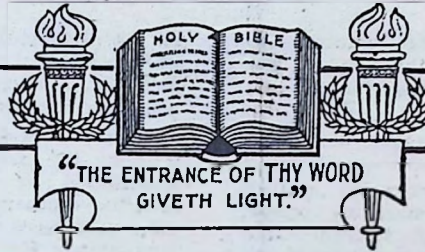


# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 1947

## Answering the Aborigine's Call

THE appeal to assist the Australian aborigine is worthy of our best support. Much has been said and written of these people that may be misleading. While at one time they were treated with abject contempt and their claims were almost entirely ignored; to-day there is a tendency in some quarters to idealise them and to overlook their sins and failings. Some seem to suggest that the natives' troubles and trials are merely due to the white man's sins. It is urged that the best policy to follow is to leave the aborigines alone within their own reserves and allow them to flourish. This approach ignores the sinful nature of the natives. So long as the aborigine retains his heathen ways, he will never prosper as he could. Within his native state he violates many moral principles that are needful for successful living. While a native will respect the tribal marriage laws, he does not consider it wrong to lend his wife to foreigners for profit. Perhaps it is not known that the Australian aborigine still practices cannibalism. Certain of the initiation ceremonies require the candidate to drink human blood. A man may kill and eat his wives. A mother will eat a new-born baby. If a child is sick, another may be killed to feed the ailing one. Those who have lived closest to these natives testify to the existence of these fearful customs. Among the natives these ways are accepted as normal. Those who kill and eat their relatives are not condemned. Immorality, treachery, murder and cannibalism are rife amongst those natives who live according to tribal laws and customs. Life for them is like that for all savages—"short, bestial and nasty." We do not suggest that they lack in every virtue. Because they have, despite their evil ways, an appreciation of beauty, a tenderness toward those they love, courage and loyalty, these reveal them to be men and women with the spark of the Divine within. To see the sterling characters of those trained and blessed by Christian truths points to the possibility of natives of Australia finding the solution of their problems in Christ. Christian missions will enable the aborigine discover the best within him, and will help him regulate savage ways and preserve him from the vices of the white man.

Christian missions also have the responsibility of taking care of the half-caste. Ignored by the full-blooded native, and despised by the "superior" whites, they are in desperate need. These people have characteristics that may solve the population problem in some parts of Australia. For instance, at Broome, W.A., the half-caste population is growing and winning a way for itself in that centre where white people find life trying. These people will need the virile strength of the Christian faith if they are to meet their best desires. The foundation of Christian missions ought to be laid in all those centres where half-caste populations are growing. This will be a service not only to Australia, but to the kingdom of God and to the young and old of a community of people whom God loves.

Churches of Christ in Australia have reason to be proud of the efforts now being made to help the Australian aborigines. At Carnarvon, W.A., Norseman, W.A., Fitzroy, Vic., and Mooroonpa, Vic., centres where help is given to the aborigines have been established within five years. The advancement of this work will be costly; but wisely developed schemes ought to make some of these centres almost self-supporting. Committees in charge of this great enterprise are planning to that end, but now they are appealing for financial support. Money provided at once rather than later will be doubly beneficial. Any who feel they are indebted to the Australian aborigine because their land has been taken from them, will have an opportunity of repaying their indebtedness in a way that will really benefit these "strangers within the gate," and advance the kingdom of God in Australia.



## The Aborigine's Appeal

[Reproduced by courtesy Melbourne "Herald."]



# Whose Responsibility?

*Maston Bell, Hon. Secretary Churches of Christ Federal  
Aborigines Mission Board.*

WHEN white men landed at Botany Bay there were, according to estimates, 250,000 original native people in the land. To-day 76,000 would cover a census of all pure aboriginal people and all shades from half-caste to white.

Our nation cannot escape condemnation for this blot of extinction of the darker peoples.

It has taken a long list of successive generations to awaken public conscience to a responsibility to these remarkable people. Their culture and really clever existence could not withstand the developments of a civilisation handed down to us enhanced by Christian influence.

## **Employers and Vested Interests**

But public conscience apart from Christian action means little. We praise God there are employers who give a kindly interest to native employees and the welfare of their children. Yet these exceptions do not constitute the united attitude of vested interests,



**Mt. Margaret Mission has Demonstrated Beyond Question that  
Christian Influence Stabilises Character.**

which are no more philanthropic towards the natives than those interests which drove Adoniram Judson out of India. In a court case not long ago, a squatter in the centre of Australia was fined a few paltry pounds for lashing three native men to the wheels of carts because they requested wages. They had been used to receiving wages, and were not prepared to work for nothing to the squatter's gain. During our struggle to found our mission at Carnarvon local pastoralists, after consultation with Mr. Hammer and the Deputy Commissioner for Native Affairs, visualised better workmen, better homes and educated children. But their central organisation squashed their recommendation by advising the Government representative that the policy of the Pastoralists' Association as a whole was "No Missions." One company, leasing just short of 1,000,000 acres of land, was highly incensed at the thought of the Government resuming a few acres for us to commence a mission.

## **Government Administration Alone is Insufficient**

Sympathetic Government administration promoted by an awakened public conscience is alleviating somewhat the lot of these depressed people. But granted public money to spend, Government administrations cannot provide the soul of service which comes from a Christian heart that is saved to serve.

Amenities and higher living standards are insufficient. Christian influence is the essential power which can stabilise the character and outlook of the natives. It provides the will to live successfully.

Even where missionaries are permitted to administer Christian influences under a Government manager, the effectiveness of their service is greatly minimised and often wholly unsatisfactory.

## **Spiritual Foundations are Effective**

Contrariwise, where sympathetic Government policy administers, its benefits through missionary channels, as in Queensland, great advances have been made. Other States are inclining towards the same method. So the church must shoulder its responsibility in finding and sending missionaries to build spiritual foundations. These foundations when faithfully built are highly effective.

Better still: When native work is conducted with purposeful objective of building a Christian community with all its religious, secular and social activity centreing round Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the natives, then the ideal is reached. Dr. Joseph B. Birdsall, an eminent anthropologist of the Harvard University expedition, made

an intensive study of the problem in Australia from both biological and sociological points of view. Analysing the success of the Mt. Margaret Mission, where the above principles have been practised, he wrote his personal impressions:—

"To be perfectly candid, from experience gained in the past year at the more important Government stations and missions in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia, and the southern third of Western Australia, I had personally been more prejudiced against, than in favor of, the missionary work I had seen among the natives and half-castes. Consequently, I feel it is with added emphasis that I can say no station or mission that I have seen in Australia approaches Mount Margaret as representing the most ideal solution of the native and half-caste problem. The administrative policy of the mission is so well rounded that it is difficult to analyse the elements that have led to its marked success. As a layman, and a completely inert church-goer at that, I do not feel qualified to comment upon the spiritual side of the work at the mission, save that it is undoubtedly an important ingredient in raising the standard of living and conduct among the native peoples. And I further suspect that the general excellence of the entire staff can be attributed to their following, in a practical fashion, and without the marring effects of fanaticism sometimes found in the mission field, the Christian code of living.

"The highest praise must be reserved for Mr. Schenk himself, for in a relatively short time, and with little or no Government support, he has created this remarkable mission out of nothing. More than any other protector I have met, he has sensed the needs of the native population, and given them tangible incentives to better their own lives. It is extremely important that these people be fitted to take their ultimate place in the fabric of a white society as economically self-supporting members of the community, and the training they are receiving under Mr. Schenk's direction, both in general station work, and in mining, the two most important local industries, is a most encouraging sign of progress, and a tribute to his administrative skill.

"It is customary to consider that natives and half-castes can be handled only with the figurative club, or stock-whip, of authority. It is especially noteworthy, at Mount Margaret, that coercion, in the sense of negation, or restriction, has no place in the administrative philosophy of the mission. The natives and half-castes are treated with as near an approach to equality as whites of the same general economic level are elsewhere, and the policy has borne unique fruit in developing a happy, self-sufficient group of native peoples, with a well proportioned sense of self-respect, and admirable standard of conduct, and a much improved standard of living."

## **Missionary Staff**

### **NORSEMAN—**

W. BERTHELTSEN, Superintendent.  
Mrs. W. BERTHELTSEN.  
Miss A. L. BALL.  
Miss E. L. SCHURMANN.

### **CARNARVON—**

D. G. HAMMER, Superintendent.  
Mrs. D. G. HAMMER.  
Miss B. SCHURMANN.  
(Entering College of the Bible, 1947)  
Miss E. ROXBURGH.

### **MOOROOPNA—**

E. ATKINSON (subsidised preacher).



# "Faithful is He . . . that calleth you, who will also do it"

David G. Hammer.

1 Thess. 5: 24.

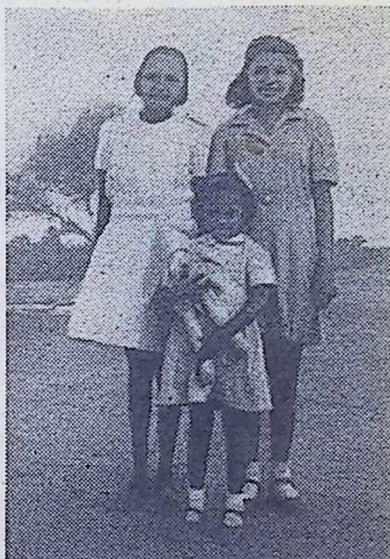
THERE have been a number of times during the past eighteen months that we have stopped and wondered. Wondered whether we had done right to leave a church fellowship where we were so very happy; whether we might not have done more for the Lord in a settled ministry; whether the strain on energy, nerves and health in coming to Carnarvon and trying to establish a work amongst the native people was worth while!

The need of this district was unquestionable—neglected native children, running wild, with no opportunity of an education, and no opportunity of learning of the Lord Jesus Christ. Sick children and adults camped in the damp sand by the river, too bewildered to go into town to see the doctor, and a multitude of other tasks crying out to be done!

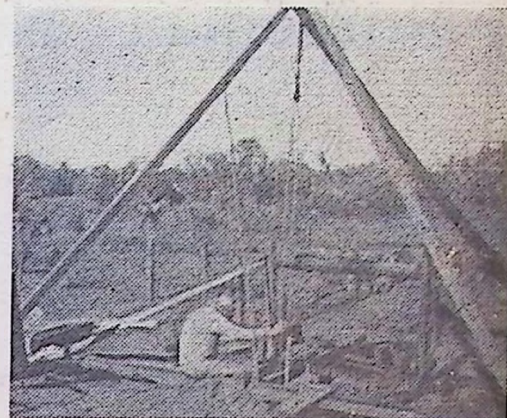
But when there were so many setbacks, one begins to wonder! We could get no land, it seemed; the station people were against having a mission in the district, and the town people wanted the natives kept as far away from town as possible. When we first contacted the natives, some were suspicious—they had been told that we would take their children away from them if we had a mission in the district.

However, "Faithful is he that calleth you" has become more than a text from the Bible; it has become our experience during these days! God has called us, and he certainly

his leading in the bringing in of the children! The first children were brought to us before we had a mission at all. We were living in the town of Carnarvon; and because of the urgency of the case, we had to accept the responsibility of several children then and there.



Three Creditable Girls, Carnarvon.



Well Sinking at Carnarvon.

When we were able to shift out on to the mission land, we had to rush our tents, and take in children who were suffering from whooping cough, in order to save their lives. We had no accommodation waiting either for ourselves or the native children; and as we have been able to build buildings we have found that more children have been sent in, so that we have never had too much accommodation for our immediate needs. At the time of writing the mission "family" numbers twenty native children, with more waiting and expected.

The possibility, now, of permanent buildings in which to house the mission, gives us another indication of the Lord's hand. The work is growing and the needs increase. But the provision of suitable buildings sets a seal on the work, and encourages us to go on in faith.

"This is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes."



The First Two Received into Residence at Carnarvon.

has not failed us. As we look around to-day we can see that he has been leading, and undertaking for us in many ways. We tried every way we knew to obtain suitable land; and then, after repeated failure, God led us to the place where our mission is now established, and so far we haven't found a place that has so many advantages from the point of view of a mission. It is well separated from neighbors, yet comparatively close to Carnarvon. It is bordered by the "common," containing thousands of acres of grazing land which cannot be occupied by farms, etc., yet our land is good soil, and quite suited for gardening.

Gradually the opposition of pastoralists has broken down, and a number have personally arranged for children to be brought to the mission for their training. Surely this shows the Lord's hand! And how we have seen

## State Representatives Write

Mrs. Ruby McCallum, Secretary, N.S.W.

"THERE are no superior races, only superior individuals." The Australian aboriginal only needs an appropriate opportunity in life to compare favorably in intelligence and accomplishments with other Australians. If the loving, sacrificial service of our missionaries is coupled with our generous gifts, many more of these people will have such help."

H. W. Hermann, Secretary, Queensland

"The belated effort being put forth by the Australian brotherhood, for the bringing the natives of this land in touch with the gospel of Christ, deserves our prayers and also our wholehearted support financially; for only in this way can we hope to fulfil our Lord's command, 'Go ye.'"

George A. Grainger, Secretary, Tasmania

"The Tasmanian committee commends Federal undertakings in interests of aborigines. Having replaced the natives in national proprietorship, and having refused them citizen rights, we face a Christian duty of extending to them a share of our citizenship in the kingdom. A liberal offering with this aim in view would be a Christian gesture."

A. T. Thomas, Chairman, Western Australia

"The work of evangelising our dark brethren is essential, fascinating, encouraging. They

represent a rich mine ready to be operated—with gems of rare beauty of character and intellect to be discovered. Personal contact in their natural bush surroundings crystallises the thought. Our State committee is alive to these possibilities."



A Good Carnarvon Line.

The Australian Christian

January 8, 1947

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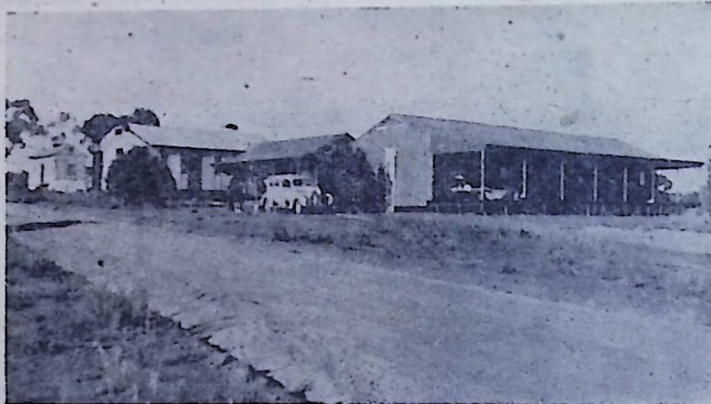
# Norseman Now Stabilised

W. Berthelsen.

SIX or seven years ago a little woman jumped down from the train at Norseman and began to look around for natives to whom she could speak of Christ. Finding the place where they camped, she set up her "home" (a tent). Later the natives themselves helped to erect the first mission building—a bough shed. That was the commencement of the present mission. That good servant of Christ was Miss Eadie, the pioneer of the work here at Norseman. Since that

While we are planning and providing for their material needs, the way will certainly be opened to do spiritual work among them, and we look forward with hope to the day when the place will be a live community of natives, constrained by the love of Christ. Already several families have come out and stayed for several weeks. More and more will come and stay as they find we can help them.

Our work is very encouraging. We have



Norseman Mission Buildings.

time much work has been done by various missionaries.

Buildings were erected on the old mission site, and last Easter were re-erected on the present site. From a humble bough shed the mission has grown to several large, imposing buildings as shown in our picture.

The present mission site is an attractive one. Built on a ridge, surrounded by green trees, one is almost always sure of a cool breeze in the evening. In the distance a line of ranges is a pleasing sight to the eyes. Not many missions have made the material progress that has been made at Norseman in such a short time. Situated on a tract of ground, 20,000 acres in area, there is a wonderful scope for helping the natives in the future. Being on the Goldfields line, who knows but the winning of gold from the ground may be a future work that will help the natives, as at Mt. Margaret? No doubt the mission can be made the home of a large native community. At present the natives around live under most pitiful and shocking conditions. But with houses and work to attract them, we feel that few natives will fail to take the opportunities the mission will be able to offer.



Mission Children on Diningroom Steps, Norseman, 1946.

17 children in the home, ages ranging from 2½ years to 14 years. We have nine boys and eight girls. Ten children attend school, which is held every morning, except Saturday and Sunday.

We have two indigent natives for whom we care, giving them a good dinner every day and seeing that they have plenty of wood for their fire, etc. Both men are blind.



Mr. and Mrs. W. Berthelsen and Family, Norseman, 1946.

At present iron houses (12 x 8) are being built to accommodate natives when they come. It is our idea to build these houses in neat rows into a plan of a future township of native dwellings. Water has been laid on, and facilities for washing clothes are to be installed as early as we can.

The mission is beginning to boast of a

vegetable garden again. Already it is yielding such things as lettuce, beetroot and turnips for the table. We also have a large herd of goats, which yield part of our milk supply (when they come home). Our main supply of milk comes from one cow, whose faithfulness is to be envied. Fowls give all the eggs we use.

The children work well to help us keep things going. To see the difference between these children and those of the crude native camps is, in itself, worth all the prayers, money and time we put into the place.

Remember, brethren, this is our job—yours and mine. Let us help in every way we can, in prayer, in giving and in serving.

## The Twofold Debt

Leslie C. Peacock, Federal Conference President

OUR debt to the aborigine is twofold: what we owe as citizens of the Commonwealth of Australia, and what we owe as citizens of the kingdom of God.

As Australians we have the responsibility of making up to them in some way for the losses they have incurred because of our taking over of their country. We owe them the right to live up to a decent standard. This will involve citizenship rights, education, and the prospect of development and advancement in our civilisation. This may be regarded as a Government responsibility, but experience has shown that Governments are slow to acquire a conscience on these matters. It is for us as Christians to do all in our power to awaken this conscience.

As Christians our debt is likewise real. They belong to the world we have been told to evangelise. We would reveal a lack of Christian understanding to accept responsibility in far-off countries, and neglect the work at our own doors. Admittedly the task has problems, largely because of the primitive background of these people. However, our missionaries are putting the emphasis on—what we believe the right place—work among the children.

Let us aim to build up a new generation of our dark-skinned brethren, who will be a credit to our country and our Christian faith.

Help to pay our debts on Sunday, Jan. 26, 1947.

### "SUBSTANTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Call For

SUBSTANTIAL GIVING."

£2500

Plus £1000 to equip Carnarvon.

The Australian Christian

January 8, 1947



# Mooroopna, Victoria

C. L. Lang, Secretary, Victorian Aborigines Committee

THE call comes from Mooroopna that we assist in the establishment of an aborigine church in that town. There are about 200 aborigines in the immediate district, most of whom came from Cumerungunga. They are employed in the seasonal work at the orchards, and many have regular work at the cannery and elsewhere. We are assured that these people have settled permanently in the district.

A number of families have been able to obtain houses in the town, but others, faced with the housing problem, have constructed dwellings, with varying material, on the banks of the Goulburn River. These homes consist of



E. Atkinson, Mooroopna, Vic.

several rooms, are neat and clean, and where possible have been painted. Many of the homes have earth floors, but through the goodness of some of our church members at Shepparton a number of the people have been able to secure boards for flooring. These homes are a credit to the ingenuity of the builders.

The aborigines of Mooroopna are looked upon as good citizens, and it is their ambition to take their place in the life of the community. These native people look to E. Atkinson, who is a native preacher of some ability, as their spiritual leader. A small building has been erected at the camp for a Bible school. It is a very modest structure, with iron roof and bag walls, all unlined, with an earth floor. Inside are a small platform and reading desk. The native children are gathered together here every Sunday afternoon to be taught the words of truth. Many of these folk are members of the church of Christ, and a gospel service is conducted in the supper room of the public hall every Sunday evening, with the exception of one Sunday in the month, when they join with the Shepparton church.

Our Federal Aborigines Mission Board, on the recommendation of the Victorian Aborigines Committee, has undertaken to subsidise E. Atkinson to the extent of £2/10/- for twelve months from November 1, 1946, and to purchase a block of land, £50, in a suitable location for a church building site.

During the fruit-picking season services are conducted in the orchards where the people are working, and it is an inspiration to hear their singing of the old hymns accompanied by a portable organ. Their great need is a building where they can meet for worship, fellowship, recreation and the presentation of the gospel.

be forthcoming. The doxology was a fitting finale. Late offerings have brought the total within £30 of the thousand. There were many outstanding offerings, but some may bear special mention. The Gill family, £107; Northcote, £82; Moreland, £62; Eastern District Conference, £54; Ballarat, £44.

## The Liquor Poll

The Victorian government has decided to abandon the liquor poll. This has come as a surprise to anti-liquor interests. It would appear that heads were being counted over some months past, and in spite of representations made by a recent deputation, the result was a foregone conclusion. The liquor party has won a victory which is likely to stand for many years. Reform is promised, but present indications are that we may not expect any startling changes for the better. The government, in effect, has said, "We will not extend the hours of liquor trading, and this is as much as you temperance folk can expect." No party in our parliament was prepared to sponsor the temperance cause, and a divided church was no match for united liquor interests. A determined effort is to be made to have the question of "local option" submitted to a referendum.

## Lotteries Bill

So far, Victoria can be thankful that successive governments have resisted the clamor for a State lottery. The trend of affairs, however, gives us no guarantee as to how long this resistance will continue. With all the other States exploiting the Victorian public to the extent of many thousands of pounds, the plea in favor of following the lead is undoubtedly strong. Of course the whole argument is based upon the fallacy that the end justifies the means. Until the P.M.G.'s Department takes measures to prevent the use of our postal system for gambling purposes Victoria will continue to be exploited.

## Hospital Visitation

Charles Young is now serving the church at Mont Albert, but he expects to commence his hospital visitation work with the Social Service Department early in March. Many encouraging messages are coming in, and financial support is being promised from all parts of the State and even from other States. There is a definite need for this type of service, and few men are better equipped for it than Mr. Young. A recent meeting of women of Carnegie, who had been associated with him as a padre during the war, and had raised considerable funds to help him, has presented him with a first class yearly railway ticket—Box Hill to Melbourne—to assist him in his work. Churches throughout the State with loved ones and friends in Melbourne hospitals may forward requests for visitation.

## Social Service

The widest interpretation may be given these words by churches everywhere. The department expresses thanks for past help received, and hopes to have the confidence of the churches during 1947.

## Achievements and Hopes

W. H. Clay, secretary Social Service Department, writes of a year's successful work, and of plans for 1947.

### A Retrospect

THE backward look as much as the alluring prospect provides the incentive as we step into the new year. 1946 really provided the programme for 1947. Surely our steps have been ordered of the Lord. Our programme one year ago did not envisage the purchase of two properties. To move too rigidly along a well-considered course, without allowing for emergencies, might easily retard progress. From a purely business point of view, those best qualified to express an opinion aver that the properties are worth fully 50 per cent. above the price paid for them. However, from the point of view of Christian service, we have properties, the possession of which imposes upon us both an obligation and an opportunity: obligation to use them in the purposes they will best serve and opportunity to move into a sphere of service which is surely sent of God and also a necessary part of the church's programme. It is expected that the property

known as "New Cumloden College" will be ready for occupation as a toddlers' home at about Easter time. Plans for the alterations and necessary additions to the property known as "Frogmore," which it is intended shall be used as a hospital, are well in hand. Finance, building material and permits are matters which are receiving attention.

### The Women's Annual Appeal

The Social Service Women's Auxiliary annual fellowship gathering on Saturday afternoon, December 14, was one of the most successful yet held. The day was perfect, and the gardens of the home were looking their best. The programme followed the usual course. The home was open for inspection. Proceedings were under the direction of Mrs. Gill, president of the auxiliary, and presidents of both conferences, both general and women's, Mrs. B. J. Combridge and Mrs. W. F. Nankivell brought greetings. As the roll of the churches was called representatives presented their offerings. As the objective of £1000 came in sight the excitement was intense. When the total £900 was announced, an anonymous donor intimated that a cheque covering the amount required would

## Aborigines Mission Board

"EXPANDING WORK  
BRINGS EXPANDING  
RESPONSIBILITIES."

£2500

Plus £1000 to equip Carnarvon.

The Australian Christian



# Here and There

We are indebted to A. M. Bell, hon. secretary of Federal Aborigines Board, who gathered pictures and copy for this special issue.

There were splendid meetings at Enmore, N.S.W., on Dec. 29, there being four confessions, three men and a woman. E. C. Hinrichsen's ministry is creating much interest. A telegram reaching us on Jan. 6 states that "E. C. Hinrichsen had wonderful meeting, Enmore, last night, four adults decided."

J. H. Stevens, who died on Dec. 23, was a graduate of the Butler University, U.S.A. For a period he preached for churches in Victoria, and was associated with the Home Mission Committee. Our brother resided at St. Albans and was a Justice of the Peace in the Shire of Keilor, Vic. Deepest sympathy is offered relatives and friends who mourn his death.

It is proposed to reorganise the Central Training Class at Grote-st., Adelaide, early in March. This class had been carried on, with the help of the "Bible College, Adelaide," for many years prior to the world war, and the promoters anticipate, on its resumption, the interest of young men and women who wish to prepare themselves for fuller service in the church. Particulars may be obtained from H. R. Taylor, 90 Cheltenham-st., Malvern, S.A.

The church at Collins-st., Hobart, Tas., has installed new seating. The pews concerned are of Gothic design, with solid ends and backs, and add greatly to inside appearance of chapel, as well as providing a very comfortable seat for worshippers. Cost of the seats was met by direct giving and assistance from ladies' Time and Talent Club, the amount of £236 being fully subscribed. Good meetings are being experienced, especially at gospel services.

On Dec. 11 the church at Gympie, Qld., held a farewell evening to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fisher and Colin prior to their leaving for S.A. Mr. Fisher's ministry of six years has been most successful in local church and outlying centres, and isolated members far and wide have been contacted frequently with gratifying results. All who knew Mr. and Mrs. Fisher in the community regret their leaving because of their work, personality and friendly help, and wish them well. Five believers were baptised on Dec. 15, which was Mr. Fisher's final day's services connected with Gympie church.

The College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., will resume for 1947 on Feb. 5, which is a fortnight earlier than usual. On that morning an informal opening session will be held at the college at 9.30. The public inaugural session is planned for Lygon-st. chapel on Monday, February 17, at 8 p.m. Dr. G. J. Morgans has accepted an invitation to deliver the occasional address. Among many visitors at the college during vacation has been Frank C. Morton, now of London, a former student. He left greetings for those who remember him. While home in Australia his father died; we sympathise with him in this sorrow.

We have just received the July 1946 issue of "The Shane Quarterly." This journal is issued by the School of Religion, Butler University, U.S.A. A fine article by J. C. Van Buren sets out the conception of the church as reflected in the New Testament. This prize winning essay states in clear style the essential truth of the early church. He writes: "We may say that the terms of admission into Christ and his church were, in apostolic days, belief in Jesus as the One who died for our sins and rose again, a change of mind to accord with this belief, open or public confession of

Jesus as Lord, Son of God, and Messiah or the Prophet, Priest, and King come from God, and burial into him in baptism in the likeness of his burial and resurrection."

At North Auburn, N.S.W., on Dec. 7, 120 were present in afternoon for Christmas tree, and many items were rendered. On Dec. 14 and 15 "Back to North Auburn" services were held in conjunction with 35th anniversary of church. On Saturday afternoon Mr. Corlett presided over meeting held in a large marquee erected for occasion. Theme was "The Church." W. Crossman spoke on "Its Saviour," H. J. Patterson on "Its Origin." A tea meeting followed in chapel presided over by Mr. Corlett. There were greetings and reminiscences, and a cake made by Miss Adams was cut by Mr. Schofield. Mr. Caldicott was presented with a Testament as a reminder of the occasion. Following these features, Woolwich evangelistic party conducted an open-air meeting. Mr. McLean, conference president, pre-

Buckingham Palace,

Oct. 16, 1946.

Dear Sir,—

Please convey to the representatives of the churches of Christ in the Commonwealth of Australia the King's sincere thanks for their message of loyal assurances from their Centennial Conference, which His Majesty much appreciates.

Yours very truly,

M. E. Adams.

The Secretary,

Churches of Christ in the Commonwealth of Australia.

sided over evening session. L. Dewberry spoke on "The Church—Its Mission" and E. C. Hinrichsen on "Its Destiny." On the Sunday Mr. Stow addressed home-coming communion service, and in evening Mr. Caldicott continued theme, subject being "The Church of To-day." Fellowship with old members was renewed, and church received a spiritual uplift. The church decided to provide suitable seating for aged, and six lounges have been installed for this purpose. On Christmas morning many gathered for a special service. Midweek prayer meetings continue to be inspiring.

The secretary advises that at Dec. 31 the annual offering for the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, had reached £1196/14/2, showing a net loss of £19/7/7 from the churches reporting as compared with 1945. Considerable money is yet outstanding, some of which is in the hands of State college committees. The following is the situation as regards the States, the figures in brackets representing the final contributions for 1945 offering: Victoria, £792/12/6 (£853/16/1); South Australia, £195/10/10 (£414/10/9); Queensland, £152/12/10 (£188/14/5); Tasmania, £37/1/10 (£56/12/8); Western Australia, £12/13/6 (£140/8/7); New South Wales, £5/2/6 (£12/12/4). On Dec. 31, 1945, the sum of £1454/14/7 had been received for the offering of that year. Church treasurers and others holding money for the college are asked to forward promptly to the secretary.

The International Conference of Church Leaders on the problem of world order met at Girton College, Cambridge, England, Aug. 4-7. For the first time since the cessation of hostilities, representative churchmen took counsel regarding the responsibility of the ecumenical churches for the establishment of a just and durable peace. The sixty delegates were drawn from fifteen nations, including certain of the former occupied and enemy countries. The

conference met under the joint auspices of the World Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council. "No one knows how much time is given to mankind," the conference said, "to find a way out of the political and economic conflicts of our day into an order of mutual trust and stable peace." "But we do know," it was added, "that if the nations do not find a new way of regulating their relationships we are doomed to mutual destruction."

## MURRAY VALLEY YOUTH CAMP

A NEW venture in youth work has just been highly successful at Mildura, Vic. Over sixty young people from eleven churches of Christ, ranging from Swan Hill on the one side to Berri on the other, were gathered together in a six-day youth camp. The camp combined a leadership study course and pleasure outings. The preachers of Mildura, Swan Hill, Dareton and Berri were all present, giving of their best. Mrs. Waterman, our missionary from the New Hebrides, was a great asset as camp-mother. Many young folk not regularly in camp joined for holidays and special occasions, and an extra truck load of young folk came from Berri for Saturday only. On that day there were 86 in camp. Mrs. I. J. Chivell responded to a last minute call and gave invaluable help in kitchen when the hired cook became ill. The spirit of camp was wonderful and enthusiasm great. It was resolved to make camp an annual fixture, and it was generally agreed that the Mildura district was the most suitable for the purpose. Outings included visits to new university branch, to Wentworth and the Darling River, to Red Cliffs and Merbein and a river trip down the Murray.—Les. E. Snow.

## BRITISH CHURCHES FACING SECULAR MENACE

ALL the churches in Great Britain are taking very seriously the challenge of the present situation—the challenge of a secular age to everything for which the churches stand. Four important reports have been issued in recent months, each containing a diagnosis of the situation and offering remedies. Churches of Christ share that concern. We have not been able to set up a commission, though the chairman of conference suggested that such might be useful. Recently the entire staff of the Home Mission Committee held a retreat at Hadfield Fold, the churches' holiday home, and spent four days in prayer and thought concerning the condition of the churches. J. L. Colver, W. J. Clague, K. J. Simnett, A. B. Naysmith and A. L. Brown gave introductory lectures which formed the basis of discussion and heart-searching. The retreat closed with a service of rededication.

Dr. Jesse M. Bader has communicated to the British churches the decisions of the preliminary committees which have in hand World Convention arrangements. A. D. Carmichael, Leicester, has just returned from Canada and U.S.A., having had contact with church leaders there.

Girls' Life Brigade companies in Australia and N.Z. will be interested to learn that Miss Jean M. Hammond, of Gloucester, is resigning her appointment as organiser for GLB in view of her forthcoming marriage. She expects to sail for U.S.A. in January. Her future home will be in Vallejo, California.

British churches are appreciating the food parcels from Australia and New Zealand. In spite of the stringency of the rationing system a fine response has been made to an appeal for Christmas gifts for Europe. Bedlington church, among others, held a Gifts-for-Germany service.

P. W. Evans, principal of Spurgeon's College, is to give the Joseph Smith Memorial lecture in 1948. He is doing much work at present to make available the views of Continental theologians re the difficulties which arise from the continued practice of infant baptism.—G. J. Hammond.



# News of the Churches

## Western Australia

**Perth.**—At Christmas services on Dec. 22, J. K. Robinson was preacher. In morning visitors included Mrs. Beig, her two sons and niece (Balwyn, Vic.). At night parents of Bible school scholars were present by special invitation. Design of star built by two young men was on view. It illustrated a dialogue by a group of young people. Choir rendered several carols. At close of service a large gathering spent a social hour in church hall. Supper was served.

**Kalgoorlie.**—All services are well attended, bright and helpful. Special services were arranged for Christmas. Recently sisters' Mission Band organised a social evening in aid of Bethesda Hospital. Programme was in hands of Fred Stephenson. A nice sum was forwarded. Members welcome back Mr. and Mrs. Ben Turner. Broadcast choir under leadership of Mr. Fitch continues to reach people in outback centres with gospel message. Kinders' Christmas tree was held on Dec. 18.

## Tasmania

**Mole Creek.**—On Dec. 15 S. Wilson visited district to conduct Caveside anniversary. At night he travelled on to Mole Creek to conduct gospel service. Attendance was excellent. Solos by Mr. Thomas were appreciated. About 17 visitors from Launceston, Invermay and Sandhill were present.

**Launceston (Margaret-st.).**—A number of younger brethren, recently placed on church service plan, are performing duties with ability and enthusiasm. Elder of church, W. Duff, is laid aside by sickness. During a recent week S. H. Wilson spent some days in visiting isolated members, including Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Byard and family and Mr. and Mrs. H. Bott. A. E. Heard, conference president, preached with power at both services on Dec. 15. Alice Barton and Ron Saunders, missionaries-elect, were married in chapel on Dec. 14. The church is happy to have Sister Riley back in fellowship after illness.

## Queensland

**Ma Ma Creek.**—Bible schools presented Christmas programmes at Ma Ma Creek and Mt. Whitestone. Father Christmas distributed 100 presents. In company with Mr. Evans (Baptist) and Mr. Judd (Congregationalist), W. Giezendanner visited 17 State schools and delivered the Christmas message by means of flannelboard, song and story to about 350 children.

**Albion.**—On Dec. 1 Ron Grice made the good confession and was baptised on 8th. Cradle roll and kindergarten Christmas tree and party were held on Dec. 7; nearly 100 toys were distributed. A social for young people and parents was held that evening. Over 200 were present at a concert arranged by young people's auxiliaries in aid of Caloundra youth camp. Home mission offering amounted to £41/11/9. On Dec. 29 C. R. Burdeu gave address at morning meeting. About 80 attended service at 7 a.m. on Christmas Day.

**Roma.**—Services on Dec. 22 were well attended, John Ellerby addressing church in morning. A choral service was held in evening. A. S. Cooke was in charge and gave interesting notes on writers of Christmas hymns, after which congregation joined in singing the hymns. Members of C.E. sang two Christmas anthems. On Christmas eve young people of church visited town singing carols until after midnight. A service was held on Christmas day at 7.30 a.m., conducted by Mr. Cooke, after which Endeavorers visited hospital and distributed fancy boxes of sweets, fruit and biscuits to each patient.

## South Australia

**Kilburn.**—There were 55 at Sunday school on Dec. 22. Frank Laurance gave address. Mrs. Frank Laurance was pianiste. 15 were present. On Dec. 29, 32 children were present at Sunday school; 18 adults were present for breaking of bread and fellowship. Mr. Schwab gave a very able address. Church extends thanks to all who helped in past year, especially Prospect church, Mr. Brown and family, and the H.M. Committee.

**Cowandilla.**—Girls' Club held a successful fancy dress Christmas social. G. Stirling, youth organiser, acted as M.C. Members welcomed home Ken Dixon on vacation after a successful year at College of the Bible. Bible school conducted a carol service on Dec. 22; D. Hemer is superintendent. C.E. and Youth Club met at president's home for carol singing before starting on a carol tour. The marriage of Jean Mason with E. A. J. Ferguson was celebrated at chapel on Dec. 21, F. Hollams officiating. Reception for 80 guests was also held at chapel.

**Whyalla.**—December was a month of parties for auxiliaries of church. On 14th a Christmas tree party was held for members of cradle roll and Bible school. Father Christmas was present, and each baby and scholar received a present off tree. This was followed by a party for children and a cup of tea for parents, about 160 being present. On Dec. 15 a Christmas service was held, as many members were leaving district for season. Sister B. Clark, of Kadina, was received into fellowship during month.

**Mile End.**—Women's Mission Band concluded year's programme with a Christmas party on Dec. 11. Kinder Christmas tree was held on Dec. 14. Y.P.S.C.E. gave an excellent Christmas service to older members of church. A number of musical items were given by young people, and speakers were Mrs. Webb and Mr. Buxton. Junior Endeavorers held a Christmas meeting on morning of Dec. 22 for which novel invitations were sent out. Choir led by Miss Olive Moore sang three items at evening service. About 45 young people had an enjoyable time singing carols at homes of church members on Christmas eve. Church welcomes back Miss Margaret Bartlett, who has been in Sydney for two years, and has had N. Gavros and M. Gregory helping in services during vacation from Glen Iris.

**Prospect.**—All auxiliaries went into recess for Christmas. Reports reveal a good year of service. Christmas services were conducted on Dec. 22. Morning was given to family worship, and was well attended. Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw and John (West Preston, Vic.) were in fellowship. A choral service was conducted at night, when special singing was given by choir under A. Roberts. Solos were sung by Miss M. Brittain and Mrs. A. Burns. R. Vincent gave helpful addresses during day. On Christmas eve 30 young people went out carol singing. Mr. and Mrs. Vincent have been lecturing at trainees' camp at Mylor, which six young people from church attended. On Christmas Day a combined service was held with Pulsford Baptists. C. Hutchinson presided and R. Vincent gave the address. Robt. Burns (Sydney) exhorted church on morning of Dec. 29. In evening C. Schwab was preacher, when two young ladies from church at Kilburn were baptised. R. Bradshaw assisted by playing organ. Fellowship was enjoyed with Mr. Berry (Inglewood, W.A.).

**Fullarton.**—On Dec. 15 there was a fine meeting in morning. A great missionary spirit seemed to prevail throughout day. Miss Janet McLean was home for vacation from Perth Bible Institute, and in evening church had fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Burns, on vacation from Sydney Bible Institute. Mrs.

Burns sang a solo. Also visiting were Mr. and Mrs. Lennox, from Bolivian Indian Mission. B. W. Manning preached. Prior to service Jack Collier, who made his decision the previous Sunday, was immersed. On Dec. 22 a great time of fellowship around the table was enjoyed by all in morning. B. W. Manning spoke. Over £25 was received for day in gifts for the work. Endeavorers waited in porch at both services with sprig of holly and text for all. In afternoon a party from Bible school went to Home for Incurables with a message of cheer and carols. At gospel service there was excellent attendance. Choir helped with two anthems. Mr. Manning preached. At close congregation gathered outside chapel and sang a few carols.

**Forestville.**—Church anniversary on Nov. 24 was an enjoyable and uplifting day, with special addresses and singing. A social evening was held by Dorcas to benefit Christian Guest Home, an enjoyable evening being spent. Bible school held intermediate department Christmas social on Dec. 13; about 70 attended, and it was a time of happy fellowship and an enjoyable evening for scholars. On Dec. 19, kinders and cradle roll held Christmas tree. Teachers, especially kinder teachers, Bible class, and Mothers' Club combined in making the toys. 90 parents and a great number of children had a grand time. Officers recently organised a working bee, and several minor repairs were made to chapel and grounds. Services on Dec. 22 began with a C.E. Christmas meeting and continued throughout day. Evening service was again helped with special effort by choir. Church has had much sickness, and attendances have been affected. With regret the passing of Miss Manning after a sudden illness is reported. In recent effort to halve interest-bearing debt £77 was raised.

**Long Plains-Avon-Owen Circuit.**—Youth of circuit were guests of Balaklava Y.P.S.C.E. birthday social on Dec. 6, when A. Hutson (president N. Dist. C.E. Union) and G. Stirling (S.A. youth director) prepared an occasion of excellent youth fellowship. N. G. Noble's home mission series on "The Pioneers" was appreciated. Offerings to date: Long Plains, £38/5/-; Owen, £39/4/-; Avon meeting, £3/7/-. Guest Home appeal is before circuit, and £13 has been received from Owen. Superintendents M. Carslake, Avon; D. J. Daniel, Long Plains; and Harold Freeburn, Owen, closed schools with Christmas trees on Dec. 13, 20 and 21 respectively. Mrs. Noble was invited to present gifts. Mrs. Syd Lacey's lawn afforded a charming situation for Owen tree. Bible schools increased membership in 1946. N. G. Noble's religious instruction in State schools has been well received by staff, parents and pupils. Circuit preacher has been busy in Christmas meetings, and to Dec. 24 had addressed eight well-attended services in the three churches.

**Hindmarsh.**—On Dec. 8 Mrs. Justice, as a baptised believer, was welcomed into church. On Dec. 13 a well-attended Christmas social was held. Prizes gained in school over past year were distributed by Santa Claus from Christmas tree; 200 tickets were sold, proceeds being for memorial organ fund. A splendid programme was presented. Boys of one of the classes presented a beautiful electric clock to school. On Dec. 18, kinders held a Christmas tree evening. Father Christmas again attended. There was a splendid gathering of parents as well as the little ones. J.C.E. held a wind-up on Dec. 20. Christmas services on Dec. 22 were well attended. Evening service was of a choral nature. An offering was received for work of Hindmarsh Town Mission. Richard Hawke passed away.



on Dec. 19. On evening of Dec. 22 the church took an offering of £4/6/3 for work of Hindmarsh Town Mission. Home mission offering over year approximated £70. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Saunders and family, of Victoria, were present on Dec. 29. Mr. Saunders spoke to church in morning and addressed men's class in afternoon.

**Dulwich.**—During December, kindergarten scholars had annual Christmas treat. A Christmas tree provided presents for all. This was followed by a social time with parents and friends. Choir presented cantata "Bethlehem," assisted by friends, in pleasing manner. A good congregation was present, and all expressed pleasure at the fine effort. On Dec. 22 Miss Harris, of Lenswood church, and Mrs. Pritchard, of Queenstown church, were received by transfer. Progress is being made on erection of youth hall purchased from military.

**Balaklava.**—Worship services have been consistently good, but reached high-water mark on Christmas Day, about 150 being present. Chapel was well filled again for evening service. Choir led by P. Warhurst sang morning and evening. A. Hutson was preacher. Offering for Christian Rest Home was £5/5/-. Christmas tree held on Dec. 20 was a feature of youth work. Gifts were made by Father Christmas to kinder and cradle roll pupils. Refreshments were served to all. An offering for Christmas cheer for Indian mission was taken. Reconditioned tennis courts were officially opened by president, A. Hutson, on Dec. 21. Appreciation of assistance given by church members was expressed, with special thanks to M. H. Roberts.

**Cottonville.**—During December services were splendidly supported, especially those on Christmas Sunday. A number of members attended combined Christmas Day service at Westbourne Park Methodist Church. Sunday school Christmas party on Dec. 13 was an enjoyable evening. An amateur hour was held with Bob Berry as compere, and ice cream and cool drinks were enjoyed at close. Kindergarten Christmas tree on Dec. 19 was successful. Rowland Butler left Sydney by plane for China on Dec. 13; his wife and family will follow by sea. Men of church had a working bee to clean up church grounds during month. Home mission offering (£20/0/6) showed improvement over last year's. Three young people from Bible school have accepted Christ in recent weeks.

**Port Pirie.**—Attendances for December were good. Mr. Pigdon took all services on 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd, and his service with church came to a close on 22nd. A farewell social was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Pigdon on Dec. 18, when all auxiliaries spoke of fine work accomplished by Mr. Pigdon. Church feels loss of such a devoted brother and sister, and prayers follow them as they take up work at Geelong, Vic. Mention was also made of Sister D. Cornelius, who has received notice of transfer from Education Department. She has spared nothing in her work for the Master. Two young ladies were baptised on evening of Dec. 22—Yvonne Jarmin, of Crystal Brook, and Joan Loftes. All auxiliaries are in recess until February. Bible school closed for Dec. 29. Between departure of Mr. Pigdon and arrival of K. Barton services will be taken by C. W. McDonald, J. Mellors, F. Pillar, J. Donley and E. Evelyn. Mr. Barton expects to be with church on Jan. 19. Joan Loftes was received into fellowship on Dec. 29. Church property is now free of debt, and special offerings for church property renovations have been well responded to.

**Unley.**—Endeavorers conducted a Christmas service at Home for Incurables. Young people's clubs held a combined meeting, which

was a very happy event. Ladies' Mission Band at closing meeting for year received an offering of £3/16/- for Christmas cheer for missionaries and co-workers. Mr. Cults was taken ill while holidaying at Port Elliott. Len Jessup spent several days in hospital with malaria. Eric Halliday is home again, awaiting discharge from Army. Home mission offering exceeded £100. A choral service was held on Dec. 22. An augmented choir rendered pleasing items. Kindergarten had a successful Christmas tree gathering. Mrs. Poole, aged 97 years, attended service recently with her son, Bert, from England. Mr. Poole came to Australia to visit his mother. A combined after-church gathering was held on Dec. 22 in Soldiers' Memorial Garden. Carols were sung. Frank Nankivell is spending University vacation at Camberwell, Vic. Church secretary, Charles Johnston, is spending holidays in W.A. G. A. Forbes has been elected hon. secretary of recently-formed Christian Fellowship Association in State. Members were glad to see Miss Kath Taylor on Dec. 22 back from Melbourne Bible Institute. In recent University examinations Bob Fry and John Eley completed B.Sc. course. Don Bowes secured honors degree. Allan Jessup, Eddie Rowlands, Laurie Rowland and Len Jessup were successful in examinations.

## New South Wales

**Dareton.**—On Dec. 1, I. J. Chivell completed twelve months' ministry with church. His addresses continue to be of high standard. Bible school held tea and wind-up concert in local hall on Dec. 17. Several young people went to camp which commenced in Mildurn on Dec. 26. Sister Duffield is able to attend services again after some months in hospital.

**Cessnock.**—There was a large attendance of young people and parents at Christmas tree celebrations on Dec. 12. Church enjoyed fellowship with visitors last month. P. J. Pond is on holidays in Sydney. J. Orr, S. Geary, S. Banfield and W. McCarthy assisted at services in past month. Church has been strengthened by coming of Mr. and Mrs. Faraday (school teachers) from Enmore.

**Kingsford.**—On Nov. 24 a Sunday school anniversary service was held at 3 p.m. Children sang excellently. Presentation of prizes to kindergarten took place, and Mr. Surtees, of Chatswood, spoke to children. Anniversary continued at gospel service, when scholars again sang and Mr. McCallum gave a fine address. All services during day were well maintained. On Dec. 1 Mr. Henderson, of North Bexley, spoke at morning service, and Mr. Read preached at night. On Dec. 3, at 8 p.m., annual Sunday school demonstration was held. Items and plays were presented by Sunday school pupils, and presentation of prizes took place. On Dec. 7 Sunday school picnic was held at Bronte. On Dec. 8 Mr. Burns, of Rockdale church, spoke in morning, and Mr. Read gave an inspiring address in evening.

**Lismore.**—A social was held to honor Mrs. Newton, a faithful member for many years, who has left to reside in Ballina. Several members spoke of her loyalty and helpfulness. Presentations were made from the ladies and from the church members. Sunday school anniversary was held on Dec. 1 and 4. On Sunday afternoon school presented missionary play and other items. At night Mr. Cunningham gave an illustrated address. On Wednesday a Christmas tree was held for kindergarten and cradle roll, and Father Christmas handed each child a present. This was followed by short plays and items by scholars. At all meetings children sang very well, having been trained by Mr. Cunningham. Picnic at Ballina on Dec. 14 was well attended. Ladies concluded year's work with a social afternoon, and a small Christmas gift was given to Mrs. Cunningham from ladies.

**Ararat.**—On Dec. '8 W. Gale was speaker at both meetings. On Dec. 10 Ladies' Aid held a successful Christmas tree and fair. As a result they were able to pay another £50 off building debt.

**Brighton.**—A Christmas pageant was successfully presented to a crowded congregation. Choir was brilliant in support. Included in visitors on Jan. 5 was Mrs. G. Waterman, missionary on furlough from New Hebrides.

**Emerald.**—Fellowship with visitors was enjoyed on Dec. 29. Evening meeting was preceded by a song service. Young folk from Fitzroy North church were in camp in district. Violin solo by a Sunday school scholar was appreciated.

**Yarrawonga.**—Christmas tree for the two Sunday schools was held on Dec. 19, and fellowship was enjoyed with parents and scholars. There were several visitors, including past members who had moved away, on Dec. 15 and also on 29th, when Mr. Edwards gave New Year address to a large gathering.

**Dunolly.**—Christmas tree was given to kindergarten and S.S. scholars. Father Christmas presented gifts to all children. Services of Mr. Living were appreciated in absence of Mr. Mackenzie. Sunday school and Endeavor are in recess till Feb. 2. Church regrets that Mrs. Beasy through illness has been unable to attend services.

**Springvale.**—Church attendances keep good average. Mr. and Mrs. Woolan and family were farewelled at midweek prayer meeting; they are leaving district owing to sickness. Good Companions and Explorers closed 1946 meetings with hike and camp fire. J.C.E. had party to celebrate 21 members in attendance. Mr. and Mrs. Boak and family were received into fellowship.

**Red Hill.**—Attendance at morning service on Dec. 29 was good, with many visitors. S. Ryles gave a helpful address. At evening service he preached forcefully. At conclusion of service a presentation was made to Mr. Ryles from members of church, secretary Wal Torney making it on behalf of brethren. He thanked Mr. Ryles for his addresses during his term. Sister O. Holmes is now out of hospital.

**Doncaster.**—Meetings on Christmas Sunday were well attended. Mr. Banks spoke at both services. Choir rendered an anthem. Doncaster Quartette Party also assisted. Offering for "Food for India" amounted to £21. Prior to evening meeting the young people met to have tea. On Dec. 29 Mr. Nicholson addressed morning meeting. Evening service was conducted by Mr. Baird, Mr. Banks being on holiday.

**Bentleigh.**—Children from kindergarten, accompanied by parents, attended Christmas tree on Dec. 14. Every kinder and those on cradle roll received a present from Father Christmas. Ladies from church provided afternoon tea for parents. On same evening a social was held in chapel for young people. Church has secured a new organ through W. Bagley, who spent much time in overhauling same. R. J. Anderson has accepted call to be first full-time preacher of church for a term of two years. A number of members have been away through illness. A service was conducted in chapel by R. J. Anderson on Christmas morning.

**Middle Park.**—On Dec. 7 a Christmas treat was enjoyed by cradle roll and kindergarten. Members of Phi Beta Pi club entertained ladies of church to a Christmas treat on Dec. 16. Appreciated addresses have been delivered by J. McKenzie, A. Wilson and A. Thomas while awaiting for assistant preacher, Mr. Manallack. Christmas service was held on Dec. 22, when Mr. Atkin conducted. Quarterly united meeting with local Baptist church was held in chapel on Dec. 29. Mr. Groves delivered the gospel address. Mr. Randall's addresses continue to be of a high standard, and his visitation work is appreciated. Mrs. Wells is making slow progress in hospital after operation.



**Geelong.**—Christmas services took place on Dec. 15. Mr. Stirling gave appropriate addresses, and choir rendered Christmas anthems at gospel meeting. On Dec. 12, choir presented a dramatisation of "The Nativity." An offering was donated to building fund. At 7.30 a.m. on Dec. 25, Mr. Stirling conducted a Christmas service.

**Burnley.**—H. Long is on vacation. In his absence speakers have been B. Francis, S. Rose, from M.B.I., and W. McDowell. Ladies' Guild arranged tea for church officers and wives on Dec. 11. A happy time was spent, and the ladies handed £35 to secretary of church, to be placed in "full-time ministry fund." Prayer meeting was conducted by ladies. After tea, and to conclude a splendid evening, guild presented play, "The Patchwork Quilt."

**Malvern-Caulfield.**—C. Cole gave an interesting address on morning of Dec. 22. In evening choir under leadership of R. Besson rendered cantata, "The Nativity of Christ." The splendid singing was enjoyed by a large congregation. Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Beveridge and Miss Mabel Beveridge have moved to another district, and at a recent social received presentations from church in appreciation of their church work during past years. Members sympathise with Mrs. Chas. Cole in her illness.

**St. Kilda.**—Another Sunday school scholar, Gloria Edwards, has made her confession and been baptised. Among Christmas activities were an afternoon treat for younger folk and visit of C.E. to Caulfield Military Hospital to sing carols. "Carols by candlelight" service was held in evening on Dec. 22. Tuesday after-school "happy hour" has resulted in a number of contacts with children not otherwise connected with church or Sunday school. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott have been transferred by letter to church at South Yarra. Church budget system has again proved its value as most practical way of dealing with finance.

**Oakleigh.**—Good Companions' Clubs, assisted by K.S.P. members, presented successful annual concert on Dec. 20. Feature of service on evening of Dec. 22 was singing of carols by choir. Choir members participated in "carols by candlelight" festival on Christmas eve. At gospel service on Dec. 29, Mr. Neighbour commenced further series of addresses illustrated by colored lantern slides provided by Mr. Andrews, of Ballarat, "A Child is Born" and "The Forgotten Secret" being subjects for Dec. 29 and Jan. 5. Increased attendances have been noted. Mr. and Mrs. Neighbour commence sixth year of valued service with church.

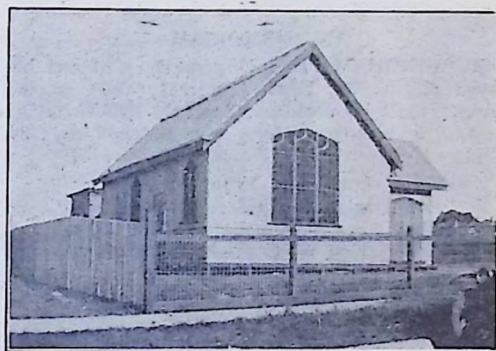
**Coburg.**—Miss Merle Crossfield was received into fellowship on Nov. 24 by transfer from Geelong. Sale of works conducted by Ladies' Guild has realised about £68. K.S.P. club gave a concert on Dec. 14. Proceeds will be for tent mission fund. On Dec. 17, Men's Society closed a successful year with a dinner. Interesting addresses were given by Mr. Bye and Doug Nicholls, and visiting artists contributed musical items to an enjoyable evening. On Dec. 15, Men's Society occupied platform at evening service. The preacher, A. R. Lloyd, gave the address. Sympathy of church is extended to relatives of Miss Campbell, who died on Dec. 24. On Dec. 28 Mr. Prentice addressed church in absence of A. R. Lloyd.

**Dandenong.**—Seasonal addresses have been excellently presented by F. A. Youens to good congregations. Many members are holidaying and young people at youth camp. New church building fund reached total of more than £500 over period of four months; splendid contribution from Sydney leads to second £500. School is in recess for several weeks. Upon resumption Laurie Flett will relieve Mr. Youens at Bible class, which has average attendance of 19. Little Peter Venables is home after seven months in hospital, result burning accident. A box of groceries from kinder Christmas tree has been forwarded to Christian Guest Home. On Dec. 29, two were immersed. An inspiring

address was given by Mr. Youens. Chapel was well filled.

**Kyneton.**—Youth Fellowship held social evening on Dec. 14. Enjoyable Christmas party was conducted by Bible school on 21st. On 29th, P. Whitmore preaching, one married lady made good confession, and a young married man was baptised. On Jan. 5 the husband of former confessed Christ, and both were baptised at close of service. Christmas services were largely attended, youth assisting.

**Mitcham.**—On Dec. 21 an enjoyable time was spent with children and parents, when Father Christmas presented each scholar in Sunday school and on cradle roll with a gift off tree. A fellowship tea was held on Dec. 22, after which an open-air service was held, then a Christmas carol service, when a deputation from Mildmay Youth Movement, with visiting soloists and orchestra, attended. Church building was well filled. Collection of £5/15/10 was toward Indian famine relief. A watchnight service was held, and church commenced new



The Chapel at Mitcham.

year, in partaking of the Lord's Supper. Attendance is well maintained. On Jan. 5 Mr. McClean addressed church. During service Mr. Cameron handed to Mr. Wilkie a receipt for £115, being a gift from an anonymous donor, making church entirely free of debt.

**Red Cliffs.**—Meetings have been well sustained, appreciated addresses being delivered by Messrs. Snow and Neville, of Mildura. On Dec. 19, ladies of Mission Band entertained Sisters Dode-maide and Hamilton at a social afternoon in recognition of 14 years' as secretary and nine years as treasurer respectively of band. Mr. and Mrs. M. Milne were entertained at a social evening on Dec. 21, and were recipients of a presentation from church on occasion of their marriage. Sunday School Christmas treat was held on same evening, and school is in recess for six weeks. On morning of Dec. 28 Mr. Marshall, of Berri, S.A., delivered a forceful address to a good congregation. Several visitors were present, including some of Berri members who were attending Murray Valley camp at Mildura. Several Red Cliffs young people are also attending the camp.

**Ballarat (Peel-st.).**—Services have continued successfully over holiday period, with G. J. Andrews, R. McLeod and A. Graham morning speakers. On Christmas eve a social evening was well attended, and each present received a gift from Christmas tree. At conclusion of evening about 50 went out carol singing. Youth Council is functioning to advantage of young people of church, and through them small presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. A. Graham and Phil Graham at Christmas social. Church officers challenged boys' cricket team to a game of cricket, and after an enjoyable afternoon had to lower their colors to youth. They then challenged girls to soft-ball match, and after a close game gained decision. Young folk greatly appreciate interest taken in their activities by elder members. Explorers' Club under Mr. Turner and Mr. Horbury assisted by Jack Compston is meeting a long-felt need with younger boys.

**Reservoir.**—On Dec. 16 Explorers held break-up social, fathers of the boys being present. At close of evening a presentation was made to leader, V. L. Russell, by W. Peeler on behalf of fathers. Kindergarten treat and Christmas tree took place on Dec. 14, when Father Christmas distributed toys. On Dec. 21 a farewell dinner was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Alcorn. A. Withers represented other churches of Christ in district and W. Lewis the Reservoir Presbyterian Church. Greetings and good wishes were expressed by these visitors; also by G. Hing (elder) on behalf of officers of church; K. McElhinney for Bible school, and H. Bowes for cricket club. At close of evening the chairman, H. K. Trathen (church secretary) made a presentation on behalf of members. Mr. and Mrs. Alcorn replied. They commenced a ministry with church at Maryborough, Vic., on Jan. 6, and good wishes and prayers of Reservoir church go with them. Mr. Alcorn preached farewell sermons on Dec. 22, evening meeting taking form of a carol service under direction of Mrs. Plummer. On Dec. 23 church members gave a surprise party to Mr. and Mrs. Trathen, who celebrated their silver wedding. A beautiful silver cake-dish was presented. R. Burns opens his ministry on Jan. 12. Two church officers, H. Allison and K. McElhinney, have suffered the death of their mothers, and sympathy is extended to them. On Dec. 29 meetings were small, many being away on holiday. J. Plummer spoke in morning and G. Hing in evening.

## Obituary

### Harry R. Frandsen

AT the age of 43 years, Harry R. Frandsen answered the call to higher service on evening of Dec. 10. His passing leaves the church at Dandenong (Vic.), and the religious life of that centre immeasurably the poorer. The end was tragically sudden, as hopes were held out in the early stages of admission to hospital for his ultimate recovery from injuries accidentally received a week previously. This pen cannot adequately extol the virtues possessed by Harry Frandsen, who linked himself with Christ and his church approximately 19 years ago during the ministry of L. A. Trezise. Truly those years were filled with glorious daily service, following as he did, Paul's injunction of presenting his body a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God. So manifold were the activities of our brother, the church will feel its loss for many years to come. As an officer his counsel was invaluable, and for twelve years or more the school had a beloved teacher. Choir conductor, president C.M.S., interested in the C.E. (where he frequently presented chart addresses, illustrating Paul's missionary journeys), an able speaker and morning president, are but only a few posts he filled with sincerity and Christian decorum. No word other than that which was in keeping with a sincere and devout Christian gentleman ever came from his lips. His very presence at midweek and Lord's day meetings was an inspiration to all, and on occasions of the ordinance of baptism he has aided the preachers in a manner which ensured a deep and reverent atmosphere. Mr. Youens has paid tribute to his life which only befits this great man who has gone before. In short, we are left with a memory so sweet that its fragrance will permeate and influence the lives of others. A devoted husband, he leaves, to await God's own time, his widow (nee Amy Nankivell), an aged father, two brothers and a sister. To them and to Mrs. Nankivell and Miss Dorrie will be extended the wholehearted sympathy of Christian men and women who had the



privilege of being associated with our loved one. A striking evidence of his popularity amongst his workmates was the presence of more than 100 men, many of whom were visibly affected at the service conducted by Mr. Youens, who was assisted by Messrs. Bond and Atkin. May God be pleased to raise up another to alleviate the separation.—Arnold Sheppard.

#### ADDRESSES

F. B. Alcorn (preacher Maryborough church, Vic.)—3 Alma-st., Maryborough.

H. A. Annetts (secretary Middle Park church, Vic.)—17 Campbell-grove, Hawthorn.

P. R. Thickins (preacher Northam church, W.A.)—235 Duke-st., Northam.

#### COMING EVENTS

JANUARY 15 (Wednesday).—Victorian General Dorcas will hold annual picnic in Botanic Gardens. Meet near kiosk any time after 10.30 a.m. All are invited. Basket lunch.

#### BROADCAST SERVICES

JANUARY 12, 7.15 p.m., Collins-st., Hobart, Tas., over 7ZR. Preacher, C. P. Hughes.

JANUARY 19, 11 a.m., 3BO, Bendigo church of Christ.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS!

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#### BIRTH

HARRISON.—On Dec. 24, to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Harrison, of 26 Neika-ave., West Launceston, Tas.—a son (John Nicholls).

#### DEATHS

MATHIESON.—On Dec. 26, at Epworth Hospital, Myrtle, beloved daughter of Jack and the late Catherine Mathieson, loving sister of Kenneth, Gertrude, John and Jean.  
"Absent from the body, present with the Lord."

WAITE (nee Haldsworth).—On Dec. 21, at 22 Head-st., Elwood, suddenly, George, the devoted husband of Florence Evilin (Florrie).

Passed away on Dec. 22, at Prince Henry Hospital, after operation, Florrie, the beloved wife of the late George; much loved sister and brother-in-law of Catherine and the late William Whittington, of 36 Elphin-gve., Hawthorn.

"God holds the key of all unknown,  
And I am glad."

#### IN MEMORIAM

BUCKINGHAM.—In loving memory of our beloved eldest son, Edward Marcel (Ted), passed away, result of accident, Jan. 11, 1933, aged 22 years 10 months. (Late of Malakoff-st., St. Kilda.)

Only a thought of bygone years,  
And a wish for a face unseen,  
With always a thought that God alone,  
Knows best what might have been.

—Sadly missed by his parents, "Bangalore," Emma-st., Caulfield (Vic.).

GOLDSWORTHY.—In loving memory of my dear husband and our loved father, Reginald, who was called home to be for ever with the Lord, Jan. 12, 1941. "Some day we'll understand."

—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

PATERSON (nee Foster).—In constant sweet remembrance of our darling daughter and sister Nessie, who was called for higher service Jan. 5, 1941.

Some day, some time, our eyes shall see,  
That dear face held in memory;  
And God shall link that broken chain  
Still closer when we meet again.

—Inserted by her loving mother, father, brother Jack and sister-in-law Elva.

PATERSON (nee Foster).—In loving memory of our dear daughter-in-law Nessie, who died Jan. 5, 1941. In God's care. Happy memories.  
—Inserted by Mr. and Mrs. D. Paterson, Preston.

#### DIAMOND WEDDING

CLYDESDALE-McINTYRE.—On Dec. 31, 1986, at Kilmarnock, Scotland, by Mr. Hugh Ross, John Clydesdale, to Jessie McIntyre, only daughter of the late Andrew McIntyre, Industrial School, Ayr. Present address, Canley Vale, New South Wales, Australia.

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# Religious Films in Queensland

P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., of Queensland, reports on reactions of churchmen to religious films and on various moral and social changes in his State.

BRISBANE churchmen are divided in their opinions on the showing of religious films in churches. The Roman Catholic and Baptist spokesmen were flatly against their introduction, pointing out that it is Pauline theology that faith cometh by hearing, and that it is impossible for films to take the place of the human voice and personality in the conduct of the sermon. The Anglican and Methodist spokesmen favored their introduction. The Presbyterian objected to their use in the church, but admitted they could be used to advantage in school halls. The Congregational accepted as inevitable the use of films in churches, but pointed out that variety and expense would be two problems.

The Religious Film Society here aims to acquire at least fifty films for its State library.

## Transfers

There will be some changes in the ranks of our preachers in the near future.

The departure of A. J. Fisher to South Australia is a big loss to the Queensland brotherhood. His brotherly and genial personality will be greatly missed; his services to Queensland and to the Gympie district will be long and gratefully remembered; his pastoral oversight, including his work among isolated members, has been such as to be worthy of emulation.

G. T. Millar transfers from Mackay to Rockhampton next March. He has done well at Mackay, giving the church a good standing in the community. Mackay is now one of our most promising and encouraging home mission fields.

Early in 1947 Ron Wilson, of Paddington (N.S.W.) will take up the work at Gympie, and A. R. Norling in the Sunnybank-Hawthorne circuit. V. T. Parker, another exit student of N.S.W. Bible College, has been invited to labor at Roma.

## Rhodes Scholar

A son of the manse, Dr. Henry Whyte, has been selected as Queensland Rhodes scholar for 1947. His father was a Congregational minister at Ipswich, and is now a missionary in Samoa.

## What Constitutes a State

The Queensland Year Book issued in 1946 gives census returns showing that this State is second only to Western Australia in the relative number of overseas immigrants who ultimately settle here. Between the years 1922-39 Queensland attracted the largest number of interstate immigrants.

Good progress has been made in the prevention of disease, but much yet remains to be done, particularly in northern districts where the tropical climate necessitates greater precautions.

Prison conditions have been improved in recent years, provision being made for teaching trades, for the establishment of libraries and for giving lectures and concerts. Radio sets provide selected programmes.

There are four State Farms conducted on the honor system for prisoners. Prisoners selected for transfer to these farms are given to understand that they are placed on their honor to perform their duties faithfully and to the best of their ability, and are not to

attempt to escape. In general, the behaviour of such prisoners has been excellent and they have worked well.

In the census returns of 1933 only 1932 persons stated they had no religion. About one-third stated they belonged to the Church of England, and about one-quarter to Roman Catholic. Presbyterians numbered the third highest.

Of 211 private schools Roman Catholics conducted 179, Church of England 16, and other religious denominations 11, while five were undenominational in character.

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