

New South Wales Newsletter

DORMANT PARTNERS?

In a recent sermon, Father Muldoon, of Sydney, said, in his own way, something with which most of us would agree, and which many of us have been saying for years. He said that too long had the fallacy reigned in the minds of the laity that the God-given task of Christianising the world was confined to the priests of the Church. "It is more than time that the Christian in the world awoke to a sense of his responsibilities in this matter. Every Christian is a Christ-bearer and an apostle. Each one of us must realise that he has a divine mission—the mission of putting Christ and Christian principles into the environment in which he lives, works, and takes his plea-sures." "Each one of us," he said, sures." "is a partner of Christ in the divine business of Christianising modern society, and the trouble is that too many of us are dormant partners, shirking our responsibilities and betraying our Christian vocation."

BELLS AND VESTMENTS?

Of late, in Sydney, two things have been agitating the minds of many, judging by the letters appearing in the press. The first is the question of church bells being rung early in the mornings, especially Sunday mornings when some folk want to "sleep in." It looks, however, that the majority wish the bells to con-

The second is the question of vest-

ments in the Anglican church. The arguments for and against have been interesting. One correspondent (H. R. Smith, St. Paul's Rectory, Carlingford) summed up the subject in these words: "A little more reading of the Bible and a little less appeal



to tradition may show us, if we have the mind to see, that ritualism with its appeal to the eye, and its message through the eye, belongs to the kindergarten stage of revelation. The New Testament, with its full glory, is far beyond that."

YOUTH "DIGGING IN."

Working bees are responsible for the erection of the portable hut for the Bible School work at Villawood. G. Arundell has done most of the work in cutting timber and getting foundations ready. It is understood that one C.E. society is considering making itself responsible for the repayment of the £400 borrowed for the hut from the Property Trust. This work at Villawood will no doubt result in an active Sunday School, and ultimately a church.

Settlement has been made for all the land at Lake Illawarra Youth Centre. On Saturday, July 11, foundations for the Assembly Hall were put in by voluntary labor. This month the builder takes up residence in the cottage and commences work on the hall itself. The Director plans to spend his three weeks' holiday assisting the builder.

PLANS AND PREACHERS.

The Home Missionary Committee is working to a three year plan. The first year covers an attempt to make a H.M. subsidised church self-supporting, to form a policy of help for new churches, opening new fields, and missions in certain fields.

Missions are planned at Caringbah, with L. Dewberry as missioner; Padstow, with Dan Wakeley as missioner; and Seaforth, with Ross Beadle as missioner.

The Home Mission tent is being used at Lismore in a mission with E. C. Hinrichsen and Les Brooker. It is hoped that the tent will also be used at Parramatta North and at Dubbo.

Arrangements have been made for Noel Flint to give more time to the work at Wyoming-Gosford; this requiring a much larger subsidy to be given to that work.

Ross Rugendyke, after serving a short ministry at Bowral, has accepted an invitation to labor with the church at Canley Vale. E. F. G. McIlhagger has been welcomed to the church at Inverell, and has made a good start in the work there.—Ethelbert Davis.

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



Show us thy steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us thy salvation. Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for he will speak peace to his seople, to his saints, to those who turn to him in their hearts. Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.—Ps. 85: 7-11 (R.S.V.).

The Psalmist does a very simple, beautiful and efficient thing. He permits God to speak to him. "I will hear," he says, "what God the Lord will speak." I will bring my mind to his Overmind. I will bring my hunger for truth to his golden table. I will light my little candle of faith from his radiant lamp. I will make silence the chamber of my spirit, and in this silence I will wait for my Lord's message. Here, if you will have it, is the way out of confused thinking. Here is the pathway that leads out of the dark forest into the sunshine. God has something to say to you. Go and hear it. Go and rest your spirit for ten minutes each day in his society. Go and be apart with him. Be reverent. Be humble. Be still. . There will be no dramatic miracle . . . but you will find a new strength added to your will: a new clearness to your thought: a new pity to your judgment, and a new power to love .- Alistair MacLean.

Gracious Father, in whose fellowship is our most abiding satisfaction, we yield ourselves to thee in sincerity and gladness, that we may be faithful trustees of life's bounties and ever responsive to thy leading. In Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see; Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit Divine!

-C. and F. Morris.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



FAITH AND FICTION

READERS of Wilkie Thomson's earlier article on Restoration Movement literature will remember his emphasis, repeated in this issue, on the need to make more effective use of the novel as a means of imparting the truths dear to us as a people. Older readers will share his memories of the influence exerted by such writers of popular religious fiction as Harold Bell Wright and Joseph Hocking. If the hey-day of such religious fiction seems to have passed, similar books are still being written, and in some cases widely read. Our own Marjorie Buckingham, of Caulfield church, Vic. has just had a second edition of one of her stories released by a British publishing house.

It is interesting to find John Kemp, in the British Weekly (21/5/53) recalling the days when that famed Christian journal contained as many as 68 pages (12 to-day), with twelve of them given over to as many as three serials running at once, all examples of what he calls "fairly bad and very popular fiction." Serials still thrive in many American church papers, but paper shortages and changing tastes have forced them out of most British and Australian religious journals.

A criticism which could be fairly levelled at much of that earlier story-telling, as well as at some modern efforts, is the "goody-goody" air of unreality, and the sledge-hammer lack of technique in driving home the obvious moral. Yet these "safe" religious novels were often chosen as prizes for hapless Bible School scholars, who surely deserved a better fate. Is it significant, on the other hand, that some of the least successful, financially, have been those realistic enough to face intellectual and life problems, without necessarily giving the accepted routine answers?

Some, happily, have shown us that religious novels can be sound in doctrine without being dreary. Others, realising how difficult it is to make such fiction financially practicable, have written commercial stories of a more general nature, colored with the Christian outlook, in which what seem little more than asides might prove the most effective pointers in the story.

The Bishop of London (J. W. C. Wand) has called this the art of "concealed advertising," and has shown how many hidden advertisements the average modern novel contains, with its repeated "What will you drink?", and its hero, who "carefully selects a cigarette" in his moments of greatest stress. "The other day," writes Bishop Wand, "I came across a new and much better

specimen of this kind of suggestion. The detective had gone to interview some possible witnesses, and found nobody at home. It was Sunday morning, and 'the whole family was at church' (italics mine). That seemed to me a slice of real life; but I wonder how many readers found themselves asking, 'Yes, by jove, when was I there last?' The Church could do with many more such concealed advertisements. And they would be all the more valuable for being inserted without a fee."

Let the trained journalists and publicists among us take note. And as for preaching, let us never forget that deep love of a story drawn from life which was never more wonderfully met and satisfied than in the words of the greatest of all the story-tellers, Jesus Christ our Lord.

MUTUAL MINISTRY VENTURE

ONE of the most interesting pars. on our "Here and There" page in this issue tells something of the results of an experiment which has been carried out by the Thornbury church, Vic., since last September.

Following the resignation of its preacher, the church was faced with the challenge not merely to maintain but to expand its work in a period without the leadership of a full-time minister. Giving which would normally have gone towards the support of such a leader was to be diverted to a well-prepared plan of sustained advertising and the introduction of features to rouse added interest, especially in Sunday evening services.

The church has been fortunate in the quality of its leadership. Fred. Lee (vigorous Australian secretary of the World Convention) and Dr. Ray Killmier first won the support of the official board of the church, and then of the members themselves, for a programme which demanded active co-operation—"mutual ministry" fully in action. They aimed at doubling the church's membership, as well as carrying out extensive building renovations.

In ten months there have been fifty additions. What is the moral? Do without a preacher? The Thornbury leaders would not say so, for they made it clear that this is an interim programme. No, the moral surely is—look what a church can do, under consecrated leadership, with some money for other than routine expenses, when members feel, and respond to, their responsibility!

WILKIE THOMSON, of Malvern, Vic., follows up his March 3 article with a further

look at

Restoration Movement

What a monumental work it would make if even one paragraph was written on each one of the books and pamphlets our brotherhood has produced! A glance around my own book-shelves shows me some that I must mention in this article because they did so much in the past to spread "the plea."

Designed to Help

In all generations there have been many young people eager to serve their Lord as Bible school teachers, speakers, or personal workers. It was a member of the churches of Christ, Herbert Moninger, who led the way in the Christian world in producing a book giving an outline study of the and up-to-date teaching methods. Moninger's Training for Service became a standard text book. and ran into many editions in a matter of months. C. J. Sharp re-vised this book in 1934 with The New Training for Service. I have other books by various denominational writers, but none of them is comparable to those by Moninger and Sharp. The latter writer produced several other training books also. In the 1930's many books were published on evangelism, especially personal evangelism. Horace Kingsbury prepared an excellent little Decision Day Manual for the days when such times were held in Bible Schools. It is still worth using. Scambler's book on Sermon Construction is unhappily out of print. We hope it will be reprinted one of these days. I wonder if Zollars' The Great Salvation is used as a text book or is read to-day. It is a great book. I do not know of a clearer and more concise statement on the Kingdom of God than it contains. Dean's Outline of Bible History is also a valuable text book. For a study manual on God's Spirit and the Spirit's Work a better than W. C. Morro's I do not know, and the same author's book on Stewardship is the very best of its kind I've found. Amongst text books A. R. Main's First Principles stands sup-We should be distributing more copies of this small book to interested Bible students. mental? Of course it is. Most people

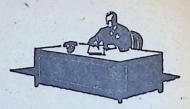
can't get their sums right until they have learned their "tables"; neither are they competent to instruct in the Scriptures until they have attended to the first works. It is this lack of a fundamental grasp of Scripture that leaves so many incapable of "rightly dividing the Word of truth." A very well written booklet by G. W. Mander called Following Christ, is a good book to give to enquirers. Every preacher should have a copy of Jesse Kellems' The Deity of Jesus. These books which I have mentioned are all forceful, logical, clear and scriptural.

On the Restoration Plea

Many booklets have been written on the plea. Why I am a Christian Only (Kellems), The Restoration Plea of the churches of Christ (F. D. Kershner), Why I am a Member of the churches of Christ (G. T. Fitzgerald) and Pillars of Unity (E. L. Williams) are some outstanding ones. Unfortunately, these days there are so few who want to give their time to such reading. T. H. Scambler kept the Austral Co. busy with the scripts that poured from his pen - some years ahead of the times. Amongst his tracts and booklets are A Young Man's Problems, Why Smith Did Not Go to Church, The Romance of the churches of Christ, and Protestantism and Romanism. The latter book needs revising to keep pace with the new doctrines and claims made by the Roman hierarchy. It needs to be read by some of our own members, too. Principal Scambler wrote with imagination, and put some of his tracts in conversational form, as did Thos. Hagger and others before them. Incidentally, T. Hagger wrote far more than is realised. His Heralds of Christian Unity contains good thumbnail sketches of some of the great pioneers, amongst whom the author himself earned a place.

Counsel to Converts, a very helpful booklet in its day, was superseded by R. Baker's The Christian Walk, which has in turn been adapted to Stepping Stones.

D. A. Ewers was a man of remarkable natural ability, who wrote vividly and colorfully, and what he wrote



Literature

was always well read. His Chips from a Wheelwright's Block, and Sparks from a Forge made popular reading, and were helpful to young speakers. The Pittmans—father and sons—have made a great contribution to our publications. Each have books to their credit, and if you open any volume published by the Austral in which a number of writers were used, one or another of their names will be seen, if not more than one. J. C. F. Pittman's Home Circle was a very popular column in The Christian.

Missionary Literature

Whilst much has been written in weekly or monthly journals concerning our mission work, it is a matter of regret that no worthy volume was published embracing it as a whole. It would be a grand thing to have such and to educate younger generations in the blood and sweat and tears that went into the establishing of the overseas work. Few to-day know or remember that Roy Coventry was given the highest award that India could give, the Kaiser-I-Hind medal, as a recognition of his and the brotherhood's work. Or that he wrote a very scholarly treatise on the criminal tribes. It was published in India, and illustrated by E. E. Sutton. The hospital at Dhond is taken for granted, but it wasn't there when Dr. G. H. Oldfield went out to India. missionaries must have accumulated much material in their work, and that of the pioneers upon whose work they were building. The same can be said of those who served so wonderfully in Northern China, where we are sure the seed sown shall never die. With research through Goodly Pearls and The Australian Christian, letters and collaboration with the missionaries themselves, there must be material enough for a startling book. The islands around which Bully Hayes and other pirates once roved, but where the gospel has brought such victories on Aoba, Ndui-Ndui, and Pentecost should yield a rich harvest. Obviously someone with a gift for writing would need to be allowed the time for research. The F.M. Board published an informative booklet on Missions of the World, prepared by

Mrs. W. F. Nankivell, but we could have something on the history of our own missionary enterprise majoring in the dangers faced, trials and hardships endured, and victories gained by those who "went forth."

Home-Land Enterprises

Of our work in the homeland good outlines are given by A. W. Stephenson in Pioneering for Christian Unity, published by the Victorian Literature Committee, and One Hundred Years, sponsored by the Centenary Federal Conference Executive. These books as documents alone are invaluable.

Into a needed field came W. R. Hibburt with his Home Beautiful and Two's Company. They have proved most successful and needed books. Marjorie Buckingham has demonstrated her ability in both factional and fictional writing. Keith Gerrand's articles in this paper on other religions and their services showed a keener insight, and gave a far better representation-as I remember themthan has Beverley Nichols. And what can be said of the Christian Board of Education and its publications? The C.Y.F. has proved a most useful

manual, with credit due to its editor, V. C. Stafford.

Use of Christian Novels

If this should catch your eye as you turn the leaves to read Minister's Musings, you will have noticed that we have many text books and study manuals that need little or no revision, but very few books of recent publication calculated to fire the imagination to do great things for God by attempting great things for him, books that everybody will read, and through which they will inculcate the truth. I'refer, of course, to the novel. Call them propaganda stories if you will, but I'm sure the Christian way of life has much more to offer than most of the novels written with anything but a Christian background. and very often being political pro-paganda, or something calculated to keep the Protestants tolerant. Churches of Christ, with such a plea as they have, could, small as we may be numerically, take a place equal with any other body of people through the medium of literature.

In the 1920's several books were written by Watson, I think. These

were novels, in which the pre-millenial view of Christ's coming was given. I imagine the picture The Missing Christians is based on them. I went on a little holiday tour, and everywhere I went I found folk thrilled with these books. I was forced to read one or two so that I could discuss them. I found them alive and convincing stories which left a lasting impression on me, so vividly was portrayed a world from which the Holy Spirit had been taken. I have on my desk a book on prophecy-an American publication that deals with the subject in story form. Such books are not written for the scholar but for the wide reading public. Having read a book like that, they will possibly wish to go further and read more of the much neglected Book of books. Our brotherhood could do a little such publishing of stories built around "the plea." If we believe it right to do so, then we should. When one thinks of the paper, print and money used in every State over a few years to educate our own brotherhood, it makes me realise what could have been done in a more substantial way toward the uniting of Christians throughout this wide, wide world.



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

Successful Easter Gatherings

Though this article appears somewhat after Easter, it nevertheless has value in showing how enthusiastically the Indian Christians enter into special Christian gatherings.

Easter and Christmas services have a distinctive witness, and are an offset to the many varied and tawdry festivals carried out by other religious faiths in India.

Roy Dixon writes his impressions of the services carried out at Baramati:

"This Easter at Baramati we had Dr. Reid Graham, Principal of the Poona United Theological College, as our special speaker. He brought splendid messages to our Christian group at the Good Friday morning and Easter Sunday morning services.

"Then for Easter Sunday night, we planned a gospel meeting. We had 4,000 bills printed, and for some days before the meeting it was endeavored to publicise the meeting as much as possible. Bills were given out in the bazaar, in shops, homes and at the Friendship Centre. As some said that they couldn't remember such a meeting at Baramati before, we wondered what the response would be. Then when Sunday night came, and with it a terrific wind and heavy rain clouds (strange for dry Baramati), we continued to wonder.

"However, despite the inclement weather, the church was full, with well over 350 present. Of that number, over 200 were non-Christians, i.e., Hindus and Moslems (but mainly Hindus), the majority of whom had never been in the church building before. It was certainly a wonderful opportunity.

"Dr. Graham had heard that some people of the town had thought that he was Dr. Graham, the American mediator attempting a solution to the Kashmir problem. He used this as a lead to speak of the mediatory work Then he showed how of Christ. Christ can change a person, using Zacchaeus and Paul as the examples. He mentioned how Indians like Narayan Tilak (a Brahmin poet who became a Christian and gave his talents to Jesus Christ in such a way that he contributed over two hundred of the Marathi hymns in our present Marathi hymn-book), Pundita Ramabai (founder of Ramabai Mukti Mission), Sadhu Sundar Singh and others had responded to Christ's challenge and invitation. He closed by asking what those present were going to do about Christ's invita-

"After the meeting, the opportunity was given for questions, and a number showed a definite interest by their thoughtful questions."

"We were all thrilled with the response shown at the meeting. Dr. Graham said that it was the largest group of non-Christians he had spoken to at one time during his fifteen years of experience in India. Still, this is only a start. We would ask you to pray for those who heard the gospel that night, that they may be convicted of their need to accept Christ as their own personal Saviour. Also pray that we may have further opportunities in the future to follow up these contacts."

Principal GORDON ROBINSON ("Christian Word") develops an interest-

ing study on

New Testament Nicknames

The word "nickname" has an interesting history behind it. It comes from "a nekename" which was the corruption of "an eke-name," an ad-ditional name. Normally we tend to think of nicknames as faintly derisory; in actual fact they can be not only richly descriptive but almost affectionate. Sometimes they are diminutives, sometimes they merely tell of a trade. Sometimes they tell of some peculiarity or characteristic of the owner, sometimes they are descriptions which owe their rise to the parent. Occasionally they tell of the geographic origin of the holder of the nickname, and sometimes they seem to have neither rhyme nor reason.

We find all these kinds of nicknames in the New Testament. They come so frequently that it is difficult to resist the conclusion that the early churches of the New Testament must have been singularly full of men and women who were known by semi-affectionate pet names. There were Alexander the Coppersmith, Simon the Tanner, and Demetrius the Silversmith, whose nicknames arose from their trades. There were James and John, the sons of Zebedce. James the son of Alphaeus, and James the brother of the Lord, whose misfortune it was to find their nicknames in the reflection cast by parents or by a brother. There was Simon of Cyrene, who found his additional name in the place he came from; James the Less who (perhaps) found his in his lack of stature: Priscilla, whose name is a diminutive of Prisca (and it is interesting to note that she is usually called by her normal name by Paul and by her diminutive by Luke in Acts of Apostles); Simeon Niger, whose nickname means "the darkle," perhaps because he came from North Africa; Thomas the apostle, called Didymus, which means the twin; and Simon the Cananaean or the Zealot, which tells of his connection with the fanatical party which wished to throw off the yoke of Rome.

Nicknames Given by Jesus

Jesus himself was adept in giving nicknames. It was because his thinking was so sharply pictorial. Thus he nicknames Herod Antipas that "Fox" and hits off in a word-picture all his crafty cunning and wanton cruelty; and he calls the young daughter of Jairus Talitha (when he bids her arise from her seeming death-bed), which means Lambkin. And since we know that he nicknames Simon Peter, and James and John Boanerges, the sons of thunder, it is tempting to suppose that he had a nickname for each of the twelve apostles—the Twin, Alphaeus's Lad, the Zealot, we know that some of them were called. Did Jesus give them these additional names? And did the rest of the Twelve have their nicknames, too, which were given them by Jesus?

There are three nicknames in the New Testament which are worth pausing at. Two of them were given by Jesus, the other by the members of the early church at Jerusalem.

"Thunderers"

There was John, son of Zebedee, whom with his brother James Jesus nicknamed "The Thunderer." (Boanerges means "sons of thunder," and the Hebraic phrase "sons of" means those who partake of a particular characteristic or interest.) We might call John the man who grew out of his nickname. The nickname be-longed to both brothers, but James' life was short, and he was martyred early (c.f. Acts 12: 2). Why were they given this nickname? Some have suggested that it was because of their thunderous eloquence, but this is a sheer guess. Others have suggested that it was because of the "Thunder and lightning" of their character-they were quick to take offence and to flare up, as witness the story of how they wanted to call down fire from heaven, Elijah-like, on the Samaritan village which would not receive Jesus when his face was steadfastly set to go to Jerusalem (Luke 9: 51-56). If, as seems likely, this is the true explanation, what a change we find in John who became the beloved disciple, lived to a great age in serenity in Ephesus, and meditated so profoundly on the life and work of Jesus that the Gospel which bears his name was based on his meditations, and has become such a fountain of quiet power and inspiration to all Christians since.

"Rock-man"

Next there was Simon whom Jesus nicknamed Cephas or Peter (the two names are Aramaic and Greek variants) the Rock-man. We might call him the man who grew into his nickname. While there are many en-dearing traits in Peter as the Gospels portray him, there is much which is so unstable as to make his nickname seem ironic. He misunderstands what Jesus meant by his Messiahship (c.f. Mark 8: 32): he boasts of his fidelity (Mark 14: 29), and then denies Jesus (Mark 14: 66); he fails so dismally as a disciple that he must have felt that even with the Lord risen indeed there was no future for him (c.f. John 21). And yet he grew into his nickname so that we see him standing boldly before all Jerusalem at Pentecost, facing the Jewish Council and daring them to disobey God, rejoicing to be counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name of Christ, and becoming the bold and dependable leader of the Jerusalem church. His nickname was prophetic. On this Rock the Church was to be built.

"Standby"

Thirdly, there was the man who grew with his nickname, Joseph of Cyprus, whose nickname was given to him by the Church. That name was Barnabas "Son of exhortation" (Acts 4: 36). By popular etymology, his name meant the Comforter, the Consoler, the Exhorter - all these meaning one called to stand at the side of another to help or to plead. We might re-translate his nickname as The Standby. And how he lived up to it and grew with it! He stood by the Church, giving his possessions freely to its need; he stood by Saul of Tarsus, and went surety for him when the Church looked askance at the converted persecutor: he stood by John Mark when he backed out of the first missionary journey; he con-tinued to give his services without charge as apostle and missionary to the end of his days. His was a nickname that he earned and deserved to keep. And his is the best epitaph in the whole New Testament-"He was a good man and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith; and much people was added unto the Lord."



Programme for August Mrs. R. W. Graham, Brisbane, Qld.

DEVOTIONAL THEME:
"Sing to the Lord"

CALL TO WORSHIP.

Ps. 133: 1. "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity."

Gal. 3: 28. "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus."

HYMN.

No. 360: "May we be one."

PRAYER.

Father of all mankind, whose mercy is tender, and whose patience is endless, we come to thee with thankful hearts, seeking wisdom and insight and faith for the wider vision of our times. Help us to remember Jesus' prayer that we "may all be one," and be so filled with thy love that we may more and more exercise the spirit of fellowship that draws all men as brothers in Christ into the one family of God. Amen.

BIBLE READING.

1 Corinthians 12: 4-20.

MEDITATION.

The fact that Christopher Wordsworth lived for many years in a minute village called "Stanford-in-the-Vale cum Goosey" did not limit his outlook! He has given us some of our best loved hymns, including "O Lord of heaven and earth and sea" and "O day of rest and gladness." "May we be one," the hymn for our devotional theme, "Sing to the Lord," is well known, too.

The Australian Broadcasting Commission stresses "the common core" in our Christianity in its morning and evening devotions, daily Bible readings, "Facing the Week" talks, church services, and "Plain Christianity—a word to the wayfarer"! It is an ecumenical approach that emphasises "simple, evangelical Christianity!" Incidentally, the 21st birthday of the A.B.C., celebrated in June and July, brought us a realisation of the religious influence of the radio.

The scattered forces of Christ's

people will never be gathered together, manifestly one, unless they are prepared to witness and worship right up to the limit of their present agreement. "A faith in the one Church which is not implemented by acts of obedience is dead." There are opportunities in every community for common worship, united evangelism united social action and fellowship in study.

Jesus said, "Not everyone who says 'Lord, Lord' shall enter the kingdom of heaven." In our reading to-day we see that Paul lays great stress on the use of our spiritual gifts. While confession of the Lordship of Jesus is primary, Paul tests this assertion by the fruits of the confessor's life. Christopher Wordsworth's beautiful hymn emphasises the same spiritual qualities that are essential for unity:

O make us one."

Now read 1 Cor. 12: 12-31 in J. B. Phillips' Letters to Young Churches.

HYMN.

No. 428: "O gracious Father of mankind."

PRAYER.

"O Father, we pray for a union so deep and universal that it shall gather all within one fold: those who pray and those who cannot; those whose faith is firm, and those whose doubt is slow to clear. May we never be content with aught that excludes another from the fulness of thy grace, a single soul from the welcome of thy heart. Amen." (W. E. Orchard, Prayers in the Temple.)

TOPIC for August.

HYMN.

No. 116: "Jesus, Lover of my soul."

BENEDICTION.

Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and thanksgiving, and honor, and power and might, be unto our God for ever and ever. Amen.



Baptists on the Episcopacy

A special committee of the Council of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland has published a report on Church Relations in England, which gives the Baptist reaction to a pamphlet of the same name which was published in 1950 by a Joint Committee made up of representatives of the Church of England and the Free Churches.

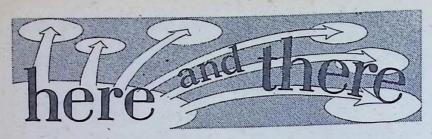
The main difficulty in Church relations in England remains the question of episcopacy. The Baptists' committee says, "The claims commonly made for episcopacy are, in our judgment, not proved. They cannot be substantiated from the New Testament; nor, as we think, are they borne out by Church history. The episcopate has not preserved either the unity or the continuity of the Church. (Emphasis mine—R.W.G.). The continuity of the Church, as it seems to us, is a continuity of life in Christ, brought into being by the proclamation of the Word and by steadfast continuance "in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship and in the breaking of bread, and in prayer."

It does not depend on the doubtful continuity of a ministerial association supposed to reach back to the apostles.

"Rather than stress exclusively some one form of church order, we feel bound to put the emphasis on the continuing activity of the Holy Spirit manifested throughout the Body of Christ, on the spiritual life and service shown by Christians in all ages and in all sections of the Church."

The report further indicates that Baptists consider ordination "a function of the whole Church acting through the fellowship of the local Church. To say that someone must of necessity by virtue of his office take part in such an ordination service, because if he does not there will be no regular or proper ordination, would be to introduce a new and alien element, a legalistic and coercive element into our Church life." — (Ecumenical Press Service, 15/5/53.)

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



Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Hibburt are having a delightful time in Western Australia, despite much public speaking and visiting. Mr. Hibburt writes: "The brotherhood is lavishing its kindness and generous goodwill." They have been tendered a brotherhood welcome.

At least a million blind folk in India could be made to see again by simple surgical removal of cataracts, is the opinion of American Dr. Victor Rambo, of Vellore medical college, India, whose department wishes it could tackle 10,000 cataract operations yearly, instead of the average 3,000. Another expert of the college estimates that tuberculosis causes 500,000 deaths yearly in India, and, with the exception of malaria, is India's leading cause of disability and death.

A. Anderson, secretary Federal Foreign Mission Board, and Mrs. Bruce Coventry and daughters were entertained at a luncheon on Monday, July 13, by a representative group of W.A. brethren at Lake-st., Perth. Mr. Anderson, in response to his welcome, gave an informative statement of the present situation of the work in India, and plans for shaping the future. Mrs. Coventry delighted all with her expressions of gratitude and commitment to the work in India while health and present opportunity remain. J. K. Robinson, Conference President, presided, and J. K. Bond commended the travellers to God in prayer.

Doug. Nicholls is anxious to secure a small folding organ for his openair "wayside" evangelistic services. Will any church or persons who can assist please ring JW4064, or address letters c/o The Austral.

Young people of the Tumby Bay, S.A., church took part in the town's Coronation celebrations by entering a float in the procession. A miniature church was mounted on a trailer, and children in national costumes of the Dominions stood at the church entrance. "Our Queen Calls Youth to Church" was the inscription. The float was drawn by 16 young people in uniforms of red, white and blue. Besides being a witness to the town, the float gained second prize. The

preacher, P. R. Whitmore, spoke at the combined Coronation Day service in the Methodist church.

J. A. Luff, preacher of Launceston church, Tas., sends this warning note: "A man using the name Carter, and purporting to have worked in Tasmania, and met me there, has obtained money from at least one church of Christ home, using my name as a reference. I have no recollection of him or his family."

Thornbury church, Vic., reports continued progress in its "mutual ministry programme," inaugurated last September. In that period, 50 new members have been welcomed. Despite wintry conditions, June averages were 127 (communion) and 121 (evening), with an average of 75 "oncers" and 62 "twicers." Last year Thornbury reported an average of 106 communicants, and winter evening meetings averaged 50-60. Monthly film services and other weekly features have highlighted the evening meetings. The last two film services have drawn attendances of 175 and 170.

This is certainly news—a caretaker writing that a Bible School picnic party had left the reserve "tidier than when they occupied it." The caretaker of the Clifton Gardens Reserve, N.S.W., reported to the State branch of the Civic Pride Society that "the previous party had been particularly untidy, and I had been unable to clean the area properly, but the Lane Cove church of Christ party left the area in a perfect condition."

The release of official census figures for New Zealand, 1945-51, reveals that whereas in 1945, churches of Christ were credited with 11,346, the figure is now 11,937, an increase of 5.2 per cent., as compared with the population increase of 13.9 per cent. Of the main church bodies listed, all others save the Salvation Army have virtually kept pace with the population increase, the Presbyterians (second only to the Anglicans, numerically) showing the greatest gain (18.5 per cent.).

An extension of the Methodist Mission to the Nation is to be launched in Fiji on Aug. 4, when Ray Dudley, of New Zealand, will serve as the missioner.

Vic. Social Service Notes and Comments Will. H. Clay.

Surely there was never a time in our history when morals were at a lower ebb, and we do not appear to have yet reached the depths to which we are descending. With a Labor government which seems to be drunk with power, the widening of facilities for gambling and drinking is promised in Victoria as soon as Parliament opens in September. The acting premier, Mr. Galvin, deliberately flouts the appeals of the churches and reform bodies. We are of the opinion that a test of the powers of the government should be demanded. In such a case, the whole Church should rise, like "the mighty army" she claims to be, and make the issue a personal one, in which many individual Christians would enter the field. Until the Church can prove she has the necessary strength, and her case is of God as well as of man, she is not likely to command the recognition of this or any other government. We would like to know where are the Christian men in our Parliament, in the trade unions, and the R.S.L. If they are not to be found, the Church must choose such men and women who could be found to carry the battle into the ranks of their legislation bodies. Policies are more often resolved there than in Parliament itself, and members of them are bound to honor decisions arrived

Every Labor member is bound to vote for a lottery to finance our hospitals; to oppose it will cost him his seat. The government, through the acting premier, promises the lottery in spite of the protests of so many. More race days are promised. 26 trotting races are promised, an increase of four. Six charity (the price) races, an increase of two, are promised. Country trotting clubs will receive up to ten meetings each year, and new licences will be granted to new clubs for night trotting. Dog races undoubtedly will receive favor-able consideration. The prospect is alarming from both the moral and economic point of view. To meet the present situation, we suggest an organised approach to every member of the State Parliament. The results would be worth tabulating. The Social Service Department will be glad to assist with information and advice.

These notes will be continued in later issues of the Christian, giving up-to-date information on all social issues.

MINISTER'S MUSINGS

is altogether in favor of theological colleges "where they teach Greek and take in Punch."

TUESDAY .- Statistics are sorrow-

ful enough, most times, especially when they tell the story of the "Sunday oncers." I've been checking through some of the names on our roll, and after allowing for those who, for age or family reasons cannot attend more than once. I'm still left with enough names to give me a What happens to this headache. family after 12.15 on Sunday? Or, why can't these young people come to communion on Sunday mornings, instead of taking advantage of the opportunity provided at the evening service? I've asked these questions at other places than Graysley, and I guess many of my brother ministers are asking them, too. I put the question squarely to one of our of-fenders to-day. He was inclined to hedge a little, and then said in a sudden burst of frankness: "Well, to tell you the truth, after being out to church in the morning I like to settle down to a long night at home.' And what's more, there are some good programmes on the wireless." He didn't deny that that is a rather selfish way of looking at the matter, and we'll probably see him at church for a few Sunday nights, at least until his resolution wears thin again. But the job is surely only half done when we persuade more of our members to attend both services; we need many more of them coming with friends who are non-members, the kind of personal evangelism our fathers rejoiced to do.

WEDNESDAY .- By courtesy of our "Number One baby-sitter," and I were able to see the Coronation film to-night. The presentation of the Bible naturally interested us, in the midst of the pageantry. Laurel's school was taken to see the film last week, and her serious and somewhat indignant comment was that "some of the children laughed when the Queen kissed the Bible. I didn't think it was funny." Nor did we. But I wonder whether what was done at the first Elizabeth's crowning was not more human and colorful. John Stirling tells how "at Cheapside she was halted by Father Time, descending from two hills that had been erected to symbolise the Commonwealth. He was followed by a virgin figure robed in white as the symbol of Truth, and in her hand she carried a Bible, the Word of Truth. The Book with due ceremony and dignity was offered to Her Majesty, who took it, kissed it, and after raising it in her hand as if to answer their prayer, folded it to her breast, and carried it to the throne."

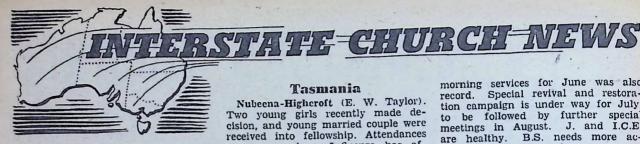
THURSDAY .- After Tuesday's musings I might have been ready to lend a more than usually sympathetic ear to the good lady who began to quote "the good old days" to me, in contrast to to-day's iniquity. But. unfortunately for her, I had happened to notice this morning in the British Christian, a passage quoted from its files of fifty years ago. It read like something written the other day, deploring the fact that so many did not attend church at all, and that the fashion was also growing among church members of attending only once a day. So it's no new problem! I liked the way this writer of half a century ago said: "The grand ideal undoubtedly is, as the late Mr. Spurgeon often said, for a Christian to attend in the morning for the sake of his own soul, and to go out in the evening after the souls of other people. Twice a day attendance may be a virtue or a vice-a virtue if it provides a man with that power which will afterwards be employed for the Kingdom of God; a vice if it means only personal pleasure." And, as a footnote to all that, I've been thinking of the sting in the first sentence of Charles Heimsath's The Genius of Public Worship—"Why people stay away from church is not the riddle. but why they go."

FRIDAY.—A piece of unconscious humor in to-day's news was the report that a book store, whose proprietor had been convicted for selling obscene matter, had been sold to the Hightone Cleaning Co! There's plenty of room in our State and national life at present for some "hightone cleaning." for there are far too many people who, in the convicted proprietor's own casual words, lend themselves to evil "just for the few bob I make out of it."

SATURDAY.—Wrestling for some "penetrating points" in to-morrow's sermon, I can understand the old-time preacher who, feeling that his sermon wasn't "getting across," suddenly lost his temper. "If you will not hear the Word," he shouted, "I'll make you feel it," and threw his Bible at them with all his might! No, I won't try that—I'm too fond of my Bible.

SUNDAY. - Some weeks back I noted with pleasure that this quarter's New Testament readings for the morning service were to come from Second Corinthians. I must have been one of many amongst our men who decided to preach from these readings. Nowhere else is Faul so moving and intimate, and there is certainly no difficulty about relating words like these to life to-day. We've arranged that our readers shall use Phillips' excellent version during this quarter. I'm inclined to agree with the English critic who declared that Phillips' Letters to Young Churches, "when read in church, have shaken awake more than one Christian who loves to mentally doze through 'the grandeur of the language of the King James Version'." At the same time, I'm not forgetting one good man I knew long ago, who left one of our churches because a young man read out of Moffatt's translation instead of the Authorised Version. He joined another communion, and, as far as I know, is still a faithful member of it. I love the old Version as much as any man, and more often than not still read from it. But Phillips certainly makes these letters live, and some of his phrases are both piercing and memorable.

MONDAY. — Thank God for the saving grace of humor! How long could any of us survive in the ministry without it? I often think of Martin Niemoller's comment during his long imprisonment by the Nazis, concerning what he called "the holy humor of God." Perhaps that was one key to his great spiritual endurance. I enjoyed a Baptist minister's reference the other day to Rita Snowden's latest book, I Turn to Ducks. He thought it altogether unkind to publish such a book in the big cricket season. So would some of our Australian batsmen after Manchester! Apparently Miss Snowden's book is a gentle reproof to those unfortunates who take themselves too seriously. She



Discipleship

Wendy and Judith Harris and Barbara Jones, Edwardstown West, S.A.

Wilma Carter, Beverley Britton, Margaret Collingwood, Frances Park and Jean Wishart, Wem-

bley, W.A.
Gordon and Clarence Christensen
and Don Gherke, Rosevale, Qld. Elaine Bromley, Paula Looney, Florence Jacobsen, Rosemary

Jacobsen, Bryan Groves, Michael Dunnitt, Wiley Park, N.S.W. John Jenkin, Coburg, Vic.

Sydelle Peacock, Semaphore, S.A. Frank Enniss, Edward Gallatly and Robert Canning, Northcote, Vic.

Membership

Mrs. James, from Fairfield, Vic., to

Ascot Vale, Vic. Mrs. Worland, Wiley Park, N.S.W. Mr. and Mrs. Clark, from Pt. Pirie, S.A., to Aldgate Valley, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Middleton, from Henley Beach, S.A., to Aldgate Valley, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. W. McKie, Stirling, S.A.

Marian Harbottle, Wangaratta, Vic. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver and Kevin, from Maidstone, Vic., to Preston, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. Harradine, from Surrey Hills, Vic., to Mitcham,

Mr. and Mrs. Irwin, Bayswater, Vic. Rose Edwards and Fred Edwards, Reservoir, Vic., to East Malvern,

Marriage

Shirley Fraser to Barry Barnier, Hamilton, N.S.W.

Ruth Hammon to William Smith, Coburg, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Lambert, Unley, S.A. Mrs. Fitton, Rockdale, N.S.W. Mrs. M. E. Saunders, Ann-st., Brisbane. Mrs. A. Hancock, East Preston, Vic.

Tasmania

Nubeena-Higheroft (E. W. Taylor). Two young girls recently made decision, and young married couple were received into fellowship. Attendances are encouraging. Influenza has affected attendances at Highcroft in last few weeks. Recently installed radiators in both churches are proving of value. Monthly paper edited and printed by E. Taylor is being circulated widely through district. L. Barton had his leg broken in motor cycle accident. Youth for Christ rally was held in Nubeena Hall on July 4. The God of the Atom was screened. Party from Hobart gave several addresses, and rendered two solos.

Western Australia

Lake-st., Perth (A. J. Fisher) .- Recent speakers have been J. Gordon, H. B. Robbins, J. K. Robinson, G. Smith and K. West. Special stress was given to "Home and Family," May 19-24. Service of song on "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" was programme of Youth Fellowship tea on June 7. On 14th, gospel sermon was black-board address. On 21st and 28th Dutch Reformed Church conducted services in Lake-st. There have been 3 broadcast services. Prayer meetings have been held at the homes of J. Corbett, B. Alexander and C. Cugley. Special offering was taken for Indian Famine Fund. Dorcas held successful Jumble Sale on May 30. Family tea was well attended on June 11. Messrs. Fisher and Ewers conducted Inglewood mission June 21-28. Greetings have been received from Mrs. Tilbee, Mrs. Edger and Dr. Snodgrass. Youth After - Church Winter Medleys are proving valuable. Homes of G. Ewers, M. Bell, W. Beck, C. Cook, J. Anderson, H. Shenton and V. Conigrave have been used. On July 3 youth gave excellent variety concert in aid of Director's salary. Badminton club is well supported. B.S. has gained several new scholars through teacher visitation.

Bunbury (F. H. Griffith),-Ladies' Guild recently held "At Home," at which over 80 were present from local churches. Mrs. Wegwood was speaker. There are good attendances at W.C.C. combined services. W. Tonkin is to conduct mission for two weeks prior to Golden Jubilee.

Wembley (J. K. Bond) .- Five girls from B.S. and C.E. were welcomed into membership on morning of July 12. Attendance at baptismal service on July 5 was record, with 130 present. Average attendance of 80 at morning services for June was also record. Special revival and restoration campaign is under way for July, to be followed by further special meetings in August. J. and I.C.E. are healthy. B.S. needs more accommodation. Mid-week prayer meeting gives opportunity for profitable Bible study, and interest in men's and women's fellowships is growing.

Queeusland

West Moreton Circuit (W. R. Jarmyn).-After years of sickness, A. Augusten passed away in Ipswich on June 24. He was buried in Marburg. Youth of circuit enjoyed chop-picnic around blazing fire near Rosewood on 26th. All meetings of C.Y.F. are well attended. Men at Lowood have purchased and demolished small house prior to reconstruction of social hall measuring 40ft. x 20ft. Dr. W. Hinrichsen is visiting Rosevale. Mrs. F. Hinrichsen is home from hospital.

Gladstone (L. Barnes) .- 46 attended social evening on July 3 at A. Brown's home. Two B.S. are now formed, one at Barney Pt., and the other at Rocky Glen. J. H. Adermann and A. Brown are in charge respectively. Preacher visits each school at intervals. S. Vanham paid short visit on 6th. Gospel services are well attended.

Ann-st., Brisbane (R. W. Graham, B.A.).-Guest speaker at Men's Fellowship monthly tea on June 21 was H. M. King, pres. of Qld. Congregational Union. Gospel service was broadcast over station 4KQ. Cottage prayer meeting was held July 1 at home of Mr. and Mrs. S. Hoens. Morning service on July 12 was addressed by J. A. Wilkie (Ballarat). R. W. Graham has commenced fifth year of ministry with church. Recent visitors included Mr. and Mrs. E. Reveleigh, F. P. Mitchell, Mrs. Shepherd, Mr. and Mrs. J. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Wilkie (Vic.), J. Powell, Chas. Lyke, Misses A., I. and M. Mowsar, Mr. and Mrs. J. Dunner, Miss H. Shepherd, Miss M. Morris (N.S.W.), and Mr. and Mrs. C. Parker (S.A.).

New South Wales

Hamilton (Lloyd G. Read) .- A few weeks ago memorial service for late G. Osborn was held when there was large gathering of relatives and friends. On June 27 Miss Vawser spoke to combined district gathering at Hamilton. Fellowship was enjoyed around tea table, and pictures shown of work in India. Miss Vawser was Sunday morning speaker, and at night gospel speaker was M. Peiper (Cardiff). L. G. Read was absent at Taree anniversary services. After evening service on July 5 fellowship gathering was held to wish godspeed to Mr. and Mrs. H. Menson, who are visiting America. Small presentation of snapshot album was made. Mrs. Aubrey Smith was visitor on July 7.

Bexley North (R. W. Saunders) .-Speakers on June 28 were S. Laney and C. Bowser, M.F. tea was addressed by senior Government analyst. deacons conducted and Y.P.S.C.E. on June 23. Ladies held talent social on June 27, D. Beckingham arranging programme. Ladies brought in cash resulting from individual Time and Talent efforts. amounting to £112 for Building and held Furnishing Funds. Y.P. "Sausage Sizzle" for same cause on July 4. On 5th, Chaplain B. Cavill and party of N.S.T. attended fellowship tea and conducted gospel service. Chaplain Cavill gave powerful address. Second coming of Christ has been discussed at recent prayer meetings. R. Greenhalgh addressed monthly cot-tage meeting at home of Mrs. Man-

Merewether (W. D. Howard) .- Early in June Youth Club was formed for Y.P. between ages of 13 and 16. After six weeks enrolment is 12. Miss E. Vawser visited B.S. on June 28, and showed films of work in India. B.S. anniversary, July 5 and 6, was success. Chapel was crowded on all three occasions and many local folk visited church for first time. On Sunday afternoon and evening H. Robson (Mayfield) addressed B.S. Monday evening was presentation and play night. P. Retchford addressed church on morning of July 5, and on following Tuesday evening at social gathering after prayer meeting church made farewell presentation to him upon departure for U.S.A.

Mayfield (L. S. Dewberry).—J.C.E. conducted anniversary in crowded church. Children were led by Misses Cadogan and Baxter, with message from R. Acland. Ladies' Guild has held two successful socials in aid of building fund. Members are praying for Sister Shaddock, who is in hospital. Church was shocked at sudden passing of Sis. Hughes. L. Dewberry-conducted large funeral service. Preacher has begun fourth year of happy ministry. Finance Committee recently raised preacher's salary by six shillings per week in addition to latest basic wage adjustment.

Burwood (E. Davis).—In spite of cold weather, meetings are well attended. During preacher's illness services were taken by local and visit-

ing brethren. Many members have been on sick list. Special services are being held during July, when guest speakers will bring messages. So far these meetings have been well attended, and have been appreciated by members. Song services are being led by Wilton Gray, while choir, under leadership of Mr. Prowse, is rendering special anthems. Church participated in service set apart for Coronation. Men's Fellowship continues to meet monthly with good attendances.

Mosman (G. E. Burns).—On June 14 Mr. Burns spoke at morning meeting, and in the evening Mr. Hilford (Paddington) gave gospel address. Church farewelled Mr. Hilford at that meeting before his transfer to Ipswich, Qld. £5/5/- offering was received for Famine in India Fund. On 29th Mr. Robbins (Vic.) was visitor. On 27th R. Stephens was welcomed back with his bride from Edithburg, S.A. Work at Seaforth is progressing well. On June 27 floor was laid, and on July 11 roof was completed. On July 12 B. and F.B.S. field day celebrated 150 years' service with two visiting speakers, Mr. Yorkston (morning) and A. Hunter (evening).

Inverell (E. F. G. McIlhagger).—Preacher has commenced series of talks on "Where the Bible Speaks," which are creating much interest. On July 8-prayer and fellowship meeting was held at Delungra, after intensive visitation of all Mt. Russell and Delungra members. Y.P. journeyed to home of Mr. and Mrs. G. Hamilton on June 27 for happy day and evening. Tennis club has been formed as auxiliary to church, and men are building court on ground at manse. Recent visitor was Mrs. W. A. Faulkner (Brisbane). Two car loads of Y.P. journeyed to Lismore at weekend to attend Hinrichsen-Brooker mission in that town, 200 miles from Inverell.

Rockdale (G. J. Andrews).—Annual meeting of Rockdale branch of B. & FB.S. was held in church on June 24. Pres. Mr. Kline was chairman, and Miss M. Andrews (C.M.S., China) was speaker. Afternoon tea was served. Proceeds of afternoon amounted to £4/5/-. Church was glad to welcome back Sisters Clark and Stevenson, who have been ill. Mrs. Wallace (Junee) has been in fellowship. Miss Vawser spoke at morning meeting on July 5 to large congregation, with many visitors. In afternoon B.S. was open to visitors, when Miss Vawser showed films of missionary activity in India. On 8th at Women's Fellowship Miss Vawser was speaker and soloist.

South Australia

Semaphore (S. E. Matthews). — All services during the month were addressed by preacher. At monthly meeting of M.B. ladies dealt with general business. The Nissen hut at Draper is being painted inside. B.S. is preparing for anniversary, under leadership of J. Thoday. Recently formed ladies' choir is proving a help to the gospel services. Mr. Rodda has been sick for several weeks. B. Chamberlain is leader of Y.P.S.C.E. Society, and Mr. Matthews is giving a series of lectures on the camp study book, Christianity and Communism.

Aldgate Valley-Stirling East (G. T. Fitzgerald). - Churches have been strengthened by transfers. Baptismal service was recently held at Stirling, when three were baptised. During vacation of minister, speakers included R. Graham, H. Cave and W. McKle. Property fund has been opened at Aldgate Valley, and repairs have been made about building. Offerings and attendances, despite weather, reflect fellowship. Minister continues teaching campaign with good results. Y.P.F. at Stirling East has helped form similar group at Valley. It recently conducted splendid evening service at both churches. Dorcas at Valley held 24th rally, with 50 present. Mrs. C. P. Hughes spoke. F.M. offering was over £22. Gifts to India was supplemented by £6. £5 was given Social Service, and £10 to Colebrook Home.

Edwardstown West (P. R. Baker).—Church conference decided to carry out campaign of intensive evangelism, under leadership of minister, in surrounding district, particularly in new housing areas. Church proposes to seek co-operation of sister churches in vicinity. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. G. Dufty in loss of mother, Mrs. Nancarrow. K. Lambert (B.S. supt.) is sick.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris).—Tent mlssion is planned from Sept. 27 to Oct. 25. Basket ball teams held successful social on July 10. B.S. attendance on 11th was highest yet, 222. O.M. offering showed 50 per cent. increase over last year. Constant visitation by minister is proving great benefit to work. Mrs. O'Donnell is still ill, but improving.

Fullarton (Andrew H. Lennox). — Since July 5 mission has been held, led by A. Brown (C.S.S.M.). There have been special children's meetings after school. Adult meetings are held each evening. One night Dust and Destiny was screened to crowded church, despite wet weather. Mr. Brown spoke at both services on 12th.

Mrs. Lennox was soloist. Miss V. Young is leaving to work with P.&I.V. Mission.

Unley (I. J. Chivell) .- Youth month created considerable interest and larger attendances, but one Sunday evening service, with T. Robinson (Cowandilla) as speaker, was blacked out by power fault. Following Sunday. after tea at teachers' homes, scholars attended gospel service, which opened with tableau depicting youth work at Unley. Attendance of 130 at school session was best for two years. Concert presented by C.Y.F. attracted capacity house, proceeds totalling £25 being for Youth dept. funds. Y.P. will repeat it at Glenelg to aid their youth work. At monthly Family Night, C. R. W. Graham (N.S.W.) showed travel pictures. Offering of £6 was divided between Overseas Missions and Rest Home. At M.B. annual meeting there were many visitors. Mrs. McCallum is new pres., Mrs. Chivell pres.-elect, and Mrs. Hollard sec.

Victoria

Ascot Vale (H. Gross).—Consecrated work of H. Gross and B.S. teachers is bearing fruit. On June 28 two more Y.P. decided for Christ. Kindergarten is doing effective work under Mrs. Sterling. Conference Pres., Dr. Oldfield, spoke on July 5. K. Heith (C.O.B.) presided. All auxiliaries are in healthy condition. Chris. Thomsen has been able to attend after severe illness. W. Brown has been able to move about ward with aid of crutches.

Warracknabeal (W. Wakefield). — Boys from Mildura district were given cup of tea on way to and from Hall's Gap camp. Several ladies went to Brim for annual birthday. B.S. recently held pasty supper in aid of their funds.

East Preston (F. Langford).—Recent speakers have been R. Egar, D. Nicholls and C. Johnson. Help of a regular organist, Mr. Wallace, and R. Crisp, song leader, at evening services is appreciated. Mrs. Lloyd spoke at M.B., and Mrs. Turner at Y.W.F. devotional night. Average attendances for June were: a.m., 62; and p.m., 64. J.C.E. has completed first year of activities, and is growing. C.M.S. raised £18 by concert for building fund.

Cheltenham (R. C. Bolduan).—Work on renovation of B.S. hall is proceeding. Floors and windows have been completely renewed. 45 men are now serving on morning service plan. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Bright and family in loss of Mr. Bright. Elders and deacons have commenced visita-

tion of whole membership, seeking full co-operation in 4 year plan culminating in church centenary.

Swanston-st. (K. A. Macnaughtan).

—There were four baptisms on June 28. At recent After-Church Fellowship meetings sound films have been shown. Dorcas society has been active preparing "Coronation" parcels for Women's Hospital and Children's Hospital, London, as well as making garments for Aborigines' Mission in W.A. Fitzroy Methodist Mission and Sidwell Hall Group (Moonee Ponds) joined in united meeting on July 12, when Dr. C. McIntyre spoke at evening service to packed audience.

Mitcham (R. Sercombe).—Morning attendances are increasing. Thursday evening prayer and Bible study is of great blessing. At mid-year business meeting it was decided to begin building fund so that church might soon be able to extend present building. On July 5 gospel service was held in afternoon, A. Thomas being speaker. B.S. is commencing practice for anniversary.

Coburg (A. R. Lloyd) .- Increased attendances have marked services on Sunday nights since introduction of special services. Baptismal service was held on June 14, when Ken Spry, B.S. scholar, was first to be baptised in new baptistery. Women's Fellow-ship had as speaker on July 1, Mrs. Berry, who spoke on mission work in India. After meeting, £3 collection was handed to Mrs. Berry to help in purchasing food for India. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. F. Downes, whose father passed away suddenly. Boys' gymnasium recently won Y.M.C.A. district junior indoor athletics, and were runners-up for whole metropolitan area. P.B.P. girls have lost only one basket ball match this season, and are second on competition ladder.

Echuca (H. Hargreaves).—Amount received for Temple Day offering to date is £36. Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Owen, have been visitors. Reg. has been serving with R.A.A.F. in Korea. Mervyn Fleming is in N.T.S. Afternoon held at Mrs. Horne's home raised about £9 for guild funds. Meetings have been smaller during cold weather. Some members have been sick.

Northcote (W. G. Graham).—Two young lads made decision at gospel service July 5. B.S. is making steady progress. Largest attendance for some time is 179. B.S. anniversary practice has commenced. On 12th Mr. Curtis (B. & F.B.S.) was speaker at morning service, and preacher at night, when another young lad made his decision. B. & F.B.S. conducted

field day in Northcote, and held film service in chapel after church service, when film The Ever Living Word was screened. Members of other churches were present. New table has been anonymously donated for front porch.

Bayswater (B. Crowden).—On evening of July 5 family service was held, and on 12th special hymn service. R. Tattersall was soloist. B.S. has commenced anniversary practice, under leadership of F. Collings (Ringwood). Church attendances maintain good average.

Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson). During month Ladies' Guild and M.B. held anniversary. Lunch was served at church, when many ladies attended. Special speaker for occasion was Mrs. Withers (Vic. pres.). Greetings were given by Mrs. Cleland; Mrs. Wickham was also present. Ladies of town also gave greetings from their guilds. Over 50 were present. Mrs. Anderson (pres.) conducted meeting. Overseas offering (£15) was record. B.S. is practising for anniversary, under leadership of Mr. Franks. P. Patrick is able to attend morning services again. Ladies' Guild paid visit to home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Dagger, Glenrowan.

Preston (J. E. Searle). — Meetings continue to be well attended, in spite of sickness amongst members. Members of K.S.P. took whole of morning service on July 5, when 15 Y.M. attended. C.M.S. visited Central telephone exchange on July 6. The Cry of the Orient was screened at after church fellowship on July 12. Alteration and remodelling of chapel and kinder hall are well advanced, and all auxilfaries are working well toward their quota of interest on building debt. Mr. MacDonald and Sis. Blythman are progressing well after recent illnesses.

OBITUARY

Walter George Organ.

On June 26, 1953, W. G. Organ was summoned suddenly Home at the age of 55 years. Coming to Carnegie church, Vic., as a lad, he helped when the chapel was built in a day forty years ago. One of the first to make his confession in the new church, he was baptised by Carnegie's first evangelist, A. P. Wilson, in April, 1914. As a master builder Mr. Organ brought an enthusiasm for perfect craftsmanship to every phase of church life. Under his direction the original octagon was extended, and he had the honor of being the first to be married in the new enlarged structure by the late F. T. Saunders.

The brotherhood will be ever grateful for his work in the erection of the Chown Memorial Chapel at the College of the Bible. He served Carnegie devotedly at different times as secretary, treasurer, choir master, and B.S. superintendent. After a service in the chapel, in which the writer was assisted by two former ministers, E. Eaton and W. R. Hibburt, the mortal remains of our loved brother were laid to rest at Springvale. We share with Mrs. Organ and her two beloved daughters Elva (Mrs. Ron Hindman) and Valerie their deep loss, and seek for them the tender comfort our Heavenly Father brings .- L. G. Crisp.

Alice Maude Sarah Hancock.

Mrs. Hancock, an old member of the North Richmond church, Vic., who served there for over forty years, was suddenly called home, June 19. Some eighteen months ago, with her husband, Fred Hancock, and daughters Jean and Iris, she moved to Regent, and came into fellowship with the church at East Preston. In recent months she did not have the best of health, but this did not prevent her from coming to East Preston, and occasionally getting back to North Richmond to the church of which she retained happy memories. After forty years of quiet, humble and sincere Christian witness as a wife, mother, and a devoted servant of the church, she has gone to receive her rich reward for faithful services. To Mr. Hancock and daughters, Jean and Iris, we express our deepest sympathy. After a service at the East Preston church, she was laid to rest at the Preston cemetery. R. C. McKenzie helped the writer at the graveside service.-F.L.

DEATHS.

JACKEL.—On July 11, at Bairnsdale Hospital, Frank Edward (Lakes Entrance), loving husband of Alice M. Jackel. "Forever with the Lord."

BRIGHT.—On July 9, at Alfred Hospital, Bertrand Bright, beloved husband of Emma, father of Bert, Eva, Arthur, Gladys, Frank, Olive, Mavis, Alan, Joy. "Sleep and take thy rest."

BRIGHT.—On July 9, at Alfred Hospital, Bertrand Bright, beloved father of Gladys (Mrs. Nugent), father-in-law of Ron, and grandad of Alison and Valda. "Gone to be with God after much suffering."

WILLIAMS.—On July 1, at Kaniva District Hospital, Albert E. P. Willams, of Lillimur, beloved husband of Ada, loving father of Eddie, Albert and Grace (Mrs. E. H. Tilley), loving brother of Richard.

IN MEMORIAM.

WATSON.—Treasured memories of our darling wife and mother, Jessie, called home July 26, 1951. She has only stepped inside God's garden.

—Inserted by her loving husband and daughter.

WATSON.—In loving memory of our dear Jess, loved daughter-in-law of Mrs. A. Watson. Died July 26, 1951.

MARTIN.—Treasured memories of a loving and devoted mother, passed away July 22, 1948. Never forgotten by her daughters Flo., Mab. and Rose (England). "A lovely flower in God's garden."

-Inserted by Mrs. Holmes.

UPSTILL.—In loving memory of my dear mother, passed away July 19, 1941.

—Inserted by her loving daughter, Ruby Harding.

WATERMAN.—In loving memory of our eldest son, William, late missionary in China, late of Monbulk, called to rest July 17, 1933, loved husband of Grace, father of Joan (Hamilton), and Winnie (missionary New Hebrides).

Our dear son peacefully sleeping in God's care.

-Inserted by his parents.

DEMERAL.—Treasured memories of my beloved husband Claude, who passed away July 31, 1943.

"And we grow quiet folded in thy peace."



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how you prepare for it. When you start out on a trip you provide not only for today, but for each day until the end of the journey. Having completed your preparations, you commit yourself to the rails of destiny with reasonable confidence that you will fully enjoy the happy days ahead. Don't live for today only. Look forward!

Keep on the right track: KEEP ON SAVING!



"Save at this Bank."

IN MEMORIAM.

LEE.—In loving memory of my dear husband and our father, Lionel Wilton, who was called home on July 21, 1949. Always remembered by his loving wife Tess, and sons Ray and Rod.

BIRTHS.

STAFFORD (nee Hughes).—To Jeff and Elwynne, at Western Gippsland Hospital, Warragul, on Tues., July 14, a daughter—Lesley Karen.

GHYS (nee Bartrop). — Ida and Lawrence Ghys have pleasure in announcing the arrival of their son, Peter Lawrence, on July 7, at "St. Monan's," Cremorne, N.S.W.

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The church at Warrnambool is interested in a building for removal, suitable for school. Block is 60 x 40. Replies to Mrs. C. J. Papworth, Box 110, P.O., Warrnambool, Vic.

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Suggested Questionnaire for Church Members

Principal James Gray prepared this challenging questionnaire for a Birmingham District Conference, following which it was published in the "Christian Advocate," and duplicated copies made available to our British churches.



(To be adapted to suit local needs, and to be issued by the local leaders.)

Note to church members:

We are anxious to do all we can to make the services of the church helpful to all who come, and eager that the Church should fulfil its mission by drawing both young and old into its fellowship. We, therefore, ask you to answer the questions given below, believing that you may have constructive suggestions to make. We shall welcome your comments, however frank, provided they are sincere, and provided you are willing to do your part in making them effective. Questionnaire is a prelude to action.

You need not sign your answers, unless you wish to do so; and it is, of course, open to you not to answer some of the questions. Please do not give the answers you think are expected, but those which truly express your conviction.

The Communion Service.

- 1. Does the service usually meet your spiritual needs? If you sometimes go away disappointed, can you say in what respect?
- 2. Does any part of the service specially help you?
- 3. Have you any suggestions to make to improve the service?

The Evening Service.

- 4. What features of the normal evening service are most helpful to you? Would you like more or less of any feature? Have you any modification to suggest?
- 5. Are you in favor of continuing the service in much the same form as at present? Or would you be in favor of a more varied type of service, embodying the occasional use of:

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Discussions (after the service) the subject dealt with in the sermon?

Any other suggestions?

The Teaching of the Church.

- 6. Do you think there should be more sermons giving specific teaching on the Bible?
- 7. Is there enough emphasis on our witness as churches of Christ in our preaching and teaching? Or much? Or just about enough? Or too
- 8. Would you like more series of sermons on definite topics? Are there any topics you think are neglected which ought to be dealt with?

The Fellowship of the Church.

- 9. Do you think the fellowship of the church could be strengthened? If so, how?
- 10. Are the arrangements for visiting the sick and the absent as good as they can be?
- 11. What could be done to develop fellowship between old and young, between church and school, between members and non-members?:
- 12. Have you any other suggestions to make, not covered by any of these questions, towards deepening the fellowship and extending the witness of the church?

FEDERAL

College of the Bible Notes

The students have been very grateful for gifts of produce from the churches at Oakleigh and Red Hill.

The annual "retreat" day of the students was held on Tuesday, July 7, at Warragul. The ladies of the church there extended gracious hospitality. The speaker was Colin Williams, of the Prahran Community church, and his addresses were helpful and stimulating.

The secretary will be spending most of the month of July in deputation work among the churches in southern Queensland.

Applications for enrolment in 1954 are coming to hand, and those who intend commencing studies next year should make contact with the secretary. There are many churches without preachers, and needy fields await the coming of workers. The call comes to young men of consecration and ability to consider full-time Christian service.

Interest in the Refurnishing Fund for the students' rooms is growing, and gifts are coming in. Many groups and auxiliaries have promised help this year in a special way. In the last week or so two family groups have each volunteered to be responsible for refurnishing a room.

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