

THE AUSTRALIAN

# Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

*McGowan*  
*B. H. H.*

## *In the Path of the Storm*

*In the path of the storm it stood, seemingly frail and flimsy. Its stout kinsfolk, the oak and the elm, might face any storm unafraid. But the ti-tree trembled as the winds began to rise. Its branches bent and swayed, forlornly etched against the background of the racing, darkening storm-clouds. Then the wind became a hurricane, streaming, screaming through its branches. Into its straining roots came searing agony. Surely it would be easier to let go, than to stand thus bent and twisted, in the path of the raging storm.*

*But when the storm passed, the tree still stood. Its branches would long bear the marks of that day, but there was new beauty in the way they now stood out against the whitening canopy of cloud.*

*So stand some lives, bearing the marks of life's storms, but still standing, in a victory that surprises themselves. But they are "rooted and grounded"—and the roots have stood the strain.*

Photo—F. Lewis.



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# THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

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



As many as I love I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne. He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.—Rev. 3: 19-22.

Why do we or why does anyone hesitate to open the door? Helen Keller was blind to all the beauty of the earth and deaf to its sweet sounds until her great friend and teacher, Mrs. Macy, successfully knocked at the door of her mind and heart through the sense of disciplined touch, and she was thereafter made acquainted with the beauties of life and the riches of the intellectual and spiritual realities. Similarly, we are blind and deaf to the beauty and riches of God's great love and purpose for us so long as the door to our real selves is barred shut by our own wilfulness.—Paul Fall.

O thou patient and persistent Lord, whose love at last has won our hearts, help us to open every door to thee, with mind and soul quick to heed thy word, and do thy will. Help us, too, to see and enter the open doors which thou dost set before us in each day's encounters.

We pray thee for lands where the open door for thy gospel seems to have slammed shut. We thank thee for those gallant souls whose love still keeps some doors ajar. Lord, strengthen them and us in hope, we pray. AMEN.

"Draw in the latchstring, lad, and close the door,  
Lest those who faint without from toll and pain  
Shall rob thee of thine own too meagre store."  
Such is the world's advice,  
But—there was One who flung it open wide—  
And he was crucified.

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# LOOKING INTO LIFE

*Under the above title, the editor will, from time to time, vary his normal full-page editorials by presenting brief reviews of current events and thought.*

## Celebration—and Contrition

This is centenary year for churches of Christ in Victoria. In 1946 the churches in South Australia looked back on a hundred years of the Restoration Movement in that State. Last year it was New South Wales' turn to celebrate a similar record. The Movement is really growing roots in this southern land.

Victoria plans to honor the occasion with special gatherings in the Melbourne Town Hall during the Easter Conference season. Fitting tribute will be paid to the past, and its lessons will be evaluated, but the main emphasis will be forward-looking. Victoria is the strongest centre of the Restoration Movement in Australia, but there will be no glorying in that. The greatness of our message, and the vision and passion of our pioneers, have deserved more striking advances than have yet been made.

This is a time for contrition as well as celebration. We need renewed understanding of what we stand committed to say, both to the world and to the Church. We need a more resolute readiness to seek God's will—and do it.



## Brotherhood is Not Dead

The full force of the tragedy which has hit the shores of East England and the Low Countries has yet to be calculated, but already it is seen to be beyond our easy comprehension. News reports have flashed pathetic pictures of human courage in the face of grievous loss. The two Queens, Juliana of Holland and Elizabeth of England, have gazed, grey-faced, upon the scenes of their peoples' suffering. For Queen Elizabeth it was the saddest of all preludes to her Coronation Year, coming as it did in the last week of the first year of her reign, in a week already sad enough with memories of her father's death a year ago, on February 6. For Queen Juliana and her people it meant the loss of one-sixth of their homeland, and untold suffering and loss for thousands.

But in such hours human nature shows most like its Maker. Among the first to offer aid to stricken Holland was England, itself so hardly hit. From round the world flashed the nations'

sympathies, and almost immediately Governments and people began to offer financial aid, while 20,000 rescue workers from five countries rushed to Holland's aid. News reports, which had been heavily underlined with fear and the nations' bitter bickering, suddenly read, and sounded more warmly human, as though the Christian ideal of brotherhood had not yet been entirely betrayed or forgotten.

As Christians in a favored land we shall want to share in this giving. But when we have given all we can, and linked with our giving our prayers for our brethren in these stricken lands, dare we hope anew for the world? If men can be so swiftly moved by a tragedy beyond their making, how can they calmly contemplate the utter ruin man's own sin of war may bring again?



## "Mousing" for Defects

The Presbyterian "Messenger" recently published without comment a quotation from Henry Ward Beecher, under the above heading. Among other things, Beecher said: "When the absent are spoken of, some will speak gold of them, some silver, some iron, and some will speak dirt. As a cat watching for mice does not look up, though an elephant goes by, so they are so busy mousing for defects that they let great excellencies pass them unnoticed."

It is a graphic phrase—all the more arresting if we resist the temptation to apply it immediately to "the other fellow." We stand in grave danger once we find ourselves harboring disparaging thoughts of our fellow-workers, and even welcoming and passing on rumors concerning them. The Kingdom of God has suffered too long from such diligent "mousing for defects" which has caused distrust and division.

The witness of the Restoration Movement has been grievously marred by it, most obviously in America. Dr. Howard T. Wood, who gave one of the most helpful addresses at the Melbourne World Convention, was so stirred by what he saw of the urgent needs of the mission fields on his return trip that he cried out to his people: "So little our littleness seems with our divisions and fault-finding of our brethren and our selfishness. God forgive us." The unity of the Movement in Australia is too precious to be sabotaged by any petty "mousing." We must always be prepared to contend earnestly for the faith—but without confusing principles with prejudice—and personalities.



*If ever you feel like this —*

then read this challenging article from

**J. ERNEST BROOKE**

and

## **"DON'T GROW TIRED OF DOING GOOD"**



When an American General retired after the War, a friend asked him his plans. "I'm going to rest," he said. "For six weeks I'm going to just sit on the porch. After that, I'm going to start rocking—slowly." Many of us get that feeling of weariness, with far less justification.

Of course, we do get tired, and life needs its periods of rest, which we are wise to take. But there are many people who grow permanently weary, and their weariness is not the result of exertion and strain, but rather a chronic state of mind and spirit, which idleness does not cure, but only makes worse.

If our tiredness is a genuine exhaustion through hard work, then let us rest and refresh ourselves by all means, but if it is a lethargy of the soul, let us suffer God's rebuke and seek his remedy. Here, it may be, is the very word for us, in the sixth chapter of Paul's Epistle to the Galatians: "Let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not."

Just now one thinks of three suitable applications of this text.

First, it is an appropriate message for

### **The Season of the Year**

For one thing, it is pertinent to the period following Christmas. The aftermath of Christmas is a slack season for trade. People are pretty well all spent up. During the Christmas season money was spent freely, people made gifts with open-handed generosity, goodwill was shown to friends and the needy alike. But money is tight now, and the shops have to put on sales in order to keep what little money there is, in circulation.

Unfortunately, there is all too often a parallel in the state of the soul. Many people after Christmas are all spent up spiritually. They seem to give forth all their generosity and goodwill in one hectic outburst, and then sink back

again to thoughtlessness, selfishness, and peevishness. We must not let the holy season exhaust us, but rather replenish our hearts with the divine love which knows no diminution. For if the Christmas spirit is real, it will continue throughout the whole year. As the actual season recedes, let us not be weary in well-doing.

Another seasonal application concerns the aftermath of the New Year. In the first few days of the New Year we are carried high on the wave of resolution. We make a genuine attempt to keep our New Year resolutions, but we are not long in discovering that they put an abnormal strain upon our spiritual resources. Marine engineers say that to get that extra knot or two out of a ship, demands an altogether disproportionate increase in engine and fuel capacity. So, the extra New Year's effort often gives more worry than satisfaction, for the stimulus daily weakens, the romance and the glamor wane. Let us not weary in our resolutions, but, trusting in God for strength, work harder at them.

Further, this text is good counsel as we settle down again to our new year of work in the Church. How greatly the work of the Church commonly suffers from the half-hearted, slipshod, or merely mechanical spirit that is brought to it! How much depends upon the keenness of the few. Many enterprises started with a great spurt, are left to limp along or peter out altogether, because of lost interest or intermittent support. All this ineffectiveness and disappointment would be changed into high hope and powerful progress, if we all brought to the task persistent purpose and unflagging effort. As we begin a new year of service, then, let each of us in our particular part, and all of us in our support of the whole work, be not weary in well doing.

We may apply our text, secondly, not only to the seasons of the year, but also to

### **The Seasons of Life**

Here is a word for youth. One of the virtues of youth is that it takes up new causes with great enthusiasm. It conducts a never-ending search for novelty, seeking excitement in every new experience. Youth is the time for experiment, for surprise and wonder. The temptation to youth is to grow weary in the prosecution of its many interests. Then the critics nod their heads and say that youth cannot be depended upon, it doesn't stay the pace, it becomes discouraged too easily in the face of difficulty. Christian youth, it is up to you to prove that you are faithful and reliable. Be not weary in well doing.

Here, too, is a message for middle life. If youth is tempted by novelty, their seniors are tempted by monotony. Energy lessens and enthusiasm lags. Middle-aged people can drift into a flabby listlessness and uselessness, in which they can't be bothered doing anything and consider nothing worth doing. Oh, people in the middle years, be not weary in well doing. If you have now less energy, you have more experience. Put all the energy you have into the things which you have learned are most worth while.

And here is a stimulus, too, even for the aged. The temptation of the aged is to retirement. They think their usefulness is past; or, if they do not think it for themselves, often the young, with lack of consideration, force the thought upon them. Treated as back numbers, they come to accept that position. And so, much of the grand contribution which the mature can make to the general good is lost. Older people, be not weary in well doing. There is still much that you can do; or, if not now much that you can do, there is still much that you can give, precious inspiration you can provide, just by being your wise and gracious selves.

But, beyond this special application of the text to the Seasons of the Year

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and the Seasons of Life, this is also a word which we need for

### Every Day of Life

Let us not be weary in well doing wherever we are. Some people become discouraged by their circumstances, but a great work can be done in the smallest and most ordinary sphere.

"Father, where shall I work to-day?"

And my love flowed warm and free; Then he pointed me out a tiny spot And said, 'Tend that for me.'

I answered quickly, 'Oh, no, not that;

Why, no one would ever see,

No matter how well my work was done,

Not that little place for me.'

And the word he spake, it was not stern,

He answered me tenderly,

'Ah, little one, search that heart of thine;

Art thou working for them, or for me? Nazareth was a little place,  
And so was Galilee."

Let us not be weary in well doing all the time. The Christian life is not an affair of "great occasions" only; the Christian must be constantly on duty. The "great occasions," of necessity, come but rarely, and only as we are ceaselessly engaged shall we be ready for them when they do come. One who is ever active and alert will be doing good all the time, on the small occasions, too, and even when there are no occasions at all; no smallest fragment of time will be without its accomplishment, recognised or unconscious.

And let us not be weary in well doing, even in the common-place tasks. The Apostle uses the metaphor of sow-

ing and reaping—"Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap"—"in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." Which suggests to us the thought that the great staple need of life is the commonplace crops. It is not the "great wonder-flowers," as Longfellow says, that matter most, but the lowlier ones that adorn the waysides and the homesteads. The poppies in the corn may catch our eye, but it is the commonplace wheat that feeds the world's hunger. So God may grant you some time to do a deed of great beauty and nobility. In the meanwhile, and for the rest, be not weary of the everyday virtues of thoughtfulness and kindness, faithfulness and helpfulness. In due season we shall reap, if we faint not—and these things meet life's everyday need.



There are some "traditional sayings" of Jesus, not recorded in the official Gospels, which are well worthy of our acceptance. One, for instance, is given in Acts 20: 35: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." What a loss it would have been had that saying not been recorded! But there are others that have come down to us from sources outside the canon of the New Testament. For example, Codex D gives this saying, after Luke 6: 4: "O man, if indeed thou knowest what thou doest, thou art blessed: but if thou knowest not, thou art cursed, and art a transgressor of the law." That is a great commentary on the moral qualities of our conduct and our actions. Then, again, I like that recorded saying from Clement: "He that wonders shall reign: and he that reigns shall rest: look with wonder at that which is before you." Origen also records one that I am fond of quoting: "He that is near me is near fire: he that is far from me is far from the Kingdom." If Jesus applied that saying to himself, we also can apply it in some measure to ourselves, remembering that fire has two main functions—it can warm and comfort, or it can scorch and ruin. Is that not an accurate picture of the influence that one life has on another? Fire to warm, or fire to scorch! In another of his writings, Origen quotes this other traditional saying of Jesus: "Ask great things and the small shall be added to you: and ask heavenly things and the earthly shall be added to you." No one can have any difficulty in accepting this last saying, for it is

fully in line with the great text of the New Testament: "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you."

The most difficult of these traditional sayings is recorded by two different writers: "Shew yourselves tried money-changers." Some people remark rather glibly that this is not the kind of thing that Jesus would have said. Why not? I can easily picture an occasion when he might have said it—in fact, two occasions. First of all, when he called Matthew from the receipt of custom, where he collected the taxes and changed the different monies of the land, I can imagine him saying: "Come with me and I will make you a tried money-changer," just as he called the other disciples from their boats, and said: "Come with me and I will make you fishers of men." Or again, when he cleansed the Temple and drove out the money-changers and those that bought and sold within the sacred precincts, I can imagine him saying to his disciples: "Be ye tried and approved money-changers, men who know the true values of life and hold an honest balance." How often Jesus "improved the occasion" and drove home his lessons from the simple events that happened to him each day!

I think that each Christian should be a tried and approved money-changer. There are so many "values" in this complicated world of ours, most of them pretty honest and worth while. And the real difficulty is to show

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What "traditional sayings" of Jesus have any value?

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people, or get them to see, that we need to change what we have into a better currency. Most of us are really trafficking in a kind of debased coinage, and we are reckoning our wealth in what is often "worthless paper." It is our duty to be tried and approved money-changers, so that people can come to us and learn, on the one hand, what is real wealth and richness, and on the other hand how to change their notions of value and translate all that they possess and are into the true wealth, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal. After all, is life not just a question of values?—there are cheap and sordid values just as there are lowered and debased coinages! And surely, just as a man wants an honest coinage, so he also needs an honest system of real values. Is it not therefore our duty and our joy to be tried and approved money-changers? Yes—I can imagine Jesus saying a striking and resolute thing like this.—  
Dr. James Black.



We regret the omission of several lines from the Margaret-st., Launceston church report published in our Jan. 20 issue. The report should have indicated that Miss C. Skirving (not Miss K. Skirving) received the M.B.E. in the New Year honors. Miss K. Skirving is on her way to England. It is also interesting to note that the Launceston Bible School has contributed another £40 toward orphan support in India.



# MISSIONARY NEWS



## CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

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

### PENTECOST.

This Christmas has certainly been the best we have experienced since coming to these islands, for we were blessed with almost perfect weather, which is most unusual at this time of the year. Last year, you will remember, we had the terrible hurricane, in which so many lives were lost, and so much damage done. The first highlight of the Christmas season was the arrival of our guests, the McLean family from

23, in the form of two and a-half bags of mail. This was truly an occasion, and it happened thus: Our French neighbor had occasion to send his launch to Malekula, and he heard that a ship was due to leave Vila en route for Malekula that day, so he radioed the captain to collect the Pentecost mail and he would collect it. This was done, with the happy result that we received many toys for the children, also sweets we had ordered for Christmas for the Kai. It was lovely being able to distribute the toys, etc., right on Christmas Day.

There were over 400 people present at our Christmas Day celebrations. There were three launch-loads, and many people who walked, from our northern villages, and three large launch-loads from the southern end so it was a grand gathering. During the day there was an impressive baptismal service (four baptisms), followed by a wedding.—Jack and Dorothy Smith.

### BARAMATI

Christmas Day was very happy. We had the usual Christmas service in the morning. In the afternoon we had the special tea party and distribution of presents to the children in the grounds of our bungalow here. We fitted up the loud speakers, played some Christian records, and had some items from the Christians. Reflecting upon the day, I feel quite sure it was a very happy one for all. So, on behalf of the Baramati church I wish to thank the Board and the Australian brotherhood for making it possible to provide such a happy function for the Christian community. As usual, someone was forgotten, but they were fixed up, and everyone was happy.

The Jain (Hindu sect) people of Baramati just recently sponsored the visit of one of their gurus (teacher or priest). I attended one of the lectures at the invitation of a Jain friend. Since then I have had a good opportunity to speak to him about the Christian message.—Roy Dixon.



Waiting for their gifts.

Aoba. It was a lovely change for us to have company, also to have them for Christmas; especially the two wee boys who made Christmas very real to us. We decorated the dining room with streamers, balloons, etc., to the delight of the natives as well as the two small boys, and also put out our Christmas cards in the traditional manner. There was quite a bit of preparing to do, practices, cooking, etc., and very-last-minute sewing! We were bitterly disappointed after sending some of the boys in a launch to Santo especially for our Christmas cargo, to find the cargo had not been shipped. Luckily they were able to purchase rice, flour, sugar, etc., in Santo for the Christmas kai-kai.

However, to make up for the disappointment, we received a very pleasant surprise on the evening of Dec.

## Frontiers of UNITY

### THE CHURCH AND SOUTH AFRICA

The future of South Africa may well depend on the answer which the churches will give to the perplexing problems of race relations in their own life, and in the life of society.

That was the keynote of the report given by Dr. Visser 't Hooft at the meeting of the Central Council of the W.C.C. at Lucknow, India, in January this year. Dr. Visser 't Hooft visited South Africa in April and May, 1952, at the invitation of both the Dutch- and English-speaking churches.

He said, "As I moved from Afrikaans homes to English homes, then again to a bantu or Indian milieu, it was almost as if one crossed several borders and visited a number of different countries, each with its own assumption, its own outlook upon the world, and often, though not necessarily, its own prejudices. This would be a most discouraging experience if it were not for the fact that in each of these separate

worlds one meets with Christians who put their Christianity before everything else, and who seek to find Christian answers to the perplexing problems of South African society."

"South Africa," he explained, "is unique in that several million of Europeans, the majority of whom consider South Africa as their home and their only home, live side by side with five times as many Bantus, colored and Indian people, and that in a continent with 150 million dark people. If present trends continue, the situation in the year 2000 will be that there will be about 6 million whites and 20 million non-whites. Of the latter, 12 million would live outside of the reserves, so that in every large city and village in the Union the number of non-whites would be far larger than that of the whites. This proportion makes the South African racial situation different from that in any other country, and lies behind all other problems. It is, therefore, inevitable that the question as to the future relationship between

(Continued at foot of next column.)

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# SEVEN DAYS with a SPANISH PASTOR

Due to the restrictions on the life of the Churches in Spain, the Pastor X of this story must remain anonymous. Out of a total population of 28 million there are some 20,000 Protestants in Spain. The Evangelical Church to which Pastor X belongs has 17 ordained pastors and 14 assistants, evangelists and deaconesses. They minister to a membership of 2100, and five times that number of sympathisers. Young Pastor X is himself an example of one of the most encouraging aspects of the life in the Spanish Churches, namely that they have their own seminary, and are now producing a new generation of younger pastors.

Pastor X, about 30 years of age, worked as a waiter in a Barcelona restaurant for many years. It was almost by accident that he got in touch with young people of Evangelical Faith. He went to Protestant services, and attended Bible study groups, until finally he de-

cided to give himself entirely for the work of the Church.

He attended the Theological Seminary in Madrid, and soon became a leader in the Spanish Evangelical Youth Movement.

Just over a year ago he was ordained and asked to take charge of a vast area in northern Spain. He lives in an industrial city, but his parish is 200 miles long and 100 miles wide, covering another industrial centre, a large seaside resort and several smaller villages. He is one of that younger generation of pastors which is the best hope of Spanish Protestantism. And like all of them he spends much of his time travelling.

Let us follow him during a typical week of visits to his thinly scattered flock.

On Sunday morning he holds his regular service at home. The buildings of Spanish Protestants are not permitted to display any external sign which would indicate they are different from an ordinary house. This would be illegal propaganda. And so the congregation has rented the first floor of a modern building. Pastor X and his wife occupy three of the rooms, and the rest of the flat has been turned into a chapel.

Some 60 or 70 people ring the bell at the door of this "flat," and the service of worship begins.

After a quick lunch Pastor X takes the train to the other industrial centre in his parish, where he arrives in time for the evening service. He finds a small group of about 30 people gathered at the house of a faithful member of the community. The service starts, hymn, prayer, Bible reading, sermon, a very simple service in an ordinary room. One feels something of the atmosphere and the spirit in which the early Christian community lived in the first century. Pastor X remains there for the night.

The next day, Monday, he spends in visiting the Protestant families in his second area. The people bring their personal problems, and he himself is the living link which helps to bind together this fellowship of Protestants in hostile Roman Catholic environment. At the end of the day there is Bible study with a young people's group.

On Tuesday he returns to his own city, where he spends the next three days in visiting, holding Bible study groups both for young people and for adults, and in the regular activities of his church.

Due to the size of his parish, he

cannot himself conduct worship in the home church on the following Sunday, and so he leads a group of laymen in studying the text of the sermon which one of them will preach. The message to the congregation is thus based on preparation by a small team.

On Friday afternoon Pastor X goes again to the station and takes the train, this time for the coast, where he arrives late at night. This is the third major district under his supervision, and so he spends Saturday visiting the Protestant families which can be reached in the course of the day.

In this third centre the service of worship is held Sunday morning, again in a private house. But as a matter of fact, he now must hold his services in two different places. One of his faithful members has been accustomed to offering his home for the use of the congregation. But recently he has been told that if he continued this practice he would lose his job. The law permits only "private worship," and since people come from all over the city and from outside it, the gathering is illegal, and the same applies to religious meetings on week days.

As a result, there must now be two services in place of one. They can be held in two different houses, and with smaller groups.

The next day, Pastor X on his way home spends time in one or other of the several small villages which are his responsibility. There are always three or four Protestant families in each who impatiently await the visit of their pastor who, unfortunately, cannot come more often than once a month.

And so Pastor X continues his weekly round of duties. The spirit of evangelism burns brightly in the hearts and the lives of this small group of Spanish Protestants.

With a salary amounting to some 35 to 40 dollars a month, Pastor X and his wife must live carefully in order to make ends meet. But if you ask them, you will find they have a beautiful life, entirely consecrated to the service of God, in a country where many people are eager to hear the message of the gospel. And where in spite of many difficulties the Church is living and acting.

It is for men like Pastor X that the Churches outside Spain are asked to pray. And to remember. It is the expressed conviction of the Spanish Church that the finest form of Inter-Church Aid which can be given is just this remembrance, and such prayer, by Christians in the Church Universal.

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(Continued from previous page.)

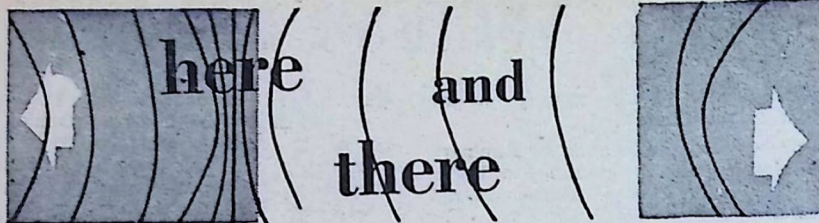
the races is the dominating and all-pervading concern."

Emphasising the basic economic problems that underlie the present unrest in South Africa, Dr. Visser 't Hooft reported:

"South Africa is a country in which an old patriarchal type of society is rapidly being transformed into an industrial society. The change began with the discovery of diamonds and gold, but a strong contributory factor to-day is that the native reserves do not provide sufficient food for their inhabitants. The result is an increasing trek from the native areas to the industrial and mining centres. The urban Bantu population, which in 1911 was 500,000, in 1951 amounted to 2,000,000, and it is estimated that 60 per cent. of the Bantus now live outside of the native reserves. Every one of the larger cities finds it an almost insoluble problem to keep up with the growth of the Bantu population in those areas. And while attempts are being made to regulate this rush to the cities, no serious attempt is made to stop it. How can it be stopped, as long as industry needs cheap labor and as long as the reserves do not provide necessary food?" (To be concluded.) (Ecumenical Press Service.)

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





## Geraldton Building Drive, W.A.

R. Will Marshall has commenced the fifth year of his ministry with the church at Mile End, S.A.

Plans are developing for the featuring at the annual Victorian-Tasmanian Conference—March 31 to April 9—of the 100th anniversary of our restoration witness in this area. The Fourth World Convention Choir, which sang so magnificently in August, will be in action again at the Melbourne Town Hall at the Centenary Home Mission Rally on Good Friday night, and at the Centenary Sermon Session on Easter Sunday afternoon. E. L. Williams has accepted the invitation of the Executive Committee to preach the Centenary Sermon, his theme being "The Divine Imperative."

Following his illness of six weeks, E. R. Sherman, B.A., Dip.Ed., of Maylands, S.A., recuperated on holidays, and has now resumed leadership of church activities.

A telegram from Maston Bell, chairman of the Aborigines' Mission Board, advises us that preparations for the Carnarvon Building Drive are proceeding satisfactorily. Sixty tons of materials have already arrived at the Mission and fifty more are on the way. The Board still sends an urgent call for Eastern States volunteers and helpers, especially a tradesman or two. So far two have registered from Bordertown, and one each from Hobart and Kaniva, supplementing the probable 20 from W.A. itself. Thirty workers are needed. If you can help, and be in Perth by Feb. 28, write airmail to J. K. Robinson, 140 Barrack-st., Perth, W.A.

W. F. Nankivell's ministry with the church at Camberwell, Vic., closes on Sunday, Feb. 22, when special services will also mark the church's thirty-sixth anniversary.

Women are invited to unite in a world-wide fellowship of worship and prayer on Friday, Feb. 20. Melbourne women are advised that meetings will be held in the Assembly Hall at 11 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Meetings will be held in some suburbs also. "Walk as Children of the Light" is the theme for 1953.

Since returning to Australia, Bruce Burn has been busy addressing groups on the Third World Conference of Christian Youth at Travancore. This journal is appreciative of Mr. Burn's help in reporting this and other overseas activities.

Invermay church, Tas., urges the brotherhood's prayers for the E. C. Hinrichsen Mission, which began on Feb. 8. R. M. Wilson is the resident preacher.

While building extensions are being made to the property of Ann-st. church, Brisbane, the Bible School has gratefully accepted the Anglican offer of the use of St. John's hall (opposite the chapel), free of charge. This is a truly Christian gesture. An amount of £100 left to the church under the will of the late Miss J. Mills, is to be used to provide new seating.

J. W. Clothier, a deacon of Ann-st. church, Brisbane, represented the New Settlers' League of Qld. at the recent Citizenship Convention held in Canberra.



## VICTORIAN PREACHERS' RETREAT

Jan. 26-29, Monbulk.

This year's retreat was not well attended, only 23 being present all the time. On the Wednesday, through visiting preachers, 34 sat down for dinner. The retreat was a grand success, due to the excellent work done by the lecturers. Mr. Pittman gave three doctrine lectures—Election, Salvation, and the Kingdom of God. Mr. J. E. Brooke lectured on the experience of the Holy Spirit, the Guidance of the Spirit, the Discipline of the Spirit, and the Character of the Spirit, and Mr. H. F. Gross gave three lectures on the 1st three chapters of Genesis. The discussion periods after the first two mentioned lecturers were heart searching, and all were greatly helped and inspired. President of the Preachers' Association, Mr. R. Bolduan presided over the meetings, and made a contribution to the retreat. The incoming president elected is Mr. E. Randall, and vice-president, Mr. L. Trezise.

Boxing Day, 1952, is a red-letter day in the history of Geraldton church, W.A. That morning a volunteer team for the erection of a manse left Perth by road to commence building operations next morning. The supervisor, F. Lake, left earlier by plane to set the work ready for a prompt start. There had been much preparation by the H.M. committee, drawing plans, purchasing materials, and enlisting volunteers. Practically all materials were on the site when the party arrived, making possible a fortnight's uninterrupted work.

The men went north, comprising Messrs. Lake and Edwards (Sublaco), Christie and Gregory (Bunbury), Edwards, sen. and jun. (North Perth), Blundell and Drennan (Cottesloe), K. Pallot (Claremont), and L. Park (Wembley). Accompanying them were Miss V. Olds (Sublaco) and Mrs. Blundell (Cottesloe), to attend to meals. A. M. Bell loaned a utility to transport men, materials and equipment.

The party stayed in the home of G. Lake, of Geraldton, and will remember many happy hours there.

When work began on Saturday morning the party looked on a half acre of sandy block covered with building materials. When they left a fortnight later the structure gave testimony to their labors. The organising of Messrs. E. Lake and J. Edwards was the basis for success.

Not as much was accomplished as planned. Some were unable at the last to make the trip, leaving the team at about three quarters strength. Certain expected local labor was not available. Alternatives had to be found with resulting disorganisation. But credit must go to the men who achieved so much during the holiday period, under trying conditions. When internal work is finished the manse will be an attractive dwelling. Workmanship is of the highest order. Materials, timber and asbestos, are of first quality, and fittings are attractive and modern. It will be a home to which any minister can confidently be invited.

We thank God for his guidance in response to prayers, and for help as problems arose. We thank him also for men and women who gave time so cheerfully. We pray that the effort will be the sowing from which a rich harvest will be gathered by ministering brethren called to a work in a community where the fields are "white already unto harvest."—L. Park, in "The Western Christian."

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



# MINISTER'S MUSINGS

**SUNDAY.**—Roger Morton was presiding at the Lord's Table this morning, and I was delighted to discover that he, too, had been reading and enjoying Cronin's *Adventures in Two Worlds*. He told us how he had set out to read himself to sleep the other night only to come wide awake again when he read the story of the Dublin slum-girl, Rose. There were four other children in her home, including baby Michael, whom she loved passionately. Their mother had died, and she mothered them all in her place. Cronin and his friend tried to help her, only to discover that always her first thought was for Michael, and her last for herself. Cronin went to see her parish priest, and it was his comment on Rose which set Roger thinking long into the night: "She's a perfect little mother. That's the force that fills her life." "The force that fills her life!" I wondered, said Roger, "just what my 'parish priest' would say was the force that fills my life?" He sketched the possible alternatives in any man's life, and then added: "This is a question which no man can truly answer for another. Each man must examine himself." And as we listened, we did—especially when he focussed our attention on the force that filled the life of the Saviour of us all. Thanks, Roger, for a "sermon" that struck home.

**MONDAY.**—George Cowling had a bronzed, cheerful look when I met him to-day, despite that first-day-back-at-work feeling. "No need to ask if you had a good time," I commented, whereupon he told me of so many holiday jaunts that I wanted to know whose fortune he had inherited. "Well, the shekels are certainly scarce now," he said a little ruefully, "but the boss' bonus at Christmas was a great help. Talking of bonuses, there was a New South Wales Baptist parson at one of the places I visited. He told me that at the close of his last service before Christmas the officers of the church invited him into the vestry, and with a few nice words gave him a special 'bonus.' It was the first time such a thing had ever happened to him, he said." "Yes, I guess it was," I commented, just a little drily. "All the same, George, one of the nicest things that happens to me at Christmas is the receiving of personal greetings and some gifts from individual members. That's even more intimate, I think." "Yes, but what if a man gets neither bonus nor personal remembrances?" was his parting shot. Yes—what then?

February 10, 1953.

**TUESDAY.** — So another American J.P. has had an ingenious idea of how to deal with drunken drivers. Besides imposing a fine of no less than 125 dollars on the delinquent, he intends to give him the choice of 10 days in gaol or 10 Sundays in church. That's one piece of American ingenuity which we won't be introducing into Australia, thanks, Mr. Justice Hunsaker! If I could have any sympathy with a drunken driver (and I can't), I'd confess to a sneaking feeling for the man who would choose gaol rather than be forced to spend ten Sundays in church. We want him there, and we'll use every legitimate means of getting him there, but surely attendances in neither American nor Australian churches have yet sunk so low that we want men sent there as a punishment. No, thank you!

**WEDNESDAY.**—A couple of young people were laughing, not unkindly, about the grammar—or lack of it—of someone they had heard speaking in public. "Yes, it is funny," I agreed, "but he didn't have the educational opportunities that we've all had, and I don't think you'll deny that he is earnest. I can forgive a man a lot if he is that. Whenever I'm tempted to feel a little superior I think of Moody's challenge to someone who criticised his grammar when he was a young preacher: 'Look here, friend, you've got grammar enough—what are you doing with it for the Master?'"

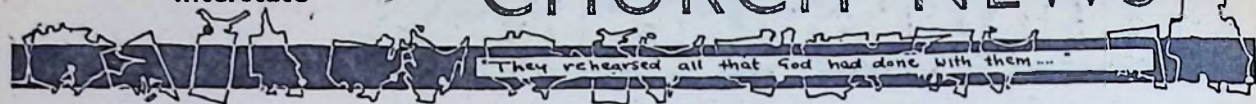
**THURSDAY.**—"When you die you'll be put into a hole in the ground," prattled Laurel to Catherine, with the cheerful innocence of childhood. Then a deeper thought struck her, and she looked up at us questioningly: "But how would she get to heaven, then?" Allison looked across at me, as if to say, "You take over from here!"—a look which I have sometimes been known to sabotage, most ungallantly, by saying quickly: "Ask Mummy. She knows," and then retiring from the scene. This time I did my best to satisfy Laurel's curiosity, which, with the blessed swift changeableness of childhood, was soon wincing away on some completely different flight. We try not to "fob" her off with a quick change of subject, even if sometimes we're left

mentally gasping, "What can we say?" Sometimes I think that, with a child of her years, it doesn't matter so much what is said as that something is said, showing an interest in her problem. She'll soon want more than that, and then, of course, we must be ready to give it. I like the example George Sava gives in one of his books of a three-year-old lad, who, during the war, heard one old lady tell another that the poor boy's father had "gone down to the bottom of the sea." "How can he be there?" asked the bewildered lad of his mother. "And what does 'dead' mean, mummy?" The mother, deeply moved, said: "Your daddy is not dead, dear. It is true he is at the bottom of the sea. You see, he lives there." "He lives there, mummy? But who does he live with?" "He lives with Jesus." "And with no one else?" I thought Jesus lived up there," said the lad pointing to the sky, "or do only airmen go up to heaven when they are dead?" "No, my dear, Jesus is everywhere. He visits those that go down to the sea in ships and do not return, and he lives with them as he lives with all the good people." And with that the lad was content.

**FRIDAY.**—Is there any more desolate task than "revision of roll"? It needs to be done at least yearly, but what an almost impossible balance between grace and law you need when considering some border-line cases! Some of the names recall high hopes, and the disillusionment that followed. Yes, some such names must be put on the supplementary roll, but not automatically forgotten. Some of the preacher's best moments come when a name can, with confidence, be transferred back.

**SATURDAY.** — I found in Charles Terrot's novel, *Shout Aloud Salvation*, a perfect example of how vivid and compelling even ungrammatical preaching can be. Elijah Cadman, an early Salvation Army officer, is preaching about "some people who 'ave no roots. They do remind me of a Christmas tree stuck in a tub. . . . Yes, stuck in a tub. . . . God save them that are only stuck in a tub. . . . The Lord wants you rooted and grounded." With all our grammar, I wonder if we often enough preach in pictures like that?





## Discipleship

Mrs. C. Stewart, D. Jenks, S. Bailey, E. and S. Clark, G. and W. Taber, R. Collingwood, Miss D. Hayes and D. McDonald, Lismore, N.S.W.

Colin Muller and June Smith, Boondall, Qld.

Mrs. Bell, Zillmere, Qld.

Mrs. Mills, Geelong, Vic.

Brian Argus, Violet Towner and Mr. and Mrs. J. Files, Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

Merrill Melville, Ivanhoe, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. Hastewell, Carolyn Godwin, Jean Clarke, Kay Francis and Muriel Eyckens, Footscray, Vic.

Mrs. J. Whitten, Carnegie, Vic.

Miss Davey, Frankston-Moorooduc, Vic.

## Membership

Mrs. Wright, from Preston, Vic., to Cheltenham, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Eager, from Kingaroy, Qld., to Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

Miss B. Hodgson, from Marrickville, N.S.W., to Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Hammon, from Coburg, Vic., to Pascoe Vale, Vic.

Mrs. Muir, from South Yarra, Vic., to Ivanhoe, Vic.

## Marriage

Doreen Willis to Stan Bailey, Lismore, N.S.W.

Pearl Schulz to Arthur Spiller, Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

Violet Towner to Brian Argus, Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

Ronda Johnstone to Milton Lewis, Mile End, S.A.

Dorothy McCulloch to Alan Clarke, Mile End, S.A.

## Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Cromwell, Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

Mrs. Elizabeth Moore (92), Ivanhoe, Vic.

R. Carnaby, Ivanhoe, Vic.

## Tasmania

Derwentport.—On Jan. 11 T. Burt (Invermay) gave helpful morning message, and Ern. Stevens was evening speaker and soloist. C. Burt and Rod Pitt were speakers on 18th. On 25th church had fellowship with Mrs. F. N. Lee and family, Mavis Webb and Miss Higgs, all of Vic. S. J. Bruton gave a good morning message, and church was pleased to have a visit and message from F. N. Lee at night, after his visit in the morning to Ulverston. E. Stevens was soloist. Mr. Lee also met with church officers on the Wednesday night "to discuss future plans." On Jan. 31 B.S. held annual picnic at Picnic Point, Ulverstone. On Feb. 1 H. Byard and C. Burt were speakers.

## Queensland

Boondall-Zillmere (R. Clymer).—Both churches are recommencing activities amongst clubs and Bible schools after Christmas period. Zillmere is dividing its club into three groups owing to the number who attend. Boondall has commenced an I.C.E., with a view to training Y.P. to take part in life of church. Mr. Chalmers from Boondall has volunteered to go over to Zillmere and help with B.S. work. This speaks well of spirit of co-operation between the two churches.

Ann-st., Brisbane (R. W. Graham, B.A.).—Guest speaker at morning service Jan. 18 was Peter French, who will shortly take up ministry at Kingaroy. At gospel meeting a young man and young woman were baptised. Y.P. auxiliaries combined in a social on Jan. 20 to make pre-wedding presentation to Pearl Schulz and Arthur Spiller. Following resignation of Mrs. A. R. Burnham as kinder supt., Mrs. Parkinson has been appointed. Mrs. J. Smith and R. Cardew were also added to B.S. staff. Several members have suffered bereavement recently. W. S. Hoens has been appointed to Officers' Board to succeed W. H. Howard, who has moved to Kingaroy. Recent visitors included V. M. Stone (Inverell), T. W. Benson and family (Marrickville), Miss G. George (Shepparton), Robt. Elliott (Blackburn), C. Smith (Parramatta), E. White (Proserpine), Mr. and Mrs. L. Averrev (Proserpine), Ray Palmer and Peter Pitts (Sth. Yarra), Mr. and Mrs. McGregor (Geelong), Mrs. Ashfold (West Footscray), Mr. and Mrs. Watson

(W. Preston), Mr. and Mrs. Hunt (Fairfield), and W. Southward (Lane Cove).

## New South Wales

Broken Hill (J. C. McCormick).—B.S. and J.C.E. Christmas parties were happy features at Wolfram-st., with enjoyable B.S. tree at Wills-st. Hand-made gifts were presented to each child and mother by J.C.E. president, Miss I. Evans, and to each member of Wills-st. school staff by one of the teachers, Mrs. J. Schorn. Most members were away during holiday season, but since return several men have been busy with preacher making alterations to kinder room and vestry, adding cupboards and louver windows, and making hall suitable for boys' club. J. Cremer and A. Grubb gave appreciated addresses on Jan. 18, when preacher travelled to Radium Hill and held two services for members he found there, 40 attending one service. Mrs. J. Schorn has been ill since the holidays. Preacher addressed both services on 25th. At morning meeting new hymn board and Scripture lesson board were dedicated at Wolfram-st., having been presented by family in memory of William Peckham, former church officer. Mrs. Peckham, Mrs. Palmer (daughter), and Mr. Palmer were present. Church will miss Judith Palmer and Brian Hosking, as they leave for training college after gaining high school Leaving Certificates.

Wagga (A. W. Morris).—Among holiday visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Coward (Brisbane), Mrs. King (Melbourne), Misses G. and M. Potter (Manly), Mr. Fields (Ungarra), Mr. and Mrs. Rothe (Sydney), and Mrs. A. Jackel (Wangaratta). Baptist and church of Christ combined meeting was held on Christmas morning. Mr. and Mrs. Morris and seven Y.P. attended Cheshunt Camp. Mrs. Parker and Mr. Pearson are still in hospital, but H. Blyth has been allowed to go home. Hospital and sick visitation committee has done a fine work. Mrs. Rudd is better again. A gift evening was held at the manse on Jan. 28 for Mavis Edwards, prior to her marriage.

Lismore (A. G. Caldicott).—Since returning from Burleigh Heads' Camp, there have been five decisions and one re-consecration. Gospel meetings are an inspiration. At "Camp Echoes" service on Jan. 11, George Davis, Jr., baptised



Ray Collingwood, and other campers gave reports of spiritual highlights. On 26th, B.S. picnic was held at Ballina. Plans are now in hand for forthcoming Easter Camp.

**Earlwood (D. Mansell).** — Women's Fellowship has resumed fortnightly meetings, Mrs. Edwards being president for remainder of year. Building of new school hall progresses well, and ladies show great interest in kitchen appointments. Y.P.S.C.E. election of officers resulted: president, D. Mansell; vice-presidents, M. Tumelty and K. Grieves; sec., D. Fleming; treas., Joan Tumelty. Keen interest continues. B. C. Morgan will take services for 2 weeks during preacher's holiday trip to Melbourne. Several members who have been ill for many months are still laid aside. B.S. is busy preparing for anniversary and picnic.

**Kingsford (A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip. Ed.).** — Appropriate themes were dealt with at Christmas and New Year services, and attracted large gatherings. Meetings have been remarkably well maintained during holiday season. B.S. supt., Mr. Larcombe has presented helpful programme to school in recent weeks, including flannelgraph messages. Mr. Elliott, on behalf of church, offered congratulation to the many young people who have been successful in school and University examinations. John Rodger is still very ill. Mrs. Hope and Mrs. Fraser are much improved. Visitors have included Vera Louey (Lygon-st., Vic.), Mr. and Mrs. Buckingham and Miss Marjorie Buckingham (Caulfield, Vic.), Elaine Osborne (Hamilton, N.S.W.), Harvey Whitcome (Wembley, W.A.), and Mr. Beerling (Bassendean, W.A.).

## South Australia

**Henley Beach (N. S. Moore, B.A.).** — Preacher has recovered from a brief illness, and is back at work. Bruce Burn, recently returned from England, Switzerland, and India, took the evening service on Jan. 18. His sermon on the Kingdom of God, and our interpretation of its ideals, as distinguished from that of European and Indian Christians, was listened to with deep interest. Many interstate and country visitors have worshipped with us during Christmas holidays.

**Fullarton (B. W. Manning).** — Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lennox (late Bolivian Indian Mission) commenced on Feb. 1 interim ministry during absence of preacher, who is helping Wallaroo and Moonta for 2 months. B.S. held promotion service, and resumed classes, after "omen-school" period during holidays. W. V. Wright and Ron Messenger are co-supts., and John Deuter, sec. Male choir helped in evening service.

**Kilburn (H. G. Norris).** — B.S. has resumed after Christmas recess, and had attendance of 150, including 3 new scholars, on Feb. 1. Preacher spoke at both services on Jan. 25 and Feb. 1, with Mrs. Kelly as soloist. Recent visitors have been Mrs. McPharlin and Peter (Balaklava). Miss L. Dinning is again attending services, after period of sickness.

**Kadina (R. B. Ewers).** — Church has become self supporting following Mission. We thank committee for many years of generous assistance. Despite holidays, attendances have averaged about 100 morning and evening. Majority of new members are proving very faithful. Men's Fellowship has been formed. A manse project has been launched. There have been 2 decisions since the Mission, and many visitors. R. W. Marshall was speaker at gospel service on Jan. 25. B.S. is growing, and six new teachers have been added to staff. Tom Cock has been very sick, but is improving slowly.

**Mile End (R. W. Marshall).** — Third monthly "Gospel Bells" service at night was well attended. Scholars are encouraged to remain by contributing various items, quizzes, etc., prior to tea given by teachers and then attend with parents at gospel service, and assist in choir. Orchestral items are rendered. A man and wife made decision. A large number remained for "friendly hour" of song. Many interstate friends have been with us in recent weeks, and thanks are expressed for help given by visiting speakers during preacher's vacation period.

## Victoria

**Prahran (Lloyd E. Jones).** — Auxiliaries concluded their year's activities with special programmes, most notable being the second unit in our Men's Society plan. Visitors were Henry E. Stebbins, consul general for U.S., and Mr. Deutscher, with his own film production of an African journey. This group also entertained the church to an evening of films and other entertainment. A splendid evening in honor of the birthday of Rodney Blackmore was given by his parents, and usual school festivities celebrated Christmas. Over the holidays a number of interstate and country visitors, together with members from neighboring churches, were welcomed. Sympathy was extended to our preacher in the loss of his mother, and to Mr. Jones, sen., who paid a brief visit from Sydney. A choir has been formed under conductorship of Les. Brooker, and insuring service is expected. Church is in the midst of busy preparation for Centenary in March, and an ambitious project has been adopted and launched. Attendances are

increasing, and it is pleasing to notice strangers in evening services.

**Cheltenham (R. C. Bolduan).** — During preacher's holiday, V. Wallington and V. C. Stafford were speakers. Fellowship has been enjoyed with many visitors during holiday period. Preacher at morning service on Feb. 1 was Mr. Toogood (Ohio University, U.S.A.). Brethren have assisted at Frankston during their preacher's holidays. B.S. picnic held at Narrewarren North on A.N.A. day was a happy occasion. Brethren of church are conducting services at Emmaus Rest Home during February.

**Camberwell (W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D.).** — In preacher's absence on annual holidays in S.A., church has appreciated messages given by Messrs. Abercrombie, Williams, McDowell, Jones, Oldfield and Saunders. B.S. is holding a refresher course for teachers on the four Friday nights in Feb. All auxiliaries are now planning activities for new year.

**Brighton (C. G. Taylor, B.A.).** — There were splendid attendances on Jan. 25. Choir resumed duty at evening service, and C.E. Quartet also sang. B.S. picnic to Belgrave on Australia Day was successful. Preacher commenced sixth year of ministry on Feb. 1. Mr. Huntly (Cheltenham) was evening speaker. Mr. Taylor visiting East Preston. D. Price is serving faithfully as relieving organist. After-church Fellowship resumed on Feb. 1. Les Williams is improving after illness.

**Geelong.** — On Jan. 25 Mr. Tattersall (Drumcondra) spoke at morning meeting, and Mr. McDonald in the evening, when one lady rededicated her life to Christ. Ladies' Aid recommenced year's activities on 28th. On Feb. 1, Mr. Tyson (P.I.V.) gave stirring morning address. After B. Lennane's gospel address one lady confessed her Lord. All auxiliaries are under way again. Working bees continue on manse.

**Balwyn (J. E. Brooke).** — On Feb. 1, services were well attended, many members having returned from holiday. Mr. Spencer spoke at morning service, when church was delighted to have fellowship with former minister, H. J. Patterson and wife. Sincerest thanks to men of church, who labored for many hours at three working bees last week to lay flooring for school hall. Tennis club held church parade at evening service on Feb. 1. At their annual meeting, Jeanette Finlayson, who relinquished secretaryship because of nursing duties, was warmly thanked for hard and successful work for club.

**Hampton (Stanton H. Wilson).** — C.M.S. members have invited men from Black Rock to affiliate with them under



name of Hampton-Black Rock C.M.S. Among a number of folk who are ill, are Mrs. H. B. Robbins, Mrs. Yarde (in hospital), Mrs. S. H. Wilson, and Miss Sharpe. Mrs. Allen is to enter hospital shortly for operation. At annual meeting of Y.P.F. it was decided to adopt an Indian mission girl. Church was pleased to welcome back preacher and family from holiday in Tasmania.

North Richmond (R. McKenzie).—Year's work closed with B.S. break-up on Dec. 12, and special Christmas service on Dec. 21. At annual meeting of B.S. staff on Dec. 16, A. Alderson was re-appointed B.S. supt., and R. Winstone, sec. Five Y.P., with preacher, attended Christmas camp at Monbulk.

Footscray (A. W. Hurren).—On Dec. 17 a very successful kinder party was held; 60 children received gifts and parents and friends were given a cup of tea. At the break-up of Good Companions and Explorers, lots of lovely toys and books were handed over to "Uncle Charlie" for hospital visitation. Bible class has been re-organising, and is meeting as a separate senior department. Alan Hurren is away at National Training Camp. All auxiliaries have now commenced meetings. Attendances on Feb. 1 were back to normal. Visitors included Mr. Rose (N.S.W.), Mr. and Mrs. Peters (Launceston), and Mr. and Mrs. Thompson (Grote-st., Adelaide). Committees have been formed in preparation for forthcoming 75th church anniversary.

Maldstone (E. H. Randall).—During preacher's absence at Youth Camp at Monbulk, services on Jan. 25 were taken by A. H. C. Pfeifer and K. Alexander. Manse is ready for installation of flooring, and working bees have recommenced. All auxiliaries have resumed. Combination of organ and piano at evening service is very effective, and a distinct aid to the singing. Chapel was entered by children, and books and seats scattered about the building. 61 were present at gospel service on Feb. 1, when preacher took service.

Ivanhoe (S. Davey).—Auxiliaries are commencing again after recess. Explorers, under leadership of Reg Williams and Good Companions, with leader Mrs. Reed, opened 1953 with church parade and dedication at evening service, when message was given by W. Newham. Three Good Companions responded to invitation. After officers' meeting on afternoon of Feb. 1, Vic Gole introduced functions of C.M.S. to a large gathering of men, after which tea was held at chapel. Following were elected to C.M.S. office: pres., B. Perkins; sec., H. Earl; treas. and asst. sec., L. Chipp. Church treasurer and elder,

F. Chipperfield, has been absent owing to sickness, which has confined him to Caulfield Repat. Hospital. Tennis club has purchased two concrete courts, and they are proving of great value.

Ormond (F. E. Buckingham).—Church has had small meetings owing to holiday season, but 104 broke bread on Feb. 1. At evening service, 4 made good confession, and two of them were baptised. B.S. is on improve, and all clubs have resumed activities. An 8 week special series is planned for church, starting Feb. 8. Sympathy is extended to Dorothy Dickie in her illness.

Frankston-Moorooduc (F. T. Morgan). While preacher was absent at youth camp and later on holidays, Messrs. Adams, Edgerton and MacKenzie (Frankston), Messrs. Payne, Wallington, and White (Cheltenham), and Mr. Alexander (St. Kilda) occupied pulpit, their ministry being much appreciated. Many visitors have been welcomed at services recently. At gospel service on Jan. 25 an elderly lady made her confession, and was immersed on following Sunday. A very successful working bee was held on Saturday, Jan. 31, when floor and wall frames of new school hall were erected.

Carnegie (L. G. Crisp, L.Th.).—L. E. Snow (former preacher) and son Jim have been recent visitors. Mr. Snow gave inspiring message to church on morning of Jan. 25. Preacher was speaker at both services on Feb. 1, when Mrs. J. Whitten, who recently made her confession, was baptised. Auxiliaries are now resuming for New Year. Ern Tremewan, who is in Will. H. Clay nursing home, has improved again.

Pascoe Vale.—B.S. has resumed in Progress Hall, under leadership of Mr. Hammon. We have been indebted to Messrs. C. Page, N. Hutton, G. Tippet, D. Ploog for conducting recent services.

## BIBLE SOCIETY'S *Annual Public Meeting*

Scots Church, Collins Street  
Tuesday, February 24, 1953, at 8 p.m.  
Speaker: DR. BARTON BABBAGE  
Ridley College Principal-Elect.  
His Excellency the Governor of Victoria,  
Sir Dallas Brooks, and Lady Brooks  
will be in attendance.  
Choice Musical Programme by  
Scots Church Choir  
Introduction of Triple Jubilee Campaign  
— and —  
Dedication of Committees  
A CORDIAL WELCOME TO ALL  
S. RUSSELL BAKER,  
General Secretary.

## IN MEMORIAM

STALEY.—In loving memory of dad, Edwin, who passed to a higher life, Feb. 4, 1943.

—Inserted by loving wife and family.

BARBOUR.—Cherished memories of our loved one, who died at Repatriation Hospital, Heidelberg, Feb. 13, 1952.

—Inserted by loving wife and family,  
29 Ross-st., Toorak, Vic.

LANG.—In fond memory of Elsie, who fell asleep on Feb. 8, 1950. Loved wife of J. Douglas; mother of Norm and Lily, Elsie (Mrs. Frecker), Harold and Doris; and sister of Amy (Mrs. Greenway), Wagga, N.S.W.

JENKIN. — Treasured memories of Linley, the elder son of William and Mary Jenkin, loving brother of Os, Gwen, Nettle and Harry.

PERKINS.—In affectionate memory of my dear son, Ralph Henry, who passed away Feb. 12, 1951; also loved brother of Horace and Percy.

—Inserted by his loving Mother.

## 35th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

SISSON—GITTINS.—On Feb. 9, 1918, at Methodist church, Foley Park, Kilderminster, England, by J. Dudley. Evaline Gittins to Ernest W. Sisson. Present address, Tankerton, Victoria.

## LONG PLAINS, S.A.

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

## *Opening of New Chapel*

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

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Further Particulars Later.

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Founder and President "Bob Jones University"—the world's most unusual University.

Wed., Thurs., Fri., Feb. 11, 12, 13, 7 p.m.

Assembly Hall, Collins St., Melbourne.

## COMING EVENTS.

February 18 (Wednesday) General Dorcas meets 10.30 a.m. Swanston-st. church. Ladies willing to help in this work welcome.



## Helpful Commentaries

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A re-study of this New Testament book will re-vitalise the church for its work in the 20th century. The following books are available from the Austral Printing and Publishing Company.

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1. Puzzled Parents (answering children's questions).
2. Where Did I Come From? (for young children).
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4. The Start of a Family (for boys).
5. Science and You (a more detailed account of human reproduction).
6. Sorting Things Out (courtship, love and marriage).
7. The Christian View of Sex (a more advanced study).

The author, Hugh C. Warner, and the publishers, S.C.M. Press Ltd., merit praise for the forthright presentation of facts to minds that ache for understanding answers to natural questions. The weakness of most previous literature is that sex is made to appear something distinct in itself. The above booklets fit sex into the pattern of life generally. Wise parents accept the responsibility of making known the facts of sex to their children, but are at a loss when to begin and how to advance information at the various mental levels. Such parents will welcome these booklets. The titles indicate that they offer guidance to children, adolescents, and young adults. The seven booklets make a complete library for parents to guide youth as they develop and ask questions and are busy sorting facts out.

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## Bible Society's Annual Meeting

Special interest this year centres on the Bible Society's Annual Public Meeting in Scots Church, Melbourne, as it will be the occasion of the commencement of the 150th year of the Bible Society in the world, and the introduction and launching of a Triple Jubilee Campaign in Victoria, which will culminate on March 7, 1954.

Plans are afoot throughout the world for a suitable anniversary of the great occasion, and for the fulfilment of a double objective—

A world-wide thanksgiving,

A world-wide thank offering.

Dr. Barton Babbage, Principal-elect of Ridley College, Melbourne, is to be the speaker at the annual meeting in Melbourne on Tuesday, February 24, 1953, at 8 p.m., in Scots Church, Collins-st., and His Excellency the Governor, Sir Dallas Brooks, and Lady Brooks have accepted the Society's invitation to be present.

The musical programme will be rendered by Scots Church Choir, and all Melbourne readers of this journal are cordially invited to be present.

### SITUATIONS VACANT.

A COOK is required for the Dunmore Boys' Home at Pendle Hill, N.S.W., at present housing about 30 boys.

Favourable consideration will be given to a married couple, husband to assist the General Manager in farm duties.

Applications giving all particulars, etc., will be received by Mr. G. Knight, 17 Albert-st., Petersham, N.S.W., who will supply further information.

Vacancy for young lady, junior counter-assistant and clerical work, ledger-keeping and accounts. All members of staff church-members. Lee's Pharmacy, 430 St. George's-rd., Thornbury. Phone JJ 3153.

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Dromana. — Holiday house, all mod. cons., good view, accom. 5. B. Huntsman, Box 32, Camb., E.6. WB 4118.

At Belgrave, Bed-Sitting Room, Kitchenette, Use Conveniences. Bus passes door. Suit elderly couple or individual. Apply Social Service Dept., 241 Flinders Lane, Melbourne.

GEELONG.—Holiday Flat to let, self contained. Apply Mrs. Gay, 5 Coronation-st., Geelong.

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## 65th Anniversary Services

### NORTH WILLIAMSTOWN

(Douglas Parade)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15

11 a.m. Every Member present at Communion.

Speaker: C. J. Mackenzie.

7 p.m. The Intriguing Missionary Film, "Miracles in Inca Land."

Guest Soloist: Miss Jennifer Price

### SECOND COMING OF CHRIST CONVENTION

#### ORMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21

Chairman: F. E. Buckingham

3.30 p.m.: F. A. Youens, "The Fact of His Coming."

Lloyd E. Jones, "The Purpose of His Coming."

5.15 p.m.: Basket Tea. Tea, milk and sugar provided.

7.45 p.m.: W. F. Betts, "The Midnight Hour."

Soloist: Miss Adele Blakley.

### CAMBERWELL

#### CHURCH OF CHRIST

## 36th Church Anniversary and

Farewell Services to

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Nankivell

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22.

11 a.m.: Communion.

W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D.

3 p.m.: Farewell to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Nankivell.

Representative Speakers.

7 p.m.: Gospel Service.

W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

Anniversary Social.

Past members and friends particularly welcomed.

## College of the Bible Inaugural Session

will be held in the

LYGON STREET CHAPEL on

Monday, February 23,  
at 8 p.m.

Speaker: H. J. Patterson, M.A.

Music: By the Hartwell Church Choir. Make this a big brotherhood rally to welcome new and returning students.

NOTE.—Informal opening session of the College on Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 9.30 a.m. Visitors welcome.

### PROFESSIONAL.

A Manager is required for The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. Interested persons with the necessary qualifications and experience are invited to submit their names in writing at an early date to Mr. A. E. Kemp, Chairman of Directors, The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd., 524-530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, Vic.

### NEWMARKET.

Church Anniversary and Temple Day.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1, 7 p.m.

11 a.m.: A. R. LLOYD.

7 p.m.: D. W. HIBBURT.

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### ACCOMMODATION WANTED.

Two young ladies, en route to Launceston for C.E. Convention, require accommodation with Christian family in Melbourne Suburb for five days from Oct. 10 inclusive. Write Miss B. Donnelly, 33 Woolcott-st., Earlwood, N.S.W.

From February, 1953, small house for student, wife and child. Reply C. Le Couteur, Warrnambool.

### HOLIDAY IN ADELAIDE.

Bed and breakfast. Reasonable terms. Apply Social Service Dept., Bible House, Melbourne, MU 2104, or "Acc." c/o Church of Christ Book Room, McHenry-st., Adelaide.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

J. E. Brooke (preacher Balwyn church, Vic.)—9 Cherry-rd., Balwyn, E.8.

### WANTED.

Woman to help in country home. Care of young children. Good conditions. Reply to: Mrs. H. Gilmour, "Barkool," Boree Creek, N.S.W.

Young Christian lady desires position, experienced as Addressograph operator, shop assistant or house cleaner. C/o 222, Austral.

Player Piano, write "Music," c/o this Office.

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## For "St. Andrew's Day"

A Hymn for February—No. 579, Feb. 22.

Two interesting personal experiences  
may be associated with to-day's hymn.

After conducting a hymn-service at a suburban Baptist church, we were approached by one of the deacons who professed interest in remarks made about Charles M. Alexander and, in an accent certainly not originating south of the Equator, said he had been wondering whether reference would be made to Mrs. Alexander, author of "Jesus calls us." And well he might wonder, for the lady was his great-grandmother, and his own name "William Alexander, same as the bishop." At their marriage, the bishop had been rector of Termonamongan (Tyronne); later became Bishop of Derry and Raphoe, and ultimately Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland. One is surely permitted to wonder how, when or why began the changes which in three generations brought the family from an Irish archbishopric to the diaconate of a Melbourne suburban Baptist church!

On another occasion, a good Methodist friend complained that the Presbyterians had mutilated the hymn by putting the line: "As of old, St. Andrew heard it." We assured him, however, that they were but using the original words and honoring the original purpose of the hymn. Mrs. Alexander wrote a number of hymns illustrating the creed, the clauses "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth," "Jesus Christ . . . , born of the Virgin Mary," "Suffered under Pontius Pilate," becoming in her hands the hymns "All things bright and beautiful," "Once in royal David's city," and "There is a green hill far away." The best-known of another series for saints' days is our present one written for St. Andrew's Day, and with its definite reference to that apostle. Parenthetically it might be noted that the first three words constitute a complete sentence "Jesus calls us"; then follows the statement: "O'er the tumult . . . his sweet voice soundeth."

But, however we punctuate it, whether or not we include the "St. Andrew" verse, whether or not we use it for young people as originally intended, whether for St. Andrew's Day or, maybe, February 22, whether for the Irish Church, later Baptist generations or ourselves, the hymn remains a beautiful meditation and challenge on the call of Jesus "by the Galilean lake."—F.J.F.

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*New Building,  
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Special services were held to mark  
the opening of the new church hall at  
the East Preston church in Ethel Grove,  
on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.

The door was officially opened on  
the afternoon of Jan. 31 by the pre-  
sident of the Women's Conference, Mrs.  
E. L. Williams, after which a service  
was conducted by the Conference Vice-  
President, Dr. G. H. Oldfield, and  
preacher, F. Langford. The Mayor of  
Preston, Cr. Ford, represented the City  
Council. 180 were present.

At 7.30 p.m., a thanksgiving service  
was presided over by A. B. Withers,  
with S. Neighbour, B.A., as guest speak-  
er.

The Sunday morning service was pre-  
sided over by the past preacher, C.  
Watson. The address was given by  
B. J. Combridge.

The gospel service was held after a  
fellowship tea. The special speaker  
was C. G. Taylor, B.A.

Many visitors were welcomed at these  
services, including several foundation  
members. Tribute was paid to all who  
worked so hard to make this opening  
possible, and to the builders, J. L.  
Richards and Son, who have done every-  
thing possible to make the building at-  
tractive and pleasing.

Wednesday evening concluded the  
opening functions, when the Conference  
President, W. W. Saunders, brought  
very helpful and challenging message  
after a membership tea.

The opening also marked the com-  
mencing of the third year of F. Lang-  
ford's ministry, and the church looks  
forward to an onward move with a  
preacher whose ministry has been ble-  
ssed of God.



**Obituary**

**Sarah Annie McKinlay.**

The church at Mt. Compass, S.A.,  
lost a foundation member, Dec. 25, in  
the passing of Mrs. Harry McKinlay.  
Our sister was immersed at Willunga  
before Mt. Compass church was formed,  
and was church organist there for some  
time. Mrs. McKinlay was a most con-  
sistent and faithful member, and at-  
tended regularly almost to the last. She  
was a very bright Christian, gave a  
glorious witness for her Saviour, and  
was greatly loved by all. Many relatives  
and friends were at the home and the  
graveside at Mt. Compass when the  
writer conducted services, and gave fit-  
ting testimonies regarding her Christian  
character.—B.W.M.

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