

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

1853

Victorian Churches

celebrate

A Century of Witness

**"Now thank we all our
God . . ."**

1953

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THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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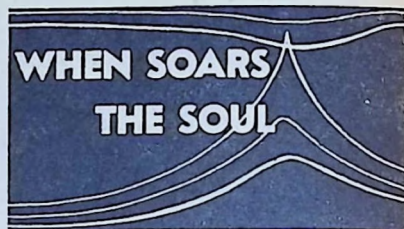
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When soars the soul earth's
clamoring voices cease,
Stilled in the wonder of God's
power and peace.



The trumpet will sound, the dead will rise imperishable, and we shall be changed. For this perishing body must be invested with the imperishable, and this mortal body invested with immortality; and when this mortal body has been invested with immortality, then the saying of Scripture will be realised, Death is swallowed up in victory. O Death, where is your victory? O Death, where is your sting? The victory is ours, thank God! He makes it ours by our Lord Jesus Christ.—I Cor. 15: 52-57 (Moffatt).

It is no use a man saying he cares not whether there is a life beyond or not. There is only bravado in that, and the instinct of humanity is other. "We are all like frightened children in the presence of death" . . . "But it doth not yet appear," answers Scripture, "what we shall be." Immortality is needed for the fulfilment of life and all its fair promise. There are so many of the best lessons only partly learned here. If death is the end, then we are pulled up sharp and short not at a legitimate terminus, but with the jolt and jar of an accident. Death is a disaster, not a destination, if death is all. . . . Heine says, "We all arrive at last at the same poor inn whose door is opened with a spade." Yet beyond that door there is another, the door of life, eternal life, and that door is opened by a hand, and in that hand is a nail-print.—A. E. Whitham.

Father, we pray thee for the vision which sees beyond the things of time and sense, beyond the vain attractions of this world, where we abide for but a few days, to the eternal realities—to the deathless truth and beauty and love for whose sake thou hast given us being. We pray thee for strength to reject all passing pretence of satisfaction, and to seize here and now on the eternal satisfactions, on the things that pertain unto thyself and to the life that is lived in thee. AMEN.—J. S. Heyland.

I dimly see my journey's end,
But well I know Who guideth me.
—Julia H. Johnston.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Randall T. Pittman reports on . . .

Annual Conference of Churches in Victoria and Tasmania

The eighty-eighth annual conference (Tasmanian churches first affiliated in 1952) commenced on Tuesday evening, March 31, in Lygon-st. chapel. The conference was special in that it marked one hundred years since the beginning of the cause in Victoria.

Delegates were welcomed, and greetings were received. A greeting came from the World Convention Executive in New York.

Churches at Kelleve (Tasmania), Balwyn North, Hurstbridge, Maidstone and Wattle Park were admitted to conference.

W. W. Saunders, who presided over the sessions of conference, reviewed the work of the year, which was marked by several noteworthy features. He spoke to the theme, "Rise Up and Build." We must seek to build a church united, Christ centred and aggressive.

The Executive Committee's report was presented by A. R. Lloyd and G. W. Mitchell.

Church membership has increased in Victoria by 561, and decreased in Tasmania by 121, the total membership now being 12,488. Bible School figures showed a combined total of 11,375 scholars and 1,794 teachers.

The quota assigned for Victoria and Tasmania for the work in Canberra is now £4,300. About £2,700 has been contributed.

The work of the Christian Men's Society and of the Crusade Committee was commended.

Certain amendments were made to the constitution to make effective legally the association in conference of churches in Victoria and Tasmania.

After consideration of the report presented by the fact finding commission appointed last conference, the Executive unanimously recommended that "we remain in full membership" with the World Council of Churches so long as certain affirmations remain true. After lengthy debate, this recommendation was accepted by conference by a large majority. A resolution was passed expressing thanks to the fact-finding commission.

The report of the Christian Union Committee was presented by R. P. Morris. Reference was made to the "Come to church" poster campaign, which is being continued. E. L. Williams appealed for inter-church aid for the distressed in Europe. During 1952, £11,000 was raised in Australia, and in

January, 1953, £7,400 was received for the Christmas bowl remembrance appeal.

F. N. Lee presented the report of the Church Extension Department. Loans to churches reached £33,838. The total amount owing by churches is £72,896. The annual offering was £945. Buildings at Springvale and Morwell have been completed, halls are being built

a considerable advance on last year's offering, there is urgent need for additional money.

W. H. Clay introduced the report of the Social Service Committee. W. T. Atkin dealt with the financial aspect concerning the homes. The capital cost of the homes amounted to £105,667. The Government provided £55,000. We now owe about £15,000. Plans are in hand for certain needed extensions at the Christian Guest Home. The report made reference to the Bethany Hostel for boys, conducted by the Tasmanian churches.

W. J. Thomson moved the adoption of the report of the Literature Committee. The work and sphere of the committee has been enlarged in the establishing of a federal committee. The committee took an active part in the sale of Christian literature at the Snodgrass mission.

F. J. Funston presented the report on Aborigines Mission work. The mission in Victoria is at Fitzroy, where F. Beale and D. Nicholls have ministered, and at Mooroopna. With the death of E. Atkinson, native pastor, the pattern of the work at Mooroopna changed. It is now being guided by the Shepparton church.

The report of the Federal College of the Bible was introduced by K. A. Jones. He told of plans for refurbishing the students' rooms, and appealed for support from the churches for this project. A. W. Cleland commended the work of the college, and spoke of the financial statement.

Youth work covers a wide range of activities, and the report included encouraging signs of growth. Statistics showed Bible School scholars 11,375; increase in teachers 74, additions to church from Bible School 676, Christian Endeavour, 95 societies, Good Companions' Clubs, 67 clubs; Explorer Clubs, 62 clubs, 34 P.B.P. chapters, 25 K.S.P. chapters. L. Trezise reported that 130 young people were in camp at Monbulk during Easter, and 70 at Hall's Gap. Campers at Hall's Gap sent greetings.

A. B. Withers presented the report of the Overseas Mission Department. The report showed that there had been definite results in the furtherance of the gospel. There were 29 baptisms at Aoba, 4 at Pentecost, while indigenous work resulted in over 50 baptisms. The



Dr. G. H. Oldfield.
Newly-elected Conference President.

at West Preston, Mt. Evelyn, North Essendon, Yearlinga and Kaniva. The manse at Maidstone is now nearly finished. Other building work, rebuilding and renovations has been undertaken at Coburg and Preston.

The Home Missionary Committee's report was introduced by F. N. Lee. The report showed that work in various fields had been carried on faithfully. The year had been one of evangelism. In addition to the Snodgrass-Pollock mission, at which there were 411 first decisions and 82 reconsecrations, there were several local efforts. The annual offering for 1952 amounted to £2,274/9/9 at the closing of books on Dec. 31. Although this amount was

annual meeting of the churches in India reported over 100 baptisms for the year. Increasingly the native people are taking responsibility in the work. J. Turner referred to the great need of relief for the starving people of India. Miss Baker spoke of the increasing opportunities at the Queensberry-st. Chinese mission.

Mrs. E. L. Williams presented the report of Women's conference. An attempt had been made to co-ordinate women's work to a greater degree.

J. McGregor Abercrombie moved the adoption of the Advisory Board's report.

Included in the Executive Committee's report was a statement of the findings of the Budgetary Committee. G. L. Murray explained various items in the statement.

Home Missionary Demonstration and Brotherhood Centenary Rally

This meeting was held on Good Friday evening in the Melbourne Town Hall. About 1500 attended.

B. J. Combridge gave an address on the subject, "Prospect and Challenge." Basing the address upon the teaching of 1 Cor. 3 concerning the building upon the foundation, Jesus Christ, the speaker showed that in considering the prospect before us we find that we are working in a community which is preoccupied with worldly interests, and even in the church the same preoccupation can be seen. This presented a challenge—that we must make the Kingdom of God the first priority. This can be best realised through the local congregation working in co-operation in the Lord's work.

F. N. Lee appealed for a liberal offering. The response was £622/3/- in promises, £330/4/- in cash. The amount was supplemented to reach a total of over £1000.

Mrs. E. L. Williams, president of the women's conference, presented from the Women's Bands cheques totalling £908/2/-, £454/1/- for Home Missions, £353/4/9 for Overseas Missions, and £90/16/3 for the Federal College of the Bible. G. W. Mitchell expressed thanks on behalf of the recipients.

H. Earle spoke on the theme, "Heritage and Destiny." The heritage contained much that was common to all believers, but also that which was peculiar to ourselves—the plea, programme and passion of the restoration movement. Our destiny was to continue the task begun by the pioneers, manifesting

in our lives the same passion for unity and loyalty to Christ.

During the evening, anthems were contributed by the Churches of Christ Choral Society, with Valentine Woff as conductor, Cedric Gower as organist and Winifred Lee as pianist.

Overseas Missionary Evening Session

This session was held in Lygon-st. chapel on Saturday. There was a fair attendance. Mrs. A. G. Saunders gave a brief address prior to the offering. In cash and promises the sum of £271/15/8 was received.

Mr. Williams, of Kaniva, and H. A. G. Clark moved and seconded a resolution of greeting to the missionaries on the field.

James Beatty, convener of the Presbyterian Foreign Mission Committee, based his address upon the Macedonian cry, "Come over and help us." He reviewed the world situation, and showed the need and opportunity for missionary service. Facts concerning the Presbyterian mission were presented in an interesting and informative manner.

Conference Notes

A presentation was made to G. W. Mitchell, who had served as conference treasurer for 19 years, and did not seek re-election.

At the preacher's session on Thursday afternoon, the speaker was Rex Mathias. E. Randall was introduced as the new president of the preachers' fraternal.

Following the preachers' session, tea-table fellowship was enjoyed by preachers and representatives of churches. F. Lee gave a challenging message: "The Church—Bankrupt or Paying Dividends."

At the Thursday evening service W. H. Rainey represented the British and Foreign Bible Society, and spoke of the third jubilee of the Society.

During the Friday morning session, Dr. G. H. Oldfield was introduced as incoming president of conference. A copy of the Scriptures was presented to W. W. Saunders, retiring president. Dr. Oldfield's presidential address was upon "Our Essential Aim." The aim could be expressed by the words of Jesus: "Follow me."

In the early part of the Friday afternoon meeting, brief addresses were given by R. V. Holmes (Yarrawonga), R. J. Duckett (Ararat), G. J. Foot (Launceston, Tasmania), and J. C. Cunningham (Stawell).

A devotional address was given by H. Cave upon the theme, "There They Crucified Him."

On Saturday afternoon, R. C. Bolduan spoke to the question, "Are We Still a Movement?"

During conference sessions, musical items were rendered by the Northcote choir, Alan Brown, Albert Barber, and the Churches of Christ Choral Society. Miss W. Lee was organist at the Lygon-st. sessions.

The Conference sermon was preached before a large assembly in the Melbourne Town Hall on Sunday afternoon by Principal E. L. Williams. His theme was "A Divine Imperative." An offering for the Preachers' Provident Fund was received.

Resolutions

This Conference of churches of Christ is strongly opposed to State aid to denominational schools and/or colleges, and urges the Government to maintain its policy of free secular and compulsory education.

Conference maintains that State grants to any one church, for educational purposes, may lead to claims from all churches and the undermining of the system of State school education.

Conference appreciates the present facilities which obtain in our State schools for religious education by approved representatives of churches.

This Conference of churches of Christ cannot view the extensive and costly preparations necessary for the holding of the Olympic Games in Melbourne without expressing its sympathy with the many who are either homeless or are suffering the deplorable conditions associated with overcrowding, and whose prospects of relief will be hindered by this expenditure.

Conference congratulates the Premier, Mr. John Cain, and other members of parliament and citizens who insisted on the use of existent stadium facilities, and refused to agree to the spending of a huge sum of money on the erection of a new and unnecessary stadium.

This Conference of churches of Christ believing gambling in any form to be economically unsound and morally and spiritually wrong, expresses alarm at both the prevalence of gambling in many forms in our own State and throughout the nation, and the increasing facilities afforded by the Government to indulge its practice.

Particularly is Conference concerned at the tendency of public leaders to adopt the gambling method of financing our public institutions.

Conference respectfully urges the Government to reject a State lottery as a means of financing our hospitals, and

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

would support a special hospital tax as a sane and equitable method of placing our hospitals on a sound basis.

This Conference of churches of Christ reaffirms its uncompromising attitude to the liquor traffic, believing it to be an ever increasing liability to the people and the nation. Conference believes that the revenue derived from its trade cannot in any degree compensate for the injury it causes the body politic and the harm it does to life and limb.

Conference therefore urges the Government to lessen rather than extend liquor trading hours, and to permit no interference with 6 p.m. closing of hotels without a mandate given by the people by means of a referendum.

Conference also urges the return of the policy of local option through

which any electorate may exercise its right to say whether or not the liquor traffic shall be licensed within its boundaries.

This Conference of churches of Christ re-affirms its opposition to war as a means of settling international disputes believing it to be contrary to the spirit and teaching of Jesus Christ, and that his church should be the peacemaker in the world.

Conference prays that better counsels among the nations shall prevail, that the wars in Korea and in other parts of the world shall cease, and that further war shall be averted.

In view of the grave famine conditions existing in the East, and the urgent need for relief, this Conference of churches of Christ urges the Commonwealth and State Governments to con-

sider the matter on a national level, and to initiate measures whereby the greatest possible results will be achieved.

This Conference pledges its support for any worthy plan that may be introduced.

This Conference of churches of Christ joins with the Methodist Conference, meetings of which were recently concluded, in expressing its deep concern for the honour of our Parliamentary institutions, which was seriously impugned by recent bribery and corruption charges, which, by affidavit, were laid against certain unnamed persons.

Conference urges the Government, without regard to persons or policies, to take measures to investigate the charges with a view to reaching finality. Until this is done the stigma must remain.

VICTORIAN AND TASMANIAN CONFERENCE

Election of Officers and Committees

1953-54.

President, Dr. G. H. Oldfield (Surrey Hills).

Past President: W. W. Saunders (North Essendon).

President Elect: S. Neighbour, B.A. (Blackburn).

Secretary: Miss F. Haines (Lygon-st).

Treasurer: G. L. Murray (Surrey Hills).

Associate Secretary: A. R. Lloyd (Coburg).

Executive Committee of Conference: The above officers of Conference and one representative of and from each committee in control of a Conference Department; also G. J. Foot and A. J. Griffiths (Tasmania).

Home Missionary Committee: The officers of Conference, as above, together with the following: A. W. Cleland, B. J. Combridge, W. G. Graham, A. E. Hurren, K. A. Jones, W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D., C. L. Ward, J. A. Wilkie, A. B. Withers; also C. J. Orr (Tasmania). (Three further members will later be co-opted.)

Advisory Board: J. McG. Abercrombie, J. Holloway, A. E. Hurren, Dr. W. A. Kemp, G. L. Murray, S. Neighbour, B.A., H. J. Patterson, M.A., W. W. Saunders, together with E. L. Williams, M.A. (Principal of the College), and Chairman and Secretary of the Home Missionary Committee; also C. R. Edmunds (Tasmania).

Foreign Missionary Committee: J. E. Allan, R. C. Bolduan, H. R. Coventry, V. L. Gole, E. J. Miles, J. Turner, B.A.,

A. B. Withers; also J. W. Heard (Tasmania). (Three further members will later be co-opted.)

Young People's Committee: F. J. Lee, E. A. Lewis, B. E. Perkins, G. Scambler, V. C. Stafford, L. A. Trezise, B.A., A. E. White, B.A., L. C. Withers; also J. T. Holloway (Tasmania) (together with a representative from each of the affiliated auxiliaries).

Social Service Committee: W. T. Atkin, W. A. Brown, F. E. Buckingham, F. Chipperfield, W. H. Clay, F. J. Funston, J. W. Lewis, S. Neighbour, B.A., W. W. Saunders, R. A. Strongman; also B. J. Golder (Tasmania). (Four further members will later be co-opted.)

Promotion of Christian Union Committee: H. A. G. Clark, M.A., B.D., H. Earle, H. F. Gross, E. J. Miles, R. P. Morris, M.C.E., C. L. Smith, V. C. Stafford, C. G. Taylor, B.A., W. A. Thompson, E. L. Williams, M.A.

Literature Committee: A. O. S. Baker, J. E. Brooke, R. K. Gerrand, H. F. Gross, R. C. McKenzie, C. L. Smith, W. J. Thomson.

Aborigines' Mission Committee: S. F. Davey, C. J. Mackenzie, D. R. Nicholls, J. Turner, B.A., W. A. Wigney; also M. R. Wilson (Tasmania). (Two further members will later be co-opted.)

Nominations Committee: A. W. Cleland, J. Holloway, B. F. Huntsman, A. E. Hurren, G. W. Mitchell, and one representative of and from each Committee in control of a Conference Department.

News of British Churches

Led by a team of ministers drawn from Fife, Chester and Leicester, with Stanley Oakden, minister at Rodney Street, Wigan, a simultaneous mission has been held in churches in Wigan district, with encouraging results.

A Crusade mission by students of Overdale College has been an annual event for some years. This year, in April, five students are to lead a mission at Derby, where the church is making enthusiastic preparations.

One hundred and twenty women attended the annual Women's Convention, held at Swanwick, a Conference retreat in Derbyshire. Lectures were given by Miss E. Short, Sunday School organiser; Miss Esther Halliday, retired missionary, Mrs. J. L. Colver and Mrs. E. Smith. This was the biggest ever Convention, yet increased numbers did not diminish the intimacy of fellowship.

Overdale College library has received gifts of books from the Christian Board of Publication, U.S.A., many of which deal with Disciple life and work, and are practically unobtainable here due to currency restrictions. Books were also received from the library of the late Fred Cowin, Michigan, a former minister in this country.

A new church is to be opened in Coventry in April. Work is hoped to be completed by the end of the month. President of Conference and F. W. White, chairman of the Training Committee expect to take part in the dedication services.

Ministers in Scotland have held Fraternals in Glasgow, Kirkcaldy and Edinburgh. Among speakers recently have been W. Lister, on his Australian tour; Chester Sillars, on Spiritual Healing, and W. G. Baker, on the Meaning of Baptism.—G. J. Hammond.

N.S.W. 68th Annual Conference

Conference was held from March 24-30. Every session, except the Conference sermon, was held in Enmore Tabernacle. Conference opened with a great gathering at the 59th Women's Conference on Tuesday. It was one of the best in many years, and was marked by interest and enthusiasm. R. V. Amos presided so capably that not a hitch occurred. A spiritual atmosphere was maintained by a series of addresses, which challenged the attention of all. The theme was "The Crusading Church." J. Henderson spoke of "Her Master"; E. W. Rofey, B.A., of "Her Mandate," L. G. Read, of "Her Mission," and R. Hilford of "Her Methods." These messages, projected into each business session, inspired the brethren assembled. Two new churches admitted to Conference were Cardiff and Padstow. The church membership now stands at 5,978.

Overseas and Aborigines Missions.

A great crowd assembled on Tuesday night at a demonstration in which these two committees combined. Pictures of Aborigines' missions were shown, which captured the interest for the whole programme. The speaker for the evening was Stanton H. Wilson, who spoke on "A Day of Good Tidings." Chatswood and Lane Cove choir combined provided anthems.

Social Service Department and Boys' Home.

The feature for Wednesday night was a combined demonstration of Social Service and churches of Christ Children's Home Committees. The main items were a demonstration by Pendle Hill boys, solo by Clive Way, an address by A. G. Elliott, and a film, "Rolling Stones."

Home Missions and Bible College.

Saturday night was devoted to a combined demonstration by the H.M. Committee and the Bible College Board. The Rockdale choir provided the anthem, and George Marley a solo. The address, "The World's Need of Our Creed," was delivered by Leslie G. Burgin.

Youth Evangelistic Rally.

Enmore Tabernacle was packed to capacity on Monday evening, March 30, for the Youth Evangelistic Rally. The Field Report was given by means of slides by the director. A special gospel sketch was given by artist Miss Brenda Pallitt. "What Are You Waiting for Now," was the subject of the address

delivered by Glen Brown, of Wollongong.

Conference Sermon.

"Imperatives to Unity" was the subject of Conference sermon, preached by Stanton H. Wilson, at the City Temple. By courtesy of 2CH, the whole service was broadcast.

Conference Executive.

The report was introduced with thanks to God for his guidance in all the work of the brotherhood. This was followed by an expression of loyalty as a brotherhood to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The Half-Yearly Conference was held at Cardiff in Newcastle district. The Executive had also assisted some country churches with broadcasting programmes—Wentworth Falls and Inverell. Assistance had been offered to Newcastle District Churches. Dealing with the Council of Churches the report told of important work being done by the Council; especially with regard to: the Eucharistic Congress, Lord's Day desecration, liquor anomalies, and school grants by Government.

It was reported that the recent Federal Conference had increased its estimate of cost of the Canberra project from £10,000 to £12,000, which would increase this State's quota to £2,000.

Children's Home Committee.

The object of Pendle Hill Boys' Home was to "provide a Christian home for, and to provide in whole, or in part, for the maintenance and assistance of orphans, neglected children, children under unfit guardianship, and children whose parents, for various reasons, are unable to give them proper care and attention."

The Committee of the Home suffered a great loss in the passing of Mr. Peter Winter. An average of twenty-five boys had been in residence during the year. Extensive improvements had been made, including erection of the recreation hall. A fete held in May had netted £335.

Bible College.

The report was submitted with thanksgiving to God for his guidance and blessing upon the work of the College. God blessed the faith of the N.S.W. brotherhood in the founding of the college, and in everything connected with it, up to the present, we can trace the hand of God.

There were 17 students in residence, and 2 non-resident, 14 of whom served churches during the year. At the close of the year four men completed the four years course, and Miss Lincoln the two-year missionary course. Of these, N. C. Reese becomes preacher at Beverley Hills, D. W. Mansell goes to East Kew, Vic., M. R. Smith to Port Pirie, S.A., and R. W. Hume to Chinchilla circuit, Q'land. Miss Lincoln will take nursing studies. Seven new students enrolled for 1953. Valuer General's valuation of the property was £15,000.

Social Service.

Geo. Morton, who had been on the committee longer than any other man, resigned as secretary because of ill health. H. T. Edwards also resigned as treasurer of Social Service and C.F.A. Toward the end of the year W. C. Rofey was appointed to full-time charge of the office. The report stated that many more needful cases were assisted this year than in any year since the depression. Assistance was made possible by the ready response to appeals.

All matters regarded as "Public Questions" had the careful consideration of the committee, and necessary action was taken. Christmas cheer to needy cases amounted to £60. A successful year was experienced by C.F.A., with an increase of 200 new members. Total receipts to the fund amounted to £1,730, disbursements £2,247. Balance, is now £970. The aim of the Social Service Committee was not yet realised, namely a start with homes for aged couples.

Youth Department.

The department had a very successful year. There are 75 schools, with 5,723 scholars; C.E. Societies—J.C.E., 27, with 584 members; I.C.E., 10, with 124 members; Y.P.S., 19, with 254 members. Clubs—26 boys' clubs, with 554 members; girls' clubs, 23, with 588 members, mixed clubs, 12, with 295 members.

The Youth Gospel van had travelled 38,000 miles, and now needs replacement by a new unit.

Special attention had been devoted to the War Memorial Youth Centre. Another 10½ acres was added to the property, and a programme of fencing, tree planting and building would soon be in operation.

Special interest centred around the work at Dubbo, where a building was erected and opened for service on Feb-

ruary 28. This was followed with a Happy Hour, conducted by the director.

Receipts for General Fund were £2,102, and expenditure was £2,091.

Overseas Missions.

Pleasure was expressed at the visit to Australia of Dr. S. S. Patil and John Bairagi, of India, and Abel Barney, of New Hebrides.

Over 100 baptisms were reported from India. Much distress existed owing to failure of the usual rains. Work in friendly centres at Baramati, Indapur and Dhond had continued with interest. There were over 200 young people in the orphan homes. Dhond Hospital passed through a year of intense activity, 91,026 outpatients were treated, 1,601 inpatients, and 292 maternity cases.

Evangelistic work on Aoba, Maewo and Pentecost continued with vigor. A pleasing event had been Miss Win Waterman's going out to join the staff on Aoba. It was expected that Mr. and Mrs. Owen Jones would be shortly going to Pentecost.

During the year N.S.W. had raised a total of £4,161.

Home Missions.

The committee operated on a wide field, and much assistance was given in subsidising churches, which included Asquith-Hornsby (preacher, K. A. Fennel), Gosford-Wyoming, Dubbo (for transport from Gilgandra), Wentworth Falls-Lawson (student preacher Graham Benjamin). Belrose established several schools, R. W. Hume being preacher. Sisters' Conference accepted Cardiff as their objective, and gave £104 to support a student preacher, R. H. Pieper.

Peter Retchford, the committee's itinerant evangelist, conducted missions at Albury, Cardiff, Asquith and Hornsby. W. J. Crossman resigned after several years as secretary.

Aborigines' Mission.

The Federal Board reported to conference that our consecrated workers are "living epistles" of Christ to the children under their care. Normal services for Communion and gospel preaching are held, and each year sees more children accepting Christ.

Outings, social evenings, sports, and training in social grace are provided.

Schools at each Mission are Government run. The teachers are Christians and sympathetic to Mission work.

OTHER COMMITTEES.

Advisory Board.

There were few changes among preachers during the year. Some churches desirous of engaging full-time preachers were still being hindered by the housing problem.

April 14, 1953.

Christian Messenger.

G. J. Andrews acted as editor. His service had been greatly appreciated. Subscribers now total 1,115. It is necessary because of rising costs to reduce the size of the paper.

Chapel Extension.

Applications for financial assistance from the committee amounted to £12,000. Of £10,325 granted by the committee, £6,525 had already been paid out.

N.S.W. CONFERENCE OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

Pres., G. J. Andrews; vice-pres., S. H. Laney, A. W. Stephenson; sec., S. C. Woolley; treas., T. W. Dunne.

H.M. Com.—A. Baker, C. E. Bowser, L. S. Dewberry, Mrs. A. Larcombe, N. H. Matthews, M. C. McArthur, N. D. Morris, W. H. Palmer, P. E. Thomas, R. H. Wakeley.

Overseas Missions.—W. L. Caspersenn, C. R. M. Graham, A. C. Morris, R. Hilford, L. Piper, I. A. Paternoster, Miss H. V. Rofe.

B.S. Com.—K. Fennell, A. J. Frost, G. S. Glazier, R. Greenhalgh, Miss L. Hand,

C. R. Hillier, J. Hunter, J. Morris, P. H. Morton, K. A. Rae, W. H. Small, I. J. Torode.

Social Service.—C. Baker, B. Bradshaw, C. C. King, C. G. Lawrence, A. R. Norling, N. C. Reese, L. Reed, W. C. Roffey, P. A. Wynn, L. C. Yields.

N.S.W. Bible College Board.—J. Boswell, B. G. Corlett, A. W. Cust, E. Davis, R. Greenhalgh, W. R. Hayward, I. A. Paternoster, C. A. Saxby, J. L. Stimson, D. Verco.

Aborigines Mission.—Mrs. W. K. Hunter, G. E. Knight, V. C. Muir, E. Oswald, E. Park, B. W. Tabrett, L. K. Wilson.

Children's Home. — S. Bagley, J. Davidson, W. Hill, F. Kimpton, G. E. Knight, N. H. Matthews, W. Mansell, G. Morton, J. F. Tait, P. A. Wynn.

Nominations.—R. Greenhalgh, J. Henderson, G. E. Knight, I. A. Paternoster, S. C. Woolley.

Advisory Board.—R. V. Amos, G. E. Burns, W. J. Crossman, R. Greenhalgh, N. D. Morris, I. A. Paternoster, Dr. C. A. Verco.

Chapel Extension Com.—J. A. Hughes, R. Souners.

"CHRISTIANITY, COMMUNISM AND THE WORLD SITUATION"

By Chas. I. McLaren, M.D.

Here is an analysis and a policy in Australian and Christian perspectives by the well known missionary doctor who spent eleven weeks in a Japanese police cell, Chas. I. McLaren, former Professor in the Christian Medical College, Seoul, Korea. It merits our thoughtful consideration.

It was written as an assignment for the Public Questions Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. In May, 1947, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria set up a committee to enquire and report on "The Bearing of the Communist Theory and Practice on the Message and Task of the Church." After intensive study and much labor the committee presented its report. (It is available at the Book Room, Assembly Hall, Collins-st., and is recommended for study.) Since the report was presented, new problems have emerged, and new evidence, which serves to make clear the essential nature of actual communism at work in the world, has been forthcoming. Therefore, this further statement became necessary.

The doctor does not deal with new situations emerging in Europe, but within

our own sphere of commitments and responsibility. His statement attempts to proceed from and to apply Christian convictions. It deals especially with those things about which Christians have special knowledge deriving from Christian commitments and affiliations. It deals also with those things about which Christians have special qualification, through specifically Christian criteria, of making valid judgments. It is concerned to offer to a world haggard by perplexity, suspicion, hatred and fear, emancipating words of hope and confidence—words emanating, not from special human acumen, courage or statesmanship, but derived from a "wisdom that cometh from above."

Here is a call to the Church to become a "task force" in an "operation deliverance," and lead our distracted generation in a new exodus out of its bondage of unbelief, hatreds and fear into the promised land of peace with God and fellow men.

This 84 page book is attractively produced by John Bacon, of Melbourne. Copies may be had from the Austral.—Howard Earle.



Special emphasis at Vic.-Tas. Conference at Easter was on the century of witness by our people in Victoria. Conferences were held in other States, and reports will be published as they come to hand.

Mrs. A. Watson is president of Vic.-Tas. Young Women's Fellowship. Her address is 18 Gramplan-st., West Preston.

F. C. Hunting has accepted a further three years' engagement with the church at Dawson-st., Ballarat, Vic.

The 1952 International C.Y.F. Commission of Disciples youth in U.S.A. and Canada, meeting in Lafayette, Indiana, U.S.A., has sent greetings to Australian youth, asking them "to join hands with us in meeting the challenge which is before the youth of the world."

H. Cave, preacher of Bendigo church, leaves with his family for Adelaide on April 15 to take up the position of organiser for the Temperance Alliance of S.A. He will have oversight of the youth activities of that organisation.

The Australian Institute of Archaeology, 174 Collins-st., Melbourne, is arranging an interesting display of archaeological material at Tye's Art Gallery. The Director of Education, Maj.-Gen. A. H. Ramsay will open the exhibition on April 20, and it will conclude on April 24. Admission is by invitation, and applications for admission cards should be made to the Institute before the opening date.

The 49th annual Southern Conference of churches in S.A. was held at Strathalbyn recently. Delegations came from Goolwa, Victor Harbour, Mt. Compass, Stirling East, Aldgate Valley, Strathalbyn, Murray Bridge, Milang, and Point Sturt. G. M. Cox presided. Devotional leaders were W. Greenwood and E. P. C. Holland. I. J. Chivell, A. W. Candy and G. T. Fitzgerald spoke on the theme, "A Greater Witness." A good spirit prevailed. Reports were encouraging. Musical items were given by Mrs. Alan Harslet and Miss L. Hoyle, and Churches of Christ Choral Society. Luncheon was provided by Strathalbyn ladies. During the year the churches set out to raise £100 for Home Missions, and this was handed to the H.M. Committee during the afternoon session. United evening service in Town Hall

was well attended. G. M. Cox led the song service and presided over closing session. G. T. Fitzgerald spoke, and singing was provided by the Choral Society, under leadership of A. Glas-tonbury. Pianists were Miss G. Mossop and David Hele. Officers for the coming year are: president, C. Thorpe; vice-president, W. Greenwood; secretary, J. Yelland; treasurer, C. Grundy.

On April 8 the Methodist Church of Australasia opened a 6 months "Mission to the Nation" amid great enthusiasm. About 6000 people crowded the Melbourne Town Hall and other buildings. Writing of the campaign, missionary Alan Walker, M.A., says:

Prahran (Vic.) Celebrates Centenary

The special week of Evangelism marking the 100th anniversary of our Victorian brotherhood's mother church, concluded on March 29 with a great homecoming day.

The church met in 1853 in a small tent in "Canvas Town," six people coming together for the breaking of bread. The gospel was first preached by them from the stump of a tree at the corner of what are now Punt and Commercial roads.

The first people associated were the Ingrams, Pictons and the Lyles, together with Robert Service, whose son became Premier of Victoria. As the cause developed, meetings were held in hired halls, and finally a chapel was erected at the corner of Chapel and Eastbourne streets. After several years this proved too small, hence the present splendid property in High St.

It was inevitable that, over a century of years, the church should pass through varying phases of virile progress and disappointing failure, yet to-day there is a quickening of life and activity in all departments which makes the church a vital force in the community, and promises well for the future.

With E. C. Hinrichsen as guest preacher, and J. Machin as song leader, a week of stirring meetings was held, week nights averaging 200 in attendance. The Centennial Homecoming Day will long be remembered. The communion service in the morning was presided over by Dr. G. H. Oldfield,

"As the name given to the mission indicates, the witness to be attempted will not be narrowly denominational. Believing that the Christian divisions and denominational labels make evangelism difficult, the Mission to the Nation is making the broad appeal to the Australian people. Expressed simply, its purpose is to make Christians, but not necessarily Methodists. . . . Launched in faith and prayer, the Mission to the Nation represents a bold attempt to confront the whole nation with the claims of Jesus Christ." In this "bold attempt" the missionary will have our goodwill and prayers.

History is being made in the appointment of Mateo A. Occena, of the Philippines, as an executive secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. After distinguished layman-service in Philippine church affairs, he went to the U.S. in 1947 as his government's purchasing agent. He now becomes the first person from any area outside North America to hold a headquarters administrative post in his Church's foreign service.

president-elect of Victorian Conference, and the lessons were read by past preachers, F. Buckingham and C. Young. The elders, Mr. Berthelsen and Mr. Matt were the communion servers. The Centenary address was delivered by the present preacher, Lloyd Jones. In the afternoon, Mr. Hinrichsen spoke on "100 years of Evangelism." Opportunity was taken to present to him an illuminated address on behalf of churches of Christ from every state in the Commonwealth in recognition of his outstanding work done over 33 years. Reg. Enniss made the presentation, and personal greetings were read from the President of Federal Conference, C. R. Burdeu, of Queensland.

At night the service was crowded, with large overflow accommodated in adjoining halls. The soloist was Miss Frances Cowper, and choral music was rendered by Prahran choir, led by Miss Winifred Lee, organist being Mrs. F. Locke. A total of 1400 attended the services, and 600 meals were served at the centenary dinner and tea. At the latter, a huge cake in the form of an open Bible was cut by Mr. and Mrs. G. Burton, the oldest members in active fellowship. All of the proceedings were recorded by C. Gadge. Greetings came from all parts of the Commonwealth. An apology for non-attendance owing to special memorial services for the late Queen Mary, was sent by His Excellency Sir Dallas Brooks and Lady Brooks, who conveyed their greetings to the church.

MISSIONARY NEWS

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

Faithfulness of Old Teachers

Abel Barney writes concerning the work, and in his own way tells how he "spoke plenty" to those of the present generation of the debt they owed Mr. F. Purdy and to the early teachers on Aoba:

"Dear Mr. Anderson,

I am sorry that I did not write some letter to you when I got back to Aoba. I feel happy and my heart was full of gladness about you all in Australia. I always tell the story about you all in every place on Aoba and the Islands of Maewo, Pentecost and Santo. Thus making me forget to write some letter to you. Alright, please excuse me.

"We spent a happy Christmas and New Year. I baptised the people at Christmas, there were 40, and also we have good meeting and little picnic.

There I stood the pictures of the likeness of first teachers on Aoba with Mr. Purdy also. I have kept the picture with me, and the young men and young women they don't know about them, and never saw them. They all come and see them, and I tell the story about them, to all the young men and young women, and to the seven deacons, too. I speak plenty to the people, and said you see those old first teachers they were faithful men before, they pull down the power of Satan among the heathen people.

"I said, 'the kava (drink) and the chief of the pigs, and the wars when men killed the other men, but only these old first teachers they pull down those powers of darkness. They work very hard work. The heathen chiefs used to tie the pigs on to posts, ten posts and ten pigs on the posts, and the pigs had long tusks. The heathen chiefs they saw the long tusk of the pigs like that. They have great love for these things. They think it a very good thing, the highest and most sacred. If they ready to kill the pigs,

they ran and swing around the posts where pigs are tied, no body ran with them for it was a sacred thing and only for those who are chiefs. Now these old first teachers, they began breaking down the heathen law, in this work, and the heathen chiefs would run and swing around the pigs on the posts, and the old teachers they ran and swing with them, and talk and speak about God, and the heathen chief, they talk and speak about their customs of the heathen works and speak about the pigs how they killed them—and they feel happy about that; but the old first teachers they swing with them, even though they are breaking their heathen law and their sacred things. The chiefs trouble the teachers and hurt them, push them out. The teachers don't care about that as they are all strong for God. Next time they do like that again and again till they break down the heathen works, and they take care for the Gospel, and now at this time we know God, and pray to him, and we sing praises to him and speak about him all the time.

"You know about our offering, we gave it on February 17.

"And also we thank you all in Australia for the nurse, Miss Waterman, she came down to the Island of New Hebrides to help us in our sickness and for our children to learn some thing in school.

"I am your brother in Christ,

ABEL BARNEY."

Frontiers of

UNITY

TWO BOOKS BY DISCIPLES

(1). *Doctrine and Thought of the Disciples of Christ*, by Howard Elmo Short.

Our Christian Board of Publication, in the United States, publishes some very helpful studies for Adult Bible Classes and such groups. Each is called "A Bethany Study Course." Dr. Short's book is one of these. It has thirteen chapters, which are introduced with the Scripture passages which the Disciples have cited most often on the various themes. Then follows a general statement of the subject, in which is set out not only what we generally believe but also the strengths of our position and the pitfalls into which we have sometimes stumbled.

Dr. Short has done for U.S.A. what Dr. William Robinson did for Britain in his articles printed in the Australian Christian under the title *Churches of Christ and the Ecumenical Age*.

Howard Short is Professor of Church History, the College of the Bible, Lexington,

Kentucky; writer of the weekly Bible Study page of the *Christian Evangelist*; and currently visiting professor at the Ecumenical Institute, Bossey, Switzerland. His book has 96 pp, and is priced at 7/3.

(2). *A Protestant Manifesto*, by Winfred Ernest Garrison.

I have been reading Garrison every week for the last eight years, and just can't believe that he will be 80 years' old next year. He is the Literary Editor of the *Christian Century*, our foremost historian, and one of the most knowledgeable men in America.

His recent book, *A Protestant Manifesto*, tells just about everything that any of us will ever need to know about Protestantism. Within the limits of 207 pages, and twenty four shillings and sixpence, there is compressed a lot of thoroughly reliable fact and most stimulating interpretation.

The book begins with three chapters which define Protestantism and trace

out its origins. Then follow three chapters on (1) What Protestants share with all other religions, (2) What Protestants share with all other Christians, (3) What is distinctively Protestant.

The book has been a religious best-seller in America for some months, and justifiably so. It is published by Abingdon-Cokesbury.

In his debate with Purcell, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Cincinnati, Alexander Campbell said, at the very beginning, "I come here, not to advocate the particular tenets of any sect, but to defend the great cardinal principles of Protestantism." Anyone who wants a modern statement of the great cardinal principles of Protestantism will not go far beyond Garrison.

(Both books mentioned above would have to be ordered from bookshops that have a "dollar quota.")

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



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Misses B. Broxani, C. Edmunds, E. Brown, J. Cox, H. Slater, R. Potter, M. McElwee, E. Buchanan, J. Harris and C. Harris, Mesdames R. Slater, L. Smith, E. Reynolds, R. Fleming, R. Benafield, W. Bailey, C. Nash, E. Bassett, W. Harvey, F. Bell, L. Higgs, W. Harris, C. Lloyd, and C. Hillier. Messrs. C. Badcock, C. Page, L. Hall, M. Edmunds, G. Slater, F. Johnson, C. Nunn, E. Hays, G. Hays, G. Hays, and G. Waugh, Mr. and Mrs. C. Rothwell, M. Hill, V. Smith, J. Smith and G. Holman, Invermay, Tas.

Arnold Camps, Hamilton, N.S.W.

Mrs. A. Saunders, Rockhampton, Qld.

Mrs. Hollibone, Mrs. Nunn, Nancy Crawford, M. Sulzberger, Bevan Crabtree and Denis Edwards, Margaret St., Launceston, Tas.

L. Tansell, C. Morrisson, E. Stevenson and B. Brant, Cottonville, S.A.

Misses B. and G. Lorimer, Fremantle, W.A.

Barbara Williams, Sth. Yarra, Vic.

Beverly Rudland, Tony Sibby, Rhonda Jarrett, Beverley Allington, Doris Thorpe and Elizabeth Hughes, Maylands, S.A.

Stewart Dobson, Boronia, Vic.

Les Moore, Collins-st., Hobart, Tas.

Mr. Davis, Echuca, Vic.

Anne Barbour, Mrs. Hobbs, Carol Eames, Mrs. Martin, Betty Martin, Dawn Benz, Mr. Mold, Ray Hobbs, Jim Walker, Miss D. Swiggs, Margaret Jones, Peter Martin and Keith Smith, Mile End, S.A.

Membership

F. Cornelius from Cheltenham, S.A., to Cottonville, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Couldrey, from Mackay, Qld., to Cottonville, S.A.

J. and M. Warfe, from Prahran, Vic., to Wattle Park, Vic.

Mrs. C. Badcock, from Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas., to Invermay, Tas.

Mr. and Mrs. O. Potter, from Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas., to Invermay, Tas.

Mrs. E. Hays, Mr. and Mrs. King, Mrs. V. Brewer, Mrs. Simpson, Mrs. C. Nunn, Mr. W. Bailey and

Mr. and Mrs. H. Byard, to Invermay, Tas.

Mr. and Mrs. M. Richardson, from Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas., to Frankston, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. O. G. Potter, from Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas., to Invermay, Tas.

Mrs. Miller, from Bambra-rd., Vic., to Oakleigh, Vic.

Miss D. Wickham, from Essendon, Vic., to Oakleigh, Vic.

Miss L. Campbell, from Dandenong, Vic., to Oakleigh, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Riches and Beth Riches, from Prospect, S.A., to Cottonville, S.A.

Mrs. Anderson and Miss B. Anderson, from Prospect, S.A., to Cottonville, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Davie and Misses Muriel, Maud, G. and B. Davie, from Naracoorte, S.A., to Cottonville, S.A.

Marriage

Miss J. Mold to Keith Younger, Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas.

Netta Steele to R. Dobbs, Rockhampton, Qld.

Edna Rankin to Douglas Clark, Mildura, Vic.

Dorothy Pedersen to A. Winterton, Warragul, Vic.

Betty Griffiths to Philip Frost, Shirley Milne to Jack Wallis, Dorothy Cooper to Reginald Thomas, Williamstown Nth., Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. E. Nicholls, Margaret-st., Launceston, Tas.

Tasmania

Invermay (R. M. Wilson).—Hinrichsen-Philp mission conducted from Feb. 8-Mar. 20 proved to be great blessing. On Mar. 22 104 broke bread and 150 attended gospel meeting. At social gathering on 24th over 100 were present, when all new members were given a N.T., and W. Philp and W. Taylor were farewelled. 6 new scholars were enrolled in B.S. on 29th. Church choir has commenced under leadership of Mrs. M. Alderton. Girls' club held an Easter camp at Sandy Beach, with Mrs. R. Comer and Miss J. McKenzie as leaders.

Collins-st., Hobart (H. W. Street).—Mar. 29 harvest festival services were held, with splendid display of goods.

Preacher spoke at all services. Afternoon open service was well attended. Mrs. Madel Cole was welcomed back after long illness. Church and B.S. are enjoying good attendances.

Margaret-st., Launceston (J. A. Luff).—Averages for March were: 11 a.m., 88; 7 p.m., 64, and communicants 89. Gospel service on Mar. 15 and recent prayer meetings were closed to enable members to attend Invermay mission. Mrs. Motley has returned from U.S.A. E. C. Hinrichsen addressed Ladies' Guild and C.M.S. Mrs. E. Allen was re-elected pres. of Ladies' Guild, and Miss J. Simons as sec. N. F. Monson is pres. of C.M.S., and John Piper sec. M. J. Edwards and N. F. Monson have been elected deacons. Y.W.F. is planning to buy blankets for Bethany Boys' Hostel. Fellowship hour was held following gospel service on Mar. 29. G. J. Foot has recommenced duty as B.S. supt. Mr. T. Wilmot acceptably acted in this capacity for two years. On Mar. 22 B.S. scholars assisted in TLA's Sunday Hymns and Choruses. Miss G. Foot has found it necessary to resign temporarily as supt. of J.C.E. Aborigines offering closed at £54. Annual church meeting was held on Mar. 24. G. J. Foot and H. E. Sulzberger were appointed Conference delegates. Church has enjoyed fellowship with large number of interstate visitors.

Western Australia

Fremantle.—Church honoured Miss George by social and gift of Bible on attainment of her 80th birthday. Annual election of officers on Mar. 8 appointed following: F. J. Vanstan, elder; D. Cressie, G. E. C. Hughes, D. A. Plenty, W. Robertson, C. W. Siggers, S. R. Thomson and F. L. Verco deacons. At annual meeting on 11th, reports from auxiliaries showed good work during year. Series of "busy-bees" has transformed adjoining block into a basketball field.

Inglewood (G. Smith).—Annual meeting on Mar. 19 was well attended. Reports showed 24 additions by baptism, and increases in all departments. G. Smith has commenced third year of ministry with church. Church farewelled P. Miller, who has been transferred to Carnarvon. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. Butler (Vic.) and Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood (Kalgoorlie). Mrs. T. Marsden is pres. of Ladies' Guild.

Subiaco (R. Raymond).—Successful series of pre-Easter services reached climax in large and inspiring service on Easter Sunday night. Two women re-

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

sponded to invitation. Many conference visitors attended on Easter Sunday. F. Ewers, B.A., was speaker at morning service. Mr. and Mrs. C. Nelson were honoured by church on occasion of silver jubilee of their marriage. Mr. Nelson has been honoured choir leader for more than quarter of century. By new method of selection, church has chosen eight elders, namely, E. F. Black, O. Fieldus, J. W. Gordon, G. H. Lake, A. C. Olds, F. J. Stephenson, H. L. Vawser and H. B. Vawser.

Queensland

Rockhampton (D. Paddon). — Mrs. Aderman (Brisbane) and Mrs. Voss (Bundaberg) have visited church. S. Vanham, pastor-evangelist for Queensland, addressed both services on Mar. 22. Work on kinder, room has been almost completed due to working bees, when ladies helped by serving afternoon tea. Ladies' fellowship purchased new lino for manse. B.C. is growing in numbers. Y.P.S.C.E. held cottage meeting in home of Mrs. La Prague. C.E. Union conducted united prayer meeting in preparation for Easter convention.

Gympie-Monkland (R. T. Roberts). — On Mar. 24 K. Horne, Y.P. Dept. organiser, spoke at fellowship tea, and afterwards conducted evangelistic rally, including films of Caloundra youth camp. On 27th pre-marriage social and presentations were tendered to A. Kingston and Lily Harmer and S. Groves and June Grant. On 29th, morning service was broadcast by 4GY. Mrs. M. Runge was soloist.

Boondall-Zillmere (R. Clymer). — Zillmere ladies visited Christian Guest Home on Mar. 17. Mesdames Herrmann, Ross, Kubler, Scott and Freedman gave items. Zillmere church is grateful to Mr. Stickler, who donated timber for fence. Boondall church extends deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Simpson and family in their bereavement. On 27th evening was held in honour of Dorothy Simpson, who is to be married to R. Capell.

New South Wales

Kingsford (A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip. Ed.). — On Mar. 22, Mr. Bowser gave appreciated morning address. At night, men's programme was presented, when several men of church assisted in service. Mr. Cooper was soloist. B.S. under leadership of Mr. Larcombe is in splendid condition, and new scholars and increased attendances are gratifying. During last few months nine scholars have accepted Christ. Many visitors have been welcomed, including Mrs. Osborne (Hamilton), Mr. and Mrs. Woolford, Miss Roach, and Messrs. Roberts, Terry and Mortimer (Woolwich Bible College). Local Endeavorers shared in combined C.E. evangelistic rally on 20th.

April 14, 1953.

Hamilton (Lloyd G. Read). — B.S. picnic was held on Mar. 14 at Speer's Pt. Annual church meeting was held on 26th, when following were elected: Elders, P. Talbot and N. Fraser; deacons, A. Gillespie, J. Mackenzie, C. Fraser and A. Tregloan; organists, Mrs. Simpson and Don Jefferson; B.S. supt., A. Tregloan. After allowing for membership losses there was a net gain of 5 over year. Treas. statement showed credit balance of £301. After-church fellowship was held on Mar. 29, with Marge Taylor, Mrs. Simpson and Alan West supplying musical programme. A youth fellowship tea has been inaugurated with Y.P. remaining for gospel service. Mrs. Blackburn (W.A.) was visitor on Mar. 22.

Rockdale (G. J. Andrews). — Congregation extends congratulations to G. Andrews, newly elected pres. of N.S.W. Conference, and assures him of prayerful support during presidential year. Sympathy is extended to Sis. Wallace. Sis. Clark, who has been in hospital, is now convalescent. Sis. Black is in hospital. Church has enjoyed fellowship with many visitors, including Mr. and Mrs. Everett. On 29th, morning service was conducted by A. Dorling (Hurstville), and gospel service by A. Morris (Wagga).

Bexley North (R. Saunders). — Harvest festival was held Mar. 22. A. Morris (Wagga) was preacher in morning. Mr. Newman (O.A.C.) addressed combined upper B.S., and preacher spoke at night. Goods were donated to Rockdale Babies' Home. Easter gospel service on Mar. 29 was addressed by E. Hart (Qld.). Choir trained by W. Baker rendered items from "Olivet to Calvary," C. Waye and Miss W. Everett being soloists. Prior to prayer meeting on April 1, young man from National Service Camp was baptised. He and another soldier later gave testimonies at monthly cottage prayer meeting at home of D. Beckingham. Prayer meetings are held in chapel on other Wednesdays, different members providing programme. Members of Y.P.S.C.E. celebrated 21st birthday of Mrs. D. Hayes on Mar. 31 at social evening in home of S. Craven. Foundations for new building have been completed.

South Australia

Wampony (R. Pritchard). — Many Y.P. gathered at home of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Milne for evening on Mar. 20. B.S. anniversary was held 29th, when Mr. Pritchard spoke in afternoon and presented prizes. Reference Bible was presented to R. Hunt in appreciation for long service as B.S. supt. and teacher, basket tea followed afternoon service. E. Fisher (Mundalla) spoke, and choir sang in evening. Visitors from Mundalla and Bordertown attended anniversary.

Cottonville (G. Mathieson). — Good meetings followed mission, and a number have been received by transfer. B.S., C.E. and Boys' and Girls' Life Brigades are well attended, and cadet sections of both brigades have been formed. On Mar. 29 152 broke bread. In evening choir rendered anthems, Miss M. Gloyd was soloist, and men from choir favoured with a quartet. On Mar. 28 number of members assisted in pouring foundations of Clovelly Park chapel.

Balaklava (D. G. Hammer). — During absence of preacher at Broken Hill mission, church appreciated visits and pictures by Colin Stock (Jewish Evangelical Witness) and Don Beller (Canberra Appeal Committee). Presentations were made at after church fellowship to Mrs. Lindner, Mr. and Mrs. Hennig and Ivan, who have moved to Kent Town. Special prayer meeting at home of Mrs. Moebus, sen., to remember Broken Hill mission was well attended. Mr. and Mrs. G. Duck received presentation and congratulations on 60th wedding anniversary. Light rain failed to dampen spirits of those who attended B.S. picnic at Wallaroo on 21st. Working bee has given time to manse site.

Edwardstown West (P. R. Baker). — B.S. picnic was held at National Park, over 200 children, staff and parents attending. Film evening netted over £7 to help meet expenses incurred in providing sound films for Enfield Hospital. P. R. Baker visited river settlements over Easter in connection with inauguration of circuit in those towns.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — About 40 of C.Y.F. enjoyed visit to Fire Brigade. On April 4 representatives attended official opening of Longwood camp site, where 5 Kilburn Y.P. were in camp. Visitors on April 5 were Mr. and Mrs. Lawrie (Ungarra), and Mr. and Mrs. Roberts (Lenswood). Dean Hamilton has recovered from recent illness, and is again attending services.

Mile End (R. W. Marshall). — Good meetings on April 5 in spite of 37 Y.P. in camp at Gumeracha, and many on holidays. A number of visitors, including interstate, were present. "Gospel bells" service was assisted by choir from B.S. One was baptised.

Maylands. — Annual meeting was held on Mar. 4, when election of officers took place. Those elected are: V. R. Cartledge, F. Daniel, D. J. Fitzgerald, C. Johnson and R. Pitkin. H. W. Jones is new chairman of board of officers, with F. Daniel vice-chairman. Mission at Beulah-rd. was well supported by members from Maylands, who assisted in visitation and musical items. Preparations for mission at Maylands are well in hand. Thirteen young people attended the first Easter camp at Longwood.

Victoria

Wattle Park.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Mar. 22. Goods were donated to Burwood Boys' Home. Explorers attended swim night at City Baths on 27th. Bible study groups continue to have happy fellowship at weekly cottage meetings. Mr. and Mrs. H. Edwards presented church with two silver communion plates and Sankey tune book at conclusion of their interim ministry on Mar. 29. Two B.S. scholars confessed Christ at evening service. Mrs. Salisbury, senr., and E. Salisbury rendered a duet. Church is grateful to Messrs. Baird, Murray, Veal and Newham for their messages. Work preparing for church foundations continues.

Castlemaine (K. Clinton, B.A.). — Ladies' Guild officers for 1953 are: pres., Mrs. Clinton; sec., Mrs. R. Fletcher, and treas., Sis. M. Walters. In 1952 ladies raised £163. Good Companions' club has been formed, with Miss Goodwin and Miss N. Hall as leaders, and Explorer club with B. McDonald and J. Lovelace as leaders. On Mar. 1 Mr. M. Symes was preacher at evening service when two made good confession. On 4th a social and presentation were given Miss Merle Ely prior to her marriage. On 22nd Miss Vawser spoke and showed films. Church held annual meeting on Mar. 23. Officers elected were: Elders, Messrs. Clark and Peeler; deacons, Messrs. Johnston, Clipston, N. Read, Sainsbury, Cooper and N. Hall. Harvest festival was on Mar. 29. On 21st Northern District Conference held meetings at Castlemaine.

Bendigo (H. Cave).—Miss E. Vawser addressed church on morning of Mar. 22, and in afternoon showed films of mission work in India to Spring Gully B.S. Miss R. Roberts and N. Summer-ton have been among visitors. Members attended district conference at Castlemaine on 21st. Choir presented Olivet to Calvary, and it was a valuable contribution to pre-Easter services, which were well attended. On Mar. 24 ladies' auxiliary combined with meeting of B. and F. B.S. collectors, which was addressed by Russell Baker. Well attended youth rally was held in hall on Mar. 28.

Mildura (D. A. V. Thomas).—Minister and Y.P. have canvassed Buronga, N.S.W., and received promise of 40 B.S. and cradle roll scholars. 23 have already been enrolled, transport into Mildura being arranged each Sunday morning. Successful harvest thanksgiving services were held on Mar. 29, with thank offering reaching £245. Kitchen extension on hall has almost reached completion.

Oakleigh (J. W. Lewis).—At annual meeting on Mar. 25, preacher reported 590 visits to homes during year. Callers

at manse seeking spiritual and material aid numbered 145. Reports presented by auxiliaries showed work is in healthy condition. Officers elected were: Elders, S. Fordham and C. McGregor; deacons, R. Boak (sec.), G. Coates, A. Collings, B. Donnan, H. Farmer, F. Gillespie (treas.), H. Miller and W. Wright (B.S. supt.); deaconesses: Mesdames H. Farmer, S. Fordham, F. Hodges, S. Kempster and J. Masterton. B.S. scholars made good confession on Mar. 22. Preacher exchanged with A. R. Pigdon (Dandenong) on morning of 29th. 147 broke bread for day, and mother of B.S. family accepted Christ. Attendance of scholars at Jordanville B.S. was 46.

Red Hill (N. Gilmore).—On April 5 71 broke bread. Visitors included Miss D. Wickham and R. Salmon, Mr. and Mrs. Banks, Mr. and Mrs. Robertson, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Littlejohn, Mrs. Kingston (Albury), Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson and Mrs. M. Brown. Gospel service was well attended. Fellowship meeting after service was conducted by L. Brown. Ladies provided supper.

Echuca (H. Hargreaves). — Easter message in song was presented on April 5. Number of visitors enjoyed fellowship with church over Easter. Mrs. Payne has to enter hospital in Melbourne. Some members were able to attend Easter Conference.

Williamstown North (C. J. MacKenzie).—Harvest thanksgiving was held on Mar. 22, with E. H. Randall as preacher. Goods were conveyed to Emmaus Rest Home by Mr. and Mrs. F. Marks. Special church meeting was held to review finances and launch building appeal. Appreciation is given to leaders of auxiliaries, which are doing fine work. Yvonne Round has commenced in local hospital as trainee nurse. Attendances have been maintained at all services.

South Yarra (V. Longthorp).—During recent week services have been well attended. Morning service has been greatly increased by commencement of Y.W.L., 30 being enrolled. Films shown by Miss E. Vawser of missionary work in India were enjoyed by all. Offering was received for famine relief. On April 5 visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Thompson (Kaniya), Mr. Sherriff (Horsham), and Miss Younger (Tas.). Special Easter service was assisted by choir.

Ascot Vale (H. Gross).—Church is happy that H. Gross has accepted offer of full time engagement for two years, as from Jan., 1954. B.S. had record attendance on Mar. 9. Many mothers attended harvest festival held by kinders. There was fine display of produce, which was divided between Gladwood Home and C.O.B. £45/11/- was received at evening service on Mar. 29 for starving people of India. W. Brown

is now at Fairfield, and thanks all friends for their prayers on his behalf. Church appreciated help of R. Ryall, B. J. Combridge, S. E. Powell and K. McKinnon, who filled pulpit during Mar. while preacher was on chaplaincy duties.

Springvale (G. A. Grainger).—During Mar. men of church took services at Oakleigh Guest Home. C.E. and others attended special services at Prahran. Church has enjoyed good meetings over last few Sundays, and appreciated messages from preacher. Church enjoys fellowship with Clayton brethren in prayer once a month. D. Holloway (Clayton) spoke on Mar. 24 at morning service.

North Fitzroy (A. O. S. Baker).—80th anniversary of church on March 29 was very successful. Many past members attended three services at which A. O. S. Baker and Conference Pres. W. W. Saunders were speakers in morning and evening. At thanksgiving service in afternoon V. L. Gole occupied chair, and H. Swain and L. Gole gave reminiscences of early years in church's history. Fine musical programme was rendered by R. Smyth, R. and A. Barbour and Mrs. J. Turner. Visitors were entertained at lunch, and 100 members and friends sat down to tea. Thanksgiving offering for day amounted to £64. At close of evening service a married couple made decision. Men's C.E. quartet rendered items. Following are deacons for year: A. Arnot, P. Foster, V. Foster, H. Halliwell, S. Trotter, L. Trotter and L. Smith. Deaconesses are Sisters Arnot, Anderson, Halliwell, Gole, McFadzean, Reid and Trotter.

Boronia (C. L. Smith).—On Mar. 22 church and B.S. anniversary was held in recently completed youth hall. 320 attended afternoon meeting, when A. E. White was speaker. Kinder and B.S. tea and prize giving was held on Mar. 25. On 29th church held harvest thanksgiving service. Goods were donated to Social Service dept. At annual meeting of W.M.B. following officers were elected: Mrs. O. Goodwin, pres., Mrs. G. Miller, sec., and Mrs. C. Smith, treas.

South Melbourne (S. Bannon).—Annual meeting was held on March 20. Officers elected were Messrs. Livingston, Cunningham, Tipping, Benning and Bury. Several have been welcomed into fellowship. Average for breaking bread during Feb. and Mar. was 51. Clubs and other auxiliaries are going ahead. Y.F. had entertaining evening, when talk was given by Mr. Traynor, who used tape recorder to help members in correct voice production. Average attendance at club is 13. Church is grateful to R. Ryall, who conducted services while preacher was at Easter camp.

South Australian Newsletter

E. P. C. Hollard.

The secular press in this State has discovered religion is news. During recent months the three papers have made a weekly feature of notes and news of the churches, each giving almost a full page to items of interest from the various bodies. We quote from a recent "News" comment, "The churches of Christ is a very lively body in South Australia. At the moment no fewer than 14 churches and halls are in course of erection. Four churches and halls have just been completed." In the 14 projects are manse and proposed additions to the Christian Rest Home. Since that paper comment, at least two other churches are planning to build a manse or a hall. It is obvious that our Brotherhood is venturing in terms of thousands of pounds.

On March 29 Loxton opened their new chapel, once a Lutheran building. Great numbers attended to share in the celebrations. Dr. T. Turner and G. M. Cox were special speakers.

On the same day Kilburn opened their new hall, when G. M. Mathieson and E. P. C. Hollard shared in the occasion. Already Kilburn have called for plans for the chapel to be erected. The school is growing rapidly, over 250 youngsters being catered for.

Two new churches have come into being recently. At Albert Park 25 foundation members met to form a church, and have called for plans and a date to erect their building. In this area people from our brotherhood are eager to come into the new work. And many of them have been lost sight of for years.

Clovelly Park has laid its foundations and formally grouped as a church. On March 28 over 30 men set about putting in foundations, and worked until dark to finish the task. This brick chapel will be something new in design. W. Lance Brune, a leading architect and deputy chairman of our H.M. Department, is a busy man, preparing churches for building extensions.

At Longwood the Youth Department purchased a camp site. In 8 weeks a hall of over 80 feet by 30 feet has mushroomed, and was formally opened on April 4. Young men have given holidays and slept at the site, trucks have come from the country, money has poured in, gifts have appeared overnight, as young people and the Brotherhood have seethed with activity to get that site ready for 220 young people at Easter. This reflects the love and esteem our people hold for Gordon Stirling.

The Rest Home has begun building operations on their £7000 wing to house more older folk, and it is expected

to be able to open this building free of debt. Mrs. Claude Verco has graciously donated the entire cost of a cottage at the Home to perpetuate the memory of her mother.

Missions. In accordance with the will of the late Crusade Committee special preaching missions are in progress. Last week five of these were being held in different parts of the State. Others are planned for the next month or two.

Ministries. Theo. Edwards has commenced a week-end ministry with the church at Murray Bridge pending appointment of a permanent minister. With Mrs. Edwards he travels up from the city to assist.

Ivan W. Nixon, of Perth, is scheduled to commence with Pt. Lincoln church in June. The brethren there are to build a fine chapel, and expect the contractor to commence soon.

B. W. Manning is with the Moonta-Wallaroo circuit for a brief ministry. At Moonta decisions have been recorded, and interest is building.

Church Extension. Church Extension Committee in S.A. has a fine record through the years. Almost £25,000 has been lent or re-lent to the churches. In the period 1908-1952 31 churches received assistance, last year 9 churches were helped, and present planning indicates that this year 7 calls or more will be made to the committee. The wise handling of brotherhood funds by these brethren reflects itself in the challenge they are now making to the churches to "Rise and Build." In spite of limited capital the committee is not slow to encourage forward programmes. For the first time in years they have come to the brotherhood with an urgent appeal for gifts, a sure indication of the forward look.

N.S.W.—Q'sland Youth in Camp

Fifty attended the Southern Queensland and Northern New South Wales camp held at Easter at Burreleigh Heads. Campers came from Lismore, Bangalow, Murwillumbah, Brisbane, Ipswich, Loddon, Marburg and Rosewood.

Camp leaders were G. B. Davis, Jr., and A. C. Caldicott, preacher at Lismore. Miss Ann Walker ably assisted with study groups, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Pieper were camp father, and mother. Mrs. Lorna Rossiter was camp hostess.

Study books covering the four days

were "When I Survey," by Gilbert Cameron, B.A., based on the hymn, and "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ," by A. J. Pollock. Studies were comprehensive, followed by discussion groups. Devotions and evening meditations were led by campers.

Sunday began with early morning devotions with nearby "Child Evangelism" campers. At Easter Sunday morning service, attended by many visitors, Principal R. Goode, of Murwillumbah High School, was speaker. His sermon described the unique part the resurrection played in the preaching of the apostles.

On Monday morning, G. B. Davis, Jr., took the confession of Barry Fisher, and later in the day baptised him before a large gathering in Tallebudgera Creek.

Afternoons were free, but the evenings were given to study books, a camp fire and church service respectively. All campers voted the experience thoroughly worthwhile, socially, physically and spiritually.

IN MEMORIAM.

CARTER.—Treasured memories of my dear husband, Arthur Leonard, Carter, called home suddenly on April 4, 1952.

—Inserted by mother, Leonard, Cecil, Albert, Lloyd, Thelma and Doris.

STREADER.—In fond remembrance of our dear husband and father, Albert E. Streader, called home April 25, 1939.

—Inserted by his loving wife and children, Lois, Eunice and Jack.

BIRTH.

WARD (HOLLAND).—At Dimboola, on April 7, to George and Anne—a daughter (Pauline Anne).

ENGAGEMENT.

The engagement is announced of Beryl Mary, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Jones, Moonmerra, Qld., to Roy John, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cooke, Rockhampton, Queensland.

SILVER WEDDING.

BAKER—PHILLIPS.—Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Baker, 32 Vaughan-st., Lidcombe, N.S.W., have pleasure in announcing the 25th anniversary of their marriage, celebrated at the church of Christ, Moreland, Vic., by J. E. Webb, on April 19, 1928.

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Anniversaries and Homecomings

GRANVILLE, N.S.W.—30th school anniversary, 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 Sunday School (70th Anniversary), Sunday, April 26; 3.45 p.m. and 7 p.m. services; 5 p.m., Fellowship Tea (reminiscences). Past teachers and scholars who desire to attend please advise K. R. Bowes, 51 Eton Street, Malvern, S.A., by April 11.

NORTH RICHMOND, Vic. B.S. Anniversary April 26 and May 3, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. All welcome.

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 accommodation should write to Secretary H. E. Easton, East Esplanade, St. Albans. MW 0606.

MALVERN-CAULFIELD, Vic.—Sunday, May 3, 11 a.m., worship. Luncheon and reminiscences with programme. 7 p.m., Gospel service conducted by grandsons of pioneers. If intending to be present, please write or phone the secretary, R. P. Clark, 72 Dent-st., Ashburton, WM 6660, or 'phone manse, U 9812.

BUNBURY, W.A. — 52nd anniversary services Sept. 27 and 28, 1953. A year of special effort is planned to win souls for Christ. Prayerful assistance is requested.

MARRICKVILLE, N.S.W.,
DIAMOND JUBILEE

60th Anniversary Services Sunday, April 19, 1953

11 a.m.: Mr. D. Wakeley.

3 p.m.: Hour of Pleasant Fellowship.

7 p.m.: Mr. P. E. Thomas.

Past members and friends are invited to meet with us in these services.

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April 19

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A Psalm for the Lord's Day

(A Hymn for April—No. 59, April 19)

When Isaac Watts versified the psalms his particular objective needed little more defining than that on the title page: "The Psalms of David imitated in the language of the New Testament and applied to the Christian state and worship." He did not compass quite the whole psalter, about ten of the psalms and parts of others not lending themselves closely to his purpose. From some, however, he prepared versions in three different metres. One well-known verse illustrates this; it appears thus: (i) "To spend one day with thee on earth exceeds a thousand days of mirth"; (ii) "To sit one day beneath thine eye and hear thy gracious voice exceeds a whole eternity employed in carnal joys" and (iii) "To spend one sacred day where God and saints abide affords diviner joy than thousand days beside."

Some of his extensions of the words of Scripture are hardly suitable for general use. In Psalm 148, for example, he bids the birds "sit on flow'ry boughs and sing your Maker's glory there," and in Psalm 83, we find that "the lion and the stupid ass conspire to vex thy sheep."

To-day's hymn omits two not-quite-up-to-standard verses of the seven Watts wrote for "Psalm 92—First Part—A Psalm for the Lord's Day." The first verse, "Sweet is the work, my God, my King . . ." is deservedly familiar, and the last, "Then shall I see, and hear, and know . . .", while much more definitely a Psalm of Watts than a Psalm of David, is a lovely word on what one has described as "the intellectual progress which is in reserve for the soul hereafter; the enlarged powers which man's future state will inevitably develop; and the prospect of having unfolded to him then so much of what he longs to know." —F.J.F.

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Western Women Workers

(From a report by Chas. H. Hunt.)

The 48th Annual Conference of the
Women's Auxiliary in Western Aust.
was held in Lake-st. chapel, Perth, on
April 1. A fine spirit of fellowship pre-
vailed. Morning devotions were led by
Mrs. G. Elliott. Owing to the death of
her husband, Mrs. E. E. Tilbee was
unable to preside, and Mrs. I. Digwood,
a past president, was in the chair.

Mrs. P. Jefferies, presenting the ob-
ituary report for the 23rd year, reported
19 sisters from various churches had
been called home.

The report on Hospital Visitation in-
dicated "a gracious and loving service,"
said Mrs. W. Cooper. It extended to
the newly opened Mt. Henry Home for
the Aged, Wooroloo Sanatorium, the
Home of Peace, and other country and
metropolitan institutions. Mrs. G. Ewers
reported 89 names on the isolated roll,
and 23 whose addresses were not known.
Other reports spoke of assistance given
by the women to youth camps, tem-
perance work, Home and Overseas Mis-
sions.

Visitors to the afternoon session in-
cluded representatives of W.C.T.U., Bap-
tist Women's Missionary Union, and
Salvation Army Social Service. Mrs. A.
Hutson, a former secretary of Con-
ference, was welcomed back to W.A.

Miss F. Schurmann gave first hand
news of work among the Aborigines,
and Miss A. F. Kennedy, on furlough
from New Hebrides, told of island mis-
sions.

Members over 80 years of age were
presented with a bouquet; 14 women
were thus honored, including Mrs.
Sharp, who, at 91, is still keen and
active.

Various musical items helped to make
the day enjoyable. A great evening
rally, addressed by Lloyd Cooke, of
Naremburn, was a climax to a day of
rich fellowship.

Amongst the officers elected were:—
Pres., Mrs. I. Digwood; vice-pres., Mes-
dames W. Cooper, G. Ewers, J. K.
Robinson and D. Gemmell; sec., Mrs.
P. Armstrong; assist. sec., Mrs. Ron
Richards; treas., Mrs. W. Beck.

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