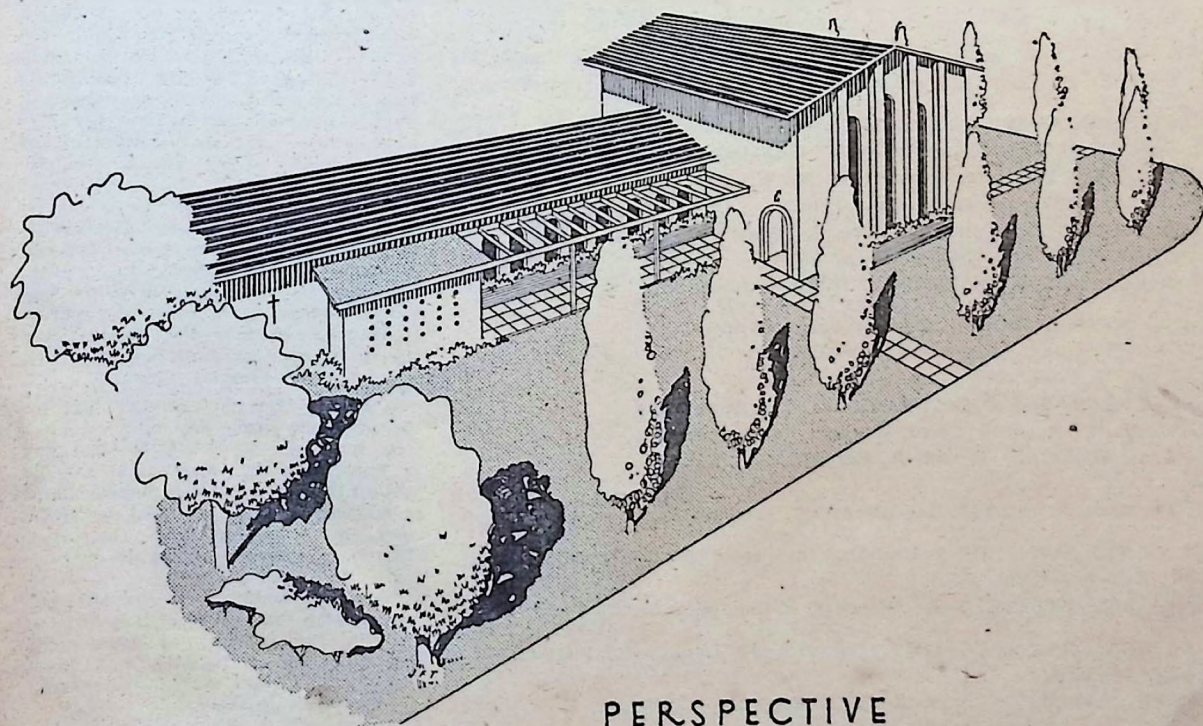


THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

THE CHURCH IN NATIONAL CAPITAL



PERSPECTIVE

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THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

C. G. Taylor, B.A., Editor. W. R. Hibburt, Manager.

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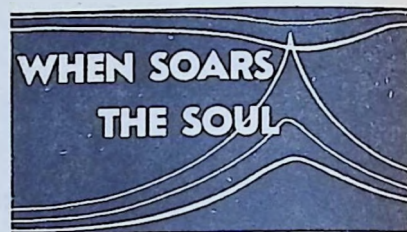
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When soars the soul earth's
clamoring voices cease,
Stilled in the wonder of God's
power and peace.



I have been crucified with Christ,
and it is no longer I who live, but
Christ lives in me; the life I now live
in the flesh I live by faith in the Son
of God who loved me and gave him-
self for me. . . . In Christ Jesus you
are all sons of God, through faith. For
as many of you as were baptised into
Christ have put on Christ. There is
neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither
slave nor free, there is neither male
nor female; for you are all one in
Christ Jesus.—Gal. 2: 20; 3: 27, 28
(R.S.V.).

The cross of Jesus is the work of
human sin. But if it were only that,
it would be the place of our ultimate
despair. The cross of Jesus is the work
also of the Son of God. What lies
deepest in Calvary is not the sinful wills
of men but the sinless will of Christ,
which perfectly reveals the will of the
Father. Men cry, "Let him be cruci-
fied." God says, "Let him be crucified."
This is the awful moment of atonement.
That which man wills in hate, God also
wills in love. And so the sinful will of
man and the loving will of God are
reconciled for ever in the submission of
the Son. They are at one. Here is
the mystery of the cross. Here is its
saving power. The sin of man achieves
its end—Christ is killed. And yet in
achieving its end, it is deflected, and
a profounder will is done; the murder
is transformed into the Passion, and
the sin of man is swallowed up in the
love of God.—Douglas Stewart.

O Father Eternal, we thank thee for
the new and living way into thy pres-
ence made for us in Christ; the way
of trust, sincerity, and sacrifice. Be-
neath his cross we would take our stand.
in communion with his Spirit we would
pray, in fellowship with the whole
Church of Christ we would seek to
know thy mind and will. . . . Give
unto us fellowship with his sufferings
and insight into the mystery of his
cross, so that we may be indeed cruci-
fied with him, be raised to newness of
life, and be hidden with Christ in thee.
AMEN.—W. E. Orchard.

Without the Way there is no going,
Without the Truth there is no knowing.
Without the Life there is no living.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

£12,500

£12,500

Canberra's Challenge

The Federal Executive has pleasure in announcing that estimates have been received and tenders called for the erection of a manse and a multi-purpose building on the land leased to churches of Christ in the National Capital.

The architect, whose sketches of the church building and the lay-out of the property appear in this issue, assures us that both buildings should be in readiness for G. R. Stirling, B.A., to begin his ministry with the church at Canberra at the end of the year.

The lay-out of the property is shown on the sketch plan appearing on this page. It is a splendid site situated on Limestone Avenue, the main highway to Sydney, and Grimes-st., Ainslie. There are four blocks, each with 80 feet frontage to Limestone-av., and with depth of 160 feet.

It is proposed to erect the first section of the building sketched on the front page of this issue of the *Christian*. This will provide a worship centre, Bible school, kindergarten and youth activity facilities, together with a modern kitchen.

The estimated cost of the manse and first section of the building is £12,000.

The churches throughout the Commonwealth have shown increased interest in and support of the Canberra appeal since Federal Conference. It is hoped that every church will make regular offerings towards meeting the challenge of establishing the church in National Capital, and forward immediately the monies received to the State Committees.

The N.S.W. State Executive has accepted the increased quota of £2,000, suggested by the Federal Executive, and has instructed us to arrange with the Campbell Edwards Trust for a loan of this amount for which N.S.Wales accepts liability for repayment over a period of five years. This action is commendable, and enables us to proceed forthwith.

A WOMAN'S PLEA

From a personal letter on behalf of the women of the Canberra Church.

As you know, we have a wonderfully inspiring Sunday morning meeting, where we remember our Saviour in the breaking of bread, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Buffinton. But how can we grow in numbers, beyond transfers, etc., if the Word isn't given out publicly to the world at large?

It invariably comes to the point where we contact people who are interested in what we say, but they haven't accepted

the Saviour. If we had a building of our own, we could hold gospel meetings, proclaim the loving Saviour, and so numbers would increase.

We have had several people, some New Australians, who have been very interested in the witness of churches of Christ here, and some have attended our morning meetings. But they do not care to go into a private home to a church service—so they stay away, with murmuring of regret. They say softly, for fear of hurting our feelings, "Now, if only you had a church building, it would be different."

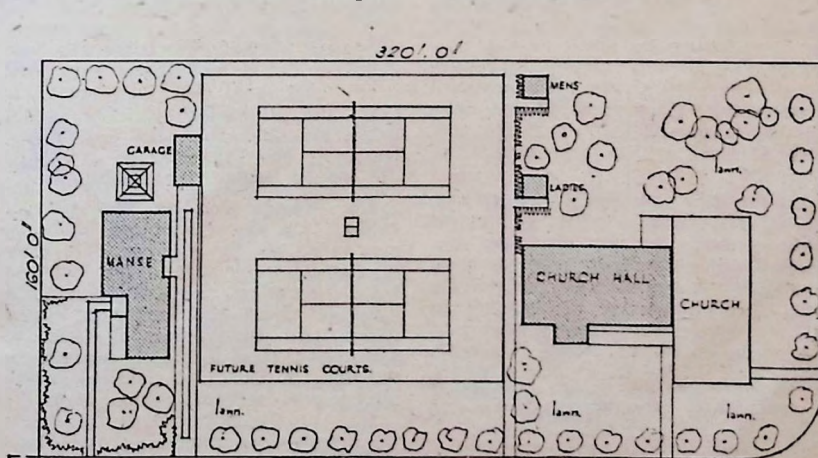
What an embarrassing position for the Capital Territory brethren who are drawn from various churches in other States.

Mr. Earle, we plead with you for your speedy help in a practical way. Can you hurry things along for us?

Yours in the Saviour,

MAVIS MOIGNARD.

CAN SUCH AN APPEAL
GO UNHEEDED BY THE
BROTHERHOOD?



Site plan of proposed Canberra church buildings.



"MY CHURCH"

*is no building of sticks and
stones for*

PERCY PITTMAN

Parkdale, Vic.

The first time the Church is mentioned in the Bible it is called "my Church" by Jesus. It is his, and it belongs to no one else, and yet there have been good men whose names have been attached by their followers to the Church. The Methodist Church used to be called the Wesleyan Church, but it is a sign of growth in grace and knowledge that the good Christian people called Methodists have come to see that the Church was not founded by John Wesley, and never belonged to him.

Ideas about the Church

There are some strange ideas about the Church. We hear of lads being destined for the Church because they are to be trained as clergymen. The clergy are distinct from the laity and are often spoken of as the Church, as though the laity did not belong to the Church at all.

The word "church" has come to mean the building, but this is a debased use of the term. The word "chapel" has various meanings, and we seem to need another word to mean a place of worship.

The Greek word which is translated Church means a congregation. I wonder whether those who speak of the Congregational Church realise that they are actually saying the Congregational Congregation? And do those who speak of the Church of England realise that they are saying the Congregation of England?

In the New Testament the Church is spoken of more than a hundred times, and it is used in three connections; first, the local assembly in a house or other place; second (in the plural), for a number of churches in different places; third, for all Christians everywhere, as in Eph. 1: 28, "his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all." No doubt our Lord had all of these in view when he spoke of "my Church."

Near where I live a young man is building a house. He has been at it

for a couple of years already, and does not seem to be able to afford labor, as every brick is being laid with his own hands. Jesus Christ has been building his Church for a couple of thousand years already, and no one knows when it will be finished, but every stone is being built in by his own hands, though he uses his people to help him in various ways. He is able to say "my Church" because he purchased it with his own blood, makes men living stones by his living Spirit, and will bring all to perfection in the eternal "house not made with hands."

A New Phenomenon

Keats, in his sonnet "On First Looking into Chapman's Homer," says:

"Then felt I like some watcher of
the skies

When a new planet swims into his
ken."

The watchers of the spiritual skies in the days of the early Christians must surely have felt like that when they saw the planet of the Church swim into their ken, for it was a new phenomenon in the world. Before Christ there had been what is called "the Church in the wilderness," but the old Israel cannot be compared with the new "Israel of God," in nature, extent, or destiny. The ancient societies and guilds of Greece and Rome were local or national, and have long ceased to exist, and all modern societies, guilds, lodges and fellowships are earthly and temporal; but the gates of hell shall not prevail against the Church.

The Church is called "the body of Christ," the agency through which he acts in all his divine power; the "bride of Christ," the object of his love and the perfection of spiritual beauty; the "city of God," the centre of divine government; the "family of God," to which he is most intimately related; the "heritage of God," his spiritual wealth passed down to the eternal ages, the "house of God," in which he dwells possessively and familiarly; the "husbandry of God," where he bestows his creative energy in abundance; the "joy

of the whole earth," bestowing spiritual happiness upon all peoples; the "light of the world" giving spiritual illumination to every land; "Mount Zion," the centre of all spiritual influence; the "pillar of the truth," upholding and sustaining all moral and spiritual knowledge; the "temple of God," the abode of all true worship in the Spirit; and many other extraordinary titles. Without doubt a new and glorious planet has arisen in the spiritual firmament.

Misunderstood, Even by Friends

Robert Black, senior, the father of Sidney and Wicklyffe, told me that he became a Christian as a young man, but knew nothing about the Church until, years after, he met Alexander Campbell, David King and others who opened his eyes to the existence of the Church and its importance both for time and eternity. There are many others who are aware only of personal salvation, and go on in the Christian life for many years with no knowledge of the large place the teaching as to the Church takes up in the New Testament.

The Church has suffered greatly during the centuries at the hands of her friends as well as her enemies. Christ commanded all his disciples to be immersed as believers, but the theory of inborn guilt gradually brought in infant-sprinkling, and the Church lost her beautiful initiatory rite of burial and resurrection with her Lord.

A literal interpretation of figurative expressions changed a memorial communion into a cannibalistic meal with magical mumbo-jumbo, but the Church is gradually returning to the simple and spiritual commemoration of the Lord's Supper on the Lord's Day, until he come.

To-day the Church is divided into many sects and denominations, but there is a movement towards re-union which is rapidly growing, and the prayer of Christ that all his people might be one is being offered in every nation of the world.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

To any who are still outside the Church, allow me to say that you need the Church, and the Church needs you. You need the Church to satisfy the social instinct which is in us all. You need her as a spiritual home for worship and service. You need her as a spiritual school in order to learn and obey the truth. You need her as a spiritual inheritance for the eternal future. And the Church needs you to help her in bearing her united testimony to the world around. She needs you in the task of uniting her divided and scattered forces. She needs you in the great work of carrying the know-

ledge of the gospel to the whole wide world, so as to "make known to the principalities and the powers in the heavenly places through the Church the manifold wisdom of God."

The Coming Coronation

At the coming Coronation our young Christian Queen will be honored by representatives of the Church of Jesus Christ in an elaborate ceremonial, and she will be able to look on an unparalleled assembly from all parts of her world-wide dominion and say in her heart proudly, "My people."

The day is coming when Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords, will be crowned over the whole universe in the new heavens and new earth, when the holy city, new Jerusalem, shall come down out of heaven from God, made ready as a bride adorned for her husband, when the kings of the earth shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations, and walk amidst the light, and reign with Christ for ever and ever. In that day the present world, with all its vanities, will have passed away, but it will be worth more than all the universe to hear him say proudly and affectionately, "My Church!"



Women's Federal Executive

To the Sisterhood of Australia from the Federal Women's President.

Dear Sisters,

As we enter our Coronation Year, may we make this a year of challenge. To-day calls for a wider evangelism than we have ever practised before. We are responsible to God for the souls of his children, and it behoves us to do something to save them for his Kingdom. We are his stewards, and so we must look to his work. He has given us this work to do, and we will have to give an account of our stewardship, both of talents and of money.

Sisters, are you not afraid to withhold the talents which God has given you? Can you sit back while women with less talents than you, hold two and three positions, because there is no one coming forward to fill them? Let us this year give our hearts truly to the Master, and then we will come forward to help him. Let us be loyal to him, first in our own home church. If our loyalty is there, then we must branch out. Christ will expect our loyalty to extend to the wider interests of his Kingdom in the State-wide activities of our sisterhood. Only then can we make an effective contribution to aggressive evangelism on the home front and overseas. In this way we play our part in the still larger cause for the restoration of New Testament Christianity.

So, sisters, let us take up the challenge, and let it be loyalty. Just as we are loyal to our young Queen, let us be loyal to our heavenly King, who is in all and above all. Let us de-

dedicate our lives afresh to the ideals of our Christian Women's Fellowship and to Christian service. Our Queen at her Coronation will dedicate her life to her God and to her people. Let this be a call to dedication by the people as well as by the Queen.

Your sister in Christ,

Dorothy Potter,

Federal Women's President.

It is suggested (1) that a special women's service be held in all our churches, as near as possible to the Coronation.

(2) That this Coronation Year be a year of challenge, and that we accept the challenge at that meeting.

TOPIC FOR APRIL

Women's Work in New Zealand

Mrs. J. G. Botting, Dominion President of C.W.A.

Early in the century two organised groups of women's work in the church were in existence; one in the North Island, known as the Sisters' Conference, the other being the Christian Women's Board of Missions, with organised groups in both Islands, but chiefly in the South.

Each of these organisations was laying the foundation for a greater combined work. To the leaders came a vision of a United Dominion work, linking together all affiliated groups throughout New Zealand. Thus in March, 1921, their object was achieved with the formation of the Christian Women's Auxiliary, known throughout the land as the C.W.A. Its object is to give

support to further Home and Foreign Missions, the Bible College, Dorcas work, hospital and home visitation, and temperance work. Each auxiliary pays an annual affiliation fee, and members pay dues of 1/- per month. This money is handled by the Dominion Executive, and quarter of it is distributed equally between Home Missions, Foreign Missions, and the Bible College. Of the remaining quarter, one penny goes towards a general furnishing fund for newly established churches, and the remaining twopence is held for working expenses. In addition to the contribution of fees and dues, each auxiliary has its own annual efforts to raise funds for this work, and for other branches of church work it desires to assist.

The C.W.A. has representatives on the Home Mission Committee, General Executive, Foreign Mission Council, and the Bible College Board. There are various young women's groups whose support to Foreign Mission work has been invaluable.

Parcels of medical goods are sent at intervals by auxiliaries to the Mission Station in Southern Rhodesia, and by joint effort throughout the Dominion, a "Mission Box" is forwarded each year to the missionaries on the field.

Great interest is also taken, and some help given to Miss Eadie, who is doing mission work among the Maoris on "faith" lines. By its existence in church work the C.W.A. radiates something of its life throughout the area it serves.

Each C.W.A. arranges its own hospital and home visitation programme, and the requirements of those in need of sympathy and comfort are not left unattended. It is the earnest desire of the C.W.A. to establish a Guest Home for aged sisters, a memorial to loved ones who have passed on, and to this end every effort is being made to accomplish this worthy object.

The C.W.A. is a spiritual organisation, stretching forward to extend the Kingdom of Christ here on earth. One of its special aims is to have every sister a C.W.A. member to work faithfully towards this goal.

What happens when

BUSINESS MEN LEAD CHURCH SERVICES

is told in this report from

ERIC T. HART

Toowoomba, Qld.



The Federal Conference President, C. R. Burdeu, was responsible for an inspiring week-end when he led a team of Brisbane men in special services with the Toowoomba church on March 6, 7, and 8. The local Christian Men's Society sponsored the service.

The team comprised F. T. Cross, a leading Brisbane barrister (Church of England), C. G. Sweetman, company director (Baptist), J. Ramsay, tailor (Presbyterian), and R. T. Morris, manufacturers' representative (Baptist), and C. R. Burdeu, Director of Commonwealth Social Services in Queensland.

The local broadcasting station, 4 GR, provided two broadcast talks by members of the team, and the press gave good publicity. The A.B.C. featured the week-end on the regional news bulletins.

The team led a Conference on the Saturday afternoon on the subject, "The Church in the Modern Community," and though election day prevented many of the industrial groups from sending representatives, the Deputy Premier, the Hon. J. T. Duggin, M.L.A., and Mr. Swartz took time out of a busy round of duties to bring a greeting to the Conference, and the Mayor of the City, Ald. M. R. Anderson, extended a welcome to the delegation.

The findings of the four sectional Conferences provided some interesting results.

C. G. Sweetman, presenting the findings on "The Church and Modern Industry," suggested that the Church should not attempt to be the intermediary in industrial disputes, but should regard it as a duty to encourage men with strong Christian principles to take active part in all matters relating to industry.

Church and Social Problems

Discussing "The Church and Modern Social Problems," F. T. Cross stressed the fact that gambling, with its direct contravention of the Divine law, must be defeated at all costs, and should be prohibited entirely by direct legislation. There is no real right for any one to have facilities for gambling, and this is true whether one pays admission to a

racecourse for the purpose, or buys a ticket in a Government sponsored lottery, and people should realise that the so called mild forms of gambling, such as the raffle, etc., are just as much a contravention of the law as the major issues.

The problem of the liquor traffic should be met by local option, whereby each area could limit or prohibit the sale of liquor in its district.

Regarding the incidence of divorce, Mr. Cross advanced the suggestion that the Church should attempt to guard the marriage tie by affirming the importance of the engagement period and inducing the couple to seek the blessing of the Church on this aspect of the marriage bond. Attention was drawn to the tendency to-day for young people to neglect both home and parents. The Church must be in the forefront of teaching in this regard, and church homes should be a real witness and example in every way.

Racial and Sunday Issues

C. R. Burdeu led the discussion on "The Modern Racial Problem," and suggested that this problem overshadows all problems for our day. With the over-crowded Near East looking with longing eyes on the empty spaces of our Continent, we must present a realistic and active policy for the future. The "White Australia" policy should be abandoned, and in its place a policy of selective migration be instituted, stimulation being given to the Colombo Plan, whereby Australia should become the educative and cultural centre for the Near East Countries. It was agreed by this sectional Conference that soldiers who married Asiatics whilst abroad on active service should be permitted to bring their brides into the country.

Discussing "The Modern Attitude to Sunday," J. Ramsay demanded that the Church guard with all possible vigor

the great gift of Sunday. He agreed that there should not be a discrimination in our attitude. All too often our protests are raised against the more vociferous sports whilst the bowling, tennis and golf clubs go blithely on their way without much protest. It was certain we could not "legally" stop Sunday sport. What was needed was an active policy of teaching, because people who do not know God and his salvation cannot be expected to have any regard for his day.

These Men were Taped!

R. T. Morris gathered interesting selections from Conference findings and other features of the Conference with his tape recorder, and the Fellowship Tea was delighted with the play back of these, together with some of the splendid music provided by the choir under leadership of L. R. Pitman, and the guest artists, who included Messrs. Sidney Burstow, Charles Rogers, Leslie Enchelmaier, Espie McGregor and Dawn Pitman.

Throughout the week-end the Church was impressed with the splendid talent displayed by the team, and the positiveness of the message, together with the evangelistic emphasis displayed by each speaker. The week-end will be long remembered.

The "Brisbane Christian Business Men's Club" has been in existence for over sixteen years, and has some sixty members. Meetings are held each week, and the Club is ready to help all of the Churches at any time. Of the team personnel it is interesting to note that C. G. Sweetman has been President of the Baptist Union, F. T. Cross is probably the leading layman of the Church of England in Queensland, whilst C. R. Burdeu has been President of the State Conference on a number of occasions, and is now Federal Conference President. The impact on the community of the visit of the team has been very realistic.

On the Sunday morning, at the Margaret-st. service, C. R. Burdeu presided, and Mr. Morris used Moffatt's translation of Luke 19: 13, "Trade with this till I get back" to show the importance of the witness of the Christian in business.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

MISSIONARY NEWS

(Notes supplied by A. Anderson, Sec. F.M. Board.)

INDIAN TRIBUTE TO MISSIONS

A paragraph from *The Free Press Journal* dated Oct. 24, 1952, about the entry of foreign Christian missionaries in India, and the fear of their indulging in ruthless conversion of Hindus was published in *Dnyanodaya* for December, 1952. I would like to submit a paragraph from a contemporary news magazine describing the valuable and appreciable work done by the foreign British and American missionaries in India, which is as under:—

"Beyond subsidising cheap communist literature, Moscow has done precious little for India. On the contrary British and American Christian missionaries have brought money from their own

country to organise educational and medical institutions in India. It may be news, but it is true, that most of the Leper Hospitals are run by the Christian missionaries. It is Christian Missions which have been rendering medical aid to villagers. Objection is often taken to the teaching of the Bible in Christian educational institutions. In the first place, the Bible is one of the finest pieces of literature. In the second place, the Hindus or Muslims have also been teaching their religious books in their educational institutions. Thirdly, the number of people who have become Christians merely by reading the Bible is negligible. Experience has shown that the standard of teaching and discipline is always higher in Christian institutions." (*The Current*, 17/12/52.)

India should indeed be grateful to the British and American Christian missionaries for their admirable and commendable work which they have done and are still doing! God would surely reward them for their unselfish service to mankind.—A. R. Henry.

A Tribute

Several tributes have been paid to the worth and work of our late friend and brother Lionel Dudley. The Board would be remiss if they did not point out that Mr. and Mrs. Lionel Dudley, as a young married couple, went to Aoba at a very vital time in the history of that work. For some years these people did not have a missionary, because they felt they could get along without them. When missionaries were again sent to Aoba, Mr. and Mrs. Dudley were chosen. The task was not easy, for they had, in many cases, to overcome prejudice, non-cooperation and lack of spiritual life even among many who welcomed them.

From the uneasy foundation built up at that time "others have labored," and great has been the increase. Though they served but one term in the Islands the people hold them in fond remembrance.

A Pleasing Gesture

For many years Ira Paternoster (sec. of the N.S.W. F.M. Committee) has rendered good service to our Island missionaries and native peoples. It has been his desire to visit the Islands, but hitherto the opportunity did not present itself.

As a gesture of their regard, the Island Christians have invited him to visit them, and will meet the expenses of the journey.

Frontiers of UNITY

CROP

"Missionary News" in *The Australian Christian* of March 3 made reference to the allocation by CROP of 40 bags of wheat to our Indian Mission. CROP stands for Christian Rural Overseas Programme, which is a farmer-churchmen organisation in U.S.A. For the departmentally minded, it is a part of the department of Church World Service in the National Council of Churches.

Since 1947 CROP has collected for shipment overseas 11 million dollars worth of staple food, and also facilitated the distribution overseas of 4 million dollars worth of U.S. government surplus commodities. Distribution is done through church agencies abroad, but no distinction is made as to race and creed of the recipients; the sole basis considered is need.

Last year 75,000 volunteer canvassers collected foodstuffs in farm-to-farm solicitation in 18 agricultural states.

March 31, 1953.

The following are typical of the collection and disposal of the farm products. To Hong Kong went a (rail) carload of rice from Texas, a carload of flour from Kansas, and a carload of lard from Iowa. . . . Michigan stressed "food for India," and the appeal was backed by Future Farmers of America. . . . A dedication service was held on Dec. 19 at a processing plant in Decatur, Illinois, where five carloads of corn were converted into a carload of cooking oil. Half of the oil has gone to Yugoslavia, where drought has caused severe shortages, 45 per cent. to Greece, where olive groves were destroyed during the civil war, and 5 per cent. to a community of Christian refugees in Turkey. . . . In Plentywood, Montana, the thousands of bushels of wheat collected made a mountain of wheat in Main-st. The secretary for the German Protestant relief agency conducted the dedication service.

When the S.S. *City of Chester* arrived in Bombay last August with 1 million

pounds of wheat, vitamins and powdered milk, Mrs. Pandit (since nominated as successor to Trygve Lie as U.N. secretary general) described the gifts as "more important than many formal treaties of friendship."

From Germany, communications have come from orphanages, old people's homes and convalescent centres—some of them in the East zone—telling of the blessings CROP foodstuffs have brought. In 1947-51 38 million pounds of CROP contributions went to Germany.

Bengt. Hoffman, secretary for Germany and Austria, of the World Council's department of interchurch aid and service to refugees, has declared that CROP's gifts have strengthened ecumenical relationships throughout the world: "Pioneering in practical Christianity, CROP has set an example of Christian action which prior to the war was unknown in Germany and other European countries. CROP has shown the way to ecumenical co-operation."

—(From a report by Margaret Frakes, Associate Editor of the *Christian Century*).

—Contributed by R. W. Graham for the Federal Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union.



Owing to the Easter holidays, our next issue (which will be the annual Youth Number) will go to press on Thursday, April 2. Will all advertisers and contributors please note. During the absence of the editor and manager, in Queensland and New Zealand respectively, W. W. McDowell will help finalise the next two issues for the press.

Information and plans concerning the development of the cause at Canberra have been supplied to us by the Federal secretary, Howard Earle. The enthusiastic group at Canberra have fully subscribed their first quota of £250, hope soon to secure a hall in Ainslie for their Bible School, and have also organised a Ladies' Guild.

The Hinrichsen-Philp Mission at Invermay, Tas., reports a total of ninety decisions, including eighty adults. The thankoffering was more than £1,000. We rejoice with our Invermay brethren in these results, and pray that the enthusiasm roused may be consolidated in a vigorous cause in that district.

Since news of the cyclone which caused widespread damage in Onslow and Carnarvon, W.A., many have been anxious concerning our Aborigines' Mission buildings at Carnarvon, and especially those just erected in the brotherhood building drive. A telegram from the secretary, J. K. Robinson, tells us that the half-finished girls' dormitory was wrecked in the cyclone, but that the new kindergarten building was to be occupied on Wed., March 25. A small party of volunteers has remained to commence reconstruction of the dormitory building. All on the Mission are reported to be well.

The Free Church Federal Council of Britain has prepared an Order of Public Worship for the use of the Free Churches in Britain on May 31, Coronation Sunday. Orders are pouring in from all denominations, and arrangements have been made to publish an Australian edition. Church depots, including the Austral, will carry limited stocks, and churches desiring copies should place a definite order quickly. The Order contains hymns and prayers, with suggested readings, and could be adapted to effective use by our churches, thus uniting our worship with that of

other Free Churches on this memorable occasion. Price is 21/- per 100.

Brotherhood sympathies will be roused by news of the passing on March 26 of Mrs. Earle, mother of our Federal secretary, Howard Earle, minister of Surrey Hills church, Vic. Mrs. Earle lived at Toowong, Brisbane, and was an ardent Christian, always keenly interested in her son's ministry and brotherhood responsibilities. We commend all who mourn to the Father's comfort.

The death of Queen Mary, while not unexpected, has roused widespread sincere expressions of grief, in which Australian churches of Christ join with special sympathy for members of the Royal family. The churches will always be grateful for the high personal standards of character and service which were set by King George V and Queen Mary, bringing honor to the Crown and a deep affection from their people. If, as we believe, that same spirit lives on in the young Queen soon to be crowned Elizabeth II, then Queen Mary's rich contribution to the British Commonwealth of Nations is not yet finished; she "being dead, yet speaketh." This is a family, as well as a national loss; let us all remember her loved ones in our prayers.

The treasurer of the Sisters' Conference, W.A., announced at the first executive meeting this year that £1,090 had been raised by the women of the churches, thus reaching the budget aim. Reports of Women's World Day of Prayer gatherings throughout Australia indicate a successful observance.

The South Australian Northern District Jubilee Conference was held at Balaklava on March 10 and 11, under the presidency of D. G. Hammer. Churches at Avon, Long Plains, Owen, Moonta, Kadina, Pt. Pirie, Whyalla and Balaklava were represented. Speakers included M. Smith, G. Whiting, C. Candy and I. J. Chivell, while the Balaklava choir rendered helpful items at various meetings. Work amongst men and youth was featured, as were reports from local churches and State departments. Reports indicated keenness at Balaklava and Kadina following their Missions; Whyalla's prospects of starting

a Sunday school, and later a breaking of bread service at Pt. Augusta; and Long Plains' projected opening of the new chapel, replacing the one destroyed by fire. The incoming president, M. D. Williams, was introduced, and presented Mr. Hammer with a Bible in appreciation of his year's leadership. Other officers elected are: vice-president, R. Ewers; sec., A. B. Freebairn; treas., E. Long. The ladies of Balaklava church provided meals, and also joined with other women in the Sisters' Conference, of which Mrs. Hammer is incoming president, and Miss Wilton secretary. Miss A. Jones was retiring president. A sad footnote to Conference was the sudden death of J. Barr, who collapsed on his way home from Conference on the Tuesday night. A message of sympathy was forwarded to his wife.

Lygon-st. church, Carlton, centre for the Victorian-Tasmanian Centenary Conference gatherings, has a great tradition of brotherhood service. A vital part of that tradition has been the organ-playing of Miss M. E. Pittman, and Conference delegates will miss her familiar figure this year. The tip of the first finger of her right hand became poisoned over a month ago, causing much pain, and the possibility that portion of the finger would have to be removed. We are glad to hear that improvement now makes this unlikely, and we pray that she may soon be able to return to her beloved organ.

The Year of Evangelism is to be launched among American Disciples of Christ on July 1.

Church at the Show

The Ministers' Fraternal, Warragul, Vic., arranged for the Warragul churches to have a rest home at the local show on March 7. An 18ft. x 12ft. tent was erected on the showgrounds, and this served as a rest room, book stall and information centre for the day. Printed pamphlets setting out some of the work of the church were distributed, and there was a good supply of free literature available, as well as books for sale. A number of posters in the tent informed visitors of the activities of the different churches, and something of the combined work that was being done in the town. By courtesy of the Austral, free copies of the A.C. and Skyways were available to stimulate an interest in Christian periodicals, and to encourage people to include some Christian literature in their weekly reading purchases. During the day quite a number of visitors to the show availed themselves of the facilities of the tent, and thus were brought more into touch with the church. It is planned to make this a regular feature at future shows.—V. Quayle.

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

SUNDAY. — Well, my sermons are finished for another day—or are they? I wish I could be sure that they lived a little longer. I wonder if there are still any folk blissfully ignorant enough to think that the preacher's job is over for another week, when Sunday night comes. Henry Drummond's words show that preaching is only the beginning of it. "Preaching alone is the cause of the churches' failure." Pulpit and pew alike must also live the faith.

MONDAY.—The help of a good friend who acted as "baby-sitter" enabled me to go with Alison to the first concert of the Victorian Churches of Christ Choral Society to-night. I enjoyed the night, despite the St. Kilda Town Hall seats! The four soloists, pianiste, and all the singers were members of our churches, and it was a commendable performance which didn't rely on any musical "importations," apart from the organist, Lawrence Warner, who was such a great help to us during the World Convention. One enthusiastic chorister said afterwards concerning Valentine Woff's leadership: "You can't help but sing well under him!", which was as nice a compliment as any among the many I heard voiced in the foyer. Mr. Woff's helpfulness to the choir recalled to me the story told over the air yesterday by Gerald Moore, the visiting accompanist, concerning Caruso. In illustrating Caruso's generous spirit, he told of one opera performance in which a young tenor had a difficult aria to sing; his nervousness was so obvious when he began that Caruso, who was also on the stage at that time, turned so that his back was to the audience. He knew that, in that condition, the young singer could not possibly sing the top note with which his aria ended, but at the required time there rang out (seemingly from the nervous tenor) such a thrilling high note that newspaper notices the next day declared that not even Caruso himself could have excelled it! It had been done so unobtrusively that not even the experts had detected that, in reality, it was Caruso's voice they had heard in that finale. I'm not implying that Mr. Woff sang any of the notes for his soloists to-night, but he certainly inspired them and all his singers with that close sympathy which is the mark of real conductorship. I was glad to hear that the Society plans to sing Messiah at the end of the year.

TUESDAY.—At our Ministers' Fraternal in Graysley we have as friendly a group of men as one could wish for, including four Anglicans. One thing which startles me sometimes (and not

only in this Fraternal) is the change which comes over some men's voices when they turn from conversation to lead in prayer. It makes me sympathetic with the man who asked a friend concerning a preacher: "What kind of accent is that? What country did he come from?" "Oh," was the reply, "he's just as much a native-born fellow as we are—that's just his 'preaching accent'!"

WEDNESDAY.—Catherine is one of the thousands of young Australians who love their morning Kindergarten Session from the A.B.C. Alison told me later to-day that in the middle of this morning's session, when "Miss Ann" was telling a story, there came an abrupt break with the announcement that Queen Mary had died. That was the end of Kindergarten for to-day, as the A.B.C. immediately began to play the mournful music which it continued throughout the day, in the mistaken notion that such sustained dreariness is a fitting mark of the people's grief on such an occasion. There must have been many other little ones as bewildered as Catherine, who kept sitting by the radio for some time despite Alison's explanations. "But Miss Ann didn't say good-bye!" she insisted. Kindergarten couldn't possibly be over until that had been said! I'm inclined to think that on the day when Queen Mary's tired self was saying her own "good-bye" to all the greatness she had known, she would have rather had the children hear their story to the end. For, with all her rigid austerity and devotion to duty, in which she was so great an example, she loved children, did Queen Mary, and was more warmly human than some have recognised. When I heard the news of her passing I remembered with appreciation the story told recently in The Presbyterian Messenger of a visit once paid by King George V and Queen Mary to the famous Cadbury Chocolate Works. George and Elizabeth Cadbury showed them around, and as they walked through the grounds the old Quaker respectfully walked with his hat off. Fearing he might catch a cold, the Queen said, "Mr. Cadbury, please put on your hat." "Oh no, thank you," he replied. But the Queen persisted, "Please, Mr. Cadbury," playfully adding, "If you do not I shall ask the King to command

you." George Cadbury was still reluctant, but at that moment Elizabeth, his wife, looked up and said, "George, put on thy hat!" He did so, instantly!

THURSDAY.—Ron Graham's review of Kathleen Bliss' new book, *The Service and Status of Women in the Churches*, interested me—as did the fact that its heading "These Restless Women" was on the same page of the Christian as an article on "What is the Cure for Loneliness?"! On this matter of women in the churches, I enjoyed Maude Royden's story of Bernard of Clairvaux, who had a great devotion to the Virgin Mary. One legend tells how, when he was kneeling before her image in prayer, she opened her lips to speak to her devotee. "Silence!" he cried. "It is not permitted to a woman to speak in church!" Bernard should have lived to attend one of our Sisters' Conferences!

FRIDAY.—Margaret Landon's novel, *Never Dies the Dream*, has intrigued me from the first page—literally—for there is printed Dana Burnet's poem from which the novel takes its title. The closing six lines of it particularly attracted me, with my Easter sermons just ahead of me. This is what Burnet writes:

"The dreamer dies, but never dies the dream,
Though Death shall call the whirlwind
to his aid,
Enlist men's passions, trick their hearts
with hate,
Still shall the Vision live! Say never-
more
That dreams are fragile things. What
else endures
Of all this broken world save only
dreams!"

SATURDAY. — The College of the Bible garden party this afternoon gave us the chance for one of our all-too-rare family outings. Laurel and Catherine seemed more interested in getting something to eat, than in the fact that this was their father's "alma mater," the scene of so many labors (?). But we enjoyed the outing, the fellowship, the musical programme and the opportunity to share in the much-needed Refurnishing Fund. The College is worthy of the best support the brotherhood can give it.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Sisters Kemp, Edwards and Conner, Wallaroo-Moonta, S.A.
Shirley Campbell, Loretta Anslow and Peter Ryrle, North Essendon, Vic.
Pamela West, Cathy and Laurie Williams, Beryl and Barry Weston, and Lesma Wales, Charters Towers, Qld.
Valma Cowan, Glenelg, S.A.
Neville Beattie, L. Merrick, Wilma Harwood, Grahame McIntyre, Bruce Dyer, Walter Pollock and Valda Childs, Brunswick, Vic.
Mrs. L. Jones, Norwood, S.A.
Dorothy Luke, Brighton, Vic.

Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, from Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Vic. to Frankston, Vic.
Russell Redenbach, Dandenong, Vic.
Dr. and Mrs. Knight, Dorothy and Naomi Knight, Collins-st., Hobart, Tas.
Mr. Doidge, from Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Vic., to Preston, Vic.

Marriage

Lorraine Seaman to Cecil Oliver, Maryborough, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

F. Telfer, Ungarra, S.A.
J. Barr, Mile End, S.A.
J. Corbell, Mile End, S.A.
Mrs. M. de Kusel, Dunolly, Vic.

Queensland

Charters Towers.—During long period without a minister, church has been loyally served by W. Coward, T. West and N. Duval. Mrs. Coward, T. West and N. Duval conduct a B.S. of 35 scholars. Church has benefited from a brief ministry of three weeks given by S. Vanham, state pastor-evangelist. Each Sunday saw increased attendances. On Mar. 8 5 responded to invitation. On 15th there was a further decision and 6 baptisms. Mid-week prayer meeting has re-commenced. Plans to include Charters Towers in regular itil-

nerary of pastor-evangelist are being made. Mrs. Galton has recovered health after serious illness.

Gympie (R. Roberts).—During preacher's vacation, J. Kernick, J. McLellan, J. Ogden, W. Burtenshaw, E. Lightbody and Y.P.S.C.E. conducted services. Ladies' Guild enjoyed visit of Mrs. E. Potter (Ladies' Conference Pres.). Girls' club, under Miss M. Sorensen, is increasing in numbers.

Tasmania

Collins-st., Hobart (H. W. Street).—On Mar. 5 Y.W.F. monthly meeting was held, with 30 present, Mesdames Holloway and Davis gave demonstrations of use of Mixmaster and Vitamizer. On Mar. 8, at 3 p.m., an open air church meeting was held at Warrane subdivision, Bellerive. Nearly 100 were present. B.S. picnic was held at Rotary camp, Tarooma, with 180 present. Visitors have included J. and A. Crouch and L. Smart (Vic.), and F. S. and M. Chave (N.S.W.).

New South Wales

Enmore (D. Wakeley).—At annual meeting, Mar. 18, following were elected to diaconate: Dr. Bardsley, F. Chave, G. Collins, C. Duncan, A. W. Gilbertson, A. McInnes, J. Parker, E. Pickford, H. Roose, F. Ross and R. R. Wolfe. 32 additions were reported for year—6 by letter, and 26 by baptism. Treasurer's report showed deficiency for year of £56, which it is hoped to raise in special offering. A. W. Gilbertson has been appointed to full-time position with Bible Society. On Feb. 27 kitchen tea was tendered to Phyllis Forshaw and Bernie Hutcheson, and on Mar. 8 a presentation was made by B.S. staff to Mrs. Roose, who has resigned as kinder supt. More than 60 attended birthday banquet of Y.P.F. Recently Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Prain gave talks at mid-week meeting.

Warrawong (K. Beadle).—During recent weeks many meetings and outings have been provided for Y.P. On Feb. 28 church and B.S. picnic was held at youth centre at Oak Flats; over 100 attended. C.E. attended 23rd annual convention of Illawana District Union, Mar. 12-16. Eleven local C.E. members took part in presentation of items and leading meeting. Mar. 22 marked third anniversary services of B.S. Attendance at school has shown remarkable recovery since school holidays, and has reached 48. Great blessing is received each week at cottage prayer and Bible study meetings, which are conducted in turn by members.

Kingsford (A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip. Ed.).—March is being observed as "Loyalty Month," with encouraging results. B. and F.B.S. gathering on Mar. 6 screened film, *China Harvest*. Harvest thanksgiving on Mar. 8 created keen interest. Bob Jones university film, *The Light of the World*, was presented on 15th. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Jack Hansen (W.A.), Mr. and Mrs. May (S.A.), Mr. and Mrs. Hart, and Mrs. Smythe and Judith (Qld.).

Beverly Hills (N. Reese).—Mr. Sparks (Five Dock) spoke on Mar. 1. B.S. held annual picnic at Dolls Point. Church anniversary was held on Mar. 21 and 22, with fellowship tea and meeting on Saturday, at which A. W. Stephenson spoke. Services on 22nd were taken by Messrs. Madigan and Reese. Annual meeting was held on Mar. 23. Reports revealed good progress. Officers elected were: elders, Messrs. Fairbrother and Skinner; deacons, Messrs. Wheat (sec.), Walker (treas.), Taylor, Skinner, Hansen, Thompson and Brogden; organists, sis. Dickson and Cooke. Sis. Kitney has collected 51,800 stamps to value of £76 for B. and F. B.S.

Wagga (A. W. Morris).—Services this year have been well attended. 40 members went to Mr. and Mrs. Blyth's home at Tarcutta for opening night of Men's Fellowship. Good progress is being shown on B.S. building on Lake Albert-rd. All work is being done by voluntary labor. During absence of preacher, services have been taken by Messrs. Saunders (Bexley North), Don, Casperson, Morrison and Moon. Y.P. have been great assistance in evening service. Special emphasis has been placed on youth during Mar. Sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Gillespie in loss of their loved ones. Attendance at prayer meetings is increasing. Sis. Parker is still in hospital. Mr. Pearson is sick.

South Australia

Ungarra (P. Whitmore).—Due to sickness attendance has not been up to average. B.S., J. and Y.P.C.E. are doing well. Church has had visit from G. R. Stirling and two Y.P. They came to attend Bible study camp at Red Cliffs beach. Several Y.P. from Ungarra attended. Church has forwarded £55 for flood relief. Sympathy is extended to wife and relatives of F. Telfer, who passed away in Adelaide. Ladies' Guild have commenced year's work, past one was record.

Wallaroo-Moonta (B. W. Manning).—Wallaroo church has loaned 18 chapel seats to new cause at Loxton for unfurnished chapel. School work and

visitation is being continued. Moonta meetings are on upgrade at gospel service. Baptismal services have attracted attention, and some non-members are attending.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — Annual church meeting was held on Mar. 18, when reports showed healthy progress in all depts., and appreciation of ministry of Mr. and Mrs. Norris and family. L. Milne and R. Peacock were elected elders, and new diaconate comprises Messrs. Lawrence, Phillips, Evans, Edwards, Dinning, Thompson, Gower, O'Donnell, Whalland, Kirby and Linford. Preacher spoke at Men's Fellowship meeting and tea on 22nd. At night Messrs. Norris, Milne, Gower and O'Donnell sang a quartet.

Fullarton (A. Lennox interim). — Ladies' Guild held annual meeting and picnic in botanic gardens. B.S. picnic was held at Gorge Reserve. On Mar. 17 Miss Kennedy, of New Hebrides, spoke at missionary prayer meeting, which was followed by basket supper. Offering of £2 was received towards this work.

Cottonville (G. Mathieson). — Harvest thanksgiving services on Feb. 15 brought a good response in gifts, which were divided between Christian Rest Home, children's home, and parcels for India. C.E. annual rally and 57th church anniversary services were held on Feb. 28 and Mar. 1-3. Record attendance marked all services. Special speakers were Sir Philip Messent, E. P. C. Hollard and S. E. Riches. Temple day offering was received for manse fund. Choir sang and Joan Brown was soloist. Special prayer services over a three week period in homes of members, averaged 50. Visitation campaign was carried out by 10 brethren followed by Mission, led by P. Whitmore (Tumby Bay). One decision was made. Choir helped with singing, and Mrs. R. Brand, J. Coventry and Beth Wardey brought special musical items. Mr. Glastonbury was song leader. Several members have been received by transfer. Members are aiding in construction of Clovelly Park chapel. Church finances are sound, and auxiliaries, especially youth, are healthy.

Norwood (R. Jones). — Miss Kennedy spoke to church on Mar. 15 on New Hebrides' Mission. B.B. held enrolment night on Mar. 1, when 83 were present. Social hour follows church parade each month. Harvest festival was held on Feb. 22, with goods valued at £31. Church anniversary was on Mar. 1, with Neville Moore as speaker. 'Girls' club commenced on Feb. 20, under leadership of Mrs. D. Fenn, with 30 girls. Church is planning for "Faith That Works" campaign to be led by K. Patterson. B.S. is practising for anniversary, and reports increased numbers.

Mile End (R. W. Marshall). — After week of visitation evangelism, ten folk responded to appeals, and were immersed on Mar. 22. Mr. Armstrong (Williamstown) is assisting in two weeks' Mission. Neighboring churches are helping with items and presence at week night meetings. Youth activities are at high level. 200 were present on Mar. 21 at Western District C.Y.F. Excellent programme was presented, culminating with sound film *Faith Triumphant*. These are held monthly, and offerings are donated to Longwood camp site.

deavorers enjoyed fruit salad meeting on Mar. 10.

Box Hill (W. A. Wigney). — W. A. Wigney has commenced his ministry. Services have been well attended. Annual bus. meeting on Feb. 25 showed all auxiliaries working well. Senior and junior C.E. have recently been formed, and leaders report progress. W.M.B. have commenced meetings for year. All office-bearers have been re-elected. Church picnic held at Dromana on Mar. 9 was well attended.

Geelong (T. A. Fergusson). — On Mar. 15 B.S. anniversary was commenced. Children's singing under leadership of Mr. Small was excellent. Ron Muller was guest speaker for day. M.B. annual meeting was held on 11th, when all officers were re-elected. On 10th Y.P.C.E. joined with Drumcondra for their meeting, and Mr. Fergusson spoke. Mid-week prayer service continues to grow in numbers.

Harcourt (K. Clinton, B.A.). — Annual bus. meeting was held on Feb. 23. All officers were re-elected, and W. Bolltho was added to fill position of late J. Davis. Ladies' Guild has done much toward beautifying interior of chapel over past year. There has been increase of B.S. scholars, especially among kinders. Evening service on 1st was well attended. District Boy Scouts were present; one baptism that evening, and another the next Sunday morning.

Victoria

Shepparton (T. V. Weir). — Annual bus. meeting was held on Feb. 25. Officers elected were: sec. and elder, A. Taylor; treas., P. Bowen; deacons, S. Carr, L. Harris, W. Harding, R. Jones, I. McArthur and P. Bowen; deaconesses, Mesdames Carr, Taylor, North, W. Steigenberg, Glasson, Bowen and Miss Clydesdale. All auxiliaries reported progress during year. Canteen of cutlery was presented to R. A. Clydesdale in recognition of 26 years' service as sec. of church. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on 8th. Doug. Nicholls spoke at morning service on Mar. 15. Ladies' Guild has resumed after recess. Girls' club has recommenced under leadership of I. Jordan and V. Clarke. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Stewart (former preacher). En-

A Challenge for Church Leaders

"I don't have time to read all I get now," or "I just can't afford it" . . . time and money are chronic reasons some church members give for not reading Christian periodicals. And yet,



many of these same people buy several daily newspapers, subscribe for a few secular magazines, and read some every day.

This is an error of judgment, and lowers the spiritual standards of individuals and congregations.

It takes but an hour or so to read an issue of *The Australian Christian*. For 5d. per copy (through agent) church members get a digest of brotherhood activities, world-wide religious news, Christian interpretation of present-day trends, features to inspire Christian living, and the teachings of the Bible. Wise leaders will educate members to take time to read *The Australian Christian*, and will refer to current articles and editorials in messages.

MAKE EASTER A TIME TO ENLIST SUBSCRIBERS. Through church agent 5d. per week, posted 25/- year.

Pascoe Vale.—Annual business meeting was held in Feb., and plans were discussed to finance future church building on land already purchased. B.S. attendances are increasing. Ladies' Guild is planning syllabus for year. Prayer meetings are held fortnightly in members' homes under Mr. Hammon's leadership. Good fellowship was shared at social evening in home of Mr. and Mrs. Robertson on Mar. 14, with proceeds towards Guild funds.

North Fitzroy (A. O. S. Baker).—During past month five have been added to church by faith and obedience. B.S. picnic was held at Wattle Park on Mar. 9. Prior to annual meeting of church on Mar. 11, church dinner was held, at which result of five months' effort towards extinction of manse debt was announced. It disclosed that ladies had raised £136, men £46, and offerings per special envelopes £142, a total of £324. For 1952, £1138 was received, of which £254 was for special appeals outside local church. Reports showed that B.S. work was becoming increasingly difficult, though other phases of youth work appeared healthy. Mrs. Hall has regained health sufficient to attend services again.

Frankston-Moorooduc (F. T. Morgan).—Annual business meeting was held on Feb. 4. Messrs. Adams, Bentley, Bolwell, Edgerton, Gooch, Hinde and Jackson were elected deacons, and Misses Ellis and Skellern and Mrs. Morgan deaconesses. Church adopted five-year loan plan for payment of manse debt and financing of hall building. Youth clubs reported progress. On Mar. 15 B.S. had all-time record attendance of 113. Miss E. Vawser spoke to church at morning service on Feb. 22, and showed pictures of Indian work at meeting arranged by C.Y.F. on 13th. Offering was received for famine relief. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson (Launceston) have been attending services.

Wedderburn (R. Reidhead).—Women's World Day of prayer was held in chapel. 54 were present, with Mesdames Greyson and Jackel as leaders. On Mar. 8 R. Reidhead commenced ministry with church. Mr. and Mrs. F. Hodges (Oakleigh) were week-end visitors. Mrs. Hodges addressed ladies' meeting on Saturday evening on M.B. work, and on Sunday morning brought a greeting as pres.-elect of Women's Conference. Mrs. Twiddy, senr., has celebrated her 90th birthday. A. Jackson, pioneer member, is very ill in Maryborough.

Cheltenham (R. C. Bolduan).—At annual meeting all retiring office-bearers were re-elected. Healthy reports were received from all auxiliaries. Men's banquet was held, with 27 present. It was decided to commence a Men's Fellowship. Two members of cricket team have won association trophies, L. Chap-

plon for batting, and W. White for fielding. Mothers' club held successful luncheon, 60 mothers being present. Mrs. Ward (Travellers' Aid Soc.) was speaker.

Essendon (E. F. G. McIlhagger, B.A.).—Thirty-eighth church anniversary was held on Mar. 1. Attendances at all services were excellent, with many visitors present. Over 80 enjoyed fellowship luncheon and tea. Speakers were F. T. Morgan, J. E. Brooke and E. McIlhagger. Soloists were Mrs. Taylor and Miss Lee. Choir assisted morning and evening. M. McNicol (N. Ess.) presided on morning of Mar. 8. Mrs. Dalton was welcomed back after recent illness. Mr. Halmsey was speaker on evening of 15th, when Mrs. Warren rendered solo. Good Companions gained first place at recent swimming competitions. Both A and B cricket teams were defeated in semi-finals. Men of church are holding working bees to repair manse.

Drumcondra (R. Wilson).—Annual tea and business meeting were held on Feb. 24. Committee has been formed to deal with beautification of church and grounds. Front yard has been graded. C. Dabb is in Canada on a business trip. Speakers have included Miss Foote (Egypt General Mission), and Miss Vawser, from India. At Ladies' Aid, Mrs. Kershan spoke. Mr. Ivory, Mrs. Treloar, and Miss Gray are sick. B.S. picnic was held at Torquay, with 130 present. Drumcondra C.E. soc. visited Manifold Heights Baptist Y.P.C.E. Visitors have included Latrobe-tce C.E., Miss Neville (Nth. Williamstown), Mr. and Mrs. Chiswell (Bet Bet), Mr. and Mrs. Ireland (Swan Hill), and Mrs. Morrison (Melbourne).

North Essendon (A. E. White, B.A.).—Annual meeting was well attended on Mar. 19, and revealed real progress in all depts., and also finance. Total decisions were 30, with 28 baptisms, including 17 from B.S. Other additions were 9. Losses were by transfer 5 and death 8. Nett gain was 24. There have been 4 additional baptisms since close of church year. Undermentioned were elected to office: Mrs. M. Ploog, Messrs. G. Conning, Drayton, Funston, F. Mason, Pemberton, D. Ploog (sec.), Thompson, Tippett and R. Conning (treas.) co-opted as B.S. supt. Good audience on Mar. 14 enjoyed films of missionary work in India, brought by Miss E. Vawser. All are encouraged at continued support of Sunday services and leadership of minister. Concert on 12th in aid of Memorial Hall fund was well patronised.

Balwyn (J. E. Brooke).—Good attendances marked both services on Mar. 15. E. L. Williams held lectures at Senior B.C. on "Landmarks of Church History." On 15th and 22nd 45 past and present P.B.P. gathered to honor retiring chap-

lain, Mrs. Back. Past chaplain, Mrs. Elliot (Ascot Vale) and future chaplain, Mrs. Drummy, both spoke, and presentation was made. Church members gathered at Port Melbourne on 19th to farewell Mrs. Finlayson, who is visiting England.

Lygon-st., Carlton.—Attendances continue encouragingly. C. Young spoke at both services on Mar. 22. Tennis team is playing off premiership. Miss Pittman's health is improving. Fortnightly prayer meetings have resumed.

Ringwood (W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D.).—Services on Mar. 15 were well attended. B.S. reached record attendance of 90. Women's work has organised a full programme for year, with pres., Mrs. W. F. Nankivell; vice-pres., Mrs. Bond; sec., Mrs. J. Wilson; treas., Mrs. A. Parker. Church board has planned year's programme of evangelism and education and development of members. Y.P. attended Eastern District camp during holiday week-end.

Red Cliffs (C. L. Lang).—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Mar. 15, and sale of goods on 16th. B.S. reports keen interest and good attendances. W. W. Saunders was speaker on Mar. 22.

York-st., Ballarat.—During past month average attendance for morning and evening services has been 56. C.E. activities have included visits to gaol, hospital and Benevolent Home. Youth Fellowship meets every Monday night. Weekly Bible study is being conducted by J. A. Wilkie. Harvest festival gifts were up to standard, and were shared between Babies' and Old Folks' Homes. Visiting speakers were Mr. Sheriff (Horsham) and Mr. Wilkie. Messrs. H. and B. Feary conduct majority of Sunday services while church is without preacher. Testimonies by Messrs. McNiece and Coalson and Sis. Roberts have been given over past Sundays. On 15th offering was taken for flood victims in England. Combined Y.F. was held, when some 30 Y.P. enjoyed quiz and music on 14th.

Maryborough (M. Coombs).—Annual meeting was held on Mar. 18. Mr. Wellington was elected elder, Messrs. Robertson and Kennedy elected to officers' board, and Mrs. Wellington as deaconess. Margaret Walters has had operation. Mrs. Hunt is improving, and Mr. Jackson is ill. B.S. held picnic at Ballarat Gardens on 9th. Many visited begonia display. Attendance at meetings is encouraging.

Red Hill (N. Gilmore).—On Mar. 15 officers of Tootgarook and Red Hill held a combined meeting at Tootgarook. Mr. and Mrs. D. Holmes rendered duet on Mar. 22. On 21st, Y.P. held fancy dress social.

Echuca (H. Hargreaves). — A. Neale (Sudan Interior Mission) was recent speaker. An interesting mission film was shown. Ladies' Guild annual meeting elected following: Mesdames Hargreaves (pres.), Parry and Rosendale (vice-pres.), Hartvigsen (sec.), Owen (treas.). Ladies raised about £100 in past year. Annual meeting of church was also held. Harvest thanksgiving on 22nd brought good display of gifts. £8/10/- was raised at social evening and sale of produce, and put toward renovating interior of chapel. R. Booth (Ormond) has been visitor. Some members journeyed to Castlemaine for Northern District Conference.

IN MEMORIAM.

HERON.—Treasured memories of my dear husband, Alfred John, passed away Mar. 24, 1942, loved father of Douglas, Ernest and Keith.

—Inserted by M. E. Heron.

DENTON.—In loving memory of our dear mother, who passed away on Mar. 30, 1952; loving mother of Pearl, Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Smith.

DEATH.

CHISLETT.—On Mar. 7 at her home, Block 34, Red Cliffs, Eunice Alberta, beloved wife of Robert Lindsay Chislett, loved mother of Faye, Roberta and Jennifer, and dearly loved elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Brown, Carwarp; loved sister of Lloyd, Lois and Ivan (dec.). Aged 35 years.

RETURN THANKS

BARR.—The widow of the late James Barr, of Mile End, wishes to thank all relatives and friends for cards and letters in her recent sad loss. An end to a beautiful life. Will all please accept this as a token of thanks.

BIRTH.

HEARD (BERRY).—On Feb. 28 at Dhond, India, to Dorothy and Ted, the gift of a son, Ian Stanley, a brother for Lynette. Both well.

ENGAGEMENT.

BAKER—STEART.—Mr. and Mrs. S. Russell Baker, of 317 Toorak-rd., Burwood, have pleasure in announcing the engagement of their only child Judith Margaret to William Walter, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Steart, of Clunes.

SILVER WEDDING.

JACKEL—JACKSON.—Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Jackel, of Reef-st., Wedderburn, have pleasure in announcing the 25th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated in Wedderburn church of Christ on Mar. 27, 1928.

Annual Youth Demonstration Melbourne Town Hall

TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 7.45 p.m.

Programme Highlights.

1. Finals of Choral Competition.
2. Recital on Four Planos. By four of our own young men.
3. A Century Cavalcade.

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GOOD FRIDAY EVENING

Brotherhood Centenary Witness and Home Missionary Demonstration

College of the Bible Old Boys' Club

The Annual Outing and Re-union Tea of above Club will be held on

Tuesday, April 7

Motor Outing leaving Punt Rd., Richmond (between Swan St. and River) at 10 a.m.

Bring lunch and a cup.

RE-UNION TEA AT LYGON ST.
5.45 p.m.

All Old Boys are cordially invited. Please notify your intention to Sec., C. Cole, UM 1248, by Sun., Apl. 5 without fail.

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88th Annual Conference OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN VICTORIA AND TASMANIA

March 31 to April 9, 1953

SYNOPSIS OF PROGRAMME:

Tues., Mar. 31—Lygon Street:

7.45—Opening Sessions General Conference, President's Welcome and Address. Reports.

Wed., April 1.

Women's Conference, at Lygon-st. All day from 10.30.

Thurs., April 2.

2.30—Swanston-st., Reception by President Women's Conference. For Country Women.

3.00—Lygon-st., Preachers' Session.

5.45—Lygon-st., Tea-Table Fellowship and Discussion.

7.45—Lygon-st., General Conference Contd. Amendments to Constitution. Recommendation re World Council of Churches.

Friday, April 3.

9.30—Lygon-st., Conference continued. Address by Incoming President.

2.00—Lygon-st., Reports. Devotional Address.

7.30—Melbourne Town Hall. Centenary Home Mission Rally.

Sat., April 4—Lygon-st.

10.00—Conference continued. Reports. Notices of Motion.

2.00—Reports. Discussion.

7.30—Overseas Mission Demonstration.

Sun., April 5.

2.45—Melbourne Town Hall. Centenary Sermon Session.

Mon., April 6.

All Day Picnic at Wattle Park.

7.45—Aborigines' Mission Demonstration.

Tues., April 7.

5.45—Lygon-st., College of the Bible Old Boys' Club Reunion.

7.45—Melbourne Town Hall, Great Youth Demonstration.

Wed., April 8.

7.45—Lygon-st., Social Service Evening.

Thurs., April 9.

7.45—Lygon-st., Christian Endeavour Rally.

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*Anniversaries and
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WARRAGUL—Sun., Apl. 12, 53rd church
anniversary and homecoming. Guest
speaker: Dr. G. H. Oldfield, Con. Pres.
elect. All former members and friends
invited to share this day of fellowship
in the country. Hospitality provided;
if coming please notify C. W. Peder-
sen, Smith-st., Warragul, by Apl. 4.

GRANVILLE, N.S.W.—30th school an-
niversary, Sun., Apr. 19, 2.30 p.m.,
kinders' programme, speaker P. Perry;
7 p.m., items by school, speaker W.
Turnell. Mon., Apr. 20, 7.30 p.m.
Items by scholars and prize giving,
speaker M. Leaske.

PARK STREET, UNLEY.—Back to Sun-
day School (70th Anniversary), Sun-
day, April 26; 3.45 p.m. and 7 p.m.
services; 5 p.m., Fellowship Tea (re-
miniscences). Past teachers and
scholars who desire to attend please
advise K. R. Bowes, 51 Eton Street,
Malvern, S.A., by April 11.

FOOTSCRAY. — May 2 (Sat.), May 5
(Tues.), 75th anniversary. All former
members welcome. Invitations will be
sent to all sending name and present
address. Those also requiring accom-
modation should write to Secretary H.
E. Easton, East Esplanade, St. Albans.
MW 0606.

Visitors to Conference

LYGON STREET cordially invites visi-
tors to Conference to enjoy happy fel-
lowship with this old mother church
on Apr. 5.

11 a.m.: Incoming Conf. Pres., Dr. G.
H. Oldfield.

7 p.m.: G. J. Foot, of Tasmania.

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Long Plains Church of Christ, S.A.
Opening of New Chapel

Saturday, April 11

2.30 p.m.: Opening of Building, followed
by Dedictory Service.

Speaker: G. R. Stirling, Conference
President of S.A.

5 p.m.: Fellowship Tea.

8 p.m.: Thanksgiving service.

Speaker: G. Rootes, Past Preacher.
Thank Offering.

Sunday, April 12.

10.30 a.m.: Communion Service. Speaker
J. B. Baker, Past Preacher.

3 p.m.: Youth Service. Speaker: G.
Whiting, S.A. Youth Director Elect.

7 p.m.: Gospel Service. Speaker: I.
Durdin, Past Preacher.
Basket Tea.

Past members cordially invited. Please
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Obituary

Mrs. J. Richardson

Mrs. Jonathan Richardson passed peacefully to her eternal reward early on Friday morning, March 13. She was baptised into Christ 69 years ago, and has lived her life and given of her service to the one church over that long period. She was one of God's unobtrusive and most faithful servants. When able to attend the services her place was never vacant. Her children arose to serve in the church, among them T. P. Richardson, interested in many committees of our Conference. She was a devoted wife, and a wonderful mother, and "her children rise up to call her blessed, her husband also, and he praiseth her." In her home the preacher found a veritable Mother in Israel, always interested in things pertaining to God's Kingdom. To her husband and family we extend the sincere sympathy of the whole church, and also the comfort that comes from God.—J. E. Shipway.

Mrs. William C. Lyle

One of the early and highly respected members of the Maylands church, S.A., Mrs. Lyle, was called from this life on Feb. 13 after an illness lasting many months. She was born on July 29, 1872, and at twenty years of age was baptised and received into the church at Kermode-st., North Adelaide. Here she became a teacher in the Sunday school, in which work she continued until 1912, when she removed to Maylands. Mrs. Lyle was a member of the Dorcas Society, both at North Adelaide and Maylands. She represented churches of Christ sisters on the Morialta Protestant Children's Homes Committee for many years, until illness made it impossible for her to continue. At the funeral service in the home, G. T. Fitzgerald, a former minister at Maylands, and linked with the Lyle family by the marriage of his son to the daughter of Mrs. Lyle, paid a tribute to the fine Christian character of Mrs. Lyle. At the graveside at Payneham, the service was conducted by E. R. Sherman, present minister at Maylands. The church has commended to God those who sorrow—a husband, a son (Harry S. Lyle), and a daughter (Mrs. D. J. Fitzgerald), all of whom are members of Maylands church.—E.R.S.

Mrs. Mary Young

After an illness extending over many months, Mrs. Mary Young, of Lygon-st. church, Carlton, Vic., was called home to be with her Lord on Jan. 25, at the wonderful age of 98 years. Our aged sister had fellowship with the Fitzroy Tabernacle, being baptised by the late H. G. Harward; then with the Nth. Fitzroy church, and finally with Lygon-st. It was our privilege to have

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communion in her home during her extended illness, an occasion she looked forward to with real joy in spite of her continued weakness. The service in the home was conducted by S. R. Baker, who also officiated at the graveside in the Melbourne General Cemetery in the presence of her many friends. The sorrowing daughters find comfort in the precious memories of a fragrant life, and in the words, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord."—A.W.J.

Mrs. M. de Kusel

For many years Mrs. Mona de Kusel was a patient at Dunolly hospital, Vic. Although bed-ridden, she always remained cheerful, and took an interest in all aspects of life. She read widely. She took an interest in people. While physically she could do little, mentally and spiritually she was very active. Her faith and witness have encouraged many. Last year she came to the Will. H. Clay Nursing Home. On Sunday, March 8, she was called home, where there is no more pain. Her patience in suffering over many years was an inspiration to all who knew her. J. Hindman and A. Stevens assisted the writer in the services at the chapel and at Preston Cemetery. For those who mourn the loss of a very wonderful saint of God, particularly for her children Joycelyn, Ron and Alan, we ask God's blessing.—R. McK.

Open Forum

(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.)

Restorationist Literature

May I convey through the A.C. my thanks and appreciation to W. J. Thomson for his very fine article on "Literature." It bristles throughout with arresting ideas, which I trust the Federal Literature Committee will examine carefully and adopt. As a Movement we seem to lack imagination; we should use every opportunity to tell the world of our existence, our "plea," and "mission," built as we are upon the foundation of apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief corner stone. I would urge publication of Campbell's works. Also Scott's, McGarvey's, David King's, etc. And some of the tracts, leaflets, etc. God save us from becoming respectable and acceptable to those who know not "the old paths" and are content to be merely religious. The way is still "strait"; we must be faithful and accept without question the N.T. standard.—W. Ridley, Bilbul, N.S.W.

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