

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

ESCAPEES WAVE GREETING TO AUSTRALIA



This happy group represents the first 45 migrants to reach Australia as escapees from Iron Curtain countries. These Hungarians, Czechs, Poles and Roumanians face a new life under the sponsorship of the United States President Escapee Programme. The churches must play their part in making their future bright.

It largely depends on us whether these—and all new arrivals in our land—find a nation with a Christian conscience. Our Methodist brethren are challenging them, and us all, with a Mission to the Nation, whose passion goes far beyond the interests of Methodism alone. We must all work together to ensure the freedoms that really matter, and to help make Australia truly great.

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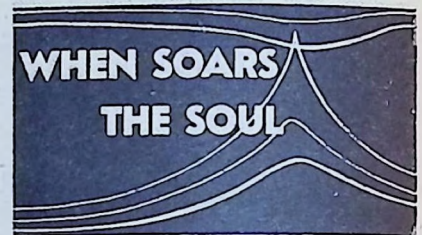
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*When soars the soul earth's
clamoring voices cease,
Stilled in the wonder of God's
power and peace.*



"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." . . . And on the death of Stephen a great persecution arose against the church in Jerusalem; and they were all scattered throughout the region of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles. . . . Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.—Acts 1: 8; 8: 1, 4 (R.S.V.).

Only the Church can preach the gospel. We have far too often been trying to get a revival without paying the price of revival—a bargain-basement revival. . . . We have tried to get cheap results. We have tried to get our evangelism done by a few special people with persuasive gifts. We have thought that they would bring the people to Christ whilst we sat back comfortably and watched them. . . . Revival has not come that way. . . . We hear again and again the cry, "O that God would send us another Francis, another Wesley, another Booth, another Moody." We want to have our evangelism done for us by some special person who will accept the spiritual discipline and sacrifice necessary for evangelism. We shall never be allowed to win a cheap victory like that. The whole Church is the unit of evangelism, and only the action of the whole Church can save the world.—James Mackay.

O Lord, in whose hands are all the issues of life, teach us how to use all that thou hast given us. Show us how to live to the uttermost, so that we may truly know the meaning of work and love and prayer, of loyalty and of joy. Forgive the wastage of the past, the indolence, the wrong attitudes, the darkness of self. Let us open all our heart and mind to thee—and to those whom, in thy Name, we seek to serve. AMEN. (E.B.S.)

OUR KOREAN TASK IS ONLY BEGINNING

DESPITE renewed talk of peace, Korea remains an anguished furrow on the world's brow. Indeed, while fighting continues there, and in Malaya, Indo-China and Kenya; while a sacrificial will to peace is unknown to the vast majority in all lands, the very word "peace" falls forlornly from dispirited lips.

As Christians we must demonstrate such a will to peace—and that begins on the local level, in the way we think and talk of "enemies," in the way we welcome migrants, in our readiness to make Christian fellowship and brotherhood real as we stretch out with our gifts across the barriers of hate and war.

We must realise that even if a peace is arranged in Korea, the demand for Christian love in action will become only more urgent. The situation there for human misery almost beggars description. Dr. Elfan Rees, of the Department of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees, recently visited South Korea to confer with the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Administration which will take over relief responsibilities from the military authorities if and when an armistice is signed.

His report shows a tremendous task ahead. South Korean Christians (approximately one million in a population of twenty millions) live "in a society where nearly half the population is in need of basic relief, half of the country utterly devastated, and the other half fearfully overcrowded. More people are as nearly naked as it is possible to be and still be clothed, Dr. Rees noted." Among the most pressing problems were the 75,000 orphans and unaccompanied children (only half accommodated in sub-standard orphanages); the physically handicapped (40,000 blind, 30,000 deaf and dumb, and overwhelming numbers limbless); 15,000 uncontrolled adolescents being swept into juvenile gangsterism; and over 293,000 war-widows and their 516,000 children eking out their existence on the dole.

Despite all this, coupled with the destruction of churches and the loss of pastors, the Korean Church is growing and virile, while Christian organisations are leading in the efforts of voluntary agencies to aid the Koreans. Gifts and medical aid are reaching there *now* from churches round the world, but the big task lies ahead when peace comes. That will be at least a ten-year job—and we must all be in on it!

May 5, 1953.

"BEYOND VARIETY MUST BE UNITY!"

The following message from the seven presidents of the World Council of Churches has spiritual significance as we prepare for Pentecost (Christian Union) Sunday on May 24.

As Presidents of the World Council of Churches we greet once again participating Churches, and request their congregations and members to join wholeheartedly in prayer for the Church Universal, trusting in our Lord's promise that the Heavenly Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him.

As we celebrate on Whitsunday the first coming of the Holy Spirit upon the assembled Church of Christ, let us remember especially the words of Paul: "There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit." These words describe an essential and God-given characteristic of the Church and of its unity. There is in the Church of Christ a wonderful variety. It is one of the joys of our world-wide fellowship to discover the manifold richness of God's work among men. We are meant to learn from each other and to receive inspiration from the zeal of Churches which fulfill their evangelistic mission, from the courage of Churches which render their witness in spite of persecution. And as our fellowship becomes more truly world-wide, we should all be enriched by the diverse spiritual gifts which God has given to the members of his family in order that they may share them with all.

But variety is not the last word. Beyond and above variety there must be unity. Though all the varied gifts of the Spirit displayed in the Church Universal have their origin and power in the activity of one and the same Holy Spirit of God, yet they do not achieve their full effectiveness for Christ unless and until they operate within a fellowship, in which every division is overcome by the unity of Christ. We walk in fellowship, and we must pray for the fellowship which we do not yet possess. We must submit ourselves to the Holy Spirit so that our Churches and ourselves may be renewed, so that we may be enabled, not only to stay together but to go forward together, and so that we may give a common witness to the world of the one Christ our Saviour and his peace and justice which it so sorely needs.

Let us then pray on this Whitsunday for the coming of the Spirit upon all Churches everywhere. Let us pray that we may all learn increasingly to live in true fellowship.

W. S. LOWE, M.A., of Brighton, Vic., asks us to take another look at

THE DECLARATION AND ADDRESS

— in To-day's Language

In August, 1809, a group of people in the town of Washington, Pennsylvania, dissatisfied with divisions within the Church, appointed a committee of 21 to assist Thomas Campbell in formulating a plan to serve as the basis of a campaign for uniting the Church. Most of the committee followed the example of other committees and left the job to their most active member, Thomas Campbell.

Campbell wrote the document known as *The Declaration and Address of the Christian Association of Washington*, and presented it for adoption within three weeks of the appointment of the committee—other committees please note! The most important section of the Address consists of 13 statements, whose acceptance Campbell and his friends urged on the Christian world as a programme of unity for the Church. These "propositions" are written in the pompous English of 150 years ago, but they remain the basis of our entire mission. Here they are, translated into the sort of English Campbell would have used if he were writing the document to-day:

1. It was the intention of Christ to found on earth one Church, and he did found only one. It is made up of people everywhere who have faith in Christ and are trying in fact as well as in theory to follow his will as revealed in the Scriptures.
2. For reasons of convenience and geography, it is necessary for this Church to establish itself in separate congregations; but no other division of any kind should exist.
3. To ensure this, nothing should be taught as a command of Christ unless it was expressly required of the New Testament Church by Christ or his apostles—either as a command in so many words or by example.
4. The New Testament is the guide-book of the Church in all matters relating to its worship and organization.
5. Where any point about a command of Christ is not made clear by the Scriptures, no one has any authority to supply the deficiency with some rule or law. Much less has anyone the authority to add any new commands. Nothing ought to be accepted as binding on Christians or the Church, therefore,

which is not as old as the New Testament.

6. Conclusions and deductions may fairly be drawn from the teachings of Scripture, but these interpretations are not part of the faith, and ought not to be imposed on anyone who cannot agree with them.
7. Creeds, statements of faith and other attempts to sum up the Christian belief are useful and sometimes essential in explaining or defending the faith, but they ought to be regarded as human documents, not tests to be applied to determine whether one is a Christian or not.
8. It isn't necessary for a person to have a full and detailed knowledge of the Christian faith to entitle him to a place in the Church. To know that one has sinned, that Christ can save from sin, and to profess faith in and obedience to Christ is all that is absolutely necessary to qualify one for membership in the Church.
9. All who make such a profession and try to live by it should regard each other as members of the Church.
10. Division among Christians is evil, leading to many other evils and confusion.
11. Divisions within the Church have always arisen from one of two causes: neglect of some part of the revealed will of God; or the attempt to impose human opinions and inventions on others as the binding will of God.
12. The road to unity of the Church is therefore clear; only those ought to be accepted as members who profess their faith and obedience to Christ as the Scriptures reveals; they ought to be retained as members only while they continue to try to put that ideal into practice; and the ministers of the Church should teach as the commands of Christ only those which are found in the Scriptures. At all points, human inventions and opinions should be excluded.

13. There may be some matters on which there is no command of Christ. For practical purposes action may be necessary on these matters. If so, they should be kept to a minimum and freely regarded as human expedients subject to alteration or abandonment at any time, and therefore not binding on anyone, nor the cause of strife or division.

A lot of water has flowed under the bridge since 1809. So much, in fact, that some of these propositions have been accepted by a very wide circle far outside the fellowship which became known as "The Restoration Movement." So much, that some persons and churches within that movement have in practice abandoned some of the propositions.

For all that, they present one of the most workable programmes for the unity of the Church ever devised. They will repay close study by everyone interested in the question—not least by those who are Campbell's spiritual children.



Mission to Nation

The Methodist Mission to the Nation is making its impact felt in many quarters. The National Secretary, Rex Mathias, said on his return to Melbourne after a visit to Western Australia with the Australian Missioner, Alan Walker, that one of the finest tributes came from the manager of a Perth broadcasting station. "This man phoned us on the Thursday and said: 'Some of my men from here have been listening to Alan Walker. They describe him as a straight-shooter, with something tremendously important to say. I can make adjustments in my programmes to give him up to about an hour to-morrow morning if he can fit it in.' Our heavy programme made it impossible to accept this offer." Adelaide will be the centre of the next capital city venture of the Mission, from May 10 to 17.

Western Churches in Conference

It is a fortunate community that can have such weather as blessed the 56th Annual Conference of the West Australian churches. It is a fortunate brotherhood that can enjoy such meetings as were held during Conference week, March 31-April 6. A combination of sunny weather and happy spirits set the key-note for a series of well-attended meetings and helpful messages.

PERSONALITIES.

I. W. Nixon was the sympathetic and versatile president, ably supported by Conf. and H.M. secretary, A. D. Pyne. Miss Kennedy, of the New Hebrides, was the only inter-State visitor. A. Hutson and E. Gough were welcomed as newly-appointed preachers to the W.A. work, the former after an absence of 17 years, and the latter in his first full-time field. Reference was made during Conference to the quiet yet faithful work of many of the brethren and sisters whose labors, though "unheralded and unsung," contribute effectively to the spread of Christian influence throughout our vast State.

HIGHLIGHTS.

The congregation that packed into Lake-st. chapel on Good Friday morning—there were 340 present—to be enveloped by the spirit of the Easter day was indicative of the outlook of the Western brotherhood. The service was an inspirational one, in keeping with the day, and included a well-suited message from A. MacRoberts entitled "The Mind of Christ."

The message of J. K. Robinson, the incoming president, in his Conference Sermon in the Perth Town Hall on Easter Sunday was indicative that we are still "a people of the book." It was a fine message, worthy of the broadcast that took it to a wider listening public.

The pageant on the opening night of Conference (Youth Night) depicted the wide range of work among the young people of our churches, and was an excellent introduction to the Conference series. An attendance of 230, predominantly young people, witnessed the pageant.

The meals served by the ladies—on Saturday as well as on Friday—enabled many to enjoy much time in happy reunions, which might otherwise have been spent in tiring journeys to and from suburban homes.

The State's active membership was reliably reported as being above the 3,000 for the first time. It is now

3,441. The nett increase for the year was 230.

MEETINGS AND SPEAKERS.

Following the opening night, all day Wednesday was used by the Women's Auxiliary Conference with its business sessions, concluding in the evening with another well attended meeting. This was addressed by L. G. Cooke, of the Naremburn church.

Overseas Missions, with their messages and their claims, were featured on the Thursday evening. Sister Kennedy was introduced to Conference at this meeting, bringing as she did, first-hand information of her nursing work on the island of Aoba. She was followed by J. K. Bond in his message entitled "Cavalcade of Conquest," which traced the victories of the Christian Church through the centuries.

Conference business sessions commenced immediately after lunch on Friday, and continued through until 5.30 p.m. Practically all Conference committees had some opportunity of placing the salient features of their work before a congregation of some 200 interested members. Where the business of any committee was not concluded on Friday, it was deferred to the following day. Business continued through until 5 o'clock that afternoon—another highlight!

On Friday afternoon deputations were received from the British and Foreign Bible Society, and from the Temperance Alliance. Around the tea-table on Friday evening greetings were received from the Methodist and Congregational Conferences. A colored strip-film depicting the work at Canberra, and ably presented by G. A. Ewers, preceded the evening brotherhood rally on Friday night. At

this meeting the incoming president was introduced, the outgoing president presented with the customary copy of the Scriptures, and the results of the ballots for the various committees announced. All committees this year are fully manned. For the second successive year the Conference picnic gave place to another brotherhood function on Easter Monday. A fete and sale of work, jointly arranged by the Women's Auxiliary and the Social Service Committee, was conducted in the afternoon in the grounds of the recently purchased property which is to be the Old Folks' Guest Home. The aim was liquidation of the debt on the property. A well-patronised function resulted in £366 being raised, with further amounts to be received. The Aborigines Board, although a Federal Conference body, brought the Conference to a close on Monday night with a pictorial representation in color of the work on the several stations.

BUSINESS AND RESOLUTIONS.

After some years of silence in this sphere, Conference expressed itself in a resolution of loyalty to the throne, through the person of our new sovereign. A recommendation was also adopted requesting the State Government to follow the lead of the South Australian Government by giving to school children a copy of the New Testament (suitably embossed) as a memento of the coronation. Commendation to the city's daily morning newspaper (*The West Australian*) for publishing a biblical text on its leader page was the subject of another resolution.

Work on the unfinished manse at Geraldton is, by direction of Conference to be completed. The Properties Committee is also by the same direction to prosecute more actively the collection of building funds through the "League of 500."

As a result of hard but typically efficient work by the Conference secretary, A. D. Pyne, the Executive Committee was able to announce the inauguration of a brotherhood roll as distinct from individual church rolls. It is requested that all affiliated churches take every care to keep it a reliable indication of our brotherhood strength.

The continued interest of the brotherhood in evangelistic effort was expressed in a motion urging the engaging of a missionary for a city mission similar to the Snodgrass-Pollock campaign.



In the Jarrah Country, W.A.

WOMEN

TOPIC FOR MAY

Theme "The Enlarging Fellowship of Women."

In India

By Dr. MOTI SOLOMON

India . . . "Land of fabulous wealth, of fabulous poverty, of splendor and of rags," has been said rightly.

It is also a land of ignorance mixed with ancient culture. We Christian women are the daughters of it, and many amongst us are poor and have had very little education, but we all work together.

The India Mission has a large part of its work in Chhatisgarh, the eastern part of the Central province. There are many denominations working in this area. In every station where we have our church the women have their weekly meeting. Sometimes we have a social, too. But our yearly interdenominational meetings are very instructive and interesting. Panel discussions are conducted on religious, social, health and economic problems. Once I spoke on the use of various seeds, vegetables and fruits as "home remedies" for simple ailments, in an interdenominational meeting at Bilaspur.

Last year our India Mission conducted a women's conference in Mungeli, a small town, 30 miles from Bilaspur Station. Women from twelve near-by villages gathered here, and were entertained by the women of the Mungeli Christian Church. Mrs. Phillips, of Women's Christian College, Madras, now working with the Department of Health and Nutrition, spoke on how family diet should be planned. She picked the cheap vegetables from the local market, and told their food values to the people. Mrs. Gurbachan Singh, of the American Evangelical Mission, had a class on Youth and Christian Home. Mrs. Sukhnandan, of the Christian Church, Mungeli, dealt with problems which are before parents in changing India. Classes were also conducted on other subjects such as Child Care, Stewardship in Christian Homes, etc.

The women were shown the different articles which the Bilaspur Sunday School children made under the leadership of Mrs. H. P. Gamboe.

In Bilaspur, where I work, every Easter Monday, women of our church have a sale of eats, prepared garments, toys, table linen, etc. The women work for months to get the things ready. On the last day they donate the food. The proceeds from this sale are used for sending women delegates to various Christian conferences and meetings. The money is also given for other purposes, such as repair of the local chapel. Last year we realised the largest sum — over five hundred rupees. This we consider very good, as Chhatisgarh is the poorest part of the Central Province (called Madhya Pradesh since Independence. Madhya-centre, Pradesh-Province).

The women of our Fellowship brought it to the notice of men that it was time to celebrate the 50th anniversary of our church in Bilaspur.

Jan. 20, 1952, we celebrated the Golden Jubilee with a community dinner of seven hundred, with some friends from other denominations.

In the past our women have sold tracts and gospel portions in the homes of non-Christians, in hospitals and on festival grounds.

Most of our leading women are the daughters of parents who were converted by missionaries late in the last century or early in this century, and I can confidently say that we are growing physically, mentally and in the love of God.

(Dr. Solomon was a delegate to the World Convention, Melbourne, last August. She is a medical missionary with our American Mission.)

For Discussion:

Should we in Australia do as the women of Bilaspur, and make provision for sending women delegates to conferences and meetings from the local women's societies?

Suggestion.

Use a map to show the situation of places mentioned in Dr. Solomon's article. Also to show the distance to "Our India."



AN "AMERICAN FRIEND SHIP"

This is an American story with a Japanese twist. It all began in the late months of 1951 when two prominent businessmen in Des Moines, Iowa, and a successful dairyman in Merced, California, became interested in the International Christian University in Japan.

Ernest Greenough, the dairyman, who "did not want the Japanese people to think of America in terms of Hiroshima and Nagasaki," went to Japan, at his own expense, where he served as a volunteer agricultural consultant to I.C.U. After carefully studying the 365-acre campus site at Mitaka, of which at least half must be put into cultivation because of new land reform regulations. In Japan, he recommended that the grounds should be devoted to a good experimental agricultural school, including a producing farm. Before sailing home to America, he compiled a list of nearly 100 items of basic farm materials which he thought were most urgent

and essential to set up the I.C.U. land utilisation programme.

Returning to Des Moines, they brought together more than 60 representatives of churches, manufacturers of farm machinery, stock breeders and other interested people. They organised a committee to fill an "American Friend Ship" with gifts of agricultural equipment and supplies for the Japanese University near Tokyo. One of the two businessmen, Owen Crist, a Disciple layman, was appointed co-chairman.

The response that followed was both amazing and heart-warming. Stoves, feeders, rolls of fencing wire, shovels and forks, fountains, plus tons of seed were but some of the supplies that literally piled into committee headquarters in Iowa. Gifts in the way of heavy equipment were: rubber tyres, a harrow, plow, mower, cultivator, planter, and a fully equipped tractor. The cargo of the "American Friend Ship" reached the I.C.U. campus on June 13.

Several months later about 600 baby chicks for I.C.U., contributed by poultrymen in Iowa, were flown to

Japan. On the day of their arrival in Tokyo, Dr. Hachiro Yuasa, president of the University, received an urgent early morning telegram, which read: "Important you meet immediately American Chicks at Airport." He happily did. To-day, the chicks—white leghorns, hampshires and white rocks—are fully grown and laying eggs for University and community tables. For the record, the first I.C.U. egg was laid at daybreak of October 1—a truly historic occasion.

In September, a modern Noah's Ark from the United States followed the "American Friend Ship" to Japan with a consignment of blue-ribbon livestock for the farm maintained by the University. Included in the shipment of gifts from the people of Iowa, Utah and California were: a Holstein bull, fourteen heifers, Jersey and Guernsey breeds, two boars and four sows, Duroc purebreds, and two rams and five ewes, Suffolk purebreds.

On board the same ship were Mr. and Mrs. Greenough, and Ben. C. Bobbitt, pastor of Central Christian Church, Des Moines, and a member of the Iowa committee of the International Christian University in Japan.

(Christian-Evangelist, 11/2/53. The setting-up of this University is an American Christian gesture of reconciliation. This year, Emil Brunner began a three-year term as professor of religion at I.C.U. When he visited Japan in 1948 he was so deeply impressed by the Japanese people and so moved with a vision of the possibilities of Christian service in their country that when he sailed he confided to friends: "I have lost part of my heart to Japan."—R.W.G.)

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



Despite rain on April 26, the marquee at the Hinrichsen-Philp Mission, Belmont, Vic., was crowded, and there were 5 decisions.

Annual Good Friday meetings of Gawler-Williamstown and Kersbrook churches, S.A., were held this year at Kersbrook. Visiting speakers were W. Russell and S. E. Matthews. Morning and afternoon meetings held in the local hall were attended by about 200, while the evening meeting in the chapel had an attendance of about 80. The combined Gawler-Williamstown male choirs, conducted by Jim Bywaters, excelled, as also did Mr. Adams and Mr. and Mrs. Osborn and family (Kersbrook) in the evening meeting. Catering of the Kersbrook ladies was excellent. Next year it is hoped the Conference will meet at Gawler.

May 5, 1953.



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

Famine Funds Being Distributed

"Thirty or forty people sent us a petition from Pargaon to help them to clean out and build up a well there. They have had no water in any of their existing wells for months, and we have been paying water cartage money to the master there for over twelve months, as all water for the Christians and outcaste people has to be carted from over a mile away, each family carting just the amount they need each day, and even then the owner of the field where the well is situated is not very happy about it. We felt it was the least we could do to try to help them to get this well cleaned out, especially as they say that the well was a good one till it more or less caved in. I will see the Mamlatdar (head man) about the situation there as soon as possible, as it originally had some connections, with him.

"Colin Thomas has about managed to complete a road over the hills to Khandvi, and this will mean a save of approximately thirty miles every time he visits that village. After the rains he will have to do some more repairs, but at least they have made a start, and he has been able to take the motor half way already. Work on the deepening of our field well has ceased. Our water supply has been very considerably increased, so that we have no difficulty in supplying all of the compound, several hundred gallons per day to the Girls' Home, and plenty left over for the lucerne and green fodder in the field. We also cleaned out the Boarding well during this last week, and now the men I have here will commence on building bunds around the field. This will employ them over the hot season. There are some others to whom I hope to be able to give some odd jobs out in the villages."—B. V. Coventry.

From another area in India, the L.M.S. Chronicle records the sufferings of village peoples:—

"They have no work, no money, no food, no water in the well. The

children are covered in dust and dirt, and their matted hair hangs like rats' tails. Six weeks ago these people removed the idol from the village temple, or at least requested the Christian catechist to remove it, for they themselves were afraid. Now they are asking for preparation for baptism, and want to know if the temple can become the church.

"So much more than just preaching is needed here, and in the thousands of such villages in this famine area. The United States Council of Churches has sent out quantities of food-stuffs, but still more is needed, and more workers who can distribute it and encourage and lead the villagers at least to clean their empty wells and tidy their village streets.

"And if the rains fail again this year, for the sixth year in succession, what hope have these people of surviving? Thousands will die, and be the envy of those who linger in their endless hunger. The people are not bitter, they are just lifeless. No wonder the educated people say, 'The problem of India is to fill the stomach. If Congress can do that, that is good; if the communists can do that, that is good; but food, not theory, is what India needs, and she will follow the man, or party, which can provide it.'"

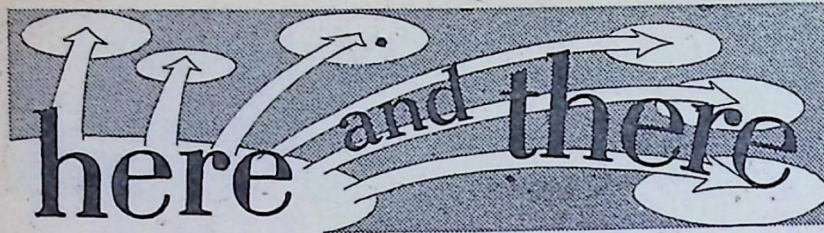
Brotherhood Relief Fund

By the time this is in print, over £2,000 will have been received by the Board and forwarded to India. Churches that have monies on hand, or those intending to contribute, please do so promptly. So pressing is the need that two Relief remittances were sent during April, and a further remittance will be sent on May 1. If funds are to hand, a further amount will be sent forward mid-May.

The Board thanks all for their timely aid, and wishes to add that our Indian brethren are most grateful for what the Australian brotherhood is doing.



No statesmanship can ensure peace in a world where men, as individuals and as citizens, are selfish in their outlook and grasping in their conduct.—William Temple.



W. S. Lowe, M.A., of Brighton, Vic., has been notified that his first appointment as Assistant Trade Commissioner will take him to Montreal, Canada. It is expected that Mr. and Mrs. Lowe and family will leave Australia some time in August. They are saying to their friends, "See you at the World Convention in Toronto!"

Our W.A. preachers met in a Camp Conference at Waterman's Bay, April 7-9, following the State Conference. A record number attended, and R. Vincent's studies as guest lecturer proved very helpful, as did L. Cooke's devotional leadership. J. Sewell and R. Hillier organised the Camp. At the annual Fraternal meeting, C. Hunt was elected president, and E. Gough, secretary.

The second week of the Visitation Mission at Lane Cove, N.S.W., proved as helpful as the first. The addresses and the personal visitation by the missionary, J. Turner, B.A. (Moreland, Vic.) were greatly appreciated. On the closing Sunday, April 19, the largest attendances were recorded. Three more adults made decisions, making a total of six for the Mission. Renewed interest among members has resulted. At a social gathering after the evening service, thanks was expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Turner and R. Hayward (song leader). The church is indebted to Moreland for releasing their minister for this period.

W. R. Jarmyn began his ministry in the West Moreton Circuit April 12, having been welcomed the previous day at the Annual Conference of the Circuit. The five churches are strung on a line that runs south to north for fifty miles—Rosevale, Mt. Walker, Rosewood, Marburg, Lowood. There were attendances of 55-70 in the first three churches, April 12.

After having served nine years as N.S.W. Youth Director, Roy Greenhalgh has been invited to continue his leadership for a further term of three years.

The church at Preston, Vic., announces that plans have been approved for addition to the school hall and remodelling of the exterior of the church building, and work will commence immediately. A. Quaife suc-

ceeds Dick Chapman as secretary, ill-health having forced Mr. Chapman to resign. Five have recently been baptised, while another highlight was the C.M.S. service on April 12, with its president, L. Chapman (Hampton) as preacher, V. Brown (W. Preston) leading, and music from men's choir, D. McDonald and G. Pinches.

Among the ABC religious broadcasts worth noting and planning to hear are two Sunday afternoon talks on June 7 and 14 by Prof. C. H. Dodd on "The New English Translation of the Bible," and a series of four talks on "The Spiritual Life," by Dr. George McLeod on Sunday afternoons, June 28-July 19. These talks are heard at 3.45 p.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Wedderburn church, Vic., extended a welcome to its new minister, R. Reidhead (C.O.B.) on March 29, when W. Twiddy also presented Mr. and Mrs. B. Jackel with a gift from the church in view of their silver wedding and church work over the past 25 years. On Easter Sunday, when "Back to Wedderburn" commenced, over 70 met at worship service. Thank offering was £110. S. R. Baker, who last spoke in chapel 33 years ago, conducted evening service, when over 100 attended. Visitors represented more than 20 churches throughout the State.

Eighty old-type church hymn books are available free (pay carriage) from the church at Broken Hill, N.S.W. Any small church desiring them should write immediately to L. Warren, 179 Chloride-st., Broken Hill, N.S.W.

During April emphasis at Unley, S.A., was placed on the work of the Sunday school, celebrating its 70th anniversary. Special prayers were offered at all services, and also on two evenings while 17 pairs of visitors went into the homes of scholars who had no active association with the church. This resulted in many parents attending the anniversary services who do not usually do so. At crowded services on April 19, speakers were A. B. Titter and I. J. Chivell. The school choir, led by L. E. Arthur, was the largest for many years, and was assisted by an orchestra. The excellent school concert and

prize-giving also had a capacity house. On April 26, "Back to Sunday School" day was observed, with the Conference President, G. R. Stirling, as morning speaker. For the day, 158 communed. In the afternoon, former teachers and scholars from near and far were led by H. G. Norris, with a bright talk by J. E. Webb. Musical items were rendered by Mrs. E. V. Lawton and Phil. Wood. At the Fellowship Tea, presided over by the present supt. (Lindsay Bowes), 230 heard greetings from England, interstate and country centres, including one from W. F. Nankivell, the only living former preacher not able to attend. C. L. Johnston (a former supt.) presented reminiscences. At night, an Old Scholars' Choir of 50 voices, under Phil. Wood, rendered an anthem, and supplied a quartet. H. R. Taylor led the meeting, with I. J. Chivell giving the address, at the close of which one lad from the school made the good confession. The whole series has brought inspiration and encouragement.

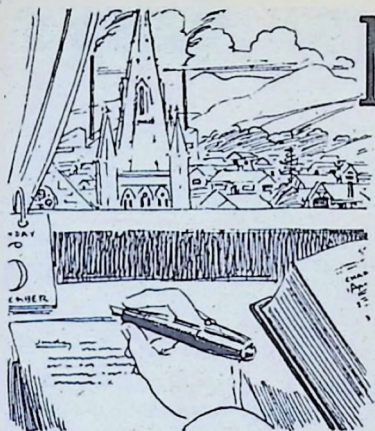
Teaching Crusades have been planned by two neighboring Melbourne churches, Oakleigh and Carnegie. Principal E. L. Williams commenced the Oakleigh Crusade on May 3, and following on this campaign, Stanton H. Wilson will commence a "Coronation Crusade" at Carnegie.

Members at Clayton, Vic., commenced building their church hall on March 28 and report satisfactory progress. Help would be appreciated, especially from carpenters, and any who can give practical aid or would like to make a financial gift are asked to notify the treasurer, T. Broderick (Sydney-st., Clayton), or ring UM6076.

We understand that Frank Byatt, secretary of the Australian Commission for Inter-Church Aid of the W.C.C., is looking for an office secretary (typist-stenographer, preferably). Any one qualified, and interested in sharing in work of such international and inter-Church significance is asked to contact Mr. Byatt at Room 23, 5th floor, 37 Swanston-st., Melbourne, C.1. Cen. 5033.

Meetings at Hurstbridge, Vic., continue to be held in the State School, following the burning down of the public hall in which services had previously been held. The church has appreciated help from Northern Conference speakers, and also from W. Atkin (Social Service) and B. J. Combridge (H.M.).

Marrickville Men's Fellowship, N.S.W., on April 26 heard an interesting talk on television by Mr. Boyer, Chairman of the A.B.C., who drew freely on his own recent experiences in U.S.A. and Great Britain.



MINISTER'S MUSINGS

SUNDAY.—As part of our stewardship campaign the film *Talents* was shown at to-night's service. Its story of how one church distributed five dollars to each member as the beginning of a sacrificial talent scheme both held and challenged our interest—though I personally felt there could have been a much stronger emphasis on the fact that stewardship involves the total committal of self to Christ and his service. Too many of us have the same wrong idea about both stewardship and evangelism—that we fulfil our duty in periodic special "bursts" instead of making them basic to our pattern of living. Watching the ushers pass the plates for the great final offering (in the film) reminded me of the story of another American minister who began to find I.O.U.s in the offering plate. At first he thought it was the act of a practical joker, but a few weeks later an envelope was found to contain the exact amount of the total I.O.U.s. These ranged from 5 dollars to 15 dollars, and apparently amounted to whatever the donor happened to think the sermon was worth. But after one service, in which even the preacher felt the sermon had not gone at all well, there was a different slip of paper in the plate. It simply read: "U O Me 5 dollars." Perhaps it's just as well that we usually receive the offering before the sermon!

MONDAY.—The sun broke through after rain, and touched with glory those who gathered at chapel and graveside to pay their tribute to the faithful servant of the Lord called from our midst. But for me the true abiding glory was in the faith of those most intimately bereaved. Does a minister have any higher privilege than to stand alongside such folk in life's testing hours, and to know with them that "the foundation of God standeth sure"?

TUESDAY.—It is good to know that the University is not being neglected as a field of Christian activity. Mis-

sions such as those of David Read last year and of Dr. Howard Guinness, of Sydney, are driving home the challenge of the regular Christian societies in our Universities. Frank Borland, who went from one of the Presbyterian churches in our district to become Warden of Adelaide University, is doing the helpful work one would expect from him. A man has now been set aside to do unofficial chaplaincy work in the Melbourne University. These are encouraging signs of a growing concern for our students which must be intensified if we are to meet the challenge of the interest such men as David Read have roused. Two books on my shelves bear silent, but eloquent, witness to what a vital faith can do in a University. One is Henry Drummond's *The Greatest Thing in the World*. Drummond in his day was a great power among Scotch University students, but there was one young Glasgow student named George H. Morrison, who, walking with a friend down Sauchiehall-st., saw Drummond pass by on the other side, and muttered: "That conceited fop! I wouldn't cross the road to speak to him." But soon it was the talk of the University that Drummond had won him, and the young man who till then had left religion alone, went on to become one of Scotland's greatest preachers. Now one of his books of sermons lies on my shelves near Drummond's book. You never know!

WEDNESDAY.—It's curious, the way some people find their life-work. Everyone knows Lloyd Douglas as a Christian novelist, yet if it had not been for trouble in his church he would probably have been unknown beyond his own American ministries. In *Time to Remember* he tells us that it was the walking horror of a "church boss" who drove him to seek refuge in writing *Magnificent Obsession*. That's the first use I ever heard of for "church bosses"!

THURSDAY.—"Come and see, dad! I've made my bed!" Three-year-old Catherine's voice rose excitedly against the background scoffing of a very superior elder sister. Obediently I went and looked—and then tried hard to hide my grins, for the bed at which Catherine was gazing so proudly presented a succession of "humps" barely concealed by a cover, itself all awry. It was just as well for our little one that, having made her own bed, she wouldn't have to lie on it—for mother's skilled hands would soon set it right. "That's what God must

long to do with some of the messes we're so blindly proud about," I reflected, and then I recalled a few words of a text which set me hunting until I found it—in Isaiah 28, verse 20: "For the bed is too short to stretch oneself on it, and the covering too narrow to wrap oneself in it." Yes, I've slept on beds like that, too! But Isaiah is writing figuratively of a national situation not so very different from our own. There ought to be a sermon here!

FRIDAY.—What ought a preacher to do when he arrives unexpectedly at a home in the middle of a very vocal argument, or something else which he was neither expected to see nor hear? Should he deliver an immediate lecture, or merely frown his disapproval, or try to look bland—if not blind—and reserve comment for some other more helpful time? Any preacher human enough to remember times when he himself wouldn't have wanted a sudden knock at his door will be guided by that word "helpful," I think. Of course, a lot depends on the attitude of the other person, who can be embarrassed, talk of other things, or be as bold as the boy who, meeting his minister on his way home after a Sunday fishing expedition, walked straight up to him, and, displaying his haul, said cheerfully, "See here, sir—look what happened to these fish for nabbin' worms on Sunday!"

SATURDAY.—While choosing the hymns for to-morrow, I noticed how frequently Philip Doddridge's name appears after hymns in the "Aspiration and Consecration" section. That's typical of the man, as are the opening lines of one of the hymns we sometimes sing:—

"Awake, my soul, stretch every nerve,
And press with vigor on."

It's not surprising that the man who wrote that used to rise daily at 5 a.m.—even though as a babe he had been first cast aside as lifeless! What started me thinking about this man, who, more than 200 years ago, was not only a famous preacher, but also trained hundreds for the ministry, was the discovery of this extract from his writings. It expresses his guiding aim in all his work, and no preacher to-day, facing his Sunday tasks, could wish for any better: "It is my heart's desire and prayer to God that not one may go out from me without an understanding enlightened from above, a heart sanctified by divine grace, quickened and warmed with love to a well-known Jesus, and tenderly concerned for the salvation of souls."



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Mrs. Rickerby, P. Tocknell, E. Lid-dell and I. Grace, Oakleigh, Vic.
Mrs. Alexander, Draper, S.A.
Mrs. J. Kohler, Fullarton, S.A.
Robert Griffiths, Broken Hill, N.S.W.
Val Weekes, Marlene Reason, Frank Christie, Maryborough, Vic.
G. Nash, Mrs. L. B. Edmunds, In-vermay, Tas.
Gwendal and Margaret Ritchie, Ian Chapple, Middle Park, Vic.
Clarice Brown, Gwenneth Crossfield, Lorraine Pinches, John Stokes and Ernest Leech, Preston, Vic.
John Lawton, Unley, S.A.

Membership

Mrs. C. Arnott, from Wangaratta, Vic., to Maidstone, Vic.
Joan and Beverley Coles, from Mile End, S.A., to Glenelg, S.A.
Mrs. K. Vivian, from Maylands, S.A., to Glenelg, S.A.
Brenda and Barbara Mutimer, from Brunswick, Vic., to Ascot Vale, Vic.
G. Evans, North Fitzroy, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Brown, from Hamp-ton, Vic. to Oakleigh, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. H. King, from In-vermay, Tas., to Devonport, Tas.
Mr. and Mrs. Williams, Miss B. Harvey, Bamba-rd., Caulfield, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Nelson, from Box Hill, Vic., to Ringwood, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. H. Tumb, from Yar-rawonga, Vic., to Middle Park, Vic.
Mr. Doldge, from Bamba-rd., Caul-field, Vic., to Preston, Vic.
Mrs. Weatherhead, from South Rich-mond, Vic., to Preston, Vic.

Marriage

Jean Anderson to Lyle Harris, Kal-goerlie, W.A.
Phyllis Spooner to Bruce Evens, Dandenong, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Kenner, Oakleigh, Vic.
Mr. Pittock, Moreland, Vic.

Western Australia

Kalgoorlie (H. E. Greenwood). — Preacher has returned from holidays. E. Smith, V. Smythe, H. R. Fitch and S. Riches (Mission to Lepers) gave appreciated help during his absence. Easter services were impressive. B.S. demonstration was excellent. Well attended annual meeting revealed steady progress. Total contributions for year were £1540. Sunday School of Air is doing fine work. New Build-ings Fund stands at £1260. O. Can-non, A. Morrow, C. Wright were ap-pointed to officers' board. E. C. Smith (sec.) and G. Morrow (treas.) were re-appointed. Four delegates to Con-ference gave interesting reports. Miss Kennedy gave account of New Heb-rides' work. Church extended good wishes to Colin Mathews upon his departure for university.

Tasmania

Invermay (R. M. Wilson).—Average breaking bread for April was 71, but many members were sick. Annual bus. meeting was held on April 24, when reports showed that work is advancing. Mother of church sec-retary and a young man were bap-tised on 26th. Men's training class has commenced meeting each Thurs-day evening. B.S. broadcast over 7LA on April 19, and on 26th church members conducted service at Home for Invalids.

New South Wales

Lismore (A. C. Caldicott).—Reports at annual business meeting, April 22, were best for many years. 23 decisions were recorded and one transfer. Treasury handled £3,881 for financial year ending last Dec., including Stock bequest. Elders elected are G. M. Davis, E. J. Walker, C. Savill, Ron Wotherspoon; deacons, R. R. Wother-spoon, G. B. Davis, jnr., A. Stevens, A. Smith, R. Lehman, W. Willis, and J. Bignill; deaconesses, Mesdames R. R. Wotherspoon, Collingwood and McKinnon. Since Easter youth camp two soccer teams and a girls' basket-ball team have been organised, and now compete with district teams. Y.P. has roll of 38 members. Miss E. Cald-icott (Adelaide) was recent visitor. Two aborigines were baptised by Lismore preacher in Richmond River, Coraki. Bangalow, Byron Bay and Coraki are given pastoral care since acquisition of car.

Broken Hill (J. McCormick).—Har-vest thanksgiving services brought good response of gifts, which will be sent to India. On April 12 there was

baptismal service. Annual meeting elected following: Elder, J. Cremer; deacons, L. Warren, N. Rough, E. Garner, M. Rough and N. Rough (sec.); deaconesses, Mrs. A. Garner, Mrs. L. Warren and Miss I. Evans. Appreciation was expressed for work of retiring treas., A. Hosking. B.S. supt. is M. Rough, and sec. W. Best. J. McCormick is conducting two weeks' mission at Maylands, S.A.

Mosman (G. E. Burns).—Wednesday evening meeting has been built up in numbers with evangelistic drive. At evening service on April 26, Mr. Greenhalgh, Youth Director, preach-ed gospel, showed slides of B.S. work, and also spoke at youth tea. On April 25 some members combined picnic with work on building at Seaforth. Building is nearly ready for roof.

Hornsby (K. R. Fennell).—On April 22 annual church meeting was held. Reports showed church to be working well. Office Board for coming year consists of Mrs. E. R. Bishop (treas.), J. V. Ellerby (sec.), G. S. J. Glazier (assist. sec.), and J. Powell. Other officers appointed were Mrs. E. R. Bishop (organist), Miss J. Bishop (assist. organist), J. Powell (youth leader), Miss J. Glazier (C.F.A. and A.C. agent), G. S. J. Glazier (B.S. supt.), and Mrs. W. Russell (women's convenor). Appreciation was placed in minutes to G. Glazier, who had been secretary for 7 years, and did not seek re-election. K. Fennell still continues to lead church in conjunc-tion with Asquith. W. C. Roffey was speaker at monthly fellowship tea, held on 26th. Speakers during month were Messrs. Fennell, A. Baker, G. Glazier and J. Powell. Recent visitors included Miss J. Brown (Wagga), Mrs. Russell, snr., sister Mary and Mrs. Wade. Chapel is now enhanced by memorial cream tiled baptistery to late H. E. Tewksbury.

South Australia

Glenelg (W. B. Burn). — Recent visitors have included Mrs. R. Bol-duan and Rona (Cheltenham, Vic.). Mrs. B. Coventry attended after-church fellowship on Mar. 22, and commented on slides of India, and also told of critical situation there. Ladies' Guild have collected about 43 tins of powdered and condensed milk to forward to India. Church manse was recently sold, and block of land purchased with view to erecting new manse at later date. D. Beller show-ed films of Canberra after evening service on April 12, and offering was taken. Contributions to Canberra Ap-

peal to date total £25. Inspirational meeting was held on April 15 in preparation for Mission in June under leadership of M. Williams (Long Plains).

Semaphore.—Harvest festival services were held on Mar. 1 with splendid display of goods. Ladies' choir sang. Church and B.S. are enjoying good attendances. All auxiliaries are working well. On April 12 at service conducted at Draper by Dulwich Y.P., one lady made decision. Church is grateful to G. Whiting (Dulwich) for help given during visitation campaign. On April 19, G. Whiting was speaker at both services. Four Y.P. made decision.

Hindmarsh (J. E. Shipway).—K.O.C. Society recently held beach hike. Members take turns in giving short addresses in devotional side of meetings. B.S. has again entered efficiency campaign. Youth tea was well attended on April 26, after which Y.P. remained for gospel service. 23 members attended Western District C.Y.F. at Mile End on April 25.

Fullarton (A. H. Lennox, interim).—On April 25 B.S. rally was held, with fairly good attendance of parents and scholars. On morning of 26th Miss Kerson (Egyptian Gen. Mission), of Gardenvale, Vic., addressed church. There was one decision at evening service.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris).—Inspiring messages and intensive visitation by minister are appreciated. B.S. attendance of 204 on April 26 equalled previous record. Y.W.L., C.Y.F., C.E. and Ladies' Guild are all doing fine work. Boys' and girls' basket ball teams are organised for new season. Group of Y.P. assisted at Longwood camp site on April 25. Mrs. Kelly (conductor) and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence and family assisted Cheltenham anniversary.

Victoria

Brunswick (C. Watson).—Brunswick and some West Preston Y.P. combined at National Fitness camp, Mt. Evelyn, for week-end from April 17-19. Enjoyable time was had by all. There was one baptism on April 19.

Balwyn (J. E. Brooke).—On April 12 over 100 met for breaking of bread, and in evening 120 attended gospel service. Well attended youth tea was held prior to evening service, when Dr. Lin Hare was speaker. At both services special offering of about £45 was taken for India Famine Relief. At midweek fellowship meeting on 15th, film, *The Cry of the Orient*, was shown. Offering of £7 for missionary work of Youth for Christ International was received. On April 19

one lady made decision. "B" grade tennis team won premiership, and the "C" grade team reached semi-finals. On 24th Ladies' Auxiliary held jumble sale.

Berwick (D. Smith).—There were good attendances on Easter Sunday, when special vocal items were rendered. Youth Fellowship held barbecue night at home of Mr. and Mrs. Cameron. On April 12 youth-tea was held, when Mr. Kingsley (C.O.B.) entertained children after tea, and gave children's talk at evening service. Mrs. Moyssey is attending again after illness.

Geelong (T. A. Fergusson).—There was large morning service on April 19, when E. C. Hinrichsen spoke. Mr. Philp and Mr. and Mrs. Stirling and Campbell were also welcomed. Evening service conducted by preacher commenced at 6.45 p.m., and concluded at 7.30 p.m., when cars conveyed folk to opening of Belmont Mission. On 15th M.B. was led by Mrs. Fergusson. Word was received from Mr. and Mrs. Lenane of their safe arrival at Gnowangerup. All auxiliaries are attending Belmont Mission on respective meeting nights.

Essendon (E. F. G. McIlhagger, B.A.).—Annual business meeting was held on Mar. 25. Officers elected were Messrs. Hutton, J. Strack, G. Strack, D. Ferguson, A. Ferguson, Hemsley, Alves, Summerton and N. Cheal. Auxiliary reports were received. Youth work has increased. Church attendance has reached highest on record. There were 33 additions to membership during year. Mr. Thompson (N. Ess.) presided on April 12. C.M.S. quarterly tea was held, with Mr. Clarke as speaker. Sankey hymn service was held in evening, with Miss Barnden (Coburg) as soloist. C.M.S. held successful concert on April 18. Young church members took part in morning service on April 19, when L. Crosford presided. Men's choir rendered two items at evening service, when there was one decision.

Red Hill (N. Gilmore).—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Apr. 12. Goods were donated to C. of B. and Guest Home. On Apr. 16 W.M.B. held meeting. Visitors were at both meetings on 19th. Lex Andrew rendered a solo. Mrs. E. White is in Melbourne Hospital.

Clayton (D. Holloway).—B.S. commenced on Feb. 15, 39 being present. On Mar. 1 there were 55, and it is still increasing. K. Fordham is B.S. supt., and Mrs. Thomas kinder supt. Good meetings were held on Mar. 29 and April 5, with speakers from Carnegie and Dandenong. Sympathy is expressed to D. Holloway in sudden loss of father.

North Richmond (R. McKenzie).—Harvest thanksgiving was held on Mar. 1. Goods were distributed to C.O.B. and Food for Europe appeal. On Mar. 4, evening was held to recognise those who had served in church for 25 years or more and are still in membership. Aboriginal offering amounted to £13. Junior Good Companions' have commenced under leadership of Misses L. St. Aubyn and J. McDougall. Tennis club has entered three teams in winter competition.

Cheltenham (R. C. Bolduan).—On April 16, 21 men formed Men's Fellowship with C. Ferris president and W. F. White secretary. Brethren are to assist Black Rock with speakers, presidents, etc. Visitors have included Mr. Ferris, snr. (Glenelg). Architect has presented plan for consideration re repairing and modernising chapel. Special officers' meeting with B. J. Combridge co-opted met on April 20 to discuss four year plan to culminate in church centenary.

Warragul (V. Quayle).—Donations to Building Fund have now reached £203. This includes £35 raised by Y.P.F. through various efforts during year. B.S. and church were enriched by fellowship with Misses Bates and Mitchell and Mr. Huntsman on April 18 and 19. Group of teachers from Morwell B.S. joined conference on Sat. afternoon and evening. Much practical help was given by visitors to teachers. Mr. Huntsman addressed church on Sunday morning. He and Miss Mitchell observed B.S. at work in afternoon. Prayers of church are with pastor as he leads two weeks' visitation evangelism mission in Emerald. In his absence Mr. Byard is conducting services.

Mitcham.—Morning attendances continue regular. W.M.B. is furthering work by good meetings. At recent concert presented by Hartwell W.M.B. £9 was raised. B.S. held successful picnic at Healesville, and is showing steady progress under leadership of V. Russell. J. Wilkie (Ballarat) was speaker at gospel service on Easter Sunday. Mr. Baillie is holidaying after severe illness. On April 19 Robertson McCue conducted evening service, speaking on work of Vic. Local Option Alliance.

Merbein (M. D. Keatch).—Three members, including preacher, were able to attend State Conference. Very successful B.S. picnic was held on April 11 at Apex Park. Recently formed Y.W.L. is having good attendances at morning services. Preacher is on vacation.

Mt. Evelyn (A. H. Pratt).—Plastering of building is at last completed. Mr. and Mrs. Elliot (Pascoe Vale), Misses Smith and Heath (Oakleigh),

Mr. and Mrs. R. McPherson (Hamilton), Mrs. McPherson (Warracknabeal), Mr. and Mrs. S. Bradbury (Eltham) and Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner (who have come to live in district) have been among recent visitors.

Maidstone (E. H. Randall).—Successful dog and doll show was held by Women's Fellowship on Apr. 18 in aid of Hall Fund. Proceeds were approximately £5. With 177 B.S. on Apr. 19 was record for many months. 66 attended baptismal service in evening. While preacher was on holidays, services on April 26 were taken by L. Trezise and N. Livett (Footscray), assisted by Max Carter. Fellowship was enjoyed with wife, son and mother of L. Trezise, Miss Storey and Miss Adams (Footscray). Working bees on manse have been well attended.

Oakleigh (J. W. Lewis). — There were two baptismal services in April. Preacher is leading weekly after-school "Happy Hour." Y.P. visited Parliament House on Apr. 13. Men have completed painting of exterior of manse, and members have contributed £184 in eight weeks towards cost of renovating interior of chapel. Indian Famine Relief offering amounted to £75.

Middle Park (J. Plummer).—Services on April 26 were encouraging, and J. Plummer's addresses were appreciated. At evening service three Y.P. were baptised, and Ann Ritchie rendered solo. Ladies' Friendly Hour held successful Australian Tea on 24th. Proceeds amounted to over £18. Women are giving splendid assistance in helping Mrs. Dockery with hospital work.

Ascot Vale (H. Gross).—Church attendances have been above average over past month. K. Heath (C.O.B.) presided on April 26. At annual meeting of W.M.B. Mrs. Sterling was elected pres., Mrs. McCallum sec., and Mrs. Petrie treas. W.M.B. is appreciative of faithful service of sec. and treas. Mrs. McCallum, although no longer in district, comes to monthly meeting. Alan Sterling, an active worker among Y.P., is in National Service Camp. Mrs. Wittick is again in hospital. Tennis club held successful social and presentation on April 18.

Dandenong (A. R. Pigdon). — On April 11 Dads' night was held by Y.P.F., when each member brought father. Speaker was Mr. Miles. Christian Women's Fellowship met on April 15 at 2 p.m., preceded by lunch at 12.30 p.m. On April 16 film night by Mission to Lepers was held, under auspices of Y.P.S.C.E. On 18th party

of members went to opening of Dingley Union church's new building. On 21st film night was held by B.S., at which presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Crawford on occasion of their marriage.

Montrose (D. Chamberlain).—B.S. anniversary services were held on April 12 with good attendances. In afternoon and evening Uren brothers spoke. Singing of children under Mr. Toal was appreciated. On April 17 prize distribution was followed by social. On 26th Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Saunders visited church, and Mr. Saunders gave short address.

Maryborough (M. A. Coombs). — Good attendances marked both services on April 26. Men's Fellowship met on 17th, when Mr. Bryan (school inspector) was speaker. On 19th three Y.P. made confession, and were baptised on 26th.

Ringwood (W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D.). Average attendances for April were a.m., 74; p.m., 46; Lord's Supper, 71. Fine group of men heard excellent talks by L. A. Chapman and G. Kruse. Church Men's Society was formed, with A. W. Cleland (pres.), J. Rankin (vice-pres.), A. Clutterbuck (sec.), A. Addicott (treas.), and committeemen A. Hall and J. Wilson. Training class for men who lead worship was well attended and helpful. A. Hall is now leading cottage prayer meetings, which are proving times of rich fellowship. Church officers are giving attention to building extensions urgently required for expansion of evangelism.

Blackburn (S. Neighbour). — B.S. annual meeting showed work to be healthy, with E. Patterson (supt.), E. Gill (sec.), E. Wilson (assist. sec.) and R. Bluhm (treas.). Mrs. Miles led kinder in anniversary demonstration on April 26. Books were presented to kinders and cradle roll. Speaker was Deaconess Una Ritchie. After evening service Mr. and Mrs. W. McDowell and family (moving to Warragul) were farewelled. Glenys and Lynette Dudley gained second place in duet section of Dorothy Broussard Competitions.

Burnley (H. D. Sedgman).—Over past months attendances have improved, and work is in good heart. On April 12 and 19 B.S. held anniversary services, speakers being S. H. Wilson, R. P. Clark and H. D. Sedgman. Scholars were capably led by Mr. Barnett, and four scholars made decisions. Items were recorded, and photographs taken. On 26th one lad made his decision. Ladies' Guild is carrying out much appreciated work. Girls' club, under Mrs. Rusden, and

boys' club under Messrs. Malartin and Bowen are thriving.

East Malvern (H. R. Coventry).—There was one confession on April 26. New building is proceeding favorably. Owing to growing B.S. it has been decided to enlarge kitchen area to suit kinder requirements. To meet this extra cost without further borrowing from Properties Corporation, members are endeavoring to raise £500 before end of June.

Bayswater (B. H. Crowden).—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on April 12. T. A. Fitzgerald (Fairfield) spoke at morning and afternoon services. B. H. Crowden spoke at evening service. All meetings were well attended. Goods displayed were divided between Christian Guest Home and C.O.B. Combined meeting was held in chapel on April 19, B. H. Crowden being speaker. On 21st Mr. Deutscher (Sudan United Mission) screened film *African Journey*. Retiring offering of £10/10/- was received for work of mission. Y.P. tea was held on 26th. T. Turriff (Nth. Balwyn) spoke at tea table and gospel meeting. Instruction classes for visitation campaign have commenced.

IN MEMORIAM.

DICKERS.—A tribute to memory of Mrs. W. Dickers, loved and remembered.—Inserted by B. Sinclair.

MORRIS (Emily).—Sweet memories of a grand little lady who has entered into the joy of her Lord. —Mrs. C. Barnes, Wesley and Myrle.

PHILLIPS (nee Enticknap). — In loving memory of my dear daughter and loving sister of Leslie, who passed away May 4, 1950.

—Inserted by mother and brother Leslie.

PHILLIPS (nee Enticknap). — In memory of my loving wife and mother, who passed away on May 4, 1950. Ever remembered.

—Inserted by loving husband, Mavis and Ron.

SMITH.—To the cherished memory of our dearly beloved son and brother, Lawrence, who passed from this life, Cheltenham, May 5, 1951. Loved son of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Smith, and brother of Coral and Glenys, Fullarton, S.A.

ENGAGEMENT.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Murray, of 146 York Street, Ballarat, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their elder daughter, Bernice Valerie, to John William, third son of Mr. Steuart Milne and the late Mrs. Milne, of Cardross, Vic.

News of British Churches

An event of some importance is the publication of the Joseph Smith Memorial lecture given last year by Dr. H. H. Farmer, *The Bible and Preaching*. Among the factors which make preaching difficult is this, that while the preacher claims his message is relevant to the modern world he admits that it is based on documents which are at least 1900 years old. The present insistence that theology must be Biblical makes the question of communication one which must be answered, for the truths of Biblical theology are "formative and regulative of all else." Dr. Farmer raises pertinent questions — Why preach from the Bible only? What is the relation between effective preaching and the life of the Church? The lecture is published by the Be-rean Press, Birmingham. (This booklet, at an attractive price, may be ordered through the Austral.)

Another publication which will be of outstanding value in coming days is *The Free Churches and the State*, the report of a Commission set up by the Free Church Federal Council. The report gives an account of relations between Church and State in different countries to-day; reviews the historical movements which led to the present relationship between Church and State in England; and finally, discusses principles and future policy. The report was accepted by the recent Free Church Congress, and is commended to the churches for study.

Mrs. Rosa Page Welch was not able to "touch down" at many points during her recent visit to Britain. She gave recitals and addresses in London, the Midlands and Scotland. Members of churches in those centres appreciate the privilege of meeting so notable an ambassador for Christ.

Following out the schedule of staggered appeals, the Focus for April was on Overseas Missions. *The Christian Advocate* featured articles by missionaries, retired, and still active. The Missionary Committee hopes to reach its target of £15,000 by May 31, the end of the financial year. Focus for May is upon Sunday school and youth work. Two organisers are working with schools and Fellowships of Youth.

To meet a strong desire for the resumption of the Overdale Summer School the Training Committee has arranged that the Church Leaders' week-end shall be widened to include such a school, and will be held in July.

The Men's Convention, held at Easter, was as successful as ever.

May 5, 1953.

Principal J. Gray, Principal T. J. Webley, S. Mason and N. Walters were on the panel of speakers.

The Free Churches are to be represented at the Coronation, both at Westminster Abbey and at a service to be held in St. Paul's Cathedral.—G. J. Hammond.

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.)

A POSITIVE FAITH.

In these uncertain and unsettled days, when multitudes of people are hoping and longing for peace and security, a "positive faith" is imperative; in fact, it is indispensable.

We have communism, fatalism and other "isms" which, after all, are only palliatives for the time being; at least, millions of people think they are.

But are they satisfying? Do they provide spiritual contentment and hope for the mundane and celestial future?

We have creeds, racial distinctions, and various theological theories, but spiritual security and happiness cannot be obtained unless professing Christian people meet on a common ground to be found in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Various aspects of theology can be controverted or criticised, but the historical events recorded in the four Gospels, including the unique Sermon on the Mount, are fundamentally invaluable if we are to obtain a true conception of Christianity and acquire the "positive faith" that will give us spiritual security.

It is a mistake to evaluate Christianity by the lives of Christians who, after all, need spiritual succor from day to day.

Salvation can only be obtained through Christ, who was God manifested in the flesh.—A. W. Jinks, N.S.W.



YOUTH VISIT APPRECIATED.

The recent visit of young people from some of the Melbourne churches has set the Swan Hill district churches talking. They have been greatly impressed not only with the talent, and consecration of these young

people, but with the spirit of sacrifice shown. To travel over 220 miles on the Saturday to conduct meetings on the Saturday and Sunday, and to return home on the Sunday night after a big service in the Memorial hall has won the admiration of all who met them. No one can fully estimate the real value of this visit, but already much blessing has been seen. If there were more prepared to do this kind of service in the country, then our country churches would be all the stronger. There was one regret that the effort could not have continued, because it was so full of power, which was felt at each meeting. Let us have more of this kind of ministry.—R. A. Banks (Swan Hill, Vic.)

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

R. Quailfe (secretary, Preston church, Vic.), 20 Dennis-st., Northcote.

G. S. J. Glazier (secretary, Hornsby-Asquith circuit, N.S.W.), 47 Williams-st., Hornsby.

J. V. Ellerby (secretary, Hornsby church, N.S.W.), 23a Dural st., Hornsby. JU 1523.

W. R. Middlemass (secretary, Asquith church, N.S.W.), 33 Heath-st., Asquith. JU 2111.

A. H. Pratt (preacher Mt. Evelyn church, Vic.), "Kenarthem," Glen View-rd., Mt. Evelyn.

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Lygon-st. church requires services of Caretaker. Middle aged married couple preferred. Quarters available. Details on application to A. W. Johnson, 150 Blyth Street, Brunswick, Phone: FW 2434.

WANTED.

For Mt. Evelyn building, carpenters and handy men on Saturdays (plastering is completed). Also 3 dozen Sankey hymn books.

The Victorian Young People's Department has a vacancy for a Property Supervisor (married couple) at Camp Waterman, Monbulk. Cottage available. Details on application to L. A. Trezise, 161 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

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Anniversaries and Homecomings

BLACKBURN, Vic.—Bible School Anniversary, May 10: 3 p.m., C. Watson; 7 p.m., S. Neighbour.

MORELAND, Vic.—May 17, 44th Anniversary. 7.30 a.m., Prayer Meeting; 11 a.m., Worship Service with former members leading, speaker, W. G. Graham; 3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, talented guest artists; 7 p.m., Gospel Service, speaker, C. G. Taylor, B.A. Please accept this notice as a personal invitation, and write the secretary, A. Jenkins, 55 Cumberland-rd., Pascoe Vale, or phone the Manse, FW4082, regarding hospitality.

NEWMARKET—Bible School Anniversary, May 31: 11 a.m., Dr. G. H. Oldfield; 3 p.m., A. B. Withers; 7 p.m., R. Muller. Bright singing by scholars, tea time hospitality provided.

FRIENDS OF VELLORE

All are invited to the
ANNUAL MEETING
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Sunday, May 24.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
11 a.m.: B. J. Combridge.
3 p.m.: Lloyd Jones.
7 p.m.: E. H. Randall.
Come and have fellowship with this
big brotherhood church.

CORONATION. ORDER OF SERVICE.

For use on Sunday, May 31, being the Sunday preceding the coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The service is an Australian edition of the one being used by the Free Churches in England, and will prove adaptable to local requirements. Available from Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., 21/- per 100. Sample copies 3d. each, posted 6d.



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Mothers—Awake!

GWENDA STEWARD.

In no other realm is there such potentiality for good as in the realm of motherhood. Yet in no other place is there such depravity. "What doth the Lord require of me" could be our question as we think of the Lord's purpose in creating motherhood.

We look around to-day, and we see many problems in church life which have their commencement in home life. The Lord's command of Matt. 28: 19: "Go ye . . ." still stands for to-day, but that can never be so till home life is right, and the family taught firmly upon God's Word. As a child I was taught by my parents to love and revere the Word of God, and many times have I heard my father defending it as the inspired Word of God, and not to be doubted in one part. I thank God for that training, and praise him that not one thing hath failed of all that he has spoken. Mothers, take God's Word and prove him.

Teach the Word

His Word will not return unto him void. We must teach our children to hide God's Word in their hearts. Elizabeth Soltau, missionary pioneer, who trained women missionaries for work in China, and who cared for the children of missionaries, had a home in London for her 60 "children." She knew the value of committing God's Word to memory. She trained children in her care daily to commit to memory some portion of the Scriptures. She loved the Psalms, and it thrilled her heart to hear these children reciting the Word of God (which liveth and abideth forever). There came to her home one day a gentleman, prominent and rather pompous, who offered a prize to any child who could recite Psalm 119. Thinking himself quite safe, he repaired to his bedroom, only to be disturbed by a noise outside his room. He opened the door, and there found 60 children, aged from five to ten years, all waiting to recite Psalm 119. Being a man of his word, he eventually rewarded each child, but what a tribute to a "Mother in Israel" who loved God's Word, and knew it from experience to be the choicest counsel she could give to those in her care. In our own home we have found that Scripture is very easily learned when repeated in unison, and one day the seed sown now, will reap fruit for the Lord, and blessing in the hearts of young lives who have committed to mind and heart the statutes of the Lord. "Wherewithal

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shall a young man (or woman, or father, or mother, or child) cleanse his way? By taking heed thereto according to thy word." (Ps. 119: 9).

Point to Jesus

"My prayer for Israel is that they might be saved." The prayer of a mother for her children may well echo Paul's cry for Israel. As we look at world events and the chaos around us, it is easier than ever to believe there is a hell, and more imperative than ever that there be a sure belief and quiet assurance in heaven. Prominence for both is clearly and equally given in the Bible, but how few mothers (and others) today warn their children of that time when "whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." (Rev. 20: 15). And how few point to the One who, through his atoning death on the cross, says "Behold I make all things new." (Rev. 21: 5). What a privilege to point to the one who can save to the uttermost, who can keep us from falling, who can give pleasures for evermore. My plea to you, dear reader, is, "O, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed is the man that trusteth in him." Can you say, "Yes, I am blessed at this very moment." If you cannot say that, seek to know the thing in your life that is keeping you from being blessed of the Lord. Is it pride, is it false witness, is it lack of love, malice, hate, envy, a love of the things of the world, is it an evil heart of unbelief?

Mothers—back to God's Word, and the reality of the Christian faith and walk. Let us get back to God by his own way. The prophets called "Repent," John the Baptist called "Repent"—the cry to-day MUST be "Repent and be converted that your sins might be blotted out." And that is the only way to get back to God, by repentance, and through the cross of Calvary.

What a privilege it is to be a mother in a Christian home. What a joy to experience the Lord's grace and help in daily living—in strength for the duties, in grace for problems—patience in trials, his provision for daily needs, his definite guidance for one's future. The Lord does meet every need. I recently visited a friend's home, and saw on a wall these words, "What think ye of Christ? Yea, he is **ALTOGETHER LOVELY.**"

And for us all—that our lives may be altogether lovely—there is nothing more required than that in every single moment of the day we must live in the presence and power of the one who is **ALTOGETHER LOVELY**—even our Lord Jesus Christ.

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