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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1909.

Subscription, 6s. per annum. Single Copy, 1½d.

Twenty-fifth Annual Conference

OF THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

September 19 to 26 (inclusive), 1909.

On Sunday Afternoon (2.45), September 19.

Adelaide Town Hall,

Jas. E. Thomas will preach the
CONFERENCE SERMON.

Subject, "The Church of the Future."

Hymn Sheets Provided.

Meetings will (D.V.) be held throughout the week as follows:—

Monday, September 20, Grote-st. Chapel.

Morning Session. 10 a.m., Devotional Service, led by R. Harkness. 10.30, Jas. E. Thomas (President) takes the chair. Minutes of last Conference. Roll-call of Delegates. Appointments of Special Committees. Greetings and Introduction of Visitors. 11.30, Nomination of Officers. Nomination of Committees. 1. Home Mission Committee. 2. Foreign Mission Committee. 3. Temperance Committee. Also three Representatives to S.A. Alliance. 1 p.m., Adjourn for Luncheon.

Afternoon Session. 2 p.m., Devotional Service, led by G. W. Jenner. 2.15, Consideration and Adoption of Sunday School Report. *Paper* by H. J. Horsell, "Matters of Importance in S.S. Work." 3.45, Consideration and Adoption of Foreign Mission Report. 5.30, Adjourn for Tea.

Evening Session.

FOREIGN MISSION MEETING.

Exhibition Building, 7.30 p.m.

Chairman, H. J. Horsell.

Addresses by Miss Mary Thompson of India; Miss E. Terrell, and Ira A. Paternoster.

Special Singing by the Choir.

Tuesday, September 21, Grote-st. Chapel.

Morning Session. 10 a.m., Devotional Service, led by E. G. Warren. 10.30 a.m., Digest of Letters. 11, Elections. 11.45, Evangelistic Committee's Report. Paragraph (2) Statistics (Secretary). (3) Federal Conference. (4) Treasurer's Balance Sheet. (7) Church Extension Building Fund (Jas. Manning). 1 p.m., Adjourn for Lunch.

Afternoon Session. 2 p.m., Devotional Service, led by E. W. Pittman. 2 p.m., Addresses by Home Mission Evangelists. 1. W. T. Mitchell, Port Pirie and Port Germein. 2. F. E. Thomas, Narracoorte. 3. R. Harkness, Mile End. 4. E. G. Warren, Kadina District. 5. J. T. Train, Goolwa. 6. E. W. Pittman, Glenelg. 7. G. W. Jenner, Strathalbyn. 8. H. D. Smith, Maylands. 9. O. Forrester, West Coast. 4 p.m., Recommendations from Committee, and General Discussion on State Evangelisation. 5 p.m., Adjournment for Tea.

MONSTER TEA MEETING.

Exhibition Building, 5.30 p.m., to 7 p.m.

Admission—Tickets, 1/- Children under 12, 6d.

Evening Session.

HOME MISSION MEETING.

7.30. Exhibition Building.

J. E. Thomas will take the chair, and introduce the President for the ensuing year, John Fischer.

Addresses will be delivered on the following topic:—

"Calls of To-day."

1. R. Harkness, B.A., "For Better Knowledge of the Message and the Field."

2. J. E. Thomas (Retiring President's Message), "For Greater Personal Effort."

3. John Fischer (Incoming President's Message), "For Better Organisation."

Special Singing by a Large Choir.

Wednesday, September 22, Grote-st. Chapel.

Morning Session. 10 a.m., Devotional Service, led by Frank Thomas. 10.30, "Evangelistic Committee's Report." Paragraph (6) Special Missions. Paragraph (8) Organising Secretary. Adoption of Report. Reference Committee's Report. (Notice of Motions.) Appointments for Next Conference. Federal Conference, 1910. Obituary Report by T. J. Gore. 1 p.m., Adjourn for Lunch.

Afternoon Session. 2 p.m., Devotional Service, led by J. T. Train. 2.15, CONFERENCE ESSAY, by T. J. Gore, "The Silver Lining." Discussion of Essay. 4 p.m., Consideration and Adoption of Christian Endeavor Report. 4.45, Consideration and Adoption of Temperance Committee's Report. Unfinished Business. Adjourn for Tea, 5.30 p.m.

Evening Session. 7.30, in Grote-st. Chapel.

GREAT TEMPERANCE MEETING.

Chairman, Mr. T. Ryan, M.P.

Addresses by—Mr. T. H. Smeaton, M.P. Subject: "The Law and the Gospel in Relation to the Temperance Question."

Mr. Jas. Delehanty (Secretary of S.A. Temperance Alliance). Subject: "Setting the Battle in Array."

Recitations by Miss R. Jarvis (York), and Mr. T. Hubbard (York), "The Benediction," by Coppie. Musical Items.

Thursday, September 23, Grote-st. Chapel.

SISTERS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Morning Session. 10.30 a.m., Devotional, led by Mrs. E. W. Pittman. Minutes of last year's meeting. Correspondence. Hymn. Roll-call of Delegates. Business: Election of Officers. Election of Committees. Notices of Motion. Hymn. Announcements. Closing Exercises.

Afternoon Session. 2.15 p.m., Devotional, led by Miss Norman. Hymn. Welcome by Mrs. Hayward. Response, Visiting Sisters. Solo, Miss Lawrie. Minutes of Morning Session. Recitation, Mrs. Watkins. President's Address,

Mrs. Mauger. Hymn. Collection. Reports: Secretary, Miss Manning. Treasurer, Mrs. Riches. Solo, Miss Charlick. Obituary, Mrs. Dumbrell. Roll-call of Churches. Response by Text. Paper, Miss Norman, on her recent travels. Superintendents of departments will report. Dorcas, Mrs. Spurr. Prayer Meeting, Mrs. Adams. Hospital, Mrs. Brooker. Address, Miss Mary Thompson. Foreign Missions, Mrs. Haverland. Home Missions, Mrs. Fischer. Hymn. Resolutions, proposed by Mrs. E. W. Pittman. Introduction of New Officers by Mrs. Cutt. Hymn. Benediction.

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR DEMONSTRATION.

Thursday, September 23, 1909, Grote-st. Chapel.
Chairman, Jas. E. Thomas (President).

7.30, Song Service (Alexander's Hymns). 7.45, Public Meeting. Introduction of Incoming President of the Union (H. J. Horsell). Special Items by our Juniors. Addresses. (1) "C.E. and the Church," M. L. Murphy (Pastor Alberton Baptist). (2) "C.E. and Our Plea," A. G. Day (Balaklava). Special Singing. A helpful and instructive meeting for all. Come and encourage our young people.

Friday, September 24.

No Meetings During the Day.

At 7.30 p.m., in Exhibition Building.

GREAT UNITED MEETING WITH BAPTIST CHURCHES.

Chairman, K. W. Duncan, M.P.

Addresses will be delivered on the following topics:—

1. "Our Duty towards Christian Union," K. W. Duncan, M.P.

2. "Making the Most of Our Present Oneness," A. N. Marshall, B.A.

3. "The Supreme Mission of the Church," Jas. E. Thomas.

Special Singing by a United Choir.

Saturday, September 25.

CONFERENCE PICNIC.

Drags will leave G.P.O. at 9.30 a.m., for the National Park, Belair. Tickets, 2/- each, to be obtained from R. Harkness.

Sunday, September 26.

At 2.45 p.m., in Exhibition Building.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST.

Chairman, Geo. D. Wright (President).

A Choir of 1000 voices from the City and Suburban Schools. Conductor, A. J. Gard. Anniversary Hymns and Tunes, 15th set. Words by Colin Sterne. Music by H. Ernest Nichol, Mus. Bae., Oxon. Address by Arthur G. Day.

Note.—1. Hymn sheets will be provided for all evening meetings in Exhibition Building, and Grote-st. Chapel.
2. Luncheon and Tea will be provided by the

Sisters of various churches in the Grote-st. Schoolroom during the business sessions of Conference at a charge of 6d. per meal. (Tea, Tuesday, in Exhibition, 1/-.)

S.A. Conference Reports.

Evangelistic Committee's Report.

For the Year Ending September, 1909.

Dear Brethren in the Lord,—

We have much pleasure in submitting to you the following report of duties entrusted to us, also a summary of the most important matters of note for the year. We are grateful to our Father for his guidance and blessing in the attempts made to extend the cause.

1. THE COMMITTEE.

Regular monthly meetings, with one special meeting, have been held, in all 13 meetings. The Committee this year, including officers, consisted of 19 members. Average attendance, 13. *Attendances*—T. H. Brooker, 13; H. J. Horsell, 13; Jas. E. Thomas, 12; Jas. Manning, 12; Geo. Noble, 11; R. Harkness, 11; W. Burford, 11; A. C. Rankine, 11; Dr. F. Magarey, 10; R. Burns, 9; T. J. Gore, 8; W. Mathews, 8; A. M. Ludbrook, 8; W. Charlick, 7; John Fischer, 7; W. C. Brooker, 7; W. J. Harris, 6; G. H. Jenner, 5; W. T. S. Harris, nil. Illness has prevented Bro. Harris from attending.

2. STATISTICS.

The statistical table is compiled as usual for the year ending June 30. The church at Narracoorte is included, as last Conference decided to take this field over from Victorian oversight. A church has been established at Tumby Bay, and though not yet admitted to the Union, figures are published for information. The total church additions are:—By baptism, 327; restoration, 24; by letter, 171; total, 522. Church losses have been:—By death, 38; removal from roll, 185; by letter, 133; total, 356. This gives a nett increase of 166, as against an increase of 22 the preceding year. (Adding 61 transferred by Narracoorte from Victoria, the increase is 227.) The membership now stands at 4743. Sunday Schools are connected with all the churches except Bews and Moonta. Mile End and Broken Hill schools have grown rapidly. A school has been commenced at Mt. Compass, in Willunga district. We have now in our schools a total of 276 teachers and 3182 scholars, an increase of 18 teachers and 273 scholars. It is gratifying to know that 19 schools report an increase of scholars. 165 scholars have decided for Christ during the year.

3. CENTENNIAL AND FEDERAL CONFERENCES.

These Conferences were held in Sydney last April, and were largely attended by S.A. delegates, as previously reported in the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN. Resolved, that the next Federal Conference be held in Adelaide, in Sept., 1910. The Acting

Executive is composed of brethren of S.A., viz.:—Vice-President, Jas. E. Thomas; Secretary, D. A. Ewers; Assistant Secretary, Will C. Beiler; Treasurer, T. B. Verco. We trust the brotherhood will do their utmost to make the next Federal Conference as successful as that held in Adelaide in Sept., 1907.

4. FINANCES.

The balance sheet by the Treasurer will be found on another page of this issue. The annual Home Mission offering on March 7 amounted to £450/14/9, being an increase of £78/4/4 on March offering, 1908. We are specially pleased that the churches have so readily taken up the apportionment system. The second trial has fully justified its adoption. 11 churches reached their apportionment; 19 churches increased on 1908 offering; 2 gave the same as previous year, whilst 9 were a little behind. We take this opportunity of heartily thanking the brotherhood for such liberal support in our State work.

Summary.—Receipts from Sept. 16, 1908, to August 16, 1909 (including cr. bal. of £92/15/3), £781/7/7. Expenditure, £743 19/-. The total amount received 1907-8, was £576/6/4. Thus the increase in the amounts of this Conference year is £112 6/-.

Note.—The amounts paid in salaries to preachers by the churches at Kadina, Butler, Glenelg, Goolwa, and Strathalbyn, which are all subsidised by the H.M. Committee, do not pass through our Treasurer's hands, but are paid direct, hence are not included in our receipts and expenditure. If such were done of course the total amounts would be much larger.

5. HOME MISSION FIELDS.

1. *Kadina, Bews and Wallaroo*.—Bro. Warren has continued his work, meeting with much success at Kadina. There have been 44 additions, the membership being 160. A meeting for breaking of bread is now held at the home of Bro. Killmier's in Wallaroo. Bro. Warren visits Bews each month. He has found it impossible to assist Moonta. The Committee did not think it practicable to send another man into this field during the year.

2. *Port Pirie and Port Germein*.—Bro. Mitchell has labored earnestly and faithfully. The industrial dispute at Pirie made matters even more difficult. Our brother is to be commended for his faith and endurance. The Lord has blessed his efforts. A new cause has been organized at Port Germein, consisting of 17 members. There is prospect of a strong church in a year or two. Additions from these fields, 10.

3. *Goolwa*.—J. T. Train is the evangelist. He has labored with much acceptance throughout the year. There have been well attended meetings. Additions, 3.

4. *Strathalbyn*.—Frank Thomas was transferred from this field to Narracoorte in November. Bren. Binney and Jarvis, of the College of the Bible, assisted during December and January. G. W. Jenner conducted the services on Lord's days from Feb. 7, but since June has been wholly employed. Additions, 5.

5. *Narracoorte*.—F. Thomas has had good congregations and successful meetings. Some difficulties have had to be overcome. The Sunday School is thriving. Additions, 8.

6. *Mile End*.—D. A. Ewers has rendered faithful service. All meetings are on the up-grade. There is a splendid school, good C.E. and Dorcas Societies. Bro. Ewers has been granted five months' leave of absence from July 22. R. Harkness, B.A., has taken his place. Additions, 22.

7. *Glenelg*.—E. W. Pittman has been successful in his work. The congregations have considerably improved. Mid-week meeting averages 90. Additions, 8.

8. *Maylands*.—Your Committee considered that it was advisable to take over the Maylands mission, as requested by the Norwood church. Hy. D. Smith was engaged last February to labor till Conference. He has endeavored to get the people together for the formation of a church, and has some 50 names to commence. A Sunday School has been started, and there are now 60 scholars. Good gospel meetings have resulted. An allotment of land, 63 x 190ft., has been purchased for £100. We hope a chapel will be erected as soon as possible.

9. *West Coast*.—In accordance with a desire expressed by Butler church for assistance, O. Forrester was engaged in March, and sent to labor in this great field. He has held well attended meetings at Butler, Tumby Bay, Yaran-yacka, and Lipson. He has organized a church at Tumby Bay consisting of 20 members.

10. *Willunga*.—A small grant of £10 was allowed this church to assist them in the maintenance of their preacher, J. Weeks.

Full reports by the evangelists are given under "Reports from H.M. Fields."

6. SPECIAL MISSIONS.

To endeavor to reach the motto as decided last Conference in an effort to win "500 persons for Christ this year," your Committee sought to induce churches to hold missions, and some to loan their evangelists. Several churches asked for missions, and we were able to arrange for meetings at Broken Hill, Narracoorte, Goolwa, Unley, and Balaklava. Queens-town also arranged a mission. Balaklava results are not to hand. There were 83 decisions in the efforts made. We commend the churches who loaned their preachers for their willingness and the splendid spirit exhibited. As noted by the statistics, we fell short of the 500 additions.

7. CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDING FUND.

The wisdom of such a fund is apparent. The second chapel was erected during 1909,

and land also purchased; as a result, the brethren at Broken Hill have a nice, commodious building in a prominent position. We hope the third chapel will shortly be erected.

Receipts since the fund was inaugurated, £1675/13/2: Expenditure, £1668/18/-; Balance in Bank, £6/15/2. All details are given in the balance sheet.

8. ORGANISING SECRETARY.

Conference of 1908 passed this resolution, "That the Committee take steps to secure an Organising Secretary, to be wholly set apart for the work." We have to report that nothing has been done in this direction. Bro. Horsell has continued the Secretaryship for the sixth successive year.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the Constitution of the "Church Extension Building Fund" be re-considered.
2. That a chapel be erected on the allotment of land purchased at Maylands, the same to be commenced immediately.

CONCLUSION.

We draw attention to the increasing number of appeals for help. Tumby Bay, Murray Bridge, Mount Gambier, and Lochiel especially claim our consideration. Preachers will be needed to occupy such fields, and our Home Mission funds must be largely augmented in order to do this aggressive work. The incoming Committee will find this to be so, and if successful evangelistic forward work is to be accomplished during the ensuing year, the whole brotherhood of the State must loyally support the Committee.

We ask for your prayers and increased liberality.

JAS. E. THOMAS, President.
H. J. HORSELL, Secretary.

Balance Sheet, Evangelistic Committee,

Year Ending August 16, 1909.

RECEIPTS.

To Balance in hand, 1908	£92	15	3
Sisters' Conference	75	3	5
Churches, Annual H.M. Collection ..	450	14	9
Freewill Offerings—			
Estate late A. T. Magarey ..	£3	3	0
E. E. Blake	1	17	0
Sister Carmichael	0	10	0
	5	10	0
Moieties, Hire of Hall	6	10	0
Conference Tea and Overplus from other Meetings	46	17	11
Churches—			
Lochiel	8	0	0
Wampony	6	4	9
Bordertown	6	0	0
Narracoorte	20	0	6
Port Pirie	38	15	0
West Wimmera & Kaniva ..	24	10	0
	103	10	3
	£781	7	7

Note.—£7 from isolated brethren included in Annual H.M. Collection.

EXPENDITURE.

Willunga Church, Vote	£10	0	0
Federal Moiety and Evangelistic Fund	30	0	0
Secretary's Salary	26	0	0
Secretary's Expenses, Stamps, etc. ..	5	18	6
Treasurer, Petty Cash	3	0	0
Printing (Ordinary)	4	0	11
Travelling Expenses (Evangelists) ..	2	1	6
Refund, F.M. Committee	1	13	6
Conference Tea and Meetings	57	0	1
Bank Charges	0	12	6
Hire of Hall	12	12	0
Salaries and Subsidies—			
D. A. Ewers	£168	0	0
W. T. Mitchell	115	15	0
F. Thomas	110	15	0
H. D. Smith	78	0	0
J. T. Train	39	0	0
E. G. Warren	35	10	0
E. W. Pittman	19	10	0
G. Jenner	16	0	0
O. Forrester	8	10	0
	591	0	0

To Balance to Credit 743 19 0
37 8 7

Audited and found correct,

18/8/09. WALTER J. MANNING, Auditor.

W. H. BROOKER, Treasurer.

Reports from the Field.

GLENELG.

Ernest W. Pittman.

I have been privileged to labor with the church here for 11 months. The members have co-operated heartily with me, and the result has been a period of steady progress. All meetings have been well attended, especially the week-night services. While only 8 have been added by faith and obedience, we believe the reaping time is at hand. Our Bible School is in a healthy, growing condition, and all the auxiliaries are flourishing.

GOOLWA.

J. T. Train.

The work here during the greater portion of the year has been difficult and discouraging. The spirit of indifference seemed to pervade everywhere, but a vast difference is noticeable during the last three or four months, and not the least factor producing this result has been the large number of deaths, and their nature, in our town, the number far exceeding the average; these constant reminders that death is ever near us, and the warning it conveys, have turned the attention of many to the more urgent needs of life, and we know when we present to them Jesus, he is all sufficient.

Another one of the factors was the gospel mission conducted by Robert Harkness, B.A., from April 25 to May 12. Stormy weather throughout the mission prevented large gatherings, yet we were pleased to see so many who were willing to sacrifice the comfortable homes, that they might listen to the "old, old story." One made the good confession, for which we thank God, but the earnest and able addresses of

our brother deserved better results. The seed was sown to as many as would listen, and we believe visible results do not convey the amount of good done.

In reviewing the work here for the year, though in some respects they are discouraging, yet in others there is reason for deep thankfulness and encouragement. In additions, our progress has been slow, three being added by faith and baptism, two of these being young men from the Bible School. One reason we have for encouragement is the way the members of the church are standing alongside of their preacher; with him they have pledged themselves to aggressive work for our Master for three months.

Our Bible School continues an encouraging part of the work. During the year our numbers went up to 71, but through death (2) and removal our roll now stands at 61, and 1 more has been added to the roll of teachers.

We have just opened up a new branch of work here, having commenced a Young People's Society of C.E., and, judging by the willing way members are entering into the work, and the interest taken in it by associate members, we predict for it a most useful branch of our work. A Junior C.E. is also being organised, and we hope soon to see it in operation.

Our gospel meetings of late have brought us face to face with the fact that our building is too small when the people make up their mind to hear the gospel proclaimed, people being turned away from the last two services.

Reviewing the work for the year, we may say, though not fruitful in ingathering, the interest has been well maintained, and decided progress has been made in some directions, and the outlook for the future is bright with promise.

KADINA.

E. G. Warren.

The Lord has wonderfully blessed us again this year. The cause is going on steadily, and there is a beautiful spirit of harmony in the church. Much of the evangelist and his wife's time is spent in visiting Jericho, Jerusalem, Wallaroo Mines, Newtown, and the Wallaroo Hospital. Monthly visits are paid to the Bews church; we have a faithful band of brethren out there. We have started a Lord's day morning meeting in Bro. Killmier's house at Wallaroo. They have an average attendance of eight members. It is to be hoped that the day will not be distant when Wallaroo will have a preacher. It is estimated that there are 14,000 people in these two towns. May the day soon come when we shall have three preachers in these three large towns. I do not see anything to prevent us from getting a church strong enough to support a preacher. In Kadina our plea is getting better understood. The truth is winning its way into the hearts of the people. We have averaged over 200 attending the gospel service each Lord's day evening during the year. Our Bible

School averages about 115 every Lord's day afternoon. The evangelist has a Bible Class of 33 young men and women. In arranging the statistics from June, 1908, to June, 1909, we have had 44 persons received into fellowship by faith and obedience. Since then, from July 4 to Aug. 15, 17 persons have confessed Christ, 16 have been received into fellowship by faith and obedience, and five have been restored. So that during the last 59 weeks there have been 60 persons baptised and received into the church. To him who came to seek and to save the lost would we give all the praise and the glory.

MAYLANDS MISSION.

Henry D. Smith.

This place is on the eastern side of Adelaide, along the road to Magill, about one mile from Norwood Tabernacle. It is a growing suburb of broad streets, good houses and respectable residents. For nearly two years the Norwood young men held evangelistic services there, in the Janet-st. Hall, winning some converts, besides paying all expenses for some time. In February, the State Evangelist Committee decided to support and locate me there, when we began to initiate morning with the evening services, and open a school. From about 70 Norwood members in this area, some 40 meet with myself and wife, and occasionally other baptised friends. Sixty children are on our school roll. We also total about 90 at evening services. *There is therefore ample inducement to form a church in the near future.* At present we are a branch of Norwood church, who supply us with presidents, readers, and a good choir. So far we have received into membership five heads of families. We have paid all current expenses to date, and passed a balance into Norwood treasury. We meet in a grim, drafty, badly-seated hall, which is used as a factory, unfit for a suburban church; so with the aid of the Build-Extension Committee a good site has been bought and paid for, and they promise to loan us £600 for necessary buildings, the plans, etc., for which we are submitting for their scrutiny. A few friends have helped us to so far raise for land and erections, £100, but we appeal to others to further aid us. Good brethren of other States, besides our own, will very much encourage us by remitting cash donations toward housing a congregation. Our prospects are encouraging, for we hear of families who will attend. We have chosen seven trustees, appointed five helps, with A. L. Read as supt., W. Tompsett secretary, and J. H. Hawkes as treasurer for Building Fund.

MILE END.

D. A. Ewers.

The work here has progressed steadily, and is healthy and aggressive. For the year ending June 30, there have been 30 additions, of whom 19 were by faith and baptism. We have lost 7 by letter and revision of roll, leaving us with 78 members.

Up to the date of my leaving Adelaide, July 22, 5 more were baptised. The attendances at all meetings have improved, and especially at the gospel services. The Sunday School, under the fostering care of W. Mathews, has also largely increased, and the outlook altogether is exceedingly good. Whatever doubt any elsewhere may have had, or still have, as to the wisdom of commencing the work at Mile End, would vanish like mist if the doubters could but see our meetings. The success is, under God, principally owing to the earnest and loyal co-operation of a splendid band of officers and other workers, whose fellowship has been a constant joy to me.

NARRACOORTE.

F. E. Thomas.

After last Conference we returned to Strathalbyn, and stayed for nearly two months. Three were immersed in that time and we were loth to leave, as the harvest seemed to be coming after a long time of sowing and waiting. Arrangements had been made, however, and Narracoorte claimed our attention in November. This has been the field of our labor ever since. When we took up the work we found that a few faithful brethren had been keeping things going for some time without much outside assistance. They were not quite so prosperous as they had been represented to be. Through some unfortunate misunderstanding, or mismanagement, the church had become divided. This state of things had existed for some time, and it was not till last July that an understanding was reached. This was a great obstacle in the way of progress, but we are glad to say that since the reconciliation all have worked together splendidly, and the prospects now are very bright. Last May we held a three weeks' mission here. Bro. Ewers was our missionary. The meetings were greatly affected by the rain. It rained nearly every night, and although Bro. Ewers did his work well, and the brethren stood by him in prayer, the results were not up to our expectations. However, five were added to the church, nearly twenty were added to the Sunday School, and the members were greatly blessed. Considering all, we would be ungrateful to complain. Six others have been immersed during the year, making a total of eleven immersions here this year. Two have been added by letter.

With the help of other brethren, £50 has been raised and paid off the church debt during the year. £30 of this was raised at the Milang Conference. Besides this, the remaining £200 was secured at a nominal rate of interest.

We have to acknowledge our indebtedness also to the West Wimmera Conference for the support they have given us during the year.

Our C.E. Society and Sunday School are in good condition; the members are becoming more regular in their attendance, and our finances are on a better footing. This is our first year under the S.A. Committee.



Jas. E. Thomas, President.

Being so far away from any other church, we feel our isolation somewhat; but although so far away, the liberal support given us from sister churches, and the visit of Bro. Ewers, have reminded us that we are not forgotten. Ours is only a young church; most of the members are only new to the cause, but there are members being trained here that will do credit to the Church of Christ. One, at least, Stuart Stevens, is training for the ministry of the word, and while studying in the Bible College, is doing good work with the church at South Melbourne. Given time, we believe the Narracoorte church will develop into a strong and healthy body.

PORT PIRIE AND PORT GERMEIN.

W. T. Mitchell.

We very much regret that the report for the year past is not such a good one as for the previous year. The work went along steadily and surely from June until December, 1908, when, hoping that it would be otherwise, the strike commenced, which completely paralysed Pirie. Despite this trouble our congregations kept up well for a couple of months, but afterward commenced to thin down very considerably. We did not, in fact, could not, expect to see any improvement until the dispute was settled. That occurred in June, and now we are hoping for the best. During the year one young man was added to the Lord.

In January a cause was started at Port Germein. Several meetings were held at the house of Bro. Hall; and these were so well attended that it was thought advisable to secure some building which would accommodate a larger number of people. The

Institute Hall was hired, and some fine meetings have been held. Up to the end of June, four fine young men and four young women were added to the Lord, and since, one has obeyed her Lord. Thus our hearts have been cheered, and we have been encouraged by seeing nine precious souls won for Christ in this field in six months. We have indeed proved that our labors are not in vain in the Lord. We believe the outlook, both for Pirie and Germein, is very promising.

STRATHALBYN.

Geo. W. Jenner.

R. Thomas continued his work here for six weeks after the last Conference. During that time he baptised four persons on confession of their faith, and three were received by letters of commendation. Bren. Binney, Jarvis and Batt then stepped into the breach, and supplied the platform for some time. Their co-operation was appreciated, and one was added to the kingdom. Accepting a call from the Evangelistic Committee, Geo. W. Jenner preached on Lord's days, journeying from the city on Saturdays, and returning on Mondays. This continued from the beginning of February to the end of May. There was one break of a month, when he attended the Centennial meetings in Sydney. Speakers from the city held the fort during his absence. It was said as a joke that Bro. Jenner came here on Sundays, fired a few shots at the enemy, and retreated on the following day. However, it was urgent that an evangelist be permanently located in this difficult field. He was approached, and persuaded to settle in the district. Thus he has been enabled to visit members in their homes, and also to get into touch with those not connected with any church body. The wet winter months have told against the services somewhat, still there is much to be thankful for. Interest has been well sustained, and the name of Jehovah magnified. Meetings for breaking of bread have been well attended by members. On Sunday evenings the building has been comfortably filled. The simple gospel has been proclaimed, and though the church has had no additions for a time, it is believed that some are almost persuaded. After seed-time comes the harvest.

The Sunday School is going along steadily. The Bible Class is now studying Moninger's "Training for Service." These lessons are most helpful. The Endeavor Society has recently been organised, and promises to be a successful adjunct to church life and work. Mid-week gatherings are seasons of blessing, and in mutual prayer and meditation the bond of unity is strengthened. Future prospects seem to be good, hope is buoyant, and the King's business will prosper so long as we trust and obey.

WEST COAST DISTRICT.

O. Forrester.

Butler.—Up to 1906 there was no meeting place for divine worship for many miles

around. While taking up land for farming purposes, some brethren from "the other side," notably R. W. Barr, D. Butler, C. H. Pedlar, A. Aird, G. Young, R. Haldane and J. Mills, realising the need of a chapel for public divine worship, erected a building at a cost of about £60, measuring 30ft. by 16ft., of corrugated iron, and lined with matchboard. The chapel was completed in 1907, and G. B. Moysey was the pioneer evangelist, followed by H. Ridell, who labored during the first four months of 1908. The present evangelist is Owen Forrester, who began work here in April, 1909. The number of members at present is 20.

Tumby Bay.—A preliminary meeting, convened by Bro. Forrester, of scattered church members in this neighborhood was held in the home of Bro. and Sister Grigg, of this town, on April 13, 1909. The first meeting of the church here was held in the Institute on Lord's day, April 25, when eight brethren broke bread. The church has assembled for worship fortnightly since then, and has been blessed and encouraged amidst various difficulties incidental to the establishment of the cause in a new district; and the brethren, strengthened by happy memories, and the bonds of kinship to vigorous churches on the "other side," trust that a strong church of New Testament faith and order may be established in this important port, and from which a welcome may be offered to brethren yet to come. Public gospel preaching meetings have not

yet been held here on account of a suitable building not being at present available. Bren. and Sisters Lawrie, Grigg, Green-shields, Nankeville and Farnell are prominent among the pioneers here. The present number of brethren on the church roll is 20.

Yaran-yacka.—Through the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Treasure, a large building on their farmstead has been available for public preaching services, which have been conducted fortnightly on Lord's days by Bro. Forrester and D. Hammond. Good attendance and interest is maintained here.

Lipson.—Here at the house of Bro. Farnell, encouraging week-night services of God have been held frequently.

Training Classes.

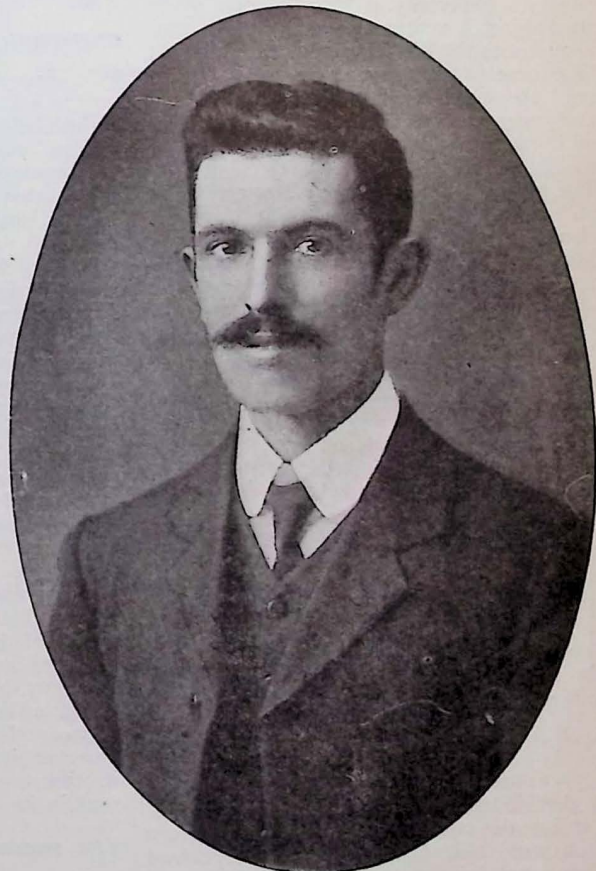
T. J. Gore.

We have had an average of ten young men in attendance since last March in these classes. Bro. Rankine has used the book "The Great Salvation," by Zollars, chiefly for the basis of his lectures. I have given lectures to my classes on the Gospels, specially Matthew, and First Corinthians. The young men have done very good work. Bro. Rankine has left for America, and I propose until end of session, which ends with November, to give a series of lectures on the Pentateuch, and the Gospel according to John.



South Australian Conference, September 19 to 26

Bring this Copy of the
"Australian Christian" to
the Conference Meetings.



John Fischer, President-Elect.

S.A. Conference matter continued
on page 511.

The Australian Christian.

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The Leader.

THE SUPERNATURAL IN CHRISTIANITY.

The influence of the daily press in forming public opinion is one of the things that we are forced to recognise. In these days of hustle and bustle, the daily newspaper is the only kind of literature that a great many people have any time to indulge in. This being so, it is quite clear that when the daily press touches upon themes of vital importance, it assumes a very grave responsibility. Especially is this the case when the subject it ventures to deal with is connected with the Christian religion. Thoughts like these passed through our mind as we read the leader in last Saturday's *Argus*, and endeavored to find out what the writer of the article was driving at, and whether we should regard him as a friend or foe. The writer had selected, as a peg on which to hang his discourse, an article by Principal Forsyth on the "Evidential Value of Miracles." The feeling in our mind as we read the article was that readers of the *Argus* would have received much more benefit if a little space had been given to Principal Forsyth's ideas upon the subject, and the writer had spared himself the trouble of aimlessly wandering round it. It will not be questioned, we think, that, of the two, Principal Forsyth was the fittest man to deal with the subject. And this is one of the objections we have to newspaper articles on the subject of religion, namely, that the men best fitted to write upon them are not selected for the task. Christianity is of sufficient importance to demand that its credentials for acceptance shall be presented by men who can approach the subject with some degree of fairness, and have the ability which is necessary for handling subjects of such deep importance.

Not a fair statement.

Our quarrel with the article in question is that it conveys a wrong impression regarding the position of affairs. It appears to assume that Christianity has received some vital injury as the result of the onslaughts of modern criticism. "When criti-

cism," it says, "is gradually causing men to reject the Bible as a historical record, can Christianity live in the face of what is happening in men's minds? Or what changes must take place in the Christian faith that it may live under modern conditions?" The answer to the first of these questions is not far to seek. If criticism can successfully demonstrate that the New Testament records are not history but something else, then it is quite clear that Christianity cannot live, and what is more, does not deserve to live. It may be admitted that a certain kind of criticism has done all that it could to show that the New Testament books are unhistorical, and, in doing so, has succeeded in creating doubt in the minds of some; but the position is by no means as serious as the writer in the *Argus* makes it out to be. It is unfortunate that many people know only of the attempts to assail the historicity of the sacred books, but do not know how these attempts have signally failed. The real position of affairs to-day is this, that adverse criticism has killed itself. The very means which it took to destroy has had the opposite effect. By-and-bye, when the atmosphere has cleared a little, it will be seen that the New Testament Scriptures have come out of the fires of criticism unscathed. They remain to-day the best accredited books of olden times. If it is possible to doubt the historicity of these books, it is also possible to doubt the historicity of any book that was ever written.

Christianity unchangeable.

In view of these things, it is rather absurd to ask "What changes must take place in the Christian faith that it may live under modern conditions?" It is peculiar to a certain class of writers that they always assume that it is Christianity that is called upon to make some change. It does not appear to dawn upon their minds that the need for change rests elsewhere. The same call for change has been heard times without number, during the past nineteen hundred years, but it does not seem to have had much effect upon Christianity. What a strange medley Christianity would have been, if all the suggestions of its critics had been heeded! It is instructive in this connection to glance over the Christian era, and note how the critics have had their day and passed into oblivion, and how Christianity remains unchanged. And as it has been, so it will be. Christianity has nothing to change, because it is itself the truth. Our apprehension and expression of it may change, but the system itself cannot in the nature of things do so. The churches, it is admitted, as representatives of Christianity, can only be regarded as very imperfect. The trouble is that men do not discriminate between the two. In the case before us, however, it is the foundations of Christianity that are in question. Was it supernatural in its origin?

The supremacy of Christianity.

The writer of the article under consideration suggests one way of answering this

question. In speaking of the contact of Christianity with other religions, when Christianity was yet young and making its way, he asks, "Why, then, did it displace them in a hand-to-hand conflict? Perhaps if we can answer this question, we can answer also the question that presses on our own day." The answer to this has been given over and over again. Lately, it has been given by Professor Sir Wm. Ramsay in an article on "Christianity as the Life of the Ancient Civilisation." In this he says: "The civilised world was eager for the peace and promise of the new faith. The fields were ripe for the harvest. The fulness of time was come; and at that moment the divine power made itself manifest. The Christian religion came in to cement the unity of the Roman empire, to preserve the ancient civilisation and law in its best features for modern men, and to strengthen the empire for the struggle against destruction by barbarians. In the never-ending war between civilisation and barbarism, between light and darkness, it seemed that the victories must be with the powers of evil, for civilisation itself had grown weak with corruption; but the new faith gave life and sweetness to the decay of the ancient world. The resurrection of Jesus was the saving element in the ancient pagan world." In the last sentence we have the answer to every question regarding the supernatural in the Christian religion.

Christ himself a miracle.

It has been well said, "There is the best of reasons even in the evidence of to-day, for saying that Christ the historic Person was a miracle, and if he was a miracle, it is most probable that he wrought miracles." It is not our purpose to enter into the question of the "evidential value of miracles." It is enough to say that Christianity has for its founder a supernatural Person, and therefore, we may expect to find in the system he called into being something of the supernatural. The greatest miracle of all time was the resurrection of Jesus, and accepting that we may well accept all the other miracles of the New Testament, on the principle that the greater includes the lesser. The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation stone of the Christian system. Remove this, and the whole fabric falls to the ground. This, the greatest of all miracles, is a fact to be tested by evidence, just as any other fact is tested. And it is not saying too much to assert that the resurrection of Jesus is the best attested fact in the history of the world. It is the rock on which the Christian system stands. The minor miracles become credible and indeed necessary, because of this stupendous event. But even the lesser miracles have their independent witnesses. Of these, Dr. R. F. Horton says: "You must remember that in the New Testament you are not dealing with remote legends. The attempt made by Strauss to treat the narrative of the Gospels as mythical has broken down entirely. The Gospels are too near the events to give room for the growth of myths. In the gospel stories you are not dealing with remote antiquity and legends which had

time to grow, but you are dealing with documents which have come from the age of which they bear witness. They are contemporary literature, and not only so, but the New Testament miracles are marked by sobriety and probability and also by a spiritual significance which mark them off from similar stories, both in ancient and modern literature. And to this you must add that the effects which the Person of Christ is admitted to have produced in the world and in history and in the spiritual experience of man, are quite as miraculous as the things which are recounted of him in the contemporary records." The New Testament and its miracles are real and luminous to us, just to the degree that we have apprehended Jesus Christ as supreme. At the back of all this questioning about miracles is a lack of faith in the power and dignity of the risen Christ.

Ex-Priests in France.

"During many years," says the *Christian*, "we have kept our readers informed regarding work in France in the interests of such priests as leave the Church of Rome in the hope of realising peace of conscience and spiritual liberty in the service of Christ. We have from time to time described the bondage of the priests—especially as felt by those who take a serious view of their vocation; also we have set forth the terrors that have to be faced by such as would

secede from Rome, and seek a more perfect knowledge of God, or a more acceptable sphere of ministry. In the absence of friends and helpers, men of this class are often driven to despair, and induced to stifle their heart-convictions and remain in the Romish Church, for the reason mentioned in the old Israelitish story—to secure 'a piece of silver and a morsel of bread.' It was to help conscientious priests desirous to leave Rome that a work was started in Paris in 1884 by Professor J. L. Bertrand, and carried on in later years by ex-Abbe Corneloup, both of them now deceased. The *Œuvre des Pretres*, as so organised, gave material assistance to hundreds of priests, and assisted many others to qualify for service as pastors of evangelical churches. This work is now carried on by M. Leon Revoyre, himself an ex-priest; and during the past fifteen months it has helped some forty-eight priests who otherwise would have been utterly friendless; at the present time, moreover, it is dealing with ninety-seven others, of whom thirty are still wearing the sacerdotal frock, though earnestly desiring to be free. In a recent number of his magazine, *Le Chretien Libre*, M. Revoyre refers to some twenty-three of these priests, or ex-priests, by name or under the initials of their names. These facts indicate the widespread change that is coming over thought and action in France. Day by day the Church of Rome is falling into more complete discredit among people who think; priestly 'vocations' are decreasing in num-

ber; and secessions from the priesthood are continuous. In fact, the Abbe Houtin, in his book 'La Crise du Clerge,' declares that in the course of the past ten years fifteen hundred priests have quitted the Church of Rome in France alone!"

The Crust on the Life.

When ground is trodden hard, it is the very substance of the ground that lies impenetrable and catches the seed, and will not let it in and claim the soil and do its fruitful work. This is the notion of the crust. It is not a foreign material; but the thing itself, grown hard and rigid, shuts the soft and tender and receptive portions of the thing away.... Thus out of the very substance of a man's life, out of the very stuff of what he is and does, comes the hindrance which binds itself about his being, and will not let the better influences out. That self-made barrier must be broken up, must be restored to its first condition and become again part of the substance out of which it was evolved, before the life can be fed with the dew of first principles and the rain of the immediate descent of God. What is the crust upon your life that keeps out holy influences?—*Phillips Brooks*.

The clean heart must continue contrite, if it is not to cease to be clean.—*Alexander McLaren*.

South Australian Statistics for the Year Ending June 30th, 1909.

NAME.	Church Additions.			Church Losses.			Membership.		School Statistics.			Finance		
	Immursed during Year.	Received from Sister Churches	Received being formerly Immursed	Died during Year.	Removed from Church Roll.	Transferred to Sister Churches.	Present Number on the Roll	Total Number on Roll, June 30, '09	Sunday School Teachers.	Sunday School Scholars.	Scholars Received into the Church	Amount sent to H.M. Committee	Amount sent to F.M. Committee	Amount Collected for all Purposes.
1 Adelaide (Grote-st.) ..	33	20	4	4	28	33	647	655	19	324	16	£ 9 10 0	£ 86 17 1	£ 0 70 0
2 Alma	13	15	1	1		4	57	61	1	14		60 10 0	11 7 0	119 5 10
3 Balaklava	47	7	6		7	6	208	190	11	115	4	13 1 7	5 19 0	228 0 0
4 Broken Hill (N.S.W.) ..							91	44	10	119	28	6 0 0	3 8 0	173 0 6
5 Bews							13	13				13 8 0	4 0 0	56 0 0
6 Butler							20	20	4	20		3 0 0	1 0 0	
7 Glenelg	8	4		3			114	105	10	90	5	8 14 4	3 14 7	150 11 5
8 Goolwa	3						51	48	5	61	2	3 0 0	2 13 0	75 0 0
9 Henley Beach	1		1	1	1		59	59	5	49		3 17 6	5 3 6	62 9 1
10 Hindmarsh	16	10		3		7	584	568	22	312	5	15 10 4	59 14 3	3478 0 0
11 Kadina & Wallaroo ..	40	11	4	2	2	1	160	110	11	150	20	3 12 3	4 2 6	201 0 0
12 Lochiel	6			2	1	12	22	37	3	33		9 6 0	4 7 3	15 0 0
13 Long Plain				1	1	4	58	58	3	38	4	12 16 0	9 16 0	91 0 0
14 Mallala		2	1		16		34	47	2	27		3 15 0	4 6 9	
15 Milang	2					2	92	92	6	61		9 5 6	7 16 0	110 0 0
16 Mile End	19	8	3		6	1	78	55	13	151	11	10 0 0	10 14 3	261 0 0
17 Moonta		2			6	1	7	12				0 18 0	0 16 0	7 0 0
18 Narracoorte	8	4		1			72		5	49	3	18 7 7		102 17 3
19 North Adelaide & Prospect ..	7	6		4	8	7	286	292	25	204	6	41 15 6	66 19 8	509 1 8
20 Norwood & Maylands ..	26	12		5		15	787	761	30	405	7	25 0 0	40 4 11	1738 13 2
21 Owen		3				2	46	45	3	48		22 0 0	21 18 0	96 13 4
22 Point Sturt	1	1		2			36	36	3	28	1	4 12 6	4 14 6	40 0 0
23 Port Pirie & Port Germein ..	1	1			6	2	41	47	4	52		40 2 6	5 4 6	77 0 0
24 Queenstown	8	9				17	17					0 13 3		7 14 0
25 Stirling E. & Aldgate Valley ..	26	7	2	4	64	2	171	206	13	163	12	7 3 0	6 12 3	136 0 0
26 Strathalbyn	4				3	1	122	122	15	117		27 11 3	27 5 9	189 5 11
27 Tumby Bay	5	3					61	53	4	24	1	5 3 0	4 17 4	60 0 0
28 Unley and Cottonville ..		18	2			15	20							
29 Williamstown	36	14	1	3	30		441	408	24	293	30	22 16 8	47 16 6	544 6 9
30 Willunga	1						55	84	2	14		3 0 0	3 11 6	92 13 3
31 York		3			6	9	29	26	8	37		1 0 0	2 8 6	20 0 0
Totals ..	327	171	24	38	185	133	4743	4516	276	3182	165	505 9 9	476 8 7	£6611 12 3

*No returns sent—last year's taken.

Temperance Committee's Report.

D. A. Ewers writes:—"As convener of the Temperance Committee, I called the members together, when certain resolutions were carried, and a secretary appointed. I am not aware of any subsequent meetings having been called."

Ira Paternoster reports:—"We have only held one meeting, at which I was elected secretary. Suggestions were made along practical lines, which we hope to carry out before the next State Campaign. We urge all our churches to prepare for the general election, when an opportunity will be given to "show our colors" as Christian people. Our representatives have attended the meetings of the South Australian Temperance Alliance."

Foreign Missionary Board.

Nineteenth Annual Report, Sept., 1909.

1. THANKS.

We desire to express our thankfulness to Almighty God for the many blessings received from him during the year in connection with our work of world-wide evangelisation. The Lord has greatly encouraged us, and we have had much blessing in seeking to extend the Master's kingdom in the lands of heathen darkness.

2. COMMITTEE WORK.

The F.M. Committee elected at last Conference consisted of the following:—President, D. A. Ewers; Vice-President, Mrs. Milne; Secretary, A. C. Rankine; Assist. Secretary, I. A. Paternoster; Treasurer, T. Colebatch; Superintendent Chinese Mission, E. McPhee. Committee members—J. E. Thomas, E. W. Pittman, H. J. Horsell, R. Burns, W.C. Brooker, A. M. Ludbrook, Duncan, E. Riches, R. Harris, Mrs. Glastonbury, Mrs. Johnson, Misses Giffen, Pepperill, Hume, Schmoock, Storer, Hughes, Allen, and two members from each F.M. auxiliary. The Committee have met monthly for the transaction of business. During the year Bro. Burns resigned through being unable to attend our meetings. He has been made an honorary member of the Board. Bro. Ewers left in July *en route* for England and America on a trip. We had pleasure during the year of welcoming back Bro. and Sister H. D. Smith into the State, as active workers in the cause of Foreign Missions.

3. THE PENTECOST MISSION.

Bro. Frank Filmer has returned to us from the New Hebrides in order to be present at the Centennial Conference in Sydney, and also to take unto himself a wife, in the person of our Sister Rosa Fountain. The Committee arranged for the marriage in Grote-st. chapel, and also the reception of guests. Everything passed off most satisfactorily.

Bro. Filmer greatly delighted the brethren and sisters with his interesting and instructive addresses on his work on Pente-

cost Island. We praise God for the great work accomplished. The Federal Board sent back to the island our Bro. Filmer, who has been accompanied by his wife. We purchased a house for the missionaries, and furniture, together with a small motor launch for the work among the islands. We earnestly pray that our missionaries may be abundantly used of God on Pentecost. Bro. Filmer has a number of good workers among the natives on the island. Tabymancan is still to the front.

4. OUR AUSTRALIAN STATION IN INDIA.

Bro. and Sister Strutton are still busily engaged laying the foundation of what we believe will grow into a large work for God. Some good work has been accomplished during the past year. We are pleased to state that another worker in the person of Sister Edith Terrell will proceed to the Australian Station in India in October. Miss Terrell has been in Melbourne receiving instructions in nursing, etc. She is a member of the church at York.

Bro. Stephen Ludbrook is still busily engaged with the language in India.

5. OTHER WORKERS.

We were glad to welcome home Sister Mary Thompson, on furlough, during the year. Her visit has been a great blessing to the churches of the other States. Sister Thompson will be present at the South Australian Conference, and we feel sure she will get a royal welcome.

Sister Rosa Tonkin is now our living link in China. She is busy with her work among the women principally. Our workers in Japan are Bro. and Sister Davey, and their little one. The Federal Board has several native workers also in different fields.

6. CHINESE MISSION.

Our Chinese work is still carried on by Bro. McPhee, and a loyal staff of workers. Bro. Jame, Chinese evangelist, of Melbourne, visited Adelaide during the year, and did some useful work. The interest has increased of late in the mission.

7. AUXILIARIES.

A number of churches have a Foreign Mission Auxiliary in connection therewith, and these have rendered splendid assistance in monetary and other ways. We would like to see a F.M. Auxiliary in connection with each church. We appeal to the churches to try and help in this direction. A movement is now being made to enlist the sympathies of F.M. Auxiliaries and Bible Classes, also Endeavor Societies, to subscribe sufficient money to enable us to wholly support a missionary on our Indian Station, as a living link for South Australia. We trust that Conference will consider the matter and help in the proposed undertaking.

8. FEDERAL.

We have had hearty co-operation with the Federal Board. The work is growing

apace, and it will become necessary soon to have some special officer or agent appointed to superintend the F.M. work of the combined committees.

9. FINANCES.

Our Treasurer, Bro. Colebatch, reports that South Australia more than reached her quota. The brethren responded well to the call. But we wish the churches to remember we have increased liabilities and will require a larger income.

10. GENERAL.

In the early part of the year Bro. Jas. Ware, from China, visited us. His address was greatly appreciated. Bro. Ware is an able missionary. Our F.M. Rally in June was successful. Children's Day was observed in the Sunday Schools.

11. SECRETARIAL.

The Secretary, A. C. Rankine, resigned his position on account of leaving for America. The Committee heartily thanked him for his many years of service on the Missionary Board. I. A. Paternoster was elected to fill the position of Secretary. The Board expressed the wish that A. C. Rankine prepare the annual report before leaving for America.

12. PERSONAL.

Before laying down my pen, I want to state what pleasure it has been to me to engage in the work of Foreign Missions. Nothing has given me greater joy in my ministry. God has blessed me in my own soul. No work is more Christlike. In heathendom our God is dishonored on every hand. What a grand thing to influence men and women to turn from dumb idols to serve the only living and true God. I pray that God will continue to bless the churches in this important work, and that many more of the church members may enter more heartily into the work of making the gospel known in the dark benighted lands. Although absent from the Conference gatherings, I shall think of you.

A. C. RANKINÉ,
Secretary F.M. Com.

Balance Sheet, F.M. Committee.

For Year Ending June 30, 1909.

RECEIPTS.

Grote-st. Church and Auxiliaries	£86	17	1
North Adelaide & Prospect Churches and Auxiliaries	66	19	8
Hindmarsh Church and Aux.	57	12	0
Unley and Cottonville Churches and Aux.	47	16	6
Norwood Church and Aux.	40	4	11
Stirling East and Aldgate Valley Churches and Aux.	27	5	0
Owen Church and Aux.	21	18	6
York Church and Aux.	19	0	0
Alma Church	11	7	0
Mile End Church and Aux.	10	14	3
Long Plains Church & Aux.	9	16	0
Milang Church	7	16	0
Queenstown Church and Aux.	6	12	3
Balaklava Church	5	19	0

Port Pirie Church and Aux.	5	4	6
Henley Beach Church & Aux.	5	3	6
Strathalbyn Church and Aux.	4	17	1
Point Sturt Church	4	14	6
Lochiel Church and Aux.	4	7	3
Mallala Church	4	6	9
Kadina Church and Aux.	4	2	6
Bews Church	4	0	0
Glenelg Church and Aux.	3	14	7
Broken Hill Church and Aux.	3	8	0
Goolwa Church and Aux.	2	13	0
Williamstown Church & Aux.	3	11	6
Willunga Church and Aux.	2	8	6
Butler Church	1	0	0
Moonta Church	0	16	0

From Sisters' Conference	474	6	7
Bro. and Sister Filmer's Reception	39	15	6
Sale of Photos. of Bro. and Sister Filmer	29	2	0
Personal Contributions	5	1	0
	17	0	0

£565 5 1

EXPENDITURE.

Advances to Federal Treasurer	£475	5	11
Advances to Sister Rosa Tonkin (on furlough)	47	0	0
Amounts forwarded direct by Churches, receipts in hand	6	14	0
Printing Accounts (Sharples Bros.)	2	0	0
Secretarial Expenses	3	1	7
Advertising	0	12	6
Hire of Exhibition Building (portion only)	3	3	0
Mottos Displayed at Conference	1	11	0
Expenses in connection with Missioner J. Ware's Visit	3	1	0
Expenses in connection with Chinese Missioner Jame, while on visit to S.A.	12	7	6
Missionary Periodicals	2	10	0
Photos. of Bro. and Sister Filmer and Group, Mr. McGann's Account	3	2	6
Expenses in connection with Reception of Bro. and Sister Filmer	1	14	3
Stamps, Stationery, and Exchange	3	1	10
Amounts forwarded direct to Federal Treasurer by Churches and from private sources	9	3	9

Total Contributions from South Australia, for Foreign Missions, for the year ending 30th June, 1909 .. £574 8 10

THOS. COLEBATCH,
Treasurer.

Churches of Christ in S.A. F.M. Com.
10th August, 1909.

Sunday School Union Report

For Year Ending July 31, 1909.

Your Committee have pleasure in submitting report of work done during the year just closed. We trust it has been conducive to the welfare of the schools in the Union, and helpful to the teachers engaged therein.

It was proposed to hold Sunday School Day on the first Sunday in September, 1908, in all our churches in the State, when the claims of the school and its relation to the church should be laid upon the minds and hearts of the members of the church. A circular asking for this was sent to all the evangelists in our churches throughout the State.

"Training for Service" books were purchased by the Union and issued to the various schools, with a view of forming classes for study. The Bible College Committee were to be asked to assist by subsidising a teacher, and later it was proposed to hold a competition for students of those classes in March of 1910; two prizes of 15/- and 10/- to be offered for male and female students.

During the year your Committee have called for and accepted tenders for the supply of all S.S. requisites, that of the Methodist Book Depot being accepted. We have pleasure in reporting that the sum of £111 has been credited to the Union from discounts on purchases made by the various schools over and above the discounts allowed them on their purchases. An arrangement has been made for carrying out the contract and obtaining the best results therefrom, and we would urge the schools to make use of it for their own and the Union's benefit.

A model Sunday School lesson was arranged for in December, and was given by Ira A. Paternoster, but owing to lack of attendance of teachers, and those to be benefited, it was not a success.

We decided to hold the annual competitive Scripture examination in June, and in addition to the usual prize list to offer three prizes for schools competing of 40/- each, viz., For schools with under 75 scholars on the roll; for schools with between 75 and 150 scholars on the roll; for schools with 150 scholars and upwards. It was suggested to try our local brethren as examiners, and W. L. Johnston, T. J. Gore, K. W. Duncan, Wm. Charlick and W. Jackson were appointed. The subject chosen was in the first quarter's lessons, and contained in Acts of Apostles. There were 452 entries, and 273 sat for examination. Of these 120 obtained first certificates, over 75 per cent.; and 76 obtained second certificates, from 60 to 75 per cent. The schools prizes were won by Mt. Compass, under 75 scholars on roll, 42 per cent. North Adelaide, from 75 to 150, 15 per cent. Unley, over 150, 20 per cent.

An application for the use of the Union's lantern was received from Glenelg, and granted on terms favorable to the Union.

Applications for affiliation with the Union were received from Mile End, Kadina, and Mt. Compass, and there are now nominally 8 country and 12 city and suburban schools in the Union.

During the year a new school has been formed at the Maylands mission, and was assisted by a vote of 20/- from the Union funds to procure school requisites.

The annual election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Geo. D. Wright, Norwood; Vice-President, E. Ross Manning, Grote-st.; Secretary, A. L. Read, Norwood; Treas. and Asst. Sec., W. Mathews, Mile End; Auditor, H. H. Sando, North Adelaide; Visitor, W. C. Brooker, Queens-town.

The statistical returns are not yet to hand, only 12 of the schools having replied to

forms sent, but these show that nearly 100 of the scholars have made the good confession during the year. [For full information see statistical table concerning church returns.—H. J. H.]

In conclusion, we feel confident that our work has not been in vain, and trust that all our noble workers will enter upon the new year with fresh determination to do all they can in the Master's service.

WM. MATHEWS,
Secretary.

Church Extension Building Fund.

From Commencement to June 30, 1909.

RECEIPTS.

To Donations	£542	12	3
Church Collections—			
Saddleworth	5	0	0
Glenelg	1	1	1
Stirling East	2	0	0
Milang	2	0	0
Willunga	0	11	0
Mile End	2	11	6
York	1	6	6
Grote-st.	8	7	6
Broken Hill	3	19	5
	26	17	0

Interest—

From Loans to Churches	9	13	6
From Savings Bank	6	10	5
	16	3	11
Loans Free of Interest	1090	0	0
	£1675	13	2

PAYMENTS.

By Printing and Stationery	£2	8	0
Loan to Mile End Church	1005	0	0
Less Repaid	100	10	0
	904	10	0
Loan to Broken Hill Church	710	0	0
Less Repaid	25	0	0
	685	0	0
Advance to Maylands Church	102	0	0
Less Cash Received	25	0	0
	77	0	0
Cash in Savings Bank	6	15	2
	£1675	13	2

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

To Loans to Fund	£1090	0	0
Balance	583	5	2
	£1673	5	2
By Loans to Churches	£1666	10	0
Cash	6	15	2
	£1673	5	2

Audited and found correct,

WALTER J. MANNING,
Auditor.
JAS. MANNING,
Treasurer, C.E.B.F.

C.E. Union Report.

It is with great pleasure that we present this our first annual report since the formation of our C.E. Union. We do indeed feel grateful to Almighty God for having put it into the heart of Dr. Clark to ever start this C.E. movement, which has grown to be such a world-wide movement. We rejoice, too, that so many of our churches in South Australia have recognised the value and benefit of such an organisation. It proves itself so to be in the work of its accomplishment, for it stands primarily for the fostering of the spiritual and the prac-

tical, and in so far as it accomplishes that end it is an adjunct to the auxiliaries of the church, and thus we heartily commend it to all.

The record for the past year, which closed July 31, 1909, is an encouraging one. Our membership has increased 18½ per cent. On the rolls there are 436 in our Y.P. societies, as against 418 last September, and 567 in our Junior societies compared with 427 last year, showing a total membership of 1003, an increase of 18 in the Y.P. societies, and 140 in our junior societies. During the year one new society has been formed and has been affiliated with the Union, viz., Broken Hill juniors. At present we have in the Union 10 Y.P. and 11 junior societies. Two new societies have been formed since the close of the year, viz., Henley Beach Y.P. and Grote-st. Boys' Intermediate, and we expect soon to hear of the formation of others.

Of our members 362 from the Y.P. and 201 from the junior societies are members of the church, and during the year 61 from the Y.P. (of which number 33 were from the Broken Hill society) and 50 (of which number 18 were from Mile End society) junior have decided for Christ and have become members of the church.

There are 53 committees in our Y.P., and 42 in our junior societies. These Committees provide ample scope for training along varied lines. The following is a brief summary of some of the special work accomplished during the year. Chapel-st. and Grote-st. societies arranged Xmas cheer concerts, and £5/4/- and £2/10/- respectively was raised to provide Xmas cheer for the poor. Glenelg society organised a sale of work which provided money for a new organ. Glenelg juniors gave £1 to City Mission at Xmas time to provide dinners for the poor, and regularly monthly gifts are made to the poor of the district. Milang juniors planted trees on church's grounds, and beautified the look thereof. Grote-st. juniors held a harvest thanksgiving service and forwarded gifts to the creche; worked for Melbourne Free Kindergarten sale of work; sent toys to Minda and Pt. McLeay. Henley Beach juniors gave £3/2/- to charitable institutions, and distributed books to the tram men. Mile End juniors are collecting stamps to send to some institution. York and Unley juniors sent toys, lollies and cake to the creche and Pt. McLeay respectively. The latter also forwarded three chairs for the new chapel at Pt. McLeay.

In addition to the above, £35/4/- has been given by our Y.P. societies, and £13 1/6 by our junior societies for missions.

60 of our members are teachers in the Sunday Schools.

In order to meet the expenses of printing and postages, each Y.P. society is asked to contribute 2/6 annually, and each junior 1/6 to the funds. We close with a small credit balance.

On March 29, a combined rally was held in the Mile End chapel. This was largely attended, and was of an enthusiastic na-

ture. D. A. Ewers spoke on the "Living Link Idea," and Frank Filmer told us of his work on Pentecost Island.

Four quarterly Executive meetings have been held. These have been seasons of helpful discussion, resulting in blessings to the societies. At the annual business meeting, held in July, the following (who take office after Conference) were unanimously elected for the ensuing year:—President, H. J. Horsell; Vice President, Will. C. Beiler; Secretary, Geo. H. Mauger; Treasurer, Miss Snook; Junior Supt., Miss D. A. Fischer; Quiet Hour Supt., B. W. Manning.

Thus we are encouraged by the records of the past, and desire even a greater usefulness of our societies in the year before us, in the seeking to do our part in the work of the church; for C.E. is not a separate organisation from the church, but part and parcel thereof, as it stands "for Christ and the church."

On behalf of the Executive,

JAS. E. THOMAS, President.
H. J. HORSELL, Vice Pres.
WILL. C. BEILER, Secretary.

The President's Message.

Jas. E. Thomas.

The year that is just closing has been one full of encouragement. There are still those things left undone that we should have done, and we are conscious too of those things amiss in which we have in human weakness erred; *but God has never failed*. For whatever success there has been we give him the glory, and for any failure through our neglect we seek his forgiveness.

The year has been an aggressive one. A new building has been erected at Broken Hill, thus demonstrating again the value of our Church Extension Fund. The gratifying result has been that what was for years a struggling, disheartening work, has become a strong, healthy cause. There have been 70 souls won for Christ since the building has been erected, and this would be sufficient to repay all that which has been spent, and lead to our united thanksgiving. The prospect of the future in Broken Hill is very bright. Kadina and Narracoorte have also prospered, and had good fruit in the harvest field, while Port Pirie and Port Germein, as well as the work on the West Coast, seem full of promise. In the city Maylands is the newest field, and it is to be hoped that a building will soon be erected there. Mile End has practically doubled its membership in the first year, and is a most satisfactory field, while Glenelg is also rejoicing in increased prosperity. The churches that are not needing the assistance of the H.M. Committee are also in a healthy condition, and the general prosperity and continued blessing that has come to the work in this State should make us come to Conference with hearts full of thankfulness to God.

Personally, I have received great kindness from all, and I gratefully tender my appreciation to my brethren for their hearty and considerate support in the work of our Master. This is the Centennial year of our movement, and we are still rejoicing in the influences of the great gathering in Sydney. Some of our brethren have gone to share in and bring back some of the blessings of the wonderful Centennial that will be celebrated at Pittsburg, Pa., U.S.A., in October. Our country as well as city churches have felt the helpful influence of the great mission that has recently been held in Adelaide, and as we look at what has come to us we can say that the tide has been rising. We have come now to the time when the tide, if taken at the flood, will bear us on to greater victories. It is the time *now* to act. May we come to Conference and to the coming year prepared to do our very uttermost to push on the battle against sin and its influences, and bring in the triumph of righteousness by unfurling the banner of our conquering Lord. There are many promising fields needing increased effort, while there are great fields yet to be possessed for our dear Redeemer. May I ask my brethren to come to Conference prepared to *do* great things for God? We must be willing to *attempt* if we are to receive the consequent blessings. God conditions our receiving upon our giving. Give to him our most devoted labors, our consecrated intellect, our freely offered money, and his reward will be an abundant blessing in this world that will prepare us for the countless joys of eternity.

The Church of God has been built and is to still be enlarged in the same way as the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt by Nehemiah. "Together they built the walls, for *they all had a mind to work*." Our little differences would soon be sunk in this one common, God-given purpose, and our *indifference*, which is sometimes our greatest drawback, would be turned to consecrated, willing, constant service, if we could only enter in together into the great divine yearning for the salvation of men. Let us have the mind and heart to *work*. Let this be a common desire. Sword in one hand and trowel in the other, these men of old worked. Our cry to-day is, "God give us men"—not men to preach only—not men to be officers—not men to join the church—not men to sympathise. We need men with all these characteristics and desires, but most of all we need men to *work*—*practising Christians*, who make the great saving purpose of God a part of, and the dominating purpose of their lives. In the name of the Lord Jesus I greet you, my brethren, and ask you lovingly and for his sake, to come to this Conference prepared to *do* great things to help save sin-stricken, starving, dying men.

South Australian Conference,

September 19 to 26.

From the Field.

New Zealand.

OAMARU—On Aug. 18 two previously reported and those who decided later were baptised. In anticipation of the coming mission Bro Mathieson gave an inspiring address from Nehemiah 4: 6. At the gospel service, after a fine discourse concerning Christ as our Priest, a young lady made the good confession. We sorrow at the loss by death of an 11 year old son of Bro. and Sister McGillivray. Several of our members have been passing through times of bodily affliction.—W.K., Aug. 23.

AUCKLAND—Bro. Harris has been placed with the little church at Richmond for a few weeks. He has been holding week-night meetings, with his lantern, and has had large attendances. Last night (Sunday) one young lady made the good confession. At Ponsonby-rd. it has been decided to hold a short prayer meeting at the close of Bro. Turner's address each Sunday evening.—F.D., Aug. 30.

DUNEDIN—During the past three weeks a mission has been conducted at the Tabernacle by W. D. Little (from Invercargill) and W. J. Hastie, the preaching being done by Bro. Little. Good interest has been shown, and seven have confessed Christ. The mission will continue for another week. The church has lost one of its old members in the death of Sister Mrs. McKenzie after a long illness. The deceased was a daughter of the late Andrew Bremner, one of the pioneer members of the church.—L.C.J.S., Aug. 30.

OAMARU—The C.E. society held a Foreign Mission meeting recently, when Mrs. Buckingham, formerly a missionary in India, gave a most interesting address. A number of boys and girls impersonated natives, and many curios were exhibited. A native hut was also shown, and several musical items were rendered. The collection to help support Daniel Shandavu at Bulawayo was very satisfactory.—W.K., Aug. 26.

MATAURA—Yesterday morning we had the pleasure of welcoming to our fellowship John Lowden, who was formerly in fellowship with "Brethren," and is a speaker of some ability. He gave us a good address on "The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ." Our pleasure in receiving him is mingled with regret on account of his immediately moving to Auckland. Doubtless he will prove a help in the church there. We have decided to adopt the envelope system of contributions, and hope by more systematic giving to improve the state of our finances. We are trying to interest "the man on the street" by a short outdoor meeting prior to our usual Sunday evening evangelistic meeting. The Presbyterians, who recently held a ten days' mission, held several outdoor meetings, and so helped to direct to outsider's attention to divine things.—T.J.B., Aug. 30.

Victoria.

CARLTON (Lygon-st.)—Nice meetings morning and evening. Bro. Bagley spoke at both services. Bro. and Sister Houston, from Polkemmet, were present. A young sister who was baptised during the mission was received into fellowship.—J.M.C.

FITZROY TABERNACLE.—Splendid meetings. Bright prospects. One decision Sunday evening.

WINDSOR—A piece of land in a good position has been secured, and preparations for the erection of a chapel are being made.—D.E.P., Sept. 7.

BRIM.—On Aug. 29 and Sept. 1 we celebrated our church anniversary. It was an unqualified success. On Sunday afternoon the building was packed. The writer spoke on "Cant versus Culture." In the evening another crowded house greeted us, when splendid attention was given to a message on "Things that Need Emphasis." On Sept. 1 a tea and public meeting was held. A crowd too big for Brim's largest hall greeted us. A feature of the celebrations was a special choir, which rendered several pieces to the delight of the audiences. A coffee supper in a purely un denominational "barn" brought this delightful series of meetings to a close.—HENRY BAKER, Sept. 4.

WEDDERBURN.—We are working unitedly together. The object in view is a revival mission to commence on Sept. 5. Bro. Jinks is to be the missionary in conjunction with the writer. Bro. Jinks is a powerful advocate for the primitive order as contained in God's word. We realise also the importance of prayer. We ask the prayers of God's people for this effort.—J. A. MILLAR, Aug. 30.

FOOTSCRAY.—The cause is on the up grade. All departments of church work are flourishing. A young man received the hand of fellowship; he was baptised at Nth. Richmond. Splendid interest manifested by the public. Inspiring meeting last Lord's day evening. At the close of J. E. Allan's sermon on "An Important Answer" (Acts 2: 38), eight souls confessed their faith in Christ.—Sept. 6.

CASTLEMAINE.—Last night's meeting was the largest I have ever had here. Two baptised believers united with us. One of these was until recently a prominent Presbyterian. He is a good preacher, and trained and conducted the choir in the recent united mission. He was baptised by the Baptist minister some weeks ago but did not unite with them, and came to me at the conclusion of last Thursday night's public meeting and announced his decision to unite with us. Our brethren are cheered and encouraged by the state of the work here. The church desires to thank Bro. Dr. Cook, Collins, Jinks, and Clipstone for their presence and sympathy at the public meeting held recently.—H.P.L.

MELBOURNE (Swanston-st.)—Nice meetings last Lord's day. Amongst the visitors were Bro. and Sister Thomas, of Terang, Bro. and Sister Richards, of Owen, S.A. J. Pittman exhorted very acceptably and kindly took the Bible Class in the afternoon. Bro. Harward preached to a large congregation in the evening. One received into membership by letter. Bro. Gordon was away all day at Dandenong, assisting at the anniversary services of the church there, which were most successful.

CHELTENHAM.—Good meetings all day. Helpful exhortation by F. G. Dunn. School met in the chapel, as school building is being ceiled, plastered and divided into class-rooms. One decision at night, a young man. Wedding during the week—Mr. Harold Judd and Miss R. E. Mather. Much illness at present; Bro. Bodley very ill.—T.B.F.

BRUNSWICK.—C. A. Quick gave a very outspoken address to the church, reminding it of its financial responsibility. Fine gospel service, when our evangelist spoke on Jesus being the sin-bearer. Many strangers present. Offering for Bible College amounted to £17/6.—W.T., Sept. 6.

ST. ARNAUD.—We had 70 at the gospel meeting last night. A number of strangers, and good attention. Bro. Burge, from Wedderburn, was among the members. The writer has been at a disadvantage of late on account of the return of his old enemy sciatica. Bro. Barney still lingers on in the hospital. This town was very fortunate in escaping so well the floods,

whilst on all sides disastrous results were being recorded.—W.G.O.

DANDENONG.—Our anniversary proved a time of blessing and joy. C. M. Gordon had a helpful message for the church in the morning. The Town Hall was nicely filled at 3 p.m. to hear his thoughtful address on "The Everlasting Book." Again at 7 in the same place a large audience listened attentively to his message on "The Stolen Christ." On Monday evening the chapel was filled, when Bro. Bagley and Fischer gave inspiring talks, and with music, etc., by others, made a very enjoyable meeting. Our meetings were much helped and pleasures multiplied by the kind friends who came from sister churches and assisted us in musical and other ways.

ASCOT VALE.—On Aug. 25 a members' social was held to bid farewell to our evangelist, C. A. Wilson, prior to his departure for New Zealand. Robt. Conning occupied the chair, and referred to the good work that had been accomplished under our brother's ministrations in both the church and the young men's Bible class. Thos. McCallum, on behalf of the church, spoke of the esteem in which our brother was held by the congregation. An interesting programme was gone through. The chairman, on behalf of the church, presented Bro. Wilson with a handsome electroplated teapot and cake stand; W. A. Kemp, on behalf of the C.E. Society, with a gold C.E. pin; and D. R. Moncur, on behalf of the young men's Bible class, with their portraits grouped in a handsome frame suitably inscribed. Bro. Wilson suitably responded.—J. Y. POTTS

West Australia.

SUBIACO.—Good meetings to day. One confession to-night. Bro. Langley passed away suddenly last Friday night, and was laid to rest to day, Bro. Banks conducting the service. Our Y.P.S.C.E. is now a very strong and growing society, and is a source of blessing.—A.W.M.

South Australia.

KADINA.—At the young people's meeting last Monday a young man and a lad made the good confession. The following Thursday evening three married women and a young girl confessed Christ. We had a special meeting this morning. To-night the gospel was proclaimed to a full house.—E. G. WARREN, Sept. 5.

WALLAROO AND BEWS.—Our Bews brethren have made some nice alterations in their building. A new ceiling and a new floor have been put in. The building looks very neat. Bro. Neil and Easton went down to Wallaroo this morning and had a good meeting. Bro. Tuckwell, sen., exhorted the church.—E. G. WARREN.

MILE END.—Three were received into fellowship yesterday morning, when Bro. Riches addressed the church. In the evening Bro. Gore, from Unley, preached to a large congregation.—R.H., Sept. 6.

QUEENSTOWN.—Sept. 4 being our esteemed evangelist's birthday, the officers and their wives to the number of 22, with Bro. Hawkes, decided to pay a surprise visit to Bro. and Sister Brooker. Several of the officers spoke of the noble work done by our brother, who feelingly responded. A most enjoyable evening was spent. Lord's day, 103 broke bread. Bro. Hawkes exhorted. In the evening the building was packed. Bro. Brooker delivered an impressive address.—A.P.B., Sept. 6.

Continued on page 518.

THE SOCIETY OF

Christian Endeavor

"For Christ and the Church."

CONDUCTED BY A. R. MAIN.

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

THE NAMES WE SHOULD WEAR.

Topic for September 27.

Suggested Readings.

I Cor. 1: 10-17. I Cor. 3: 1-5. Rom. 16: 16. Acts 11: 26. I Cor. 1: 1, 2. Gal. 1: 1, 2. I Peter 4: 12-19.

Obviously this topic refers to names from the religious point of view. It says nothing for or against Kitchener or Mafeking babies, and neither commends or condemns the many-worded, rather awe-inspiring names we sometimes encounter.

When we ask the question, What should a man be called religiously? we shall probably be met by the objection that names are of no consequence. Many folk would seem to regard the poet's "What's in a name," etc., as an inspired retort.

Are names of no account?

If names must go for naught in the religious world, we have here another great line of demarcation between natural things and spiritual. Hardly would one venture to say that in ordinary life it mattered not what we are called or call others, or what and how names are used. The fact is, folk have a considerable interest in their names, and are often exceedingly jealous of them. Put in an "i" where there ought to be a "y," or leave out an "e," to say nothing of a "de," and you'd have to repeat "What's in a name?" ten times over before the offended person would have cooled down enough to listen to an explanation. People like to be called by their proper names, as the "nomenclators" of olden time attest, as indeed do all our feelings. Names are things to be respected, and must not be used lightly, on the pretext that they are as it were common property, or at least of little moment. People who make these protests in the natural world are very apt to reconsider the soundness of their reasoning when they lie in jail on a charge of forgery.

It is wonderfully curious that it is only with religious nomenclature that the plea of indifference has been made. Of course those who say this do not mean it absolutely. They do not really believe that it matters little whether you speak of a Buddhist or a Zoroastrian. They quite agree that there is some real difference denoted by the differing names Mohammedan and Christian. Indeed, I fancy that I have known some who pleaded for the intrinsic unimportance of a name, who would have felt hurt if you had called them Roman Catholics, when they were celebrating the twelfth of July!

Since names mean something, they cannot be quite indifferent. It is right to call a person anything he really is. Our topic naturally resolves itself into a plea for

Scriptural names.

We plead for Scriptural names because we receive the Bible as an all-sufficient rule of religious faith and practice. If it be not that, then you can wear any name you please. But you cannot place the Bible in its rightful place, and ignore the Scriptural names. The factious spirit and use of human names are condemned in our first two readings. Looking at the readings suggested, we find the following names used of Christians as individuals: saints, disciples, Christians. Again, our readings speak of "churches of Christ," and "church of God." It is right to use these names. They are plainly all used with apostolic approval.

Let us add here that there are two ways in which the rule to use Scriptural names works: (a) Do not go outside these names. For instance, I am a member of the church of God. I am not a member of the Presbyterian Church, or Baptist Church, or Christian Church, or Disciples' Church. (b) Use all the Bible names. I have heard some brethren suggest that it might be that we could get union by dropping the name "church of Christ," and adopting some other Scriptural name instead. That way madness—or at least sectarianism—lies. I am not now, and never intend to be a member of the church of Christ as distinct from the church of God, or vice versa. I have not the slightest intention of being a Christian as distinct from a disciple, or vice versa. I should like to be, in the Scriptural sense, at once a disciple and Christian, and saint, and a brother—all of these at once, and neither apart of the other.

Scriptural names Scripturally used.

The end of the preceding paragraph suggests just a slight advance. Scriptural names must be used in Scriptural senses. Bible names must be given to Bible things. It would be a violence of this principle either to call a disciple by a human, denominational name, or to call a non-Christian a disciple. But again, it must be borne in mind, that it would be quite possible to use a Scriptural title in a purely sectarian sense. If I were to speak of "the Brethren," "the Disciples," "the Christians," "the Church of Christ," "the Church of God," deliberately meaning only a part of God's people or of his church, and knowing all the time there were some Christian folk outside, I should be using sectarian language. There is just a danger that we may lightly fall into this error. It ought diligently to be guarded against.

Two great reasons.

There are other two great reasons why Christian people should be content with Scriptural names. The first is that thus the Lord will be honored more. It surely needs no argument to support the view that the names Christians, disciples, church of God, honor God and his Christ more than do names derived from ordinances, forms of church government, etc. Every believer will love to glorify the name of Jesus and of our Father in heaven. By being content to wear only Bible names, he may give this honor.

The second reason is that the Scriptural use of Scriptural names must tend to unite the people of God. As a sad fact it has been found that

when a division has been made and a name adopted to distinguish the withdrawing party, that new name has continued to work to maintain the division. Human names have associations clustering round them; they often become more and more revered, and are hard to give up. In every scheme to further the cause of Christian union, the name question must play an important part. In some cases where theoretical agreement was reached on most points besides, the loved denominational name proved a stumbling block. In some conferences between Baptists and those who have discarded human names, this has been the case. It cannot be that all believers unite under a human name. It is unthinkable that any one denominational name could be acceptable to all denominations. It is equally incredible that those who believe the Bible to be a rule on this, as in other things, can agree to the formation and wearing of any unscriptural title. But every believer in Jesus Christ is proud to be a Christian, it is nothing derogatory to any one to say he is a disciple, a saint, one of the family of God. No congregation of believers but would rejoice to be numbered with the churches of Christ, and to be called a church of God. All alike feel proud to belong to the church which the Saviour purchased with his own blood. It is because all believers can rejoice in these Scriptural names that they tend to union, in contradistinction to human names, which support division.

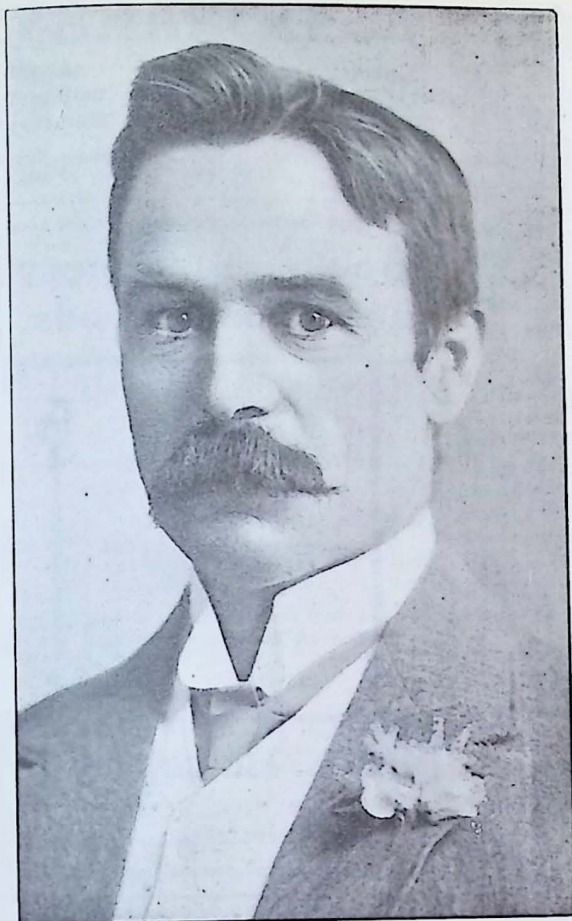
Objections.

In what has just been said there has been implied an answer to two very common objections to our insistence on the use of Bible names. One of these is that by using the Scriptural names we seem to arrogate to ourselves titles which are equally the property of others. We are often charged with trying to monopolise the names. This has already been answered in saying these names are advisable because all can accept them: they are uniting, not disuniting names. But it may be added that when I wear the name of Christian, I am not saying any one else is not; I merely say I am. Every one who has come into Christ in a Scriptural way and is abiding in him, has the right to the name. So far from wishing others not to wear the name, we wish all to be content with it.

The second objection made to our plea for Scriptural names in order to union is that, if names are to be given up, there must be compromise all round; so we should be prepared to sacrifice our beloved nomenclature too. In addition to what has been said by way of implied answer already, we can only add (1) Bible names are not on the same level with human names. In the latter case we give up *ours*; in the former, we would give up what is really *not* ours. (2) We have already made the sacrifice of all human names in order to union and adherence to the Bible, and therefore merely lovingly invite others to make the sacrifice we have already made. We really do not ask them to do something we have not been prepared to do.

"THAT THEY ALL MAY BE ONE,"

Paper, 1/-; posted, 1/4. Cloth, 2/- posted, 2/6



T. Ryan, M.P.

We have pleasure in presenting to our readers a photo of Bro. Thomas Ryan, who has recently been honored by being elected to fill the seat in the S.A. Parliament that was made vacant by the lamented death of the Premier of that State — the Hon. Thomas Price. Bro. Ryan joined the church at Milang some 20 years ago, under the preaching of the esteemed grandfather of C. M. Gordon and brothers. For many years he toiled as others have done to improve himself and become fitted for the life for which he was ambitious. He has been a prominent worker in literary societies, and won many competitions for impromptu and prepared speaking. He has been an earnest temperance worker, and pronounced in his anti-gambling views. He has recently been elected as a deacon in the church at Grote-st. His wife is the daughter of W. Moffit, of Pt. Pirie. However we may differ from him politically, we can heartily join in congratulating one of our brethren who has been so honored by his fellow-citizens, and thought worthy of occupying so high a position in the Government of his country. Our S.A. churches have now three brethren among them who have been given a place in the Parliaments of our land. K. W. Duncan is in the State Parliament, and E. L. Batchelor is a member of the Federal Parliament. We wish for these brethren that they may long be spared to glorify God in whatever service they may be called upon to render to their country.

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Hints for S.A. Conference.

1. We desire to start all meetings at the time arranged. Please help us by being "on time."

2. Leaders of the devotional meetings will be punctual and ready to commence. See that you are seated in the chapel, and not outside the building at the hour of service, so the leader can start and have your help.

3. As we need God's guidance in the deliberations of the Conference, we commence each session with prayer. It is necessary you should be there. Let these meetings be a feature of the Conference.

4. Delegates selected by the churches are asked to sit in the front seats in middle row of the chapel. Only *two* delegates are to vote. Please select these two, or arrange who takes his place if one is absent.

5. In order that all business may be done harmoniously, address all your remarks to the President, and respect his ruling in decisions given.

6. As we have so much business to transact this time, it was necessary to arrange *three whole days* of sessions this Conference. This is the first time we have had three full day sittings. *The third day (Wednesday) is just as important as the first day.* Conference Essay is given that day, and delegates will be called upon to vote on proposals which may have far-reaching results.

7. Read up the reports in this issue of the AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN, in order that you may

be fully acquainted with them, and thus save precious time by *not asking needless questions*. On the other hand, be ready to help in discussing items when the time comes. We want frank, full, and fair discussion.

8. Particularly note these matters:—Church Extension Building Fund; a chapel for Maylands; evangelistic work at Murray Bridge, Tumby Bay, and Mount Gambier; Organising Secretary; work of past year in H.M. fields.

9. Remember, meetings every night during the week, all good meetings, and each one as good as the others. It will take *many* people to fill the Exhibition. Come yourself, bring your friends, talk about it to everybody, and *crowd the building*. You will need to be early to obtain a seat at the Temperance and C.E. Demonstrations at Grote-st. chapel, Sept. 22 and 23.

10. The Christian Endeavor Societies have a little time given them on Wednesday afternoon. Come and get more acquainted with this splendid means of strength to our young people.

11. Sisters' Conference on Thursday. Women of the churches, rally up! Make this year's meetings the very best. We heartily thank you for the splendid help given to Home and Foreign Missions. May God bless your efforts to extend his cause.

12. Encourage our Sunday School work. Boom Foreign Missions. Miss Mary Thompson (on furlough) and Miss Edith Terrell (who goes to India) will speak Monday night.

H. J. HORSELL, Conf Sec.

From the Field—Continued.

MILANG.—Bro. Hall has been doing a good work during the past twelve months. During last week's mission, conducted by C. Wilson, six made the confession, four of them being S.S. scholars. Splendid meetings. A baptismal service was held last Thursday afternoon. We had a good meeting this morning, and this evening Bro. Wilson preached to a large audience, when one more made the good confession. We have appreciated E. Fisher's help as leader of the singing, which has been bright, also the solos sung by Sister Leedham.—S. H. GOLDSWORTHY, Sept. 5.

GROTE-ST.—A very helpful evening was spent on Aug. 17, when the F.M. Band held its annual social. We were favored with a very earnest address from Mrs. Thompson, a returned missionary from India, and one from Mr. Raws, of Knightsbridge. Extracts were read from letters received from Miss Tonkin, of China, and Yaqub Masih, India. This morning four sisters were received into membership, three of whom, Sisters Ellen and Edith Craigie and Eva Gully, were commended by letter from Bentham st. Sorrow has come to the home of our Bro. and Sister Lewis, their little baby being suddenly taken away. This is the first member of our Cradle Roll that has gone to be with Jesus. Last Tuesday week the teachers of the S.S. had tea together and said good bye to Sister Ida Hancock. A number of the teachers and the supt. spoke of her work in the school, and wished her an enjoyable trip to America and a safe return home. Crowded meeting to-night, Bro. Thomas preaching. E.R.M., Sept. 5.

YORK.—The meetings to day were particularly arranged for the young of our congregation. The writer gave three addresses. The teachers, the church and the preacher had for the past four weeks prayed for decisions. We had grand meetings. In the afternoon the parents and children attentively listened to the topic, "Making a Choice." At night a full house. Subject, "Friends of Jesus." Five Sunday School scholars confessed Jesus.—H.J.H., Sept. 5.

New South Wales.

LISMORE.—A very pretty wedding took place at the Lismore Tabernacle, when Cecil Savill and Sister Miriam Furlonger were united in matrimony by F. T. Saunders, evangelist. The bride was given away by her father, F. R. Furlonger. The bridesmaids were Sister K. Furlonger and Miriam Riley. The happy couple were the recipients of a large number of presents.

BROKEN HILL.—We held our first S.S. anniversary last Lord's day. In the afternoon the scholars rendered a service of song, "Tim's Special," under the baton of Bro. Wright. Sister House presided at the organ. In the evening Bro. Tuck gave an interesting address to a large audience, and special items were given by the scholars. The following Wednesday the scholars' tea was held, after which the parents and friends had tea, followed by a public meeting, presided over by Bro. Mossop (superintendent). Addresses were given by Bro. Tuck and Mr. French (Methodist). The secretary's report was very encouraging, showing 125 scholars on the roll, an increase of 77 since we entered our building 7 months ago. 27 scholars have confessed their faith in Christ during that time. 49 of the scholars are members of the church. Finances showed a credit balance of £3. Bro. Mossop distributed several prizes won by the scholars.—R. J. HOUSE.

PADDINGTON.—Good meetings on Sunday. Three confessions at night—scholars from the Sunday School.

MEREWETHER.—On Friday night the choir, Bible Class and Christian Band gave Bro. Neville, evangelist, a surprise party on the occasion of his birthday, and presented him with a beautiful pair of sleeve-links. Joseph Fraser, junr., in making the presentation, spoke very highly of the good qualities of our brother in dealing with the young. We never had such a Bible Class in Merewether. Bro. Lawrie spoke on behalf of the Christian Band, and James Fraser on behalf of the officers. The sisters provided refreshments.—JOSEPH FRASER, junr., Sept. 5.

Queensland.

ZILLMERE.—On Aug. 29 we had a visit from Bro. Tuck, of Brisbane. He came early in the morning to address the S.S., then exhorted the church and gave a splendid gospel song service at night. Our brother comes a long way, and is getting up in years, besides having an invalid wife. We pray our Father will uphold him and give him strength for more service.—J.B.

Here & There.

Decisions reported in this issue, 41.

Owing to pressure on our space, the story has had to be held over this week.

The General Dorcas (Vic) will meet on Thursday, 16th inst., at Swanston-st., from 10 to 30 a.m.

On going to press we received the news that Bro. Bardsley, senr., of Eumore, N.S.W., had just passed away.

T. Bagley has accepted an engagement with the Victorian H.M. Committee as State Evangelist, and will commence his new work about November next.

Miss Mary Thompson leaves Melbourne on Monday, Sept. 13, by the Adelaide express, at 4.30 p.m. We hope a good number of friends will be present to say farewell.

We have received an interesting account of the meeting at Castlemaine at which Bro. Leng defended himself against the attack of the Ministerial Association. As we have no room for it in this issue, it will appear next week.

To members in and around Sydney:—Do not fail to attend the Home Mission tea and rally on Tuesday next at City Temple. A happy sociable tea for 6d. A lively song service, and an inspiring rally, free. Last year's gathering was the best on record. This should surpass it.

H. L. Pang desires to thank the teachers and scholars of the Chinese Mission, Sydney, for their kindness to him on his return from China in arranging a welcome social for Mrs. Pang and himself. Although they were unfortunately unable to attend, they appreciate very highly the kind thought of the brethren and sisters.

The last week's tour of Miss Thompson is as follows:—Sept. 12, 3 p.m., Collingwood; 13th, Ballarat, 8 p.m.; 14th, Stawell, 8 p.m.; 15th, Horsham, 8 p.m.; 16th, Kaniva, 8 p.m.; 17th, Bordertown, 8 p.m. She will reach Adelaide on the arrival of the Melbourne express at 9.55 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 19, in time to take part in the 5th. Australian Conference.

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Miss Ella Hart, whose concert appears under Coming Events, is a valued worker in the church at Dandenong. In the judgment of musical critics, Miss Hart has before her a brilliant career as a violinist. We wish her every success in her opening concert. Miss Hart is a daughter of our late esteemed brother, John Hart, whose loss was so keenly felt by the church at Dandenong. We trust our members will patronise the concert.

From Manchester, England, we have received word that there were 18 confessions at F. Pittman's meeting in that city on Aug. 1, amongst those who came forward being his son Clarence. On the previous Sunday there were three decisions. Bro. Pittman has had the joy of taking many confessions in Great Britain. After touring the Old Country for four months, he sailed with his wife and child for New York on August 7. He expects to return to Australia about the end of the year. Any church desirous of securing his services as evangelist should write to Mr. J. Pittman, 177 Fitzroy-st., St. Kilda, Victoria.

A meeting in the interests of the College of the Bible was held at Swanston-st. chapel on Thursday evening, Sept. 2. The Principal, H. G. Harward, presided, and the students provided the programme. Solos were given by J. E. Shipway, S.A. ("The King's Own") and J. Binney, S.A. ("Into Thy Hand"). C. A. Batt, N.Z., read a paper ("Ambitious Christians"), and F. Goodwin, Vic., spoke on "The Preacher's Passion." These items were followed by an enjoyable debate on the proposition "That Aerial Navigation should be Encouraged." A. Strongman and A. B. Chappell affirmed, and R. T. Pittman and W. H. Nightingale denied. C. M. Gordon, P. A. Dickson and W. McCallum adjudicated, and awarded points as follows:—Affirmative, 161; negative, 1653. The gathering, which was large and representative, heartily appreciated the efforts of the students.

The official farewell meeting tendered to Sisters Thompson and Terrell took place at Nth. Fitzroy on Tuesday, August 31. R. Lyall presided over a large representative meeting. The following spoke words of farewell:—Mrs. E. Davies on behalf of the Sisters' Conference; T. Bagley as President of the H.M. Committee; F. M. Ludbrook as Sec. of the F.M. Committee, and T. B. Fischer as Vice-President of the C.E. and S.S. Unions. Bro. Ludbrook presented the departing missionaries with useful gifts in the shape of books, also handing over a few books to take to India as a token of remembrance to Bro. and Sister Strutton. Greetings were also sent to S. Ludbrook. Letters just arrived from Pentecost Island were read by T. B. Fischer. Bright items were given by friends as follows:—Solo, J. Binney, "Ill Go where You Want Me"; recitation, Miss Auld, "Inasmuch"; solos, Mrs. Roy Thompson, "How Beautiful" and "God be With You"; solo, Mr. F. Barnden, "If with All your Hearts." Responses and short addresses were given by Sisters Thompson and Terrell.

Coming Events.

SEPTEMBER 12 & 14.—Collingwood S.S. anniversary. Sunday, at 3. Address, Miss Thompson. Distribution of Prizes; 7. Gospel Address, H. G. Harward. Tuesday, Bioscope Concert. Good Programme. Admission, 6d.

SEPTEMBER 13.—The Annual Teachers' Conference and Social will be held in the Swanston-st. chapel at 8 p.m. on the above date. All interested in S.S. work are invited. Good programme arranged. Come.—J. Y. Potts.

SEPTEMBER 14.—Big United Annual Home Mission Tea and Rally, City Temple, Campbell-st., Sydney, Tuesday, Sept. 14, 1909. Tea Tickets, 6d. First Sitting, 6.15 p.m. Song Service, 7.15. Rally, 7.45. Geo. T. Walden in the chair. Addresses by S. G. Griffith, on "Our Duty to Home Missions," Chas. Watt, on "The Value of Home Missions." Recitation by Miss Stella Kingsbury. Musical Programme by Churches of Christ Musical Union. An Offering for Home Mission Work will be taken. A Large Crowd Expected, so COME EARLY. Last year's meeting reached the standard set—the largest in the history of our work in N.S.W. Let this surpass it.

SEPTEMBER 15.—Violin Recital, by Ella Hart, Independent Hall, Collins-st., Wednesday, September 15, 8 p.m. Assisted by—Misses Ina Mornemen, Lilian Reid, Hilda Hart and Mr. Edwin Ure. Tickets at Glen's—3/- and 2/-. Mr. W. Edwards, Musical Director.

SEPTEMBER 16.—The Foreign Mission Study Class will meet in the Lecture Hall at the rear of the Swanston-st. chapel on Thursday, September 16, at 8 p.m. Leader, Mr. P. A. Dickson. Subject, "Day-break in the Dark Continent,"—Africa. All are cordially invited to attend.

IN MEMORIAM.

CRISP.—In loving memory of our beloved son, Charles, who went home from Dandenong, Sept. 13, 1908.

"Until the day breaks, and the shadows flee away."
—Mother and Father.

CRISP.—In loving memory of our dear husband and father, Charles C. Crisp, who went home from Dandenong Sept. 13, 1908.

"So long thy power hath blessed me, sure it still
Will lead me on,
O'er moor and fen, o'er crag and torrent, till
The night is gone,
And with the morn those angel faces smile
Which we have loved long since, and lost awhile."

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Christian Union.

I much enjoyed your leader in reply to the *Age's* criticism of our plea for Christian union. If all our members could be induced to digest that article it would be a fine thing for the cause of Christ in the Commonwealth. I am enclosing copy of portion of a letter dealing with Christian union which I penned to a Presbyterian minister a few months ago:—While it is true that the subject of Christian union is exercising the minds of some amongst the denominations, the churches of Christ have for a hundred years made the advocacy of this subject a prominent feature of their work. And as regards the basis of union, which we advocate, our position is unique. Many suggested schemes for union are colored by a disregard for the teaching for Jesus, amounting in some cases to nothing more than an agreement to ignore certain of his commands. The foundation upon which we propose Christian union implies a complete personal surrender, and unqualified obedience to the Christ; this only we understand to be Christian union. Loyalty to Jesus is the only sectarian antitoxin. If the Pope has no authority from Christ to prescribe laws for the churches, neither have the churches any authority from Christ to prescribe laws for the Pope or anybody else. In all matters of religion we must see no man save Jesus. The following Scriptures imply this:—"God hath at the end of these days spoken unto us in his Son" (Heb. 1: 1); "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased: hear ye him" (Matt. 17: 5); "To him shall ye hearken, in all things whatsoever he shall speak unto you" (Acts 3: 22); "God gave him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body" (Eph. 1: 22); "In vain do they worship me, teaching as their doctrines the precepts of men" (Matt. 15: 9); "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say" (Luke 6: 46); "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5: 29).—JAS. LEACH.

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