

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR

WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

A New Year's Greeting

from Mrs. A. Larcombe, the Federal Women's President.

"Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it unto me according to thy word." Although these words of Mary ring in our ears, year by year, each Christmas time, I would like you to study them again as we continue to think of the winsome maid, who was chosen by Almighty God to be the mother of the world's Saviour.

We might wonder why Mary was chosen for this unique task. God must have found in her outstanding qualities. May I suggest two things which made her so acceptable to God — humility and obedience. Although an impossible thing according to human thinking was declared unto her by the angel, she willingly acknowledged herself to be the handmaid of the Lord, ready for any service the Master might require. "Be it unto me according to thy word" shows her complete obedience; her will surrendered to his.

God is still looking for women of humility and obedience through whom he may work. Who knows how many more impossible things are waiting to be accomplished by humble, obedient women? Let us as a nation-wide group

of Christian women be so willing to serve the Master that many of us will be found "highly favored" or as the marginal Scriptural reference says "graciously accepted," as Mary was, because we too can say from our hearts, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord."

I pray that this message will be an accepted challenge by all of us in this new year of service.

The Syllabus for 1955

During the time in which Jesus Christ was here on the earth, in human form, he called twelve men to be his special helpers. One of them proved to be a traitor, which left the Master with eleven men with whom to carry out his magnificent dream. These men, so diverse in many ways, were in a special sense Christ's chosen comrades.

This year we are going to think of eleven women, who were also, in a most wonderful way, the chosen servants of God. Women have a special service to render to their Lord, and it is our hope and prayer that the example of these fine women will help us to render that service in a better and more enduring way.

February. — Ruth. "Loyalty."
March. — Naaman's Wife's Servant Girl. "Helpfulness." (2 Kings 5: 1-4.)

April. — Mary, the Mother of Jesus. "Sacrifice." (Luke 2: 25-35; John 19: 25.)

May. — The Widow of Zarepath. "Kindness." (1 Kings 17: 8-16.)

June. — Esther. "Courage." (Esther 4: 1-17.)

July. — Dorcas. "Service." (Acts 9: 36-42.)

August. — Rhoda. "Faithfulness in Little Things." (Acts 12: 12-16.)

September. — Lydia. "Obedience." (Acts 16: 14-15.)

October. — Priscilla. "Giving Instruction." (Acts 18: 24-26.)

November. — The Widow (Who Gave a Mite). "Stewardship." (Mark 12: 41-44.)

December. — Anna (The Prophetess). "Patience." (Luke 2: 36-38.)

The Scripture passages are given as a guide. In most cases one or two verses bring out the thought of the theme.

WOOROLOO VISIT, W.A.

On Dec. 15, the Wooreloo Committee of the W.A. Women's Auxiliary, paid their Christmas visit to the State Sanatorium. Four Northam sisters combined with the committee in distributing novelty face washers and soap (240), sweets, jams and chutneys, sponge bags, and specially printed Christmas cards with text and bearing the name churches of Christ (having been printed by one of our ministers). During the afternoon a message was broadcast throughout the wards by C. J. Robinson, the sisters assisting with musical items and carol singing. The patients expressed their appreciation to all for the happy day of Christian fellowship.—Mrs. E. Collins, Wooreloo supt. for W.A. Women's Auxiliary.

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



I may speak with the tongues of
men and of angels, but if I have no
love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging
cymbal; I may prophesy, fathom all
mysteries and secret lore, I may have
such absolute faith that I can move
hills from their place, but if I have no
love, I count for nothing; I may dis-
tribute all I possess in charity, I may
give up my body to be burnt, but if
I have no love, I make nothing of it.
Love is very patient, very kind. Love
knows no jealousy; love makes no
parade, gives itself no airs, is never
rude, never selfish, never irritated,
never resentful; love is never glad when
others go wrong, love is gladdened by
goodness, always slow to expose, always
eager to believe the best, always hope-
ful, always patient. Love never dis-
appears.—1 Cor. 13: 1-8a (Moffatt).

A few years ago two young women,
Winifred and Vera, were at College
together in Oxford. A great friendship
grew up between them. Both were
brilliant, and both became eminent
writers. Then Winifred died, still com-
paratively young. As a tribute to her,
Vera wrote the story of Winifred's life,
calling it "The Testament of Friend-
ship." In it she said this fine thing
about her friend: "She had never
grudged joy to another." How grudging
we often are of praise and of affection,
although we like to receive these for
ourselves! We are friends with people
so long as we can keep alongside them,
feel equal with them and share the
same successes and joys that they do.
But sometimes, if others overpass us, we
become a bit envious, and envy turns
into jealousy; and instead of taking
genuine pleasure in their successes and
joys we begin to hate them for it. But
Winifred "never grudged joy to an-
other." That is true charity, for charity
takes pleasure in others' joys as if
they were our own.—William Lanyon.

Gracious Spirit, Holy Ghost,
Taught by thee, we covet most,
Of thy gifts at Pentecost,
Holy, heavenly love.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Mission to the Nation Challenges

Our Methodist friends are now entering the closing year of their Mission to the Nation. Plans which will climax in a great closing rally on Sunday, November 13, represent a thrusting challenge to missionary effort on the part of every local congregation.

Rex Mathias, National Secretary, has announced that "a feature of the programme will be a great

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

in an effort to win adherents and people loosely attached to Methodist churches into full, committed and active membership." Initial phase will be a Church Loyalty Campaign, during which the privileges, responsibilities and duties of church-members will be highlighted through personal letters from ministers to their congregations, and also through a series of special sermons. This first stage will be from February 27 to April 3, the final day being one of dedication, in which members will be given the opportunity to re-dedicate themselves to the tasks of church membership.

Immediately after Easter the emphasis will swing to visitation evangelism. Mr. Mathias comments that this will "involve a period of training in local churches and a careful preparation of lists of people who are to be directly challenged." The winter months of June, July and August will be devoted to this visitation with a purpose. Then every Methodist circuit in Australia is being asked, for at least one week in September, to hold an evangelistic mission, challenging "men and women to commit themselves to Jesus Christ and to join the membership of his Church." In the final months of the Mission to the Nation there will be provision for the recognition and reception of the new members gained during the campaign.

From the various States a team of approximately twenty "supplementary missionaries" is to be established, each of whom will be asked to give three weeks' service wherever he may be needed. Alan Walker, leader of the Mission to the Nation, will be associated with Rex Mathias in various campaigns, notably a series of eight days of meetings in each mainland capital and in Launceston, and will also conduct missions in both Sydney and Melbourne Universities. Radio support will come through two programmes — "Drama with a challenge" and "Australian Christian Digest" — to be given Australia-wide broadcast from April

until September. But, wide as the reach of the Mission is designed to be, "as much emphasis as possible is being placed upon the work of the local church in its own local area."

We are confident that our readers will follow with prayerful interest the outworking of these careful plans. There is nothing new in what is suggested for the local church programme. We have heard it all before, from local leaders, Home Mission Committees, and only recently from Mark Rutherford. We have nodded ready agreement that this is the kind of thing the Church should be doing; we have discussed the "tabled" ideas that have sounded fine in theory; we have even gone so far as to make sporadic efforts in one direction or another. But too few of us have been prepared to face the

DEMANDS AND DISCIPLINE

of continuous programme planning and practice. It would be enlightening — it could even be terrifying — to know how many of our own Australian congregations have done, or are even planning to do anything *definite and continuing* along the lines advocated by Mark Rutherford in his four-point programme. In how many churches of the brotherhood are there men and women who care deeply enough for others and feel strongly enough their responsibility of personal witness, to the point of keeping on with the job of visitation evangelism week in and week out, giving their minister no rest in their demand for "prospects"?

Some excellent plans may never get past an Official Board which is more concerned with machinery matters than its real mission. But indifference in the congregation can kill them most effectively, even when they are enthusiastically endorsed by the Board itself. We must kindle a greater caring, a keener sense of stewardship in every local church. No plan is all-important, but the power generated through a spiritually-aware people is. And such people will respond to planning which is not an end in itself, but which enlists, for the saving of others, the creative best in every member.

Drifting or "muddling through" is surely not good enough. Let's see to it that every congregation throughout Australia plans for advance this year — and really *moves!*

E. L. WILLIAMS, M.A., en route home to Australia, writes of . . .

A WORLD FELLOWSHIP

After waiting in Berlin for an all-clear from Frankfurt our plane left three hours late, but was then unable to land. We were diverted to Stuttgart, and having missed our day in Frankfurt, are waiting for our on-going passage to Geneva. Our itinerary has never wanted for interest, but we have commonly lacked time and sometimes sleep. The delay gives us some opportunity for sharing some observations with readers of *The Australian Christian*.

Among the many things that impress us in a round-the-world trip is the world fellowship of Christians.

Family Fellowship

When we left Australia, both at Melbourne and Sydney, we were farewelled by those of our own Christian family or tradition. Touching down at Auckland for one hour only we were delighted to meet about twenty-five members of the Ponsonby-rd. church, with which we served some sixteen years ago. In Honolulu we were met at the plane by Mr. and Mrs. Griswold and were entertained at a church dinner in the evening. During a two day stop-over at San Francisco we were entertained by members of the Christian Church at Berkeley. At Evanston, representatives from churches of Christ in various parts of the world attended a dinner arranged by the World Convention Committee. After Evanston we travelled through fifteen States of the U.S.A., and visited Toronto, Canada, preaching in about thirty different churches and lecturing in seven different colleges. Everywhere we went we experienced warm friendship and generous hospitality.

In Britain we travelled from London to Edinburgh, speaking at meetings in these centres as well as at Leicester, Birmingham, Chester, Manchester and Glasgow. On Sunday morning at Hornsey, London, there were eleven Australians, and one New Zealander, among the visitors. At the evening service in London there were two Australians, beside ourselves, visiting. We found the world very small on more than one occasion.

We look forward to further contacts in India and Western Australia and shall reach home fully convinced of the world reach of the family of churches of Christ.

Personal Connections

Our world fellowship finds a focal point in the World Convention of churches of Christ. From place to place

we met those who had attended the Fourth World Convention in Melbourne, 1952. They had happy memories of Australian hospitality (except for the cold) and of the Convention itself which added to the cordiality of our meeting. We carry many personal greetings to Melbourne hosts. It was indeed a pleasure to be guests of Dr. and Mrs. Snodgrass. They treated us royally. Dr. Snodgrass says he would like to visit Australia again to engage in further evangelistic campaigns. In Kansas City we addressed three hundred men at a church dinner where a surprise feature was introduced when Dr. Ewart Wyle, who gave one of the addresses in Melbourne, played a recording of "Send Out Thy Light" as sung by the Convention Choir in the Melbourne Town Hall. We were treated to other such experiences when guests of Dr. and Mrs. Jesse Bader in New York and of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Carmichael in Leicester. Space will not permit mention of all the other World Convention associations.

There were sacred echoes from the past such as, "Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Main stayed in our home"; "I knew T. H. Scambler in student days at Drake"; "I was baptised in this church by Thomas Hagger."

Some Glen Iris student reunions enriched our experience. Memories, experiences and impressions were exchanged across the meal table with Theo. Fisher, Will Listerson, Ira Paternoster and Norman Hinrichsen—not forgetting R. L. Williams.

It was a very real delight to spend a day and a half in Maryville, Tennessee, as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert E. Chandler, the former being well known for his evangelistic work in Victoria some thirty years ago. Our intimate association with his family in Boronia, Melbourne, generated a deep mutual interest.

From time to time one was faced with the question, "Do you know?" and we did; or, "I am an Australian, my name is." An elderly man, for instance, at Miami, Florida, introduced himself as John Stewart Mill and I was able to tell him I remembered his visiting his brother in Australia whom I knew well in his active days at Middle Park.

Such are the experiences of travellers who belong to a world fellowship.

A Common Purpose

At Miami, Florida, 8,500 members of the Christian Church in the U.S.A. and Canada registered for the Inter-

national Convention of Disciples of Christ. While one is easily lost in such a large concourse and the intimacy of a smaller group is missed, there is evidence of strength and growth. One of the impressive aspects of the International Convention is the array of displays arranged by the various departments which serve to promote their respective activities.

While the mechanics differ from those of an Australian conference of churches of Christ, in principles, practicalities and purpose we are of the same pattern.

The theme of the Convention was, "God or Mammon" and some prophetic notes were struck on this central issue. American churches are in a situation in which the question of racial segregation is very pertinent. A resolution put the Convention in line with current condemnation of segregation.

One of the delicate questions under discussion was the matter of missionary policy in relation to mission churches which are involved in United Churches as in Japan and the Philippines. The Convention resolved that the right of congregational autonomy should be accorded to mission churches and their decisions would not prejudice their relationship with the sending churches.

A Sense of Mission

A highlight of our tour was several days spent in Bethany when we were able to visit the Campbell mansion and dip into other historical treasures. We stood on the bridges and looked into Buffalo Creek in which the first members of the Brush Run Church were baptised. Here we were on historical ground and were reminded of the saying that a people with no past have no future.

Such a saying as this suggests the necessity of roots. We must put our roots down deep in order to produce fruits, and a sense of history belongs to our rootage. A past is not an anchor which impedes all progress but something that keeps us steady as we move ahead. It serves as a guide. History is made by men of vision and mission. We must be true to that vision and mission if we would maintain the history that made us. If we know whence we came we shall better know whither we are going.

In Britain, and now in Geneva—the fog having let us through—we are made aware of a wide stream of history of which we are also a part. We shall

(continued at foot of next column.)

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From U.S.A., Miss BONNIE BATES (Vic.), writes on . . .

Putting Christ Back into Christmas

As I went each day to Butler I was conscious that Christmas was here again. Shops were decorated and the usual commercial advertisements everywhere. But I observed another advertisement abroad; it was on taxi-cabs, in trolley buses, on shop windows. The advertisement read, "Put Christ back into Christmas."

It was noticeable that the commercials on T.V. also brought in the message of Christmas in their advertisements.

The carols and Christmas stories appeared earlier than we are used to, and likewise, the singing of the Christmas hymns in church, while we were looking for "a white Christmas."

Yes! the feeling of Christmas was abroad quite early. The centre of the city had large Christmas trees with colored lights, and there was a manger scene with life-size figures. From this busy centre each day there were choirs singing, and during the day a minister would give a brief message. All this while Christmas shopping is going on.

At Butler we were singing the Christmas hymns and the drama group of the Butler School of Religion produced and beautifully portrayed Christopher Fry's new play *The Boy with the Cart*. It is a quaint pastoral play concerning growth of an 11th century shepherd, Cuthman of Essex, England. Cuthman, unaware of his responsibilities, is faced with a tragedy, the death of his father. He is unwilling to accept this sorrow at first, but finally he does and emerges from his youthful indifference to a spiritually inspired zeal for building a church.

He builds a cart and transports his mother over hill and dale in search of a suitable place to build the church. On the way he has a confrontation experience with the Christ, and is told that when the "withies" break (some make-shift reins for the cart), on that spot he must build the church. They

do well, if within both these streams we maintain our sense of mission.

We are deeply grateful to the World Convention Committee for sponsoring our itinerary and to Dr. Jesse Bader in particular for his efficient arrangement of all details and constant helpfulness. He is expecting a large contingent of Australians at the Fifth World Convention at Toronto in August, 1955. For those who are able to attend it will be an unforgettable experience.

arrive at their destination and with the people of the community they build the church. This beautiful legend points up the importance of the church and the importance of the faithful in the church.

The Dean's message centred on the thought, "If Christ had not come." I guess most of us take it for granted that Christ did come and we cannot visualise the world without his Presence.

The week before Christmas it snowed — there was snow everywhere and as I returned in the evenings from Butler, walking through snow, I noticed the lights in the snow sparkling like diamonds. There were bright stars in the sky, and everywhere you could see inside the homes through windows and frilly curtains, Christmas trees with pretty colored lights, and on the doors the red and green Christmas wreaths.

We, too, had a lovely tree, with its pretty lights and a bright star, and as you laid your gifts on the tree you were conscious of the manger scene set out underneath — a gentle reminder of the "why of Christmas."

The Sunday before Christmas, in the afternoon, the Church School presented *For Unto Us A Son Is Born*. It was the Christmas story in music, drama, pageant, verse speaking.

This was well presented, all departments in the school taking part — what a thrill to hear juniors singing a Christmas anthem, likewise the inters, and the youth choir; even the kinders had a small piece to say. Then came the presentation of the gifts as each department brought gifts for those not so fortunate.

I was impressed by the fact that there are no Father Christmas parties at all, but each child, from kinder up, gave a gift. They gave, but did not receive.

It was impressive, the costuming was correct, the singing was delightful and the congregation were able at times to join in the singing of the hymns and carols.

On Christmas Eve we went to the service from 11-12 o'clock. As the Roman Catholics celebrate their midnight mass and regard it as one of the most important of their services, so do the Protestant churches celebrate a late service. The chapel was lit with the lovely soft light of candles only, in which shone the small plain cross symbolic of the risen Christ. The organ played softly, and the service proceeded with the lovely singing of the anthems

and carols by choir, the poetry, Scripture readings and prayers from the minister. You thrilled to the lovely tenor voice of one of the young men who has promise of a musical career with his beautiful voice — thrilled because of its beauty and the fact that he is giving it all up to go to the mission field. Yes, we were conscious it was Christmas.

Then there was the family who entertained three students from one of the Universities so they should not be lonely. They were a Hindu, Mohammedan and Zoroastrian. Other families would do likewise.

I could not help but think how different was this Christmas from the last, when I was just beginning my journey. On the boat I celebrated Christmas; we listened to *The Messiah*, sang Christmas carols the night before, but by 10 o'clock nearly two thirds of the passengers were drunk — that was really the way to celebrate Christmas, I was told! We were rather shocked and disgusted.

But here in America, or this part of America, I believe the people really are trying to put Christ back into Christmas.



New Building Opened

Pascoe Vale, Vic.

The new building at Pascoe Vale, Vic., was officially opened on Dec. 4, 1954. W. R. Hibburt presided over the proceedings. T. R. Morris officiated at the key ceremony. Dedicatory prayers were offered by A. E. White, B.A., and J. R. Combridge. The gathering was addressed by R. H. Poole, president of Broadmeadows Shire Council, B. P. Huntsman, Vice-Pres. of Conf., and J. A. Luff, district representative.

Miss V. Barndon contributed two solos. H. P. Hammon expressed the gratitude of the church to the many co-workers who had shared in the project. Presentations were made to Ray Drayton, architect, and B. Barndon, builder.

The fifth anniversary was celebrated the following day, Dec. 5, when W. R. Hibburt led the service and S. Neighbour, Conf. Pres., delivered the address. The Union choir rendered helpful messages. Sixty attended the evening gospel service. D. Ploog was speaker.

A. O. S. BAKER, Nth. Fitzroy, Vic., writes provocatively on . . .

The Sins of the Righteous

Is this a contradiction in terms? Can we be accounted as righteous and yet be guilty of sin? God does reckon us to be acceptable to him as his children when, in sincere faith and obedience, we repent and turn to him. "The blood of Jesus Christ, God's Son, cleanseth us from all sin."

But that does not make us incapable of sinning. "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." It is not according to the divine nature in us to sin deliberately or habitually, but we do get ensnared by the devil. Our feet are made to slip, and where we think we are strong, we need to take heed lest we fall.

Let us acknowledge that all which is against the will of God is sin, whether it be wrong acts that we commit, or failure to do good things that God expects of us. It is in the latter sense that we are most likely to transgress, and yet remain unconvicted of sin. Many sins are obvious to us all, but the sins mentioned below we may barely acknowledge. Nevertheless, they are deadly sins which weaken the Church of God today. The first among these evils is

The Sin of Indifference

The indifferent person is unconcerned. He "couldn't care less." He adopts a negative, neutral, apathetic attitude towards matters which really should disturb him deeply.

Indifference in a Christian is entirely out of harmony with the mind and spirit of Christ. Jesus always was primarily concerned with the lost, the least, and the lowly. He severely condemned those who were hearers, but not doers, of the Word. He condemned the indifference of those who neglected the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, or imprisoned ones. Likewise, the indifference of the priest and Levite shows up badly against the practical concern of the Good Samaritan. Judgment was passed on the rich man who cared not for the beggar Lazarus at his door.

Indifference results from selfishness, spiritual pride, smugness, prejudice or ignorance. For such reasons, the Church has transgressed in the past. She has condoned, and even supported, great evils like slavery, exploitation of the underprivileged, child labor, harsh penal laws, and other great evils. Great reformers were Christian people whose consciences

were made sensitive by the Spirit of God and the mind of Christ.

"God—let me be aware,
Stab my soul fiercely with others' pain,
Let me walk seeing horror and stain;
Let my hands, groping, find other hands;
Give me the heart that divines, understands;
Give me the courage, wounded to fight,
Flood me with knowledge, drench me in light;
Please keep me eager, just to do my share.
God—let me be aware."

The charge of indifference can be laid against the Church to-day. How concerned are we about the prospect of 30,000,000 people starving to death this year, or of the privations of people in war-stricken areas?

How concerned are we about the liquor question, which is ruining the lives of multitudes every year? At the last Annual Conference of the Local Option Alliance one leader complained bitterly of the indifference in the churches regarding this evil. Temperance organisations find it hard to get support for their vital work. Sometimes they even get opposition.

How concerned were we when the nation's highest Church and judicial dignitaries launched a "Call to the Nation" for a spiritual and moral revival? What did we do about it? How, then, could it make any impression on non-Christians? What do we more than others?

How concerned are we about the personal needs of others around us? We get so smug about our own self-interests and comforts that we are hardly aware that there are others who need our sympathetic interest and help.

How concerned are we about the people around us who are outside of the fellowship and life of the Church? How many of us are prepared to visit them and win their friendship? Do we even welcome them as we should when they come to our services?

In view of such indifference is it any wonder that the Church is not the mighty regenerating force it should be in the world!

"Rise up, O men of God,
The Church for you doth wait,
Her strength unequal to her task;
Rise up, and make her great!"

Another sin of the Christian Church is

Covetousness

Jesus warned his disciples to keep themselves from all covetousness. It has been said that Jesus said more about money than any one thing; that 16 out of his 38 parables, and one verse out of seven in the Gospels, relate to man's attitude to property.

Clearly, the Scriptures teach us that the love of money is the root of all kinds of evil. The desire to be rich is "a temptation and a snare." It leads disciples away from the faith, and encourages selfish and luxurious living. We learn to love the things that money can give more than we love Christ. Consequently, the Lord's share of our income is misappropriated and misused on our pleasures and modern gadgets.

It was covetousness which kept the rich young ruler out of the Kingdom of God. He was not prepared to devote his money to the service of Christ and his Kingdom. How, then, could he devote himself?

Can we deny that the sin of covetousness is evident in the Church to-day? Church financial reports tell the tale. There are those who give liberally and proportionately because they first give themselves to the Lord. But they are outnumbered by those who give little or next to nothing of what the Lord requires of them.

The gift of our treasure is no substitute for the gift of ourselves; but if we are not prepared to give even of our wealth, how much of ourselves are we likely to give in time and talent? Even the money we spend on ourselves is limited by the need of others, its benefit to ourselves, and our debt to God.

The Church has enough wealth and numbers to flood the world with Christianity, but we think we have done enough if we just manage to balance our budgets under the most stringent economic measures on the part of workers and committees. The work of God is held up by the covetousness of his people!

The apostle Paul spoke of the grace that God gave to the Macedonian churches: "Somehow, in most difficult circumstances, their joy, and the fact of being down to their last penny themselves, produced a magnificent concern for other people. . . . Nor was their gift . . . a mere cash pay-

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ment. Instead they made a complete dedication of themselves first to the Lord" (2 Cor. 8: 2-5, Phillips).

Another flagrant sin of the righteous is

Intolerance

Practically the whole of the Christian era has been marred by intolerance in the Church. Intolerance is simply an unwillingness to endure the views and attitudes of others. A bare tolerance of the differences we find in others falls far short of the Christian virtue of forbearing in love, but an intolerant attitude is ten times worse.

Of course, there are evils which the Christian should not tolerate, but often does because of indifference. God deliver us from such tolerance. "Woe unto you," said Jesus, "when all men speak well of you."

But there is a harsh spirit of intolerance which causes division in the "Body of Christ." Our intolerance

may be caused by lack of understanding, or ignorance of all the facts. We tend to judge so harshly where we cannot see. The fixed prejudices of a closed mind may make us intolerant. "Can any good come out of Nazareth?"

The intolerant person lacks humility. He asserts himself as being right. The other fellow cannot possibly be right; for "both cannot be right." Of course, both could be wrong. Even if a person may be right as far as truth is concerned, he may be woefully wrong in his attitudes, and in his manner of upholding the truth. We don't always speak the truth in love. Our fervent zeal may lead us to transgress against the mind and spirit of Christ. "Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of," said Jesus. The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control. A harsh spirit of in-

tolerance transgresses all of these, and is not of God.

Whilst conscientiously holding to our convictions, let us do so with open hearts and minds, respecting the convictions of others. They may be right. Often the whole truth needs to be drawn from both viewpoints. The apostle Paul wrote, "I don't even value my opinion of myself, for I might be quite ignorant of any fault in myself."

Let us beware of intolerance which breaks up the Church of God. Church history shows that it is one of Satan's favorite devices to do his work.

"O God, that men should see a little clearer,

Or judge less harshly where they cannot see.

O God! that men would draw a little nearer

To one another—they'd be nearer thee,

And understood."

South Australian Newsletter

OF BUILDINGS.

There seems to be no end to the building projects now possessing the minds of the churches. Two recent movements were at Murray Bridge where the President, M. A. K. Crosby, assisted, as P. R. Whitmore laid the foundation stone for the new hall. Previously the ladies had given £600 to this, and then on the day an offering of £825 came in. This was truly a remarkable effort. The work at the Bridge is really healthy since Mr. Whitmore came to minister. Attendances and offerings have never been higher, and additions are coming steadily.

Gawler, near the city, is also working for a hall, and a recent talent scheme resulted in £560 coming in from a five month campaign. This church reports a number of baptisms under the ministry of A. R. Pigdon. One of the deacons, C. Atyeo, recently retired from office after 38 years' service in many capacities.

The Youth Department and the Church Extension Committee are purchasing temporary buildings to be used for new causes. These will be loaned to the new churches at Hampstead Gardens and Ascot Park on condition that their buildings be ready in two years' time. Both churches have called for master plans.

The Balaklava manse is now finished and D. R. Hammer is occupying it until he moves to Norwood. Kadina manse moves to completion and Strathalbyn will be finished in the new year.

January 18, 1955

The church at Albert Park hopes to complete its chapel early in 1955. Recently this baby church had a morning attendance of over 40. As this "church in a home" of a year ago progresses, it promises a healthy future. Baptisms and transfers are reported also.

OF PERSONS.

Congratulations are in order to Dr. Trevor Turner who has been appointed as Senior Honorary Dermatologist at the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The brotherhood gave a great welcome to Miss Florence Cameron on her return home from India after 40 years of wonderful service.

Neville Moore, B.A., editor of the Fellowship News, is to commence a part-time ministry with the church at Clovelly Park, one of our newer churches.

Horace Cave, for several years with the Temperance Alliance, has commenced his ministry with the Edwards-town—Ascot Park churches. This is a new circuit in which the stronger Edwardstown church will mother the new work.

Lloyd E. Jones, recently of Prahran, is to commence a ministry with the church at Mile End in the new year.

As examinations results in various fields come to hand they show that many of our young people are taking high honors. In nursing, medicine, pharmacy, dramatic art and other fields the names reflect credit to their homes and the churches.

The writer commences a second term of three years with the Home Mission Department as from January.

W. H. Greenwood, for several years with the Mt. Compass-Goolwa circuit, is completing his ministry at the end of February.

A. C. Thurrowgood is to move from Nailsworth to Georgetown, N.S.W., in February of next year.

Fullarton church announces that A. W. Morris (Wagga, N.S.W.), has accepted a call to minister with them.

G. T. Fitzgerald is moving from Stirling-Aldgate and will minister at Blackwood in the new year.

D. K. Stewart has accepted a call to Rocklea-Moorooka in Brisbane and has already moved into his new work.

OF THE MEN'S MOVEMENT.

This Department, following Federal Conference planning, is now ready to move. Fred Lee came from Melbourne and met representatives of over 40 churches at a tea in Grote-st. After a stimulating challenge, a State Committee was formed with E. V. Lawton as president, Lynn Fitzgerald as secretary, and J. P. Brooker, D. Young, C. McKennay and M. A. K. Crosby serving as committeemen. They plan to move among the churches, meet the men and set up the four-point programme. It is hoped that at next State Conference there will be a Department of Men's Work inaugurated.—E. P. C. Hollard.



A. J. Fisher, of Perth, writes: "Mrs. R. Cosh (formerly Mrs. Roy Thompson), passed away peacefully in Bethesda Hospital, Perth, on Dec. 29, after prolonged period of failing strength. She was beloved of many for her sweet singing. Fuller notice later."

D. D. Stewart has advised the church at Emerald, Vic., that he will terminate his full-time ministry there at the end of March.

Victorian ministers are reminded of their annual Retreat from Mon., Jan. 31 (6 p.m.) to Thursday, Feb. 3. Details of programme, cost, etc., have already been forwarded. Would those intending to be present, please notify the secretary, H. Gross, 24 Canberra-st., Brunswick, N.10 immediately. This is to facilitate catering arrangements.

From Dec. 27 to Jan. 2, the church at Hornsby, N.S.W., enjoyed fellowship with a group of Victorian churches of Christ cricketers. Some were billeted in members' homes, but a large number camped in two tents (hired by the church) in the chapel grounds. Messrs. Flood and Patrick (both of Nth. Fitzroy) helped in the morning service on Jan. 2.

The church at Fullarton, S.A., advises that A. W. Morris, now at Wagga, N.S.W., has accepted an invitation to minister to the church. The ministry is expected to commence on May 1.

R. S. Garfield Todd, Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia and former superintendent of N.Z. churches of Christ mission at Dadaya, Africa, was recently inducted as president of the All Southern Africa Convention of the Disciples of Christ at a meeting in Johannesburg. Mr. Todd will be one of the speakers at the Toronto World Convention of Churches of Christ.

Members of the churches at Edwinstown West and Ascot Park, S.A., combined in a warm welcome to H. Cave and family on Dec. 14. A fine attendance welcomed Mr. Cave to his ministry with the two churches. June Alderton and a male quartet rendered musical items. On Dec. 19, M. A. K. Crosby, S.A. Conf. Pres., conducted a combined induction service. Mr. Squire conducted the preacher on an intensive introductory visitation. A modern home in Flinders-st., Woodlands Park, has been purchased as a manse.

Mrs. Ruby I. Oliver, of 87 Rochester-rd., Balwyn, Vic., reminds those who are interested in the support of Bible-women in India, that she would be pleased to receive donations from regular subscribers as soon as possible, and that she would be glad to welcome new contributors to this worthy fund.

On Dec. 11, the church at Yarra-wonga, Vic., farewelled Mr. and Mrs. Ron Holmes and their three boys after a ministry of three years. Mr. Colless presented Mrs. Holmes with a bouquet, the boys received books and a wallet of notes was presented to Mr. Holmes. Both Mr. and Mrs. Holmes responded feelingly to the appreciation expressed by members and townspeople. Earnest farewell messages were a feature of the Sunday services on Dec. 12. Mr. Wilson began his ministry with the church on the 19th.

The laying of the foundation stone of the new chapel at East Kew, Vic., took place on Dec. 18, when W. J. Woodbridge, one of the elder members of the congregation, performed the ceremony. Other speakers included Cr. Comeadow (Kew council), Mr. Bennetts (Ministers' Fraternal), and F. N. Lee (Properties Corporation). The service was conducted by Mr. Mansell and P. H. Elliott led in prayer. After the ceremony the ladies served afternoon tea. At a special Christmas service on 19th, the film, *My Redeemer Liveth*, was screened, together with recorded excerpts from *The Messiah*. There were two decisions. B.S. collected toys to be given to needy children.

Members of the church at Prospect, S.A., have received with much regret the request of their preacher, K. J. Patterson, B.A., B.Com., that he be released from his engagement in order to join the staff of the Wells Organisation. Mr. Patterson concluded his ministry with the church on Sunday, Jan. 16.

The church at Portland, Vic., with its minister, V. Quayle, has been experimenting in "holiday evangelism." Portland is a popular holiday centre. The town's main hall was secured for each Thursday night from Dec. 30, 1954 to Jan. 26, 1955. Programmes included community singing, sound film, musical and vocal items, and a message for the times.

A. R. Jones concluded his ministry of five and a half years with the church at Norwood, S.A., on Jan. 2, when four young ladies were baptised. David Hammer commences his ministry with the church on Jan. 23.

Some twenty men and women, headed by D. T. Niles, of Ceylon, conducted a University Mission in Edinburgh early in November. Following eighteen months' planning, the missionaries began by going to every corner of the academic community to speak to students and staff where they were to be found. The slogan was "One Christ: One World." David Read commented during the mission, "In spite of our differences of approach, dictated by denominational or society traditions, we have been together on this creed: Christ is Lord; and even those who are critical of some of the methods, or some of the subjects tackled, have recognised that here there has been no compromise. Nothing could have been more effective than to see Niles, an Asian Christian, dealing again and again with the question of the uniqueness of Christianity."

Missionary Farewelled

In spite of holiday time, and some necessary absences, a considerable number of people gathered at Lygon-st. chapel, Vic., on Jan. 11 to express good wishes to Dorothy Geyer. Dorothy goes to India, after University and College training as a teacher-missionary. With an Arts Degree and Diploma of Education she is well fitted for such work and the influence of her home and the course at Glen Iris, together with her undoubted love for Christ, give her what is required for her primary purpose of teaching and preaching Christ.

At the farewell gathering, R. C. Bolduan, Chairman of the Victorian-Tasmanian Overseas Committee and former missionary to India, presided. A message for the occasion from the President of Conference, Mr. Neigh'bour, was read. Mr. Geyer, Dorothy's father, read the Scriptures. Speakers in addition to the Chairman were Mrs. Ward (Women's Conference), B. Huntsman (General Conference), H. Earle (Federal Conference), K. A. Jones (College of the Bible) and Mrs. Washfold (Women's College Auxiliary). Jean Milne was soloist, and the solo "It's In My Mind" was both finely sung and well chosen. Dr. Oldfield (National Missionary Council) offered the prayer of dedication. Miss M. E. Pittman led helpfully at the organ.

Miss Geyer, humbly and graciously, and in most appropriate words, expressed her thanks and indicated her hopes.

A noticeably good spirit impressed those present.—A. B. Withers.

E. P. C. HOLLARD, Pastor-Organiser, S.A., calls urgently for

A MAN IN THE GAP

One of the minor prophecies of Ezekiel has a strange thought for an acute challenge which exists in our brotherhood today. In chapter 22, the prophet speaks of Jerusalem being heated like a furnace for smelting silver. The judgment of God is upon the city and men of stature and spiritual concern are at a premium. God then speaks through the prophet and says, "And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge and stand in the gap before me . . ."

Standing close to the borders of New South Wales and South Australia is the Silver City of Broken Hill. And in this place God is looking for a man to stand before him in the gap. There's a gap in the ministry! And a man with a prophet's mantle is desperately needed to make up the hedge!

It's a challenging story and could possibly appeal to a man of the ministry of the Word to rise up and say, "Here am I." If that man reads this then we shall hear from him.

South Australia has maintained the work at Broken Hill for many, many

years, pouring in resources of men and treasure. Now, there seems to be no man to go. For almost one year the Home Mission Committee has sought a minister for this vital field. Approaches to men in America, New Zealand and almost every State of Australia have met the same response, "I'm sorry, but I must decline." For months now the Committee has sent men by plane each weekend to conduct services. The local manpower strength has declined to such a degree that no one can conduct services. This emergency measure was adopted rather than see the 40 loyal Christians there stranded and their building closed down, but more, we would not remove the Lord's Table from its long witness in the city.

For sheer courage in "sticking to it," the Broken Hill people have few equals. Bound together in a richer fellowship than ever before, they continue their witness. One would think that such a situation would result in a decline. But, oddly enough (or is it odd?) it has been the reverse! In the five weeks prior to Christmas four people made decisions for Christ, in-

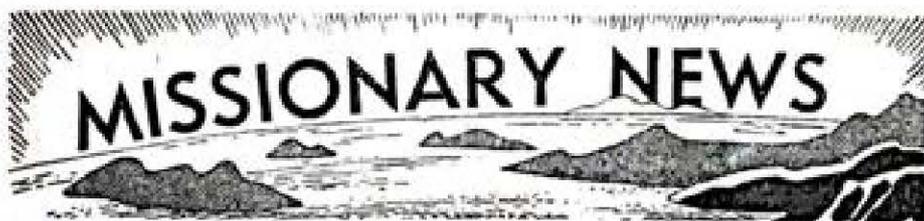
cluding one of the influential men of the city. Now we hear of members moving in from Sydney and Adelaide. But, no minister moves in!

The South Australian Home Mission Committee told the Federal Home Mission Committee that Broken Hill is as important as Canberra! They may agree on that, but they cannot supply a minister. They were not asked for money, just one man to stand in the gap.

There are all the elements of a tragedy in this situation—people coming into the church, and no shepherd to lead them; big hearts slowly facing what seems an inevitable ending; a great city with all of the needs of a city, and a lessened gospel voice; a Restoration Movement faced with a cessation of movement.

Likewise, there are all the elements of a great victory in the situation. For constantly prayer is being offered up that God will call a minister. Faith is remaining undaunted, even though discouraged.

Oh, for a man to stand in the gap!



(Notes supplied by A. Anderson, sec., P.M. Board.)

Christian Magistrate Revisits Indapur

D. S. Modak, M.A., LL.B., F.S.Sc. (London), belongs to a family of Brahmin converts and is a retired magistrate of the government of India. Although he is a retired person, from the Govt. service, it is very encouraging for the Indian Christians to know that he has not retired from Christian service. Though old he is still very active and zealous in the gospel-preaching work, and goes along voluntarily with preachers and missionaries to do this service for God. And it goes without saying that his valuable experience of many years is proving of much help to the young Christian generation.

Last September, Mr. Modak's visit to Indapur along with Mr. Dixon and party was arranged. With the help of printed hand-bills and by word of

mouth the special meetings of this party were announced in the town. And this well advertised meeting took place on Sept. 9, at the spacious compound of the Town Hall of Indapur. A crowd of 700-800 people, mostly Hindus and Muslims, filled the place in a short time to listen to the old Christian magistrate. Among those people some were leading citizens of the town, such as pleaders and government servants. It was a thrill to most of us to see such a good gathering attend the preaching of the gospel of Christ at a public place. Mr. Modak, assisted by Christians, sang Christian hymns and preached the glorious gospel of Christ.

In connection with these meetings, Mr. Modak, writes; "The meetings were quite unique in attendance, and many non-Christians heard the gospel of Christ. Praise God, Mr. Waghmodi had taken great pains to make the meetings successful." Then in his second letter he writes, "Many thanks for the extension of your kind hospitality to revisit Indapur-side villages for preach-

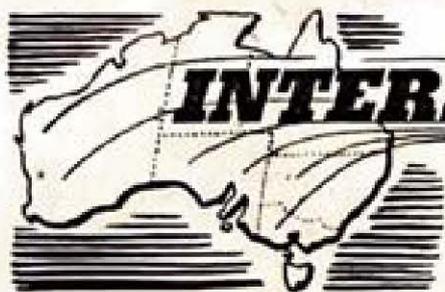
ing the gospel of Christ to those who have never yet heard the mighty, wonderful name of our Lord and Saviour. I shall be delighted to exalt our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ as the only Hope for the lost souls. The coming of our Lord is imminent."

We have very few top ranking lay leaders among the Indian Church such as Mr. Modak who are on fire for the Lord and who are possessed with the idea of his coming again. His meetings were a blessing to many and his example, an inspiration to all of us.

—From Hariba Waghmodi, Indapur.



Hariba Waghmodi and son Aravind.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

John Ball, Patricia Harris, Broken Hill, N.S.W.
Ian Beasley, Robert Dickie, Ormond, Vic.
Gladys Brown, Essendon, Vic.
Mrs. Brady, Mrs. Holt, Pamela Bagley, Pamela Weate and David Cook, Bexley Nth., N.S.W.
Mr. and Mrs. Jordan, Barry and Beverley Jordan, Angela and June Ingham and Judith Coates, Edwardstown West, S.A.
Yvonne Partridge, Mitcham, Vic.
Elaine Parker, June and Kaye Weepers and Helen Jones, Norwood, S.A.
Sara Neal, Mosman, N.S.W.
Fay Medhurst, Rosemary Bell and Wendy Blaskett, Prospect, S.A.
Ken Cranston, Rockhampton, Qld.
Mr. and Mrs. Mutton, Pamela Beck and Catherine Pellow, Hawthorn, S.A.
Brian Robinson, Mildura, Vic.
Lee Hurley, Jennifer Glezendanner, Wynnum, Qld.
Irene Fowler, Janette McIlwraith and John Partridge, Mitcham, Vic.
Mr. Huddy, Kilburn, S.A.
Misses J. Davies, N. Cullen, J. Doyle, Kevin Gluyas, Ken Carpenter, John Doyle and Mr. Walker, Northcote, Vic.

Membership

Misses Shields, from Surrey Hills, Vic., to Borenia, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Brown, from Red Hill, Vic., to Borenia, Vic.
Miss June Alderton from Invermay, Tas., to Edwardstown West, S.A.
Mrs. Hagedorn, from Kadina, S.A., to Edwardstown West, S.A.
Miss V. Searle, from Mile End, S.A., to Norwood, S.A.
Mrs. Cann, to Tamworth, N.S.W.
Roger and John Duffy, from Edwardstown, S.A., to Hawthorn, S.A.
Mrs. Gale and Lynette, to Bamba-rd., Caulfield, Vic.

Marriage

Kay Mason to James Wilson, East Malvern, Vic.

Win. Gillham to Dudley Atkins, South Perth, W.A.
Audrey Mavis Taylor to Mervyn Albert Wood, Kedron, Qld.
Barbara Tester to Peter Milne, Kilburn, S.A.
Lorna Patten to John Stokes, Bamba-rd., Caulfield, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Emily Goodall, Hindmarsh, S.A.
Len Lynch, Essendon, Vic.
George Lyall, Rockdale, N.S.W.
Mrs. Hannah Matilda Costin, Kedron, Qld.
E. Iliff, Maidstone, Vic.
Mrs. Fisher, Middle Park, Vic.

Tasmania

Margaret-st., Launceston. — B.S. and church will support Youth Dept's project of B.S. Field Worker. Ladies' Guild again assisted City Mission with annual tea for aged folk. On Christmas Sunday, J.C.E. presented Nativity Story in song and verse; B.S. held Christmas demonstration, with dramatised reading by the scholars; choir rendered special items at gospel service, and at after-church Fellowship Hour opportunity was taken to farewell Beverley Gullidge, David Burrows, and Mr. and Mrs. Theo Edwards. Mr. and Mrs. Edwards concluded their interim ministry on Dec. 28. Recent visitors include Miss Carroll (Hartwell, Vic.).

Western Australia

South Perth (S. H. Wilson). — "Carols by Floodlight" was outstanding feature of gospel meeting on Dec. 19 in the open beside chapel. To the 220 present, the preacher presented the Christmas story on flannelgraph, creating keen interest. During the evening, the B.S. sec., J. McIntyre, presented Mr. Griffiths (Norseman) with a cheque for £23, being ten per cent. of B.S. offerings. Offering boxes were placed for any who wished to give—proceeds to go to South Perth Community hospital, now in the course of erection; £7/10/- resulted. Two made the good confession at the close of the meeting. Kinders' Christmas tree on Dec. 18 was happy time for all, and a Christmas social for rest of B.S. was held on Dec. 21. I.C.E. have donated another four chairs for church use.

Queensland

Wynnum (W. Glezendanner). — Band of Hope concluded year's activity with barbecue. Both B. schools held success-

ful Christmas functions. Murarrie now has average attendance of 50 scholars. Church enjoyed messages from B. Vanham, Conf. Pres., during twenty-ninth anniversary celebrations.

Rockhampton (Don Paddon). — At annual business meeting decisions were made to improve morning service. It was formally decided to establish church on north side of Rockhampton. Building is already under way. Deacons elected for 1955 were: J. Fury, D. Jones, T. Jones, R. Dobbs, R. Wright, N. Greatbatch. R. Dobbs has been re-elected sec. R. Wright has been elected asst. sec. T. Jones has been re-elected treas., and R. Dobbs was elected B.S. supt. Normal Christmas festivities were held. Minister was called to Theodore during weekend of Dec. 11-12, to officiate at a wedding. He held a gospel service in Methodist chapel in Theodore on the Sunday evening. R. Dobbs and H. Hansen were preachers during absence of minister. At special Christmas gospel service, the epidiastroscope was used to portray the Christmas story from Christmas cards. Visitors during month included Bruce Tabrett (Earlwood), Mrs. Fields (Kingaroy), Mr. and Mrs. N. Jones (Mackay), Miss Lawrence (Sydney), Mr. and Mrs. Les Barnes and John (Gladstone).

Kedron (F. Langford). — Services have been well maintained. G. Haigh presented to church the budget for 1955, having in mind a three year plan to wipe off debt on manse and Stafford building, and to plan to build immediately the present loans are paid. Kedron Guild gave Board £36, but had spent more than that amount on manse furnishings. Guild gave social at manse and presented Mrs. Langford with gift for her leadership amongst ladies. H.M. offering was record. Candle-light service was held on church lawns, and service was amplified. At recent morning service, church presented preacher with gift of £10/10/- as gift and help to take family to home State for holiday.

Stafford (F. Langford). — B.S. has doubled in numbers since Feb. with 140 at present. Evening services have been well attended, with some strangers present. B.S. Christmas tree was success. More than 300 attended carol service and showing of film Child of Bethlehem. Stafford Guild gave Kedron Board a cheque for £100; the ladies of Kedron Guild have supported this Guild well in their money-raising efforts. Seventeen teachers travel from Kedron each Sunday to help in B.S. Boys' and girls' clubs had first annual dinner, and these clubs have created stimulus to B.S. work.

New South Wales

Rockdale (G. J. Andrews).—Various clubs and auxiliaries held happy end-of-the-year functions. W. Oldfield was back on Dec. 19, after period of ill-health. Girls' Club sang carols and Mrs. MacDonald was soloist at Christmas service. Church was saddened on 26th by sudden accidental death of twin son of Mr. and Mrs. Lyall. Messrs Ellerby and Leask were speakers on Jan. 2, preacher being on holidays. Mrs. Flynn was welcomed after time in hospital.

Mosman (G. J. Crossman).—Christmas trees were held on Dec. 18. C. Murray and L. Donaldson have assisted preacher in speaking. Messrs. Crossman and Murray have given messages at Seaforth.

Hornsby (K. R. Fennell).—B.S. Christmas tree was held on Dec. 17. At Christmas gospel service on 19th, preacher gave flannelgraph address, Sisters' Fellowship contributed an item and Mr. and Mrs. Gray (Burwood) brought messages in song. An enjoyable time was had by all at church Christmas party on 22nd. Mr. Ellerby conducted the Christmas morning communion service at 9 a.m. Bright gospel service was conducted by Mr. Bartholomew on 26th, at which Miss H. Tewksbury rendered solo and Mr. Ellerby gave the message. Other speakers have been Messrs. Childs and Morton.

Broken Hill.—Visiting speakers from Adelaide have been Messrs. Hughes, Moore, Baker, Cornaby, Philip and Green. Kinder and senior school held successful Christmas parties. Allan and Brian Hoskings are home from Sydney University, and Judith Palmer from Teachers' Training College. There have been several decisions.

Tamworth (H. I. Walmsley).—Christmas fete raised £102. B.S. and clubs had Christmas tree. B.S. put on The First Christmas and The First Santa Claus on the 23rd, proceeds being given to church as Christmas gift.

Taree.—Meetings during Dec. were well supported. Visits from K. Fennell, preacher of Hornsby church, and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Wakeley (Loftus Park) were helpful and refreshing. On Dec. 19, in response to request by Municipal Council, church recognised commencement of Centenary Celebrations of Taree, also recalled work of early pioneers who established churches of Christ on the Manning River, in June, 1863. Church treas. C. A. Norling, reported buoyant finances for quarter ending Dec., with most liberal giving on record. Average weekly offering amounted to £36 per week, not including a special gift of £50 for New Building Fund.

Beverly Hills.—Church held two weeks' mission, conducted by Principal A. W. Stephenson, M.A., following a one week visitation evangelism campaign. Assistance given by song leaders, vocalists and musicians is gratefully acknowledged. There were eleven decisions, and six others indicated willingness for obedience in baptism. Thank offering almost covered expense involved. Special service was held on Christmas morning. Mr. Reese officiating. B.S., after census of parents, is changing from afternoon to morning as from School new year. Encouraging additions have been made to teaching staff. C.E. has been in recess for two weeks over Christmas period.

Bexley North (J. G. Shaw).—Church was pleased to have fellowship on Jan. 2 with Mr. and Mrs. Dahl and family (Bentleigh, Vic.), and Messrs. Reid and Daniels (Geelong, Vic.). Two young men from church made their decision at youth camp held at Lake Illawarra.

Inverell (E. P. G. McIlhagger, B.A.).—Plans for new hall have been passed by Council and first material ordered. Preacher's wife was guest speaker at combined ladies' break-up party in Town Hall on Dec. 16, at which 200 ladies were present. Recent visitors included R. Dixon, A. Winter, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bartram and the Wyeth family (Mackay, Qld.). At recent Amateur Hour from Inverell, three items (out of 10) were contributed by members of Inverell C.Y.F. Aged sisters Hamilton, de Praine and Burt are laid aside.

Mayfield.—During interim period members have attended faithfully, helpful addresses being given by our own members and visiting speakers. 11 decisions have been made in this time. A. C. Caldicott (Lismore) was guest speaker for 17th anniversary services. Chapel and manse have been renovated and foundations laid for new kinder hall on adjoining block. Service on Christmas Day was attended by many visitors and broadcast on Jan. 2. It was conducted by P. Retchford, and was well received.

South Australia

Kilburn (H. G. Norris).—Kinder held special gift service on Dec. 19. Special Christmas services were addressed by preacher. During morning service, Ken Henley was commended and given presentation by B.S. supt. in recognition of seven years' teacher-assistance (coming each week from Nalsworth), and for valuable help in church services. Ken now intends to assist new cause at Hampstead.

Hawthorn (A. A. McRoberts, B.A.).—Dec. services averaged 162 (morning) and 146 (night), with four decisions and two received by letter. Serial story

during gospel service creates great interest. Special Christmas choral service on Dec. 19 was appreciated. Preacher addressed crowded Christmas morning service at Methodist church. Mrs. Cliff and Colin Butler, and Beth Riches are able to attend services again, and Joy Miller is thanked for leading J.C.E. during leader's illness. Happy end-of-the-year functions were held. The tennis club has been recommenced.

Hindmarsh (J. E. Shipway).—B.S. anniversary was held on Dec. 12 and 19. Services took form of Christmas carols presented by school choir and chosen individuals, and proved successful. Suitable Nativity prophecies and story of the birth of Christ were interspersed with carols. Narrator was Murray Wilton, with Geoff Trevaskis as conductor, and Ron Morrison pianist. Services were well attended. Evening service of 19th, was tape recorded. Kinder Christmas tree, and social for older scholars were also well attended. Doris Galliford has returned from hospital after an operation. John Allan has passed his third year medical exam, and Margaret Magor has secured B.A. degree. Church is planning for Centenary in June, 1955. Misses Hilda and Ada Allan, members for 37 years and splendid workers, have moved to another suburb.

Croydon (W. N. Bartlett).—During December, all societies held Christmas break-up socials. Christmas service was held on 19th. The choir assisted at both services. Items were rendered by male quartet, Doris Brand and Mrs. Whitford, and service concluded with the "Hallelujah Chorus."

Fullarton.—On Christmas Sunday, E. P. C. Hollard (H.M. organiser) and G. Whiting (Youth Director) were speakers. Carols were sung at night, with solos by Margaret Patrick, Judith Overland, Jennifer Outlaw and David Moore. W. H. Craddock conducted the singing. Don K. Beller and Dr. Trevor Turner preached on Dec. 26, when Judith Overland helped with a solo. Church is deeply appreciative of help given by various brethren in interim period.

Grote-st., Adelaide (C. Candy).—Morning and gospel services were well attended. Membership has increased by baptism of seven Y.P. from B.S. Youth Council held evening and made presentation to D. Mortimer and Miss V. Bignall prior to their marriage. On 19th, church choir under conductor, W. Watson, presented Christmas choral service, with Pauline Orr and Dave Lewis as soloists. End-of-the-year functions were enjoyable.

Prospect (K. J. Patterson, B.A., B.Com.).—All auxiliaries have made good progress. Improved attendance at

junior girls' club (Good Companions) is encouraging. Kappa and Phi Beta clubs joined in successful breakup social. Kinder and Cradle Roll parties were well attended by parents. There was a splendid attendance at church family Christmas party on 18th, when B.S. Junior and Intermediate Departments received prizes based on year's work, and Youth Council presented a short play, each church auxiliary supplying an item to complete a fine programme. A Ladies' Guild Christmas luncheon, recognition was made to Mrs. Alan Roberts on completion of 11 years' service as secretary. Mrs. H. Lawrie is new sec.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — C.E. combined with prayer meeting on Dec. 24 when Y.P. and adults toured district singing carols under leadership of Mr. Norris, arousing great interest. At close of gospel service on Dec. 28, a married man confessed Christ. Visitors included Mr. and Mrs. W. Maddern (Serviceton), Mr. and Mrs. K. Watson (Vic.), and Mr. and Mrs. Aunger and family (Salisbury). Quite a number visited Longwood youth camp on Dec. 27, where a fine group of Kilburn Y.P. participated in Summer Training Camp. On Jan. 2, speaker for day was E. P. C. Hollard (H.M. sec.). B. Barrett spoke at morning service on 9th. Mr. Cardlake (Morawa, W.A.), was welcome visitor. At night a combined baptismal service was held at Prospect when Mr. Norris conducted baptismal service and K. J. Patterson preached.

Victoria

East Malvern (R. N. Gilmore). — Attendances have kept up during holidays. Mr. and Mrs. Paul, formerly of Shepparton, have come to live in district. Their daughter and her husband also met with church on Dec. 26. Kitchen tea was tendered to Miss E. Mason and James Wilson. Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Ryall, the Women's Fellowship and Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Davidson arranged a reception and wedding breakfast at home of Mr. and Mrs. Davidson at Surrey Hills. Mr. Wilson is church organist and a B.S. teacher and Miss Mason (who came from Scotland about two years ago) assists in kinder.

Emerald (D. D. Stewart). — Services over Christmas season have been well attended, particularly on the mornings of Dec. 26, and Jan. 2, visitors being in large numbers. Mr. and Mrs. F. Beale, missionaries to New Hebrides, fellow-shipped on Dec. 19. Nth. Fitzroy campers provided president and readers for morning of Jan. 2. R. Sercombe, preacher at Semaphore, S.A., with Mrs. Sercombe, visited for the day. Mr. Sercombe officiating as organist at evening service.

Mildura (D. A. V. Thomas). — Brian Robinson, a B.S. scholar, confessed

Christ at youth service. Kinder has had record attendance of 71 children; since visiting by teacher and a bus running in the west section of city, many new scholars have been gained. New B.S. hall at Buroonga was opened by Doug Clark on Dec. 12; over 150 of district members were present. Church welcomed home Donald Mansell and John Johnston for University holidays.

Horsham (H. M. Long). — Cornish Christmas carols were sung at Christmas service on Dec. 19. Special choir, under leadership of minister, is planning to continue its work during 1955. Thursday night Bible Study group has maintained good attendances. Visiting speakers have recently included E. W. Brown (Oriental and Slavic Mission), and Mrs. Finger (New Hebrides). Minister spoke at Kaniva District Conference. Church has agreed to supply two services a quarter at Minyip. C.E. has planned to meet in members' homes in 1955. Albert Cutchie has been appointed church treas. to replace H. Jenner, transferred to Wodonga. At Mr. and Mrs. Jenner's farewell, a copy of Scriptures was presented as token of esteem. Recent arrivals in Horsham include Mr. and Mrs. Alex. Smith (York-st., Ballarat), Mrs. B. Lehman (Dawson-st., Ballarat), Mrs. L. Altmann (E. Malvern), Mrs. G. Merritt (E. Malvern). Mr. and Mrs. George Mackley are leaving for Melbourne and expect to meet with Collingwood church.

Sunshine (F. B. Alcorn). — Recent Sale of Works brought in approximately £140. Thankoffering received on Temple Day amounted to £135. Work has commenced on construction of brick hall at rear of chapel for auxiliary work. On Dec. 19, a Carol and Christmas Tree Service was held in the evening. Gifts on tree were given for distribution by Chas. Young, hospital chaplain. Prayer Meeting Fellowship continues support of Shanta Ransingh, of India. Ladies shared in making offering at Oakleigh Guest Home. Many homes have been recently affected by sickness.

Swan Hill (R. A. Banks). — Berean club held break-up party at home of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar. Preacher and 12 Y.P. attended Murray Valley Youth camp at Mildura from Dec. 27 to Jan. 3. Church attendances have been excellent with average of 60 breaking bread each Sunday.

Red Hill (J. Sutton). — On Dec. 19 Mrs. Dave Holmes rendered solo at morning service. Greetings were received from Mr. and Mrs. Frank Butler and Miss Tinkler. In afternoon, church officers held meeting to discuss church progress work. Evening service was well attended. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kirby assisted with a duet. Preacher has com-

menced mid-week meeting for boys. Y.P.S.C.E. held social on 18th. Visitors from all parts of State helped to pack services on 26th. Mrs. Morrison is home from hospital and making progress.

Colac (Reg Combridge). — We regret departure of Sis. Collins for Melbourne but are glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. C. Boak, of Springvale, also Mr. Smith from Box Hill. Ladies' Guild had successful year and installed heaters in chapel. Men are building new cupboards in vestry in preparation for painting. Reg Combridge signified his willingness to continue as student preacher, which was received by members with great satisfaction. Fellowship tea with Mr. Pearce (Methodist) as speaker was very successful.

Ormond (F. E. Buckingham). — Proceeds from fete now total £430, with additional small sums still coming in. Chapel was crowded for worship service on Dec. 19. At gospel service two K.S.P. members were baptised and at 9 p.m. Claude Gadge and his helpers gave candle-light carols. K.S.P. and P.B.P. combined for break-up at Lake Emerald, 44 taking part. Y.P. who have taken organ fund to £90, are keen to reach £100 and to this end held street stall on 18th. Officers have donated chairs for kinder. Barbara Collier is making progress after operation.

Mt. Evelyn (A. H. Pratt). — Church feels keenly loss by death of one of its foundation stalwarts, Mrs. P. Pedley. The late Mrs. Pedley was one of eight people who met to commence meetings in home of preacher in 1947. Special services were held on Christmas Sunday with Edith Cox and Gay Lumsden as duettists.

Lalrobe-terr. Geelong (T. A. Ferguson). — From successful talent scheme for new church hall, 23 members, commencing with £32/5/-, in four months returned £169/15/9, which, together with results of two individual efforts of £11 and £20, and £10 from B.S., brought total for day to £210. Ladies' Aid at break-up had £150 of their quota in hand. Kinder Christmas tree with Mrs. Russenberg as leader, and B.S. social were well attended. B.S. supt., Don Drayton, has relinquished position to be church sec. A. Carr and son Max are supt. and sec., respectively. All auxiliaries held successful end-of-year functions. Choral service was held on 19th with Geo. Clark as soloist, and also senior choristers, with Mrs. E. Foletta as leader.

Essendon (W. R. Hibbert). — Carol service was held at evening meeting on 19th. At close of address a young lady responded to invitation. W. Fordham (Camberwell) presided at morning service on 26th. Baptismal service was observed at evening meeting on Jan. 2. J. Hemaley rendered solo. Church sympathy is expressed to Mrs. Lynch.

Kevin and Ellen, in loss of their loved one.

Hurstbridge. — Attendances of church and B.S. are being maintained. Average attendances for past month were: morning, 26; evening, 28; and B.S., 12. Mrs. Attwell is in the Royal Melbourne Hospital. A. Stevens has assisted with preaching for eight weeks before going to Whyalla, S.A.

Boronis (C. L. Smith). — During minister's vacation services were conducted by P. Beale, H. Finger, B. J. Combridge, and A. Handasyde. Kinder Christmas party was held on Dec. 18 with 40 children and their parents present. 40 people attended service on Christmas morning. B.S. enrolment has reached 199, and church services are well attended.

Maldstone (E. H. Randall). — Attendances have been lower on account of holiday period but many members are now returning from vacation. On Jan. 2, Mr. and Mrs. V. Waters returned from their honeymoon, and Mr. and Mrs. Potter of Ann-st., had fellowship with church. On 9th preacher commenced his sixth year of ministry with church.

Warracknabeal (W. Wakefield). — B.S. had break-up social and usual Christmas tree. John Earl has returned home after being several months in city. Ladies' Aid have donated doormat for porch of chapel.

Mitcham. — R. Bust gave farewell addresses during Dec. Four decisions were reward of his work, and church will miss him. Christmas functions were enjoyed. L. Prentice, church sec., has been ill.

Box Hill (W. A. Wigney). — All church auxiliaries held Christmas functions, also each department of B.S., P.B.P. and K.S.P. combined on Dec. 18, when J. Gray screened a film programme. Gifts of appreciation were presented to Mrs. Wigney and K. Jeffrey, chaplains of the respective clubs. Feature of the evening was Christmas tree, holding about 60 gifts for work of C. Young (hospital chaplain). Special Christmas services were held on 19th. Choir and soloists assisted at both services. After-church carol hour was enjoyed. Speakers on Jan. 9 were J. Scott and R. Sandells. L. Cronet is in hospital following motor accident on Christmas Eve. Sympathy of church is expressed for him and family. Church regrets continued illness of Mr. Salisbury.

Echuca (H. Hargreaves). — B.S. enjoyed Christmas social, and kinders a Christmas tree. Ladies' Guild raised £17 at their wind-up social. Visit of B. J. Combridge was enjoyed on Dec. 19. Prayer meetings are proving help-

ful. Numerous visitors have been welcomed during holidays.

Northcote (W. Gale). — Church has been blessed by seven decisions during Christmas season. Interim ministry of W. Gale is greatly appreciated by members and large attendances at morning and evening services are being maintained. Special Christmas service was held on Dec. 19 when a number of Y.P. assisted. There were four decisions at gospel service. Church appreciates use of Thornbury chapel for baptismal services held on Dec. 14 and Jan. 12 when over 80 witnessed services, conducted by W. T. Atkin.

The Day of Light

(A Hymn for January — No. 226, Jan. 30.)

The author of today's hymn, John Ellerton, himself a great hymnwriter, also had a finger in every pie (hymnologically) for 30 years, hymnwriting, editing and the writing of notes and commentaries on hymns, coming with equal facility. It was claimed that, as hymnologist, he could on the mere mention of a hymn, be it Greek, Latin, French, German or Danish, at once quote its author and history. Two modern (non-Anglican) hymnals each use over a dozen of his hymns.

One note on Canon Ellerton's churchmanship — including a unique quip on

the parties in the Church of England — was that he demonstrated the subjective piety of the "low and lazy" and the intellectual freedom of the "broad and hazy," no less than the objective adoration of the "high and crazy." (We have not traced this to the original critic, but we hope for charity's sake that he was himself an Anglican, though we cannot imagine of what party!)

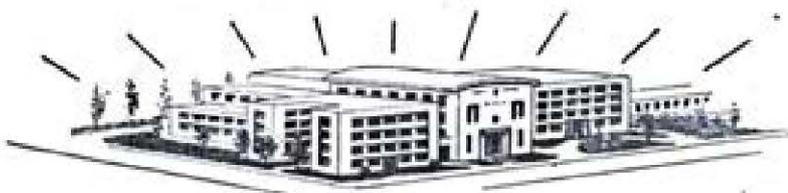
One Ellerton hymn immediately attracting by its structure is our No. 226. A fifth verse not used by us completes the series "This is the day of Light — of Rest — of Peace — of Prayer — of Bread"; a sixth, although breaking the exact parallelism of form, is still a worthy companion. The lines missing from our book read:

"This is the day of Bread,
The Bread that thou dost give;
Today for us thy feast is spread,
That hungering souls may live.

"This is the first of days;
Send forth thy quickening Breath,
And wake dead souls to love and
praise.

O Vanquisher of death."

The six verses thus bring into our contemplation many of the things we have a right to expect from the Lord's Day — light, rest, peace, prayer, the heavenly bread — and set them out in turn as remedies against gloom, weariness, discord and strife, spiritual hunger and the very death of the soul — a Day of Light indeed! — F.J.F.



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DEATHS.

COSH. — On Dec. 29, passed quietly away, Evelyn, eldest daughter of the late J. and R. McMillan, loved sister of Jim, Dot (Mrs. P. Barnden), Fairy (Mrs. Thomas).

"The long day closes."

PYM.—On Dec. 14, at Wycheproof Hospital, Ada, loved daughter of the late Charles and Louisa Frost, dearly loved sister of Alfred (dec.), Jim (dec.), Ethel (Mrs. McCoy), Emily (Mrs. Symes), Bertha (Mrs. Warren), Ernest, Hilda (dec.), Harold (dec.), Ellen (Mrs. Harkins), Mary (Mrs. Boyett).

"So dearly loved, so sadly missed."

SMITH.—On Dec. 23, 1954, beloved son of Alf and Rose Smith (Dandenong), dearly loved brother of Kath (Mrs. Oakes), loved nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Beanland, and cousin of Denis (Springvale).

"Some time we'll understand."

IN MEMORIAM.

BLACK.—With treasured memories of our dear ones, Eunice (nee Brown), also Bos, Jack and Will, called home in 1953.

—Inserted by their loving wives, sisters and brother.

GOLDSWORTHY — Treasured memories of our loving mother and father who were called home. Amelia, Jan. 2, 1934 and Reginald, Jan. 12, 1941.

"God holds the key of all unknown."
—Inserted by their loving sons and daughters.

MORRIS. — Loving thoughts today, and a beautiful memory of my dear son-in-law, Vic., called to rest, Jan. 10, 1952.

"In God's care."

ENGAGEMENTS.

DALTON—SHEPHERD. — Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Dalton, Noble Park, Vic., are happy to announce the engagement of their twin daughter, Muriel Dorothy, to Hayden Charles, son of Mr. and Mrs. P. Shepherd, Bentleigh, Vic.

HUNTER—SMITH. — The engagement is announced of Lois Mary, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hunter, 16 Birdwood-ave., Dandenong, to Donald Hamilton, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Smith, Stoda-st., Heathmont, Vic.

LAUNDER—LUSK. — Joy, only daughter of Arthur and Dorothy, to Edwin, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Lusk. The engaged couple are members of Ivanhoe church. Both families reside at St. Hellin-st., Heidelberg, Vic. "Joy for us all."

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Honors List, Third Term, 1954.

New Testament: Miss P. Jones, P.
C. Woolford. Five others passed.

Old Testament: J. A. Blankley, L.
P. Barker, Miss E. A. Bunn, B. M.
Nowitzke, C. Terry, P. C. Woolford. Five
others passed.

Apologetics: F. Leivesley, M. H. A.
Pieper. Five others passed.

Essays: G. E. Gibson, N. Hodgekiss,
W. E. Hoffman, F. Leivesley, D. Mor-
timer, M. H. A. Pieper.

Exegesis: P. Leivesley, M. H. A.
Pieper. Five others passed.

Hermeneutics: W. E. Hoffman, P.
Leivesley, D. Mortimer, M. H. A. Pieper.
Four others passed.

Homiletics I: J. A. Blankley, L. P.
Barker, Miss E. A. Bunn, G. B. Davis,
B. M. Nowitzke, D. Willis. One other
passed.

Homiletics III: K. N. Beadle, G. E.
Gibson, W. E. Hoffman, F. Leivesley,
D. Mortimer, M. H. A. Pieper.

Missions: J. A. Blankley, Miss E. A.
Bunn, G. B. Davis, B. M. Nowitzke, D.
Willis. Five others passed.

Religious Education: J. A. Blankley,
L. P. Barker, Miss E. A. Bunn, G. B.
Davis, Miss P. A. Jones, B. M. Nowitzke,
D. Willis, G. Wladysluk. Three others
passed.

English I: B. M. Nowitzke. Three
others passed.

Church History: G. H. Benjamin.

Greek I: Four passed.

—A. W. Stephenson, Principal.

News of British Churches

By the time their furlough is due
in 1956, Mr. and Mrs. E. Gray will have
completed 26 years of service in Nyasa-
land. They have intimated their deci-
sion to retire at that time and the
Missionary Committee has regretfully
accepted their resignation, as from that
date. The rapidly developing work in
Nyasaland, coupled with the difficulties
created by the policy of the South
African government, make it necessary
for the staffing of the Nyasaland mis-
sion to be regarded as an urgent
matter.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Sewell expect to sail
for Thailand in January.

Missionary weekends have been held
at Leicester (Evington-rd.) and Burn-
ley. At both churches sermons were
preached by Miss J. Tinto, on furlough
from Nyasaland, and films of the mis-
sion were shown. The sale and offering
at Evington-rd. realised £100, and at
Burnley £51.

A united rally of Baptist and churches
of Christ members, the first to be held

BIRTH.

MARR (née Pullston). — On Dec.
16, to Valda and Vic., North Portland,
a son.—Douglas Richard. Brother for
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CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

N. H. Coombe (secretary, Hampstead
Gardens church), 18 Ian-st., Broadview,
S.A.

D. H. Smith (preacher, Morwell
church), 130 Commercial-rd., Morwell,
Vic.

In the district, was held at Dalton-in-
Furness. The speakers were the
Moderator of the Northern District of
the Lancashire and Cheshire Baptist
Association and W. J. Clague, who is
a member of the churches of Christ
"Five" who hold conversations with a
Baptist "Five" from time to time.
People travelled as much as 25 miles
to attend the rally, which was the first
of three to be held during the next
few months.

Mr. and Mrs. Page, of Nelson, New
Zealand, have arrived in this country
on their way to the World Convention
to be held at Toronto.

Principal and Mrs. Williams, of Glen
Iris College, Australia, were at a rally
of district churches held at Shawlands,
Glasgow. Mr. and Mrs. Williams are
returning from Evanston. During the
ten days they were in this country they
spoke at churches in Glasgow, Man-
chester, Leicester and London.

The church at Armadale, Scotland,
with which the late James Anderson
was intimately associated, is building
up its membership after several years
in which, lacking leadership, it seemed
likely to go out of existence. A Black-
lock (Falkirk) has given a long period
of service to the church and under his
ministry new members have been added
and extensions made to the buildings.
—G. J. Hammond.

OBITUARY

Ernest J. Turner.

Mr. Turner was baptised at Ascot
Vale, Vic. on March, 24, 1912 and later
served with the churches at Chelten-
ham, Parkdale and Carnegie. He has
been living at Carnegie for 35 years
and was in active membership with
this church. He was in regular atten-
dance at the Sunday services until a
couple of months ago when illness pre-
vented his coming. A painter by trade,
he made his services available to the
church whenever needed. He was highly
respected and loved. He was called from
this life on Jan. 2. Funeral services
were conducted by the writer and H.
R. Coventry on the 5th. The Carnegie
church expresses its Christian sym-
pathy and love to the widow and son,
John (Kingsford, N.S.W.) and daugh-
ters Noreen and Marie (Mrs. Smith),
and shares with them the Christian
hope and faith.—A. R. Lloyd.

Miss Emily Goodall

On Sunday morning, Nov. 28, Miss
E. Goodall, at the age of 86 years,
passed quietly to be with her Lord.
In the earlier days of the church at
Hindmarsh she was a faithful worker
and consecrated B.S. teacher. Falling
health over the years made it im-
possible for her to attend services.
She loved a visit from the preacher,
and was always interested to hear

how things were going along. She was
a pensioner but often put into the hand
of the preacher some small gift for
the work. She was a gentle and amiable
little lady, one who bore in her soul
the real gentleness and humility of her
Lord. She has laid down her work and
gone to rest, in the sure and certain
hope of a glorious resurrection.—J. E.
Shipway.

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