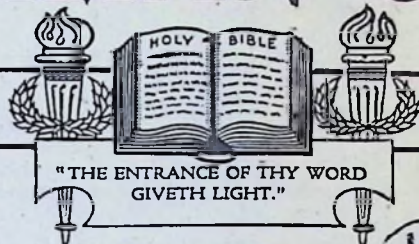


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne,
for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

Through church agent, 2d. week. Foreign, 14/- year.
Single copy, posted direct, 10/6 year.

Our Gospel Appeals for Decision.

SCARCELY anything is more stimulating to a church than the frequent confession of the name of Jesus Christ by repentant sinners. Such confession also has a powerful influence upon non-Christians attending the services. The custom of appealing for a public confession and commitment, which is prevalent in churches of Christ, is of great value in our evangelistic work, though occasionally there has been some questioning of it.

The American "Christian Evangelist" recently published two articles dealing with the question "Should Preachers Make a Verbal Appeal for New Members?" L. O. Bricker gave an answer in the negative, while A. W. Fortune gave a strong affirmative reply.

Why Not?

Mr. Bricker furnished some curious reasons for his dislike of a public appeal for decision. He said that "we go to church on Sunday morning to worship God"—a proposition which nobody disputes. He hazarded the remarkable statement that "when a minister climaxes and closes his sermon with a verbal, spoken appeal, and often a passionate and fervid plea, to men and women to come forward and make the confession of faith, or to unite with the church, he inevitably gives out the impression that *that* is the main reason for their coming together."

A second reason assigned was that when an appeal is made without response such a sense of failure results as spoils the service. "Hearing the minister climax and close his sermon with an appeal, and nobody respond to it, the impression is indelibly made that the whole service has failed of its purpose, has fallen flat, and that everybody must feel disappointed. Whereas a service of worship, sermon and all, is a thing complete in itself. And anyone's joining the church is *incidental* to the main purpose for which they came together."

Mr. Bricker says that now he is happier and "relieved of an intolerable burden"

and has found that the people come all the more willingly if they are not vocally pleaded with to come. His solution is indicated in the following somewhat remarkable statement:

When I began my ministry in Peachtree Church of Atlanta I inherited nobody's traditions. I proceeded to make my own. To the recessional hymn I printed this footnote:

Anyone present wishing to make the good confession of Jesus Christ, or to enter into the fellowship of this church, is invited to come before the Altar as this hymn is sung, and the minister will receive you.

Such a statement, we are happy to believe, is not likely to commend itself to churches of Christ in this land. We have not yet so far gone back from a scriptural position as to appreciate the invitation to "come before the Altar." We are not surprised that "Altars" and Gospel appeals are not supposed to harmonise.

Psychological and Religious Value.

A. W. Fortune in the course of his argument in favor of the public appeal writes:

One characteristic of the Disciples has been the extending of the invitation at the close of the sermon. It had its origin in the preaching

of the pioneers and in their conception of conversion and church membership. They insisted that the invitation was to all to accept Christ and become a part of the church. They maintained that it was not in the province of the church either to open or close the door. These pioneer preachers believed that whenever they preached it was their mission to make known this invitation of the Master. They expected results and they usually had them.

Perhaps one weakness of the church of our day is that we do not expect converts and hence we do not work as we should to get them. We should feel that there is something lacking in the service if we do not have frequent response to the invitation by those who make a profession of faith or identify themselves with the church.

I believe there is psychological and religious value in a spoken invitation by the minister who is the representative of the church. It need not be a lengthy exhortation, and there may be occasions when the minister will feel it is not necessary or even wise to give an invitation. I have preached few sermons, however, during the eighteen years I have been pastor of Central Church in Lexington, when I have not extended an invitation at the close. I expect a response to the invitation, although I am frequently disappointed. However, during that time there have been 2434 who have walked up to the front in response to the invitation to make a confession of faith or become members of Central Church.

Some of the statements in the two articles from which we have quoted indicate certain differences between the conduct of church services in America and Australia. In churches of Christ in this country a distinction is made (and, we trust, will long be retained) between the order of morning and evening services, the former being primarily for the celebration of the Lord's Supper and the helping of Christians. It is almost exclusively a "worship service." The evening gathering is evangelistic in character, and is primarily intended for the winning of people to a decision for Christ. We think it would be a change for the worse if this broad distinction ceased to exist.

We trust that the practice of inviting people to a public confession of Christ will be maintained. There can be no reasonable doubt of either its psychological or its religious value. It seems foolish to let people who have been greatly stirred by

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a moving sermon go home without an appeal or opportunity for an immediate response. Before another sermon is heard the impression of the former one may have almost completely disappeared. It must forever be right to entreat men to be reconciled to God, and to pass on the invitation of the Lord Jesus that the weary and heavy laden come to him for rest.

"In the King's Service."

SEEING it was the wife of that indefatigable preacher, Mr. Thomas Hagger, who publicly told the story, perhaps our brother will forgive us for passing it on. It was no news to hear the one who should best know declare that her husband was always thinking of the King's business; but the illustration which she gave elicited more than a broad smile and at the same time aroused an approving agreement. Mrs. Hagger says that she received on one occasion, when her husband was away from home on work for the Master, a letter which closed as follows: "Yours in the King's service, Thos. Hagger." Some of us are well familiar with such a close. The characteristic absorption in the Lord's work which led to its adoption on this occasion may inculcate a lesson.

A Mother's Influence.

IN his autobiography Dr. F. W. Boreham gives the following simple and beautiful description of his mother's faith and influence:

"I have never heard anybody unfold the classic biblical narratives with such dignity and winsomeness and charm as she could command. And, when she came to the story of the cross, she could move us all to tears. I confess that although, betwixt those days and these, I have attended many theological lectures and read ponderous theological tomes, the conception of the cross that is always in my mind in preaching and in writing is the conception that took shape within me at the fireside in those days of long ago. Nine times out of ten, our Sunday evening closed with the singing of her favorite hymn—the hymn that exactly summed up all her teaching.

"Jesus, who lived above the sky,
Came down to be a man and die;
And in the Bible we may see
How very good he used to be."

"And, all through the long years of pilgrimage, I have never sung that hymn, or heard it sung, without experiencing a clutch at the heart and a moistening of the eyes as the fond recollection has swept over me of those heart-to-heart talks in the flickering firelight of the old home."

This tribute of Dr. Boreham's recalls to our mind the familiar lines of J. G. Whittier:

"We search the world for truth; we cull
The good, the pure, the beautiful,
From graven stone and written scroll,
From all old flower-fields of the soul.
And, weary seekers of the best,
We come back laden from our quest,
To find that all the sages said
Is in the Book our mothers read."

Use the "Big" Sermon.

RECENTLY Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, the world-famous expository preacher, during the course of an address in Westminster Chapel, London, became reminiscent and told of his younger days, and at the same time gave some excellent advice to those who are called to preach.

"In my younger days—and I have known it to be the same with other young ministers," he said, "there used to come times when a text would grip me, and I would sit down and write what I thought was a really good sermon. In all great sermons, by the way, the preacher does not 'take a text'; the text takes him. But on the following Sunday there would only be ten or twenty people in the congregation, and I would say to myself, 'No, I will keep this back for a big occasion and preach just a stock sermon.' That is entirely the wrong method. Use your 'big' sermon at the time it comes to you. Even if it is a small congregation you don't know who is listening. If you are to be faithful to your calling you must never think that what you are now doing is a small thing. To think of it as small is the way to make it small and to ruin that greater whole of which it is a part."

A Vain Excuse.

MANY, and frequently foolish, are the reasons advanced for absence from church worship. Lax of Poplar tells of the prayer of a Methodist local preacher who was making petition for those who were absent from the service. "Lord," said he, "bless all those who cannot be here: those who are sick, and those who are attending the sick. And, Lord, bless those whose duties keep them at home, and especially those who would have been here, but they looked at the plan this morning." We have never heard such a prayer, but we have been at many services in which it might have been uttered. A great many Christians have stayed at home because a speaker whose addresses they did not appreciate was planned to speak. To be candid, at times we have had a measure of sympathy with them; for sometimes men without any gift of edification are wrongfully allowed to misuse the platform. But that concession does not mean that we recognise the excuse as valid. When the Saviour himself has invited us to worship and to meet in remembrance of him, the quality of the address should not be a determining factor. Yet numerous professing Christians are

guilty of this foolish practice, which greatly hinders the progress of the church. If a preacher's Gospel addresses are not popular enough, members as well as non-members deliberately absent themselves. This is not the way to build up the cause of Christ. When men are truly won to Christ, and not merely attracted by a speaker or by friendly associations, we may expect a cessation of such weak excuses as are now prevalent.

PAIN AND SUFFERING.

ON the walls of a hospital this poem was once found, written anonymously:—

The cry of man's anguish went up to God—
Lord, take away pain!
Then answered the Lord to the cry of his world—
Shall I take away pain?
And with it the power of the soul to endure.
Made strong by the strain?
Shall I take away pity, that knits heart to heart,
And sacrifice high?
Will ye lose all your heroes that lift from the fire
White brows to the sky?
Shall I take away love, that redeems with a price,
And smiles at its loss?
Can ye spare from your lives, that would climb unto mine,
The Christ on his cross?

One Hundred Years Ago.

ONE "who labors in the word and teaching," whether he be a teaching elder located in a special charge, or an evangelist sent abroad, ought to give himself wholly to this work—he ought to "preach the word," and "to be instant in season and out of season" as ordained the apostle. He must give himself to "the ministry of the Word and of prayer." "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life that he may please him who has chosen him to be a soldier"—"that his profiting may be apparent to all." Therefore he ought "to give himself wholly to the work." Sinecure bishops, pensioned officers and stall-fed evangelists are unknown in the Christian kingdom. They may belong to the Man of Sin, but not to him who went about continually doing good.

Now what axiom in mathematics is more evident than that he who gives himself wholly to the Lord and his people should be wholly sustained by them? And so decide all honest men, as well as the Sacred Oracles. Hence the great Chief Justice of the Christian kingdom has solemnly decreed that "they who preach the gospel shall live of the gospel." To this high and righteous decree we invite the consideration of all the faithful brethren who have any demur on the subject.—Alexander Campbell, "Millennial Harbinger," April, 1840.

Principles of Interpretation of Old Testament Prophecy.

Randall T. Pittman, B.A., Dip. Ed.

2. The Conditional Element.

THE first principle to be considered is that there is a conditional element in predictive prophecy. The conditional element is clearly indicated when man's responsibility and behaviour are under consideration. As a recent writer has said, "It is not the case that a genuine prophecy must be fulfilled like an edict of fate." Man is treated as a rational being who will exercise his will in accepting or rejecting the message of God. Jeremiah 18: 7-10 reads,

At what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to pluck up, and to pull down, and to destroy it;

If that nation, against whom I have pronounced, turn from their evil, I will repent of the evil that I thought to do unto them.

And at what instant I shall speak concerning a nation, and concerning a kingdom, to build and to plant it;

If it do evil in my sight, that it obey not my voice, then I will repent of the good, wherewith I said I would benefit them.

Ezekiel applies the same principle to individual conduct (Ezekiel 18: 24-27).

The condition may not be stated, and for that reason the interpreter may fail to apply the principle. Yet as a rule it is not difficult to perceive the conditional character of the prediction. When Jonah preached in Nineveh, he prophesied, "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown." But the forty days passed by and Nineveh was not overthrown. Why? Because the people repented. Jonah was angry about it, and the Lord taught him by the incident of the gourd that it was right to spare a repentant city. Doubtless the condition was not named when Jonah gave his message because the unconditional statement was stronger, and would more likely appeal to the hearers. The blessings from Mount Gerizim and the curses from Mount Ebal were conditioned upon the conduct of the people (Deut. 27: 11-13).

Even with reference to the divine purpose, there may be a conditional element in such matters as the time of fulfilment. The words concerning the birth of Immanuel in Isaiah 7 are in a context which suggests fulfilment in the days of Ahaz, but, as J. B. Rotherham and others suggest, Ahaz was not equal to the demand upon his faith, and the fulfilment was postponed.

Failure to perceive the conditional element in prophecy has led to many interpretations which are at least doubtful. Sometimes the promises to Israel are taken as if absolute, when in reality they are conditional. Even the promise of regrafting into the olive tree in the gospel age

is conditioned by the statement, "If they abide not still in unbelief" (Rom. 11: 23).

Dr. Patrick Fairbairn has a good statement upon the principle under consideration. "When the predictions recorded in Scripture relate to things which belong peculiarly to God—when it is simply God's omniscience in foreseeing, his veracity in declaring, and his over-ruling providence in directing coming events that is concerned—then, undoubtedly, the predictions are to be regarded as of an absolute character—they foretell what infallibly shall come to pass. But when, on the other hand, the word of prophecy takes the shape, as it so often does, of threatenings of judgment, or promises of good things to come, the prophetic element is not the first and the determinate thing which must, at all events, develop itself, but rather that which is secondary and dependent. It always implies, if it does not expressly declare, a certain state of mind and course of behaviour as the ground of its prospective intimations. And before we inquire whether any events in Providence precisely correspond with those previously announced in the prophecy, there is a primary question to be settled, How far does the spiritual condition of the parties interested agree with what is implied or expressed in the prophetic announcement?"

Jesus at Sunset.

J. Wiltshire.

THE prophet Isaiah foresaw a day when "a man shall be as an hiding-place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land" (Isa. 32: 2). We are left to assume that this is a Messianic reference. Someone certainly is seen standing between the wind and the sheltered, between the tempest and the covered, the drought and the thirsty, and between the weary and the oppressive heat.

The New Testament reveals One who in a marked way interposed himself often between the thing dreaded and the life that was in dread. Luke tells us (4: 40), "Now when the sun was setting, all they that had any sick with divers diseases brought them unto him; and he laid his hands on every one of them, and healed them." We can easily understand that without the Lord Jesus there would have been here

A Scene of dread Concern.

The setting of the sun is seldom contemplated with any pleasure by the sick and their watchers. His sinking is watched with forebodings of the night. The tardy hours of darkness drag out with depressing heaviness. The morning seems to have forgotten to come. There were very many sick people around Capernaum, and every one would have his anxious friends. These conditions have been a long while common, and there is no need for anybody to describe them. They were common in Jesus' day, and every night which has passed since has had its feverish patients and its worn-out watchers. But on this particular evening

Jesus Kept on Working.

The world could not afford to allow him to stop. Others had given up and were ready to retire; but they were lesser people. The greatest is servant of all. If the people allowed him to stop work a night of anxiety and perhaps gloom would have come. Some parts of our world today are trying to make him stop working, but the world has never known a more sadly apprehensive day. The hearts of men fail for fear of things that are coming upon the earth.

Our Lord will work till sunset. He will work as long as there is any light or opportunity to do anything. He never forsakes the extremity. The faith of our Lord Jesus Christ is a faith of extremities. It comes in when all other helps have gone out defeated. The Great Physician heals when other physicians have taken all the patient's living and have left him worse conditioned. He works at sunset and would save from eternal night. At the eleventh hour he would say, "Go, work to-day in my vineyard."

He Changes the Night

into a period of joy-making. What did those people do that night? The whole countryside would keep joyous revelry. The Son of God had stood between them and a night of sorrow and death. He was as the column of fire over Israel by night.

He functions that way to-day. He invites our confidence at sunset. He asks us to trust him always, even when we have come to the extreme and we know not what else to do. When we are under the frowning shade of impending sorrow we need never give up; he is on duty at sunset. The Book tells us that Peter was in prison one night, and the next day he was to be brought forth to die. The sun of his life was going down with equatorial suddenness, no twilight. But the Lord was on duty at sunset. Peter was delivered. When in the evening twilight, remember the Lord is on duty.

New South Wales Conference.

Ethelbert Davis.

WITH "Co-operation" as its motto, the fifty-fifth annual conference assembled in Sydney from March 17 to 25. The president, W. A. Avenell, a Sydney business man, and one esteemed by the whole brotherhood, ably presided over all sessions.

Few of the country preachers were able to be present this year, and country churches sent few delegates. Their absence was a distinct loss to the conference.

Bro. A. R. Main, Melbourne, was the only interstate visitor. Bren. Hinrichsen and Morris received an enthusiastic welcome as they came to lead the churches forward in evangelism. Four new preachers have come to labor in the State—A. G. Saunders, Taree; F. A. Youens, Chatswood; A. Hinrichsen, Rockdale; and S. H. Wilson, Canley Vale. As usual the catering was in the hands of the Sisters' Conference, and conference gratefully acknowledged its thanks to the sisters in a formal vote most heartily carried.

The call to be still and know God came in helpful devotional sessions led by S. H. Wilson and F. Stow.

Conference in Progress.

The president's reception on Monday, Mar. 17, was the first meeting of the series. In his address the president struck a responsive note when he assured the meeting that he was proud to belong to the churches of the restoration movement. Outlining the conditions of the world to-day, he affirmed that the church must be prepared to meet the challenge of new conditions. In relation to the present world unrest and war the church must lead in seeking avenues of peace. Christ was the only One who could still the world's unrest.

Bro. A. R. Main gave the second address of the evening on the subject, "The Church in Wartime." Some striking utterances gripped the attention of the hearers. The reminder that in wartime and every time the function of the church was to be the church was timely, as was also the emphasis upon the fact that the task of the church was the giving of the gospel of God to the world. One of the characteristics of the day was the revival of paganism. That condition demanded that the church should be careful to proclaim eternal principles. These principles included the sacredness of human personality, fair dealing between man and man, and love for every man for whom Christ died.

Youth Missions.

The Young People's Department held its demonstration on March 18 with a very fine attendance. F. A. Youens, preacher of the Chatswood church, addressed the meeting on the theme, "Youth Marches On." The programme consisted of choral items, choruses and a Biblical pageant presented by the Epping C.E. societies.

The following items were included in the report submitted to conference:—In 45 correspondence classes there were 350 scholars enrolled; 850 scholars sat for the annual Scripture examinations; 730 gained certificates; and four Federal prizes were won by N.S.W. scholars. In teacher and speaker training classes there were 20 students enrolled. Christian Endeavor, junior, intermediate and young people, had enrolled 1250 members. K.S.P. and P.B.P. numbered 30 chapters with 500 members. Young worshippers' leagues had enrolled over 1000. Receipts from all sources amounted to £244/14/6, expenditure, £302; leaving a debit of £48. The debit with loans and outstanding accounts left a total deficit of £94/2/4. The department was responsible for

a cot at the Children's Hospital, and £40/7/4 had been raised for that purpose, showing an increase of £6 on the previous year. The maintaining of the present work and the opening of new schools was set as the objective of the next year.

Social Service.

Wednesday morning and afternoon the women's 64th conference was held. In the evening the social service demonstration was held, preceded by a brotherhood tea. The tea is a noted feature of the social service programme, and is always well attended. The evening programme was enhanced by an original and interesting item entitled "The Committee at Work." There were two scenes, and



W. J. Crossman,
Newly-elected President of N.S.W. Conference.

both demonstrated the practical nature of the work being done by the committee. Bro. D. R. Hall gave the address. Among other things said by the speaker three things stand out: (1) "Christianity can do what the State can never do: it can give moral reinforcement." (2) "Don't appoint executors; be your own executors and enjoy the pleasure of seeing for yourself what your money can do." (3) "After all is done there still remains the personal touch for which there is no substitute."

The report submitted to conference revealed some of the activities of the committee. Under the heading, "Depot and Benevolence," the following items were listed:—A grocery Sunday had been established and was proving successful. Since last conference the committee had distributed 1465 garments, 7 pairs blankets, 8 quilts, 30 articles of groceries, 1 parcel infants' clothing, 18 hats, 8 suits, 36 pairs footwear, quantity furniture and toys, large number periodicals and books, quantity ties and collars. Other activities included the ladies' auxiliary, which had through the year done a valuable work.

Public questions, such as liquor reform and gambling, had claimed the attention of the committee. Hospital visitation, the welfare of the aborigines and unemployment had also come within the scope of the committee's activities.

Christian fellowship, another branch of

social service work, showed that during the year 434 new members had been added to the roll. Twenty-seven cases of need, involving a sum of £417/18/-, had been assisted during the year.

Conference Executive.

The first business session of conference was held on Thursday evening, March 21. A welcome was extended to delegates and visitors. Responses to the welcome were given by A. R. Main, Melbourne; A. G. Saunders and E. Saxby, Taree; S. Wilson, Canley Vale; and R. Wilson, Mayfield. Greetings were received from conference of Great Britain, Federal Conference and all the State conferences; College of the Bible; and missionaries in India. Two churches were admitted to conference—Naremburn and Graystones.

Executive Report.

The executive reported the homecall of 54 members, among whom were two preachers, W. B. Hodgson, of Gulgandra, and H. G. Priestly, of Rockdale.

Statistical returns submitted by the affiliated churches showed that during the year there had been 475 additions—faith and baptism 273, letter of transfer 153, baptised believers 20, restoration 29. Losses for the year totalled 608—54 by death, 151 by letter of transfer, and 403 by revision of roll. The church membership now stands at 5527.

The total number of Sunday schools in N.S.W. was 64; scholars 4659, teachers 690, an increase over last year of 39 scholars and 20 teachers; 130 from the school had been added to the church.

Other matters reported by the executive were:—

(1) King's Birthday conference. A brotherhood rally and conference had been held at Petersham. It was felt that the experience was worth repeating.

(2) Incorporation. The matter was still in the hands of a special committee, and further investigation was to be made.

(3) Bible College for N.S.W. The committee appointed at a special conference last year was instructed to make further investigations.

(4) Special conference. A special conference had been called to discuss the State work generally. The conference had been adjourned to a later date.

(5) Chaplaincy Work. Churches of Christ brethren serving as chaplains were W. J. Crossman, R. Acland, F. E. Alcorn and S. C. Jenner.

(6) Federal Interests. The College of the Bible was receiving the support of the N.S.W. churches. Four students from the State were in college this year. The "Australian Christian," the Federal paper of the Churches of Christ, was commended to the brotherhood.

Conference Business Resumed.

Friday morning business was resumed and was continued throughout the day. There were splendid attendances. The reports presented to conference during the day are noted under the respective committee headings.

Home Missions.

The home mission demonstration on Friday, March 22, was magnificently attended, every seat in Enmore Tabernacle being in use. The choir seats were occupied by over 70 of the Rockdale members, the majority of whom were converts of the recent Hinrichsen mission. The enthusiasm of the occasion manifested itself in an offering of £347/19/6 for evangelistic work, over £90 of that being donated by the sisters.

The retiring president, W. A. Avenell, introduced W. J. Crossman as the newly-elected president, who in turn presented the retiring president with a copy of the Word of God as a token of appreciation of the way in which he had discharged his presidential duties. Solos were rendered by Miss D. Flood and Mr. V.

Morris. Bro. H. G. Harward, loved and honored by every member of the conference, rose amid tumultuous applause to give a short greeting. "How to Win the War" was the theme of E. C. Hinrichsen's great and challenging address. For nearly an hour he held the attention of the audience. The reporter, carried away by the eloquence of the appeal, forgot to record any of the message. It was a great message to a great congregation.

In presenting the report the home mission committee regretted to announce the retirement of H. G. Harward from the position of home mission secretary, a position he had held for many years. A "Harward Testimonial Fund" was being launched throughout Australia.

Joy was expressed at the coming of E. C. Hinrichsen to lead the churches of the State in a forward movement in evangelism. During the past year the committee had supported the work in eight fields:—

Albury.—Bro. I. Chivell served the church till the end of the year. At the present Bro. Walmsley, a student of Glen Iris, ministered to the church.

Dorrigo.—Bro. F. A. Stewart labored with the church for a few months, and latterly the local members had maintained the work with an occasional visit by Bro. Weir, from Grafton.

Gilgandra.—The sudden death of Bro. Hodgson deprived the church of a trusted leader. Bro. Chivell had returned to that field.

Georgetown.—An entirely new field, that centre had been placed under the pastoral oversight of Bro. Thomas, of Hamilton. Bro. Wylie was appointed assistant to Bro. Thomas.

Grafton.—With Bro. Weir as preacher the work was happy, but owing to removals from the district the church had been weakened.

Hamilton.—Good work was being done by Bro. Thomas, whose removal from the district shortly was regretted.

Mayfield.—A splendid work was being done by Bro. Wilson.

Inverell-Delongra.—The work in that circuit was being maintained by Bro. Jenner, who had added duties when appointed to a chaplaincy.

Parramatta District.—Bro. Hammer being away at Aoba, the work was without a settled preacher.

Epping.—The work had shown decided improvement since the coming of Bro. McCallum as preacher.

Erskineville.—The work at that centre was being subsidised with Bro. Pond in charge.

Petersham.—Owing to the serious illness of Bro. Arnott the committee had taken charge of the work.

(Continued on page 235.)

Tasmanian Conference.

Folliott T. Morgan.

THE 44th annual conference of our Tasmanian churches, held this year in Launceston, was marked by indications of increased interest and activity. Meetings were not so well attended as in previous years, some churches not being represented at all, but this fact was offset by others. Three home mission preachers were present at conference, whereas only one man was engaged in this work twelve months ago. Bren. Tease and Street were welcomed to the ranks of the State's preachers during the year. Whether this influx is to be reckoned the cause or the effect of added interest in missionary effort within the State is a moot point. We rejoice in the progress and life manifested, let who will argue the reasons.

The following were chosen to lead the brotherhood work for the coming year:—

Executive and Home Mission Committee.—Bren. W. S. Lowe, B. Com., president; H. V. Stevens, vice-president; R. Edmunds, secretary; F. T. Morgan, assistant secretary; G. J. Foot, treasurer; J. P. Foot, C. Nicholls, T. Orr and E. A. Stevens.

Foreign Missionary Committee.—Bren. B. J. Golder, president; N. J. Warmbrunn, vice-president; G. O. Tease, secretary; J. Harrison, treasurer; T. Lillye, J. Park, and Sisters Mrs. Boxhall, Mrs. N. Cooper and Miss Swinton.

Bible School and Young People's Department. Bro. F. T. Morgan, president; Sisters Mrs. W. S. Lowe, vice-president; Miss J. Gullidge, secretary; Miss P. Crooks, treasurer; Bren. H. M. Alderton, K. Barton, R. Comer, W. S. Lowe, B. Com., E. O. Stevens.

Southern District Youth Committee.—Sisters I. Lillye, D. Pearce, G. Boxhall, and Bren. R. Boxhall, G. O. Tease, B. J. Golder.

Temperance and Social Services Committee.—Bren. L. A. Bowes, president; J. Park, secretary; D. Pearsall, treasurer; A. Heard, T. Lillye, B. J. Golder, J. C. Woolley.

Council of Churches Representatives.—Bren. L. A. Bowes, J. Park, T. Lillye, G. O. Tease.

Nominations Committee.—Bren. N. Cooper, B. J. Golder, E. A. Stevens and H. V. Stevens. The report of the Foreign Missionary Com-

mittee showed increased support for overseas work, the £341 contributed during the year being a State record. The conference indicated by resolution its support of the Federal Board's desire to send Bro. and Sister Coventry back to India. Bro. J. E. Allan, in Tasmania at the F.M. Committee's invitation, was a very welcome fraternal delegate. His address and pictures at the foreign missionary rally were appreciated.

Continued interest in the problem of progress in home missionary work was manifested by conference in a resolution which instructed the incoming H.M. Committee to arrange a

three-years' plan of evangelism in Tasmania, and to notify the churches what are the plans, beginning not later than four months hence, to pay special attention, when arranging the plan, to the holding of tent missions in new and old fields and to the formulating of a courageous financial programme to enable the work to be carried out. The financial difficulties of the future received attention in that conference instructed the incoming committee to explore the possibilities of purchasing an endowment life insurance contract in order to provide a lump sum income at some specified future time for evangelistic purposes. Not all the attention of conference, however, was turned to distant times and places. A desire to get on with the job was manifested in the decision that those churches in the State which have preachers be asked to release them to conduct missions in other fields during 1940, and that the details be left in the hands of the H.M. Committee.

The conference executive committee indicated the desirability of establishing a library of publications concerning our own movement to be suitably housed and available to the brotherhood. An appeal was made to all who possessed such books that are now out of print to entrust them to the executive committee either during the owners' lifetime or by bequest.

Youth work continues to progress. A feature of conference was the youth camp, the first to be held by the B.S. and Y.P. Department in this State in conjunction with State conference. Greater co-ordination and increased achievement in youth work should result from the addition to the constitution of the following clause: "Conference shall appoint a committee of six members to be known as the Northern or Southern District Youth Committee in either Launceston or Hobart, whichever city is not the location of the State committee. Such district committee shall act in co-operation with the State committee as the latter desires and shall have power to cater for the youth of the churches in the district of its location."

The question of possible union with our Baptist brethren still exercises the minds of many in this State. Mr. A. C. Prior, Th. L., minister of Memorial Baptist Church, Launceston, and Mrs. Prior were guests of the conference at lunch on Good Friday. The churches in conference assembled pledged themselves to support the conference executive in its efforts to bring about a scriptural union with the Baptist Church in Tasmania.

The continuance of an active interest in the temperance cause was shown by the approval given by conference to a pledge-signing campaign sponsored by the Temperance and Social Service Committee. The endorsement of the movement to provide milk and fruit juice bars in military camps was an indication in the same direction.

The matter of conscientious objection to war was brought before conference in the following resolution which was unanimously carried: "We believe that liberty of conscience in Australia is endangered by the existing law relating to those who conscientiously object to participation in war. We join with all other Christian people who, though they may hold differing opinions on national service in wartime, desire to maintain individual liberty of conscience. We request that the Government amend the present law to bring it into line with the present British law in the matter, and interpret the present law with the greatest possible degree of moderation pending such an amendment."

Conference evening sessions and the picnic held on Easter Monday at the Cliff grounds all contributed to make a successful conference. We look for another year of progress in the Master's cause before the coming of next conference, which will be held in Hobart.



W. S. Lowe, B. Com.,
Re-elected President of Tasmanian Conference.

N.S.W. Women's Conference.

THE 46th annual conference of the N.S.W. women's auxiliary was held at Enmore Tabernacle on March 20. There was a splendid gathering of delegates and friends at both sessions, and a fine spirit of fellowship prevailed.

Morning session opened with devotional exercises led by Mrs. C. B. Nance-Kivell, assisted in Bible reading and prayer by Sisters Mrs. Hillhouse and Mrs. Stanhope. The leader gave an inspiring message from John 16: 33 on the subject, "Be of good cheer." At the conclusion of the address the solo, "There is a green hill far away," was sung by Miss Myra Lambert. The session closed with prayer.

The president, Mrs. Lewis, opened the business session, and extended a welcome to delegates and friends from city and country, and to interstate visitors. Country delegates included sisters from Wagga, Blackheath, Port Kembla (Mrs. D. Main) and Taree (Mrs. A. G. Saunders).

Following the election of officers and superintendents of committees, reports of committees were received and adopted. Obituary report was received standing, and was followed with a verse of "Forever with the Lord," and a prayer of consolation for those bereaved.

Other reports showed steady progress and the faithful effort of superintendents and committees of all departments.

In presenting the report of the Ashwood House Aged Women's Home, Mrs. Rush spoke in terms of appreciation of the work done by Miss Ashwood for the welfare of the home and inmates. Miss S. Chapple, matron, gave a greeting and spoke of the happy spirit and co-operation prevailing at the home and with the committee of management.

Speaking to the temperance and social service report Mrs. T. E. Rofe moved that a letter be sent to the Prime Minister, Mr. Menzies, congratulating him on his stand re the continuance of dry canteens in the military camps. Mrs. Burns, of S.A., spoke in support of the motion, and told of the success of milk bars installed in camps in S.A. Carried.

In reference to soldiers, the president spoke of the work being accomplished through the comforts committee of conference. The movement was commenced by the ladies of City Temple Dorcas class last November, and to enlarge the scope of the work the co-operation of conference was sought to form a soldiers' comforts committee to work through the Lord Mayor's Fund. A committee was appointed, and under the capable and energetic leadership of Miss Smith and Miss Hazel Brown, to date 374 pairs of socks and 36 flannel shirts have been completed and forwarded.

An important feature of the year's work mentioned in the executive report was the introduction of a unified programme for the mission bands. This was sponsored by Mrs. P. D. McCallum, and to facilitate its adoption the subject matter was kindly supplied by the Victorian Women's Mission Band Committee each month.

For home missions £91/6/11 was given through the special fund, £21/9/1 through mission bands, and £7/7/- from general fund, making a total of £120/3/-.

For overseas missions for Christmas cheer £129/15/- was contributed, £21/9/- from mission bands, and £11/14/- milk fund donation, total amount being £152/18/-. In the report the hope was expressed that N.S.W. sisters will soon go forward and so have their own living link on the mission field.

The needs of the sick and needy have been met unflinchingly through the efforts of the Newington and social service committees, also those in isolation. The prayer meeting committee visited many churches, and Dorcas classes

are exerting an ever-widening influence both practical and spiritual.

Financial Statement.—General fund, £290/19/9 (including £127/4/11 overseas Christmas cheer); home missions special fund, £91/6/11; mission bands, £42/18/1. Ashwood House: Including guests' payments, donations 1d. fund, from business girls' auxiliary, and interest payments, amount totals £663/5/3.

After luncheon adjournment conference re-assembled at 2.15 p.m. for afternoon session, over which Mrs. Lewis presided. A greeting from the general conference executive was conveyed by the president, Bro. W. Avenell. Greetings were received from all the interstate women's conferences; the board of the College of the Bible, Mrs. J. Fox, Mrs. Inverarity (W.A.), Mrs. D. Wakeley (S.A.), and Mrs. Budgen.

Mrs. P. D. McCallum extended a loving welcome to representatives of sister churches, to the president of the Women's Inter-church Council, to country delegates, to the wives of ministers newly arrived in N.S.W., and to interstate visitors. Responses were given by all representatives, and by Mrs. Burns (S.A.) and Mrs. A. G. Saunders (Taree) on behalf of country sisters.

Mrs. Corbitt, a life member of the executive, introduced the incoming executive. In her presidential remarks Mrs. Lewis gave a helpful message from Eph. 2: 4-6 on "Heavenly Places in Christ Jesus." A plea was made for continued co-operation, and a greater realisation of the constant companionship of Christ Jesus. A message in song, "In the Secret Presence," was sung by Miss Linda Jeffery, and "A New Year's Message" was recited by Mrs. Downe. Speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. Violet Devey, who gave a fine message on "Personal Prayer."

We thank all who in any way contributed to the help and success of the day—our president, for her gracious and capable leadership; the secretary, Mrs. Wakely; Mrs. Murray (catering); the soloists; also the officers of Enmore for their courtesy in permitting use of building.

The following officers and superintendents were elected:—

Executive.—President, Mrs. Lewis (re-elected); vice-presidents, Mrs. Rush, Mrs. P. D. McCallum and Mrs. Corlett; secretary, Mrs. A. Wakely; recording secretary, Mrs. H. Palmer; treasurer, Mrs. Rofe. Life members, Mrs. Corbitt, Mrs. Clydesdale and Mrs. J. Fox.

Superintendents of Committees.—Home missions (in abeyance); overseas missions, Mrs. P. D. McCallum; prayer meetings, Mrs. Thompson; Ashwood House committee of management, Mrs. Hall, Mrs. Rush, Misses Elliot and H. Brown; obituary, Mrs. Budgen; Newington, Mrs. Crossman; Dorcas—social service, Mrs. A. Wakely; isolated, Miss Elliot; programme, Mrs. Rush; catering, Mrs. Murray; representatives general F.M. committee, Mrs. P. D. McCallum, Miss Rofe and Miss Winks.—Mrs. H. Palmer, recording secretary.

A CHILD'S PRAYER.

HOLY God, who madest me
And all things to worship thee,
Keep me fit in mind and heart,
Body and soul to take my part.
Fit for stand and fit to run,
Fit for sorrow, fit for fun,
Fit for work and fit for play,
Fit to face life day by day.
Holy God, who madest me,
Make me fit to worship thee. Amen.

—"Children's Newspaper."

The Family Altar.

J.C.F.P.

TOPIC.—THE BEST FOR GOD.

Monday, April 15.

NEITHER will I offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing.—1 Kings 24: 24.

David purchased Araunah's threshing floor, there to build an altar for offerings. Araunah would gladly have made a present of the threshing floor, but David refused to accept that which cost him nothing. So all God's people, whilst rejoicing in salvation through the sacrifice of Christ, should daily show their gratitude by giving to God not that which costs them nothing, but themselves, their time and their talents.

Reading—1 Kings 24: 13-25.

Tuesday, April 16.

Thou mayest add thereto.—1 Chron. 22: 14. The gifts David made for the house of God were probably greater in value than any offering presented before or since, yet he said to Solomon, "Thou mayest add thereto." So the best offerings seem but insignificant to consecrated souls.

Reading—1 Chronicles 22.

Wednesday, April 17.

What do ye more than others?—Matt. 5: 47. The Christian should be better, and do better, than the best worldling, yet one cannot fail to notice in some professors an absence of Christian graces, and on the other hand, the possession of lovely dispositions and a desire to assist others on the part of many non-professors. It will scarcely be well with any of us if we stand before our great Judge at the last day with the consciousness that many heathen and worldlings have been better and done better than ourselves.

Matthew 5: 38-47.

Thursday, April 18.

She of her want did cast in all the living that she had.—Luke 21: 4.

This poor widow had two coins, and might have retained one, yet she put both into the money-chest; a small gift, if measured by quantity, but a very great one, if measured by quality. Many who are giving of their best, which quantitatively is but a small offering, may be comforted by remembering that "the Lord looketh on the heart."

Reading—Luke 20: 45-47; 21: 1-4.

Friday, April 19.

I beseech you, brethren, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice.—Rom. 12: 1.

As the entire bodies of animals were sacrificed upon Jewish altars, so we should present ourselves entirely to God. But there is this distinguishing characteristic; our sacrifice is a *living one*. Christianity requires activity. It demands ourselves, one continual sacrifice.

Reading—Romans 12: 1-8.

Saturday, April 20.

See that ye abound in this grace also.—2 Cor. 8: 7.

The context shows that one may be greatly gifted or be eminent for certain Christian graces, yet if mean, is not the highest type of Christian. His character is incomplete.

Reading—2 Corinthians 8: 1-15.

Sunday, April 21.

She brought an alabaster cruse of ointment.—Luke 7: 37.

There is no reason to conclude that the ointment or the cruse were the most costly procurable, but nevertheless this was a loving gift presented by a penitent soul, the acceptance of which reminds us that Jesus will not repel but graciously receive the vilest who repent of their sins and bring to him their offering of themselves, and will welcome even from such any gifts of love they bring to him.

Readings—Proverbs 8: 1-11; Luke 7: 36-50.

"Our Citizenship."

Philippians 3: 20, 21.

Prayer Meeting Topic for April 7.

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

"FOR our citizenship is in heaven." The rendering of the A.V. "our conversation" does not convey the right idea. Paul is telling the Philippians that they are citizens of heaven in contradistinction from a worldly community. They are governed by the laws of heaven; they were a community associated as citizens of that world, and expecting to dwell there.

Citizenship in Heaven.

Immediately we begin to write or speak in these terms to-day we lay ourselves open to the charge of being other-worldly, as though that were a crime. Yet Paul thought and wrote these words. We believe there is a danger in so humanising the gospel that we forget we belong to Christ. We ought never to forget that, though earth's beauties and attractions are good, heaven is better—and we may have heaven in our hearts now.

Jesus also pointed to a place of many mansions and urged preparation for them. John the beloved with picture and metaphor tried to make clear that there was something better ahead, and associated it with the coming of Christ. To have our citizenship in heaven does not mean we have no rights and privileges and responsibilities here. The reverse is true, for the greater the knowledge and value of redemption through Christ which is essential to that life, the greater the sense of responsibility of our task here.

Honor and Privilege.

Rome in Paul's day was the capital of the world. Citizenship brought with it safety, honor and privilege. Those who had Roman citizenship were eligible for the highest offices in the land, and were exempt from many burdens and taxes imposed on subject races. These citizens could not be scourged or examined by scourging before judgment. In the case of a civil offence they had the right of appeal to Cæsar. Paul prized this Roman citizenship, but his citizenship in heaven was more highly prized.

We attain this heavenly citizenship and share its honor and privileges by birth—the new birth; by gift—"God so loved that he gave"; by paying—but God paid the price.

Live as Citizens.

Some citizens on earth disgrace their citizenship and prove unworthy of it. They are deprived of their freedom because they have abused their privileges. We should live as citizens of heaven subject to the laws of heaven. In that way we live on a higher plane than the man of the world. "They are not of the world even as I am not of the world." Does your next-door neighbor know?

Citizens of cities have characteristics. The Athenian was noted for culture, the Spartan for bravery, the Corinthian for luxury, but the Christian should be known by reason of his holiness and his right life. "The citizen of heaven carries his credentials with him. His passport is God's writing upon his heart. The assurance that heaven shall be ours is not to be found in an other-worldliness which ignores the present, but in the effort to make heaven within shed its light abroad and so transform the earth into its likeness."

We must cheerfully obey the laws of heaven and carry its atmosphere wherever we go. We will not lay up treasure upon earth, but our treasure will be such as will endure in Christian character and deeds of service. Our hearts are there. We look for a city without foundations whose builder and maker is God. All life should be a serious preparation for our eternal stay there.

TOPIC FOR APRIL 24.—"REJOICE IN THE LORD."—Philippians 4: 1-4.

Our Young People.

Conducted by Kelth A. Jones.

Easter at Gawler, S.A.

GAWLER oval has become a sacred place to us, for this Easter was the sixth year in succession that the Y.P. training camp was held there. "The best yet!"—we say that every year, but it truly was in many ways better than any previous one. It was the largest yet held, 108 being in residence, besides many who came for the day. There were 40 young men and 68 young women. They came from 28 different centres—city and country—so the influence of the camp is far reaching. The B.S. organiser (Will Beiler) was again director with the assistance of Uncle Frank Fisher. Miss Minnie Leedham (Auntie Min) acted as camp mother, assisted by Sister Jessie Richards. The splendid service rendered by these capable and consecrated workers, together with the kindly and sympathetic co-operation of all the campers, lightened the task of the director, who had only come out of hospital a few days before. The theme chosen this year was "Loyalty." It proved to be an excellent one, being splendidly developed during the camp sessions, the various nature of which made for a most instructive and inspirational time. Morning watch topics, Loyalty in Doctrine, Fellowship, Communion and Prayer, were based on Acts 2: 42. Bible studies: "Galatians," by J. E. Shipway; "Barnabas," by W. F. Nankivell; and a review of Amos Wells' "Why We Believe the Bible," by A. E. Forbes, all proved most stimulating.

"Personal Evangelism" was ably dealt with by Vic. McKenzie, and H. P. Manning presented our brotherhood interests at home and abroad in a concise and appealing way.

As usual, the "group circles" proved most helpful and interesting, the topics considered being loyalty to Christ and the church in Christian citizenship and to the plea for Christian unity. Group leaders were Bren. Fisher, Hemer, Mercer, Wilson and McKenzie. The subjects were in the hands of F. Hollams, F. A. Halleday and the director. Other sessions of special value and help were talks on "Know Thyself" to the boys and later to the girls by Dr. Trevor Turner; a talk by Mrs. Will Beiler on "Far Horizons"; and a devotional session at which Bro. A. E. Hurren and the director gave messages. The devotional spirit of the camp was greatly helped by the informal prayer sessions that were held. Bro. Hemer was prayer convener, and the days were brought to a close by the conducting of "family worship," when a portion of the Colossian letter was read. In the girls' dormitory Auntie Min gave an encouraging word to the girls each night, the director basing his four closing messages on 1 Cor. 16: 13—a quartette on the rhythm of life for men.

The musical portion of the camp was most thoughtfully and capably prepared for, and carried out under the guidance of Alb. Glastonbury. What a variety of talent! No need to have the same pianist or soloist, but different ones at each session, and every one enjoyed singing the beautiful choruses, camp songs and listening to the special items given.

The social side was not neglected. Saturday night an impromptu social proved to be "one of the best yet." Sitting with different campers at the meal table, the impromptu discussions on the lawn, all conducted to greater friendliness. Good humor is always encouraged and some good "jokes" were given. Recreation was indulged in, and good contests were held in both cricket and tennis, and all who went enjoyed the hike through Gawler. The food—the splendid and varied menu—prepared by Mesdames Collins, Headon and Thorpe—was delicious.

Easter Sunday is always made more blessed by fellowship with the brethren and sisters of the Gawler church. They met at the camp for the communion service (152 partaking), the offering going to the Gawler church. Harold Steward presided in a beautiful way, and Alb. Glastonbury gave a most thoughtful Easter message on "The Power of the Resurrection." In the afternoon a "witness session" was held, when a number of the campers told of "What Appeals Most in Christ." A deep spirit of consecration was experienced. A J.C.E. session was ably led by Laurel Harper, at which Margaret Bartlett gave a nice message.

The evening prayer session was in the hands of Blanche DeLaine.

At the gospel service in Gawler chapel Ken. Cross was the leader. Graedon Wills read the lesson, Reg. Bradley interested the young folk with his helpful message on "Ships," a choir from the camp sang "King of Kings," and Auntie Min a beautiful solo. After the director's message a young man made the good confession.

An open-air service was led by Cliff Manning, and a great sing-song closed a wonderful day of memories and fellowships.

We believe that the training received in this camp will enable our young people to do more efficient service for Christ and the church, as we trust the camp chorus will constantly remind them of these four sacred and wonderful days and lead them out to daily say—

"Forward then in service,
For the Christ we love;
He will give us power other lives to win,
Loyally we'll follow, victory is in him."
—Will Beiler.



Easter Camp Conference at Gawler, S.A.

Here and There.

Bro. W. J. Crossman, Senior Chaplain United Board, N.S.W., will conclude a period of camp duty on April 15.

We were glad to receive the following news by telegraph on Tuesday: "Crowded meetings Sunday Rockdale (Sydney); three confessions.—Hinrichsen."

We received the following telegram on Tuesday morning:—"Hinrichsen-Morris mission Georgetown (N.S.W.) had biggest meeting last night; marquee crowded out, over 100 outside; 48 decisions to date.—Wylie."

Members of the Victorian General Dorcas will hold their monthly meeting on Wednesday next, April 17, from 10.30 a.m. till 4 p.m., in Swanston-st. lecture hall. All sisters interested in the work are invited to attend.

In connection with the furnishing of the Chown Memorial Chapel, the secretary reports that the College of the Bible Women's Association has notified that it will donate the cost of one pew. This early response to the appeal made last week is very gratifying.

The isolation superintendent of the Tasmanian women's conference, Mrs. Kingston, 1 Quarry-st., West Hobart, wishes to secure the names and addresses of isolated members from other States now in Tasmania. Will all who can assist kindly respond to this request?

At his home in Ainsdale, England, the veteran evangelist R. K. Francis was called home on Feb. 14. He had reached the age of 77 years. Over a period of fifty years he served the churches as a preacher, and was for a time editor of the "Christian Advocate," journal of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland.

The churches on Eyre Peninsula, S.A., held their 25th annual conference at Wudinna on March 22. Some journeyed as far as 160 miles to be present. There was a good representative gathering from Pt. Lincoln, Tumby Bay, Ungarra, Mt. Hill, Wudinna, and surrounding districts. A happy time of fellowship was experienced. Two fine messages were received in keeping with the day.

Attendances at the tent mission at Preston, Vic., during first week were very encouraging. Bro. Macnaughtan preaches with power, and interest is growing. The question box is used freely. The visitation by Bro. Robinson is having effect. Valuable assistance in visitation has been given by Bro. Wigney (West Preston) and Bro. Searle (Thornbury). Bro. Macnaughtan addressed the church on April 7 on the subject, "Wise Fools." In the tent at night his subject was "What must I Do to be Saved?" There were two confessions. Bible school picnic was held at Wattle Park on Labor Day.

At Hindmarsh, S.A., on Apr. 7, Bro. W. L. Ewers spoke to a good meeting in morning. In afternoon workers gathered to canvass district for united evangelistic effort by this church and Christian church of Hindmarsh Place. A band of workers from the latter joined in. After preparation in prayer about 35 to 40 went out with literature for the campaign and to look for new scholars for Bible school. Hundreds of homes were contacted. At evening service the church met for a while in prayer and then adjourned to the town hall. An open-air witness meeting was followed by united evangelistic service in the hall. Bro. Wm. L. Ewers preached with power on "God's Warning to the Anti-God Nations." About 350 were present. A male choir of 35 from both churches led the singing, and Bro. Jack Holden sang a solo. Bro. C. Wood was song-leader. Interest in the meetings augurs well for the rest of the campaign.

On March 31 successful jubilee services were held at Minyip, Vic. Many former members were present. Greetings were received from members who had gone to other States and N.Z., also from sister churches and former members in this State. Bro. J. Byrne, of Prahran church, presided in morning, and Bro. A. W. Connor gave an inspiring message. A male quartette was enjoyed. At evening service it was a joy to listen to Bro. Connor's challenging address. A message in song was rendered by Miss Jessie Goudie, and a duet by Misses L. Smith and M. Parsons. On Monday the tea meeting was held, and the chapel was crowded at the service which followed. The jubilee mission is being conducted by Bro. J. E. Webb with good meetings. A young lady from the Bible class made the good confession on April 3.

The church at Gardenvale, Vic., on April 4 said farewell to Bro. John Gray, who came from Port Fairy about 16 years ago. He was an elder of the church, and also of the circuit board of Brighton district; a great counsellor in spiritual things, a splendid witness for the Lord Jesus, earnest in every endeavor. Messages of appreciation of his life and service were given by Bro. Withers (preacher) and Bro. R. P. Morris, of Brighton; Bro. Sampson and Bro. Sumpton, of Gardenvale. Tokens of love were presented by Bro. Sumpton. Bro. Gray graciously responded. The church also said good-bye to Sister Mrs. Scott, who is going to Burnie, Tas. Sister Mrs. Powell spoke of her excellent character and splendid leadership. A bouquet of flowers was presented. Bro. Withers commended Bro. Gray and Sister Scott to the care of our heavenly Father. Miss V. Price, of Brighton, rendered two beautiful solos.

A few weeks ago we reported the home-call of Bro. F. W. Greenwood. From a copy of "The New Zealand Herald" of Feb. 27 we cull the following: "The death has occurred of Frederick W. Greenwood, of Mount Eden, well known as an evangelist and educationalist, aged 80 years. Born at Burton-on-Trent, England, Mr. Greenwood came to New Zealand at the age of 17 years. To complete a course of theology, he went to the College of the Bible at Kentucky University, United States. After five years in America, Mr. Greenwood returned in 1890 to Christchurch, where he married Miss Margaret McJarrow. He was engaged in the ministry in Auckland for five years, later going to Oamaru and Ashburton for periods of three years, in addition to carrying out special missions in other parts of the Dominion. Mr. Greenwood then spent nine years in Churches of Christ in Melbourne. Upon returning to New Zealand he was engaged in home mission work, editing the 'New Zealand Christian' and contributing a monthly letter to the 'Christian Standard,' United States. He retired ten years ago owing to ill-health, but still carried on with his literary work. Mr. Greenwood is survived by his wife, two sons and two daughters."

The church at Warragul, Vic., has been experiencing happy times of fellowship. On March 31 Bro. Ken. Derbyshire made the good confession at conclusion of Bro. Hillbrich's morning address. On April 2 a fellowship tea was held in Palais adjoining chapel, when 250 sat to enjoy the meal prepared by the ladies. All members of local ministers' fraternal were present. Bren. Snow and Scambler were the guests for the evening. Afterwards a large gathering assembled in the chapel to enjoy addresses by Bren. Snow and Scambler, also musical and elocutionary items. The meetings were in every way successful, and £11 was made to clear debt on church repairs. On April 7

an isolated members' day was held, when members of various parts of Gippsland were present. Bro. T. Hagger was the special speaker. In the morning about 100 were present. Bro. Hagger spoke on "Unmovable Disciples." Lunch was held in a near-by hall. In the afternoon a P.S.A. was held, when Bro. Hagger spoke on "The Challenge of Present World Conditions." At night the subject was "Through a Man." A happy day was enjoyed with members from Trafalgar, Sale, Coalville, Garfield, Mountain View, Dandenong, Berwick, Nar-Nar-Goon, Ormond and Ivanhoe, also with Bro. Waters and family, preacher-elect for Hamilton. The church is indebted to Gardiner church for releasing Bro. Hagger for the occasion.

ADDRESSES.

Alex. Ross (secretary Castlemaine church, Vic.)—46 Bull-st., Castlemaine.

G. M. Wilson (secretary Surrey Hills church, Vic.)—"Tynan," 69 Union-rd., Surrey Hills, E.10.

C. Young (preacher Bentleigh-Gardenvale churches, Vic.)—42 Whitmuir-st., Bentleigh, S.E.14.

RUBY WEDDING.

WEST-SOMERVILLE.—Mr. and Mrs. A. B. West announce with pleasure the 40th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at Wedderburn on April 11, 1900, by Mr. E. Griffiths. Present address, Merbein, Victoria.

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE.

Mrs. V. Fancourt and Mrs. M. Fancourt and family wish to thank Mr. Youens and all officers, members and friends of Chatswood Church of Christ, also members of other churches, for their loving Christian sympathy in their recent sad bereavement in the passing of their husband, son and brother, Dick, on 15/3/40.

SORRENTO, VICTORIA.

Vacant now, house, accom. 7, 3 bedrooms, diningroom, breakfast room, kitchen, bathroom, water laid on, garage, clean, mod. Both close to front beach—"Earlsden," Kerford-rd., Sorrento.

FOR SALE.

"White Wings," Norfolk Island. 27 acres, 3 planted, 24 in grass capable carrying 15 cows all the year round; also suitable sheep. House 9 rooms well built after the Australian pattern. Equable climate, no extremes of temperature. Two permanent streams water run through property; 1000 gallon tank supplies for home. £350. Terms may be arranged.—A. T. Waters, c/o Mrs. Harry Cairns, Eston's Corner, Ontario, Canada.

ABORIGINES' UPLIFT SOCIETY.

You have not done your duty as a white person until you have discharged your duty to our natives. The above society is doing YOUR JOB, and invites your co-operation so that WE may do OUR JOB better.

Membership fee is 2/- per annum, and donations toward the work are always welcome.

Have you made your will? Have you remembered those to whom you owe so much, our natives, expropriated without compensation, whose land, now yours, is more reasonably theirs?

Write for a copy of "UPLIFT," which will be sent free and post free on application to A. P. A. BURDEU, Hon. Sec., 21 Amelia-ave., Essendon, W.5, Victoria.

HOSPITALITY.

The Aborigines' Uplift Society invites co-operation in its work. One of our aboriginal Christians will be coming to Melbourne for hospital treatment. There may be a day or two when the hospitality of a Christian home would be appreciated. Please write A. P. A. BURDEU, 21 Amelia-ave., Essendon, W.5.

News of the Churches.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Collie-Ewington.—Bro. R. J. Duckett is helping the church by exhortation. Both Bible schools continue to grow in enrolment and interest; also the gospel services. The church regrets the passing of aged Sister Mrs. J. H. Hicks, of Ewington; also Sister Mrs. W. Johns at Exeter (nee Mary Ware, of Collie). Bro. W. H. Nightingale conducted a largely attended memorial service for these two sisters on March 31.

Perth.—At communion service on March 31 Bro. Albert Anderson, secretary of Federal F.M. Board, gave an inspiring message on "We do not well because we hold our peace." Gospel meeting was broadcast. Special items were rendered by choir, and a trio by Bren. E. R. Berry, V. Congrave and Frank Ewers. Bro. Wiltshire's helpful address was entitled, "When Christ is Pre-eminent." The following night Bro. Anderson presented lantern pictures of overseas missions. He held attention in a thrilling story of work in India and New Hebrides.

TASMANIA.

Tunnel Bay.—The church suffered the loss of its building during a fire which swept through the district on March 13. Meetings are being conducted in the picnic shed. All are still well attended. About 35 broke bread on morning of March 24.

Devonport.—Bro. H. Street gives inspiring messages. During past month the church had fellowship with Bro. Elvin Price, of Brighton (Vic.). On Easter Sunday Sister Nothrop gave a helpful evening message, "Under the Shadow of the Cross." Sister Phyllis Byard sang a solo. On March 31 Bro. Street's evening address on "But God—" was appreciated. Sister Nothrop rendered a message in song.

West Hobart.—In absence at conference of Bro. Tease, Easter Sunday morning message was given by Bro. Cameron and evening message by Bro. J. Woolley. On March 31 Bro. Allan, of Cheltenham, Vic., gave a lantern lecture to Bible school and also at evening service in interests of overseas missions. Fellowship with Sister Margaret Coventry, of Victoria, was also enjoyed. At monthly "Booster Club" tea on April 7 a representative of Kodak Ltd. showed pictures of Palestine, Egypt and Italy. Soloist was Miss M. Luckstone.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Balaklava.—P. R. Baker is still preaching with power and conviction. Many are halting between two opinions. It is difficult to break through, but meetings are increasing in attendance. Church seating has had to be used. One decided during the week. Eleven decisions all told.

Winkie.—On March 31 Bro. J. Minnock addressed the church and Bro. C. Williams, of Berri, conducted evening service. At C.E. society meeting on April 4, the topic was "Australian Aborigines." On April 7 Bro. Train, of Adelaide, spoke in the morning on "What is the Church?"

Bordertown.—Splendid meetings have continued since close of mission. On April 7, 82 communed, and three were welcomed into fellowship. Bro. Russell exhorted, and Bro. D. R. Milne preached at night. On April 3 a successful social was held to bring new and old members together. Bro. and Sister Henderson and May, from Prospect, and Bro. and Sister Miles, from Bambra-rd., Vic., have been visitors. Sister Mrs. Selby was called home on March 29 at 86 years of age.

Victor Harbour.—March 31 was first ordinary Sunday in new church home. Over 100 were present in morning, and nearly 200 at night to witness immersion of Joy Fullston, Lily Kennewell and Grace De Houghton, all local young ladies. Bro. and Sister Tom Day were received into fellowship in morning by immersion. Mrs. Day was first to be immersed in the new baptistery. Many visitors are augmenting services. Splendid services were held on Apr. 7, when Bro. Whitridge Bowen spoke at both meetings.

Maylands.—On March 31 church anniversary services were held. Mr. Wakeley was morning speaker and Mr. A. E. Brown in evening. Services were continued on April 3, when Mr. Forbes, of Mile End, was speaker. Supper was partaken of. Choir rendered special musical items at all services. Bible class fellowship tea was held on March 31. Mr. Brown was the guest and speaker, and a happy time was spent. On April 7 Mr. Swan, of B. and F. Bible Society, was morning speaker and at night Mr. Wakeley spoke on "A Loving Invitation."

Berri.—During absence of Bro. Holland, conducting a mission at Moorook, Bro. Train is in charge of work at Berri and Winkie. The church said farewell to the Davie family at a social on March 28. Bro. Roy Morrell has been appointed superintendent of Lyrup Bible school in place of Bro. Davies. Good work is being done by all auxiliaries. Junior Endeavorers are showing keen interest in their work. On April 7 Bro. Train brought a message to the juniors. On morning of March 31 Bro. K. Hammond spoke to them. Bren. Mauger and Hunt exhorted the church on April 7 while Bro. Train was at Winkie.

Dulwich.—Midweek prayer meeting on March 27 was first of a series of preparatory devotional services in connection with May 5 to 16 "Mountain-top Campaign" for deepening of spiritual life. A good attendance heard helpful addresses by Bren. Rudd and Kentish, representing board of officers. At second preparatory meeting on April 3, Y.P.S.C.E., which is undertaking canvassing duties for campaign, combined with prayer circle in fine spiritual gathering. Sisters Miss Grant and Miss Kentish gave excellent talks. Bro. and Sister J. G. Bridgman and four daughters have been received by transfer from Maylands. Bro. Collins assisted at united communion service at Rose Park Congregational church on Good Friday.

Unley.—Mr. Nankivell spoke to good congregations on March 31, when four boys from Sunday school made the good confession at night. Evening services are now preceded by a ten-minute organ recital given by the organist and choir-master, Phillip B. Wood, Mus.Bac. The literary and dramatic club has been re-formed, and 21 attended first meeting on March 30. Increasing attendances are reported by Y.P.C.E. society—21 present at last meeting. Attendances at week-night fellowship are also encouraging. The girls' club has recommenced activities. Attendances were very good on April 7; 186 communed in morning, and a "bring your friends service" was held in evening, when attendance was much larger than usual.

Prospect.—Bro. Arthur Baker concluded his ministry, a Sunday school scholar deciding for Christ. A K.S.P. installation was also held. Almost fifty Betas and Kappas were at Adelaide railway station to bid Bro. and Sister Baker farewell. Attendance at mid-week prayer meeting is improving. Several church members are sick, and a member suffered a bereavement recently.

Bren. H. Bradshaw, A. Brown, B. Stewart and L. Crosby have ably addressed Sunday services prior to Bro. Schwab commencing three months' engagement with the church. There was a splendid attendance on morning of April 7, more than 110 hearing Bro. Schwab's stirring address. At J.C.E. annual rally a feature was Bro. A. Brown's splendid message.

Kadina.—On March 24 Bro. W. N. Bartle exhorted the church and Bro. S. R. Trenwith preached the gospel. Bro. A. P. Russack gave "Conference Echoes" on morning of March 31, and Bro. E. R. Russack preached at night. Ladies' guild is planning a series of afternoons to raise money for building fund. On April 7 Bro. A. H. Russack exhorted on "Obedience" and Bro. S. R. Trenwith preached at night. Largest attendance at Bible school since October—73 present on April 7. J.C.E. and Y.P.S.C.E. hold good meetings. Choir renders anthems at each gospel service. Bible school is planning for special services during youth week—Apr. 28 to May 5. Willamulka Bible school is in good heart.

QUEENSLAND.

Charters Towers.—Y.P.S.C.E. celebrated anniversary at gospel service on Mar. 31. Bro. Giezendanner spoke on "Confessing Christ." One young man made the good confession and was baptised the same hour. Young worshippers' league continues to do good work, 29 of its members being present at morning service.

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—There were good attendances at both services on April 7. Many visitors were present both morning and evening. Bro. Brooke's subject for exhortation of church was "The City Foursquare." At gospel meeting he gave a splendid message on "The Gospel for To-day." Miss Halley was soloist, and choir rendered an anthem. There were 150 at communion.

Bundaberg.—On March 27 the Endeavorers held a social to raise funds for new mat for chapel; proceeds £1. On 29th Sister Miss Cameron, from India, spoke on the work in that land. Morning service on March 31 was broadcast. Bro. G. D. Vero spoke on "The Man whom God Approves." At night his address was on "The Cross the Only Cure for this World's Ills."

Roma.—All Sunday services are well attended, and interest is maintained. During absence of Bro. Boettcher on holidays, local brethren are conducting services. On Easter Sunday L. R. Pitman and A. S. Cooke took charge, and on 31st Bro. E. R. Butler conducted both meetings. Morning service was broadcast. Y.W. league is functioning well under supervision of Sister Bessie Neil. Sister Mrs. Wyer is in hospital, having undergone a serious operation.

Mackay.—Bro. W. W. McDowell, formerly of Owen (S.A.), who has been appointed to the Mackay work, arrived with Mrs. McDowell on March 30, and there were fine services on Sunday. Bible school greeted the new preacher with an attendance of 60, the greatest in its history. Mackay is 200 miles from the nearest Church of Christ, and in that respect is probably the most isolated in Australasia, but there is a fine brotherhood spirit, and the members are optimistic.

Annerley.—Sister Dorothy Griffith, assistant I.C.E. superintendent and Bible school teacher, left on March 30 for missionary training in south. In evening Bro. Hugh C. Cumming and Sister Ailsa Murray were married in the chapel. Bro. N. G. Noble officiating. The preacher included "Echoes of Conference" in morning message to increased attendance on March 31, when Bro. W. Crisp, of Mackay, assisted. Three new scholars to school during day. Conversion of Philippian jailor was excellently dramatised during recent anniversary programme.

(Continued on page 236.)

Foreign Missions.

Conducted by

A. Anderson, 261 Magill Rd., Tranmere, S.A.

H. R. COVENTRY.

WE are certain from interest shown that there will be a wide response to the appeal for funds to send Bro. H. R. Coventry and family back to India. It will help the Board considerably if an early response is made to the appeal. At the moment of writing no full reports have been received by the Federal secretary concerning happenings at the State conferences. At the W.A. conference, where the secretary was a visitor, sufficient enthusiasm was shown to be assured that this State would go the "second mile" in their giving. Bro. H. Larsen, of the Kalgoorlie church, handed over a £50 cheque immediately, and made it clear that this was in addition to his ordinary giving. For three years this brother has supported an Indian preacher, and has given during the whole of this period at the rate of £1 per week. In handing over the gift Bro. Larsen said, "This gift is given in the name of Jesus to enable Bro. Coventry to return to India and preach Jesus to others." If the whole brotherhood will enter into this "second mile" giving in the same spirit as our brother, we are sure the goal will be reached.

ISLAND NEWS.

DAVID HAMMER, writing from Aoba, says that it is very unlikely that there will be any improvement in the mails between the Islands and Australia. Some boats have already been taken off the run. The shortage of boats and their uncertain arrival has not helped Bro. and Sister Hammer concerning their food supplies. The last boat brought no stores, and owing to the hurricane late in 1939 native productions are scarce. Fortunately some necessities have been procurable from Mr. Purdy's store, otherwise the situation would have been serious.

Another serious "blow" is reported from some of the areas; but no damage is reported from any of our centres.

During January there was much sickness among the natives, and our workers have been kept very busy. There was a heavy demand for injections, but serum supplies gave out. As much fever was in evidence, there was also a heavy demand for aspirin and quinine. Upwards of 20 people per day have been coming to the dispensary for dressings. Meetings have been smaller owing to the sickness, though Monday evening Bible classes have had over 30 in attendance. Bro. Hammer's foot which was giving him some trouble had almost healed, but helping to carry a sick man down from the bush caused a recurrence of the trouble. As earlier treatment was successful, it is anticipated that with care the foot will soon be right again.

Bro. Dudley is feeling much better after complete rest, and has now joined his wife and family. It is anticipated that they will remain in Adelaide for some weeks yet. They express appreciation to the brotherhood for their prayers and sympathy.

SHRIGONDA.

THOUGH writing in a very happy strain it is evident that Miss Vawser is having some difficult experiences because of the epidemic at the girls' home. The "measles" mentioned has now turned out to be a mild form of smallpox. The school has been closed, and the girls have been placed in five isolation camps. We are glad to report that some of the girls have recovered and others are making a good recovery.

The Home.

Monday last, I had my suspicions about some spots coming on one of the girls, and so I took her to the Government dispensary, and my suspicions were confirmed—we have measles. Since Monday we have averaged a patient per day to go into quarantine, but alas! is it quarantine? I have seen little feet travelling that way more than once, for all are terribly sorry for the isolated ones. If they average one per day to go into quarantine, they may average one per day to come out, so that will not be too bad, only I hope the whole sixty-two do not take daily turns in developing this troublesome disease. I wonder how we got it. We have some children from the Mang wada in the school—quite a number in fact; and they could have brought it. Our big problem at present is water. At this time of the year there is usually plenty of water for bathing and washing clothes at the river. During January we walked two miles there and two miles back each time, but even at the "big" river there is not enough water, and so to-day the girls have had to wash and bathe near our own well. The well will be able to stand the strain, I hope, but the level is very low for this time of the year. What will happen by the time the June rains break I do not know. At Bhangaon, on my last visit, the Christian people told me they had no water; they only filled their water-pots when some neighboring farmer irrigated from his well. We sent out two men, and they organised a gang of the Christian and Mahar men, and they dug in the river bed until they came to water. The hole is sufficiently large for present needs, and if the water level there drops then they will go again. The labor was, of course, voluntary, but they needed some outside influence to organise the effort.—E. Vawser.

CONVERSIONS AT BARAMATI.

HERE it is the end of the first month of the New Year. How the days pass! Christmas seems so far away, and yet it is only a month ago. We all had a very happy time at Christmas. Everybody appreciated all the kind gifts and remembrances. We sincerely hope that the spirit of Christmas may be carried in the hearts of all, every day of this new year. Work goes on as usual, but we feel many more are seeing the value of the welfare centre than before; we have had mothers come and ask us to give their babies the extra milk or gruel, as they need each day to supplement what the mother can do herself for the child.

This means that the mother has to bring her baby every day for bathing as well as for the food. Also more mothers are ready to have their babies weighed and bring them for that special purpose without being urged. We are indeed glad to see such an interest and a realisation of the benefit from our efforts among them.

Two days ago our Bible-women went on quite an unusual trip. Just before Christmas there was a young couple baptised and married on the same day here in our Baramati chapel. The man, a Hindu caste man, had been to the war in 1916, and he learnt then that there was nothing in idol worship, and when he returned he left the religion of his fathers and was seeking for something more satisfying. Soni, a young woman of a lower caste, became his wife, but no one in Hinduism would perform a wedding ceremony for him, so he lived as an outcaste. They both confessed Christ after having received definite teaching and preparation and were baptised. Ever since coming into the Christian fold they have been most happy Christians. One of the first things they wanted to do was to take our preachers and Bible-women out to the villages where their own relatives live. While Mr. Bolduan was out in camp in the Wadgaon area, Marut Rao Sathe (the name of our new convert) rode his bike some twenty to thirty miles to persuade Mr. Bolduan to go with him to the village of his own relatives so that they also could hear the gospel, and know of the joy that he himself had found in becoming a follower of Jesus Christ.

A relative of Sonibai's came to visit her last week, and how proud she was to tell him about her new-found Saviour! I was introduced to him, and an invitation to visit their village was given. Friday was planned to visit Sonibai's relatives, and how happy the little hai was to go along with our Bible-women and introduce them to her people. They all had great opportunity to witness for their Lord and Master. They spent the night there, and did not return till the afternoon of the next day, and they said how the people badly wanted them to stay another night and tell them more about Jesus and his love for them. They had never heard such a message before. Please do pray with us for these people, that through these young converts doors may be opened and souls won for our Lord and Master Jesus Christ.—E. M. Caldicott.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN INDIA.

THE work of the Sunday school in India is an essential part of the Christian enterprise. It has grown steadily from 1803 until to-day it cares for half the Christian children. When it is realised that 100,000 out of the 700,000 scholars are non-Christians, it will be seen that the Sunday school is also an important evangelistic method. There are, indeed, many Sunday schools entirely evangelistic in character and not connected with any day school.

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New South Wales Conference.

(Continued from page 229.)

Finance.—Receipts for home missions amounted to £1412/14/-; expenditure, £1388/19/-. Credit balance at end of conference year, £239/17/4.

All future proposals centred around the leadership of E. C. Hinrichsen as director of evangelism.

Overseas Missions.

Saturday night, March 23, was devoted to a foreign mission demonstration. The programme included moving pictures of India shown by I. A. Paternoster, items by Chinese scholars, solo by Mr. Fred Horsey, and an address by A. G. Saunders, of Taree.

In presenting the foreign mission report I. A. Paternoster gave an interesting account of the position being faced by the Federal Board. Foreign missions being under the control of the Federal Board the same report would be submitted to all State conferences. Total receipts for foreign missions for the State were £1461/10/11.

Other Committees.

1. Advisory Board. The work done was of a confidential nature and could not be reported. It was felt that the board could be of greater service if churches and preachers sought its help more.

2. Council of Churches. "The Council continues to bear its witness against many social abuses, and when necessary makes strong protest against the attempts to encroach on the liberty and sanctity of our Christian institutions."

3. Book Depot. During the year the total turnover of stock amounted to the sum of £635.

4. "Christian Messenger." The "Christian Messenger," the State paper, had now a circulation of 1450 copies.

5. Boys' Home. Bro. and Sister White, of Adelaide, had been appointed superintendent and matron respectively. Excellent work had been done. The property was valued at £5000.

6. Preachers' Provident Fund. Seventy preachers and missionaries contributed to the endowment fund.

Conference Sermon. Sunday afternoon, March 24, the conference sermon was delivered by A. G. Saunders, who took as his subject, "Revision Christwards."

Officers and Committees.

President.—W. J. Crossman.
Past President.—W. A. Avenell.
Vice-president.—L. Stimson.
Secretary.—S. Laney.
Assistant secretary.—S. C. Woolley.
Treasurer.—G. Marley.
Executive Committee.—Above officers and one representative from each committee.
Home Missionary Committee.—A. Allen, G. E. Burns, B. G. Corlett, E. Davis, N. D. Morris, H. Palmer, P. J. Pond, W. D. Smith, F. Steer and S. Stevens.

Foreign Missionary Committee.—R. L. Arnold, I. A. Paternoster, F. Steer, Quan Mane, P. E. Thomas, C. A. Verco, R. H. Wakeley, with three appointed by women's conference.

Young People's Committee.—E. J. Cowan, S. Gole, H. Gowans, P. H. Morton, S. Morris, R. W. Perkins, P. J. Pond, K. A. Rae, S. Stevens and F. B. Stow.

Social Service Committee.—R. L. Arnold, C. Byrnes, T. P. Dale, H. T. Edwards, R. Greenhalgh, W. J. Lewis, I. Marshall, W. J. Modral, G. Morton and A. A. Smith.

Advisory Board.—R. L. Arnold, W. R. Avenell, E. Davis, A. C. Macleann, S. Stevens, E. J. Hilder and Dr. C. A. Verco.

Council of Churches.—F. E. Alcorn, G. E. Burns, T. E. Rofe and G. Saxby.

Resolutions.

The members of the Churches of Christ in New South Wales in conference assembled ex-

press their continued loyalty to the Throne of the British Empire, and pray that their Majesties, together with their Ministers of State, may under the blessing of Almighty God be able to guide us in the establishment of an enduring and righteous peace.

This conference of Churches of Christ in N.S.W. renders its devout praise to God for his guidance and blessing of the past year, and urges upon individual members the need of a deeper personal consecration to the Lord as we face the challenge of these dark days of war.

This conference, while convinced that the causes of war must be ended but without hatred even to our enemies, earnestly affirms that no real reconciliation is possible between men and nations that is not based on the reconciling ministry of God through Jesus Christ.

This conference reiterates the plea for the union of all Christians on the basis of the restoration of New Testament Christianity.

This conference urges the churches associated to give special attention this year to the conservation of the present membership, and by special effort to restore those members now out of contact with a local assembly.

This conference recommends to preachers and other church leaders that suitable young people be encouraged and assisted successfully to compete for positions in the public services of the State and Commonwealth, and so by Christian action, counteract Catholic action.

That this conference bring under the notice of the health authorities the unhygienic habit of smoking in public restaurants, and request that, in the interests of the health of the community, the authorities take steps to put an end to the practice.

Since the State lottery is wholly immoral and has utterly failed in its declared purpose of adequately maintaining hospitals, this conference emphatically protests against its continuance for any purpose whatsoever, but wholeheartedly supports the proposed hospitals tax.

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Representative in Victoria: W. Gale, T. & G. Building, 145 Collins St., Melbourne, C.I.

Representative in South Australia: General S. Price Weir, 2nd Avenue, East Adelaide.

Representative in Western Australia: D. M. Wilson, 1 Nanson-st., Wembley.

The Objects of the Fund are:

1st. To assist financially Aged and Infirm and Retired Preachers.

2nd. To control and manage an Endowment Fund to which Preachers may contribute.

In order to do this effectively the Committee needs the practical sympathy and support of all the churches and brethren throughout the Commonwealth.

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News of the Churches.

(Continued from page 233.)

Maryborough.—On March 10 Bro. C. R. Burdeu, conference president, gave the church an appreciated message. Bro. and Sister van Eerde attended annual conference. On March 24 Bro. A. Price gave an Easter message, and Bro. J. Ingham spoke at night. The guild conducted a successful concert and social on March 14. On March 31 Miss Cameron spoke to Sunday school children and addressed morning meeting. The church appreciated her visit. At night Bro. van Eerde delivered an appealing gospel message, and Sister van Eerde sang a solo. Strangers are attending gospel meetings, and interest is well maintained. On April 2 a mutual improvement class was formed.

Albion.—Bro. D. R. Stirling has been released for three months by the church for special work at Townsville, commencing April 21. Mrs. Stirling will accompany him. This is the fourth time in twelve months that Bro. Stirling has been released for similar work in northern churches. The State home mission organiser, Bro. J. Methven, will take up the work at Albion for ensuing three months. Sunday school is preparing for anniversary. Bro. Merv. Tinney has been appointed superintendent of I.C.E. Combined prayer meetings are held periodically with local churches. Bro. Wendorff gave the church an instructive address on April 7. At gospel service Bro. Stirling gave his second address on "Prophecy and the Second Coming." Average attendance at Lord's table for March was 110.

Gympie.—The C.E. convention held during Easter was well supported by local brethren. Opening meeting addressed by national president, Mr. McNicol, held in our chapel, was well attended and inspirational. At combined meeting in Olympia Theatre on Good Friday night approximately 1000 were present, and at the end of the meeting, which was conducted by evangelist Trevor Morris, a number made decision. On Sunday night, 24th, a girl made her confession at gospel service. After the service a combined C.E. evangelistic service was held in Soldiers' Hall. Meetings generally are very encouraging, and Bro. Westwood's series of addresses on the second advent attract many strangers to gospel services. The church enjoyed a visit from Miss Cameron, who addressed a well-attended meeting on foreign missions on April 1.

VICTORIA.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Well-attended services on April 7, many visitors being present. There were three baptisms after evening service, including that of Bill, son of Dr. and Mrs. Oldfield.

Castlemaine.—Bro. L. E. Baker has terminated his ministry with the church. With much regret members have acceded to his request to be relieved at an early date. It is likely the services of a college student will be sought until a resident preacher can be called.

Dandenong.—Bro. Boak was welcomed to church from Noble Park and Sister Boak from Ormond on April 7. A welcome was extended to Bro. Coventry at morning service, when his message was entitled "A Surprise for Jesus." In the evening he gave a fine message on "The Changeless Christ."

Mildura.—Farewell evenings have been held in honor of Bro. and Sister Waters. A cabinet of cutlery was presented from church, an electric jug from S.C.E., pencil from Bible school, silver dish from ladies' guild and tie chain from J.C.E. All auxiliaries expressed appreciation of their work. Bro. Waters' farewell address on March 31 was broadcast. An abundance of produce was displayed for harvest thanksgiving. Bro. Waters' gospel address was on "Sowing and Reaping."

Echuca.—There were good attendances on April 7. In morning Bro. Hargreaves' address on "The Coming Kingdom" was appreciated. Subject at night was "The Quest of Eternal Life." Several visitors were welcomed. The church was saddened by the loss of Bro. Fred. Turner, who passed away on April 3 in Echuca Hospital.

Ormond.—At midweek prayer meeting Bro. C. L. Lang gave a good message; 16 present. On April 7 Bro. C. L. Lang gave the church a helpful address and preached a very fine sermon at night. On April 6 the church cricket team played men of the church, and a good picnic match resulted. Ladies supplied afternoon tea.

Gardenvale.—On April 4 a church social was held to say good-bye to Bro. John Gray and Sister Mrs. Scott. Bro. Gray has moved from the district, and Sister Scott and family leave for Tasmania on Wednesday. Valda Andrews is at home with her parents, and it is hoped that she will continue to improve in health under treatment being received.

Brim.—On morning of March 31 Bro. C. Rogers gave an appreciated report on conference to the church. The young people's club resumed on April 3 after Easter vacation; interest is growing. Sister Mrs. S. R. Wardle is improving slowly. Recently members of ladies' guild and church said farewell to Sisters Mrs. E. Dart and Miss E. Dart. Services are held regularly at Wilkur.

North Williamstown.—Visitors were welcomed at morning service on April 7. Bro. Jas. E. Thomas made feeling reference to the sudden passing of Mr. Smeeth, minister of Congregational church, a highly esteemed and dearly loved friend in this city. Bro. Thomas delivered a fine gospel address on "The Church" and a young lady made her confession. Church cricket team has entered grand final of district churches competition.

Fitzroy (Gore-st.).—On March 31 good meetings were held. At night a young lady was baptised. Liberty (Fitzroy) cricket club held a church parade. On April 7 Bro. Robinson's messages were very helpful. Good meetings included several visitors, among them being Bro. H. Cooper, from Hobart, Tas. Members regret to learn of the illness of Bro. Mildern, sen. Congratulations are extended to young men of cricket club in obtaining premiership of Churches of Christ Cricket Association this year.

Bet Bet.—On March 24 Bro. E. W. Roffey delivered a chart address on "Baptism," after which two whose confession has been reported were baptised, along with another scholar from Bible school who had taken her stand the previous Lord's day. At harvest festival services on March 31 Bro. Roffey delivered appropriate addresses. Fellowship was enjoyed with visitors on March 24 and 31. The church extends heartfelt sympathy to Sister Mrs. Williams, whose husband, Bro. Arthur Williams, met with a fatal motor accident.

Montrose.—Bro. Gibson, after twelve months of good service with the church, has moved to other spheres of work, and Bro. Berthelsen, of the college, has taken up the work in this place. On March 31 anniversary services of Sunday school were held. Bro. White was speaker morning and afternoon. The special children's service in the afternoon was largely attended, and Bro. White's address on "Traffic Lights" was a fine effort. Bro. Berthelsen was also most interesting at night both for children and adults. £2/5/- collected at these meetings was sent to Children's Hospital.

Ascot Vale.—On April 4 Bro. H. R. Coventry finished a happy ten weeks' ministry with the church. At close of a very nice prayer meeting au revoir was said with a cup of tea. Bro. B. Stirling expressed thanks on behalf of

church, Sister White on behalf of ladies. On April 7 Bro. C. M. Thomas filled his place again after three months in camp with the troops. Nice meetings assembled morning and evening. J.C.E. are doing a splendid work, again winning the shield. Junior girls' and boys' clubs have been formed under leadership of Sister E. Kirby and Bro. D. R. Moneur.

Moreland.—On April 7, 185 attended morning service and 202 at night, when C.E. societies celebrated anniversary with harvest festival. Special singing by Endeavorers led by Bro. Gayther was a feature of evening service. Bro. Graham spoke on "Seedtime and Harvest." Bible school welcomes return of secretary Bro. G. Conning from military training. Organised by K.S.P., an enjoyable picnic was attended by nearly 50 young people at Belgrave on April 8.

Oakleigh.—Bro. Mudge has conducted all services during last three weeks. New members received into fellowship have been Miss Ockenden, of Cheltenham, and Mrs. Gee and Misses T. and F. Gee, of Hurstbridge. At church business meeting on April 3 officers elected were Bren. Booth (sec.), Barnett (treas.), Brown, Elder, Gillespie, McGregor, Parker and Wright. Bro. Frank Gillespie has been appointed to organise an Explorer Club for boys.

Geelong.—On March 21 Bro. Dudley Simper and Sister Lorna Littleton were married, Bro. D. Stewart officiating. A crystal salad bowl was presented from members and friends. Well-attended meetings on March 24 were conducted by Bro. D. Stewart. Many visitors were welcomed. Bro. Stewart preached farewell services on March 31. Morning theme was "The Lord's Test." At night Bren. Stewart and Swallow rendered duet and solo. "The Christ Who Stands Without" was the final message. One young lady and two young men made the good confession. On April 1, at church farewell and social, Bro. H. M. Clipstone, of Caulfield, presided over a large gathering of members and friends. Representatives from Council of Churches, Band of Hope Union and C.E. Union spoke words of appreciation. Beautiful gifts were given to Bro. and Sister D. Stewart and family from all auxiliaries of church, including a wallet of notes from members and friends. Several musical items were given, and supper was served by the ladies.

Ballarat (Dawson-st.).—On Easter Sunday Bro. W. Wigley spoke at both services, Bren. J. Beer and A. Graham being speakers at Doveton-st. K.S.P. conducted service at Mt. Clear, Bro. A. Crofts speaking. Reports of conference were presented at prayer meeting on March 27. P.B.P. held well-attended open night on March 28, when a travel talk was given by Miss Connor, and on April 4 installation of officers and devotional service were conducted by Bro. W. W. Saunders. Both services on March 31 were addressed by Bro. Saunders, evening message being first of a series on "Life of Christ." School provided singing in Sunday school of the air over 3 B.A. Bren. T. Maxwell and L. Smith were speakers at Doveton-st. and Bro. K. Price at Mt. Clear. At prayer meeting on April 3, a study of the "Life and Work of Paul" was commenced. On April 7 Bro. R. Lyall, visiting, presided at morning service and Bro. Saunders preached morning and evening. Bren. J. A. Wilkie and T. Maxwell were speakers for day at Doveton-st., and Bro. J. Beer conducted evening service at Mt. Clear. Sympathy is extended to Sister Mrs. Pitts in the death of her brother, Mr. Geo. Long. The removal of the Milne, Stodden, Pearce and Laurence families from district is much regretted. The presence of the secretary, Bro. A. Ferguson, after long illness has given pleasure to all. Bro. H. Reed, deacon and S.S. secretary, has been called up for three months' military service. His place in school is being temporarily filled by Bro. T. Paull.

Kyneton.—Bible school picnic was held at Hanging Rock on March 9. Several visitors were welcomed to services on Easter Sunday, when Bro. Wright gave inspiring addresses. Two duets were rendered at night. An excellent chart address on "Baptism" was given by Bro. Wright on 7th inst. Bro. W. Trickey sang.

East Kew.—Bro. D. Nicholls addressed C.E. on April 4. Bible school anniversary began on April 7 with morning watch at 8 a.m. Bro. Patterson addressed morning service. Bro. Grewor brought a fine illustrated talk to children and parents in afternoon, and Bro. Turner gave all boys and girls an entertaining talk before a special gospel message to men and women. Extra seating accommodation was needed for crowded meetings.

Kaniva.—The brethren greeted Bro. and Sister Stewart at a welcome social in chapel on Apr. 5. Representatives of various centres and departments of work in circuit spoke words of welcome, as did ministers of Methodist and Presbyterian churches. Bren. Jackel, Horsham, and Russell, Bordertown, came with others from those churches and took part. To good gatherings on April 7 Bro. Stewart gave messages on "Christian Attitudes" and "The King We Serve." An enjoyable combined picnic was held by Kaniva Bible school on Budjik Park on Apr. 8.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Lidcombe.—On April 7 Bro. W. J. Crossman addressed the church. Bro. R. O. Sutton conducted evening service.

Bankstown.—Bro. Thos. Morton addressed the church on April 7. Bro. W. J. Crossman preached at night; two men made the good confession.

Paddington.—April 7, good attendance in morning. Bro. Greenhalgh addressed the church on "Becoming and Continuing." Three sisters were received into fellowship. After Bro. Greenhalgh's address at gospel service two young women confessed Christ.

Bexley North.—Bro. F. B. Stow spoke morning and evening on April 7 to good congregations; 53 broke bread and 45 attended gospel meeting, when Mrs. Bagley was soloist. Bible school is planning special meetings for a "Back to Bexley" week on occasion of 10th anniversary. Bro. D. Cook has been appointed official Sunday school visitor to keep a check on absentee scholars.

Rockdale.—The church was exhorted by Bro. Hinrichsen on April 7. In the afternoon the Bible school anniversary was held, the children singing splendidly under baton of Bro. J. Budgen. Kindergarten also gave a very fine programme. Bro. Greenhalgh gave an enjoyable illustrated address. At gospel service the children again took part, and after Bro. Hinrichsen's address three girls from the school made the good confession.

Kingsford.—There was a good attendance at induction service to Bro. and Sister Baker on March 28. Bro. Greenhalgh was chairman, and gave the charge to the preacher. Bro. Stuart Stevens gave the charge to congregation. The meeting was preceded by a dinner given by deacons and deaconesses. On March 31, one hundred were at breaking of bread, and there was a full meeting at night. On Apr. 7 100 were present at breaking of bread, and there was a full meeting at night and four confessions, including the wife and son of Bro. Watkins. A record offering for all purposes was received. The church is grateful for services of Bro. P. J. Pond whilst waiting arrival of Bro. Baker.

Taree.—Bro. A. G. Saunders was speaker morning and evening on March 31. In morning he gave a summary of conference meetings and business. The church welcomed Miss Florence Cameron and heard her interesting message on morning of April 7. She also paid a visit to Comboyne during the day, and conducted service at Wingham in the evening. Bro. Saun-

ders on that date addressed Wingham congregation, and at night at Taree helped with his message, "Why Christianity Won." Bro. F. A. Stewart, a former preacher of Wingham church, is seriously ill.

North Sydney.—On April 4 Sister Miss A. Henderson was called home after a long illness patiently borne. Her remains were laid to rest at Gore Hill, Bro. Paternoster conducting the service. On April 7 one sister was received into fellowship by transfer. Following the service a presentation was made to Bro. Don. McCallum, leaving shortly on active service. At gospel service a large audience heard with appreciation Bro. Paternoster's address on "Faithfulness unto Death," references being made to Sister Henderson, who came to North Sydney in 1910 by transfer from City Temple. One lad from Bible school made the good confession.

Broken Hill.—Recently 45 members of P.B.P. and friends enjoyed a moonlight outing. On a Saturday afternoon and evening ten carloads of church tennis club and friends enjoyed a tennis afternoon and camp fire picnic at Penrose Park, Silverton. Attendances are encouraging, and church finances buoyant. For home mission offering Wolfram-st. totalled £6/14/9; J.C.E. and Y.P.S.C.E. each gave 5/- in addition. Railway Town church and school gave £2/9/-, and women's mission band £1/1/-.

Mr. and Mrs. Cormier, first two native missionaries to their own people in Northern Territory, sent out by the Aborigines' Inland Mission Society, passed through recently. A combined C.E. rally was held in Wolfram-st. with them, and a special splendidly attended prayer circle meeting also was held with them in the manse. Railway Town mission band gave 10/6, Wolfram-st. P.B.P. 10/6, and Y.P.S.C.E. 5/- to assist them. Gifts of clothing, etc., have been given for their use and work. A happy social was spent in Wolfram-st. to bid farewell to Bro. M. Purdie, who has accepted a position at Mildura, and to enjoy reunion with a visitor, Bro. R. J. House, of York, S.A., a foundation member of Wolfram-st. A working bee organised by ladies' guild varnished church seating and platform railing. Bro. Parker has substituted panelling for curtains around platform, and Bro. A. Tregloan is renewing guttering on church building. Bro. Les. Warren is home after three weeks in hospital following operation. Sisters Clark and Preston are somewhat better in health.

Tasmanian News-letter.

W. S. Lowe, B. Com.

Devastating Bushfires.

SERIOUS bushfires in Southern Tasmania recently destroyed much valuable property, and many people are homeless. Among the buildings destroyed was our own church building at Tunnel Bay, sometimes known as Highcroft. Both there and at Kellevie church members suffered severe property losses, at the latter place several church families losing everything but the scanty clothing in which they escaped. Conference responded spontaneously to an offering to assist these brethren, and each church has been asked to give its members opportunity to contribute. Sandhill, small numerically, has made a fine donation of £25.

Camp and Conference Time.

The season of the year has brought quite a crop of religious gatherings. Our own conference was well attended, and met in a progressive spirit. The youth camps held in conjunction with conference for the first time brought our young people to the fore in conference and proved a fine time of spiritual fellowship and study.

The Baptist Senior Girls' Missionary Union held a camp at Perth during Easter and had a special attraction in the presence of Miss M.

Findlay, missionary on furlough. An East Coast convention on the Keswick model was also featured at St. Mary's during the Easter period.

The Salvation Army Congress opens this week at Hobart, and continues over the week-end. Commissioner Henry takes a leading part in the congress, after which he is to retire from active service as an officer.

More About Union.

The Moderator-General of the Presbyterian Church in Australia, Mr. John Flynn, has spoken on several occasions, during his present visit to Tasmania, concerning the need of Christian union. At the Assembly communion service in Launceston he said that some sort of reunion of the churches was essential to progress. There would have to be a breaking up of familiar bodies, and Christians would have to be prepared to find themselves fighting alongside strange neighbors. Even the Roman Catholic Church, which regarded itself as the very essence of unchanging stability, might have to mould itself to fit the times.

The Launceston Ministers' Fraternal has decided to delegate all business to the Council of Churches in an endeavor to secure the co-operation of Anglican ministers in the fraternal. The Council is also exploring the possibilities of re-constituting itself so as to include the Anglican Church.

Various Items.

An interesting venture by the Church Army has concluded its activities for this season. It is the Hop Fields Mission, which brings the ministry of the church to the workers in the hop fields in the south of the State during the late summer period.

Mr. F. A. Crawshaw, Australian general secretary for the Mission to Lepers, is at present lecturing in the State.

Mr. R. W. Dobbinson, who recently resigned the ministry of the Launceston Baptist Tabernacle, has announced his candidature for the Legislative Council. He will shortly contest the Launceston seat. Including the sitting member there are five candidates.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, BAMBRA RD., CAULFIELD.

April 14—11 a.m., Mr. R. P. Morris.
3 p.m., Mr. R. L. Williams, B.A., B.D.
7 p.m., Mr. K. A. Jones.

April 21—11 a.m., Mr. F. N. Lee.
7 p.m., Mr. H. M. Clipstone.

CONCERT, CAULFIELD TOWN HALL,
Tuesday, April 23, 8 p.m.

Open Forum

For "Christian" Readers.

[Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.]

○

IN THE INTEREST OF CHRISTIAN UNITY.

Proposition Affirmative.—That it was part of "the faith," once for all delivered to the saints; that the Lord, with the angels of his power, would come with destructing vengeance on his enemies, and receive his faithful saints, then into his eternal kingdom, rewarding them with salvation and eternal life, before the then present generation passed away.—Peter Orr.

○

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS.

MAY I make a suggestion to those who give religious instruction in State schools—that the first five minutes of each lesson be devoted to teaching the children the names of the books of the Bible, and (later in the year) the ten commandments.

In both respects ignorance is almost general, and the information thus memorised would form a background for the growing child to recall and build upon in later years.

Excellent entertainment value is given in the stories told to the children, body is added by the spiritual and moral application with which the teacher usually concludes the lesson, but somehow background is often lacking, and could be supplied, in part, as suggested above.—J. Plummer.

Northern Conference, S.A.

THE 48th annual conference of Churches of Christ in the northern district, S.A., was held at Balaklava, March 12 and 13. The women's conference, conducted in the chapel on Tuesday, March 12, was presided over by Mrs. W. N. Bartlett. A welcome was extended to delegates and visitors by Miss H. Shepherd, and Mrs. H. Brooker responded. Business was interspersed with items by Miss McArdle (Long Plains), Miss G. Veitch (Balaklava), Misses F. and J. McLachlan (Owen). Mrs. H. Brooker was speaker. New Testaments were presented to Mrs. Durdin and Mrs. Brealey for services rendered ever since commencement of northern conference meetings. The new president is Mrs. A. Hutson, Port Pirie. Miss F. McLachlan, president-elect; Miss A. Harkness, secretary; Mrs. F. Banks, assistant secretary.

A men's meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon in the Methodist church. Mr. W. V. McKenzie led the devotional session. Mr. L. Marshman, president of conference, occupied the chair. Mr. F. Banks delivered a very fine message on "Present Day Aspects of the Second Coming." A most interesting discussion took place.

A young people's meeting was conducted in the chapel on Tuesday evening. Bro. Bartlett was in the chair. A young people's choir sang two selections. A duet was sung by Misses M. and I. Sires. Mr. Bob Dunn helped with a solo. Bro. A. Hutson delivered a most encouraging message, "Can God?"

The business sessions began on Wednesday morning. The president welcomed delegates

and visitors. A devotional address was given by Bro. A. P. Russack. This was followed by the obituary report. For the executive committee, the president informed conference of the impossibility of opening up a new cause at Clare at present. Conference commenced the year with a credit balance of £14/15/2. Eighteen souls had been added to the church in the district by faith and baptism, 14 by letter and 1 by restoration. Losses reported were 5 by death, 8 by letter and 4 by roll revision, making a gain of 16.

Bible school report was given by Bro. E. Caldicott, chairman of State Bible School Department. Home mission report was presented by Bro. H. R. Taylor, secretary and organiser of State Home Mission Department, and the foreign mission report was given by State secretary, Bro. A. J. Ingham. Officers for ensuing year are: President, Mr. F. Banks; vice-president and secretary, Mr. W. N. Bartlett; assistant secretary, Mr. S. Webb; treasurer, Mr. R. H. Shepherd.

At the inspirational meeting on Wednesday evening Bro. L. Marshman presided. Anthems were rendered by the Balaklava choir. A duet was sung by Miss J. Marshman and Mr. W. V. McKenzie. Mr. Marshman introduced the incoming president, Mr. F. Banks, who in his turn presented Mr. Marshman with a copy of the Scriptures as a token of appreciation for the services he had given as president of conference during the past year. Mr. Bartlett thanked all who had in any way assisted to make the conference the delightful and spiritual experience it had been. Mr. H. R. Taylor delivered a challenging message.—W. N. Bartlett, hon. secretary.

Mission at Bordertown, S.A.

THERE was amazing interest in the closing 11 nights of the Macnaughtan-Barber mission which concluded on March 26. A largely attended combined communion service was held in Bordertown Institute on Easter Sunday, when a splendid thankoffering for the mission was received. Six candidates were welcomed into fellowship, and Bro. Macnaughtan gave a heart-searching talk on "Holy Mother Church." In the afternoon, to a congregation of over 300 persons, Bro. Macnaughtan spoke on "The Second Coming of Christ." The evening service in the tent was the largest and brightest of the mission, over 400 being present. Bro. Barber excelled as a leader of song, and Bro. Macnaughtan spoke with power on the theme, "Four Men in Bordertown Christ Cannot Save." A married man confessed Christ.

Monday and Tuesday evening meetings were an inspiration, interest growing at each service. There were confessions each night, and at the conclusion of Tuesday's meeting eight candidates were baptised into Christ.

Words of farewell were spoken to the missionaries by Bro. E. P. Verco, L. E. Verco, D. R. Milne, F. R. Dinning, E. H. Tilley and W. A. Russell, all of whom bore eloquent testimony to the splendid work of the missionaries. Presentations were made, to which both men suitably responded.

Bro. Barber proved to be an excellent song-leader. His knowledge of music and singing, with his bright, cheerful and loving nature, captivated the audience from the beginning. His capable leadership in song and as a personal worker was a feature of the mission. Bro. Macnaughtan was a fearless preacher of the gospel, who presented the truths of Jesus Christ in simplicity and in love. His arresting themes and the able manner in which he dealt with questions attracted his hearers, and the interest was well maintained during almost six weeks' mission. We thank God for the privilege of fellowship with such a fine mission party. Thirty-seven souls were added unto the Lord, and to him we give the glory.—W.A.R.

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"AND it was so, when the days of their feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rose up early in the morning, and offered burnt offering according to the number of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually."—Job 1: 5.

○

PLEDGE, PRAISE AND PETITION.

Pledge, praise and petition in prayer assuredly become the parental heart!

We must pledge ourselves to a faithful recognition that our beloved children belong to God; by act, influence and example we must perform for them such things as the Lord requires.

We must praise our Heavenly Father that so often our neglect and failure are overpassed by his good guardianship—that our foolish fears again and again give place to gladness as we witness surprising issues in the progress of youth.

We must petition the Lord daily, for such grace and guidance, for ourselves and our young folk, as will ensure their spiritual and physical growth, as well as their right relation to God and men. (Luke 2: 39-52.)

○

A PARENT'S PRAYER.

O Lord, I would be a better parent. Help me to better understand my children, to listen patiently to what they have to say and to answer their questions kindly. Keep me well poised that I may not interrupt them, talk back to them or contradict them. Make me as courteous to them as I would have them be to me. When in the wrong, give me the courage to confess my sins against my children and to ask of them forgiveness.

Keep me from vainly hurting the feelings of my children, laughing at their mistakes or resorting to shame and ridicule as punishment. Forbid that unconsciously I should tempt my child to lie and to steal. Guide me every moment that I may show by all I say and do that honesty produces happiness.

Help me to develop in myself those fine qualities of character that I want my child to have, that there may be less meanness in me and more goodness so that I may never nag, and hold my tongue when provoked. Help me so to live as to make my child believe in thee. Amen.—"Religious Telescope."

Obituary.

Mrs. Elizabeth Ann Brown.

SISTER ELIZABETH ANN BROWN (nee Moysey) was called home early on Easter Sunday morning at the age of 74 years. She was born at Cheltenham, Vic., and was one of the first group to be baptised in the present chapel. She was baptised by her own brother, G. B. Moysey, at commencement of his second ministry there. When she was 17 years old the family removed to Berwick, where our sister met till she was 28. She was married to Bro. Dave Brown 50 years ago. To our late brother and Sister the Dandenong brethren owe much, for it was due to their faithfulness and perseverance that the present building now stands. For many years they set up the Lord's table

in their home on Cranbourne-rd., often being the only two present. In answer to their appeals Bren. Harward and E. W. Pittman conducted a tent mission in 1904, and the church was established. Sister Brown was an invalid for twenty-one years, but always maintained an interest in our movement. On March 16, 1927, Bro. Brown was called home after a life given in service for his Lord and Master Jesus Christ. Our sister was possessed of a kindly disposition. Her gentle nature attracted all who knew her. She loved her Lord, and even during her suffering revealed a most beautiful faith. Her words were always words of gentleness and kindness and love. Our sister, who was the youngest of a family of seven, is survived by Sister Effie Williams and Bro. Wilfred Brown, and was the last of the family to be called home. She was laid to rest in Dandenong cemetery on Monday, March 25, after fitting services in her home and at the graveside had been conducted by Bren. Lewis and Atkin. We commend to God's tender care her loved ones, for we are sure that our sister has earned the blessed reward which Christ will give to his beloved.—J.W.L.

Mrs. F. Boyle.

SISTER MRS. F. BOYLE received the home call on March 9 at the age of 78 years. In the year 1900, at Maryborough, Vic., she was baptised by Bro. W. D. Little. She was a faithful disciple. Her knowledge of the Word of God was remarkable. For many years she was unable to leave her room, but no visitor left her without the scriptures being read, and our sister speaking a good word for the Master. She was a woman of prayer. The Footscray church is the poorer for her going from our midst. We commend Bro. Boyle and the family to the Father's care, and rejoice that they "sorrow not as those who have no hope."—W.H.G.W.

Mrs. H. Carter.

AFTER a long illness Sister Mrs. H. Carter was called home on Sunday, March 10, at the Tatiara Soldiers' Memorial Hospital, Bordertown, S.A. Her mortal remains were laid to rest in the Mundulla cemetery on March 11 amidst a large gathering of relatives and friends. The beautiful floral tributes gave expression to the esteem in which our sister was held. Bro. W. A. Russell officiated at the graveside. On Jan. 28, 1901, during the ministry of Bro. H. P. Leng, our sister gave her heart to Christ, and for many years was a faithful worker in the church and teacher in the Bible school. The records show that 26 scholars, of whom she had been teacher, accepted Christ as their Saviour during that time. Of later years home ties and failing health prevented her attendance at the Lord's house. She was a patient sufferer, who died with her faith in the Lord. The sorrowing loved ones we commend to the loving Father "until the day dawns and the shadows flee away."—W.A.R.

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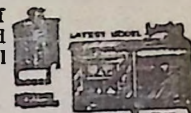
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called on me to speak. I said:

"All you have said of my dead brother is
true. He was a man out of the ordinary and
gave his remarkable powers to your service
without stint or reserve.

"But if you had, while he was yet alive,
filled these pews as you have to-day, and said
of him and to him what you have just said,
he would not now be dead. Empty pews
broke his heart, and he did not know of the
love of which you have been speaking.

"He died for lack of the things you have
to-day so beautifully said and done."

And it was true.—L. O. Lawson, in "Watch-
man-Examiner."

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK.

WHILE Christian experience is a
venture of faith as well as
an act of love, its full attainment
through the years is only by suc-
cessive acts of the will.

—Charles F. Banning.

LOVE'S VIGIL.

DAY is breaking,
Kissed with dew;
God is making
Light for you.
Comes the ev'ning,
Shadows creep;
God is watching,
While you sleep.

—E. C. Baird

in "Christian Standard."

Australian Christian

Published Weekly by
Austral Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd.

52h, 530 Elizabeth St., Melbourne,
Victoria, Australia.

Phone, F2524.

Editor: A. R. MAIN, M.A.

All Communications to Above Address.

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