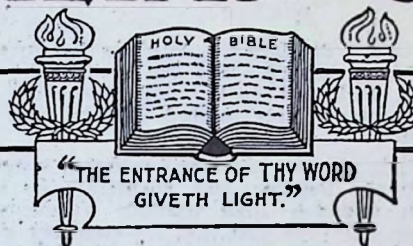


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## Why a Revival is Needed

THE reactions of war are upon us. The scars of the terrible conflict are to be seen particularly in European and Asiatic cities. The material ruin caused by atomic power and aerial bombardments has been fearful. There have been physical casualties that have made many homes sad. But however great the material disasters, none can really deny that the greatest loss the world has suffered is spiritual. Samson once boasted of great strength; but when he fell into bad company and denied his Lord, allowing his hair to be cut, he was not aware that he had lost the power of virtue. The Bible says, "He wist not that the Lord was departed from him." To all appearances he was the same as usual, but something not seen by human eye had been taken from him. He was no longer mighty, but as weak as sinful men.

The community is somewhat like Samson in that it has lost strength, but the people have not become aware as yet of that weakness.

As straws in the wind indicate the direction of the drift, so the actions of men and women reveal to-day the spiritual weakness of society. We need only note the alarming increase in sex crimes, the rising divorce rate, the growth of the gambling evil, the unwillingness of many employers and employees to co-operate to increase needed production, and the alarming increase in the pilfering of goods in transport. At the present time governments are bent on legalising gambling and making use of the sin of covetousness to gain income for charitable institutions. The community seems to be giving silent consent to these evils. No outburst of resentment comes from its dulled social conscience. Plans are in progress to establish a rocket range in Central Australia. That the natives will suffer seems to be no concern to the majority of Australians. A few more deaths among the aborigines is nothing to worry about! The plan to remove the natives from their own country is as sure a way of destroying them as shooting them. Mrs. Daisy Bates and others



*German mother and child, driven from home by war, seek shelter of UNRRA at Berlin.*

have proved beyond doubt that aborigines can only survive successfully on their own lands. To add another white man's crime to the already long list against the dark people of this continent is not troubling the average citizen; he is listless and weak. The tragedy is that he is not aware of his loss of moral and spiritual strength.

The community's weakness can be understood when we learn of the failure of many to attend church services regularly. The wild rush for pleasure, at the week-end so that no time is spent in quiet meditation in Christian worship must result in moral and spiritual weakness. Samson's evil ways and departure from God ended, not just with weakness, but with blindness and tragedy. Do we realise that modern peoples cannot continue to live as they now do without suffering, sooner or later, a terrible disaster? That an awful end can come to us suddenly and unexpectedly has been demonstrated sufficiently by modern atomic experts to make it more than a possibility. The world is like a child playing with a loaded revolver. Because of its moral and spiritual weakness it cannot be trusted with the mighty

power now within its control. Do we realise that nations are being in actual fact snared by the Devil and are being held as his victims? How can we be saved from his hell that may come upon us suddenly?

The people in the world are not likely to heed our warnings. The task of saving the community belongs to the church. But has the church lost the sense of mission that once made it a mighty evangelistic force in the world? Are Christians seized with the need of saving their fellows from sin, Satan and hell? Have Christian communities lost something? Perhaps they have not been aware they have been deprived of a power that can come from God alone. The desire on the part of most church members to win a friend for Christ and to support the evangelistic programme of the

(Please turn to next page.)



# Horrors of Atomic Warfare

*G. R. Clark, B.A., of Black Rock, Vic., tells  
of the tragic suffering modern wars can cause.*

DURING a recent Sunday morning service, the New Testament lesson contained the words of Jesus: "When ye shall hear of wars and tumults, be not terrified: for these things must needs come to pass first; but the end is not immediately" (Luke 21: 9). The following Sunday was observed as Remembrance Day to commemorate the fallen of two world wars. Do the words of Jesus mean that there must be more wars, and that future Remembrance Days will merely serve to commemorate those who have sacrificed their lives in more wars—each war more horrible and bestial and devastating than the preceding one? Is this the interpretation of the words, "Wars and tumults . . . must come to pass first"? Is this the only future that Christianity offers to the world?

We notice that in the early part of the chapter, Jesus spoke of the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple (verses 5, 6), and the disciples asked him for the sign of this calamity (verse 7). Jesus replied with a warning (verses 8, 9), concluding with the words: "The end is not immediately." Remember that the disciples were Jews, and that for them the destruction of the temple would be the end of the age; and yet the end is not to be immediately after the wars and tumults. Does this leave room for a reign of peace before our Lord's return, of which he spoke in the latter part of the chapter? Some think it does not, as they regard the words of Jesus as a "Thus saith the Lord"—"There must be wars . . ." and there is nothing we can do about it. But surely the prophecy has been amply fulfilled: there have been wars and tumults enough for us to establish the reign of peace, of which Jesus also spoke; and this is made more emphatic if we interpret verse 9 as: "Wars . . . must come to pass first; but the end of Jerusalem is not immediately." This would leave the church free to solve the most urgent problem of our day—the problem of peace; for the Jerusalem of which Jesus spoke was destroyed by the Romans under Titus about forty years after he prophesied that wars would precede the fall of Jerusalem.

Lest there be any who are still not convinced that the place of the church is in the vanguard of the real builders—the peace-makers—let us recall some of the effects of the atomic bomb which was dropped on Hiroshima early in August, 1945. A gripping, graphic, ghastly story is told by John Hersey in "Hiroshima"—a story that rocked America; a story for whose publication rights newspapers rushed; a story that every citizen of this world should be compelled to read, for having read it, he would resolve, "These things must not come to pass again." Hersey vividly traces the experiences of six residents in Hiroshima who survived the terror. He gives the names of these people; but next time an atomic bomb is dropped in war where will it be? New York? London? Vienna? Calcutta? Melbourne? Or on all these and other cities, towns, villages, almost at the same time? And the same things will happen there as happened in Hiroshima; so we leave out names that each reader may try to picture himself and his family during an atomic war.

On that day of desolation all who could move fled from the city and struggled across the river to shelter in a large park on the other side. A girl was rescued from the river; she was covered with raw flash burns. The night was hot but she complained of

the cold. She began to shiver so they wrapped her in a blanket, "but she shook more and more, and said again, 'I am so cold,' and then she suddenly stopped shivering and was dead."

There was the priest who managed to escape from the building with apparently no more than scratches from hurtling fragments of glass. He was told that his scratches would soon heal. Twelve days later he walked into the city on business; half-way home he felt faint, but he struggled home and carried on his duties as well as he could. Two days later it was found that his apparently negligible cuts had suddenly opened wider and were inflamed. After a fortnight he was



Japanese mother attending child, both victims of atomic bombing.

in hospital with a fever of 104 and serious anæmia. His white blood-cell count was about 3000; it fluctuated rapidly, and later rose to 9000, finally settling at a normal count of 6000. He recovered and returned to his work at the mission; but a year later (three months ago) he was back in hospital. Will he ever recover from the effects of the atom bomb?

Then there was the girl employed as librarian in a factory. The blast of the bomb buried her beneath a large pile of books and book-cases and broke her leg below the knee. She was dragged out later and left in the courtyard with nothing more than a corrugated iron lean-to to shelter her from rain and sun. After three days without food and drink, when her leg was discolored, swollen and putrid, friends took her to a hospital where her fever also rose to 104. Three months later the wound had to be dressed night and morning; her leg was still so painful and swollen that the doctor had not even tried to set the fractures. An X-ray showed that the bones were mending, but her injured leg was three inches shorter than the other, and her foot was turning inwards. Last August she was a cripple, hobbling about on crutches. Will she ever recover from the effects of the atom bomb?

Again there was the doctor at the Red Cross hospital. He saw the flash of the bomb as

he passed a window, but he had moved on by the time the blast shattered the window—the glasses he was wearing flew off his face, his slippers zipped out from under his feet—but otherwise . . . he was untouched." He alone of the thirty doctors was unhurt; only six were able to carry on their work, and only ten nurses out of more than 200. He took the glasses off the face of a wounded nurse and used them for more than a month, treating the thousands of patients who crowded into the hospital—corridors, stairways, wards, laboratories were filled with wounded people. During the month he had one seventeen-hour sleep, and then worked more than eighteen hours each day. For four months he hardly left the hospital, and though he regained some of his lost weight "his appetite remained only fair; before the bombing he used to eat four rice balls at every meal, but a year after it he could manage only two. He felt tired all the time." Will he ever recover from the effects of the atom bomb?

Add to all this the recent talk of a cosmic ray bomb which is foretold as more devastating than the atom bomb—and we realise that Christianity's greatest, most pressing, task is to save civilisation from itself—and from its war.

"Blessed are the peace makers: for they shall be called sons of God. . . . I say unto you, Love your enemies."

## Why A Revival is Needed

(Continued from front page.)

Master is not as evident as it once was. The task of winning new disciples is left to a few.

The Sunday evening evangelistic meeting has lost in many centres its power and purpose; not that the evangelist has always failed—perhaps some have—but because we who are the rank and file of the church membership have lost the sense of evangelistic urgency. We need to recapture what we have lost. How can we do that? The time is ripe for revival in our own hearts so that we may revive others. Before great missions will be really successful again there must be a reawakening of many individual Christians so that they in turn will arouse others. When there is this warming up in spiritual and evangelistic fervor, the evangelist will be encouraged. Efforts will be made to reach, by various means, the unbeliever and to encourage him attend the services. Unless the Christian makes it clear in home, business and society that his fellowship with Christ lifts him above the pagan level, the evangelistic programme of the church will be hindered.

To save society, to save individuals from Satan, and to quicken the church in missionary activity, we all, as individual Christians, must return to a closer fellowship with our Lord, and manifest to others a real desire for their physical and spiritual welfare. We must love the sinner so as to win him for Christ. Have we become so self-centred we have lost love and interest in others? Many have not and they are happy in saving souls; others have, and they hinder the cause of Christ. By faithful Christian service and with a new love for others, we may commence a revival in the community and within the local church.



# Dhond Welcomes Federal Secretary

"A FINE welcome meeting" (writes Mr. Anderson) "was held at Dhond on Friday, nearly all adults in attendance. More than two-thirds of these were men. In all, about 115 were present. It was a reverent and dignified service, conducted by Mr. Hiwale, the Indian pastor. This man was formerly headmaster at Baramati station. Speeches of welcome were made. Dr. Patil spoke for Dhond church, and a Christian from Telugu speaking area spoke on behalf of Telugu Christians who were living in the area. Many have come to live at Dhond because of the railway. Dhond is a large junction station, and in the railway community there are about 2000 people, many of whom speak English. Among them are a few Christians who identify themselves with the church at Dhond. One of their number, in fairly good English, spoke on behalf of this community. Garlands were then hung upon the visitor, and a response made in English, which was interpreted by Dr. Patil. It was a very fine sight to see these people, and to feel the sincerity of their welcome.

"On Sunday a good congregation met to remember their Lord in the breaking of bread. It was a service as well conducted as any at home. Mr. Hiwale presided, and I had been asked to give the address. This was interpreted by Dr. Patil. Most of the hymns sung were well-known ones, and fellowship was made richer by being able to follow in English the words that were being sung.

## An Efficient Native Doctor

"There is a fine work going on at Dhond, and the work gets heavier each month, so that apart from the doctor, the work of Dr. Patil and the Australian nurse is fairly heavy. All kinds of interesting cases are brought in, and at all hours of the day and night. The wards are hopelessly overcrowded, but we can do little regarding this until we get the new children's ward and the new maternity ward in operation. This will be a year or so yet, as materials are hard to get, very expensive, and labor conditions difficult.

"Dr. Patil is very efficient and is given a good deal of responsibility, and responds to the trust given him. He has now been with the mission 17 years, 14 of which have been spent at Dhond. His former years were spent at Shrigonda. He is now 44 years of age, and informed me that most of his family are Christian people. His grandfather became a Christian when he was about 23 years of age, and set the seal for the family. Dr. Patil is kept very busy and is well received by the Indian people. He has a fine grasp of English, but had to learn the Marathi language after coming into the area.

## New Workers at Dhond

"Lack of Indian nurses and efficient Indian help make the work hard for the Australian sister in charge. Sister Foreman had a heavy task during the war years, and stood up to the task well. She was due for a well-earned furlough after her strenuous period here. Sister Walker is now here, and is fitting in very well, and follows on the splendid work done by Sister Foreman. The Launceston folk would be proud of their living link if they could see the work she is able to do for Christ in this land. Both Dr. Oldfield and Dr. Patil speak very highly of her work at Dhond.

"Miss Taylor, at Dhond, has been allocated

some of the evangelistic work among the women and children. There are some villages around Dhond that she is able to visit with the Bible-women. This makes a very good change for Miss Taylor, who is hard at study on the language. She is getting on very well with the language, and is about to sit for her second examination. Prior to coming to Dhond, both Miss Walker and Miss Taylor were almost entirely engaged on language study. Since coming to Dhond Miss Walker has had to give the greater part of her time to the hospital, consequently she cannot concentrate so fully on the language.

## Famine Areas Assisted by Government

"Mrs. Oldfield has charge of the hospital stores at Dhond, and in this connection distributes milk that is donated by the Government in what they list as 'famine' areas. These areas are so named because of their water supply, or lack of water. Dhond and Shrigonda are 'famine' areas, but Baramati, because of the canal, is not so listed. The Government is seeking to help the people in the bad areas by supplying milk for all children, all sick people, nursing mothers, etc. The supply, too, is fairly generous. At Dhond all the patients are allowed a good drink twice daily. At Shrigonda the girls' home has the distribution of milk for the immediate area. The workers have a list of 70 to be supplied, apart from those in the home, who come under the heading of 'supply.' It has been a wonderful boon to the poor people, and is given without cost. It was a fine thing to see the crowd of mothers and little children at Shrigonda this morning, and to watch them drinking liberal quantities of good, wholesome milk. The supply comes in powdered form and is mixed by those in charge of the depot.

"The Indian Government is in the way of carrying out the Christian teaching, 'I was hungry and ye fed me; I was thirsty and ye gave me to drink.' It makes one feel that the work of Christian missions in past years has not been in vain. It is a splendid thing, too, that our missionaries are able to co-operate with the Government in this way to help the Indian people."

## MISSIONARY STUDENTS ENTERTAINED

ON college graduation day, Nov. 21, at 6 p.m., in Lygon-st. hall, the Victorian Overseas Committee entertained 16 students and nurse trainees, the purpose of the gathering being to bring committee members and missionary candidates into closer fellowship. The chairman of the committee, R. L. Williams, welcomed the young people, also Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Pittman, Miss L. Foreman, Mrs. G. Waterman, Dr. W. A. Kemp, chairman of College Board; Mrs. W. Nankivell, president of Women's Conference; K. Jones, of Federal F.M. Board, and Hari Waghmode, of our Indian churches. Messages of encouragement and advice to the students were given by Mr. Williams, Dr. W. A. Kemp, Mrs. W. Nankivell, and K. Jones.

It was mentioned that history had been made at the college service that afternoon, when for the first time three missionary-elect graduates had been set apart for service. Congratulations were extended to R. W. Saunders and Miss A. Barton, B.A., upon appointment to New Hebrides work, and also upon their approaching marriage; and to D. Carmel upon his call to the Indian field. In appropriate terms they thanked the speakers for words of congratulation and good wishes, also the committee for its interest in the missionary students. L. Gole thanked Mrs. Lowery and her helpers for the excellent meal provided. A dedicatory prayer was offered by R. C. Bolduan.

# Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt.

A WORLD conference of Christian youth has been planned for 1947, and will meet during the European summer at Oslo, Norway. Christian youth organisations in all countries are participating.

The conference will be the stage for the wider process through which Christian youth will give common consideration to its calling and its task in the world. Christian youth have a significant message for the world at this present hour. The youth of Europe, out of their sufferings, will bring a distinct contribution. Australia must not belittle its own contribution because of its freedom from traditional pressure.

Thirty delegates is the Australian allocation. Churches of Christ have been asked to supply one. The youth directors, at their annual conference, agreed to encourage the States to accept the commitment. It is estimated that the cost to each delegate would be £300. Of this amount, our own delegate would be asked to find £100 and the States to seek the co-operation of youth friends in providing the remainder. If the proposal is brought to a successful issue it will represent a contribution on the part of Australian churches of Christ in world affairs. It will be a practical discharge of our distinctive claim for Christian world unity, and give proof that we are prepared to advance beyond words into the realm of action. Several forward looking young men have already approached the Federal Young People's Department in regard to their qualifications for such an undertaking. The theme of the conference is "One Lord for one world."

## PLAYGROUNDS

A SPLENDID work is accomplished by Playground Associations in the various capital cities of Australia. The Victorian association has done magnificent work in recent years providing play leaders and facilities for children who have no gardens or backyards. Five playgrounds are supervised now in Carlton (2), Montague, South Melbourne and Fishermen's Bend.

The association had seven supervisors, who had been trained as play leaders and were paid £3 a week. Most of them were social workers, who not only organised the children's play but also helped those with family difficulties.

The Chief Commissioner of Police (Mr. Duncan) is a strong advocate of organised playgrounds. Police say that a 12 per cent. drop in child delinquency last January was due to play centres and youth camps.

Once the pride in "our" playground grows, it usually means the end of vandalism among the children of that district. Once they are assured their children are in wise hands parents are eager to send them to the playgrounds. Supervision increases attendance 100 per cent.

Such work is within the scope of the church's ministry in the inner suburbs. A practical attack on the problem would be the organisation of vacation schools during holiday periods. Such a work should not be left to churches in inner suburbs, but receive the support of workers from churches in the outer suburbs.

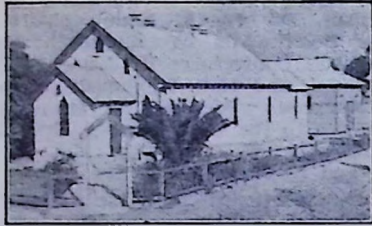


# Here and There

J. Methven, who has been assisting the work at Doveton-st., Ballarat, Vic., has accepted the invitation to serve with the church at York-st., Ballarat.

Dr. John Hutton was compelled by failing health to resign as editor of "The British Weekly." The ownership of paper has now been transferred from Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton to Messrs. S. Walton, K. Grubb and J. Stirling.

Services were well maintained at Warracknabeal, Vic., during past months, and addresses by local brethren appreciated. A visit from Mr. Saunders on Oct. 20 was helpful, and his journeying from Ararat a splendid effort. All



Chapel at Warracknabeal.

auxiliaries are working well. Some will soon be going into recess until new year. Church rejoices at prospect of Mr. Barnett, from college, coming as preacher. Fellowship with Wes. Harmer, from Horsham, who has come to reside, is enjoyed.

Services at North Essendon, Vic., on Nov. 24 were well attended, L. A. Trezise speaking morning and evening. At night John Millar, from young men's Bible class, confessed Christ and was baptised. Members and friends farewelled Mr. and Mrs. Trezise at conclusion of service, and a parting gift of a silver teapot and cake dish, suitably inscribed, was made as a mark of appreciation of their ministry. Christian Men's Society had tea on Dec. 1, and had as speaker Dr. A. J. Saunders, who spoke on India and held attention of all. Until C. H. J. Wright commences his ministry in February, local and visiting speakers will supply. Messrs. F. Funston and McLaughlin gave splendid addresses on Dec. 1.

The half-yearly conference of Bordertown, Naracoorte and Kaniva districts churches was held at Naracoorte on Sunday, Nov. 11, and Wednesday, Nov. 13. L. E. Baker, of Bordertown circuit, was speaker on Sunday and G. T. Fitzgerald addressed the three sessions on Wednesday. Good representations journeyed to Naracoorte from Bordertown and Kaniva circuits, to enjoy a day of fellowship which was enhanced by the hospitality of Naracoorte church. G. T. Fitzgerald brought inspiring messages greatly appreciated by all who gathered. Mr. Russell, former preacher of Bordertown, and Mr. Green, of the State Foreign Missionary Committee (S.A.), were welcome visitors to conference.—R. C. Goldsworthy, conference secretary.

At South Yarra, Vic., Mr. Gavros was farewelled on Nov. 24 after two months' valued help with young people. He gave the gospel address on that date, and a young lady from Good Companions made the good confession. E. Roffey welcomed into church a girl from Sunday school baptised previously. Sympathy was expressed to Miss H. Newham in passing of her father. Women's Guild and Mission Band held a luncheon on Nov. 26 to close year's work. Mrs. Cleland was speaker, Mrs. Muir soloist. Presentation was made to Mrs. Roffey. Good Companions had a successful sale of gifts on Nov. 30, proceeds to help in providing a stained glass window for new chapel. Increased attendances at worship services are noted, with many visitors.

The World Council of Churches has leased for five years the Chateau de Bossey at the lake-side village of Celigny, near Geneva, in Switzerland, and it will house the Ecumenical Institute, and the first course commences this year. Dr. Hendrik Kraemer is the first Principal.

The common dislike to reading the sermon was seen in an old Scotch woman, whose minister, to her horror, had taken to reading his discourses. To make sure of the matter, she went one Sunday into the gallery and to her great disgust, saw a full-fledged MS. Towards the close the speaker said, "But I must not enlarge—" when she cried from her lofty perch, "Ye canna enlarge. Yer paper is gie oot!"

Attendances at Hartwell, Vic., over last few weeks have been encouraging, particularly at gospel services. Four young ladies from Bible class were baptised on Nov. 17 and two others on Nov. 24. J.C.E. under leadership of Mrs. Greaves and Miss D. Carroll is growing rapidly, 24 being present on Nov. 24. Church Men's Society held a "film night" on Nov. 15, when L. Brown gave an illustrated travel talk. At quarterly tea on Nov. 24, W. F. Nankivell gave an interesting address on work of our churches in America. Cricket club is having a successful season, winning three out of its last four matches.

Tent meetings at Ormond, Vic., are fairly well attended, and K. A. Macnaughtan is convincing each night. There have been seven decisions to date, and many are interested. June Miller was received into fellowship on Dec. 1. Morning meetings in chapel were very well attended over past month. Many members are laid aside with sickness; Joan Ralston, a Bible school teacher, is seriously ill in hospital. Bible school attendances are excellent each morning. Five new scholars on Dec. 1. Explorers' Club won efficiency shield in recent campaign. Girls' choir and members render good service in music at tent meetings.

## C.E. Activities

CONGRATULATIONS to G. M. Mathieson on his appointment as State president for Victoria.

The dates for the National C.E. Convention have been fixed. The convention will now be held at Adelaide from Oct. 9 to 16, 1947. Convention headquarters will be at Centennial Hall in the Adelaide Royal Agricultural Society's grounds at Wayville just outside the city square and across the south parklands. The site is well served by transport and should be ideal for gatherings. Endeavorers and friends are invited to make the convention a matter of constant prayer, and to plan to attend.

Congratulations to Subiaco, W.A., on winning the State Intermediate Efficiency competition.

## HINTS AND HELPS FOR CHRISTMAS MEETINGS

PLAN and pray for Christmas celebrations; remember that it is essentially a Christian festival.

Suitable for invitations to a Christmas party are: Star, Christmas tree, Christmas bell, tiny paper stocking, bon-bon, Christmas tag with pocket on back.

Invite a neighboring society—City mission children, State children—aged folk or boys' or girls' home children.

Remember all who have helped your society, your minister and wife, Bible school superintendent, sick and aged in a special way at Christmas.

A gift to the church should also be encouraged.—Adapted from "Queensland Endeavorer."

## EFFICIENCY CERTIFICATE

WE urge all C.E. leaders to consider now the advisability of getting their members enrolled in the efficiency course next year. Plans will need to be made now so that all details are in readiness and advertising out so that a good start can be made in the new year. Such a course will add much to the life of the society.

## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

TO all Endeavorers and readers of these notes we wish the Lord's richest blessing over the Christmas and New Year season.—R. Greenhalgh.

## Poet of the Open Air

A HYMN FOR DECEMBER—No. 32 (DEC. 15).

JUST twenty years ago two very wayworn travellers entered a mountain village late at night, and in the room appointed for their night's rest found a wall motto, closing with the lines:—

"So let the road wind up the hill or down,  
Though rough or smooth, the journey will  
be joy;

Still seeking what I sought when but a boy,  
New friendship, high adventure and a crown,  
I shall grow old, but never lose life's zest,  
Because the road's last turn will be the best."

So amazingly apt was this that every subsequent encounter with the name appended as author of the lines has made one of the travellers (the present writer) "spring to attention."

Henry van Dyke wrote the lines as part of a trilogy entitled "The Three Best Things" with the sub-titles "Work," "Love" and "Life" and the three opening lines, "Let me but do my work from day to day," "Let me but love my love without disguise," and "Let me but live my life from year to year."

Van Dyke's career was a distinguished and extremely varied one. For many years he followed his father's vocation as a Presbyterian minister and became Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of the United States. He left the charge of a church, however, to adorn the chair of English Literature at Princeton University, whence Woodrow Wilson (another former Princeton professor) called him to serve as United States minister to the Netherlands—the home of his ancestors. His writings over many years and in many fields are an abiding delight; God's great out-of-doors stimulated his pen to charming essays and musical verse, but there were also graceful literary criticisms, short stories and elegant prose. In an introduction to his collected poems, he wrote: "The youthful plan of a whole life devoted to the art of poetry has not been fulfilled. Instead has come an experience of the power of poetry to cheer and illumine the whole of life."

The hymn we are using to-day is typical of van Dyke's blithe spirit; he called it "Hymn of Joy (to the music of Beethoven's ninth symphony)." In it he finds joy in a host of the things of God's open air, joy in forgiveness, joy in human relationships, joy in music. In his joy he moves swiftly and lightly, yet with certainty, from one of these springs of joy to another. With him we can with open eye and open heart give thanks to God.—F.J.F.

## The Australian Christian



# News of the Churches

## Queensland

**Gympie District.**—Nov. 24 was a great day in district. At Monkland four were received into fellowship, having been baptised previous week. At Rossmount there were five confessions and one reconsecration. At Gympie there were five baptisms. District C.E. rally on Nov. 23 proved a happy occasion.

**Albion.**—On Nov. 10 Children's Day service was held. Two Sunday school scholars—Collene Walsh and Noela Owen—made the good confession after the service, and on Nov. 17 Don Johnson made his confession. It has been necessary for H. G. Payne to enter hospital. Young people held a social on Halloween night.

**Brisbane (Ann-st.).**—During month services were well maintained. Offering for Caloundra youth camp amounted to £14. During month church had four confessions. One was a boy of Bible school and three were men. Church is holding special meetings conducted by Mr. MacKenzie. Mr. Greenwood spoke at morning service on Nov. 24.

**Charters Towers.**—Bible school conducted successful anniversary on Nov. 10 and 13. Mr. Buckley gave special addresses. On Nov. 13, anniversary tea was followed by public demonstration and prize-giving. Items and singing by children were excellent and well presented. Credit is due to all who helped. Church regrets that Mrs. Buckley has had to re-enter local hospital. Mrs. McKewen is also in hospital.

## Tasmania

**Hobart (Collins-st.).**—Remembrance Sunday was observed by two minutes' silent prayer and special reference. At evening service conducted by C. P. Hughes, Mrs. S. Cooper rendered a solo sweetly. Mrs. Griffiths, one of the elderly members, passed away on Nov. 19, the result of an accident. She was a faithful and loyal Christian. Miss Cocayne was speaker at Mission Band Fellowship on Nov. 17, on her work in China.

## Western Australia

**Perth.**—Miss Elvie Johnson has made good recovery following operation for appendicitis. Restoring of transport and lighting facilities greatly helped services on Nov. 24. In morning a talk by W. H. White encouraged all. At night J. K. Robinson was preacher. Pictures on "The Coming of the Light" were screened.

**Harvey.**—Mr. and Mrs. Thurrowgood are settling well into the work. Mrs. Thurrowgood and K. Stanford have commenced a Junior C.E. £1/16/6 was collected for Missions to Seamen. Social service offering was taken. Petrol offering of £1/7/- was collected for transport of children to Bible school. A number of brethren journeyed to Collie to attend S.W. Conference, and had a helpful time. Mrs. A. J. Stanford, jun., entertained sisters of church to afternoon tea at her home. Each sister took gifts for Woorooloo Sanatorium Christmas cheer; £1 in money was sent with goods, and £1/5/- to Home of Peace. Young women of church met at Mrs. D. Foyer's home and helped to make toys for sale of work towards church building fund. Church welcomed Bob Ottrey on holidays from Geraldton; his home is in Harvey.

**Cottesloe.**—With calling in of "talents" on Nov. 12, ladies completed another year's successful work. Their aim of £65 has been reached, for which church sincerely gives thanks. Recent annual visit of ladies to Old Women's

Home was appreciated by inmates, and on Nov. 25 a social evening in aid of mission work was well attended and further offerings were made to help in this work both at home and abroad. Vic. Cousins and Nell Klemm, of Bassendean, were honored at a social evening on Nov. 15, held to wish them well in their forthcoming marriage. Presentations were made on behalf of church and auxiliaries. C.E. societies have held regular weekly meetings. Bible school has adopted several new methods of efficiency and is progressing well. Girls' Club held a concert worthy of comment on Nov. 20, and Boys' Club continues to meet weekly.

## South Australia

**Moorook.**—Mr. Stirling paid a visit recently and spoke of modern approach to youth in connection with Sunday school work. Mr. Marshall paid a visit after usual visitation on the Thursday. He gave a fine address.

**Cowandilla.**—For some time church has been considering possibility of building a manse. At a meeting held recently it was decided to launch a fund to raise money on loan at 13 per cent. To date £1562 has been secured. Building will cost £1250. Church hopes that it will be able to repay all money in ten years.

**Semaphore.**—Farewell addresses were delivered by W. L. Ewers on Oct. 27 to good attendances. At close of evening service Elder A. Samuels voiced appreciation of members of the preacher's faithful ministry, and presented him with an envelope of notes. F. Collins commenced his temporary ministry on Nov. 3 with helpful addresses. Christine Foote has been received into fellowship through faith and obedience. Men's Fellowship held a "sports evening", on Nov. 4. Mission Band held monthly meeting on Nov. 5, Mrs. Searles being speaker.

**Prospect.**—Services on Nov. 24 were led by R. Vincent, who has been giving a series of inspiring addresses. There were good attendances. In morning fellowship was enjoyed with Mrs. Dunn, sen., who has not been able to attend lately, and Gordon Burns, now at Milang, and others. Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Thompson, foundation members of church, have celebrated their diamond wedding. Mr. Thompson has undergone an operation for his eyes. Mrs. Cousins and Mr. Mackenzie are recovering from illnesses. Miss Y. Mackenzie is visiting Melbourne. Work in all auxiliaries is in good spirit.

**Hindmarsh.**—A splendid time of fellowship was experienced at annual reunion of men's Bible class held on Nov. 24. T. P. Richardson presided over the meetings. The address was given by C. F. Sexton, secretary of Protestant Children's Homes. A male quartette and solos by Jack Holden and Brian Meek brightened the services. A men's choir assisted in evening. There was a large congregation, and J. E. Shipway was speaker. Ladies of church provided a splendid tea. Charlie Williamson, recently returned from Burma, was welcomed and responded in an interesting speech. Reminiscences by past members of class were enjoyed. Several members during past year had been called to higher service, among them A. J. Brooker, for many years president of class.

**Nallaworth.**—Attendances at all meetings have been good. On Nov. 9 a gift evening was given to Joan Thebbeck and Graham Gaskin prior to their marriage on Nov. 16. Youth service was held on Nov. 23, several young men and boys assisting preacher. Two young men gave short testimonies. Endeavor meeting on Nov. 26 was taken by Baptist society, supper being provided. Ladies' Guild held final meeting for year. Mrs. Manning thanked

Mrs. McQueen for help rendered as president. In responding Mrs. McQueen spoke of kindness and help shown by Mrs. Manning to all. Mrs. Stan Roberts is progressing satisfactorily after severe operation. Mr. and Mrs. W. Lalland and Thelma have been able to attend the services after illness. Visitors at both services have been welcomed.

**Flinders Park.**—On Oct. 3 and 10, Bible school held anniversary services—the most successful yet held. At all meetings chapel was crowded. Speakers were Miss Jones, F. Hollams, H. G. Norris and E. Mossop. Children were conducted by G. Houston, music being supplied by Jean Richardson, Ronda Francis and Glen Pearce. On morning of Oct. 17, a teachers' dedication service was held, and in evening a youth service was conducted, when following young people spoke: Betty Dennis, Elaine Webb, Margaret Challinger and Will Walladge. The preacher, F. Hollams, also spoke. A young man, David Johnson, decided for Christ. On Nov. 20 two young men who had confessed Christ were baptised. On Nov. 24 Doug Bennett was received into fellowship following his baptism. Merv. Smith has been appointed acting secretary and Mrs. G. Pearce and Mrs. Richardson deaconesses.

**Unley.**—On evening of Nov. 23, a large "Youth for Christ" rally was held at town hall, which was filled to capacity. E. H. Watson (Baptist church) was speaker, and H. Norris chairman. At invitation a large number of young people went forward. On Nov. 24 H. R. Taylor gave morning address, Mr. Norris being at Forestville. Church lost one of its oldest and most faithful members in death of Alfred Verco on Nov. 16. He had been a member of Park-st. church for 54 years, and held office in important branches of the work. Senior C.E. conducted prayer and fellowship meeting week, followed by a social hour and supper, when opportunity was taken to congratulate Mr. Norris on his birthday. Toys for kinder Christmas tree (about 60) have been made by members of combined clubs during recent months. Members were glad to see Margaret Messent back at morning service after many weeks' absence on account of illness.

**Tumby Bay.**—S.S. anniversary services on Nov. 3 proved helpful and encouraging. Special singing by scholars under leadership of R. Nankivell was appreciated by a large congregation afternoon and evening, as were addresses by M. T. Lawrie. Celebrations were continued on Tuesday evening, when children presented items and a biblical play. Prizes were distributed and certificates to four scholars who gained 100 per cent. attendance, two of whom completed ten years. Two scholars gained certificates of merit in scripture examination. At annual S.S. school business meeting reports showed a good year's work accomplished. Superintendent for coming year will be R. Nankivell and Miss M. Swiggs secretary. Presentations have been made to Mr. and Mrs. A. Carr and family on their departure from town. On Nov. 10 R. Nankivell and Mr. Lawrie addressed services, and in evening Mrs. R. F. Shire rendered an enjoyable solo. Mr. Lawrie was speaker at both services on Nov. 17. A. Pugsley, of Ungarra, delivered address in afternoon of Nov. 24 and Mr. Lawrie in evening. Ladies' Guild has gone into recess until new year. The ladies have done splendid work in sending parcels to P.C.H. and UNRRA. Y.P.C.E. society is in good spirit, and recently a library was established.

**Kilburn.**—On Nov. 24 A. E. Brown concluded very fruitful nine months' honorary ministry. Church membership is now 17 as compared with 12 at commencement. Bible school now has 103 on roll as compared with 35 to start with. Cradle roll, which commenced with nine, has now 62 enrolled. To show appreciation and express thanks to A. E. Brown, Mrs. A. E. Brown, Mrs. Brown, sen., and Miss M. J. Bartlett, a farewell social was arranged for Nov. 26. Sixty attended 10 a.m. Bible school, including six new scholars, and 32 attended



11 a.m. service. Children's choral service during afternoon was well attended. A. E. Brown gave a splendid address, and Miss Doris Brand, of Croydon church, sang a solo. On Nov. 19 new official board held first meeting. In reorganising the work, following officers were appointed: J. Pritchard (church secretary), B. L. S. Mann (church and Bible school treasurer), R. J. Peacock (Bible school superintendent and secretary), Mrs. R. J. Peacock (kindergarten and cradle roll superintendent), S. Riches and G. Bonney (auditors, church and Bible school). Arrangements are in hand for preacher help. Board will meet monthly and comprises preacher, elder and deacon from Prospect church, home mission secretary and three Kilburn officers.

## New South Wales

**Taree.**—At church annual business meeting on Nov. 6, a year of progressive work was revealed. Treasurer's balance sheet showed income from all departments, £771/9/10, and expenditure £528/0/10, leaving credit balance £243/9/- for year's activities. Whilst conducting a campaign in interests of B. and F. Bible Society, W. H. Rainey gave an address to church on morning of Nov. 17. A. B. Clark conducted gospel service. He also spoke at all services on Nov. 24.

**Kingsford.**—On Nov. 3 Mr. Roger, elder of church, gave a helpful address at morning service, and Mr. Read spoke at night. On night of Nov. 9, a social was held in honor of the approaching marriage of Miss W. Lovell to Mr. J. Gilbert. Presentations were made to them from church. On Nov. 10 church had fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, formerly members of church in America. Mr. Morton spoke on morning of Nov. 17; Mr. Surtees, of Chatswood church, presented a helpful sermon at night. During past month all services were well maintained.

**Belmore.**—The 40th anniversary of Bible school was celebrated during November, all services being well attended. It was a time of joy and inspiration. On Nov. 3 school delivered its special illustrated message, "Promises Ever True," at afternoon service, and Mr. Gibb, of Auburn, was speaker at night. On Nov. 10 illustrated addresses were given by R. V. Amos in afternoon and by Mr. Corlett at night. Special songs were rendered by scholars with rare talent and enthusiasm. Concert and prize distribution took place on Nov. 12, an excellent programme being rendered. Picnic was held at Cronulla on Nov. 16. Following many requests, Cronulla school's special message was repeated at gospel service on Nov. 17, and was splendidly given and well received.

**Rockdale.**—During November meetings were well attended. Addresses have been given by Mr. Corlett and Mr. Paternoster. Four young people who recently confessed Christ are waiting to be immersed. C.E. held anniversary on Nov. 17 and rendered some fine items; Mr. Munroe was speaker. C.E. visited Sans Souci Baptist Endeavor society on Nov. 18 and conducted meeting. On Nov. 24 Mr. Burns exhorted church. Several visitors were present. Church was glad to have Mrs. Burns present after lengthy absence and to know she is improving. Mr. Burns took ill suddenly in afternoon and was unable to preach at night. Mr. McMillan gave a fine gospel address. Two weddings were celebrated in chapel on Nov. 23, when Alice Bevitt was married to Alan Norling and Enid Martin to R. McLean.

## Victoria

**Springvale.**—On Nov. 17 two young people were baptised. Explorer Club won efficiency cup for 1946. Explorers also raised £10 for "Smiles," and Good Companions raised approximately £3/16/-. Bible school attendance is keeping a good average. Midweek prayer meeting attendances are good.

**Hampton.**—About 80 were present at a meeting of the men's society on evening of Nov. 30, when Hubert Opperman gave a lantern lecture on his cycling experiences. On morning of Dec. 1 L. G. Chapman was speaker. H.M. offering was £18/1/-. At night E. P. Wright gave an illustrated talk on Sudan Mission. An offering was taken for that work.

**Red Hill.**—On Nov. 17 S. Ryles addressed good meetings morning and evening. On 24th, in absence of S. Ryles, A. Salmon delivered the address, and evening meeting was conducted by young people, R. Holmes giving the address. A solo was rendered by Miss P. Daff, of Cheltenham church. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Holmes celebrated their silver wedding during week.

**Chelsea.**—The mission conducted by Messrs. White and Warn from Nov. 17 to 27 proved very popular with the children. Attendance on first day was 68, but from then on was never under 130, highest being 185. Evening meetings for adults were not so well attended, but Mr. White gave challenging addresses. As a result of the mission 11 boys and girls and one young lady decided for Christ.

**Ararat.**—On Nov. 10 and 17 Mr. McLean was speaker. Meetings are much better attended lately. On Nov. 23 children of Bible school with parents, members and friends were given a tea and social evening, and prizes were distributed to scholars. On Nov. 24 anniversary services were continued. Mr. Jackel, from Horsham, was speaker afternoon and evening. The children sang well under able leadership of Mr. Sellwood.

**Ballarat (Peel-st.).**—Anniversary services on Nov. 24 were successful, C. Young being speaker for day. Children under leadership of A. Graham sang well. Chapel was packed in evening. A. W. Stephenson, member of home mission deputation from Melbourne, spoke at morning service on Dec. 1. In afternoon kinders and primary departments conducted anniversary session. At night Mr. Vautier, of York-st., preached. A youth council has been formed to co-ordinate young people's activities.

**Kyneton.**—During itinerary of Mr. Moore, of Bible Society, in district in October, he addressed Youth Fellowship and Ladies' Aid. F. T. Saunders gave enjoyable addresses on Nov. 3. Bible school members hiked to Lauriston Reserve on Nov. 9. On Nov. 10 Mr. Peter White, L.O. Alliance, spoke at all services. R. Goudie exhorted church on Nov. 17. Ladies' Aid held an American tea during month. On Nov. 23, in Zetland Hall, local friends entertained an inspiring gathering of 140 of Midlands Christian Youth Fellowship from Castlemaine, Bendigo, Harcourt, Maryborough and Kyneton. Sympathy is felt for F. Benson in passing of his father.

**Blackburn.**—Church appreciated addresses of R. W. Graham and R. Banks, with whom Mr. Wright exchanged. Church anniversary services were held on Nov. 10, speakers being A. W. Stephenson and B. J. Combridge. Miss Lottie Sommers was soloist. Temple Day offering amounted to over £101. Sunday school records are being broken. 108 were present on Dec. 1, highest for over six years. District is growing, and presents an opportunity for advancement. Mr. and Mrs. Wright are on holidays and G. L. Murray and W. Baird gave splendid addresses. Church received with regret resignation of Mr. Wright, who has accepted a call to North Essendon. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Tope, whose mother passed away last week.

**St. Kilda.**—On Nov. 10 Keith Norton took his stand for Christ, was baptised same night, and on following Sunday was welcomed into fellowship. Lois Norton made her decision on evening of Nov. 17 and was baptised on 24th.

On Nov. 12, C.E. paid a visit to home of H. A. Hunt and met with folk from Chelsea. "Happy hour" meetings on Tuesday afternoons continue to interest children. A. L. Finger has tendered his resignation as church secretary, to take effect from Dec. 31. H. A. Hunt enters his fifth year of ministry with church, and is in great heart through recent additions to church. During recent weeks a number of non-members have been coming to gospel services. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley, from church at Maryborough, Qld., were recent visitors.

**Middle Park.**—On Nov. 17 Mr. Keatch gave an appreciated address in morning. Mr. Randall delivered an earnest address on home missions on Nov. 24. Mr. Fisher concluded his ministry as assistant preacher, and was presented with a book with best wishes for his future work at Cowandilla, S.A. Recent soloists at gospel services have been L. Hollow and Miss Joy Payne. Mrs. Houghton has been welcomed back after illness.

**Essendon.**—On Nov. 16 members of C.M.S. journeyed to Cressy and assisted Young People's Department to demolish army hut for transfer to Monbulk camp. Mr. Crisp was



The Chapel at Essendon.

speaker at both meetings on Nov. 17. In evening two young people decided for Christ. On Nov. 21, Ladies' Guild held a successful afternoon to close year's activities; 60 ladies were present. Stalls were laden with gifts for sale; over £20 was financial result. Bouquets were presented to Mesdames Ferguson, sen., Bone, sen., Weatherhead, sen., who had birthdays during month. Each cut the beautifully decorated birthday cake made by Mrs. McNicol. Mr. Neighbour (Oakleigh) was speaker at morning service on Nov. 24. Mr. Crisp spoke in evening. On Nov. 25 a social evening was held to express best wishes to Grace Lamont and Norm Drew on their approaching marriage. Members gave a variety of kitchen utensils to the honored guests. Ladies' Guild collected and packed over 50 lbs. weight of clothing for UNRRA. Mrs. C. Ferguson is home from hospital and doing well. Mr. and Mrs. Marr and family, who have gone to S.A., are greatly missed from meetings.

**Reservoir.**—On Nov. 14 a concert was held to aid choir thanksgiving fund. This took form of an "amateur night," compered by J. Plummer; Mr. Peeler acted as judge. On Dec. 1 annual thanksgiving services were held. In morning thanksgiving offerings were received from auxiliaries and individual members. Auxiliary offerings amounted to £34/19/6, and £20/17/8 was received from members. Mr. Alcorn gave an appropriate address. Evening meeting was conducted by ladies of church. Mrs. McInnes, president of Ladies' Guild, presided, and a challenging address was given by Mrs. W. F. Nankivell, Women's Conference president. Soloist was Mrs. C. G. Taylor, and several items were brought by choir of ladies of church. Accompanist was Mrs. Rogers-Wilson, of Brighton church. Scripture reading was given by Mrs. Welsford, and notices were given by Mrs. Trathen. At close Mrs. McInnes handed £56 to church secretary



as ladies' thanksgiving offering. This brought total for day to £111/17/2, and will ensure that balance of £100 owing on church building will be cleared. Mr. Alcorn closes his ministry with church on Dec. 22. R. E. Burns has accepted an invitation to become preacher, commencing in January.

Fairfield.—Meetings continue to be well attended. On Nov. 28 Northcote choir gave a very enjoyable concert, after which supper was served. On Dec. 1 a ten-days' children's mission was commenced with J. B. White and M. P. Warn. At close of gospel service a young lady confessed Christ.

Geelong (Latrobe-terr.).—On Nov. 23 Sunday school held annual picnic at Portarlington, when an enjoyable day was spent. At gospel meeting on Nov. 24, one young man confessed Christ, and at gospel meeting on Dec. 1 he was baptised. Representatives of Child Evangelism Fellowship, under leadership of T. A. Fitzgerald, visited church on Nov. 30 and gave instructive talks to Sunday school teachers and youth leaders of Geelong.

Prahran.—Mr. Burt is about to conclude his second year with church, but will go to West Hobart in new year. His resignation was received with regret. He is a capable young preacher. Since his marriage Mrs. Burt has been a great help. S.S. picnic to Rickett's Point was largest for many years. Women's meeting for November was addressed by Mrs. Pettigrove. Services over recent weeks have been helped by singing of Mrs. Stanfield, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Potts and party, and some men of church.

#### BIRTH

WATSON.—On Nov. 18, to Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Watson, of "Betheden," 641 Gilbert-rd., West Preston, Vic.—a son (Geoffrey Graham).

#### DEATH

GREEN, Clyde James.—Husband of Lillian Jean (Betty), father of Marilyn, of 205 Stuart-st., Toowoomba, and younger son of Mrs. A. E. Green, Hume-st., Boonah, brother of Ross, June and Gwen, and grandson of T. F. Stubbin, Boonah, accidentally killed at Toowoomba Nov. 26, 1946.

#### IN MEMORIAM

BERRY (on Active Service).—Treasured memories of our dear Stan, Flight Sgt. S. G., 40183, R.A.A.F., whose plane was lost on Dec. 6, 1943. One of the best. —Loved and remembered by grandma (Pettifer) and aunts Carrie and May, Princes Hill.

BERRY (on Active Service).—In loving memory of my dear and only brother Stan., R.A.A.F., who paid the supreme sacrifice abroad on Dec. 6, 1943. "You are always in my thoughts, Stan." —Inserted by his sister Dorothy.

BERRY (on Active Service).—In fond and loving memory of our only son, Flight Sgt. Stan., R.A.A.F., who was reported missing in air operations on Dec. 6, 1943.

Not just to-day but every day in silence we remember.

—Inserted by his loving parents.

COMBRIDGE, J. M.—In loving memory of our dear one, who was called home on Dec. 3, 1934.

"Sleep on, beloved, sleep and take thy rest; Lay down thy head upon thy Saviour's breast;

We loved thee well, but Jesus loved thee best;

Good-night, good-night, good-night."

MORPHETT.—In loving memory of my dear sister Annie, who passed away Dec. 2, 1945.

"God watched you, as you suffered,

He knew you had your share;

He gently closed your weary eyes

And took you in his care."

"Some time we'll understand."

—Inserted by her loving sister May.

#### WANTED

By leading broker's office, junior typiste and stenographer. Excellent opportunities for advancement. 'Phone MU 6011.

Caretaker required, private house and garden, Melbourne, during holidays, period may be one month.—A.B., c/o Austral Co., 530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, C.I.

To rent, unfurnished house or flat, five rooms, eastern or south-eastern suburb Melbourne, from January.—H. Steele, 80a Elizabeth-st., Launceston, Tasmania.

Preacher wants to rent, or willing to caretake, house near beach fortnight, during school holidays.—Mathieson, 94 King-st., Bendigo.

Wanted, companion and help, assist duties; good home.—Mrs. Hare, 18 Victor-ave., Kew. Haw. 2951.

Young married couple, no children, desire in Melbourne district board and lodgings, or room and kitchenette, attend own laundry. Write S. Ryles, College of the Bible, Glen Iris.

#### MINISTERS' WIVES ASSOCIATION

Next meeting of above will be held at Swanston-st. lecture hall on Friday, Dec. 13, at 2.30 p.m.

#### SELECT ORCHESTRA.

For your next party or wedding celebration, 'phone JU1021.

#### FOR HIRE

Caravan, four berths, all conveniences, after January 5.—5 Charles-st., Preston. JU1021.

#### Bible Testimony.

#### ADVENT FELLOWSHIP RALLY,

Church of Christ, Lygon St., Carlton,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1946.

3.30 p.m., W. L. Wright, Spring-st. Mission, "The Advent of the Superman."

5.30 p.m., Basket Tea and Discussion. (Milk, tea and sugar provided.)

7.30 p.m., Song Service and Prayer.

8 p.m., J. Wiltshire, "Where is the Promise of His Coming?"

Keep this date free. Bring your friends.

Come and enjoy the fellowship.

Hear God's word expounded.

#### FRANKSTON

Cor. Dandenong-rd. and Beach-st.

#### 14TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHURCH AND FIFTH OF OPENING OF CHAPEL.

Lord's day, Dec. 8, 11 a.m., Communion Service.

Preacher, Mr. B. J. Combridge (Conference president)

3.15 p.m., Thanksgiving Service. Preacher, Mr. L. E. Buck.

7.30 p.m., Anniversary Gospel Service. Preacher, Mr. Thomas Hagger.

Special singing.

Wednesday, Dec. 11, 8 p.m., Anniversary Social Gathering.

First-class Programme of Musical and Elocutionary Items.

Speaker, Mr. Hariba Waghmode, B.A.

Everybody invited.

#### LYGON ST. NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS.

Leader: C. G. Taylor, B.A.

#### STUDIES FOR FINAL QUARTER, 1946.

Cities and Saints

(Memories of Paul).

Sunday, December 8—

Timothy—a Good Soldier.

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His Salvation. Romans. 7/- (7/3½).

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## British Churches Restoring Evangelism

ONE of the most happy features of annual conference week is the tea table conference of evangelists. This year great concern was felt at the seeming failure of our evangelism, as indicated by the figures of additions by baptism. The decrease in membership figures, which we share unfortunately with other religious bodies—the Methodist church lost 80,000 members last year—calls for serious consideration. Arising out of the tea table conference came the suggestion that all evangelists should hold a retreat and give consideration to the matter. During November twenty-two men and two H.M. sisters met at Hadfield Fold, the churches of Christ holiday home, to spend four days in prayer and discussion. Sessions opened at 8.30 a.m. and closed, officially, at 11 p.m., though even after that, problems and solutions were still being debated in dormitories. Several proposals were agreed upon and are to be tried out immediately. Time will show whether they will be really effective.

During the war years Mr. and Mrs. Aiton, acting for the Social Questions Committee, sent out 9000 letters to members serving with the Forces. The government is proposing to continue conscription for some years. Young men are to be called up for two years' service, with annual periods of training to follow. Opinion is divided upon the question. Meanwhile the Social Questions Committee is arranging that these letters shall be continued, so that young men called to leave home will feel that there is a definite link between the churches and themselves.

Preachers' fraternals are springing up in many parts of the country, evidence of a desire to take church work more seriously. The Home Mission Committee has asked W. J. Clague, of Dalton in Furness, to visit groups of churches and conduct local leadership courses. Several courses, which last for six weeks in each centre, have already been held.

W. Mander left his ministry at Evington-rd., Leicester, in order to lead an evangelistic campaign at Shawlands, Glasgow. Fifteen were baptised as a result of the mission.

The Christian Action Fellowship, which centres largely at Birmingham, had received from the churches £1164 for the Save Europe Fund. Miss E. Gainham and C. Balchin are still in Germany working with a relief team.

Among recent deaths is that of Mrs. Philpott, Bulwell, Nottingham, aged 84. Her husband, who died some years ago, was one of the leaders of the church at Coventry, and their home was known to preachers all over the country.—C. J. Hammond.

#### ADDRESS

R. H. Johnston (secretary and treasurer Hawthorn church, Vic.)—58 Elizabeth-st., Malvern.

## The Australian Christian

December 4, 1946

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# Social Services and Social Questions

IN VICTORIA

WILL. H. CLAY.

Christmas, 1946

NEARLY everybody is asking the question, "What shall I give?" Giving at Christmas time has become a habit throughout the civilised world. Ever since the Christmas message was given to all men of goodwill which signalled the coming of the Son of God to the earth, there has been a desire on the part of man to express his gratitude, but unfortunately not always to God. Christmas has become a time of reciprocal giving between friend and friend. There is, however, a spirit of generosity associated with it which is responsible for the raising of thousands of pounds for benevolent purposes. The women of our churches have wisely chosen this season as a most appropriate time to appeal to their brethren and sisters in behalf of those who are in need of nursing attention. Such gifts as we may bring to the altar in such a cause come under the category of the "inasmuch"; as we give unto them we give to him whose birthday we celebrate. The women are asking for £1000 for the proposed hospital. Gifts will be presented at the home on Saturday, December 14.

## Legacy

The sum of £25 for social service has been received from the estate of the late Mrs. Annie Elizabeth Jackson. Such remembrance is much appreciated. During her lifetime Mrs. Jackson manifested a deep interest in the Department of Social Service, and was a most generous contributor to the home.

## Christian Guest Home

The usual festivities associated with the Christmas and New Year periods will take place at the home. On Tuesday, Dec. 3, the Carnegie Community Singers will entertain the guests; Dec. 9, Monday, Miss Callinan will take the Gardiner girls; on Saturday, the 14th, the Women's Day of Fellowship; Thursday, 19th, the Camberwell choir under Mr. E. Peters; and Saturday, 21st, the C.E. will give their usual party. The guests will be provided with a special Christmas dinner. Friends of the matron, Mrs. R. Ross, will be sorry to learn of the passing of her father. Although in advanced years, his death came as a big shock. The committee and intimate friends offer their deepest sympathy.

## A Domestic Fair

Miss Lily Brownrigg, of the Northcote church, assisted by her parents, conducted a fair at her home on Saturday, November 23, the proceeds from which were divided between the manse fund and the proposed hospital. Everything seemed to favor the occasion, and friends from near and far gathered to honor the hostess, and to support the objectives, each of which received the sum of £35. Perhaps

there are others who could do something of this kind. The establishment of a hospital is one of the biggest undertakings ever attempted by our churches, and calls for a major effort on the part of every member and every church.

## Lottery for Hospitals

Once again there is an attempt being made to bring the government to introduce legislation to provide for a State lottery in Victoria. It is noticeable that as on previous occasions the R.C.'s are at the back of the move. Gambling is a recognised part of their machinery for raising money for "sacred purposes." At a recent fete held in a suburban R.C. school ground, bottles of beer and whisky as well as no end of rationed goods were being raffled. The local priest proudly displayed a bottle of whisky he had won. Some prominent Protestant politicians were present.

The Melbourne "Herald," Nov. 26, states that Sydney hospital authorities are concerned about the comparatively small proportion that hospitals receive from their huge State lotteries. Sydney is considering a plan to augment funds on the lines of the Melbourne Lord Mayor's Fund. We have seen a letter from N.S.W. stating that the president of the fund (Mr. B. Latham) would be here soon to go into the matter more fully. The cost of administration of the fund in Victoria last year was 3.2 per cent. A record revenue in 1944 of £166,000 was administered at about the same figure. So far successive governments in Victoria have resisted all attempts to establish a State lottery. The present labor government is reported to be against it. We are of the opinion, however, that as soon as sufficient parliamentary support can be reckoned on a Lotteries Bill will be introduced with a good chance of passing.

## Startling Facts

The liquor trade in America during 1945 took out of the pockets of the American people £1,558,005,181. Other countries, including Britain, proportionately speaking, are not far behind. In America there was wasted in 1945 alone 3,339,554 tons of food products, grains, sugars, syrups and fruits in the making of alcoholic beverages, this despite the fact that 750 million men and women on five continents are to-day suffering from malnutrition and slow starvation. Lord, how long!

AUSTRAL GRADED LESSONS are prepared for Churches of Christ by experienced writers. The wide use of these teachers' and scholars' helps proves that they are an important factor in our work amongst the young. Full particulars gladly supplied.—Austral Co.

## Removals.

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## Obituary

### William Thomas Arthur

AT the age of 75 years, Wm. Arthur was gathered home to be with Christ on the evening of Oct. 29, after being confined to his bed for only a few days. It was a time of solemn joy to be with him and to know of his faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ during those last few days. He was spared any pain, and the sorrow of consciously parting with loved ones, in that he gradually lost consciousness and the last two days lay as though asleep. He was born at Ballarat in 1871, and with his wife was born again during a Harward mission in that city about forty years ago. Soon after becoming a member of the church he took office as a deacon. Twenty years later he transferred to the assembly at East Kew, where again he accepted the responsible position of deacon. For many years he was doorkeeper, and with his smiling countenance, gracious word and friendly handshake was a great asset to the assembly. After his retirement from the Kew Council, he acted as caretaker of the chapel and grounds for several years, and never were the lawns, garden and chapel buildings so well kept. He had been a teacher in the Bible school, and until about two years ago, when failing strength compelled him to remain indoors at night, he was most regular in attendance at church services. Nothing was permitted to take the place of the prayer meeting; he loved the midweek gathering. In 1927 he attended the Federal Conference in Perth, and always took a keen interest in brotherhood undertakings. Those who knew him best loved him most. After a service in the chapel, the mortal remains were conveyed to Box Hill cemetery and laid to rest. To his dear wife, with whom he was spared to live over fifty years, and to his family, the church extends loving sympathy and rejoices with them in the blessed hope.—W.A.W.

### Mrs. H. Elder

ANOTHER link with the early years of the Oakleigh church, Vic., was broken with the passing of Mrs. H. (Catherine) Elder on Nov. 14, at the age of 77 years. Our sister was apparently well until within a week of her death. She had been a Christian for over sixty years, and joined the church of Christ at Dandenong some fifty years ago. In 1920 she linked up with the church at Oakleigh, and since her husband's death had been on the isolated members' roll at Mountain View. Our sister manifested a keen interest in the various activities of the church, and was sustained by a virile faith in her Saviour. Her body was laid to rest in the old Cheltenham cemetery after services conducted by the writer at the home of her eldest son at Clarinda and at the graveside in the presence of a large group of friends and relatives. To her three sons, H.A. (Clarinda), D.H. (Heather-ton), and W.J. (Mountain View), and all her loved ones we extend sincerest sympathy in their sad loss.—S.N.

### Mrs. Annie Harman

WITH the home-call of Mrs. Annie Harman a very gracious and lovable Christian passed from this life. Until sickness prevented her, she was a most regular attendant at the Lord's Table, and only advancing years kept her from other services. All who knew her testify to her sweet and gentle disposition. She was always bright, contented and unselfish, and one in whose heart it was easy to believe the Spirit of God dwelt. As a young woman, Annie Gray (sister of Hugh Gray) was baptised at Warrnambool, Vic., by the late

Peter Brown on Oct. 16, 1883. Later she became a foundation member of the church at Port Fairy. The work at Kyneton commenced more than forty years ago with meetings at the Harman home. After her husband's death she came to live at Preston with her daughter, Mrs. F. Jenkins, who ministered lovingly to her mother during the last weeks. The call came at the age of 83 years, when tired out she patiently awaited the summons. Her life remains a fragrant memory and a beautiful testimony, and the hope which sustained her is shared by her loved ones who are commended to the God of all comfort.—B.J.C.

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PARENTS desiring to encourage their children 14 years and over in regular study of the Bible and in literature with a Christian content should arrange for a copy of the "Christian Youth Fellowship" to be addressed to them quarterly. It is a 64 page study manual and magazine on youth interests. Annual subscription, post paid, is 4/-. Order from Austral Publishing Co., 528, 530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, C.1.

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## Night Trotting

THE State Cabinet is about to introduce a  
bill into Parliament to legalise night trot-  
ting, and I am directed by the Council of  
Churches in Victoria to appeal to all Chris-  
tians to write to the members of Parliament  
for their districts protesting against the bill  
for the following reasons:—

1. The Christian churches are strongly op-  
posed to the proposal because experience else-  
where has conclusively proved how detri-  
mental night trotting is to the family life of  
the community.

2. Large sections of people, living in the  
areas adjacent to the Showgrounds, have ear-  
nestly protested against the proposal, while  
their City Council has also expressed strong  
opposition.

3. Were gambling excluded, the bill would  
not be proceeded with, thus revealing that  
extra facilities for gambling is the chief con-  
sideration of those promoting the project.

4. Should the bill pass, many other requests  
for night trotting will be made. Already  
throughout the State various bodies are ar-  
ranging to seek permission. Thus a great  
flood of gambling will sweep across the whole  
State.

The very silence of Christian people in the  
past has been counted as approval of legisla-  
tion proposed. In consequence there has been  
a steady deterioration in the social and moral  
standards of the community. I am sure, if  
we act at once, we shall make our influence  
felt.—Courtenay Thomas, secretary Victorian  
Council of Churches.

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December 4, 1946



# AFRAID OF A SPIDER

I REMEMBER one day at the close of the North African campaign sitting in the desert having a meal with some officers, when all of a sudden one of those who was present let out a piercing yell, and fell backwards off his jerican on to the sand. The rest of us, of course, started up in alarm wondering what on earth had happened, and then the cause of the disturbance came to light. An enormous spider had been crawling up his leg—up his bare leg—and had reached his thigh before he happened to notice it. No doubt you remember how:

Little Miss Muffett

Sat on a tuffet

Eating her curds and whey.

There came a big spider

And sat down beside her,

And frightened Miss Muffett away.

But this was worse than anything Miss Muffett had to put up with, because he was a desert spider—a huge fellow, a fat fellow, an enormous fellow with long hairy legs, a spotted tummy, and eyes on the end of stalks! So perhaps it wasn't altogether surprising that this officer got such a fright.

And yet, when you come to think of it, here was a soldier who had often been in terrible danger without ever showing a sign of fear, terrified because of a poor old spider, who was even more frightened of him than he was of it, and who was now running away over the sand just as fast as his hairy old legs could carry him.

And it seems to me that this is no isolated case. People are often afraid of the wrong things and get into a panic over nothing at all. I have known boys and girls, for example, who were afraid of the policeman, because some foolish person had made him out to be a sort of bogey-man. And I have known people, grown-up people too, who were afraid over nothing at all—on a winter's night, for example, when they went upstairs to bed after reading a spooky story. They looked behind the door, and they peeped below the bed, and then they slipped between the sheets, and sat bolt upright if they heard any creaks or bumps. And what was there to frighten them, I wonder? Why nothing! Absolutely nothing! Yes, how often boys and girls, and men and women, are

afraid of the wrong things, and worry their heads when there is really no need to do so.

But there is such a thing, you know, as a healthy fear. There are times when it is really quite wise to be afraid.

1. There is a healthy fear, for example, that prompts us to look right and then left before stepping off the pavement into the street.

2. Then, again, the fear of temptation is a healthy fear. The boy or the girl, the man or the woman, who's a bit cocksure that temptation can't touch him, is heading for certain disaster. It's the fellow who knows his weaknesses and is constantly on guard in case they should get him down, who is most likely to make a success of life. I always remember the answer one soldier gave when some of his comrades were pressing him to have a drink. "Sorry, you chaps," he said, "but I'm afraid to." He knew from past experience that he couldn't trust himself to "have a drink" and let it go at that. So the only thing for him to do was to cut it out altogether. And that I venture to suggest was a healthy fear. We should all be afraid of the temptations which we find it specially difficult to resist.

3. Or to take another illustration. There is a healthy fear which makes us a little afraid of hurting anybody we love. When we were very young we did what we were told, perhaps because we were afraid of the consequences if we disobeyed our parents or our teachers. Later in life we begin to lose that fear, but another and a healthier fear comes to take its place—the fear of doing something or of saying something which would grieve the hearts of those who are older and wiser than we are, who care for nothing so much as our welfare.

4. And along that same line I am going to argue that the healthiest fear of all is the fear of God. "The fear of the Lord," we read, "is the beginning of wisdom." In the light of what Christ has taught us, I don't suggest that we ought to be afraid of God in the same way as a slave might fear his master. But I do say that we ought to be afraid of doing anything which might wound the fatherly heart of God who loves us—the hasty word, the

quarrelsome temper, the mean action, the sort of thing which prompts us afterwards to say, "I'm afraid I've hurt you!" "I'm afraid I was a bit hasty!" "I'm afraid I feel just a wee bit ashamed of myself!" It takes a big-minded person, a wise person, to confess that he has been at fault, but nothing so endears us to our fellows, and nothing, I am sure, endears us more to God.—Selected.

## What Do You Think?

IT was Sunday evening and the family was seated around the fire; the wireless was tuned to a programme of very light music; dad was reading the "Sporting Globe," while mother was adding a few stitches to school clothes for the morrow. Elsie, the fourteen-year-old daughter, was busy with her homework that had been put off till the last minute, and John, the son, sat somewhat lazily over a popular paper, reading a bit and dreaming a lot.

Then, out of his dreaming, John startled everyone with a question to his father: "Dad, are you a Christian?" Dad grunted, that indicated that he had heard the question but did not answer. It was mother who hastened to answer: "Of course your father is a Christian; you should know that without asking. Isn't he a good father to you and to us all?" Dad breathed more easily, and was very thankful for a wife so loyal and ingenious enough to answer or evade the more searching questions of the family. But John had reached the thinking stage, and was not to be easily put off. "Well," he answered, "to-day we had a lesson in the Sunday school about the creation of the church, and the Bible says that when the people believed the message that the apostles preached about Christ they were added to the church, and the teacher told us that it was not possible to be a Christian and be separated from the church, and though you have made both Elsie and me go to Sunday school because you said we needed it, I have never known you to go to church or be interested in it in any way." When dad answered, "Nonsense," he was alluding to the first part of John's statement, and not the latter, and he continued, "Of course you can be a Christian outside the church. A Christian is one who plays the game, and remembers the golden rule as often as he can, and does a decent day's work, and is moderate in his habits, and let me tell you, my boy,



there are many good people who never go near church at all who are better than some of those who are church members." He felt he had said the final word and stood justified before his family and the world. John took it, and there was quietness for a time, then the youth spoke again. "Dad, what you just said is what the teacher said up to a point. He said that all people who were in the church and knew that they belonged to it were not saints, and they made many mistakes, and they were aware of them; that they didn't pretend to be better than others at all, but that they professed to believe in Christ, and because they knew they weren't saints were seeking God's help all the time; that it was just as foolish to say we were Christians outside the church as for us to say we were the sons of our father but not members of the family." "That stuff is new to me," retorted the father. "My mother—and she was a good member of the church, if ever there was one—didn't tell me that. Now don't disturb me any more; I'm reading something interesting."

It was later that night that father opened the subject to mother. "That young John is an arguer all right; I reckon he'll be either a politician or a parson." "He seemed to be sure of what he said," added mother, "and you know, dear, when you said that your mother never told you that, though she was such a fine Christian woman and loved her church, I wondered if she simply had taken it for granted."—"The Chronicle."

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## THE RING

AN old man in Giamorganshire used to go along a private path to chapel because it saved him a considerable distance. Then an unkind neighbor told the owner of the path about his trespassing, and the next time he went to chapel that way he was met by the landowner, who asked, "What right have you on this path?" "No right at all, sir," he replied, "but I thought you wouldn't mind an old man who has lived on your estate so many years going this way to the house of God, especially as it is so far the other way." "Give me your stick!" said the landowner sternly. The trembling old saint gave him his stick, not knowing what to expect next. Then, to his surprise, the gentleman, with a kind smile, said to him as he gave him in return his own walking-stick mounted in gold and bearing his own crest: "Here, my good man, when anyone in the future asks you what right you have this way, show him this, and tell him I gave it to you!" And even so the ring on the prodigal's finger was proof to all that he was rightly in his home again.—"Extra."

## HOLDING THE LADDER

IN a town not far from my home a boy has just started work as a plumber's mate. That usually means carrying tools and doing odd jobs for the plumber who, among other things, sometimes has to mend roofs which have lost their slates, see to chimney-pots, which have been broken, and guttering which has become worn out. But the boy I am writing about seems to be doing only one thing each time I see him. He stands at the foot of a long ladder, just holding it, while the plumber goes up to do the job on the roof. Now that does not look very important, does it? But the plumber trusts his mate to hold that ladder so steadily that there will be the least possible risk of accident. Holding the ladder firmly, you see, is a part of the whole job of mending roofs. If that boy is learning this, he is starting well. For the most humble tasks are always important.

This is true in doing work for God. Think of the helpers of all kinds who are being used to build his kingdom. So much depends upon the way in which the ladder-holders do their work. When William Carey went to India, to tell the good news about Jesus, he knew there were many friends at home, some

of whom wished they could go with him, who were praying and giving. They said they were "holding the ropes," which is much the same as holding a ladder.—"Uncle Tom."

## M.P.'S RETORT

NOT many people now remember the first time Tim Healy's voice was heard in the House of Commons. A correspondent thus recalls the incident: "He had just been elected and had taken his place amongst the Irish members. An English M.P. was speaking in a scornful fashion of the Irish Party. 'The Irish Party,' he declared, 'would not say "boon" to a goose. The temptation was too much. Up jumped the redoubtable Tim, crying "Boon-oo-oo," as he bowed towards the Speaker. Pearls of laughter echoed through the House as the puzzled M.P. stared at his inter-rupter. Each time he tried to resume his speech, laughter broke out again, until he was obliged to sit down."

## CHINESE WISDOM

According to Carolyn Wells, writing in "The World's Best Humor," these proverbs are generally attributed to the Chinese. Some of them are even taken from the wisdom of Confucius, but their application is still timely:—

A man with a purple nose may be very temperate in drink, but no one will believe it.

Money makes the blind man see many things.

If you are afraid of being found out, leave it alone.

A whisper on earth sounds like thunder in heaven.

To talk much and arrive nowhere is the same as climbing a tree to catch a fish.

Trust nature rather than a bad doctor.

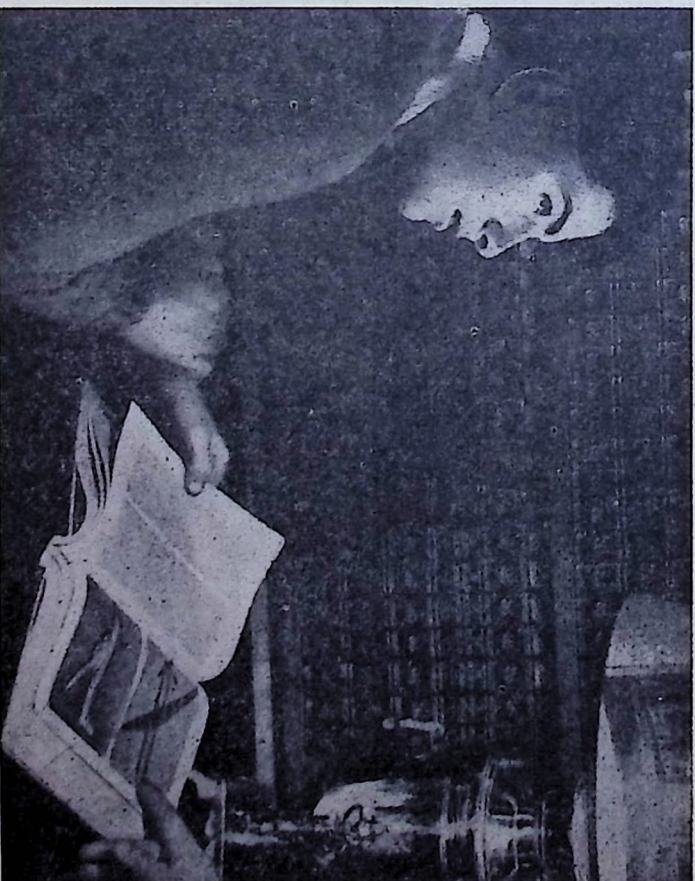
A certain Chinese delegate to the U.N. Conference was besieged by reporters when he arrived in New York. One of the many questions flung at him was, "What strikes you as the oddest thing about Americans?"

He thought for a moment, then smiled, "I think," he said, "it is the peculiar slant of their eyes."

The Australian Christian

DEC. 4, 1946

## Youths' Magazine



## The Beginning of Wisdom

THE proverb says, "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." We note that the person with great knowledge is humble. What he has learnt makes him aware of his ignorance of the real mystery of life. Men like Oliver Lodge and James Jeans who were great scholars were aware that we could account for this world only if we believe in God. If we take our place with the really wise men of this world, we need not be ashamed to own belief in God. Only those who have a surface knowledge of life go about denying the existence of God. The scripture says, "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." The wise man believes in God. The ancient paganist said, "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom." By all means gain knowledge, but let what we learn be related to a genuine fear of God. When we find God and serve him our knowledge will be used to advance the cause of good. When all men learn to fear God, the aeroplane and atomic power will be used to further the happiness of men and not to add misery to the human race.