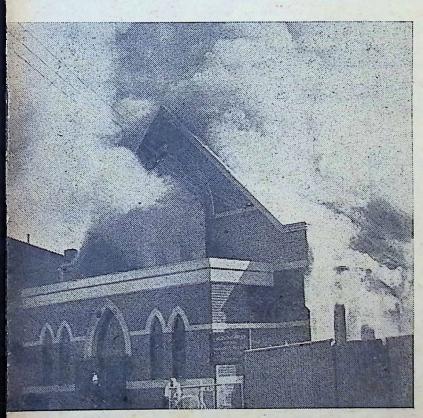


## NOBTHCOTE CHAPEL ABLAZE

at Northcote church, Vic., on Sunday, Sept. 27. W. G. Graham (minister)

Morning service was held as usual and R. E. Anderson (sec.) were the last to leave the building at 12.45 p.m., after making preparations for a bap-



tismal service that night. Seventy-five minutes later the chapel was aflame, and within another half hour the whole interior of the chapel had been destroyed, including the pipe organ, memorial pulpit, communion table and chairs, reading desk and two Bibles, complete seating, carpets, flooring, platform, hymn-board, roofing, windows etc. The chapel was well insured, but at to-day's replacement costs the church will probably be several thousands of pounds in arrears.

While the building burnt, young men of the Epiphany Church opposite took up a street collection of £7/11/1. Almost £100 has already been given in personal gifts, with one promise of another £100. An offering at the evening service reached £70, while after the service one old age pensioner gave Mr. Graham a note, and asked him to read it later. It read, "I have £20 saved for a holiday, I will gladly give it to you." The £20 was left at the manse the next day.

Offers of accommodation have been gratefully accepted from the Northcote City Council (use of small Town Hall for morning and evening services) and the Presbyterian church (use of B.S. hall for scholars, and youth and women's work during the week). Other churches made similar offers.

Dr. G. H. Oldfield (Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres.), immediately on hearing the news over the air, motored to the manse and offered the sympathy and goodwill of the brotherhood.



C. G. Taylor, B.A., Editor. A. R. Haskell, Manager.

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Which of you, with all his worry, can add a single hour to his life? Why should you worry about clothing? See how the wild flowers grow. They do not toil or spin, and yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his splendor was never dressed like one of them. But if God so beautifully dresses the wild grass, which is alive to-day, and is thrown into the furnace to-morrow, will he not much more surely clothe you, you who have so little faith? So do not worry and say, "What shall we have to eat?" or "What shall we have to drink?" or "What shall we have to wear?" For these are all things the heathen are in pursuit of, and your heavenly Father knows well that you need all this. But you must make his kingdom, and uprightness before him, your greatest care, and you will have all these other things besides .- Matt. 6: 27-33 (Goodspeed).

In Christ's view, we are so busy trying to do God's work for him that we are neglecting our own. . . . To love, to trust, to praise, to glorify, this is the work of man. It is because we are always interfering with God's work that we have no time, strength or energy for our own. We are so busy helping ourselves that we have lost our confidence in the help of God. We are so anxious about to-morrow that we have lost the capacity to be glad and thankful to-day. "All these things" are not added unto us, because we refuse to do our work or let God do his. The last thing we seek is the kingdom of God, and then we wonder why the world is in confusion .- Douglas Stewart.

O thou King of the ages and lover of humanity; give us an increasing understanding of thy kingdom, an unremitting commitment to its principles, and a deepening devotion to the Church by which its influence spreads among men. We pray in the name of him who came preaching "Thy kingdom come!" and who loved the Church and gave himself up for it.—G. E. Osborn.

Still, still, the vision glows, Still calls the voice divine!

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

## PROPOSED VICTORIAN LOTTERY

The proposal to introduce a State lottery for Victoria arose out of the ever increasing costs of hospital administration and the necessity for government aid. The Victorian Government claimed that as the necessary money to meet the situation could not be obtained from the Federal Government, it had no alternative but to find other means of doing so.

#### STATE LOTTERIES

Victoria and South Australia are the only States without a lottery. The State Labor Conference held earlier in the year considered this question, and urged that Victoria adopt this method. It was here that the Premier and his Cabinet made it known that the Government would introduce a State lottery. Later he announced that he himself would accept the responsibility for moving the motion. During his absence abroad his deputy, Mr. Galvin, sponsored the proposal. The Secretariat of the Protestant Churches waited upon him to launch a protest. Although strong representations were made, it was obvious that his reply was already prepared. The deputation was under no misapprehension in regard to the intentions of the Government. Much newspaper correspondence has followed, and the Churches, including Roman Catholic, have voiced their protests.

#### PARLIAMENT MOVES

As promised the Premier sponsored the proposal, flouting entirely all the protests. While he claimed that the Bill would pass both Houses and become law, he appears to have had information which would make the Bill unnecessary.

It was evident that some bargaining with Tattersalls, a well-known Tasmanian lottery combine, had taken place, and Mr. Cain was able to announce that this business would be transferred to Melbourne. To him, this was a master stroke. It was no longer necessary to establish a Victorian State lottery. A going concern, which was already operating in Victoria, would be conducted by a private company.

#### A PROPOSED DEPUTATION

The Victorian Secretariat of the Protestant Churches requested the Premier to receive a deputation which, it was suggested, would present a case against the proposed transfer. Before a reply was possible, however, a Cabinet Minister had so offended the standard of decency in re-

flecting upon the honor of the Secretariat with regard to its protest, that the application for a hearing was withdrawn. In withdrawing the application the Premier was requested to dissociate himself from his Minister's statement. This has been done through the press, and the request for a hearing has been renewed.

The Secretariat, doubtless will, if granted a hearing, voice a protest in the terms of the following manifesto. They will explain their indignation at the proposal of the Government to introduce Tattersalls to Victoria, and will declare their uncompromising hostility to any extensions of gambling facilities in this State.

#### THE MANIFESTO

We point out that while increased revenue will accrue to the State, the social and ethical objections to a lottery within the State still remain, and, in fact, will be intensified.

Note further:

- 1. The Government's moral responsibility to avoid encouraging the gambling propensities of the people.
- 2. To license Tattersalls for a fixed period (it is estimated 10 years) will deny the right of the people through any change in Government to remove this lottery.
- 3. This will mean a complete change in the attitude of the State towards lotteries, as expressed in the Police Offences Act of 1928. It will make legal what was previously illegal, thus setting up new facilities for gambling with the sanction of the Government.
- 4. The new financial position of the hospitals as created by the Hospital Benefits' Insurance Scheme, and the ability of the State to enter the taxation field through the Entertainment Tax, render void the claim previously made by the Government that the only reason for introducing a State lottery was the financial needs of hospitals.
- 5. We state again that there are other, better and fairer alternatives to meet hospital needs, namely a hospital tax, wages tax or a poll tax.
- 6. The Premier has no mandate to introduce Tattersalls to this State from either his own party or from the electors, and it is in fact a violation of avowed Labor Policy, by allowing a private monopoly to exploit the people.

churches' enthusiasm at . . .

# Outstanding 79th Conference



G. R. Stirling, B.A., President.

Those who have had long years of association with S.A. churches all agree that the recent conference held Sept. 9 to 16, is one of the greatest ever held here. On every hand the comment was to be heard, "What a great conference it has been!" Meetings were well attended, a fine spirit of fellowship prevailed, programmes presented were of a high order, business sessions were most capably led, and reports of the year's activity were glowing. Nett gain for the year was 384 members, the greatest increase since 1924.

#### PRESIDENT'S EVENING

found Grote-st, building filled to capacity. This was undoubtedly a tribute to the outstanding leadership given by the president, G. R. Stirling, B.A. Known throughout the whole S.A. brotherhood and loved and respected by all, Mr. Stirling has given a won-derful year of service as president. Conference found him as gracious and capable as ever, and in matters of business ready for every development and able quickly and effectively to get to the heart of the matter in hand. A resolution was carried expressing appreclation of his untiring service to the brotherhood during eight and ahalf years, and especially of his enthusiastic leadership as youth director. He was wished Godspeed and blessing in his new work at Canberra.

The president's challenging address on the theme, "Can we have the New Testament Church in these modern times?" the singing of the Choral Association choir, and the receiving of such a large number of guests at the supper afterwards made a fine beginning to a memorable conference.

#### SESSION FOR MINISTERS

was held on the Thursday afternoon, and was addressed by Ivan W. Nixon, who has just begun a ministry at Port Lincoln. He gave a very practical address, in which he referred to the high calling and great privileges of the minister as seen against the problems and difficulties of his work. He drew a number of illustrations from his own experience in the ministry.

At this session the new chairman of the Fraternal (I. J. Chivell) and secretary (N. Moore) took office.

#### SOCIAL SERVICE RALLY.

G. M. Mathieson was in the chair, and A. R. Jones, secretary, told of typical cases that had been helped by the Department during the year. Some fine solos were rendered by Kingsley Payne. The Aborigines Missions Dept. was given half an hour in the programme, when colored pictures of the missions were shown, commentator being S. E. Riches. The address was given by Norman Makin, ex-ambassador to U.S.A., in which he referred to the widespread fear and mistrust among nations and the present rise in delinquency. He stressed the need for a social conscience.

During the conference nine resolutions proposed by the Social Service Dept. were carried. They concerned:

- (i) Uncompromising hostility to all forms of gambling. The S.A. Government was commended for its opposition to the introduction of a State lottery.
- (ii) Opposition to the proposal to eliminate six o'clock closing of liquor bars and local option polls.
- (iii) Deprecation of tremendous increase in consumption of liquors and of Government's assisting production and sale of wines and spirits.
- (iv) Opposition to war as a means of settling disputes.
- (v) State Government urged to investigate attendance of children at "trotting" and similar meetings, and to prohibit the attendance of those under sixteen.
- (vi) Government to be urged to inaugurate a system of rehabilitation of ex-prisoners from gaols.
- (vii) Government commended for its censorship of children's literature.
- (viii) Federal Government urged to increase old age and widows' pensions and to abolish means test by introduction of contributory scheme.
- (ix) Protest against compulsory military training on Sundays.

#### BUSINESS SESSIONS

were held on Saturday morning and Monday. Four new churches were admitted into the Union: Albert Park, Clovelly Park, Koongarra Park and Tarpeena. The report of the Executive Committee showed membership for S.A. to be: active members, 5,730; inactive, 1,586; isolated, 606; attendance at Lord's Supper, 3,281.

Changes were made in the Building Extension Committee to increase both the personnel and the scope of the Committee. The many new housing areas call for the purchase of blocks of land for churches in anticipation of the time of their establishment, and the committee is now authorised to make such purchases, acting in collaboration with the H.M. Dept.

Conference agreed to change the name of the Foreign Missionary Department to "Churches of Christ Overseas Department (S.A.)". More information is to be sought regarding the holding of Conference at the Easter period instead of in September. It was decided to set up a committee to arrange hospitality for next Conference. Appreciation was expressed of the coverage of religious news items given in the daily press.

In passing a resolution of loyalty members of Conference stood while prayer was offered on behalf of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

A further discussion took place concerning the co-ordination of the Rest Home board and the Social Service Dept., and it was agreed that the Social Service Dept. should present a recommendation to next Conference along these lines.

Greetings to missions and missionaries among the aborigines were sent from the assembled Conference, and their sacrificial spirit commended. The Federal Government was to be urged to increase the allowance for native children to equal that for white children, and thus remove the apparent color distinction.

#### OVERSEAS MEETING.

New color pictures of India were shown to commence the Saturday evening session. The opportunity was taken to bid farewell to Edna Vawser on her return to India. Various representatives spoke words of appreciation of her work and influence, and presentations of sweets and flowers were made.

The address for the evening was

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given by Miss Vawser, who stressed the large part prayer played on the mission field, and urged all to pray more earnestly.

Music was supplied by the combined choirs of the eastern suburban churches, with Barry Wills as soloist. A roll call of missionaries brought to mind those who have gone out to India from these Australian shores.

#### CONFERENCE SERMON

was preached by G. A. Whiting, B.A., minister of Dulwich church and youth director-elect. Adelaide Town Hall was beautifully decorated with flowers, and was well filled with people. The Choral Association choir, supplemented by other singers, rendered some very fine anthems. Worship was led by the president, G. R. Stirling.

The theme selected by Mr. Whiting was "Thy Kingdom Come." To advance the kingdom of God on earth, with Christ as king and leader, was a satisfying quest for the human heart. Jesus himself ever stressed the kingdom of God, and he himself embodied that kingdom. The disciples preached the kingdom and the Person.

The preacher said that we have not rejected the kingdom, but we have reduced it. It was meant to touch all of life—the social, physical, economic, community, family and individual aspects of life. We must help bring in that kingdom by the quality of the life that we live. The kingdom must be a practical thing in our lives. It must not be "so heavenly that we are no earthly use." To live the life of the kingdom we need to draw upon the resources of God and surrender to his Spirit. So shall we help bring in the kingdom.

#### MONDAY EVENING SESSION

featured the Home Mission report, highlights and films on Canberra, and an address by C. F. Adermann, M.H.R. The Home Mission Committee had a story of growth and development to tell. The cost of maintaining H.M. work is now £100 per week, and funds are running low. Committee members and others are called to prayer for this work. Salaries have trebled in the last five years, whereas the annual offering has only doubled.

E. P. C. Hollard, pastor-organiser of H.M., has done a splendid work since his coming to S.A., and the future is very bright, providing the brotherhood stands in with its prayers and financial support.

Mr. Adermann, in speaking of the work at Canberra, said that he found that city a lonely place spiritually, and help of the States was needed to establish the church more securely. Canberra is growing in national and international importance, and all people there, from the Prime Minister and the Governor-General, need the gos-

pel. We shall not compete with the other communions in Canberra, but take our place beside them in the interests of Christ.

An offering was taken for Canberra at this meeting, and the president appealed for a generous response (£107 was given). Delegates were also asked to take up the matter in their local churches. (£900 is in hand towards the State quota of £2,000.)

#### YOUTH SESSIONS.

The year was a record for youth work in S.A. Children in the Bible schools now exceed 6,000, with 1,000 teachers. Longwood camp site was purchased, and £3,300 spent on buildings, of which only £380 is owing. Another building, 90ft. by 20ft., costing £700, is to be delivered within a month from Conference. Wrought iron gates are to be erected at Longwood, and will be known as the "G. R. Stirling Gates," in appreciation of Mr. Stirling's work as youth director.

On the Tuesday evening the Town Hall was beautifully decorated with an abundance of flowers, and some 1,200 to 1,300 people were present for the youth rally. A roll call of 73 churches was made, and those present from these centres stood, many of them from the country.

The Hawthorn youth choir provided several fine items. In the efficiency campaign the three schools with highest marks were Flinders Park, Winkle and Glenelg. Recognition was given to those with 25 years' service in B.S. and youth work, and to those with unbroken attendance records of ten and five years at B.S.

An original play, Everyman's Search for God, brought a great meeting to a close.

#### CONFERENCE TEA

was held on the Wednesday, and as usual the Town Hall looked a picture, with the many tables beautifully set and decorated. It was necessary to have a second sitting to cater for the large number present.

#### HOME MISSION RALLY

on the same evening brought a great Conference to a close. The attendance was the largest for many years, and the meeting was one of great inspiration. An unusual feature was the pageant, The Romance of Restoration, with a large three color map, 10ft. by 8ft., on the platform, which showed each town and suburb in S.A. where a church was established. When compere, Eric Hollard, referred to each place, a light flashed on at that spot. The red lights indicated self-supporting churches, the amber lights those that were being helped by the H.M. Committee, and the green ones indicated new centres now being established. Ten H.M.

preachers were on the platform, and each one was called to the microphone in turn; a bright spotlight, with four changing colors being focussed upon him, while he told, in three minutes, the story of work in the field he represented. At the end of the commentary the spotlight was turned on to an illuminated cross, while the augmented choir sang the consecration hymn.

As the president, G. R. Stirling; stood to hand over office to his successor, he was given a great ovation, and spontaneously the choir and audience stood as a token of deep appreciation and affection for their president. G. M. Mathieson, incoming president, paid a high tribute to the personal contribution made by Mr. Stirling, and on behalf of Conference presented him with a Bible.

A stimulating address was given by Ivan W. Nixon on "The Relevance of Our Plea," which plea, he said, fits in well with the temper of our time. We have a message for those concerned about Christian unity, and also for the careless, indifferent, sinful world. The cross was in the heart of God before it was seen upon Calvary's hill.

As the choir sang, in the Hallelujah Chorus, "The kingdoms of this world have become the kingdom of our God and of his Christ," the great audience felt the tremendous challenge to Home Missions and to all Christians to win this world for Christ.

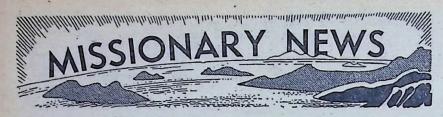
#### NEW CONFERENCE OFFICERS.

President, G. M. Mathleson; Vice-Pres., M. A. K. Crosby; Sec., H. R. Taylor, B.A.; Asst.-Sec., F. K. Glover; Treas., C. L. Johnston.



Refugees from Eastern Germany are frequently surprised to discover that the West German churches are concerned for their spiritual welfare. Thousands of Bibles and New Testaments in many languages are being distributed among them. Many gifts of the Scriptures have been made through the British and Foreign Bible Society in London, which has received numerous letters of appreciation.

The United Society for Christian Literature is working hard to meet the needs of the new literates in Asian countries. From its three presses in India comes a constant flow of publications for the twenty per cent. who can read, while in Africa, where even now only 5 per cent. of the people are literate, it has published books in most languages for every part of the country, except the Sahara Desert. Books and magazines are distributed from motor vans and tricycles, as well as from bookshops. Many Chinese Christian publications are being reprinted in Hong Kong for the benefit of Chinese outside their own country.



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

#### **A New Missionary Arrives**

Owen Jones has now arrived on Pentecost, and is settling into the work. Owing to the unfortunate sickness of Mrs. Jones, Mr. Jones had to go ahead. It seems likely that Mrs. Jones (and the baby) will soon join her husband. Mr. Jones writes:—

"When I arrived on Santo, Mr. Smith and some of the boys met me. We headed for Aoba on a rough sea, and the journey took about nine hours. (In fair weather it can be done in about five hours.) It was good to see all the Aoba party on arrival, and to make a tour of the station. I was very impressed with the whole set-up. Next day we set out for Maewo, where Mr. and Mrs. H. Finger are for a period. We left next day for Pente-

cost. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have been most kind to me, and made me feel at home. I appreciate very much the work Mr. Smith has done to prepare a temporary home for us in the Quantus hut. It has been partitioned off and newly painted inside, and with the furniture in it looks quite neat. On the whole it is apparent that Mr. Smith has worked hard to equip this station as efficiently as possible.

"Last Sunday week a welcome service was held, and it was a thrill to hear the familiar Sankey hymns sung and the Authorised Version of the Scriptures read. Two leaders, Joel and Willie Tum Tum, both gave welcome messages in English. T. I thanked them, and gave a short address. It was a very happy day, and I was sorry that my wife was not here to share it with me. The folk here readily appreciated the reason for her delay, and we are all praying that she

will soon be strong enough to come out with Morris.

"Last Sunday we made the one and a-half hour trip down the coast to Wall. We spent another very happy day there. They farewelled us by giving gifts of food-stuffs. 'During the afternoon Mr. Smith took me to see "Harry the Leper." Harry was once a teacher at Wall, but now lives in isolation. He was resting under a large tree on the beach when we approached his place, and when I shook hands with him I noticed that he shyly tried to hide his fingerless left hand behind his back. He took us to see his home and the tiny church he has erected for himself and family. I felt deeply moved as I looked inside the building. The Government has talked of a Leprosarium to meet the need of such lepers, but so far nothing has been done."

#### ISLAND FURLOUGHS.

Mr. and Mrs. R. McLean and their two sons are expected to leave Santo, Oct. 8, and on arrival in Australia will come direct to their home State, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith are likely to remain till the arrival of Mrs. Owen Jones, and then leave for Australia. They are likely to leave the group early in November.

#### THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



#### REPORTS FROM STATES

#### WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Mrs. Fisher (Lake-st.) conducted devotional session at August meeting, when 70 were present. Statement showed balance of £479. President and secretary reported on visit to Bunbury for the formation of S.W. Women's Conference. Greetings were received from Mrs. E. Tilbee, and thanks from Mrs. Cosh to all friends who wrote to or visited her during her illness. The young women of our churches have planned an evening to entertain members of the Women's Auxiliary.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mrs. R. Saunders was devotional leader at September meeting, with 83 present. In absence of the president, who was visiting the southern churches, the pres.-elect., Mrs. Amos, took the chair. Letter from Thalland Mission was read, and two or three ladies undertook to correspond with Mission

workers. Large quantities of clothing and household linen were brought for Aborigines and New Hebrides missions. Miss Cliff (B. & F.B.S.) was guest speaker, and appealed to all to make the Bible our main book, giving its daily reading first place.

#### QUEENSLAND.

In July visiting speaker was Miss Mills (W.C.T.U.), whose talk created much interest. Miss Maiden, Matron of Burdeu House, is our active W.C.T.U. supt., who, since Conference, has enrolled 30 new members for W.C.T.U. August was Report Day, and all superintendents reported very favorably on their work. As August is Social Service month in Qld., the women held a Social Service prayer meeting at Boondall. At September meeting a very interesting discussion was held on the study-outline "Man-Woman Relationship." Mrs. McLane (pres.) presided, and opened the discussion. Mrs. McLane, Miss Maiden, Mrs. Burdeu, and Mrs. C. H. Wright

presented different aspects of the work of women in the Churches from Kathleen Bliss' The Service and Status of Women in the Churches. Comments and findings have been forwarded to Winifred Kiek. Sisters throughout Australia, we feel we must urge you to plan now to come to sunny Queensland for the Federal Conference, to be held Aug., 1954. We are planning and praying for Federal Conference with the hope that many of our Interstate sisters will be meeting with us. We are looking forward to a great time of fellowship together.-B. Wiltshire, sec.

#### VICTORIA-TASMANIA.

At September meeting Mrs. Hodges (pres.) was in the chair. There were 96 ladies present. Mrs. Cheal (Essendon Y.W.F.) led devotions on "I shall not want." Y.W.F. president, Mrs. A. Watson, and sec., Mrs. Shea, told of growth of Y.W.F., and its activities, including report on recent camp, at which 42 attended, and questions concerning the Restoration Movement were discussed, findings proving most interesting. Y.W.F., in five years, has grown to over 30 groups. Mrs. and Miss Bailey (Ballarat) were visitors to the meeting. Second community singing night was arranged by C.O.B. Auxiliary towards C.O.B. Refurnishing Fund.—J. M. Cleland, sec.

# S.A. Sisters' Conference

The S.A. Sisters' 48th annual Conference was held in Grote-st. chapel, Adelaide, on Friday, Sept. 11, with the President, Mrs. C. P. Hughes, in the chair.

#### MORNING SESSION-300 PRESENT.

Mrs. N. Moore led devotions, after which a resolution of loyalty, moved and presented by Mrs. W. Green, was carried unanimously. Reports were then presented by the secretary, Mrs. W. Russell, and the supts. of Obituary, Social Service, Catering, Dorcas and Hospital Committees. Following the treasurer's statement, further reports came from the Young Women's Group, Prayer Meeting and Country representatives.

Election of officers closed the morning session, the following being elected as Executive members: President, Miss A. Z. Mann; pres.-elect, Mrs. C. Candy; vice-pres., Mrs. Kruger; sec., Mrs. W. A. Russell; asst. sec., Mrs. E. Hollard; treas., Mrs. A. J. Ingham.

## AFTERNOON SESSION—PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Devotions were led by Miss Vawser, after which newly elected officers were presented to the meeting, and Mrs. Trowbridge offered a prayer of dedication.

Greetings were received from Vic.-Tas. Women's Conference (Mrs. Randall); Women's Federal Conference; sisters in W.A., Qld., and N.S.W.; Methodist, Salvation Army and country women; President and Executive of General Conference; Mrs. A. McQueen and Mrs. Graham, holidaying in England; United Church Assn. (Mrs. Woods); Miss H. Skuce, Miss F. Cameron and Mrs. Bruce Coventry (India); and National Council of Churches. Mrs. D. R. Stirling was also welcomed.

After reports from the Christian Rest Home, and H.M. and Overseas Depts., Mrs. C. P. Hughes gave her presidential address on "Treasure Trove of the Year."

A group of ladies from Bordertown delighted the large gatherings with their singing, both morning and afternoon.

## EVENING SESSION—PRESIDENT HONORED.

After a song service, led by Allen Roberts, Mrs. Hughes introduced Miss Z. Mann as incoming President. Mrs. Trowbridge expressed appreciation of the fine service Mrs. Hughes has rendered, and presented her with a Bible and sheaf of flowers.

(continued at foot of next column.)

October 6, 1953.



#### A VOICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY.

World Call, the United Christian Missionary Society and the Association for the Promotion of Christian Unity were responsible for bringing Bishop Stephen Neill to the 1953 International Convention of Disciples of Christ. He told the Disciples that he liked their family convention, their frankness, their democracy; he chided them for their weaknesses, and when they applauded his statements regarding Christian unity he paused, gave them a long, level look, and said, "You applaud now; but what will you do when the test comes?"

#### SOUTH INDIA.

Young Stephen Neill, son of medical missionaries to India, set out for India straight from Cambridge University. The humble village folk of India became his parish. But leaders must be trained for a growing indigenous church, and so Stephen Neill was called to give more than eight years of his life in the Anglican Seminary at Nazareth, South India. He then was elected bishop of Tinnevelly, an Anglican diocese with more than 130,000 Indian Christians, most of them living in small villages.

Mrs. Herbert Taylor was speaker, and Lorna Fletcher soloist, while a Young Women's Choir, under Mrs. Saloman, also sang beautifully, concluding one of the happiest days ever experienced at Conference.

During the past year, the S.A. women have raised over £1,000, including £226 (Rest Home); £234/13/4 (H.M.), and £352/10/- (Overseas Missions).

#### SOCIAL AFTERNOON.

A highlight of Conference was a crowded social gathering on Tuesday, Sept. 15, when the Executive entertained all who have been in membership for over 40 years, as well as all interstate and country visitors. Some guests present were over 90 years of age, and one lady had joined the church in England 80 years ago.

Mrs. Hughes presided over a programme, which featured greetings (including the brotherhood's good wishes, expressed by the President, G. R. Stirling), community singing (led by J. E. Shipway), and items from violinist, soloist and elocutionist. Afternoon tea concluded a delightful afternoon.—Evelyn Fax, ex. asst.-sec.

But he could not be satisfied with a divided church; it was not enough to strengthen the Anglican diocese: somehow the Christians of South India must experience a united fellowship. So, with other Christian leaders, Bishop Neill set about the twenty-eight year task of uniting the church in South India. Throughout all the long, often discouraging negotiations, Bishop Neill was a leading spirit, and, at last, in 1947 he witnessed the fulfilment of his dreams when the United Church of South India came into being, the only example of church union achieved between episcopal and free church groups. "Prospects did not look particularly good for bringing them together, but miracles can happen even in this modern age. We felt it was the Lord's will that we should come to-gether, and we went on in faith until we were able to come together."

#### CHRISTIAN LITERATURE

The present task of the bishop is the leadership of a committee of the World Council of Churches attempting to secure religious books for the Christian leadership, ministerial and lay, of the younger churches. Since many of these leaders read English, the books will be translations in simple English of the best religious books of various countries. "The average American minister will have at least five or six hundred books in his library. Can you imagine the limitations of an African pastor who is lucky to possess five or six books?" the bishop asked.

Christians in the various younger churches may be roughly divided into three categories: the intellectuals who have had unusual educational opportunities, and who may have studied in Britain or America; those who are newly literate; and the great middle group of literate, intelligent people who comprise the bulk of pastors, youth leaders, church school teachers, and other leaders in the churches. The new publishing programme is to meet the needs of this latter group. It is planned to begin by publishing four books, one on Christian doctrine, one on stewardship, one on the Christian citizen, and one on the message of John's Gospel. The first of these will be ready by the time of the 1954 session of the International Missionary Council. — (Helen Spaulding, in The Christian-Evangelist, Aug. 12, 1953.)

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



K. Clinton, B.A., of Castlemaine, Vic., is to succeed Stanton H. Wilson as minister of the Hampton church, Vic., early in the New Year.

Successful church anniversary celebrations at Wingham, N.S.W., were conducted on Sept. 5 and 6. Saturday fellowship tea was a happy function. Many visitors were present, including a good delegation from Taree. Guest speaker for the anniversary was L. G. Burgin (Georgetown), who brought uplifting messages. Sunday services were of high order, especially gospel service, when building was crowded. Two Y.P. made decisions. Anniversary thank-offering amounted to nearly £50. R. H. Budden, church sec., is restored to health after illness of several weeks.

Ethelbert Davis, our N.S.W. correspondent, who has been seriously ill in hospital, but has sufficiently recovered to return home, desires to thank his many friends who have so kindly remembered him during his illness. Mr. Davis, though improving and regaining strength, is still not up to the exertion of replying personally to these many friends. He and Mrs. Davis are indeed grateful for the many prayers offered on their behalf.

Mr. and Mrs. Ira Durdin, of S.A., are recovering from injuries sustained when their car overturned, returning from seeing the new field at Loxton.

Twenty weeks ago, the church at Springvale, Vic., adopted a talent scheme, in which members were urged to give time and work in the service of the church. About ninety 10/talents were distributed to members as the beginning of an effort which climaxed on Sept. 27, twelfth anniversary of the church. Dr. G. H. Oldfield (Conf. Pres.) spoke at the morning service, and Mrs. Hodges in the evening, when the ladies' choir assisted. At the close of the evening service, gifts contributed during the day amounted to £725, with the possibility of more to come.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Finger, with a view to helping the Maewo people in a more vital way, have just spent three months on the Island. These people have carried on without too much help, but it is hoped that more visits of this lengthened nature can

be made in the future. These workers have now returned to Aoba.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Jackel are now settling in to their new work at Yorkst., Ballarat, Vic., following a crowded farewell gathering at Hamilton, Vic., on Sept. 14. Church and civic representatives at Hamilton paid tribute to their spirit of service, and in addition to a wallet of notes from the church they were presented with a Bible from the B. & F.B. Society. A number of decisions marked the closing weeks of the ministry, while church members shared in a united visitation campaign.

Human sidelights on the destructive fire at Northcote, Vic., include the immediate offer of the Northcote Choral Society to supply the programme for the official opening of a rebuilding appeal, £1 from the guests and staff of the S.A. Baptist Home for the Aged, sympathy and a cheque from D. A. Cockroft (former Vic. Pres.), and £5 from Matron Miller (Oakleigh Guest Home), who added this P.S. for W. G. Graham (minister): "Thank God for your loud voice. This is the time to make it heard." Mr Graham's text for his last sermon before the fire was, "We may be knocked down, but we are never knocked out" (2 Cor. 4: 9, Phillips). There were two decisions at night, when Mr. Graham spoke on "Converting Tragedy into Triumph" (Rom. 8: 28).

A. Anderson, Federal F.M. Secretary, is now back on duty in Adelaide, following his visit to the Indian mission field.

Dr. and Mrs. Jesse M. Kellems and their son have returned to America after a Mediterranean cruise and attendance at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth. Dr. Kellems is now busily engaged in leading his church at Westwood Hills into the building of a new educational plant.

Seventieth anniversary celebrations of the church at Ann-st., Brisbane, commenced on Sept. 19, with official opening of building extension. Following a short dedication service the State Conf. Pres., S. W. Vanham, performed opening before a large crowd, which included visitors and representatives from other churches and organisations.

During the service, tribute was paid to several pioneer members present whose connections with the church went back beyond purchase of present building (1898). Building extension (which cost £7,000) includes enlarged B.S. hall with stage and changing room, and modern kitchen for social functions. S. W. Vanham was guest speaker on 20th at morning worship, when over 200 were present. During afternoon large group of Y.P. held fellowship tea, which was addressed by K. Horne, who also spoke at gospel meeting, when two B.S. youths made confession. B. & F.B.S. screened films on 23rd. There was excellent attendance at anniversary tea on Sent. 25, when several older members recalled early church activities. Mrs. H. Berlin cut anniversary cake. Tea was followed by sacred concert in church, splendidly presented by choir, under leadership of W. Hack. Thankoffering to date exceeds £100. There have been many interstate visitors and Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Dowland (U.S.A.).

We are indebted to G. McWigan, of Northcote, Vic., for the picture featured on the front page of this issue. His father has a long record of service with the Austral.

#### FEDERAL

## College of the Bible Notes

Intending students, who plan to commence their studies here in 1954, should forward their applications as early as possible owing to pressure on accommodation.

This term has been noted for an unusual amount of sickness among the students. Most have been laid low with influenza—and some with mumps.

Following a gift of £50 from the New Hebrides Christians (which the Board allocated to Refurnishing Fund) word has been received that they want to completely furnish a room. "This interest in the Australian brotherhood," says Harold Finger, "is of tremendous value, and will do more good than much preaching."

The exit students of this year have been approached by churches to begin work in the New Year. We are sorry that we have not been able to answer all the calls for men.

The Board of Management has let the contract for the making of built-in furniture for the students' dormitories. The installation of this and renovation of the rooms will be carried out during the summer vacation. Church groups and friends are helping in a fine way through gifts to make this needy work possible. We hope all will share in providing a reasonable home for our men.—K. A. Jones.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

# MINISTER'S MUSINGS

SUNDAY.—I was enjoying the singing of Mary Shekleton's hymn, "It passeth knowledge, that dear love of thine," until we came to the verse which began, "I am an empty vessel not one thought." The sermon followed immediately! At least I had chosen this particular hymn myself: on one memorable occasion when we were being farewelled from a church the organist selected the hymn, "Now thank we all our God." That in itself was bad enough, but I could no longer keep a straight face when we came to the words. "And free us from all ills in this world and the next!" That was certainly making sure! The innocent organist was-and still is-a friend of ours, too.

MONDAY.-I was interested to hear our visiting speaker yesterday morning refer to the man from whom had come the inspiration for the great annual Kirchentags (lay assemblies) of German Protestantism, the fifth of which met at Hamburg in August. He did not name him, but spoke of his sufferings in both Nazi and Soviet hands. sufferings which almost cost him his voice, so that a microphone is a necessity when he speaks to a gathering. His name is Dr. von Thadden-Trieglaff, whose dream was born in the bleak despair of a prisoner-of-war camp in Siberia in 1945. He returned to Germany determined to enlist the help of all "laymen" like himself who were willing to work together for the renewal of the Church as a decisive force in their nation's destiny. The extent of his success is shown in the fact that press reports indicate the presence of more than 50,000 at this year's assembly, including 10,000 from the Soviet-occupied zone. When you think of it, what triumph underlines the fact that a great Christian as-sembly like this should be led by a weakened ex-prisoner of war in a city which was one of the worst victims of obliteration bombing, the city being half destroyed, and more than 80,000 losing their lives. Five years ago, Alan Walker looked at Hamburg and wrote, "Hamburg is a sea of stones. . .

I see man's inhumanity to man in new, unbelievable dimensions." this year's Kirchentag he would have seen a different Hamburg, with some-thing else "unbelievable" at work— what von Thadden himself calls "the creative and gracious activity of God . . the effective power of his Holy

TUESDAY .- There's always a fascination for me in a Welsh tale, and I've been enjoying at odd moments Michael Gareth Llewelvn's Sand in the Glass, an autobiographical parrative which has in it all the lilt of Welsh tongue and heart. Some glimpses of Welsh chapels and their preacher-orators are fascinating-not forgetting the ready-tongued congregation, who didn't hesitate to add their own commentary to the sermon from time to time. Llewelyn comments. "It was perhaps disturbing to the minister, but added greatly to the gaiety of the people. It is a pity that congregations are now so correctly behaved." How much "gaiety" is there about our average church congregation to-day? Why should it be thought more reverent to adopt expressions which suggest nothing so much as washing on the line on a wet Monday? Apparently, Llewelyn's preachers were always ready with their apt retort to any interrupter — even the Scottish divine, who was declaiming severely during a certain funeral oration,
"There will be weeping and wailing
and gnashing of teeth." A small
grandchild of the subject of the oration looked up at this and said, "Meenister, but she had no teeth." Whereupon, not to be thwarted the minister sternly replied, "Teeth will be provided."

WEDNESDAY .- The Austral manager passed on to me to-day some proof sheets which had been airmailed to him by our British churches' Publishing Committee. They give the substance of this year's Joseph Smith Memorial Lecture, given at Overdale College on June 27, by Dr. W. E. Sangster, and now about to be published by the Berean Press. Judging by its title (Doctrinal Preaching—its neglect and recovery) and the few pages I've read already, this is a booklet our preachers will want to order from the Austral when supplies arrive later. Sangster has a clear and probing style, and leaves no doubt that "all the evidence goes to show that a great deal of Protestant preaching for a generation past has been on marginal things." One sentence which arrested me as both heart-searching and vivid describes the "man with a

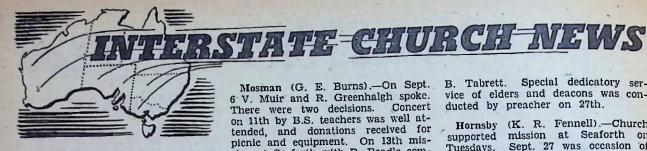
good deal of homiletical skill weaving something out of nothing in the pulpit, and leaving the heart-hungry listener wishing that half that cleverness had been spent on the marrow of the gospel, and had dealt in a serious way with the things by which men live." Yes, this is a booklet I certainly must read through. Incidentally, I noticed that the Austral still has on its shelves copies of last year's notable Joseph Smith Lecture by Prof. Herbert Farmer, The Bible and

THURSDAY.-It was good to hear young Hugh Waters enthusing about the new Bible Society poster, "God's Book—Everyone's Book"—"You can actually read every word of the two pages of the open Bible in the poster." It's certainly a worthy production-and an Australian one! Roger Morton told us to-night that it shouldn't be long now before a panel to carry such posters is erected outside our chanel.

Preaching

FRIDAY. - Believe it or not, a clergyman has publicly announced that he has got rid of the bats in his belfry -all through the tormented squeals of his autocycle horn! (I don't blame the bats!) The belfry was in the 13th century Essex church, rejoicing in the name of Steeple Bumpstead.

SATURDAY.-It is always a stern test to apply to Sunday's sermons to check up the night before on how much "penetrating" power they are likely to have; what points supply the "grappling hooks" which have any chance of reaching into the consclousness of people not vitally interested in what we have to say. It almost makes one sigh for the old, crude methods such as Llewelyn describes in telling of a meeting during the great Welsh Revival. One deacon kept pointing here and there, and asking in a loud voice, "Are you for the Lord?" Liewelyn, then only a lad, hid from that probing finger behind a tall fat man with a bald head, who kept chanting monotonously, "Alleluia — Jehovah— Alleluia." The deacon at last pointed at someone sitting in the front, who was scribbling furiously on a pad. "Are you for the Lord?" he thundered. "Don't ask me!" replied the scribbler.
"I'm for the Western Mail." Llewelyn and the reporter weren't the last to try to evade the force of that question by hiding behind someone or something else. How good it is, or the other hand, to meet the Joshuas who are prepared to say before anybody, "As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."



## Discipleship

Ron Merrifield, Semaphore, S.A. Lyle Foster, Prahran, Vic. Yvonne Armstrong, Kilburn, S.A. R. Blackeby and Miss S. Leguir, Northcote, Vic. Vicki Thomas, Fairfield, Vic. Marjory Gilbert, Georgetown, N.S.W. David Hunter and Fred Allen, Mosman, N.S.W. Mr. Kirkwood, Norm. Paterson, Ron Porter and Mr. Hoffman, Hamilton, Vic.

## Membership

Mrs. Zinnach and Miss M. Humble, from Vic. to Sempahore, S.A. Beryl Gilbert, Ted Landers and Bill Zieleman, Georgetown, N.S.W. Mrs. Hoffman, from Horsham, Vic., to Hamilton, Vic. Mrs. Haigh, from North Fitzroy, Vic., to Lygon-st., Carlton, Vic.

## Marriage

Judy Joy to Don Jacobs, Victor Har-bour, S.A.

## Fallen Asleep

T. Russell, Semaphore, S.A. Mr. O'Niel, Prahran, Vic. Frank Hinkley, Kalgoorlie, W.A.

#### Western Australia

Kalgoorlie (H. E. Greenwood) .- Attendances at most meetings have dropped. Recent speakers have been E. Banfield, V. P. Smith (B.&F.B.S.), and E. C. Smith. The latter with family has moved to Perth, and at social gathering reference was madeto their service. R. Hillier paid visit, which helped many B.S. teachers. B.S. picnic was marked success.

#### **New South Wales**

North Parramatta (N. Hodgekiss and P. Woolford).-Two week tent mission was conducted by Messrs. Howard and Roberts. Meetings were well attended by surrounding districts. At special services on Aug. 2, G. Władysiuk spoke at well attended tea, and B. Roberts at gospel service.

Mosman (G. E. Burns) .- On Sept. 6 V. Muir and R. Greenhalgh spoke. There were two decisions. Concert on 11th by B.S. teachers was well attended, and donations received for picnic and equipment. On 13th mis-sion at Scaforth with R. Beadle commenced. Week-night attendance by Seaforth people was poor, but a number attended on three Sunday nights.

Georgetown (L. G. Burgin).—Ack-nowledgment has been made of velvet curtains, carpets and stainless steel signboard. Mrs. G. Wright has returned from extended holiday. Resignation of minister from early 1954 was received with regret. Ladies are raising funds for new piano for school

Bexley North (R. W. Saunders) .-C.E. anniversary was held on Sept. 25 and 27. Junior rally on afternoon of 26th included items by members and address by K. Fennell (Hornsby). Prizes were distributed by Miss D. Yelds, district supt. Women's Fellow-ship catered for C.E. tea. A. Chesterton (State C.E. executive) addressed I.C.E. rally at night. Combined I.C.E. and Y.P. choir, under S. Craven, sang at night meetings. Y.P. rally on Sunday night included play, The Master Heals, produced by Miss S. Saville. Recent cottage prayer meeting was held in home of Mrs. Eagleson. Mrs. Saunders addressed prayer meeting on 23rd. New building, under supervision of G. Knight, has reached work on roof. £500 appeal has reached £405. G.L.B. won Capt. Ball Junior Cup at combined G.L.B. sports.

Broken Hill (J. McCormick). - In absence of preacher M. Smith and L. Warren gave appreciated addresses. Successful B.S. anniversary was held. Children sang well under leadership of M. Rough and Mrs. Clarke pianiste. Speakers were Capt. Terracini, K. Waters, and preacher. On Sept. 23 public meeting and annual tea were held. Mr. McCormick showed pictures. Singing by children and distribution of prizes followed annual reports. Officers are M. Rough, sup., W. Best and L. Harris, joint sec. E. Crocker was speaker. Mrs. Huckle and A. Ball are sick.

Earlwood (G. H. Benjamin).-Annual meeting on Sept. 16 engaged G. H. Benjamin as preacher on completion of college course this year. It was also decided to purchase pro-jector. Election of officers resulted in elders, N. H. Matthews and G. H. Benjamin; sec., F. Strickland; deacons, R. Carrick, W. Caspersonn, A. Gabb, H. Hudson, R. Jones, W. Roots and B. Tabrett. Special dedicatory service of elders and deacons was conducted by preacher on 27th.

Hornsby (K. R. Fennell).-Church supported mission at Seaforth on Tuesdays. Sept. 27 was occasion of successful B.S. anniversary. W. R. Turnell was speaker. Christian sympathy is extended to relatives in passing of George Morton. Recent guest speakers have been J. Dean, J. V. Ellerby and B. Roberts. Preacher made special drive in visiting parents of B.S. scholars. Many of them attended anniversary.

#### South Australia

Kilburn (H. G. Norris) .- Fortnight's mission commenced on Sept. 28, with J. Webb as missioner. At close of gospel service young woman confessed Christ. During afternoon older B.S. scholars enjoyed fellowship tea, and were shown religious film. Visitors for day were Mr. Holloway (Tas.) and Mrs. Webb. B.S. attendance was 196. On 23rd large delegation attended Hinrichsen-Brooker mission at Gawler, when soloist was Mrs. Kelly. Boys' and girls' basketball teams concluded successful season with social on 25th. Miss L. Dinning is still ill.

Semaphore (S. E. Matthews). Week's mission was conducted with E. P. C. Hollard and W. Philps. meetings were well attended. Appreciated help was rendered by Queenstown, Mile End and York choirs. One young man made decision. Several Y.P. participated in procession at Royal Show. Ladies' Guild have given to church £18, which was proceeds of annual tea. Junior basketball team won grade premiership. Communion services were held at Draper for first time, with Y.P. of Beulah-rd. responsible. Resignation of S. E. Matthews after 7 years' ministry was received with regret.

Victor Harbour (S. L. Patching) .- S. L. Patching was inducted into service of church on Aug. 19. Church departments, especially youth, are in fine condition. Mrs. C. Vercoe has been ill for a year. Mr. Samels has recovered. B.S anniversary was held on Sept. 27, and picnic on Oct. 3.

Wampoony (R. E. Pritchard) .- During recent months meetings have been well attended. At annual business meeting all reports showed steady progress. Visiting speakers have been G. R. Stirling (Y.P. dept.) and C. Schwab (Christian Rest Home). Plans for opening of new chapel are in

#### Victoria

Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson).—B.S. held anniversary, when R. Wilson (Drumcondra) was speaker at all services. In afternoon kinders received prizes. On Friday night school concert and prize giving took place. Between items some films were shown. On 27th B.S. commenced meeting at 9.30 a.m., with good attendance. Morning school is on trial for 3 months.

Warrnambool (H. M. Long).—Mr. and Mrs. Long have been at Ballarat, where minister conducted mission at York-st. B. Boyle was home from M.B.I., and conducted gospel meeting on Sept. 13. C. LeCouteur has been relieving Mr. Collett from Melbourne City Mission for past month. B.S. drive for scholars has been successful. About 20 will be added. Five are Dutch children. About seven were added to cradle roll.

Prahran (Lloyd E. Jones).—Large attendances are continuing, with number of strangers present in evening service. One decision was made. Average B.S. attendance is being maintained. Kinder and primary held prize giving on Sept. 27, with 150 parents and children present. A. Thomas spoke at morning service on 27th in absence of preacher at East Kew. Speaker at C.M.S. was Dr. C. Coogan. C. Young spoke at W.M.B. C.Y.F. and cricket club held combined social on 20th, during which farewell was expressed to Berthelsen family, who moved to Dandenong.

Castlemaine (K. Clinton, B.A.) .-Mrs. Hodges (Women's Conf. Pres.) addressed ladies from Kyneton, Bendigo, Harcourt and Castlemaine on Sept. 9. Miss Summers (Oakleigh) was soloist. On Sept. 15 Baptists united for prayer meeting. Ladies held two bowls afternoons during month to aid building fund. During renovation of chapel all meetings are held in school hall. On 20th D. Uren was speaker at B.S. anniversary. B.S. held film and puppet show on 24th, and senior scholars received prizes. Talents was screened to good congregation on 13th. Mrs. Clipstone (Kaniva) and Mr. and Mrs. Cooper (Croydon) visited church on 27th. Mr. Cooper spoke to B.S. Resignation of minister from early 1954 was received with regret. Ladies sent 118 pieces of clothing for aborigines mission, and guinea to both C.O.B. and Social Ser-

Fairfield (G. T. Fitzgerald).—B.S. anniversary was held on Sept. 20 and 27. Services were excellent, and singing under G. Bowman was appreciated. At prize giving on 22nd Mr. and Mrs. A. Bell were present. Tea was arranged on both Sundays for convenience of visitors.

East Malvern (H. R. Coventry).— There was one confession on Sept. 27. An enormous amount of voluntary work has been done on site of new school hall to be opened on Oct. 10.

Burnley (H. Sedgman). — Attendances have been maintained in cold weather. Happy Hour was held in conjunction with Nth. Richmond, and brought 25 contacts, Mrs. Newham was pianiste, and A. Stevens song leader. Men's tea on Aug. 30 was addressed by Mr. Smith (Bambra-rd.). On evening of Sept. 6 an exchange was held with Presbyterian church. On 13th girls' club paraded, and Bible on the Table was screened.

Northcote (W. G. Graham).—B.S. anniversary under leadership of L. Miers was held Sept. 13 and 20. Speakers were A. E. White, S. Davey, C. G. Taylor, and W. G. Graham. Concert was held on 25th, when prizes were presented. There were two decisions on 27th.

Springvale (G. A. Grainger).—There has been one decision in recent weeks. B.S. anniversary commenced on Sept. 13 with good attendances. Children sang hymns composed by conductor, Mr. Thomson. E. Miles and Mr. Henley spoke. On 20th services were continued, with Messrs. Pike and Cole speaking.

East Preston (F. Langford).—Sept. was loyalty month. 69 attended every member present service on Sept. 6. 76 broke bread for day. Church participated in Preston's week of Christian witness. Y.P. took part in Sunday afternoon march, and attended service at Town Hall. C. Watson spoke on 27th, when 83 attended. Resignation of minister from Jan., 1954, was received with regret.

Footscray (A. Hurren).-Annual report showed work to be healthy. Average number communing over six months has been 122. Officers elected at annual meeting were: C. Andrew, A. Smith, W. Easton, M. Carter, A. Kaye, K. Lacy, G. Jones, H. Easton (sec.) and C. Cordy (treas.). H. Saunders is elder, and N. Livett B.S. supt. Deaconesses are Mesdames W. Easton, G. Jones, A. Jones, F. Lucke, E. Ivory, R. Haden and I. Carter. Presentation of nurse's dictionary was made to Joan Webb and Pearl Trezise, who have commenced nursing. Teams of men from C.M.S. have conducted evening services at Emmaus Rest Home during Sept. Ladies held successful evening, and raised £32. K.S.P. held film night provided by P.M.G. Both efforts were for fund to renew school

Hampton (Stanton H. Wilson).—Resignation of minister was received with regret. Addresses of C. Dunse (Parkdale) and Mr. Funston (Local

Option) were appreciated. C.M.S. visited men at Surrey Hills. Ladies' Auxiliary visited MacRobertson's factory and Mytton's. Y.P. recently ably conducted entire morning service. L. Chapman, pres. of central board of C.M.S., is assisting churches in services and men's meetings.

North Fitzroy (A. O. S. Baker).—Special evening services have been conducted by Women's Fellowship, C.M.S. and Youth Friendship Circle. Every member present and dedication service was held on Sept. 27. Mrs. Ross and Mr. Gole have been welcomed back after illness. Y.P. participated in youth demonstration at Showgrounds. Girls' club gave marching display.

Harcourt (K. Clinton, B.A.).—B.S. anniversary was held on Sept. 27. Scholars rendered fine anthems under baton of K. Clinton. Address was given and prizes distributed by Mr. Cooper (Croydon). Both meetings were well attended. In afternoon chapel was filled to capacity. Annual picnic was held on Oct. 3 at White Hills. Sympathy of church is extended to Mrs. Blume in loss of husband. V. Symes is able to preside in morning after absence of four months in hospital. Church regrets resignation of Mrs. and Mrs. Clinton.

Bendigo.—Short-st. and Spring Gully scholars combined for anniversary singing on Sept. 13, led by Kevin Smith and orchestra. Speakers were L. Chapman (C.M.S.) and H. Earle. Tea meeting on Wednesday was followed by quiz, community singing and pictures. Services have been taken by local brethren, Messrs. Duus, Martin, Mudford and Houston, and by visitors in Messrs. Symes, Thompson (Baptist) and Mercer (Egyptian General Mission). All auxiliaries are in great heart. Ladies visited Castlemaine for their special celebrations. A. C. Mudford was elected elder at half-yearly meeting. Senior badminton and table tennis club has been formed under Kevin Smith.

Geelong (T. A. Fergusson).—Good attendances mark all meetings. At Ladies' Aid on Sept. 22 preacher led Bible study. On 26th quarterly church social was held. Items were rendered by Mesdames Folleto and Leighton, Roger Folleto, Misses J. Rowe and Barbara and Ellen Grieve. Supper concluded enjoyable evening. On morning of 27th Mr. Fergusson gave exhortation, and Mr. Rose (W.A.) gave talk to children. Features of evenings have been special services of song, learning of texts, and prayers for sick.

Carnegie (L. G. Crisp, L.Th.).—B.S. paraded at morning service on Sept. 13, and at night minister conducted Spring service. On 20th H. B. Rob-

bins was speaker at both services in absence of preacher at Ballarat. 27th marked beginning of second year of ministry of L. Crisp. Church work is being well supported by members. Spring fair was held on 25th. Mrs. G. Warmbrunn has been able to attend again after illness.

Brunswick (C. Watson).—Preacher has spoken at all meetings except on Sept. 27, when Mr. Edwards spoke at 11 a.m., and Tammy was screened in evening to attendance of 96. Minister is chaplain to two local factories. Cricket club, is preparing for first game of season.

Glen Waverley.—Members have been greatly heartened by willingness of brethren in areas close by to help as speakers. Only morning services are held at present (11.15) at home of Mr. and Mrs. Thodey, 2 Little-st. Members living in this and near by areas are invited. Speakers to date have been K. Fordham, H. Farmer, R. Miller, G. Clark and A. Thomas. Others willing to help in this way are asked to contact sec. Alan Winkler, Springvalerd., near Waverley-rd., Glen Waverley (WM 8211).

Black Rock (A. Avery).—H. Bateman is now home from hospital. W.M.B. has sent parcels of clothing to Social Service, and Miss E. Vawser for India. Good Companions' leaders (J. Webber and M. Webster) took club members for day at Show on Sept. 26. Y.W.F. attendances are good, and members are working hard for annual fete. On 27th, kinders reached 29. Church enjoyed fellowship with Mr. Bradley, who spoke at morning service on 27th. B.C. girls plan to form basketball team in near future. Church members have decided to send monthly food parcels to R. Dixon and K. Skillicorn (former ministers) in India. Mr. Allison is in charge of collecting, packing and posting. Messages and visitation of minister are much appreciated.

West Preston (A. B. Withers).—On morning of Sept. 27, J.C.E. held film service. Fellowship continues study and discussion under leadership of F. V. Brown. Mr. Withers spoke at Y.P.S.C.E. meeting on 28th. S.C.E. held missionary meeting, when speaker was D. Nicholls. Ladies held fioral afternoon at home of Mrs. Wilson on 1st. P.B.P. visited Russell-st. Police Headquarters on 22nd. Good Companions attended youth, march at Showgrounds. K.S.P. went to P.C.F.O. spiritual rally on 23rd.

Lygon-st., Carlton.—Interim ministry of W. W. Saunders is helpful. Mrs. Haigh has accepted position as an extra assistant organist. Extensive external building renovations are in progress. Social Service offering doubled last year's, and Bible Society

offering showed increase. B.S. anniversary was an encouragement. Church is in great heart.

#### BIRTH.

MITCHELL (Reed).—On Oct. 1, to Betty and Kevin, a son — Geoffrey David.

#### DEATHS.

ADAMS.—On Sept. 27, at her home, 59 Queens-rd., Melbourne, S.C.3, Florence Maud, beloved wife of Joseph Adams, loving mother of Cyril and Edna (Mrs. Horace Lee), loved motherin-law of Belle and Horace, loved grandmother of John and Bruce, aged 77 years.

ROBERTSON. — On Sept. 29, at Wagga, N.S.W., Margaret, wife of late John Robertson, beloved mother of Jack, Reta (Mrs. Harper), Olive (deceased), Hurtle and Alice, grandmother of Les, Jean, Shirley, Gordon, Joy and Ray, great grandmother of John and Lorraine. Formerly of Kyabram and Melbourne. Aged 76 years.

"We shall meet in the sweet bye and bye."

#### IN MEMORIAM.

TUNBRIDGE.—Treasured memories of my beloved husband, who was called home Oct. 3, 1944.

-Inserted by his loving wife and daughter, Amy.

#### BEREAVEMENT NOTICE.

WARD:—Mrs. Ida Ward desires to express deepest appreciation for every kind thought shown in letters, flowers, and by personal word, during her recent sad loss.

## Link with the Past

When Stephen Cheek came to Zillmere, Qld., in 1881, aborigines were still wandering the district, which was inhabited mainly by farmers who lived on their scattered farms. A group of Christians met in a wooden slab building which belonged to the German Baptists. It was on Aug. 1, 1881, that the first Restoration message was preached by Stephen Cheek in Queensland and the church of Christ was established. At this meeting Carl Fischer was won to the "plea," and devoted many years to teaching and preaching the gospel message. He commenced the first Bible school in the English language in the district, and later became first vice-president of the churches of Christ Conference, which was formed in 1883.

James Bruce and Carl Frederick Stabe followed the example of Carl Fischer, and became great pillars of the church, adding to their daily responsibilities the oversight of the church. They were responsible for the preaching and the visiting in the district as well as teaching in the Bible School. Mr. Bruce commenced and was superintendent of the Boondall B.S. for many years.

The present building was erected at Zillmere in 1894, and though the church is not as prosperous as in past days, the faithful few are looking to the future with hope, as Zillmere has now become the centre of a big housing project. A town which in 1881 was the resting place for bullock waggons and teamsters, is now a growing suburb, with 700 family homes almost completed.

It is the intention of the present members to plant three trees at the anniversary service on Oct. 10 to perpetuate the memory of the three mem who labored so well in the early days of the Zillmere church. As a gesture to the memory of Stephen Cheek and other pioneers the Federal Conference is being asked to sponsor a volunteer mission in conjunction with the 1954 Federal Conference.—R. Clymer.

# Hymns from the "Words"

A Hymn for October-No. 138, Oct. 18.

At least three of our hymns, in reviewing the scenes of the crucifixion, make specific reference to one or other of the seven "words" of Jesus from the cross. James Montgomery, for example, in the lovely hymn, "Go to dark Gethsemane," has the line "'It is finished, hear him cry," thus quoting the sixth "word." The hymn, "Behold, behold the Lamb of God on the cross" incorporates two "words"—the line "''Tis finished!" now the Saviour cries" appearing in the fourth verse, and "His agonising cry, 'Eli, lama sabachthani!" being referred to in the second.

Jonathan Evans, who was born, lived for 60 years, preached for 27 years, and died, near Coventry, England, wrote a number of hymns, one of them around this same sixth "word": "It is finished!" The original of our No. 138 ("Hark, the voice of love and mercy") had five verses and, used as a whole, was particularly relevant to the communion service. The communion verse (No. 4), suitably modified, might prove very acceptable. At present, it reads:

"Happy souls, approach the table, Taste the soul-reviving food: Nothing's half so sweet and pleasant As the Saviour's flesh and blood: It is finished!

Christ has borne the heavy load."

Verse 3 will be remembered by many from Psalms and Hymns, where it began "Finished all the types and shadows of the Sinaitic law." From this interesting interpretation of the Saviour's words, maybe a theological argument could begin as to whether this reading or "the ceremonial law" (as most versions have) were the more correct.

Our three verses form a striking commentary on one aspect of the crucifixion, with their final lines—calling on seraphs to tune their harps to the theme of "Glory to the bleeding Lamb"—quite in accord with Rev. 5: 11-12, angels round about the throne ... saying "Worthy is the Lamb that was slain."—F.J.F.

## Anniversaries and · Homecomings

BACK TO EMERALD, October 11, 1953. Celebrating 40th Church Anniversary. Services: 11 a.m., Councillor R. H. Sparks, J.P., O.B.E; 4 p.m., Dr. G. H. Oldfield, President of Conference. A hearty invitation to past members. Join us for the day in happy worship and fellowship in beautiful surroundings of the hills. Inspiring messages, bright singing, soloists. Hospitality provided. Please advise church sec., H. L. Sercombe, Post Office, Avonsleigh. Phone, Emerald 139. Minister, D. D. Stewart. Phone, Emerald 92.

MORELAND.—Bible School Anniversary, Sundays, Oct. 11 and 18, at 11 a.m., 3 p.m., and 7 p.m. Past members cordially invited to be present.

BURNLEY.—Church Anniversary, Oct. 25. Speakers: 11 a.m., L. G. Crisp; 3 p.m., P.S.A.; 7 p.m., C. Cole. Hospitality provided. Notify F. Barnett, 10 Boronia-st., Canterbury, by October 10.

NORTH FITZROY.—Bible School Anniversary, Oct. 11 and 18, at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Reunion tea, Oct. 11, at 5 p.m. We are looking forward to meeting past members at these services.

CHELTENHAM.—Bible School Anniversary. Oct. 11, 11 a.m., Teachers' Dedication Service. Speaker, V. C. Stafford. 3 p.m., L. G. Crisp, L.Th., 7 p.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A. Oct. 18, 3 p.m., S. Neighbour, B.A.; 7 p.m., R. C. Bolduan. Oct. 21, 8 p.m., Bible School Concert. All will be welcome.

ECHUCA.—Church celebrations, Oct. 17 to Oct. 24, special services Sunday, Oct. 18, guest speaker for this special occasion, Dr. G. H. Oldfield. Reunion Saturday evening, Oct. 17. A cordial welcome extended to members and friends.

ASCOT VALE.—Bible School Anniversary, Sunday, Oct. 11, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Kindergarten anniversary, Sunday, Oct. 18, 3 p.m. All welcome.

FOOTSCRAY.—Bible School Anniversary, Sunday, Oct. 11. 3 p.m., speaker, R. Cordy; 7 p.m., speaker, A. E. Hurren. October 18, 3 p.m., special kindergarten demonstration and distribution of Cradle Roll cards. Wednesday, October 21, at 8 p.m. A new venture in anniversaries. Scholars present the challenge, "Let's make the best of life."

MALVERN-CAULFIELD—Bible School Anniversary, Oct. 11, 3 p.m., R. P. Clark; 7 p.m., W. J. Thomson; Oct. 18, 3 p.m., kindergarten session; 7 p.m., R. Muller. Special invitation to all.

NORTII RICHMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST—63rd Church Anniversary.
Oct. 18. 11 a.m., Communion Service.
Speaker, S. Neighbour; 3 p.m. Pleasant Sunday afternoon. Guest speaker, Stanton Wilson. A suitable programme has been arranged. 5 p.m.,
Fellowship tea; 7 p.m., Gospel service. Speaker, R. McKenzie. Past
members and friends welcomed.

ORMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST—Bible School Anniversary on October 11. 3 p.m., J. Wiltshire; 7 p.m., F. E. Buckingham. Special singing by scholars. Hearty welcome to all.

PRESTON—51st Anniversary and Home Coming, October 11 and 18. Oct. 11, 11 a.m., Dr. G. H. Oldfield (Conf. Pres.), 3 p.m., Film, This Road We Walk, 7 p.m., Ray Fisher. Oct. 18, 11 a.m., V. L. Gole; 7 p.m., J. E. Searle. After-Church Fellowship Meeting.

SOUTH MELBOURNE—Bible School Anniversary, Oct. 18, speakers: 3 p.m., Mr. Chapman; 7 p.m., Mr. Sumpton; Oct. 25, speakers: 3 p.m., W. Pike; 7 a.m., S. Bannon. Kindergarten Anniversary, Nov. 8. A special treat. Bible School Concert. Dec. 3, distribution of prizes. A welcome awaits you.

LYGON-ST., CARLTON.—Home Coming Day, Nov. 1: 11 a.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A., 3 p.m., P.S.A., S. R. Baker, Soloist, Laurence Cowan. Xylophonist, Joan Atkinson. 7 p.m., Gospel in visual presentation. Film, Decision. A cordial welcome to all past members and friends to enjoy the happy fellowship of this home-like mother church on this very special occasion. Accept our hospitality.

## VICTORIAN MINISTERS' WIVES' ASSOCIATION.

The next meeting of the Association will be held in Swanston-st. Lecture Hall on Friday, Oct. 16, at 2 p.m. Speaker from Marriage Guidance Council.—Ruby Randall, hon. sec.

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Second-hand organ. The church at East Preston urgently requires a second-hand organ, suitable for use in church services. If able to help, please advise particulars and price to secretary, L. Stirling, 105 Spring-st., Regent, N.19.

Wanted to rent, flat or house, near Sydney, for young married church couple transferred from Melbourne early November. For particulars ring Mr. Salmon, LL3017, evenings.

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on

Saturday, October 10, at 2.45 p.m. at 16 St. George's Crescent.

Bus will meet train leaving Flindersst., at 2.2 p.m. on arrival at Darling Station.

Alight at Baird-st.

Sunday, Oct. 11, 11 a.m. Speaker: F. A. Youens.

3 p.m., P.S.A., with Camberwell Church Choir. 5.30 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., Gospel Service. Speaker: H. R. Coventry.

NOTE.—Visitors to the Fellowship Tea please notify the secretary, 6 Dentst., Glen Iris (WM 6394) for catering purposes.

The opening services will be followed by a week of Inspirational Meetings (Monday excepted), at which E. L. WILLIAMS, M.A., Principal of the College of the Bible, will speak on "The Witness of churches of Christ." Meetings commence at 7.45 p.m., Song leader, L. J. Butler. Special musical items by Hartwell church of Christ choir.

On SATURDAY night, at 8 o'clock, there will be a YOUTH RALLY, Bible School Pageant, directed by L. A. Trezise, B.A.

#### HARTWELL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday, October 18
PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON
at 3 p.m.

by

Canterbury Presbyterian Choir Conductor: A. Mitchell ALL WELCOME

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10.45 a.m. Opening Ceremony.
11 a.m., Communion Service.
3 and 7 p.m., Anniversary Services.
Speaker: W. A. Russell, Forestville,
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**OBITUARY** 

Thomas Martin.

Early on Wed., Sept. 2, 1953, Thomas Martin entered into rest at the age of 88 years. His wife predeceased him 14 years ago. Three of his five sons and four daughters remain to remember his long and useful Christian life. Sixteen of his seventeen grandchildren and five greatgrandchildren are living. Mr. Martin arrived at Brisbane from Scotland on his twenty-first birthday. His life was spent as a railway employee and far-mer. He and his wife were baptised during the Hinrichsen-Brooker mission, and became foundation members of the Wynnum church, which he served as deacon for a number of years. After worshipping for a number of years at Toowoomba and Ann-st., he returned to Wynnum to spend his last years of retirement in the district and church he loved so well. Till recent months he attended both services each Lord's Day, earning the love and respect of the brethren and all with whom he came in contact. It was a joy to him to have all his family, including John from Bendigo, with him during his last few weeks. The writer conducted the service at the funeral parlor and the Hemmant Cemetery. The church treasures his memory.—W.G.

John Rodger.

John Rodger, beloved elder of the church at Kingsford, N.S.W., passed quietly to his great reward on Sept. 12. Mr. Rodger was in his seventy-ninth year, and had served the churches in N.S.W. in a magnificent way, as preacher, teacher and officer. Born in the Lowlands of Scotland, and a descendant of martyrs, he early accepted the Saviour, and became a fervent preacher in the open-air. Coming to Australia, he became associated with the churches at Belmore and Bankstown, also serving at Paddington and Manly, and in more recent days, at Kingsford. In the business world of Sydney he was known widely and honored for his integrity as de-partmental manager with Marcus Clarke Ltd. After a short service at Kingsford chapel on Sept. 14, the funeral cortege moved off to the Botany Cemetery, where P. E. Thomas and A. G. Elliott officiated at the grave-side. To Mrs. Rodger, and to the members of the family-Ewen, Betty, Dulcie and David-sincere sympathy is extended. They mourn, not as those without hope, but rejoicing in the promises of God and in the assurance that a victorious valiant soldier of Christ has entered into the joy of his Lord .- A.G.E.

Robert Langley.

When Robt. Langley (84 years) received the home call on Aug. 28, the

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#### FOR SALE.

Musical Instruments are now in stock at Claude Gadge's shop, 60B Whitehorse-rd., Ringwood. Phone: WU 7300.

Montrose church, Vic., and district suffered a great loss. Baptised in 1893 by the late G. H. Brown, of Murtoa, he became a foundation member of the newly formed Galaquil church, and was immediately appointed agent for the Australian Christian, which position he held until death. In 1898 he married. Miss E. E. Howard, and moved to Mooroolbark, straightway linking with the church (later known as Montrose). Elected church secretary in 1902, he held this office until Oct., 1951. He was B.S. supt. for 44 years, and for many years conducted a mid-week Bible Class. From 1898 until last Sunday in May, 1953, he was constantly in attendance at services. He maintained a keen interest in all district as well as brotherhood activities, being an honored citizen. The many students from the College of the Bible who ministered at Montrose over the years, found in him a kindly friend and sympathetic helper. Montrose chapel was incapable of accommodating those who gathered to honor his memory. E. L. Williams and W. E. Fisher officiated at the chapel, and later at the Springvale Crematorium. We commend his loving wife and family to the God of all comfort .- W.E.F.

#### Florence Maud Adams.

On Sept. 27 Mrs. Joseph Adams passed quietly into the presence of her Lord. In her early girlhood as Florence Maud Jarvis, our sister accepted Christ, and became associated with the church at Hobart, Tas. On Sept. 5, 1900, she was married to Joseph Adams, and together they continued to serve in that centre. Thirty-three years ago Mr. and Mrs. Adams transferred to Middle Park, Vic., and later Mosman, N.S.W. For the last 27 years she was a much loved member of the church at Gardiner, Vic. In her earlier years she was a worker in the Hobart Dorcas Society, and all through her life maintained a keen interest in all activities of the church, being especially interested in the Women's Mission Band, Until hinder-ed by falling strength, Mrs. Adams was most regular in attendance at the Lord's Supper. She loved her Lord, and her cheerful spirit made her much loved of her brethren. After a service at Sleight's Parlors, led by the writer, a large and representative company followed to Brighton cemetery, where a former preacher at Gardiner, R. Bolduan, assisted with the last rites. Sincere sympathy is extended to her dear ones. Together we await the day of his coming.-F.A.Y.

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