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Our Indebtedness to the Jew.

The ultimate destiny of the Jewish people is a question that has a profound interest for most Christian people. Their wonderful history and their probable future are matters which have engaged the attention of students of the Bible for many centuries. At the present time the way seems opening for fresh developments. The new condition of things in Turkey may lead to a more liberal policy in the Turkish administration of affairs in Palestine, and open the way for a speedier return of the Jews to the land of their fathers. In view of these things, the following from the *Jewish Missionary Herald* will be read with interest:—

A wonderful people.

The Jews are a wonderful people. The ordinary historian can make nothing of them; the "philosophy of history" cannot discover any niche for this strange nation in its theorising about evolution and the "cosmic processes"; can find no place suitable for so mysterious, and, to us, so miraculous a history. An attempt, of course, has been made to adjust that history to ingenious hypotheses respecting the rise and fall of nationalities; but the Jew stubbornly refuses to be ranged in any merely human category of the course of events. His antiquity is unquestioned. He has outlived the proudest empires of antiquity. He was contemporary with nations which have long ceased to be; but he is with us still. When the famous Romulus was being suckled by the wolf, the Jews were an ancient people. When Greece rose above the horizon into her noontide splendor to illuminate half the world for a millennium, Israel had already behind it a thousand years of authentic record. Israel is still in our midst, though Greece is "living Greece" no more. Who was the father of history, think you? Herodotus? By no means: the father of history was Moses; the first, the greatest, the most accurate of all historians. The mere historian is totally unable to explain the persistent existence of this nation. How is it that they have survived captivities after captivities, and defied millenniums of ruthless, decimating persecution? How is it that this burning bush is not consumed? We believe that it is because God holds them in his hand, and that it is his purpose one day to wield them as his mightiest instruments for the establishment and perpetuation of his kingdom on the earth. To the Christian the Jew is an object of intense interest. With Neander we point

to him as one of the most cogent arguments in our system of apologetics. It is a strong corroboration of the truth of Christianity that the Christian faith can only be fully interpreted by reference to the Judaism which is its antecedent. Christianity itself is in fact the flower and consummation of Judaism.

A phenomenal growth.

The present condition of the Jews is also most suggestive. Of late years their growth has been phenomenal. In the last fifty years their numbers have risen from four to eleven millions, a rate of increase very considerably more than that of any other people of whom we possess statistics. One of the most ominous features in the present state of the Jewish nation—I use the word ominous in the Latin sense of the word—is the fact that its bigotry is slowly but steadily melting away; and though that may be an outcome of the subtle, disintegrating influence of scepticism, still it is yielding to the influence of an enlightenment that will surely have its effect on a people in many respects the most enlightened in the civilised world. We thank God that their bearing towards Christianity is softening. The Jewish heart is gradually being touched with a recognition of the fact that the true Christian cherishes a loving sympathy with the Jew.

Zionism.

Zionism is a portent of some approaching crisis. The Jews are fast flocking back to their ancient home; some mysterious but potent magnet is drawing these tribes of the weary heart and wandering foot to the old country. Only twenty years ago the tide had hardly begun to flow. Now I believe there are over 30,000 Jews in Jerusalem alone. This strange fascination is a symptom that we are nearing the time of the fulness of the Gentiles. The promise of God has tarried long. Many hearts have grown weary of waiting, and faith has sometimes faltered; but the hour draws nigh when Jehovah shall revisit his ancient people, and the salvation of the Jews reanimate the hope of the ingathering of all nations.

Arrears to make up.

We have vast arrears to make up to them, if only as reparation for the pitiless past. All our sympathies and gifts multiplied a thousand-fold would scarcely touch the fringe of our obligation. To the modern mind indeed it is not very obvious what the

supreme contribution of the Jew to the treasures of mankind really is. Philosophy, art, science, commerce—in all these fields Israel has won distinction. But his supreme contribution is religion. From time immemorial the Hebrews have been the moral teachers of mankind. Not that I believe in what is called the genius of the Jewish race for religion; for if I read their story aright, they had naturally little of that. I do not believe that the Semitic mind is peculiarly constituted for the discovery of monotheism. Not so do I construe the long record of their backslidings. I trace it to the supernatural inspiration of the Holy Spirit. He it was who chose that nation for reasons known to himself to be the medium of a divine revelation co-extensive with the human race, who selected them to be the guardians of a priceless deposit of unerring truth for all ages. Well have they fulfilled their august function, and warded that fair inheritance through the changeful centuries till the present hour. To them we owe the matchless literature that enshrines the word of the Lord, matchless as literature, but above all as the revelation of the mind and will, the character and purposes of God. What is Christianity itself but the perfected fruit of the Old Testament? And to whom do we owe the New? Who are the inspired exponents of Christianity? All Jews, save one. What a contribution to the highest good of man!

The fulness of the Gentiles.

But, of course, the supreme glory of Israel is that from them, "as concerning the flesh, came Christ who is God over all, blessed for ever." What we owe to him is the standard by which we ought to measure our obligation to the Jew. On this theme words are an impertinence. No Christian heart can resist the appeal of this single consideration. Our debt is altogether independent of success. It matters not that the cost of missions to the Jews reaches a figure that rouses critical censure. It matters not that it is difficult to make converts. The debt would be precisely the same, had there never been one. But the results have been great and encouraging. In Great Britain alone there are over 350 ministers of the gospel more or less directly connected with the Hebrew race. But it is not a question of success; it is a debt to be discharged. Through their fall salvation has come to us poor, outcast Gentiles. But their blindness is only temporary, until the fulness of the Gentiles be

come in, and the long hostility of weary centuries cease. Whatever may be their political destiny, they are to be world-wide missionaries. Have you forgotten that the first, greatest of all missionaries was a Jew? What a day of triumph will dawn when there shall arise a whole nation of Pauls, zealous for the faith they so long sought to destroy! Every motive of self-interest, every impulse of gratitude, every pulsation of pity, the tenderest constraints of love to the Lord Jesus, all combine to awaken and intensify our interest in the evangelisation of Israel.

Sisters' Department.

VICTORIAN.

Secretary, MISS HILL, 23 Blenheim-st., Balaclava.

"A wise woman reflects before she speaks; a foolish one speaks, and then reflects on what she has uttered."

The Sisters' Conference, 1909, will be held in Lygon-st. chapel, Wednesday, April 7. The morning session will open at 10.30 a.m. Election of officers, committees, and discussion of notices of motion. In the afternoon, reports, President's address, Conference Essay by Mrs. James Cook (Bendigo), and an address by Miss Thompson, "The Women of India." During the evening Mrs. Champ-
lin, who is an authority on Kindergarten work, will give an address, and papers on the "Centennial" will be contributed by prominent sisters. We are looking forward to a

happy, helpful time, and trust every sister who possibly can will be present all day.

The monthly Executive meeting was held on the 5th inst., Mrs. Chown leading the devotional. A paper prepared by Mrs. W. Dickens, "Are Sisters' Prayer Meetings Justifiable?" was read by Mrs. Harward. The President welcomed to our meeting Mrs. Nightingale, of South Yarra. It was resolved to hold a special meeting to make final arrangements for Conference on Monday, 22nd inst. Additions from schools: North Richmond, 2; Windsor, 2. Next meeting, April 2, when Mrs. Theo. Fischer will read a paper, "Traits of Woman's Character in Old and New Testaments." The meeting was closed by Miss Heinzie engaging in prayer.

The following notices of motion have been given:—

1. "That the subject of forming 'Helpers' Bands' in connection with Home and Foreign Mission work amongst our sisters, and supporting an organising secretary, be brought before the Sisters' Conference."

2. "That any representative absent from our monthly Executive meeting for three months without a written apology be considered to have resigned, and the church that appointed her be written to, stating the by-law, and be asked to nominate another sister to take her place. This to apply also to all members of committees."

3. "That the first paragraph of article vi. of the Constitution be rescinded in favor of the following: 'The Executive Council of the Conference shall consist of a President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant

and Financial Secretary, and Superintendents of Committees, all of whom shall be nominated and elected at the Annual Conference'; and in event of the motion being carried, the following addition be made to article viii.:—"The representatives of churches meet once a month as heretofore, at a convenient time and place."

PRAYER MEETINGS.—The Committee visited Footscray Society on Feb. 17. Sister Trinnick, after reading Job. 1: 22, spoke on "The Brevity of Life." Sister Dickens read a paper on Psa. 91: 1. Mrs. Downing, superintendent of W.C.T.U., gave an address upon Francis Willard's work.—M. TRINNICK, Supt.

GENERAL DORCAS.—Meeting held Feb. 18; 11 sisters present. Committee meeting held. In response to a request for help from the matron of the Burwood Boys' Home, resolved that a special rally be called for March, and that the first Wednesday and third Thursday be devoted exclusively to this work. Received with thanks, £1 from Dorcas sisters, North Fitzroy, also a parcel of children's clothing from the Dorcas sisters, Middle Park. Burwood Boys' Rally, March 3; 13 sisters in attendance. Committee meeting held. Received parcel of flannelette from Mrs. Arland for Burwood Boys' Home. 30 garments repaired.—A. D. ALLAN, Supt.

HOSPITAL VISITATION.—The following hospitals have been visited for the month of February:—Mrs. Cameron—Alfred Hospital, 2 visits; Old Folks' Home, 4 visits; books given away, 208, also 4 nightgowns, neck ties and lollies. Mrs. Morris reports 3 visits to Queen Victoria, 3 visits to Alfred, and 1 to Melbourne Hospital; 40 books and papers distributed, home comforts, fruit and flowers. Mrs. Lee reports 1 visit to Mooroopna Hospital; 70 pictorial cards and home comforts distributed. Colac private and public hospitals visited, and a great number of tracts, cards and home comforts given. Mrs. Thurgood—Melbourne Hospital, 4 visits; magazines and books given away, 80, also home comforts, fruit and flowers. Members of the following churches have been visited:—North Richmond, North Melbourne, Collingwood, Brunswick. Your committee wish to thank Sisters Varcoe, Dale, Dent, Chown, Mitchell, and the General Dorcas for magazines, papers, night gowns and neck ties. Miss Jerrems—Children's Hospital, 1 visit; 30 books and a large number of cards given away. Benevolent Asylum, 3 visits; 12 books distributed.—E. C. THURGOOD, Supt.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN.

Secretary—MISS A. E. MANNING, North Parade, New Thebarton.

The Executive met on March 4. Sister T. H. Brooker led the devotional meeting and read a paper. The business session was presided over by the President, Mrs. Mauger. Sunday School additions: Hindmarsh, 3. Obituary notices: Sister Ada Mann, of the Point Sturt church, and Sister Nelson, of the Glenelg church, have been called home.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—Amounts for month: North Adelaide, 15/4; Grote-st., 14/-; Unley, 19/2; total, £2/8/6.—MRS. HAVERLAND, Supt.



New Chapel, Broken Hill.

500



NEW SUBSCRIBERS TO The Australian Christian.

500



OUR CENTENNIAL AIM.

THE Centennial year should be an inspiration and incentive to greater efforts to make more widely known the principles for which the Churches of Christ are pleading. One of the most effective ways of doing this is through the medium of the press, and as representing the press, by means of the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN.

The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN stands for the advocacy of New Testament principles, and as representative of the Churches of Christ in Australasia gives full particulars of the progress of the churches and deals with important questions relating to religion and morals. As an educational factor it ought to be read by every member of the Churches of Christ in Australasia. Every new convert ought to be induced to become a subscriber, and preachers and office-bearers who have the welfare of their churches at heart should do all they can to increase the number of its readers. Get the

members of our churches interested in our journal, and they will take a deeper interest in their local churches and the rest of the churches throughout Australasia.

In addition to this, an effort should be made to get the CHRISTIAN into the hands of non-members of our churches. Every reader of the CHRISTIAN might constitute himself an agent in getting new subscribers, and thus make the restoration movement more widely known than it is.

NOW will be a good time to make a forward movement in this direction. Let us mark our Centennial year by gaining **500 NEW SUBSCRIBERS** to the CHRISTIAN. To assist in this effort we will supply the CHRISTIAN to new subscribers from now on to the end of the year for 4/-. This will take in the splendid Centennial number we propose to issue.

TO OUR AGENTS.—Please have the following announcement made at the meetings of the church and the gospel services for several Lord's days:—

The Agent for the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN (*state name*) will be glad to receive orders from non-subscribers for the special Centennial number, which will contain illustrations and full reports of the Centennial Celebrations in Sydney. Price, 1s. 4d. per copy.

The Agent also wishes it to be known that in order to celebrate our Centennial year a special effort is being made to increase the subscription list of the paper by the addition of 500 new subscribers. Those who do not take the paper are urged to do so, and all the members of the church are asked to co-operate with the agent in trying to induce others to become subscribers. Subscription, 4/- to end of year.

Yours in the work,

G. P. PITTMAN, MANAGER.

HOME MISSIONS.—During the month 13 churches have been written to; 5 replies have been received (Williamstown, Mallala, Long Plain, Henley Beach and Milang). The committee has prepared a few boxes, and would be glad if all the sisters would take them. The first mission the committee have arranged started on March 7 at Broken Hill, and one started at Queenstown on the 14th. —E. EWERS, Supt.

HOSPITAL COMMITTEE.—Sister Horne has been added to the committee. Fruits, flowers and lollies have been given. Received 2/- from sisters. I would like country churches to inform me if any of their members are in any of the Adelaide hospitals, as it would help us and we would be able to visit them sooner. Visits:—Adelaide Hospital, 15; Destitute Asylum, 8; Children's Hospital, 8; Consumptive Home, 6; Sick and Aged, 18; number of visits not recorded last month, 5; 1 visit to Cottage Home, Walkerville; 1 visit to Escourt House; total, 62; magazines and tracts distributed, 505. —E. BROOKER, Supt.

PRAYER MEETING.—The Committee visited Glenelg. Our President gave an address. Miss Beddome read a paper on "Prayer." —H. S. ADAMS, Supt.

TREASURERS' REPORT (Mrs. Riches).—Home Missions, £11/3/7½; Foreign Missions, £6/8/1; Collection, do., 12/5½; Balance in bank, £43/7/4.

Mrs. Young, of Hindmarsh, to lead next devotional meeting. The secretary to send greetings to the Victorian and West Australian Sisters' Conferences. Sister Mauger will convey the greeting to the New South Wales Conference.

Amounts for Home Missions for one month:—Long Plain, £1; Mallala, £1; Glenelg, 19/7; Norwood, 13/8; Mile End, 10/-; Unley, 7/1; Grote-st., 1/0/5; York, 7/-; Proceeds from picnic, 5/5; Total 1/3/2.

The Church at Broken Hill.

It is nearly 20 years since a meeting for breaking bread was commenced in the Temperance Hall at Broken Hill. In the year 1890 a few faithful brethren thus met, and since that time there has always been a struggling but faithful cause in this great mining city. Two or three halls have been rented in turn, the last being the Protestant Hall, which was too large and unsuitable for the successful work of the church. The matter was discussed at the last South Australian Conference, as it had been at previous Federal and State Conferences. The result was that a resolution was carried pledging support for the Church Extension Building Fund to assist in the erection of a suitable place of worship at Broken Hill.

The appeal to the brethren of South Australia was so generously responded to that it became possible to carry out this resolution, and a fine new building has been erected. It is made of wood and iron, as are most of the buildings in the silver city, and lined with Wunderlich stamped steel on walls and ceiling. The structure is 32ft. x 50ft., and is seated to hold 200 people with room for additional seating for about 80 more. The building has been installed with electric light as a gift of one of the brethren, and one of the sisters has made a present of an organ. The whole building was designed by the evangelist, E. J. Tuck, and is lofty, well-ventilated and neatly finished, reflecting credit on both architect and contractor. The land cost £410, being centrally situated, and one of the most suitable blocks in the city, while the building cost £400, with additional expenses of £50 for seating. Of the amount of £810 the brethren, though only few in number, contributed £100 themselves, while the remainder has been loaned from the Church Extension Fund at a nominal 1% interest, repayable in instalments of £71 each year in ten years.

Owing to the unfortunate industrial trouble the church entered into the new building quietly on the first Lord's day in February, and the meetings have improved splendidly

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The Leader.

The Press as a Factor in our Progress.

In reviewing the progress of the Restoration movement during the past one hundred years, no survey of the work would be complete that did not take into account the part the printing press has played as a factor in that progress. One of the favorite themes for discussion in debating societies used to be "Which exerts the Greater Power—the Pulpit or the Press?" For purposes of discussion a good case could be made out for each side, but for practical purposes we do not discuss their respective merits—we acknowledge that they are both indispensable to the furtherance of any given cause. It may be said, however, that in two respects the press has an advantage over the pulpit. Firstly, it can claim a wider audience; and, secondly, it is a more permanent force, seeing that it is not the deliverance of a few minutes, but remains with us indefinitely. When the human voice is forgotten, the printed page lies before us for our study and information. The recognition of the power of the press is not a thing that requires to be enforced, so far as theory goes, but the same cannot always be said in regard to the practical exemplification of the theory. It is a power we all acknowledge and to some extent use, but our use of it leaves a good deal to be desired.

A. Campbell and the press.

In reading the memoirs of Alexander Campbell, one is struck with the importance he attached to the use of the printing press for the furtherance of the principles of which he was so distinguished an advocate. We may not have read Richardson's great work with sufficient care, but the impression remains with us that Campbell's use of the printing press and the effects of its far-reaching power are not sufficiently emphasised. One paragraph devoted to the subject, however, is deeply significant. In speaking of the publication of the *Christian Baptist*, Richardson says: "Although the number of subscribers at first obtained was not large, he determined to go on with the work, and with

his usual energy and enterprise, having concluded to set up a printing establishment near his own house, he purchased the necessary type, presses, etc., and erected a building for the purpose near the creek-fording, at the foot of the cemetery hill. Engaging, then, the services of some practical printers, his quick apprehension soon made him familiar with all the details of the office, which thenceforth occupied much of his attention. He became an expert proof-reader, and continued to conduct the printing business with the greatest economy and with surprising activity and success uninterruptedly from this time forward for more than forty years. It may be here mentioned that during the first seven years, ending July 4, 1830, he issued of his own works, from his little country printing office, no less than forty-six thousand volumes." One can only regret that some gifted soul has not given us an adequate sketch of Campbell as a printer and publisher. It would have made good reading. What we know of this pioneer movement in printing and publishing, however, is sufficient to indicate what a vast power it was in furthering the interests of the Restoration movement. It was an object-lesson to the brotherhood of America, at a time when such object-lessons were few and far between, and one which they have never forgotten. They have learned the lesson well, and in theory and practice fully recognise the power of the press.

The press in Australasia.

And this brings us now to our own use of the press for the advocacy of primitive Christianity in these Southern lands, the visible and outward sign of which is the Austral Publishing Company. Inseparably associated with the formation of this company is the honored name of A. B. Maston, whose cherished idea it was, and who in carrying it out, found co-laborers who shared with him the conviction that the use of the printing press was an essential factor in our religious progress. We have before us the thirty-fourth half-yearly report and balance sheet of that company, and find that it makes instructive reading. During the seventeen years of its existence it has never paid a dividend, and probably never will. The accumulated profits for seventeen years only amount to £811/6/4, showing a very narrow margin of profit for each year, so narrow that without careful management a loss might easily have been recorded instead of a profit. The view of the directors and manager is that the Austral Company exists solely for the purpose of more widely distributing our literature throughout the whole of Australasia. Any profits that may be made are to be used for this purpose, and for increasing the efficiency of the office in the carrying out of its important work.

The Austral Company.

It is a Federal institution, and is so regarded from one end of Australasia to the other. It is one that the brotherhood should be proud of, not only for the good work which it is doing, but because it is an object-lesson in unity. It was the united effort of the brotherhood in Australasia that made the Austral Company a possibility, and its future

depends upon the continuance of this unity. In matters of this kind, our comparative fewness in numbers demands the concentration of our forces, and any other policy than that would be disastrous. A publishing house of our own means that we can undertake work that otherwise would not be done. A glance at the past history of the Austral Company is an eloquent testimony to its usefulness as a distributing agent for our literature. And what it has done in the past is only a prophecy of the possibilities of the future. With certain improvements in the acquisition of additional machinery it is expected that greater facilities will be afforded for the turning out of work, thus making the Austral a more up-to-date institution. Taking a survey of the work accomplished by the Austral Company, we have no hesitation in regarding it as a valuable and necessary factor in the progress of the Restoration movement with which we are identified.

The "Australian Christian."

Associated with the Austral Company, and in fact a necessary and integral part of it, is the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN. The fortunes of one are identical with the fortunes of the other. Without an Austral Publishing Company, a paying weekly newspaper would not be possible. Those who remember the days when rival papers lived a precarious life eked out by continual subsidies will have no desire for a return to like conditions. It was from this undesirable condition of things that the Austral Company delivered us. We now have a representative paper which compares favorably with that issued by any other religious body in Australasia. It is not every religious organisation of our numerical strength that can produce a weekly journal like the CHRISTIAN, and it is only possible with us because we are united in our efforts to support it. It is a symbol of unity, and as a symbol of unity fits in with our plea for unity. But with all the success that has attended the CHRISTIAN, we want to see it still more successful. It is a journal that should be found in the house of every member and be read by all. Some of our churches, and some of our preachers, are not alive to the fact that the circulation of the CHRISTIAN in the homes of members means the creation of an interest in matters pertaining to the progress of the churches in Australasia, and creates a bond of sympathy and union which otherwise might not exist. We know of no more valuable help for the preacher in his work, especially the pastoral part of it, than the CHRISTIAN. Get all the members reading the CHRISTIAN, and there will be a surprising revival of interest in church work, and the matter of leakages will not be so serious as it has hitherto been.

A literary campaign.

It is because we believe that a religious journal like the CHRISTIAN is a powerful factor in our progress as a religious organisation that we thus write. This conviction leads us to say that one of the means by which we might fittingly celebrate our Centennial year is to make an effort to increase the circulation of the CHRISTIAN, say by 500 copies. In view of the fact that some re-

ligious bodies holding peculiar views are making strenuous efforts to get their literature into all the homes of the people, we should endeavor to counteract their zeal by a special effort to distribute our own literature. In any case, it is desirable that the CHRISTIAN should be more widely circulated among our own people, and equally desirable that it should find a circulation among people who are not identified with us. Not much has been done in the latter direction, and because of this we are a comparatively unknown people. The Centennial year, therefore, should see a work inaugurated which should have for its object the wider dissemination of the principles which we believe are taught by the New Testament. This can best be done by an increased circulation of the CHRISTIAN and our other publications. A literary campaign would be one of the fitting outcomes of our Centennial Celebrations.

Editorial Notes.

The Barrier Mining Dispute.

A general feeling of relief has been experienced that Mr. Justice Higgins has delivered judgment on the Broken Hill and Port Pirie labor dispute, which directly affected over 4000 men. They have had their claims fully granted, and it is to be hoped that the directors and shareholders of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company on the one hand and the Amalgamated Miners' Association on the other will most heartily co-operate in giving full effect to the terms of the judgment, and that the directors will see their way to resume full operations at the rate of wages awarded. Of course if the mine is really not payable operations may have to be restricted and eventually cease, but in the meanwhile the parties to the dispute may well forget the things that are behind and work together for the good of all.

"Over You Go."

Mr. Tom Mann at Port Pirie last week spoke hopefully of a time when men would "only have to work four hours a day, four days a week, and nine months a year. Before this came about, however, there were many burdens which they would have to get rid of, and which at present weighed heavily on their backs, such as the capitalists, the churches, the politicians and so on. When the time was ripe they could get alongside the river with these, and give a good shove and say, 'Over you go.'" This paper has nothing to say about the merits of the industrial trouble at Broken Hill and Port Pirie, but it is read and supported chiefly by working men, and in their name enters its protest against such silly talk. With his war upon capitalists and politicians we have nothing to do, but Mr. Mann is certainly ill-advised when he counsels throwing the churches over on the ground that they are heavily-weighted burdens, crushing down the workers. We have yet to hear of any country without Christian churches in

which the working men are better off than in Australia. Mr. Mann has overlooked the fact that men are perfectly free to attend churches or stay away as they prefer. The churches do not compel all workers to join their ranks, or they might rightly be regarded as burdensome. As a matter of fact many workers are not church attendants, but it remains to be proved that their labors are lighter or their homes happier because they reject or neglect the teachings of Christ. The Founder of the Christian church was himself a working man, and it ill becomes a working men's representative and organiser, who professes admiration for his teachings, to attack the organisation of the Saviour's own institution. We have the highest sympathy with all legitimate efforts to better the conditions of toilers, and can only regret when any of their leaders deliberately go out of their way to alienate the hearty good will of Christian sympathisers. We should be sorry to think that Mr. Mann's opinions on religious matters are generally endorsed by working men.

53 Licenses Refused.

At the Adelaide Licensing Bench last week 35 publicans' licenses in the Port Adelaide, East Torrens, and Sturt Local Option districts were refused renewal, in accordance with the poll taken over three years ago. Eleven applications for storekeepers' wine licenses and three other wine licenses met with the same fate for the same reason. Two publicans' licenses in Adelaide and two wine licenses in the city were refused renewal at the discretion of the bench. The Licensed Victuallers' Association is on the warpath. At the annual meeting the chairman said he advocated the absolute closing of hotels on Sundays. If they did that when the temperature was 110 degrees in the shade the people would feel the want of a drink and remedy matters at next election. Another member thought it was time the members of the Association took off their gloves and fought with their fists. In the meantime the "trade" is engaging lawyers to upset if possible the decision of the bench on another technical quibble. The fact is that public sentiment has changed in the direction of closing public-houses, and this will be more abundantly manifest at the next general election, when local option polls will be taken in several districts.

The Church at Broken Hill.

(Continued from page 131.)

ever since. On Wednesday, March 3, our tea-meeting was held, followed by a well attended public meeting, which served the purpose of celebrating the opening of the building and welcoming Jas. E. Thomas, the President of the S.A. Conference, who had come to conduct a three weeks' mission. Alderman W. H. Wright, who is the only original member remaining, took the chair. He briefly traced the history of the struggles of the church, and told of their gratitude to God that they were now able to meet in their own home. R. J. House gave an encouraging report, showing that the membership of the

church was now 47, with a splendid Christian Endeavor Society of over 30 members, and a new Junior C.E. Society just formed one week ago. The Sunday School was progressing satisfactorily, and now numbers over 40. Bro. Mossop gave a financial statement of the building fund, while C. E. Schafer, a Methodist minister, welcomed Bro. Thomas on behalf of the Ministerial Association of Broken Hill, as did E. J. Tuck on behalf of the church. W. C. Beiler, of Grote-st., who is temporarily residing in Broken Hill, also extended a welcome on behalf of the Endeavorers.

Great credit is due to Bro. Wright and all who have so earnestly labored with him to keep the cause going in this city. Many who in the past have visited there and never associated with the church are now coming to the meetings, while many more are enquiring who these people are, and "where the Church of Christ sprung from." Jas. E. Thomas commenced a mission on March 4, and the attendances are so far very good. There is every prospect of a good harvest during the mission, and of a successful and prosperous church being built up in this populous city in the near future. The present industrial trouble has weakened the church numerically and financially. A few Victorian brethren have already assisted, and if any more from the other States can assist in the matter of finance it will be doubly welcome at this time. E. J. Tuck, the evangelist, 83 Chloride-st., or C. H. Hunt, the treasurer, would be glad to receive any donations. The church looks forward now to a time of increased usefulness in the building up of Christians and leading men and women into the kingdom of Jesus Christ.

From the Field.

New Zealand.

OAMARU.—On Feb. 21 Bro. Mathieson's subject was "Lessons from the Shipwreck." A girl from the Bible Class decided for Christ. Much help is being afforded by the addresses on "Our Movement." Preparations for a very successful Conference are well in hand.—W.K., March 2.

DOMINION ROAD.—Three have been added who have for many years been followers of the Master. The Sunday School under Bro. Bryden is in an exceptionally healthy condition.—HERBERT GRINSTEAD.

WELLINGTON SOUTH.—Last Lord's day five of our scholars made the good confession. A few weeks ago a married couple were baptised, the first fruits of the labors of the brethren preaching at Kilbirnie. Another married couple are uniting with the church there by letter. We have also received one by letter, and one restored. The writer closes his labors here on the last Lord's day of this month, having accepted an invitation to Ponsonby-rd., Auckland.—A. F. TURNER, March 3.

South Australia.

YORK.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held to-day. The fruit, vegetables, etc., are to be taken to

the sick and needy of the district on Monday. We had present with us Bro. Swain, of Lochiel, Sister Adams, of Queenstown, Bro. Green, of Hindmarsh, Bro. Hilleur, of Balaklava, Bro. Neville, of Norwood, Sister Wilson, of Gawler. In the afternoon addresses were given by Mrs. Gooden and C. Fiedler. W. Brooker (superintendent) presented the prizes. There was a full house at night. The writer preached on "The Bread of Life." We expect to reach our apportionment of £16 for Home Missions.—H. J. H., March 7.

YORK.—Last Tuesday we had two baptisms. Last Lord's day the writer addressed the church, and in the evening preached at Maylands. A. P. Wilson had a good meeting here. The Home Mission Committee asked us to try and raise £16 for the annual H.M. offering. We have received £17/14/—H. J. H., March 14.

HENLEY BEACH.—Church anniversary services were held to-day. Good meetings at all three services. The speakers were D. A. Ewers in the morning, I. A. Paternoster in the afternoon, and H. D. Smith at night. We are indebted to these good brethren for their valuable assistance.—H. J. H., March 14.

NORWOOD.—Church anniversary services well attended to-day. H. D. Smith addressed the church in the morning. The writer preached at night. Two elderly women confessed Christ. The anniversary will be continued on Thursday.—A. C. RANKINE, March 15.

KADINA.—This morning we were pleased to have Sister Alice Read and Bro. Carter with us again. There was a grand congregation to hear the gospel. The writer gave an address on "Why Men Reject Christ." Two sisters made the good confession. Another of our members, Bro. Kilmire, and family, are leaving for Wallaroo this week. Bro. Kilmire has done splendid work here as a teacher in the school and officer of the church.—E. G. WARREN, March 14.

MILE END.—Three additions by letter since last report. A pleasant church members' social and business meeting was held on the 10th, when the great majority of the members responded to the roll-call. The reports of secretary, treasurer, evangelist, Sunday School, C.E., Junior Endeavor and Dorcas were all good, and it was stated that a Junior Dorcas was about to be started. Since the church was started nine months ago, 30 have been added from all sources, and there are now 73 on the roll. Sunday evening attendances have much increased of late, and the Sunday School has fresh scholars nearly every week. Collections, including those for special purposes, amounted to over £124. The outlook on the whole is encouraging.—E.

UNLEY.—Edgar H. Kentish, leader of the choir, and a faithful worker in the Sunday School and C.E., has removed to Keith. On the eve of his departure he was presented with a travelling bag and a rug, which were accompanied by heartfelt expressions of appreciation and goodwill. A little daughter of William Craddock was received into fellowship at this morning's service. She was baptised on Wednesday last. Sidney Skewes is laid aside, having undergone a severe operation in the hospital. John Yelland rejoined us in worship to-day, after a long absence on account of illness. The younger son of P. S. Messent is suffering from the effects of a tramway accident; but is making good progress. The Home Mission offering amounts to £20/1/2. To night Bro. Abercrombie, from Melbourne, gave a deeply interesting address before a large congregation.—R. B., March 14.

GROTE-ST.—Jas. Manning addressed the church this morning. The right hand of fellowship was extended to a sister who was baptised last Wednesday night, and a letter received from Bro. Thomas was read to the congregation. The presiding brother, John Fischer, referred to the death of Sister Mary Dickens, who had been associated with this church for very many years, she having been called to rest during the week. He also expressed the desire that Bro. and Sister Gall, who are leaving on a tour of the world, might have pleasant voyages and safe return. The gospel meeting to-night was conducted by T. J. Gore. Our Home Mission offering has reached £90.—E. R. M., March 14.

Victoria.

WEST WIMMERA CIRCUIT.—The Annual Conference of the West Wimmera churches was begun by the special Sunday services on March 7. The meetings were held in the Kaniwa Mechanics' Hall, and were an unqualified success. In the morning a very largely attended meeting for the breaking of bread was held. A. R. Benn presided, and T. B. Fischer exhorted the church from 1 John 3: 2. The exhortation was listened to with profit and appreciation. In the afternoon and evening Bro. Fischer spoke to large and appreciative gatherings. On Wednesday the Conference began with a devotional meeting. E. Edwards led, and Bro. Fischer gave an address on "The Secret of Power," pointing out especially two essentials to success, prayerfulness, and fulness with the Spirit. The afternoon meeting was largely attended. A most harmonious spirit prevailed, and all appeared to enjoy themselves thoroughly. The usual church reports were submitted, which told of a satisfactory state of affairs. The C.E. Societies also presented reports and gave responses. Bren. Benn and Edwards, evangelists, reported on the work done during the year. The following were the elections:—J. M. Goldsworthy, President and Treasurer; R. Williams, Vice-President and Secretary. Bro. Fischer gave an address on work amongst the young, which he illustrated by an ocular demonstration. The public meeting in the evening was the largest of the Conference. The chair was occupied by Bro. Edwards, and addresses were delivered by the following:—T. B. Fischer, "The Past of Our Movement"; A. R. Benn, "The Present of Our Movement"; F. E. Thomas, "The Future of Our Movement." The addresses were well listened to, and musical items were rendered throughout the meeting. The musical contributors during the Conference were the Bordertown and Kaniwa choirs; Bro. Yelland; Sisters Eva and Ethel McCallum, Ruby Carter, Florrie Whisson; Leslie McCallum, and Arthur Whisson.—A. R. B.

JOTTINGS FROM WEST WIMMERA CONFERENCE.—The 16th Conference also celebrated the 20th anniversary of the Kaniwa church. J. M. Goldsworthy, the only foundation member present, presented the church with a beautiful Revised Bible for the desk. The reports were full of interest, both verbal and otherwise. One told of a meeting called one night for 8 o'clock that was commenced at 10 o'clock, owing to harvest time. Kaniwa is the home of the esteemed McCallum family, who are all busy in the church work, and are justly proud of their sons' progress in U.S.A. Surely this is a record: Bordertown lies 30 miles from Kaniwa. They have 16 active and 1 associate member in C.E., yet 16 of them travelled to Conference and gave a grand response. The South Lillimur C.E. Society of 13 active and 9 associate had 11 present, travelling an aggregate of 132 miles

to and from Conference. Their response was F. R. Havergal's consecration hymn, recited two lines by each member. The Kaniwa church owns a parsonage for the preacher, and love their preacher for his sterling worth, whilst Bordertown rightly respect Bro. Edwards, who is a busy happy man. The business-places of the town closed at 5 p.m. in honor of the Conference tea, and rallied up in great force. The church is a great power in the district.—"NATHANAEL."

COLLINGWOOD.—On March 7 Bro. Connor's labors with the church at Collingwood closed. Five made the good confession. On March 10 a farewell meeting to Bro. Connor and welcome to H. G. Harward was given. Bro. Connor in his two years' labor with us has greatly increased the interest among the people, and we are very sorry to lose him. Bren. Bagley and Millis on behalf of the Home Mission Committee, Bro. Peters on behalf of the Temperance Committee, and Bren. Brooker and Johnston on behalf of the church and officers, gave short addresses. Bro. Harward also spoke. At the close of the meeting Bro. Connor baptised three who confessed Christ last Sunday. During the last year's service Bro. Connor baptised 38, 4 had been restored, 10 received by letter, 3 formerly immersed, a total of 55. Bro. Connor goes to his new field of labor with the prayers of the church. With Bro. Harward as our preacher we look hopefully to the future.—E. A. PAYNE.

SOUTH YARRA.—Mr. Gale, from Sth. Richmond, exhorted the church. In the evening 180 were present. Bro. Nightingale delivered a very instructive discourse on "The True Church."—T. M., March 14.

CARLTON (Lygon-st.).—At the morning meeting we were pleased to have with us Sisters Marsden and Black, from England, also Sister Telenius, from Nelson, N.Z. F. G. Dunn exhorted the church, and T. Bagley preached. Another of our aged members, Sister Hawksford, has been called home. Bro. Bagley made feeling reference to her death.—J. Mc.C.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.—W. H. Nightingale exhorted very acceptably. At the gospel service, the subject being "The Church," we had a splendid gathering.—SAMUEL NORTHEAST, March 15.

BRUNSWICK.—We had as visitors Bro. Duckett, from Wedderburn, and Bro. and Sister Spicer, from Castlemaine. Henry Baker gave a splendid exhortation. Bro. McCance has resigned as secretary and deacon.—W. T., March 14.

COLAC.—Bro. Connor arrived on Friday, and was met by a large number. On Saturday evening our brother spoke to a large gathering on the street. Our meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall was well attended, and Bro. Connor addressed the church. In the evening we again met in the Victoria Hall.—J. G. L., March 15.

SOUTH RICHMOND (Balmain-st.).—Our Bible School anniversary was held on March 7 and 9. Sunday afternoon saw a good audience. J. W. Masters gave a fine address. We were greeted with a crowded house at night. At both the services the scholars rendered several fine choruses. On Tuesday a company of scholars under Miss Ruby Hearle rendered the cantata "A White Garland" in very fine style. H. Swain gave a most appropriate address, and distributed the prizes for the year. This meeting was presided over by our esteemed brother, Campbell Edwards.—W. G.

CHELtenham.—Mrs. and Miss Pearl have been received into fellowship. Visitors, Sister Gardener, of Lygon-st., and Sisters Mrs. Larcombe and Mrs. Andrews, of Rookwood, N.S.W. During the evangelist's absence at Kaniwa Wm. Judd preached a helpful sermon. Sunday School picnic was a fine success, about 400 present. At the church annual

business meeting W. Woff, E. T. Penny, R. W. Tuck, R. Judd, W. Judd, H. Foreman, W. Barnett, J. Fisher, G. Organ, G. Staynor and F. Martin were elected deacons; organist, Sister Ida Judd; assistant, Mrs. R. W. Tuck; choir conductor, G. Clayton; auditor, H. Foreman; treasurer, W. Barnett; secretary, R. W. Tuck; H.M. collector, Sister Mrs. Staynor. We also fixed the standard for our June 6 jubilee offering at £100, and will pray and work and give to attain to our ideal.—T.B.F., March 15.

BRIGHTON.—On 7th inst. R. Pittman exhorted finely on "Who Shall Separate Us?" and last Lord's day Bro. Sharp gave a practical jubilee talk—a plea for Bible-reading in the home. Bro. Peacock preached both evenings on "The Reason Why." Our English visitors, Mrs. Marsden, of Wigan, and Mrs. J. W. Black, of Leicester, were present at the latter service, which was preceded by our first open-air song-service, alongside the chapel. Bro. Herrington having desired to be relieved of the song leadership, Bro. Barnden has kindly consented to train us in our jubilee songs. At Sandringham open-air much interest and some opposition. A few bicycle lamps were a novelty that helped the singers and attracted the people.—F. M. LUDBROOK

NORTH CARLTON.—Bro. Peacock will take up the work here on April 4. Since A. L. Gibson has been compelled to relinquish the platform work, we have experienced the ebb tide; now we look forward to the flow. It has been our ambition for a long while to secure Bro. Peacock. We feel that, co-operating with him, we shall go on to great things. The Dorcas Society has resumed its work under the presidency of Sister Gibson.—J.E.H., March 15.

BERWICK.—The anniversary services in connection with the S.S. on March 7 and 8 proved successful. The chapel was tastefully decorated. G. Wilson spoke Lord's day morning, and in the evening gave a very interesting address to the children on "Machinery." Monday evening the special singing by the children and distribution of prizes took place. We were pleased to have H. Baker with us, who gave an address on "The Possibilities of Christian Union," which was much appreciated, and Bro. Wilson spoke on "The Desirability of Christian Union."—E.E.H., March 15.

KYNETON.—The six weeks' mission closed on Sunday night. Nine accepted the gospel (four men and five women), eight of whom were immersed, and the other will be. Many have heard and felt gospel truth more powerfully than in all their lives before. The closing weeks were the best by far. At the beginning the church numbered about twelve and only one man and a youth. The first two converts were baptised in the Baptist chapel. As it was not to be procured again, a baptistery was procured and sunk in the tent, where the others were baptised before large audiences. At the end of the fourth week a storm wrecked the tent. We adjourned to the hall for two services, and Bro. Leng and two assistants stitched for two days, and we were once more under canvas, to find still better audiences and more additions. Sister Olive Symes helped the Sunday services greatly with her presence and sweet singing. We are grateful to the churches at Castlemaine and Dandenong and others who helped to make a mission possible.—H. GRAY, March 15.

PRESTON.—On Friday a social was held to bid farewell to our late preacher, W. Dickens, and his wife, who have gone to Whittlesea; and to our late treasurer, F. J. Moate, who has gone to N. Fitzroy. At the same time a welcome was extended to F. J. Goodwin, who is coming to take up the work. Short ad-

resses were given by Bren. Harward and Swain. O. A. Walker presented Bro. Dickens with an inscribed silver cake-dish and pair of vases. Bro. and Sister Moate were presented with a salad bowl. Each suitably responded. The writer extended to Bro. Goodwin a welcome on behalf of the church. Large attendance and good meeting on Sunday evening. J. Thomas, Dundas-st., is now treasurer.—W.A.S.

KANIVA.—At the close of Bro. Benn's address on Sunday afternoon, at Yanip, two young women confessed Christ. Good meeting at Kaniva in the evening.—W., March 15.

MELBOURNE (Swanston-st.).—Lord's day morning, March 6, we had Harvest Thanksgiving service. A. L. Gibson was the morning speaker, and Bro. Gordon gave an appropriate address in the evening; subject, "Sowing and Reaping." Last Lord's day morning P. A. Dickson exhorted. Sister Dickson, from Nelson, N.Z., was amongst our visitors. Bro. Gordon spoke in the evening on "Paul in the Shipwreck."

New South Wales.

INVERELL.—Bro. Uren has tendered his resignation as our evangelist. He purposes returning to South Australia. His resignation was accepted with regret, as he has done good work here. There is a great opening here for a good energetic evangelist. Your correspondent has had to resign the secretaryship owing to an appointment at St. Mary's, near Sydney. F. Hadson has been appointed to take up that position.—H. E. TEWKSBURY, March 8.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.—On Feb 4 the writer left Moree on a preaching tour through the extreme north country districts. After travelling 58 miles in a northerly direction we arrived at Boomi, 12 miles from the borders of Queensland. Here we were the guest of Bro. and Sister Sydney Butler. We found eight other members of Moree church residing in the district. Gospel services were conducted on Feb. 7 and 10, and two services on Feb. 14. The visible results were five confessions. Four of these were baptised in one of the artesian bore drains about half a mile from the town. This water comes up from a depth of 400ft. through a large pipe, rises a few feet above it, and falling into a basin, is then conveyed for miles by means of large drains. Here there can be no objection to baptism on account of the temperature of the water, for almost any temperature is available, from about boiling point at the bore to quite cold some distance away. These baptisms were the first in the district. We organised a Bible School of 15 scholars under the supervision of Sister Marshall and F. Boughton. The last few days of our sojourn in this district were spent at the hospitable home of Bro. and Sister P. Winter, and which we left on Feb. 19 for "Barrakee," the home of Bro. and Sister A. Winter, 35 miles west of Boomi. Broke bread on the 21st at the home of Bro. and Sister R. Butler. On the 25th we visited Mungindi, a small town situated on both sides of the Barwon River, which serves as the boundary of N.S.W. and Queensland. Here we distributed a large number of tracts, and conducted a service in the evening. On the 28th we met again at Bro. Butler's to break bread, seven participating, and in the afternoon preached to 20 at the home of A. Winter. March 3 we started on the return journey to Moree, spending one night at "Inglewood Forest," the beautiful home of Bro. and Sister Winter, senr.—E. J.W., March 8.

BROKEN HILL.—At the close of Bro. Thomas' address on Thursday, five of the Bible School scholars

took their stand for Christ, and to-night one young man came forward. Sunday, 14th, Bro. Thomas addressed a meeting to men only in Town Hall, with a splendid attendance of men. Chapel crowded to-night.—R. J. HOUSE, March 12.

ERSKINEVILLE.—A promising Junior Y.P.S.C.E. started to-day. At the worship meeting A. Brown gave a splendid exhortation. Two baptised believers received the right hand of fellowship. One confession at the gospel service—a young man.—H.P., March 14.

Here & There.

Our Centennial aim.

Five hundred new subscribers.

Decisions reported in this issue, 50.

One confession at Surrey Hills, Vic., on Sunday night.

Read page 131, and help us to increase the circulation of the CHRISTIAN.

The attention of Victorian sisters is directed to an advertisement under Coming Events.

The secretary of the Brunswick church *pro tem.* is W. H. Downing, 317 Sydney-rd., Brunswick.

One made the good confession at Enmore, N.S.W., on Sunday night and was immersed straightway.

We have a few copies of the bound volume of the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN, 1908, for sale. 12/6; posted, 15/-.

T. J. Gore leaves Adelaide on Wednesday, April 7, in time to attend the Victorian Conference. He will be a welcome visitor.

One more confession at the Queenstown (S.A.) mission. Ira. A. Paternoster spoke in the morning, and W. C. Brooker at night.

The CHRISTIAN is our only religious paper, and should be in the home of every member of the church. Subscription, 4/- to end of year.

The North Melbourne Free Kindergarten Centre will be open to Conference visitors on any morning from Monday to Friday, excepting April 9 and 12.

W. C. Brooker's little son, who met with an accident, is a good deal better. Bro. Brooker desires to thank the brethren for their messages of sympathy.

Chas. Hale, who has been laboring with the church at Maitland (N.Z.), takes up the work at Gore, where the meetings have improved of late, and the brethren are expecting good times.

Certificates of "foundation membership" in the Free Kindergarten movement may be had at the Victorian Conference meetings on application to Miss A. D. Allan, secretary.

Maurice W. Bowles, late of Brighton, is holding meetings for breaking of bread in his house at Callandoon, Qld. A few children have been gathered for Sunday School.

H. D. Smith's address is St. Bernard's-rd., Magill, S.A. Bro. Smith states that the meetings at Maylands are encouraging. A married woman confessed Christ last Sunday week.

The mission at Tarnagulla (Vic.) is having good attendances. Last Friday Bro. Collins, of Bendigo, preached. The brethren are working well, under the leadership of A. W. Jinks, of Dunolly. Bren. Jinks and Collins visited 90 homes in one day. Re ult, largest meeting to date.

S.S.U., VICT.—The next meeting of the General Committee will be held in the New Hall, Swanston-st., on Monday, March 29, at 8 p.m. All delegates requested to attend.—J. POTTS, Hon. Sec.

The Delphic Society of the College of the Bible was favored with a visit from Miss Thompson, who spoke on the work of missions in India. One or two visitors were present. These are always welcomed.

TO AGENTS.—Please read carefully the special message on page 131, and see that the announcement is made. We are sure that all our agents will enter heartily into our Centennial campaign for 500 new subscribers.

Show your friends and neighbors a copy of the CHRISTIAN, and induce them to become subscribers. Draw their attention to the interesting articles, leader, notes, story, etc., and get them to give it a quarter's trial.

The Melbourne Musical Society is making great preparations for the trip to Sydney, and those members able to go should give a good account of themselves. Some of the choruses are beautiful and very effectively rendered.

The address is wanted of Mrs. Baker and Miss Baker, Vic., who wrote to Sydney stating their intention of visiting there at the coming Federal Conference. Their address has been mislaid. Write direct to J. Hunter, Boulevard, Dulwich Hill, Sydney.

We have received a long and interesting letter from E. A. Osborne, giving an account of our Australian boys in Kentucky, U.S.A. We are pleased to know that they are all doing creditable work, and looking forward to the day when they will be able to return to Australia. Bro. Osborne speaks in very high terms of Bro. and Sister G. A. C. Gordon, who had just left for Australia.

Rosa Tonkin's week's work at Shanghai is about as follows:—Each day Chinese prayers, study with personal teacher, supervision and lessons in girls' school and women's class. Afternoons teaching English Monday, Tuesday and Thursday in the boys' school, Hongken. Women's meeting same place, Wednesday. Friday, extra lessons in girls' school and women's meeting at Yangtze-poo. Then each night assist in the chapel with music and singing, and superintend S.S. at Yangtze-poo.

G. B. Moysey has returned to Fremantle after a five weeks' tour, having spent three Lords days at Kalgoorlie, and two in the Brookton district, a farming region on the Albany line, about 90 miles from Fremantle. In the latter place scattered brethren were gathered together, and arrangements were made for regular meetings. The primitive gospel was preached for the first time, and a good interest aroused.

AN URGENT APPEAL.—Within four weeks of Conference the Victorian Home Mission funds are £250 in arrears. Unless there is prompt and liberal response the Committee will have to meet Conference with a very heavy deficit. This will handicap the work for the incoming year, and make it necessary to dispense with the services of some of our Home Missionaries. Some churches have given little during the year. Many brethren have not helped at all. There is still time, if all act quickly, to meet in our annual gathering with a credit balance. Many of our country brethren have been blessed with a bountiful harvest. Has the Lord received his portion? We appeal to all the brethren in Victoria who read this to send, by the first mail, a special offering to our Home Mission funds, and turn our sadness into joy.—H. G. HARWARD, Conference President.

A meeting under the auspices of the Victorian Sisters' H.M. Committee, in the interests of Home Missions, will be held in the chapel, Williamstown, on Thursday evening, March 25.

Bro. Hadfield reports 22 baptisms at Bulawayo since the beginning of the year. He writes:—"The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN is the only visitor we ever see from near our own shores, and it is a very welcome one. We enjoy most, perhaps, the leaders, the news from the churches, and, tell it not in Gath, the serial story. This last is the only light reading we can ever find time for, and have no fear, finding it in the CHRISTIAN, that it will do us any serious harm. The only trouble is that the mail service is not too regular; the paper arrives in batches, and so we get a little tangled between the one reading and the other, and the hero gets mixed up with the villain, etc. One has to go from home to get news. A lady friend who lives a few doors higher up the street than ourselves went home to Melbourne to see her mother. Visiting a friend, a member of the church in Melbourne, she saw the baby like the 'beasts at Ephesus' tearing up a CHRISTIAN. Looking at the paper she suddenly recognised faces that she knew at Bulawayo, and rescuing the CHRISTIAN from the clutches of the baby, found in it more about our mission here than she had ever known while living in the place. It was the last New Zealand Foreign Mission number. She secured two or three copies and brought them home as souvenirs of her visit to Melbourne. When Bro. Hollis was about 400 miles from civilisation, on his journey over, he met a native boy with a bundle of Austral tracts. Truly 'the pen shall supersede the sword.' The ultimate results of the CHRISTIAN press will be known only in the kingdom of glory."

Geo. H. Hollis, of the Blantyre Mission, Africa, writes:—"A letter has just reached me from Bro. Ellerton, of Blantyre, in which he tells me a parcel of tracts have just come from the Austral Publishing Co. for me. I am writing to thank you for remembering us. I may say that the last lot you sent us were all carefully distributed, and as a result the native elders of the Scottish Mission, Zomba, waited on their European missionary and requested him to explain how it was that our tracts taught baptism by immersion while they had always believed it to be sprinkling. Shortly after this happened I received a letter from Dr. Hetherwick, principal of the Scottish Mission, Blantyre, charging us with distributing literature with a view to proselytising. I am sure that the circulation of the last consignment resulted in good. Ellerton further writes:—"Between Jan 1 and 18, 16 more have been added to the church, making our Zomba membership up to 94. 74 were present at the breaking of bread, and 116 at the gospel meeting held in my house. I had to stand outside to preach. My mother was amongst the number who confessed Christ, and 200 were present at baptism. Our need of a school at Zomba is very urgent. The most important thing is that either Mr. Hills or yourself should return soon." A little money is very much needed to help forward this work. Churches or individual members who wish to help should communicate with our treasurer, Bro. Hudd, Pretoria, or direct to Bro. Ellerton, Blantyre. If to the latter British postal notes ought to be used. 5/- goes a long way in B.C.A. At present the writer knows of no one outside Bulawayo who is contributing towards this work, and had himself to leave the field as no one responded sufficiently to our call for help. Will some one please help the Blantyre mission?"

FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

Please send along subscriptions and donations for above Fund to the undersigned, who will thankfully acknowledge same. Please remember our work in India, China, Japan and in the South Seas.
F. M. LUDBROOK, Sec., R. LYALL, Treas.,
191 Collins-st., Melb. 59 Leveson-st., N. Melb.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.

Comfortable Home. Kept by Sister Hutchison "Liskeard," Cascade-st., Katoomba, N.S.W. Terms moderate.

WANTED.

Young lady wishes light situation at sea-side, or suburb of Melbourne. Small salary for comfortable home. A.B.C., Austral Office.

Man wants employment, Assistant Storeman, Boiler Attendant. J.M., Austral Office.

By young man, member of church, situation as grocer's assistant or storeman. Good references. Apply Grocer, Austral Co.

BIRTHS.

GOLE.—On Feb. 27, 1909, at "Rosetta," Raglan-st., Mosman, Sydney, N.S.W., the wife of Sydney Gole—of a son (Geoffrey Edmund).

EDWARDS.—On March 9, at Gwynton Park, Box Hill, to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell Edwards—a daughter.

IN MEMORIAM.

SCHOFIELD.—In loving memory of dear Mrs. Schofield, who died March 16, 1907, aged 87 years.—I Thes 4: 13, 14. We shall meet again.

—Inserted by the Sisters' Prayer Meeting, Footscray.

Coming Events.

MARCH 22.—Monday. Swanston-st. New Hall, 8 p.m. A meeting of sisters to make final Conference arrangements. All sisters interested are invited.

APRIL 25 & 28.—Blackburn anniversary. Special services, Sunday. Public meeting, Wednesday.

How to Cure Infidelity and cost you nothing. Buy 50 copies of "The Existence of God," £1; sell at 6d. Second thousand out. Readers delighted. ALLAN STEWART, 183 Errol-st., North Melbourne. Agents wanted.

W. W. DAVEY FUND.

Received with thanks:—P. Duff, Tasmania, 10/-; W. H. Winter, £1; A Friend, Dandenong, 10/-; Bal-larat Church, £1.

FOREIGN MISSION FUND.

VICTORIA.

Churches—Wortongi, Sea Lake, per R. H. Goudie, £3/0/6; Colac, 15/-; Collingwood, per Sister Fraser, £1/3/8; Kaniva Circuit, for Native Preacher and Teacher, Baramati, £9; Bro. Catchpole, £1; Miss Mary Stevenson, Portland, 10/-.

QUEENSLAND.

C.E. Society, Ma Ma Creek (for Pentecost), £1/10/-.

J. Thompson's Childers Mission.

S. Ludbrook, India, £1.

ROBERT LYALL, Treas., F. M. LUDBROOK, Sec.,
39 Leveson-st., N. Melb. 151 Collins-st., Melb.

VICTORIAN HOME MISSION FUND.

Churches—Conference Fees: Lancefield, 10/-; Bordertown, 10/-; Dandenong, 10/-; Chinese Church, Carlton, 10/-; Carlton North, 10/-; Colac, 10/-; South Yarra, £1; Taradale, 10/-; Warragul, 10/-; Emerald, 10/-; Kaniva, £1; Lygon-st., £1. Shepparton, £2/10/-; Wilkur, £35; Warrnambool, £15; Wamponny, £14; Border Town, £7/10/-; Lillimur, £7/10/-; Kaniva, £25; Emerald, per Mrs. E. Nightingale, 7/6; Collingwood, Mite Boxes, per Mrs. Fraser, £2/7/-; Warragul, £1. Bro. and Sister Edwards, Bordertown, £1.

M. McLellan, Sec.,
890 Drummond-st.,
Carlton.

W. C. Craigie, Treas.,
283 L. Collins-st.,
Melbourne.

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(All correspondence for this department should be addressed to Suffolk-rd., Surrey Hills, Vic.)

Life Lessons from Proverbs.

TOPIC FOR APRIL 5.

SUGGESTED SUBJECTS AND READINGS.

The great lesson : wisdom	... Prov. 1 : 1-9
Obedience to God's Word	... Prov. 3 : 1-10
Avoidance of evil	... Prov. 4 : 14-27
Diligence	... Prov. 6 : 6-11; 24 : 33
Value of righteousness	... Prov. 11 : 1-11
The value of silence	... Prov. 25 : 8-15
Topic—Life Lessons for me from the book of Proverbs	Prox. 8 : 1-17

Wisdom.

WISDOM in this book "is no mere philosophical attainment, no mere secular advancement in the knowledge of things; it is this—it includes the knowledge of all that can be known; but it is much more. It is distinctly religious, and has for its object the directing man's life according to his highest interests, so that it is equivalent to 'the fear of the Lord,' that is, practical religion, and is often interchanged with that expression. It teaches what God requires of man, how God would have man behave in all circumstances of life; it teaches piety, duty, justice. . . . We gather from various indications in our book that wisdom is regarded in a threefold respect: first, as an essential attribute of Almighty God; secondly, as revealed in creation; thirdly, as communicated to man."

In some places, particularly chapter 8, we have an advance. A writer says, "We are on the wrong track when we look for more or less complete resemblances between the 'Wisdom' of Proverbs and the 'Sophia' of Greek thinkers. It is much rather an anticipation, imperfect but real, of Jesus than a pale reflection of Greek thought. The way for the perfect revelation of God in the incarnation was prepared by prophet and psalmist. Was it not also prepared by this vision of a Wisdom which was always with God, and yet had its delights with the sons of men, and whilst 'rejoicing always before him,' yet rejoiced in the habitable paths of the earth?" (8 : 30, 31.)

The religious use of wealth (3 : 9, 10).

That we may and should honor the Lord with our substance is not the least of the lessons we may learn from the book of Proverbs. This honoring is done in right use as well as in distribution. A. Maclaren remarks: "Christianity has more to say about the distribution, as well as the acquisition, of wealth, than professing Christians, especially in commercial communities, practically recognise. This precept grips us tight, and is much more than a ceremonial regulation. Many causes, besides the devout use of property, tend to wealth in our highly artificial state of society. The world tries to get it by shrewdness, unscrupulousness, and by many other vices which are elevated to the rank of virtues; but he who honors the Lord in getting and spending

will generally have as much as his true needs and regulated desires require."

"We give thee but thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from thee."

The path of the just (4 : 18).

The Cambridge Bible simply puts what appears to be the meaning of this beautiful verse: "As the sun climbs the heavens, shining brighter and brighter, from the first glimmer of dawn till he rests in his meridian height and appears to stand there firm and motionless; so is the path of the righteous. His sun standeth still at last in the heavens, and hasteth not to go down for the whole everlasting day." On Prov. 4 : 18 and Matt. 13 : 43 A. Maclaren has a beautiful sermon on "From Dawn to Noon," setting forth "the progressive brightness, and the ultimate, which is also the progress, radiance of the righteous." Quotation is impossible.

See what the "just" man does. He keeps guard over his ears (v. 20), heart (23), lips (24), eyes (25), feet (26). The pathway is bright, but he takes no risks; he walks carefully and warily.

Go to the ant (6 : 6).

To "consider her ways" the ardent Endeavorer can read up Lord Avebury's books. The writer of Proverbs is content here to emphasise the indefatigable industry of the ant; in 30 : 25 its foresight is extolled. "Scripture sends us to nature. Even the smallest works of nature are full of divine lessons to him who has eyes to read them. Sometimes we are bidden to consider the heavens, but now we are invited to consider the ant. The telescope has its lessons; so also has the microscope. But when a man refuses to hear the voice of God, will he hear the voice of an insect prophet? Possibly. It takes an eagle's eye to gaze at the sun; but any eye can look on the earth. If a man's vision is too weak to look at the burning bush, the fiery pillar, the mystic Shekinah, let him turn his eyes to the glow-worm at his feet, and perhaps even that humble torch-bearer may save him from stumbling."

A thirty-five inch yard.

Proverbs 11 is worthy of special attention. It shows the connection between religion and business. Business in religion is good; religion in business is better. "God is in the shop as well as in the church. He is as much concerned with the manner in which we buy and sell as with the style in which we pray; nay, more so, for his chief interest is with our real, daily, practical life." Honest, straight dealing is demanded of the Lord's people. It might seem to us that whether a pound weight is a half ounce short or not is a matter too insignificant for him who created and sustained the universe; but, no: "A false balance is an abomination to the Lord." He notices when paper and string is sold for tea at 2/- per lb. The woman who forgot everything about the preacher's text and sermon save that it made her smash her yard-stick had really a good memory. The essence stuck. "Religion carried into business," says one quaintly, "does not mean praying for prosperity and then cheating our neighbors in order to secure the answer to our prayer, nor giving to missionary collections a small dole out of the profits of swindling." God abhors hypocrisy, shams, lies, false balances ("concrete lies"), adulteration, dishonesty in any form. He loves uprightness, honesty, integrity: "a just balance is his delight."

Golden fruit on silver salvers.

Whatever the exact meaning of the imagery be, it undoubtedly represents richness and beauty of decoration. We have something intrinsically precious and of surpassing glory. So is a word fitly spoken. The word itself is represented by the golden fruit; the aptness of the circumstances and conditions is represented by the silver salver, or basket, or filigree work. The most casual reader of the Bible must be struck with the importance attached to the words of men. We have denunciations of wicked and idle speech, we have apparently, too, commands against unrestrained speech, talking for talking's sake, and we have beautiful eulogies of wise words. Our text may fitly be contrasted with Carlyle's word, "Speech is silvern: silence is golden." Perhaps; but there is a time when speech—wise, fitting speech—combines the richness of gold and silver. Some think that the text hints at the rarity of fitly spoken words, golden fruit in silver salvers not being exactly plentiful. Certainly, "we live in a din of speech; it rains words. But most of the words we hear are neither gold nor silver."

Notes and News.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.—Our first C.E. anniversary was held on March 11. P. A. Dickson and C. A. Quick were the speakers, and some leading soloists took part. The building was packed, and 24 societies from Melbourne and suburbs responded.—E. SHERAR, Sec.

The Monthly Council Meeting of the Victorian Churches of Christ Christian Endeavor Union will be held in the Swanston-st. Lecture Hall on Friday, March 26, at 8 p.m. A full attendance of delegates is specially requested, as the business is of an important nature. Speaker, P. A. Dickson.—C. W. TIMMINS, Sec.

UNLEY, S.A.—At the close of our meeting on March 8 a short social was held to bid farewell to our Vice-President, Edgar Kentish, who is leaving us for the country. Mr. Kentish will be greatly missed, as he has always been an active and energetic worker in the society. Mr. Gore, on behalf of the C.E. and choir, presented Mr. Kentish with a travelling bag.—OLIVE JONES, Sec.

S.A. UNION.—Special! The first rally of the united societies of the Churches of Christ C.E. Union of South Australia is to be held in the Mile End chapel on Monday, March 29, at 7.45 p.m. It is to take the form of a Foreign Missionary Rally. Fifteen-minute addresses will be given by D. A. Ewers on "The Living Link Idea," and by H. J. Horsell on "The Field and the Workers." The President, Jas. E. Thomas, will be the chairman. As greetings societies are asked to say in two minutes what they do in the way of missionary enterprise. We trust every society will be largely represented at this gathering. The next meeting of the Union Executive will be held at Grote-st. on April 2, 7.45 p.m.—WILL C. BEILER, Hon. Sec.

BROKEN HILL.—At a recent meeting of the church a recommendation was passed that it was advisable and desirable that a Junior C.E. Society be formed here. We have pleasure in stating that the recommendation was put into action, and that on Feb. 28 the society was formed with 12 girls and 5 boys as members. Miss L. Hughes was unanimously chosen as superintendent, and with a good strong Junior Committee from the Y.P. Society, consisting of Mrs. House, Miss Litchfield, R. J. House, R. E. Mossop and C. H. Hunt (a committee each Junior Society should have for its successful working), I feel sure will successfully carry on this society. Look out, Whatsoever, Sunshine and Flower, Musical and Missionary Committees have been formed, and each Junior placed on one of them. The writer has spent an enjoyable time in meeting with the church in this place for a few weeks.—WILL C. BEILER.

On Garvin's Division.

By Mabel Earl.

CHAPTER V.—DOWN AND OUT.

Stanley Davidson went up to the superintendent's office on Monday morning with no well-defined hope of vindication at Garvin's hands. The fact that the decision had been deferred, giving time for a careful inquiry into the truth, was merely another instance of Garvin's unfeeling endeavour to do strict justice.

But Davidson realised that all the weight of evidence had probably told against him. If Andrews had recovered far enough to make any statement of the case, there was no reason to suppose that he had spoken in Stanley's favour. Green and Hathaway, as well as one or two other local officials, were prejudiced by several incidents in the boy's record, delays and damages never clearly shown to be the result of his own neglect or incompetence, yet surrounding his name with the untoward atmosphere of bad luck. He told himself, going down the corridor at headquarters, that he knew already what Garvin's decision would be.

"Well, what's the word?" McCartney asked him as he left the building.

"Down and out. Just what I expected."

The older man said nothing for a moment. He knew too well what it meant—the years of merciless toil and splendid effort ending in this blank pause, the hopelessness of youth in its first bitter defeat.

"I reckon I'd better look for a job splitting rails," Stanley remarked, trying to laugh. "They won't want me around here any more, not even at the bottom of the firemen's list."

"Did you see Garvin himself?"

"No, Linley served it up to me. It doesn't take long to get fired, when you come right down to it. I've been getting ready for it ever since I picked myself up out of the snow the night 1307 went to pieces."

"Do you know what Andrews said?" McCartney asked.

"Said he didn't know of anything wrong with her when we took her out. Well, I didn't myself, but I'll wager Andrews did. He was nervous as a cat all the way up there. I asked him once what he was looking for to happen. I thought maybe he'd been drinking, but it wasn't on his breath. Supposing he had just an inkling of something in bad shape about her crown-sheet, say—not sure enough so he dared refuse to go out with her when he was called, but enough to make him shaky. He had been out with her on the last trip she made before, and I hadn't. And he was mad enough at me before we started to have told Garvin and the whole bunch of them that I didn't know how to run an engine. I had to speak to him once or twice that night for firing like a greenhorn, and it's a wonder he didn't think up something out of his own head to tell them about me."

"Who was running 1307 that last trip before yours?"

"Fleming. He was called to go out with her before they sent for me, but he wouldn't."

"Why not?"

"Well, why not? He said he was sick. O, they've had him up, and talked it all over

with him. Fleming can talk as straight as a string, you know, and he's a prime favourite with Green. There's reason enough why he shouldn't tell on himself if 1307 came to grief because of anything he knew about beforehand. There's no hope for me in that quarter."

"It's hard luck for you," McCartney said. "Might be harder. You've got your health and strength, and you're a young fellow, with no wife or children on your hands."

"Easy to talk," Stanley muttered. The iron had entered into his soul too deeply to yield to mere friendly consolation.

"So it is. I know what you're thinking. You're telling yourself that Mac has grown gray in the business, and he's in the front rank now; things always go smooth as silk for him, and he can afford to ladle out advice to young fellows that are down on their luck. I'll advise you, all right. You go to church next Sunday, and get down on your knees, and thank Almighty God that you've come through this thing with no blood-guiltiness on your hands, not even one man's life lost, and that's a miracle. Do you see that wrist?"

He turned back the sleeve on his left arm. Startled at the change in his voice, Stanley looked down at the deep, red scar, which the years of a generation had not effaced.

"Well, God burned that in there for keeps. He didn't mean I should forget. And there were some other things burned into my soul that same day, to last as long as I stay in this world, maybe in the next world, too; I don't know. Thirty years is a long time to remember some things. You take your medicine, Stanley Davidson—you know I think you don't deserve it, but it's here—and count yourself lucky that you've nothing worse to feel bad about than the wrongs other folks have done to you."

Stanley made no answer. The only words that occurred to him were hopelessly inadequate. He knew the story of McCartney's early life; he could have given the date of the wreck which had left Mrs. McCartney a white-haired woman at twenty-seven. The story was one which the old engineer had never tried to conceal. But no man on the division had ever before heard him refer to it of his own will.

He knew Stanley well enough to see that the boy's silence meant more than words. Presently he spoke again.

"What are you going to do with yourself now for the next few days?"

"I told you I was going to look for a job splitting rails. My sister isn't at home now. It's no use for me to loaf around the house. Maybe I'll go up to the Junction, and stay awhile with Alexander."

"Well, here's some more advice, all free of charge," said McCartney. "Don't go up there. Go out to Carl Bruner's ranch, and take him the last news of Fred, and stay as long as he'll keep you. It's just possible that we can find some way to help you out of this. I wouldn't pin any hopes on it; but, if Alexander and Fleming do know more about 1307 than they want to tell, there may be some other way of getting at the truth. Garvin has meant to be fair with you, but you know I haven't much use for Green. We'll see. If you've got any good ground for a fight, you won't have to put it up alone. Here's where some of the rest of us come in."

Perhaps it was a Brotherhood grip that McCartney gave the hand outstretched to him

as Stanley left him at the corner; perhaps it was also the clasp of a brotherhood deeper than any organisation bound together by ritual and password.

The world looked more tolerable to the boy when he parted from his friend and turned up Main-street. Passing a drug-store midway of the block, he saw Jean within, and waited for her at the door.

"Throw the Garvins over, and come away with me for a little trip," he said as she came out. "I'll have a lot of time on my hands now."

"Stanley! Mr. Garvin didn't—you aren't suspended?"

"No, just plain fired. We'll have to economise now, but we can celebrate a little beforehand. What do you say? Mac has been telling me to go out to Carl Bruner's ranch. I'll take you, too, if you'll come. Carl was telling me the other day, when he was in here to see Fred, how much Minna wants you. We could have a picnic out there now. I'd like to go hunting."

Jean's face grew graver as she listened to the details of his story, repeated somewhat reluctantly. The last few days of her attendance upon Mrs. Garvin, when she had been thrown more or less closely into association with Keith, had not dulled her concern over Stanley's difficulties. Yet her absorption in her duties had made the days less distinct one from another. This was Monday morning, unquestionably, and she had told herself frequently since the day of the wreck that Garvin was to give his decision on Monday.

But it was hard to realise that in these days when she had met and spoken with him so frequently, sometimes claiming his help in little services for his mother, the man had been gathering and sifting evidence against her brother, making ready to lay this humiliation upon him at last. Hour by hour Garvin's devotion to his mother, and the unconscious instinctive courtesy of his daily life, had been wresting out from Jean's old prejudice a reluctant recognition of the fine tempering and essential uprightness of his nature. But now her indignation flamed out against him in fierce protest. If he had judged hastily, she might have forgiven him. The deliberateness of his decision made it doubly unjust in her eyes.

"I shall not stay with them after this," she said. "They can send to Quartz City for another nurse. I told Mrs. Garvin yesterday that I ought to be at home. I have grown very fond of her, but I shall tell her now that I must leave."

"You needn't be put out with them on my account," said Stanley, the curious instinct of boyish magnanimity awaking as her sympathy sprang out to him. "I don't say for a minute that Garvin doesn't mean to be square. He has to enforce discipline, and he can't see the inside of a fellow's mind. The reason I didn't want you staying there was bigger than that."

"It doesn't make any difference," Jean answered. "I shall come home as soon as they can get anybody else."

She was tingling with resentment and indignant loyalty when she went into Mrs. Garvin's room. Less than two years older than Stanley, she had watched over him since his early childhood with the alert half-maternal instinct of protection and championship which seems inseparable from an older sister's love. This pro-

professional claim, of three or four days' standing, had small chance against the habit of a lifetime.

* * *

Keith Garvin stood bending over his mother, his face in shadow from a tall screen.

"I wouldn't go if I could help it, mother," he was saying. "It's what I have to expect at any time, and I shall be home just as soon as possible."

"But, Keith—" Mrs. Garvin looked appealingly from his eyes to Jean's, as if the girl could help her. Obviously the moment offered no opportunity, for the words which Jean had been rehearsing as she entered.

"Dr. Manning said this morning that you were getting on famously," Garvin continued. "And you couldn't be in better hands, could you? Everything in the house is going smoothly since Miss Davidson got a substitute in the kitchen for Mary Nolan. I'm sorry, mother, but this time it is must go."

Mrs. Garvin hid her face in the pillows. All the brave blitheness of heart she had shown since the first hour of her injury fell away from her at the thought of Keith's going. He kissed her, and put back gently the hand which she stretched out to him. Turning toward the sitting-room, he motioned Jean to follow.

"I couldn't explain all of this to my mother," he said. "If Manning had not been so positive about her improvement, I should be alarmed for her this morning. It isn't like her to give way in that fashion. But you will wire me if anything goes wrong. I'm called two hundred miles away; it's a mix-up of legal business at the end of the division, and I can't say how long I may be kept there. I hope to be home to-morrow, but it isn't certain."

Jean hardened her heart against the perplexity and trouble in his voice. She fancied him questioning Green and Andrews, paying close attention to all that they said against Stanley; she heard him giving his decision in the well-bred accent which still showed the influence of his early Southern training. By dint of vigorous effort she recovered the indignation which had slipped out of her heart as she entered his mother's room.

"I was just about to tell you, Mr. Garvin, that I am obliged to give up this case," she said. "If you cannot find another nurse here in Cameron, you can telegraph to Quartz City."

"But not now—you don't mean to-day?" The perplexity of his tone had deepened to distress. "Surely, Miss Davidson, it isn't that your own strength is breaking? I could send some one here to help you, but I can't leave my mother with utter strangers."

"Have you no friends that could come in, perhaps in the morning and afternoon?" Jean asked.

Garvin did not resent the suggestion, though it is barely possible that a faint flavour of bitterness mingled with it. If Garvin had nobody to call upon for help among the families of his fellow officials in Cameron, what was the reason?

"I could ask Mrs. Roeder, if she were here," he answered simply. "But you know she went East last week. And Mrs. Fordham's children

are sick, both of them. But, even if they could come, they are strangers to my mother; and it would be hard for her to be left in the care of any other nurse. Let me beg you to reconsider, Miss Davidson. I will see that you have more help—"

"I don't need it," said Jean. "It isn't that. Until to-morrow, if you wish—you said that you expected to be home to-morrow."

"There is a storm coming up," Garvin said. "The forecast is bad; they've been having blizzards on the lines north of us, and it seems to be coming our way. You know what that may mean in the worst parts of this division. Even if I were to stay home to-day, I might have to go into the hills with the snow-ploughs to-morrow. That is what I couldn't explain to mother, what I called you here to tell you. I can't say how long I may be detained. If there is any plea or any inducement I can offer you, to be certain that my mother is in your care while I am gone—I don't know your reasons, certainly; but, if you can possibly set them aside—"

"I will stay," said Jean. "And, if Mrs. Garvin is worse, I will try to let you know."

"You have taken a load from my mind; I can't tell you how I have felt about leaving," he said. "Linley will know where to reach me at any time so long as the wires are up, and I shall depend on you."

The little bell which stood beside Mrs. Garvin tinkled softly. Jean turned to answer it, her cheeks burning with the knowledge that her will and resolution had been dominated by a stronger power, the more irresistible since it acted in the name of mercy.

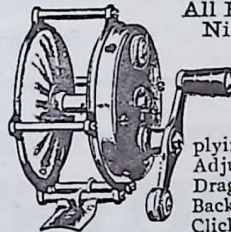
She fancied that Keith Garvin held out his hand as she turned away, but she did not glance toward him to make sure.

—C.E. World.

(To be continued.)

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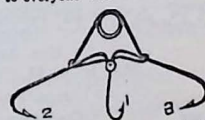
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Obituary.

WILLIAMS.—George Williams fell asleep in Jesus at a ripe old age. Our brother had only been meeting with us for a few years, and on account of failing health could not take an active part in the work. But his devoted life, his fortitude in bearing physical pain, and the joy with which he awaited the summons of the Master, were a lesson to all who knew him. Our memory of his faithful life will ever be precious.

Castlemaine, Vic.

F.T.J.

UPSTILL.—On Jan. 28 Edward Upstill fell asleep in Jesus at the ripe age of 82 years. Our brother had been a member of the Bible Christians for six years; but learning the way of the Lord more perfectly through the teaching of Bro. Hindle, sen.,

was baptised by him in the year 1878 at Specimen Gully, Barker's Creek. For many years Bro. Upstill met with the church at Barker's Creek, but for about five years he had attended at Castlemaine. His aged widow and family are left to mourn their loss. The prayer of the church is that God will comfort the bereaved ones.

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