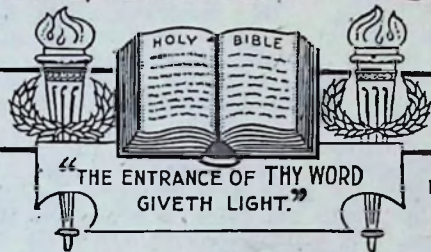


# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## THOU REMAINEST

"Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness and hated iniquity, therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thy hands. THEY SHALL PERISH; BUT THOU REMAINEST; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment, and as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same and thy years shall not fail."—Heb. 1: 8-12.

THE foregoing is a truly remarkable passage of scripture. Verses 8 and 9 are quoted from Psalm 45: 6, 7, while the remainder is from Psalm 102: 25-27, both quotations coming from the Septuagint Version of the Old Testament. It is clear, then, that the writer is bent on showing forth the majesty of the Christ; and in writing to Hebrew Christians, he is careful to bring abundant evidence of the validity of his arguments from the scriptures of the Old Covenant.

In developing his theme, the author of the epistle aims at a revelation of Christ, our great High Priest, who in turn is a revealer of God the Father. We see Jesus as creator, the co-equal with the Father, the maker of the universe and "the folder-up" of the heavens. He is portrayed, not only as our Saviour, but also as our Advocate with God, our great Intercessor. The whole scheme of the writer's thought is culminated in the wonderful and all-embracing statement:

"Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever" (Heb. 13: 8).

It is fitting, therefore, in the light of this climactic enunciation of the argument of the Hebrew letter, that we pause in contemplation of the changing days and the changing loyalties, especially as we contrast these passing ephemeral things of life with the great unchanging Christ. "They shall perish—but thou remainest."

*Amidst the turmoil of the rebellious present, Christ stands the abiding hope of mankind. A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed., of Western Australia, presents this theme in the following helpful article.*



Mars Hill, Athens.

### I. The Changing Days

Change has been the keynote of the ages. The page of history is ample proof of this. Nations, empires, mighty civilisations and cultures have arisen only to dwindle and disappear under the ravages of time. Even within the comparatively short span of our own little lives we have seen amazing changes in fashions, customs and the every-day life about us. Time does not stand still. History is not merely a thing of the past. History is actually in the making before our wondering eyes. To-day the world is a smaller place than it was a generation or even a decade ago. The flood of new invention has brought the peoples of the earth relatively

closer. The wonders of wireless, trans-continental telegraphic communication and modern aviation have made the remotest tribes and nations our near neighbors. Our factories and workshops are filled with screaming, whirling machines that move faster and ever faster, doing the work that not so long ago took hundreds of pairs of hands. The mind of man literally stands still as he contemplates the lightning speed and the swift progression of changes that go to make up the modern world.

But we scarcely dare to pause. On we go, as more and more records are broken and progress hurtles forward on its harrowing way.

Yet we surely cannot fail to recall that the hardy Cossacks of the southern Russian steppes, who throughout their varied history have been called upon to bear much suffering, not only in recent conflict but also right down the years, have preserved an old saying that contains a wealth of truth: "And over all is God." Above the ceaseless whirring of wheels and the storm and clatter of our present mode of existence we will hear, if we but tune our ears to listen, the quiet assurance:

"Be still and know that I am God," . . . "I am the Lord, I change not."

And we shall be able to reply: "Thou remainest."

### II. The Changing Loyalties

The last ten years have witnessed a more marked changing of loyalties than ever before. Old allegiances have been severed. New and blatant banners have been raised. The cry has been gradually becoming more insistent that we must "move with the times." So, new loyalties supersede the old. The old staid allegiances to the home, the church, the Word, and the Lord's day, seem to have crumbled in so many quarters. Youth has donned its party clothes and has gone forth to conquer—to throw overboard the old and welcome the new, whatever it may be. Perhaps it would not be inappropriate to point out that the people of our generation very



closely resemble the Athenians of Paul's day, who, it will be remembered, sat on Mars' Hill and "spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or to hear some new thing" (Acts 17: 21).

This is also an age of changing allegiances in the political and international realm. With sorrow and shame we have beheld in quick succession the betrayal of Austria, of Czechoslovakia, of Poland, Holland, Belgium, France—and the enslaving of the free men of Europe. We have seen a grim flag waving over the hitherto peaceful rice fields of China, and the terrible train of terror and carnage spreading relentlessly over Malaya, the Indies and the beautiful coral atolls of the Pacific. This age has been one surely of uplifting. False gods have been raised on pinnacles, and men, in their blindness, have claimed allegiance to nameless horrors. These things have happened in what was supposed to be an enlightened age, the twentieth century, and men's hearts have changed—and have utterly failed them. Those days are over, some imagine. We now talk of peace—but at what price? How shall we plan anew? What are the real fruits of victory?

Even the followers of the Lord, his own, for whom he died, are not altogether free from this insidious temptation to run ahead in the glory and confusion of the moment. Sometimes we have been so busy making haste that we have lost sight of the Master's will and purpose for us. Always in a hurry, we seem to have spent our energy—going nowhere. When, on that last pilgrimage of our Lord toward Jerusalem, the voice of the blind man was heard, the disciples pressed on with ears deaf to the stricken cry. But it was the Master who turned aside, and even in his hour of deep distress, with the awful shadow of the cross upon him, he found time to tarry that he might reward the faith of the suppliant with his healing touch. How often to-day—in this hour of urgent progress—the church is apt to out-distance her Lord, running on heedlessly in headlong pursuit of some new loyalty and deaf to the cries of the wayside.

And is all this hustle and bustle in the name of boasted progress? Let us ask ourselves, Who is making progress? None other than Satan, the prince of this world. But despite the reeling and tottering of thrones and powers and principles, there is One who never changes. His goodness never fails. In a world of hate, love stands sure, and God is love.

"But whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away."

In other words, the words of the writer to the Hebrews:

"They shall perish—but thou remainest."

### III. The Unchanging Christ

It is with a sense of relief and gratitude that we can turn from the disturbances of time and sense and find satisfaction in the great unchanging Christ, who is the "Alpha and Omega," and in whom "there is no variableness nor shadow of turning" (James 1: 17).

In this urgent hour, when the battleships and aeroplanes of yesterday are on the scrap heap, when articles of warfare become obsolete overnight, when all is pulsation, when life is a whirling enigma and our very lives are in a continual state of flux, it is well to stay our faith on the old Book. This is, as we have already noted, a day of uplifting. But for this very reason it is also a day of challenge. While men are uplifting false loyalties, it is our opportunity, our task, to uplift the Christ, who said: "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." Amid the confusion and turmoil of a shattered world the unchanging Christ stands supreme. His name abides forever, for he is "the way, the truth, and the life." And he is the only way back to the Father.

Most of us have read of how an ancient Greek sculptor, on the eve of an artistic competition of national significance, had his finished entry, a magnificent piece of statuary, stolen and exhibited by an ambitious and unscrupulous rival as his own work. The thief won the coveted prize, and the fraud was not detected, the beautiful masterpiece being subsequently given a place of honor in the city market-place. The fraudulent artist, however, made the mistake of concealing the right-workman's name by superimposing upon it his own name in plaster. Both sculptors eventually died, and with the inevitable passing of the years the plaster crumbled and revealed to posterity the name of the real artisan carved in the imperishable marble. Even so, the strutting puppets of every generation, in their vanity and pride, have plastered their names, with blatant boldness, across the face of the globe. But the centuries have come and gone, leaving the littleness of man in crumbling ruins, while the enduring name of the great Master Builder stands forever.

Let us then to the task—for ours is surely the opportunity of presenting without compromise the unchanging Christ to a changing world. Such a task demands a faith that defies the ravages of time, a faith that is eternal. But the secret of the success of any venture we make for Christ lies in the fact that we are not alone. Though all things change, he remains the same. Therefore, in the face of almost overwhelming obstacles, we are heartened by the knowledge that, though visible and transient things will fail and fall, the things that are invisible will endure with the permanency of eternity. Accordingly, in confidence we are able to say:—

"Change and decay in all around I see,

O thou, who changest not, abide with me."

In a world of ceaseless change and continual disruption, when the wheel of time seems to whirl on and on in its ever-varying race and the very foundations of our life are shaken, it is well to lay hold upon this grand certainty:

"THEY SHALL PERISH—BUT THOU REMAINEST."

## Behold the Light

Mrs. Alice M. Saunders, B.A., of Canley Vale, N.S.W., reviews again

the movement of events in which Light triumphed over the darkness

of evil.

OUR hearts are full as we read again the story that never grows old—the story of a Saviour, given for men. It is a story shrouded deeply in

### Shadows

The first Good Friday did not burst suddenly upon our Lord. For weeks he had lived in the shadow of the cross. When the crowd cried "Hosannah!" and cheered him on his way, he knew that, before long, there would be another cry—"Crucify!" He must have felt the shadows deepening as he supped, for the last time, with his closest friends. Deeper and deeper became the shadows, until they closed blackly around him in his hour of conflict in the garden.

"Three times he prayed and yet no word

Of answer to his soul,

Only a growing consciousness

That he must bear the whole of this

world's guilt and misery,

And thus fulfil the law, and bring to men

a righteousness

Which has no rent nor flaw."

Rising, he announces his decision to his disciples, "Let us be going!" In order to complete his task on earth he must go forward—from shadow to

### Darkness

We know the story of that darkness. We have often heard and read of the betrayal, the desertion of friends, the cruel trial and the agonising death. Yes, we know the story; but we can never fully know his anguish of body, soul and spirit. It is good for us to ponder these things. Doing so, we realise more and more how appropriate was the physical darkness that covered the land for three hours. Had not the One who was the Light of the world been slain by evil men? Picture again our Saviour—scourged, beaten, mocked, bruised and bleeding—for us. From the earliest times it was said, "Without the shedding of blood there can be no remission of sins." Day after day, the smoke of countless sacrifices hung above the Jewish temple;

but these were not enough. A perfect sacrifice must be made, effective for all time. The Son of God, himself, must pass through the darkness of pain and death, that mankind might be free from sin.

The darkness passed, as it always must, giving way to

### Light

The light had not been quenched forever. It had only been dimmed, that it might shine forth the more brilliantly, to light the path of all men.

Alys Bays records striking words put into the mouth of a soldier of the guard at the cross:

"A strange post this,  
Being sentinel to death,  
A dreary duty. Hast thou noticed, brother,  
How still things are, as tho' with bated  
breath

The world awaits something?"

Truly the world did await something—that great event that heralded victory and life.

Sorrow became joy; darkness, light; defeat, victory for Christ lived. The Light of the world shone on, never to be put out. This is the greatest aspect of the Easter message, that Christ lives, unseen, yet real in the hearts of those who believe in him. If we really are convinced in our hearts that he lives, nothing will be able to stop us in our efforts to serve him, because we will know an unconquerable power in our lives.

Yes! he passed through shadows to darkness; but he came in triumph into the light. As we think of him at this time, we may be confident that we, too, will triumph. We may pass through shadows and darkness which seem overwhelming; but we shall behold the glorious light of day if our eyes are fixed on Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer—our Light.

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# N.S.W. Facing These Times

*Ethelbert Davis writes of moral failure in the world and of evangelistic moves to meet this situation.*

IF the news of our daily press is any criterion of the true condition of the world to-day, we cannot be far off the abyss. Headlines simply scream of crimes of every description—murders, hold-ups, sex crimes; national mistrust and unrest; and the threatened destruction of civilisation. This is all too true; and dark, indeed, are the days in which we live. But is there not another side to that picture? There is. Open any paper and we read of broken homes, of the tremendous increase in divorce rates, which, of course, is true. But what newspaper ever says anything about the infinitely larger majority of happy homes where husbands and wives are true to each other? Drinking is on the increase with both men and women, and drunkenness and related crimes are rampant; but we are never reminded of the fact that the vast majority of the people in all communities are sober and law abiding. Sex irregularities are glaringly apparent, yet the principles of chastity and virtue do predominate in every town and in every city. Juvenile delinquency is tragically increasing, and presents a problem of no small dimension, but even so the majority of youth are not in the category of the incorrigible.

We must not be blind to the facts recorded by the press, but on the other hand we need to emphasise the other side to save us from that fatalistic, gloomy and depressed condition of mind that has already seized so many.

## Evangelistic Services

We have before us the March issue of the "Parish Messenger," the paper issued by the Church of England, Katoomba, of which R. F. Dillon, Th.L., is the preacher. Underneath a picture of the fine building are the words, "It is your church; pray, give and work for it." The paper reports some evangelistic meetings which were held, and contains these interesting statements: "We have much to praise God for in connection with the special mission addresses and appeals made on six consecutive Sundays. We congratulate the following who stood up publicly in acceptance of Christ"; then follows a list of names. Thanks is then expressed to those who helped and gave their testimonies to the congregation. Another paragraph says, "It is most encouraging to any minister to know that he has the spiritual backing of such a number of friends who are also keen for the salvation of souls." Salvation of souls, and personal acceptance of Christ, are not being stressed to-day as once they were.

## Lord's Day Observance Society

Up on the Clarence River there is a really live branch of the Lord's Day Observance Society. Church of Christ preacher at Grafton, Glen Brown, is an active worker in the society. Many of our readers may have no knowledge of the doctrinal basis, which is as follows:—

(a) Belief in the trine God, whose grace is manifested in the love and righteousness of God the Father, the redeeming work of God the Son, and the quickening power of God the Holy Spirit.

(b) Belief in the essential Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ, his incarnation, and virgin birth, the truthfulness of all his words, his all sufficient atoning vicarious death upon Calvary for sin, his bodily resurrection, ascension and coming again.

(c) Belief in the whole Bible consisting of 39 books of the Old Testament and 27 books of the New Testament, as the inspired word of God, and therefore true and divinely authoritative, and as God's sufficient revelation in all matters of doctrine and practice.

(d) Belief that all men have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and in necessity of the new birth by the Holy Spirit in those who become children of God through faith in Jesus Christ.

(e) Belief in the divine authority and perpetual obligation of the Christian sabbath, or Lord's day, and conviction of the necessity that all effectual assertion, observance and defence of the Lord's day rest must be on this basis.

# The Third World Convention

*The following features of programme come from Jesse M. Bader, General Secretary.*

OUR great brotherhood is scattered over the globe in forty different countries. Many of our brethren in these lands are planning now to come to Buffalo for the Third World Convention to be held August 3-7, 1947. There is an attitude of expectancy everywhere.

The annual International Convention of Disciples of Christ will be held just preceding the World Convention. Its dates are July 29—August 3. Sunday morning and afternoon of August 3 belongs to both conventions, and will be planned for by a joint committee. The Sunday afternoon communion service will mark the end of the International Convention and the beginning of the World Convention. The theme of the World Convention is "Christ for the World."

On Sunday evening, August 3, the World Convention will hold its first separate service. As heretofore in other World Conventions, at the opening session, there will be a pageant of the flags and the roll call of nations. This part of the programme will be in charge of Mrs. Warren Hastings, of Washington, D.C. A representative of each nation will bring a brief greeting. At this service, George H. Stewart, of Winnipeg, Canada, President of the World Convention, will bring his message.

Monday morning's session will be devoted to four messages by speakers from Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand and Central Europe. These will give a story of our beginnings, progress and present programme in each of these countries. Monday afternoon has been designated by Committee as an ecumenical session. Monday evening will be one of the greatest of all. Harry S. Truman, President of the United States, is expected to be present to address convention.

Tuesday morning will be given over to the consideration of Christian Education. Tuesday afternoon there will be a panel on church and world peace. The young people will have complete charge of the Tuesday evening.

Wednesday morning will be devoted to a consideration of those basic principles which our brotherhood has emphasised in season and out of season for 138 years. Wednesday afternoon, for the first hour, will be devoted to World Convention business. Following this business period, there will be a symposium on the subject, "Human Relations in my Country." Speakers will represent India, South Africa, Australia and the United States. The laymen

(f) Belief that in asserting the obligation of the Lord's day the gospel of the grace of God through Jesus Christ should be proclaimed.

(g) Belief that in all efforts for the maintenance of the Lord's day, there should be strong endeavor to lead men to attend the house of God and definite resistance both to the secularising and commercialising of the day.

We could well do with such a society actively operating in every community.

Some of the methods adopted for the furtherance of the aim to preserve the sanctity of the Lord's day are as follows: (1) Circulation of literature; (2) Meetings, lectures and public demonstrations; (3) Deputation work in churches; (4) Lady workers who will give talks to children in week day and Sunday schools; (5) Opposition to all encroachments on the hallowed character of the Lord's day.

The Grafton society has been in touch with the Chief Secretary on the question of Sunday football, but the reply does not give much hope of the Sunday Observance Act being enforced.



Jesse M. Bader.

of the churches of all lands will have charge of the Wednesday evening.

The entire day of Thursday will be devoted to the subject of World Evangelisation.

Friday is picnic day at Niagara Falls. The attendance goal for each of the two conventions is 10,000. The World Convention Programme Committee is planning to make much of its music. There will be a great chorus of choirs. Each country represented in the World Convention is being invited to bring an exhibit for both Conventions. The big basement of the Memorial Hall provides ample space for all exhibits.

In and about Buffalo are 18 churches. These have accepted the privilege and the responsibility of entertaining the two Conventions. They promise to house all who come, in hotels, college dormitories and homes. All overseas delegates will be entertained in homes for room and breakfast without charge. A great welcome awaits all who come to Buffalo!



# New South Wales 62nd Annual Conference

Ethelbert Davis

WITH ideal weather conditions prevailing, and under chairmanship of the president, A. C. MacLean, the 62nd annual conference was held from March 23 to April 1.

As usual through the years, the conference was devoted to demonstrations which were of an inspirational nature, and to business sessions where the reports of the various committees were discussed, and where future programmes were outlined; these programmes now wait implementation.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

The conference opened on the Monday night with an evangelistic meeting for young people, the rallying theme being, "Youth for Christ." It was a great meeting, and brought to a climax the Youth Department's special campaign for 500 for Christ from the ranks of youth. The feature of the meeting was a stirring address by R. Greenhalgh on "Youth Unlimited," and an appeal for decisions for Christ.

The department's report revealed that in the State there are now 60 schools, with 5175 scholars and 648 teachers. The Christian Endeavor Societies have a membership of 1257, and in the various clubs 924.

The year's activities of the department embrace, annual examinations; teacher training courses; exhibition; "Happy Hour" campaigns; and camps for young people. A suitable site has not yet been found for the "War Memorial Youth Centre." An Isolated Youth Fellowship has operated with 40 members, and an Isolated Cradle Roll with 33 on roll. In the "S. O. Gole Recognition Library" there are now 260 volumes.

The plans for the future include: War Memorial Youth Centre; Teacher Training Correspondence Course; Christian Endeavor Correspondence Course; Youth Evangelism through Open-air Sunday Schools; and Strengthening of Youth for Christ through Carrying and Reading the Word of God.

An announcement that Mr. Roy Greenhalgh had accepted another three-years' engagement as director of the department was received by the conference with applause.

The cash statement disclosed that the receipts for the year amounted to £1329/14/6.

Bible School Committee.—Bible School Section: R. Greenhalgh, G. E. Knight, P. H. Morton, A. W. Morris, B. E. Perkins, W. H. Small. Christian Endeavor Section: R. V. Amos, C. Bowser, Miss I. I. Bye, J. P. Henderson, J. Morris, Miss D. Small.

The 53rd Women's Conference was held on the Tuesday. This conference will be reported separately.

## OVERSEAS AND ABORIGINES MISSION DEMONSTRATION

This was one of the largely-attended meetings of conference. The hymn, "Far, far away in heathen darkness dwelling," struck the note for the meeting. In one respect the demonstration was unique. There was no exuberance of enthusiasm, but rather was the atmosphere intense and subdued as all felt conscious of the stigma that rests upon the people of Australia because of their treatment of the aborigines, and because of the tardiness with which the call of India is being met.

Lloyd G. Read, member of the Aborigines Committee, in an address spoke of the conditions of the aborigines past and present, and said that the present conditions were a reproach to any State. The aborigine was a challenge to the church because the church has everything to offer him. But the church cannot evangelise these people unless it can lift them to a better standard of living.

In speaking of "Our India," Hariba Waghmode paid loving tribute to the missionaries. Touching reference was made to those who had been the pioneers of the work in that part of the country we claim as "ours." He said, too, that the church is nothing if it is not missionary. Christ infused his missionary spirit into the church for all time.

At the business session Ira A. Paternoster, secretary of the committee, spoke of the work in India and in the New Hebrides, and of the rapidly-changing conditions in those lands—the changes not auguring well for the spread of the gospel, but bringing to the church a challenge such as she has never faced before.

Of interest to the conference was the fact that during the year the receipts were £1897/5/11, made up as follows: Annual offering, £726/17/5; Weekly Giving, £378/5/6; Sisters' Conference, £253; other sources, £439/3/-. Used stamps collected and sold by Miss H. V. Rofe realised £54/4/8.

Overseas Mission Committee.—T. A. Button, W. L. Caspersenn, H. C. Gowans, I. A. Paternoster, P. Retchford, Miss H. V. Rofe, P. C. Williams.

Aborigines Mission Board.—Miss F. Bell, W. Donaldson, G. E. Knight, Mrs. R. W. McCallum, R. Mercer, L. G. Read, R. H. Wakeley.

## SOCIAL SERVICE

This department of brotherhood enterprises opened its conference sessions with the annual tea on Thursday, March 27. A large number enjoyed that opportunity of fellowship. At the tea the Christian Fellowship Association was featured.

At the public meeting which followed, stirring addresses were given by C. H. Tomlinson, president New South Wales Temperance Alliance, and W. J. Crossman, preacher City Temple.

In reviewing its activities the committee reported a successful year. The following public questions had received attention: the drink evil, gambling, social impurity, salacious literature, and the desecration of the Lord's day.

Forty-three parcels had been forwarded to our brethren overseas, and to UNRRA fifty-two cartons, containing 3000 articles, had been despatched. The committee also reported the finding of employment of forty persons. Aims for 1947-8: (1) The continuance of rehabilitation work for ex-Service men and women; (2) The establishment of a hostel for men when suitable building is available; (3) The continuation of every avenue of social services; (4) A continued effort to link up every church with C.F.A.; (5) Hospital visitation.

Social Service Committee.—W. J. Crossman, E. Davis, R. H. Douglas, H. T. Edwards, W. J. E. Lewis, Mrs. MacArthur, G. Morton, C. Nutt.

## BUSINESS SESSION

The first business of conference was the admission of three new churches—Austral, with a membership of 30; Carramar, with 44 members; Parramatta North, with 30 members. Seven new preachers were welcomed to conference—R. Anderson, Carramar; A. B. Clark, Taree; E. Roffey, Paddington; C. Latimer, Bowral; J. Wilkie Thompson, Wagga; L. Wylie, Inverell.

## CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE REPORT

During the year the churches added from all sources a total of 550 members; losses by letter, death and revision of roll, 679; thus showing a loss of 129. Fifty-eight members of the churches have been called to higher service.

Federal Conference interests were given a deal of space in the report. Broadcasting and the Religious Film Society also claimed the attention of the conference during this session. A stewardship campaign outlined by the executive was endorsed by conference, and will be put into operation during the coming year. An addendum placed on record thanks to A. C. MacLean for his services during the year.

## CONFERENCE OFFICERS

Past President.—A. C. MacLean.

Conference President.—N. D. Morris.

President-elect.—R. M. Wilson.

Conference Vice-presidents.—Roy Acland, J. Wilkie Thomson.

Conference Secretary.—S. C. Woolley.

Conference Assistant Secretary.—W. J. Modral.

Conference Treasurer.—T. W. Dunne.

## HOME MISSION COMMITTEE

The committee reported a very successful year, and stressed the fact that "never before in the history of our brotherhood has the need for consecrated evangelism and holy living been so clamant."

A cause for profound thankfulness is the fact that through the generosity of the churches, the committee has been able to help the churches at Epping, with A. C. MacLean as preacher; Gilgandra, with G. H. Eager as preacher; Grafton, where Glen Brown serves Albury, with J. Lewis; Merewether, P. Retchford; Hornsby, S. Stevens; Petersham, where K. Rapkins was preacher; Seven Hills and Doonside, where G. Verco served for part of the year; Tempe, with G. Hardimon; Cessnock, P. J. Pond; and Lidcombe, where A. Baker is preacher.

Application had been made for grants of land in some localities where the Housing Commission has planned to establish settlements. The report contained eulogistic reference to the work of the director, E. C. Hinrichsen, in evangelistic missions, and particularly the outstanding work done at Enmore. Regret was expressed that V. Morris had resigned as song-leader of the mission party. Receipts for the General Fund totalled £2204/5/9.

The home mission demonstration held on the Saturday evening was the most largely attended in many years. The first item of the evening's programme was the introduction of the president, N. D. Morris, and the presentation of a copy of the holy scriptures to the retiring president. Financial.—The Sisters' Conference presented to the committee the sum of £179/14/-. Then followed a donation from the A.B.C. Band of £40. The offering amounted to over £80 in cash and £103 in promises. An interesting address was given by Sister Clare Marks, a recent convert from Catholicism. She spoke on "My Search for the Church," and touched everyone deeply with her message. E. C. Hinrichsen spoke of "Our God-given Opportunity." His address of earnest appeal for a deeper consecration of life in order to meet the opportunities that confront the churches of Christ climaxed a great meeting.

Home Mission Committee.—G. E. Burns, A. L. Carter, B. G. Corlett, W. J. Crossman, A. C. MacLean, Sister A. Maxwell, F. S. Steer, P. E. Thomas, S. Vanham, R. H. Wakeley.

(To be Continued)



# Youth's Drift in Queensland

*P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., our correspondent, reports on concern for youth's attitude to church, on City Mission activities, and on alarming divorce rate.*

WHILE the Anglican Church is surprised at the increasing number of young men turning to the ministry of the church as a vocation, others see youth drifting from the church's influence. "This, however," said Professor Albiston at the Methodist centenary celebrations, "need not be construed as a bad sign for the church's future. There is nothing final about youth's present attitude," Professor Albiston said that he preferred to think of the drift as a very healthy independence of thought. Nevertheless, the professor found in the centenary celebrations of the Queensland Methodist church an extraordinary youthfulness. "While the church and its members retain their spiritual youth, she will advance for the benefit of the whole community," he added.

## City Mission Activities

Mr. C. S. Trudgian, superintendent of the Brisbane City Mission, has caught the ear of the public, and is doing a great job for the poor and homeless of Brisbane. We have been amazed to hear of couples with four and five children walking the streets penniless and jobless. Because of a steep rise in the cost of hostel accommodation, many men are forced to spend the nights in Brisbane parks. During the past six months the mission has answered 3200 calls for assistance. The mission has purchased a three-storied building for £14,000.

## Education for Marriage

Figures released recently reveal that if the present divorce rate is maintained, one in six of all new Queensland marriages will ultimately be dissolved.

The Mothercraft Association is undertaking for its annual course of lectures a series of

classes in preparation for marriage. Experts will give talks on the following subjects: The physical aspects of marriage and reproduction; human relationships and the many psychological difficulties that may be encountered; legal obligations and aspects; marriage as a spiritual bond.

The Roman Catholic archbishop believes that the education of women is essential to maintain a high moral standard in a nation. "We must give to women the best education it is possible to receive. They have the same right as men to that." While woman is uneducated man is coarse and ignorant. Let woman's mental powers increase, let her influence grow, and she will more and more stand by the side of man as a helper in all his struggles."

## Prisoners' Aid

Good work has been done by the William Powell Home for discharged prisoners. This home seeks to provide real home life for discharged prisoners. Six hundred and fifteen men have passed through the home in the past fifteen years, and a great number of these have made good. Apparently, however, there is need for another institution where criminals, mentally defective, could be treated by a doctor, a psychologist and a psychiatrist.

## News Items

V. G. Boettcher has resigned from the ministry of the church at Toowoomba to contest the Toowoomba electorate in the forthcoming elections.

H. E. Greenwood is serving at Boondall and Zillmere and concentrating his organising activities in the leadership of the Youth Department.

J. B. Grant has transferred from Boondall-Zillmere circuit to Mackay.

# British Church Services Affected

*G. J. Hammond, of Gloucester, England, reviews activities of churches of Christ in Great Britain.*

CHURCH work has been seriously interrupted by the fuel shortage and the severe weather conditions which have prevailed for about six weeks past. Services have been held in school rooms and lecture halls. United meetings and conferences have been postponed. South Wigston church, unable to hold services by reason of damaged heating system, arranged transport to Saffron Lane church, two miles distant, so that a united service could be held. The "Christian Advocate," with all other religious papers, was suspended for two weeks in order to conserve power for industrial purposes. The suspension of such papers gave rise to considerable adverse criticism of the Government department concerned.

Miss Jesse M. Trout, a leader of women's work in the churches of U.S.A., is to spend one month in Great Britain. The United Missionary Society has made the visit possible. A comprehensive itinerary has been arranged for her, and her visits to the churches will make stronger the link between Britain and the

U.S.A. Miss Trout has served as a missionary in Japan, and was for some time secretary to Dr. Kagawa, the Japanese Christian leader.

The Young Men's Convention will be held at Wistow Hall, Leicestershire, at Easter weekend, and the Sisters' Convention will be held at Tong Hall, Yorkshire, at the end of April.

Recent deaths include those of Mrs. Ernest Green, of Manchester. She toured the mission fields with her husband some years ago. Mr. R. H. Parker, who studied medicine at Edinburgh with Conan Doyle, and afterwards went to India, where he was helpful in the establishment of the first mission station supported by the British churches. On his return he served for many years as organiser for the Temperance and Social Questions Committee.

Bournemouth church held a week's mission with Mr. G. J. Hammond, of Gloucester, as visiting preacher. Dr. W. J. Fiscus, in residence at Overdale College, is to conduct a special mission at Coplaw-st., Glasgow.

The annual conference is to be held at Glasgow in August, and the local committees are already at work making preliminary arrangements.

# 56 Years a Writer

A Hymn for April; No. 60, April 20.

FEW have been associated for so large a part of their lives with literary production as Josiah Conder. As a ten-year-old, two silver medals came his way for published essays. Poems at 16, collaboration in a volume of poems a little later, then years as a book-seller, gave place to many years of editing of periodicals, a 30-volume series on travel and a host of other works, with a whole line of hymnbooks by no means the least. The last of these was going through the press at the time of his death at the age of 66.

Not only did his discrimination in selecting hymns set a standard, but his own contributions were numerous and worthy. Only three of his hymns appear in our book (Nos. 42, 235 and our present study), but there were 28 in a Congregational book of 1855 and double that number in one that Conder himself edited in 1836.

Examination of a considerable assortment of his hymns shows adherence to a fairly narrow range of metres, marked smoothness and fluency in expression, a very praiseworthy unity of subject matter and continuity or development of thought in nearly every hymn, with very few of the "sub-standard" verses that mar the work of many writers.

Turning to the content of the hymns and remembering that Conder was a man of little schooling and less theological training, we find them devout—at times a little morose by our standards—but with a firm and enriching grasp on evangelical teachings and abounding in pictures of God in nature and in life.

To-day's hymn, "The Lord is King," is now at or near its 123rd birthday, and we must conclude that its reduction from eight verses to five was rather a matter of space and time—and condoning our prevailing limit of 5 or 6 verses—than any criticism of the excluded verses. Verses 7 and 8 of the original read:

Alike pervaded by his eye  
All parts of his dominion lie;  
This world of ours and worlds unseen,  
And thin the boundary between.  
One Lord, one empire, all secures:  
He reigns,—and life and death are yours.  
Through earth and heaven one song shall ring:  
"The Lord Omnipotent is King." —F.J.F.

## Christian Endeavour News

NATIONAL UNION

SOME important changes were made in the office-bearers of union, though it was resolved not to undertake a complete review until National Convention time. This is the occasion when officers are usually elected. However, at the February meeting H. Watkin-Smith, B.A., was unanimously elected to succeed W. Campbell as National Union Secretary. Mr. Watkin-Smith has had a wide experience of all branches of Christian Endeavor, and is an ardent advocate of the movement.

Other changes were: National Junior Superintendent, Miss Jean Lyons, of Victoria, who succeeds Mrs. G. F. Nelson, of N.S.W.; National Young People's Superintendent, Max Sykes, of N.S.W., who succeeds L. J. Gomm, of Victoria; National Efficiency Superintendent, E. R. Childs, of N.S.W., who, after having acted in the office during the war period, now succeeds C. W. Rodd, of Queensland; National Floating C.E. Superintendent, Charles W. Hunt, of Western Australia, who succeeds Russell W. Watson, of N.S.W.

The council expressed its keen appreciation of the services rendered by the retiring superintendents, mentioning in particular Mrs. Nelson, who has led the Junior work for so long with such ability, and who for a number of years has been chiefly responsible for the production of the Junior Topic Book.—R.G.



# Here and There

The first assembly of the World Council of Churches will be held at Amsterdam from August 24 to September 5, 1948.

Hinrichsen mission, Wiley Park, N.S.W., had crowded meeting on Sunday night, March 30, when three adults decided for Christ.

Owing to holidays we went to press on Thursday, April 3, with this issue. This will account for some items of news not appearing.

Members and friends of Collingwood-Richmond-Burnley Youth Fellowship visited Salvation Army Boys' Home at Bayswater on Saturday, March 22. About 90 boys and the staff were entertained with a social evening, after which supper was enjoyed by staff and visitors.

On Saturday, March 22, the Western Suburban Youth Fellowship, Melbourne, held a "squash" at Sunshine. The programme began with bright singing of choruses led by Mr. Gavros, newly-appointed preacher at Sunshine. A Bible quiz was another feature. Mr. Hurren, from Footscray church, gave a challenging address.

The Council of Churches has completed arrangements for Lionel B. Fletcher, the world-famed evangelist, to conduct a series of missions throughout the Melbourne metropolitan area. They are: Aug. 16 to Aug. 25, Independent Church, Collins-st.; Aug. 30 to Sept. 8, Footscray; Sept. 13 to Sept. 22, Camberwell; Oct. 4 to Oct. 13, Brunswick; Oct. 18 to Oct. 27, Prahran.

An interdenominational group of film players is to be formed to assist in the production of religious films by the Australian Religious Film Society. Everybody interested in the dramatic work, decor, technical aspect, i.e., sound, lighting, carpentry, make-up, and especially the wardrobe, is invited to send name and address to Australian Religious Film Society, 156 Collins-st., Melbourne, C.I.

D. P. Pallot, B.Sc., superintendent of Bible school at Subiaco, W.A., completed work at University of Perth to qualify for B.A. and B.E. (Honors) degrees. His work over many years among young people of church has been valued. Ira Raymond, son of R. Raymond, has qualified for B.A. degree. He is organising a library for W.A. Repatriation Department.

Dr. Clement A. Verco, so well known throughout the Commonwealth, was elected unanimously chairman of the Preachers' Provident Fund in place of the late W. H. Hall. Mr. Stanley Laney, of Burwood church, was also elected to fill a vacancy on the committee. Mr. Laney holds an important position in the Customs Department; for five years during the last war he represented the Commonwealth Government as chief officer in the United States of America.

There are many opportunities for women interested in creating a happy home-life for young women and girls to become supervisors or assistant supervisors, of one of the many Y.W.C.A. Hostels situated in town and country centres in Victoria. Women who are capable of managing a large household and a staff, and who have a keen desire to serve young women, are asked to communicate with the Y.W.C.A. Southern Regional Secretary, 16 Wallace-ave., Toorak, for further particulars.

Church of Christ, Church of England, Methodist, and Presbyterian—four churches in Cheltenham, Vic.—co-operated in a week of united witness to the things of the Christian faith from March 24-29. Addresses were given by Dean Langley, A. H. Wood, E. L. Williams, Gordon Powell, G. H. Cranswick, Hamilton Alken, chairman of the Australian Religious Film Society. Meetings were held in Mechanics' Hall, attendances averaging 200. Combined choirs and soloists assisted with musical items. Conjointly with this series of meetings, children's services were held each school after-

noon, G. T. Sambell and E. R. Baldwin being the missionaries. Attendances of children ran from 160 up to 200.

In Czechoslovakia to-day may be found one of the most intelligent bodies of people with the most enlightened leadership which exists anywhere in the world. They are a people with strong traditions of democracy which have survived many perils. They have a vigorous Protestant church whose symbol, the open Bible and the communion cup, memorialises their epic struggle for freedom in religion.—G. W. Buckner, jun.

P. H. Welshimer began his forty-sixth year as minister of First Christian Church, at Canton, O., U.S.A., on Jan. 1, 1947. In the Canton congregation on the following Sunday morning not more than twenty people were present who were in the first local worship service conducted by Mr. Welshimer forty-five years ago. Mr. Welshimer is engaged in the second longest ministry among Christian churches. He has served longer in Canton than any minister of any religious body. The report of the Canton church for 1946 shows, among other things, the following: Additions by baptism, 248; additions by transfer, 57; deaths in membership, 70; Bible school average attendance, 2001; nett gain in membership, 57.

Many Christians have raised the question as to the possible attitude of an independent India toward the work of the church. Some there have been who have predicted that a nationalist government would put all sorts of obstacles in the way of the programme of the churches. If this proves to be in any measure true, it will be in part a commentary upon the inability of the Christian movement in India to divorce itself from the charge of being a mere foreign importation, and upon its failure to identify itself with the needs and aspirations of the people. There are many voices, however, to declare that such is not the case, and that the church has nothing to fear in an India run by Indians.—"World Call."

Since Christmas in particular church services at Wanganui, New Zealand, where the preacher is L. R. H. Beaumont, have been largely attended. Eight decisions have been recorded. A fine spirit prevails throughout church, and an excellent annual meeting was held, when the church's best report yet was presented, indicating splendid support of the local work and Dominion and foreign activities. The ministry of L. R. H. Beaumont, who has been with the church for three years in July, was spoken of appreciatively; he has been re-engaged for an indefinite period. Church is most highly thought of in the community. Great preparations were made for conference this Easter, and this church welcomed delegates to the Silver Jubilee Dominion Conference.

All People's Christian church, Los Angeles, U.S.A., which is the basis of a new film entitled, "For All People," is an actual Disciple church, and offers a challenging example of racial and cultural democracy. What church among us could boast such a demonstration of true Christian brotherhood in the roll of its leadership? The chairman of the board of four elders is a Caucasian, the vice-chairman a Japanese, the other two members a Negro and a Caucasian. The two deacons are Caucasians; of the five deaconesses, two are Negroes, two Caucasians, and one a Japanese. The church clerk is a Japanese, the financial secretary a Negro. The director of the very excellent mixed choir is a young Chinese woman, a student at Chapman College. The organist is a Negro girl who is also in Chapman. The director of the nursery-kindergarten is a Caucasian, Mrs. Leonora Vickland, who has served in this position since the days of the Japanese Christian Institute. Two capable Negro women are on the kindergarten staff, a

teacher and an assistant. A Chinese girl is leader of two girls' clubs. The cook is a Mexican.

## THE AUSTRALIAN NURSES' CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

THE fortunate amongst our readers who have not had occasion to spend time as patients in hospitals are perhaps not aware of the value of the Christian nurse, nor of the grand work being done by the Australian Nurses' Christian Movement in our hospitals. The A.N.C.M. aims to bring nurses to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to strengthen the Christian nurses by prayer, Bible study and fellowship within the hospitals.

Ministers and Christian friends who know of young women leaving their congregations to commence nursing training in the large training hospitals, and anxious for their spiritual welfare, are glad to pass on the names and addresses. The A.N.C.M. immediately endeavors to contact these nurses and bring them into touch with Christian nursing friends and fellowship.

The movement is interdenominational, and has established attractive lounge and fellowship rooms in Central House, 174 Collins-st., where nurses may spend their time off duty, relaxing in a Christian atmosphere. Opportunities are given to hear Bible studies, missionary addresses; to enjoy the inspiration of music in the nurses' choir; to meet other nurses; and partake of refreshment provided.

Many nurses have heard the call to the home and missionary services, and have gone forth to serve Christ where he has led.

Thus A.N.C.M. is the handmaid of the churches and should have the support of all Christians who realise the immense value to the world of the Christian nurse who is consecrated to the service of her Lord and Master. The movement is maintained by free-will offerings and donations. Are you interested to become a prayer partner or giver to this great work? The organising secretary in Victoria (Miss E. M. Dwyer, S.R.N.), 174 Collins-st., Melbourne, C.I., will send literature, and welcome your interest and help. There are branches of A.N.C.M. in all capital cities.

## RESPECTING DR. HYMAN J. APPELMAN

DR. HYMAN J. APPELMAN, the most outstanding international evangelist of present times, has been invited by representatives of the Australian Christian churches to hold a campaign throughout Australia in the year 1948. It is proposed to commence the campaign in Melbourne on March 1. For nearly two years a council of fifty men, representing practically all the Protestant churches, have been prayerfully planning this effort. A network of organisation throughout Australia is being completed to ensure the greatest possible good to our beloved land. The following statements by a leader of the Christian church in America will assist in assessing the valuable ministry of this distinguished man of God:—

Dr. David Cooper Th.M., Ph.D., Lit.D., president of the Biblical Research Society, which is a world-wide organisation, pays the following glowing tribute:—

"Dr. Hyman Appelman is a man who is being used of God mightily here in America. He is a Hebrew Christian, and a fine man. He stands very, very high with all evangelical . . . Christian denominations, and works with them all. You will not make any mistake in arranging for him to visit your continent next year."—J. Wiltshire, organising secretary.



# News of the Churches

## Queensland

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—Good attendances marked meetings on March 30. Miss Myrl Howarth was soloist in evening. 183 broke bread during day. Of attendance of 65 at monthly prayer meeting of Women's Conference Auxiliary, held at East Ipswich chapel on March 27, 20 sisters were present from Ann-st.

## Tasmania

Devonport.—On March 9 H. Byard gave an interesting morning address on the Caveside conference. At night F. T. Burttt preached. On March 16 Rod Pitt spoke in morning. Church had fellowship with Mrs. Wilson, from Swanston-st., Melbourne. F. T. Burttt conducted gospel meeting. On March 23 F. T. Burttt spoke in morning. Sister Hudson was welcomed back after several weeks' holidays. H. Byard preached at night. At annual church business meeting on March 24, all auxiliaries reported good work for year. F. T. Burttt was re-elected secretary, Stan Bruton treasurer. Church regretted having to accept T. Barnes' resignation as treasurer through ill-health; he held the position for many years faithfully. Past officers and deaconess were re-elected. Mrs. Burt, sen., is laid aside with sickness. On March 30 Mr. Pitt, sen., spoke in morning. At night F. T. Burttt conducted gospel meeting.

## South Australia

Unley.—Mr. and Mrs. Rowlands, by transfer from Semaphore, and two young people of Sunday school, after baptism, have been welcomed into the church. First of quarterly church nights, held on March 26, was supported by young and old, 80 members being present. After a short devotional service led by Mr. Norris, moving pictures of their travels interstate were shown by Dr. Messent and C. L. Johnston. Preparations for Sunday school anniversary are in hands of Will Watson.

Forestville.—Harvest service was excellent, with special singing by augmented choir. Gifts were later sent to Mordialta and Colebrook, and special parcels to Mr. Barnes, one of the past members, now in England. At youth service a choir consisting mainly of past and present C.E. members gave special singing; young people also conducted all other parts of service. Youth Council conducted a teacher training course with G. R. Stirling, and a splendid time was enjoyed. Bible school teachers feel inspired and encouraged. Mrs. Tippet gave splendid service in fellowship over a cup of tea on each of the four nights. Mrs. McIntyre is making good progress in hospital after illness. She is cradle roll superintendent. Bible school is practising for anniversary.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—March 23 was Bible school anniversary day, and services were happy and inspiring. School rendered special singing, led by Gordon Ellis, in very pleasing manner. Speakers were J. E. Webb, morning; S. E. Matthews, afternoon; and W. Beiler, evening. Their addresses were much appreciated. At afternoon gathering, items were given by kindergarten department under leadership of Miss Lorna Downs. On evening of March 26, prizes were distributed and items given by school. The superintendent, W. E. Blackeby, was assisted in conducting of meeting by several young men of school; W. Bradley made an efficient chairman. Secretary and treasurer gave reports in dialogue form. At close of meeting thanks were tendered by superintendent to all who had helped in the gatherings.

## New South Wales

Rockdale.—On March 30 Mr. Clark, of Taree, gave a fine exhortation to church. Visitors included Mr. Hannam, from Maylands, S.A. At night Mr. Jones, of Russian and European Evangelical Mission, gave a stirring gospel address. W. Cooper, of Lane Cove, was soloist.

Earlwood.—Two lads confessed Christ after A. Hinrichsen's appeal on March 23. Messrs. Corlett, Smith, Tonkin and Caldicott gave splendid exhortations during March. Visitors were welcomed. Y.P.S.C.E. reports new members, and Bible school welcomes Misses D. Smith and V. Vorhauer to primary department. On March 30 G. Brown (Grafton) gave an inspiring gospel address, and two young people were baptised. Mrs. Bing delighted with a solo. Bible school reports removal of Mr. Curzon to Herne Bay after twelve years of faithful service as secretary. A presentation of a Bible was made by staff and scholars. L. Smith succeeds him. R. Clymer, who has received a call to Bible College, was also recently farewelled and given a presentation. Prayer for O. Turner's recovery from serious illness has been answered.

## Victoria

Footscray.—Congratulations are extended to Miss M. Lambert on winning P.B.P. breast-stroke title at combined P.B.P. and K.S.P. swimming carnival. Visitors on March 23 included Mr. and Mrs. Somers, of W.A. Mrs. Lynch, of Fawkner, rendered a solo at evening service. K.S.P. table tennis team opened season with first success on March 24. Ladies of church visited Guest Home at Oakleigh on March 25. Church cricket team met with success in a social game against visiting team from Peel-st., Ballarat, on March 29. On March 30, the new organ was used for first time, when H. Easton rendered a solo. Visitors to church included Mrs. Robinson, from W.A. Bible class held a tea, when members of Sunday school were present. Sunday school commenced new year's work on April 6.

Warrnambool.—Church played its part in centenary celebrations of city, Miss H. Chipperfield and Mrs. C. Dunlop representing it in centenary choir. Special services were held on March 23 for centenary. Visitors were present from N.Z. (Mrs. F. Petterd) and W.A. (Mrs. Arnold). G. Rogers, a foundation member of church, was present. At evening service Elaine Jenkins, a Bible school scholar, was baptised. Mrs. J. Richter, of Yarrpturk, and Mrs. E. Houston are in hospital following operations. Mrs. LeCouteur has returned from Melbourne. Mr. Weir addressed Mission Band at its March meeting, and Mrs. Weir was presented with a birthday gift from members. All aspects of church work are progressing. Exterior of chapel has been renovated, and interior is to be commenced soon. Building fund appeal realised £92. C. F. Houston addressed church helpfully on March 16.

Northcote.—On March 5, Mission Band had picnic at Mt. Evelyn and enjoyed fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Pedley. R. L. Williams spoke at gospel meeting on March 16 in place of W. G. Graham, who addressed Bible school anniversary at Caulfield. Christian Men's Society was inaugurated on March 19, E. L. Williams giving an enlightening address on "Communism." W. G. Graham was elected president, W. Huggan secretary, and Geo. Flynn treasurer. At Pi Christian Fraternal Orders swimming competition, Kappas won championship, Phi Betas gaining third place. W. W. Saunders, former preacher, addressed morning service on March 23. Ethel Tyson, a former kinder teacher and Phi Beta, was married to M. Blackeby on March 29. Miss M. Amery, church organist for past 35 years, has been

thanked for splendid and loyal services. On March 30, £14 was received in an offering for food for Britain appeal. Monthly average for breaking of bread was 161, and at evening service 109. (Continued on next page)

## WANTED

Wanted to rent, urgently, four or five roomed house, preferably Hawthorn to Ringwood.—H. Steele, c/o Mooroolbark P.O.

## FOR SALE

"Jubilee History," 10/-; one Pulpit Bible, 7 in. x 10 1/2 in., 25/-; another, 10 in. x 13 in., 30/-. Postage or carriage extra. On view at Austral Co.

## IN MEMORIAM

HOLLOWAY.—In loving memory of Mrs. M. Holloway, passed away at Hampton, April 12, 1945, very dear friend of the Buckingham family.

"Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,  
From which none ever wake to weep;  
A calm, an undisturbed repose,  
Unbroken by the last of foes."  
—"Bangalore," Emma-st., Caulfield, Vic.

WHITTINGTON.—Treasured memories of my beloved husband, William, passed away Mar. 29, 1946; loving father of Frank, Mabel, Wallace, Maynie, grandfather of Margie and Douglas.

"When the weary ones we love  
Enter on their rest above,  
Seems the earth so poor and vast,  
All our life-joy overcast?  
Hush! be every murmur dumb—  
It is only till he come."

## LYGON ST. NEW CENTURY BIBLE CLASS.

3 p.m. each Sunday.

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

April 13.—"Island Exile"—John.

April 20—"Valiant Heart"—Helen Keller.

## ST. KILDA CHURCH OF CHRIST

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES,  
SUNDAY, APRIL 20.

11 a.m., Jas. Holloway, President of Conference.  
3 p.m., "Back to Sunday School"  
7 p.m., H. A. Hunt.

Former members and friends are invited home to a day of fellowship. Hospitality provided.

## A TWO-WEEKS' MISSION OF TEACHING.

Subjects for First Week:

Monday, April 21, E. H. Randall, "The New Testament Idea of God."  
Tuesday, April 22, A. B. Withers, "The Christian and His Bible."  
Wednesday, April 23, J. K. Martin, "Building the Church."  
Thursday, April 24, A. R. Lloyd, "The Baptism Our Lord Commanded."

Friends from sister churches are invited to these meetings. 8 p.m. each night.

## BRUNSWICK BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

SUNDAY, APRIL 20.

3 p.m., L. Brooker. 7 p.m., N. Gavros.

SUNDAY, APRIL 27,

3 p.m., H. Long. 7 p.m., D. Wilson.

All Past Scholars and Friends Invited.

Hospitality Provided.

Children's Demonstration, Wednesday, April 30.

## CHRISTIAN PERIODICALS.

"The Evangelical Quarterly," 3/-.  
"The Converted Catholic," 1/-.  
"Prophecy Monthly," 9d.  
"Christian Digest," 1/3.  
"Missionary Digest," 10d.  
"World Dominion and the World To-day," 1/6.  
Write for complete list.

## KESWICK BOOK DEPOT.

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



## Victorian News — Continued

**Montrose.**—Meetings are much improved. On March 16, H. Steel gave church an excellent talk. J. Holliday, of the college, presided on morning of March 23. Sunday school is preparing for anniversary. Mr. Keatch, of the college, is training scholars for singing.

**Shepparton.**—Speaker on morning of Mar. 23 was Albany Bell, from W.A., who spoke of his work amongst aborigines. On March 28 church held a kitchen tea in honor of Olwyn Heres and Hugh Paul, to be married shortly. Visitors were welcomed on March 30. Mr. Butler spoke morning and evening.

**Emerald.**—On March 23 fellowship was enjoyed with visitors. Interest in Sunday school is good, and two more scholars were welcomed. On March 30 J. Conry, who with wife and family is on holidays here, presided in morning. An address by F. Warn was appreciated. Item by young people was part of evening service.

**East Preston.**—75 were present at gospel service in evening of March 30, when the film, "The First Easter," was screened. C. Watson, the preacher, led the service, and gave a brief introduction to the film and concluding remarks. Thanks for bringing projector and film are extended to Bentleigh church Men's Society.

**Geelong.**—Mr. Stirling was preacher at both services on March 30. One lady was baptised in evening. Choir rendered special Easter music. On Saturday evening a social was held to bid farewell to Walter Colman. He will be greatly missed, as he has done a wonderful work among young people and been a great help to choir.

**Maryborough.**—Harvest festival services were held on March 23, proceeds to go to England to aid distressed brethren. In conjunction with evening service, a Young Worshipers' League has been formed with 18 members. Attendances have improved on same period of last year. Mr. Alcorn's addresses have been instructive, and are appreciated.

**Gardenvale.**—At annual business meeting, reports showed church and auxiliaries to be in a healthy condition. Messrs. White and Warn conducted a successful ten days' mission. Special services for children were held after school, attendances reaching 135, also gospel meetings in evening, with messages illustrated by slides. Thankoffering amounted to £23/1/3.

**Cheltenham.**—On March 18, C.M.S. held a successful dinner, followed by open forum on "How May I Best Serve Jesus Christ?" T. T. Robinson, A. E. Huntly and W. F. White introduced the subject, and keen discussion followed. Thirty men were present and enjoyed this event. Special week of witness has helped and encouraged all members of church.

**Croydon.**—Mr. Steele, of Mooroolbark, preached at evening service on March 9 during Mr. Quayle's absence with a group of young people in camp at Berwick. Bible school held enjoyable picnic at Lilydale on March 16. Church held harvest thanksgiving services on March 23.

Produce was later sent to Christian Guest Home. Mrs. Kear and Mrs. Hall have recently been soloists at evening services.

**Carnegie.**—On morning of March '23, H. A. Hunt, of St. Kilda, was speaker. Men's Fellowship conducted a picture night, "Through the Blue Mountains," given by Mr. Adams on March 22. It is expected about £5 will be raised to help piano fund. Youth Council held a tea and youth service on March 29, R. L. Williams being speaker at tea, at which Bambra-rd. young people were guests. W. E. Quirk spoke at gospel service.

**Fairfield.**—Meetings are well attended. At harvest thanksgiving services on March 16, a large assortment of gifts for England was made. At church business meeting on March 19, Mr. McCormack was added to officers' board. Clive Butler agreed to take position as secretary of church. During year over sixty parcels were sent to England by ladies. There were several additions by faith and baptism. Mr. Fitzgerald enters his second year of ministry.

**Black Rock.**—On March 30, church enjoyed fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Shipway, of Hindmarsh, S.A., and appreciated Mr. Shipway's address at morning meeting. Other meetings have been addressed by E. L. Williams and N. Arnott. Sunday school anniversary services were held on March 9 and 16, when speakers were T. Fitzgerald, Stan Giles, J. Sewell and V. C. Page. All meetings were well attended, and scholars sang well under leadership of J. F. Baker.

**Dandenong.**—A splendid array of gifts from generous donors graced platform on harvest festival Sunday, March 23. Building was well packed morning and evening. Mr. Youens' appropriate addresses delighted everyone. Goods were disposed of on March 24, and as a result, more than £17 will be added to new church building fund. On March 30, at morning service, seating capacity was fully taxed. Visitors were welcomed. Presentation was made to Miss Shirley Gordon and her fiancé on eve of their marriage. Baptismal service at night attracted people not usually seen. There were also visitors from New Zealand.

**Camberwell.**—On March 23, harvest festival services were held. Gifts were in form of tinned food for Britain. On March 24, officers of church and Bible school teachers visited homes of members and parents. On Mar. 28, a successful parents and children evening was held in connection with Bible school. R. P. Morris showed pictures of his trip abroad. March 30 commenced a morning series of addresses on Restoration Movement, J. McG. Abercrombie speaking on the Restoration plea. In afternoon Miss L. Foreman spoke to Bible school. A young lady confessed Christ in evening service. W. J. Nankivell's leadership is appreciated.

**Mont Albert.**—Temporary full-time ministry of C. Young has been a blessing to church. It is hoped that arrangements may be completed whereby he will continue for a term as part-time preacher combined with his duties of hospital visitation under Social Ser-

vice Committee. Special series of prayer meetings were well attended by local brethren as well as helped by delegations from sister churches. Bible school scholars are helping in singing at gospel meetings. One young man has been added to church by faith and obedience. Among visitors have been J. Holway and L. Trezise, who took part in worship service on March 23.

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### The Australian Christian

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## TIME and TIDE

wait for no man

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## Obituary

### Miss Margaret McCallum

IN the early hours of the Lord's day, Mar. 16, our sister slipped away into the presence of the King. A daughter of the late Thos. McCallum, a well-known lay preacher in our country churches, Miss McCallum accepted the Saviour and joined the church at Ascot Vale, Vic., in 1901, and served in Ascot Vale and St. Kilda churches for some forty-six years until the Lord called her home. Her work amongst the ladies of the church was outstanding, and especially her service to Mission Band, kindergarten and Junior Christian Endeavor, where her quiet and efficient ministry endeared her to the hearts of the boys and the girls. Miss McCallum will also be remembered for her visits to the sick and aged, and took upon herself the task whilst a member of the Women's Auxiliary to write to each member on the occasion of her birthday. Her life was spent in devoted service for the Master she loved, and her gracious personality leaves a very fragrant memory of a sister beloved in the Lord. Services both at the home and Fawkner cemetery were conducted by the writer, assisted by Mr. Colin Burt, minister of the church at Ascot Vale. Many floral tributes bore eloquent testimony to the high esteem in which our sister was held. So does she rest from her labors and her works do follow her until the day dawn and the shadows flee away.—L. G. Crisp.

### F. E. Smith

AFTER a short illness, F. E. Smith passed to his eternal rest. Our late brother reached the age of seventy-eight years, and retained all his faculties until the last few days. He came from England with his wife about thirty years ago. They joined with the church at North Fitzroy and then at Preston. They were among the first to set up the Lord's Table at Thornbury. They had fellowship with the church at Fairfield for a number of years, where he was called to the eldership and served with acceptance in that high office for some years. He was a worthy secretary for a number of years also. He was one of the worthies of the church, being of a humble type of Christian, yet rich in grace. He was never heard to say an unkind word of anyone, yet he could be firm for Christian principles. His last place of worship was at South Richmond, where he had been for the last few months of his life. To the writer, he was one of the finest types of Christian men met with. He was predeceased by his wife a few years ago, and no children are left to mourn his loss. W. Clay assisted at the services, and Mr. Dickson led in prayer at graveside. He was laid to rest at Preston on March 24, when the writer conducted the service.—A.G.E.S.

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## Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

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

### COLLEGE AND DOCTRINE.

**MR. BECK** must have touched a very tender spot, judging by the length to which the college authorities consider it necessary to go in reply.

The principal's letter is more than twice as long as the usual 300 word limit, and he added almost nothing to the discussion which had not already been mentioned by Dr. Kemp or Mr. Morgan. The privilege extended to Dr. Kemp of replying in the same issue as that in which Mr. Beck's letter appeared was not necessary, surely, and I do not think the same privilege would have been offered if the positions had been reversed. This use of official standing to gain an advantage is not brotherly, democratic or Christian.—M. A. Laird, Hartwell, Vic.

[We have offered this privilege of seeing and answering a letter at time of publication to others. It is a practice acknowledged by other religious journals in Australia and overseas.—Ed.]

**THE** letter of L. J. Price raises important questions as to the doctrine generally accepted among us. Those who have known the churches of Christ for many years have witnessed many changes, but the entire blame cannot be placed on any particular persons or on institutions.

A person may be baptised and received into fellowship before it is possible for them to know or appreciate the doctrine generally held. When they are taught it does not always follow that there is agreement.

As regards the necessity of baptism, some may take the view of the Baptists and Brethren, in which case, other things being convenient, they will probably identify themselves with others. This has often occurred, and it seems the honest thing to do.

The other points raised by L. J. Price are matters for the local church, and will probably be settled on which is the first essential, whether it be unity of the church or a close following of the scripture. The article of K. A. Macnaughtan now appearing is the sort of teaching now necessary. Open discussion in the pages of the "A.C." should lead to an appreciation of the difficulty others have in accepting our plea for unity. L. J. Price evidently accepts the view that baptism is essential. I agree with him, but there are great implications which must be faced. Are we prepared to face and discuss them?—James Bourne, Palmwoods, Qld.

### ADDRESSES

F. G. Banks (preacher Whyalla church, S.A.).  
—74 Duncan-st., Whyalla.

Chaplain L. G. Crisp.—C/o R.A.A.F., Amberley, Qld.

R. W. Dawson (secretary Bankstown church, N.S.W.).—32 Carnation-ave., Bankstown.

J. H. Harrison (secretary Launceston church, Tas.).—26 Neika-ave., West Launceston.

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## The Australian Christian

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April 9, 1947

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# Up Sixty-five Miles

D. Cuthbert, "Expository Times."

"Thy light shall we see light."—Psa. 36: 9.

obvious if we looked at it from a distance.

I HAVE been looking at some photographs taken thirty, forty-five, and sixty-five miles away from the earth. Did you say "Impossible!" It sounds impossible, for no man has ever been so far away from the earth and lived to tell the tale, let alone bring back photographs of what he saw. But over in America they have been experimenting with V2 rockets, and it was from one of these that the photographs were taken, by means of a camera worked by electricity. As the rocket soared into the sky the camera automatically recorded pictures of the earth below. And when the camera came down again, and the photographs were developed, scientists were able to see what the earth looks like sixty-five miles up.

So far as I can tell from newspaper copies, the photographs are not very good. The one taken thirty miles away is the clearest. On it a range of hills looks rather like the wrinkles on the back of your hand. At sixty-five miles up the rocket must have tilted, for the horizon runs from the bottom left-hand corner of the picture to the top right-hand corner. On this photograph the surface of the earth is little more than a blur. Nevertheless, it is most interesting, because the horizon is distinctly curved. Someone who knew nothing about the origin of the picture would probably say that it is a photograph of a small slice of a very large ball.

I know that we have been told this often enough at school—"The earth is a globe slightly flattened at the top and the bottom." I dare say it had not occurred to us to doubt the truth of it. We may even have put it to the test in the approved way by watching a ship steam away from us and disappear, bit by bit, below the horizon. But very few of us have seen the roundness of the earth. We are too close to it. It seems flat to us. But if we could take a trip sixty-five miles up we should be able to see for ourselves that what the geography books tell us is true. The roundness of the earth would be quite

# Taking a Lead

"Then said I, Here am I; send me."—Isa. 6: 8.

SOME time ago a friend took me to visit a large sheep station away at the head of one of our beautiful lakes. What a great day we had, and what interesting things we saw! I think I liked best of all two old sheep that seemed to be special favorites about the place. One was called Winston and the other Softy. Winston liked tobacco (so you can guess where he got his name), and Softy liked buns, and whenever the children came out, they would come nosing about looking for something to eat. They were specially valuable sheep, these two, for they were pilot sheep. When they were lambs they lost their mothers, and so were brought up as pets around the homestead. There they learned to follow the men about, especially if there was a bun to be had, until they would go anywhere they were led. And that's how they were trained as pilot sheep.

You know what silly things sheep are sometimes, and how it is hard to get them to go where you want them to go. But once you can get one to start off in the right direction, the rest will all follow. When, whenever the shepherds wanted to take a mob of sheep, say, over a narrow bridge, or get them to swim across a branch of the river (as was sometimes necessary), one of them would go ahead and call Softy or Winston, perhaps entice him with a bun, and, of course, he would follow without any trouble, and then all the rest of the mob would do the same. Wasn't that a good idea? You can well imagine how popular these two old sheep were, especially on a place where there were thousands of sheep to be moved about.

When I saw Softy and Winston, with their funny, wrinkled-up faces, I thought of you! Not because you have got funny, wrinkled-up faces, but because I thought how good it would be to have pilot children, and pilot grown-ups too, about the place. You know what I mean. Young people and grown-ups who don't wait for other people to start doing whatever is right or needful, but who go ahead and do it themselves.

That is what the young man Isaiah did, as mentioned in our text. He was in the temple praying and worshipping

God, when he heard God saying he had a very important piece of work for someone to do. He wanted someone to go as his messenger to his people, and tell them the things he wanted them to know. And you know what Isaiah did. He was up in a minute, without waiting for anyone else to start, and said to God, "I'll go. Here am I; send me." Wasn't that good? Many people would have said to themselves, "That's a very hard job. I don't think I could do it. I'm sure it's no use me trying. I wonder who will do it?" And so they were, like the sheep in a mob, no one moving in the direction they should go. But Isaiah wasn't like that. When he saw what had to be done, he did not wait for the others. He took the lead and began to do the right thing himself.

Well, that is what God wants all of us to be like. At home, say, when mother calls for someone to go a message, or in church or Sunday school, when there is some job waiting to be done, we should not wait till others do what is necessary; we should take a lead and start doing it ourselves. And in all sorts of other ways. When you hear God calling you to do some work for him in the world, or Jesus asking you to give your heart to him and be faithful to him, do not wait for the rest of the crowd; take a lead yourself—be pilots like Winston and Softy—do the right thing yourselves, and show the others the way.

That is what Jesus did. He saw the great sorrow and trouble in the world, and he came down himself to help men and women. He took the lead in doing what was right and good; and he calls us, who are his children, to do the same.

—J. S. Murray, Ashburton, N.Z.

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Y O U T H S ' M A G A Z I N E

Y O U T H S ' M A G A Z I N E



THE human body is essentially an air-cooled engine with a sensitive and efficient cooling system. The best way to keep cool in hot weather is to help the cooling system operate unimpeded. Key part of the cooling mechanism is the skin. When air temperature goes up, the skin's pores open, cutting down the skin's insulating effect. Blood flows in large quantities close to the body's surface, gives off heat more easily with this insulating effect reduced. Most important of all, perspiration pours out, evaporates on the skin and in evaporating cools the skin and body.

To keep cool, therefore, people should (1) wear loose porous clothing which allows air to circulate over the skin and (2) drink plenty of water to replace that lost. Iced drinks help psychologically more than physiologically in keeping people cool. Excessive cold drinks are apt to cause severe stomach cramps. Summer diet should be much the same as at any other time of year. Main thing to watch in hot weather is loss of appetite which reduces energy. To stimulate the appetite, food should look cool.—*Selected.*

□

## INDIA'S VILLAGES

IN India there are about three quarters of a million villages, colorful and exotic but also miserable and abjectly poor. Each village is a self-contained little community built in ancient days to resist attacks of warlike neighbors. People live together according to the strict rules of caste, with outcasts living apart from the ordinary community. All houses are one story high, with few more than 10 or 12 feet wide, and are made of palm leaves, mud and wattle or bamboo. Of 388,000,000 people in India, approximately 300,000,000 work on the land, mostly under depressing conditions of feudal landlordism. Hindu and Moslem traditions encourage land partition and small landowners split their tiny holdings among generations of sons until some fields are no larger than a fair-sized carpet.

□

## AN AUTOGRAPH

It is easy enough to be pleasant, When life flows by like a song; But the one worth while is the one who can smile. When everything goes dead wrong.

Y O U T H S ' M A G A Z I N E

## TWO HORSES

SAID the grey horse to the brown horse:

"Oh, but life's a pull!  
Half at least of every day  
My cart is full.

Half of every year—  
Talk about the lark—  
I must leave my warm bed  
While it is yet dark.

"Half the food I live on  
Every day  
Is—I give my word for it—  
Only hay.

Half my time—yes, fully—  
Cold days and hot,  
I must still keep going,  
Whether I'm well or not."



Said the brown horse to the grey horse:

"My work is half play,  
For my cart is empty.  
Half of every day.

Half of every year, too,  
I go to bed at night,  
Knowing I can stay there  
Till it is light.

"Master likes his horses  
With glossy coats,  
So half my food is always  
The best of oats.

What with nights, and standing  
While they unload,  
Half my time I'm resting,  
Not on the road."

—Author Unknown

## MISSIONS IN CHINA.

IN all China there are 5000 foreign missionaries serving the country's 450,000,000 people. They come mainly from the U.S., for China has been considered by U.S. missionaries to be a special challenge ever since Elijah Bridgman, the first of their long line, arrived in Canton in 1830. Since the war 800 U.S. Protestant missionaries have already returned faithfully to China and their duty.

# Youths' Magazine



## Teaching China's Millions

MILLIONS of boys and girls in China need the kind and sympathetic touch of Christian missionaries. Jesus sends his workers to that vast land to gather the young people into his great family. By the careful teaching of missionaries, these children are shown the way of life in Christ. With the casting out of superstitious customs Chinese people are able to improve their standard of living, make life more comfortable in homes, increase the health and happiness of young people and secure harmony and peace within the community. Christian missions are needed. Christian workers are required. Financial aid for missionary work is sought from all who love their Lord.