhorted on Jan. 6, when a large audience was present. At night F. Collins preached, and a married lady made the good confession. Another was recently added by faith and baptism, and several by letter.

## Western Australian Youth Camps

*Our new correspondent, J. K. Robinson, preacher of church at Lake-st., Perth, reports on young people's activities, and on broadcasting of Christian programmes.*

GREETINGS to my readers. The editor has invited me to contribute the monthly news-letter from Western Australia in succession to R. Raymond who, after attending to it for the past seven years, desires to be relieved of the responsibility.

### Youth Camps

From Dec. 25 to Jan. 1, 122 young men and women were in camp at Waterman's Bay. The theme of the camp was "Thy Kingdom Come." A printed study booklet, "Pictures of the Kingdom," set forth the nature of the kingdom of God as illustrated by the parables of our Lord. Evening rallies were addressed by representative men on "The Reality of the Kingdom," "Business in the Kingdom," "The Family in the Kingdom," "Amusements in the Kingdom," and "Seeking First the Kingdom." From Jan. 2-9, 40 junior boys were in camp; from Jan. 10-17, 83 junior girls; and from Jan. 19-28, 45 girls from our Radio Sunday School. Altogether 290 young folk enjoyed the camping experience. The camp property has been enlarged by the addition of a second dormitory, 70 ft. x 18 ft. Each dormitory is now equipped with upper and lower bunk stretchers, mattresses and pillows, and the kitchen is well stocked with crockery.

### Broadcasting

On Christmas Day station 6PM/AM opened half an hour earlier than intended to present free of charge a special Christmas session conducted by E. R. Sherman (minister Inglewood church) and our Radio Sunday School choir, assisted by children from Victoria Park Presbyterian Sunday school. At 9 a.m., also on Christmas Day, the writer conducted a 50-minute session on behalf of our churches from the studios of 6KY. The regular Sunday sessions, the Radio Sunday School (6PM/AM, 9.15 a.m.), the Bible Answer (6PR/TZ, 6.30 p.m.), and Faith Triumphant (6KY, 8.45 p.m.) continue. Lake-st. church service is on the air by courtesy of 6KY on the third Sunday

Fullarton.—Twenty people attended a helpful watch-night service; F. Derbyshire sang a solo. Nearly 200 were present at first gospel service in new year. Sixteen men sang three appropriate messages. Ron Giltsham, George Philp and Ron Barnes are now back from overseas. Average offering for church purposes for past six months has been over £7. Chapel and manse debts have both been considerably reduced.

Semaphore.—At a special service for men on Dec. 2, items were rendered by a male choir and male quartette party. Final meeting for 1945 of Men's Fellowship was held on Dec. 3. A concert programme by combined girls' and boys' clubs, held on Dec. 8 was well attended and over £10 raised to provide equipment. Kindergarten Christmas treat was on Dec. 15. Each child received a beautifully made toy. Thanks are extended to N. Bray for generous help. Pre-Christmas services on Dec. 23 were well attended. Choir assisted morning and evening. W. L. Ewers delivered appropriate addresses and welcomed many visitors. A. Sellick was present on Jan. 6, having been discharged from Services.

Unley.—Kinders and cradle roll members had a successful Christmas tree, when about 70 little ones were visited by Father Christmas. Miss Flo. Bond, superintendent, has a happy way of drawing out the little ones, who contributed impromptu entertainment, and sang Christmas songs. Good services were held on Christmas Sunday, with special singing by choir, and a musical item by four young girls

(News continued on opposite page.)

evening of every month, and usually once a month in the morning by courtesy of 6IX-WB-MD, though the actual Sundays vary. The next two are Feb. 10 and March 31.

### Personalia

Allen G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed., has been released from the Air Force, has resigned from the Education Department, and has entered the full-time ministry as minister of Victoria Park church and secretary of conference. His ability and consecration are widely recognised, and he enjoys the confidence and good wishes of the whole brotherhood. S. G. Taylor, for many years secretary and elder of the Fremantle church, has been serving the Claremont church as part-time preacher for some months. He has now accepted full-time service with the church, and prospects are bright for a happy period for both minister and church. Both Victoria Park and Claremont are subsidised financially by the Home Mission Committee. R. Raymond is absent from the State, Subiaco church having released him for a three months' vacation. A. T. Thomas, a deacon of the Lake-st. church, has been appointed editor of "The Western Christian," our monthly periodical. The position was formerly held by J. Wiltshire. The writer has undertaken the voluntary directorship of our youth work, making it his exclusive contribution to brotherhood activities outside his local church work. C. H. Hunt has closed his ministry with the Fremantle church to undertake full-time chaplaincy duties with the Sailors' Rest in Fremantle. Mr. Hunt is well qualified for this work, and although we regret the depletion of the ranks of our full-time ministry, we wish Mr. Hunt God's blessing in his new field of service.

## The Australian Christian

from Sunday school. On Dec. 30 Mr. Norris spoke at Strathalbyn C.E. camp. At Clarendon camp twenty Park-st. young men had a happy time during Christmas holidays. A. Anderson preached on evening of Dec. 30. A number attended watch-night service. Two prominent Park-st. families have been united in the marriage of Betty McCallum with Allan Redman.

Owen.—Mr. and Mrs. Thomson and family, who left for Wagga, N.S.W., in December, were tendered a farewell social by church. A. Harkness was chairman. A number of items were given, and speeches made by various members of church. A monetary gift was made to the guests. Both Mr. and Mrs. Thomson responded. There have been two additions by faith and baptism. Owen-Long Plains circuit is now without a preacher, and both churches are finding difficulty in securing speakers. Owen church has recently had help of W. V. McKenzie, R.A.A.F. returned, and a former preacher of the church; Mr. Warhurst, from Balaklava, and M. Lawrie (Kadina). On Jan. 6 W. J. Marshman gave a new year's address. 23 members have contributed towards Centenary Fund.

Col. Light Gardens.—During November and December, a tent mission was held under leadership of the State evangelist. Attendances were very fair. Visitors from suburban churches helped. Assistance of soloists from various churches was appreciated. G. T. Fitzgerald was an excellent leader, giving inspiring and instructive addresses. One lad from Bible school and two young men came forward. Church has been stimulated and members brought closer together. G. T. Fitzgerald and local preacher were diligent visitors. Thanks was expressed to churches who sent delegations, to song-leaders and to soloists. Bible school is excellent. Christmas tree for kinders was held on Dec. 20, and was a success; Ron Brand assisted well. E. and R. Brand, of Cottonville, provided toys. Miss Drummond, who is going to country to live, has resigned as kinder superintendent. Mrs. Woodrofe is to fill the position.

#### SIMPLICITY IN PREACHING

ANY consideration by a preacher of his own capacity would keep him in the region of simple and central things. And, in view of the people's capacity, Luther's advice is homely: "I do not aim very high in my pulpit at Wittenberg, as if I were addressing none but scholars and doctors and magistrates, of whom there may be forty in the building, for there are also present two thousand plain folk and lads and lasses, and to them I speak as their need requires. If the others do not like it, the door is open, and they are free to depart." History assures us that they did not depart, for though he talked thus simply, learned and unlearned alike crowded about him whenever he preached, just as people gather in about a fire on a wintry night. Preachers have seldom suffered by holding to what is elementary in the gospel; and it is a poor account of anyone who

#### All Should Read

#### "Pioneering for Christian Unity in Australia and New Zealand"

This fascinating book by A. W. Stephenson, M.A., is an outline of the history of Churches of Christ in these southern lands and a study of their teachings and ideals.

1/6, posted 1/7½.

THE AUSTRAL CO.,  
528, 530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, C.I.

confesses that he cannot keep interest alive in the love-revealing, love-inspiring truths which are the treasure of the simple.—W. M. Macgregor in "The Making of a Preacher."

#### NEW YEAR CALENDARS.

"Daily Light." A block calendar with tear-off scripture text. On tinted card with colored picture. 2/6.

"Scripture Meditation." Text and brief commentary. Full picture backs. 4/-.

"Daily Text." Monthly tear-off tab with daily text. Tinted card with attractive picture. 1/1.

"Year at a Glance." Tinted card with picture and text.

#### KESWICK BOOK DEPOT.

For Everything Evangelical,  
315 Collins-st., Melbourne.

#### BIRTH

COLLYER.—To Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Collyer (nee Chipperfield), a daughter (Julie Anne), born at Warragul Jan. 9.

#### SILVER WEDDINGS

CLENCIE-FORDHAM.—Mr. and Mrs. W. Clencie have pleasure in announcing the 25th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at church of Christ, Chetwynd-st., North Melbourne, by Mr. A. E. Hurren on Jan. 22, 1921. Present address, 12 Prince-st., North Footscray.

KAYE.—Mr. and Mrs. V. Kaye announce with pleasure the 25th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at Footscray church of Christ, Jan. 15, 1921, by late E. G. Warren.

#### DEATH

BROAD.—On Nov. 16, 1945, at Mossman, N.Q., Lawrence, loved husband of Mary, loved father of Stanley and Eva (Mrs. Boswell), and loved grandfather of Lawrie. Aged 82.

"Until the day break, and the shadows flee away."

#### IN MEMORIAM

CRISWICK.—In cherished memory of Muriel, my beloved sister-friend, whom the Father called home on Jan. 17, 1938. "Satisfied . . . with his likeness."

"Dear friend, far off, my lost desire,  
So far, so near in woe and weal;  
O loved the most, when most I feel  
There is a lower and a higher;  
Known and unknown; human and divine;  
Sweet human hand and lips and eye;  
Dear heavenly friend that canst not die,  
Mine, mine, for ever, ever mine."

—Inserted by her devoted sister-in-love,  
Dorothy L. Giles.

DOBYN.—Cherished memories are all we have left of my dear husband Len, and darling daddy of Barry, passed away Jan. 12, 1945.

Many a lonely heartache, often a silent tear,  
But always beautiful memories of one we loved so dear.

—Remembered always by his loving wife Alma, and son Barry.

#### BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

MUNFORD.—Mrs. A. Munford desires to thank all relatives and friends for personal visits, letters, cards, telegrams, and floral tributes received in her recent sad bereavement; Mr. W. Graham, of Moreland; Mr. J. I. Mudford, of Hartwell, for kindness in services rendered; the officers and members of Newmarket church. Will all please accept this as a personal expression of sincere gratitude? —83 Lambeth-st., Kensington.

#### TO LET

Furnished room and conveniences, Preston, suit one or two persons; preference given to Christians. Ring JU1957.

#### WANTED

By country member, board for boy 18 attending Footscray Technical School, from Feb. 1. Replies to E.R.G., c/o Austral Co.

Pianist-organist wanted; to play piano at choir rehearsals on Friday evenings, and organ at concerts, etc., for Metropolitan Churches of Christ Girls' Choir.—Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale, Vic.

Thirty young men wanted, tenors, baritones, basses, to work with Metropolitan Churches of Christ Girls' Choir, in concert programmes and choral services. Excellent opportunity to gain choral experience. Regular rehearsal necessary (starting Friday, Feb. 1), Swanston-st. church, 8 p.m. Apply Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale, Vic.

Young lady requires moderate board near city, South Yarra district preferred, but not essential. Apply c/o XYZ, Austral Printing Co., 530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne.

#### ORGANISING SECRETARY.

MILDMAY MOVEMENT AND WORLD-WIDE WITNESS FELLOWSHIP.



Applications are invited from men with Evangelistic and Organising ability. Leadership in Youth Work essential, for the above position with the Mildmay Movement, Melbourne.



Full particulars from W. Lowson, Secretary, Mildmay Movement, 262 Flinders-lane, Melbourne, C.I.

Applications close on February 2, 1946.

#### MIDDLE PARK AND SOUTH MELBOURNE CIRCUIT

has planned an  
EVANGELISTIC MISSION,  
commencing SUNDAY, JAN. 20, at 7.15 p.m.  
Missioner, Mr. K. A. Macnaughtan.  
Song-leader, Mr. W. W. Saunders.  
The tent is situated at corner of Victoria-ave. and Beaconsfield-pde., Albert Park.  
Take South Melbourne Beach tram in Collins-st., Nos. 9 and 10, to terminus.  
Sister churches urged to co-operate.  
Sundays, 11 a.m. and 7.15 p.m. Week days, 7.45 p.m.

#### RED HILL CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

SATURDAY, JAN. 26, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, JAN. 27:

Morning, 11.15; evening, 7.30.

Speaker, A. E. Hurren.

Basket Lunch and tea.



Hot water, tea, milk, sugar provided.

PUBLIC WELCOME MEETING TO  
EX-CHAPLAIN JOHN TURNER,  
in the Chapel, St. Georges-rd., Nth. Fitzroy,  
on WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6, at 8 p.m.  
All past members and others are cordially invited to be present.  
Representative speakers, and musical programme by choir and soloists.  
Ex-Chaplain Turner commences his ministry on Sunday, Feb. 3.

# N.Z. Churches Plan Advance

★ Our correspondent, E. P. C. Hollard, of Wellington, reports a new evangelistic campaign for the Dominion.

NEW ZEALANDERS generally have been content to watch the secular news from Australia in recent weeks. Newspapers here have featured the strikes across the Tasman to such an extent that Australians residing here have been hard put to it to explain just why they are Australians! However, we have had one or two minor strikes in this country. In Wellington the tramway employees went out because of a wartime bonus which was withdrawn after VJ day. When the threat to strike on a shopping day like Friday was held out, then authority soon gave way.

The Presbyterians and Baptists have both been in conference recently, and two items are worth mentioning. One is that Dr. J. J. North, of the Baptist College, has resigned and will be succeeded by L. H. Jenkins, M.A., B.D., of England, who expects to arrive in February. Dr. North has wielded a great influence within his church, and chaplains will remember with pleasure the splendid tract he prepared, "Me a Christian?" which was used so well among the A.I.F. The Presbyterians have a strong work among the Maori people, and indications are that these folk will one day be self-supporting in their work. A newly-formed synod among the Maoris consists of Maori and Pakeha ordained men, and the first moderator of the synod was a returned Maori chaplain.

Among our own people there are two outstanding items. One is the arrival of A. E. White to take up the work of the D.R.E. He has been welcomed in Auckland and Wellington, and soon moves to the south. Enthusiasm is high, and mainly so because of the great impression that he has made. The young people all feel that here is one worthy of the best they have to offer.

For some considerable time the Home Mission Committee has had door after door closed as they have sought a man to undertake the work of organiser and home missionary. Even when it was possible to announce that Mr. and Mrs. Frank Purnell, of Fullerton, California, would arrive in 1947 to conduct special meetings for two years, there did not seem to be any indication that someone would be on the field here to work in with him and organise the work. Now we are happy to report that the position has been clarified. Arthur Grundy, who has been engaged in a successful work at Invercargill, has accepted a call to this work. At present, reactions to the appointment are not felt, for it is not generally known, but those who do know express great satisfaction in the choice of Mr. Grundy. It is anticipated that he will move into Wellington early in the new year.

The churches in New Zealand extend to the

Australian brotherhood sincere sympathy at the loss of A. R. Main. In several places "in memoriam" services were held by men who had trained under his scholarly presence. It does seem hard to imagine the churches without the beloved "Prof." somewhere at hand. However, all are richer for having been touched by such a life.

This letter will surely be in time for us to extend best wishes for the new year. The brethren throughout the Dominion are sensing a forward move and sincerely pray that our Australian brethren may share with them in an offensive for the gospel of Christ.

## POCKET TESTAMENT LEAGUE REVIVAL CAMPAIGN

DURING December the hon. organising director, W. G. Murchison, and the district organiser, P. G. Pannell, conducted a strenuous campaign in distributing the word of God in public and Sunday schools in Northcote, Vic., and adjoining suburbs. Over 4000 joined the league and numbers of boys and girls accepted Christ Jesus as their personal Saviour. The ministers of the Fairfield Council of Churches and Christian education instructors were most helpful in their co-operation. The headmasters and teaching staffs did all in their power to enable the children to get to know Christ Jesus by reading portions of "The Brief Review of the Life of Christ" every day. Prayer circles and Fishermen's Clubs are being formed throughout the district, and the children are already doing good work in this connection. Reports are coming to hand from the Pentridge chaplains with regard to the 200 who joined recently, including the 62 who accepted Christ. One of the latter requested a letter be written to his wife and family telling the "good news," and he also asked for a booklet to be posted to his wife and each of his six children.

## EMERALD CHURCH OF CHRIST. DIFFERENT GUEST SPEAKER FROM THE CITY EACH SUNDAY.

'Bus leaves Fern Tree Gully 9.57 a.m., Upwey 10, Tecoma 10.5, Belgrave 10.15, Selby 10.20, Aura 10.30, Clematis 10.45, arrives Emerald church 10.50 for morning service at 11. Leaves church 12.20 for return.

For evening service leaves Fern Tree Gully 3.10 p.m. (bring tea), leaves church 9 p.m. for return.

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## Obituary

### Mrs. Gertrude Emily Kelly

THE church at Port Fairy, Vic., has suffered a grievous loss in the death of Mrs. Kelly, who passed quietly into the presence of her Saviour on Dec. 15, following on a heart attack on Dec. 14. Mrs. Kelly, then Gertrude Gray, was baptised at Port Fairy in 1890 by the late Mr. Macallister, and from that time had maintained a lively interest in, and rendered loyal and sacrificial service to, the church. Her home was a centre of Christian hospitality, and her happy and genial disposition endeared her to all. Both the community and church mourn her passing. Sincere sympathy is extended to her husband, William Kelly, her daughters, Anne (Mrs. Voigt), Gertrude (Mrs. Dunlop) and Ruby; also to William, Clem and Ernest Bishop, her sons by her first husband, Mr. William Bishop. The writer, who shared the hospitality of our late sister's home during his periodical visits to Port Fairy, officiated at services in the home and at the graveside. We commend all who mourn to the loving care of our Father in heaven.—T.V.W.

### Mrs. Anne Scambler

AS the result of a fall, Mrs. Anne Scambler, sister of the late T. H. Scambler, recently entered into her rest. The evangelistic ministries of the late Stephen Cheek in the Newstead district of Victoria contributed to Mrs. Scambler's conversion and her baptism, while yet a girl, by the late Edward Bagley. For the past 65 years she has been a faithful and devout Christian. During that time she has been associated with churches of Christ at Newstead, Kyneton, North Perth, Prahran, Black Rock, South Richmond and Camberwell. Although possessed of a quiet and retiring nature, Mrs. Scambler evinced a robust faith. She was a constant student of the Bible, and held a profound belief in its promises. Mrs. Scambler was a woman of earnest prayer, and the church and all the enterprises of the kingdom had in her a strong advocate at the throne. Until bodily frailty prevented her, Mrs. Scambler was faithful in her attendance at the house of God. Our sense of loss is softened by the realisation of her entrance into the eternal habitations. To her sorrowing loved ones we extend our Christian sympathy.—W.F.N.

## Open Forum

### FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

(Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

### CHRISTIAN LIVING

A FEW weeks ago we read that a certain church was thinking of means to "advertise" Christianity. I think the best advertisement for Christ's teaching of the way of life is a consistent living of that life by those who profess to belong to him. I have seen a number of young people make "the good profession," be baptised, continue in the church for awhile, then drift away. Some leave off attending through indifference; some take umbrage over some word or action of elders, who have not the right approach when admonishing a younger member who has been inconsistent.

## The Australian Christian

January 16, 1946

Page 35

Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done these things unto even the least of my brethren, ye have done it unto me." The significance of these words is not realised by many who profess to serve the Lord. They have made "the good profession," but deny the Lord in contact with others in the ordinary course of every-day life.—E. W. Sisson, French Island, Vic.

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## What Happens in Church?

### REPORTS AND TESTIMONIES

THERE are conventional churchgoers—keepers  
of the form of religion, without any experi-  
ence of its force. Someone refers to them thus:

"They do it every Sunday,  
They'll be all right on Monday;  
It's just a little habit they've acquired."

But there are persons who report and represent  
something challengingly different.

When Isalah went to church, a bereaved and  
desponding patriot, there came, in the house  
of worship, a life-changing awakening to the  
reality and righteousness of God. He testi-  
fies: "In the year that King Uzziah died I  
saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high  
and lifted up, and his train filled the temple.  
. . . Also I heard the voice of the Lord,  
saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go  
for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me"  
(Isa. 6: 1-8). That desponding patriot became  
a most effective character for God.

A psalmist reports a life situation wherein  
world injustices almost overwhelmed him. He  
was on the verge of folly and disaster when  
he remembered the sanctuary. "As for me, my  
feet were almost gone; my steps had well  
nigh slipped. For I was envious at the fool-  
ish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.  
. . . When I thought to know this, it was too  
painful for me; until I went into the sanc-  
tuary of God, then understood I their end.  
. . . It is good for me to draw near to  
God" (Psalm 73).

Informal but inspired hours in a city church  
proved to be unforgettable landmarks in the  
life journey of Jesus, the Lad of Destiny.  
Life's dim quest became so clear as to be  
stated in an imperishable sentence: "I must  
be about my Father's business" (Luke 2: 49).  
Later, in his life of habitual church-going, this  
Son who meant business for the Father, found  
it in him to declare God's programme with  
free and creative conviction (Luke 4: 16-30).  
Though he found in the church both inspira-  
tion and hostility, he continued undaunted in  
his task for God.

When Galileo, a lad of seventeen, sat in  
the cathedral at Pisa, his thoughts went off  
the course of the service as he watched a  
chandelier swinging. He wondered, timed the  
oscillations with his beating pulse, and went  
on into the mystery of God's laws of planetary  
motion. That was a turning point in history.

On New Year Sunday, Jan. 6, 1850, a heavy  
snowstorm and foul weather reduced the con-  
gregation of a little Methodist chapel in Eng-  
land to twelve, including one stranger, a lad  
of fifteen. The storm prevented the boy from  
attending another service as he had intended,  
so he entered the unfamiliar building and sat  
under the gallery. The minister did not ar-  
rive. A local tradesman occupied the pulpit.  
His text was, "Look unto me and be ye saved,  
all the ends of the earth." He kept saying,  
"Young man, look! Look and be saved!" That  
day Charles Spurgeon, the lad, found Christ  
and became his mighty servant.—G. J. Andrews.

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Page 36

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