

THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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G. R. STIRLING, B.A., takes us to the . . .

Gateway of India

Early in the morning of Wednesday, Aug. 31, Bruce Coventry came on board the Orion at Bombay to meet A. D. Pyne (Federal President, Australian Churches of Christ), Mrs. Stirling and myself. Bombay is the gateway to India, with its seven-mile wide harbor crammed with ships — a harbor that handles nearly half of India's exports and imports. It has about five million people crammed into it. Bruce Coventry was an excellent guide, knowing the most interesting places to visit and how to get to them, and also how to keep at bay the hundreds of tragic beggars who came with their pathetic cry, "Bengleesh munney."

The streets of the city and suburbs were thronged with people, many of them carrying enormous bundles on their heads. Bullock carts jostled with taxis, buses and cars. At the great electric train terminal we met Mr. Bhole, who is a technician in Electrical Maintenance. He is the chairman of the Church of Christ group in Bombay, which numbers some 150 people. They have all come to Bombay from our Indian Mission area in order to work there. Most of them grew up in our Homes, or in Christian families in Dhond, Baramati, Shrigonda or Dhorja. They are all worshipping with other churches in Bombay, for up till now we have had no church in the City. They meet once a month as a fellowship on a Sunday night in the Robinson Memorial Methodist Church, and they meet regularly on Saturday evenings in one another's homes. Attendances average over 30 on Sun-

days and over 20 on Saturdays, many of them travelling up to 15 miles to attend. The great city sprawled over 40 miles and our folk are scattered across it, though mainly centred in the rapidly developing industrial areas.



Manohur Jadhav and his Father.

We set out by train to Ghat Kopar (Elbow in the Mountain), travelling third class. It gave, one a sense of sympathy for sardines. People were hanging out of doors and onto steps, because there was no room elsewhere. Ghat Kopar is the beginning of the section of Bombay where most of our people live, an area extending 11 to 20 miles from the City centre.

From there we went by taxi along an arterial road lined with great new factories which provide employment for thousands of people. We also passed through bazaars, and stopped to see an elephant and a small procession. Soon we reached the great plant of Automobile Products of

India, whose specialty is Lambretta motor scooters and Meadows diesel engines. Here we met the secretary of our Churches of Christ Fellowship in Bombay, smiling Paulus Adhav, who was brought up at Baramati and Dhond, and who spoke fondly of Drs. Oldfield and Michael. On another lathe was Timothy, one of our Dhorja boys, who is doing well, and on the way to promotion. We were shown over the factory by the British liaison officer, Mr. Singleton. Then and there Mr. Coventry arranged for him to employ four more of our boys who are graduating from the Mission. Mr. Singleton spoke of another of our young men, Manohur Jadhav, a fireman, who is with the firm. He said, "If you have any more like him, we'll take as many as you can send."

Manohur Jadhav was with us all the afternoon, and we were impressed by this splendid young Christian. He is a married man, with two sons. His father was a member of the criminal tribes, and was brought to Christ by H. R. Coventry many years ago. In the nearby suburb of Bhandup lives another of our families, whose menfolk also work at A.P.I. Here we met beautiful Kamal Divekar, once at Shrigonda, and the close friend of Judith Coventry. She is now married, and living with her husband's family. They live in one of the better housing areas, with communal toilets instead of none at all. The drain runs down the centre of the alley-way between houses, to carry away washing water and other drainage. In some areas, the drain and alley are the same. The houses are in one long line, facing one another. Each "house" consists of one room, about 12 ft. by 12 ft. Rentals for such "houses" are about £4 to £6 a month, and up to 16 people may live in each. Eight people live in the Divekar house. We were invited inside. There is no furniture, and we sat on mats on the floor, which was spotless. A corner recess was reserved for open-fire cooking. The brass pots and pans and water containers were shining bright. Small shelves and cabinets hung from the walls. Light mattresses used at night were neatly stacked in a corner. Two suitcases contained most of their clothing, and there were neat stacks of school books belonging to the two younger boys, who were both as bright as buttons, and hoping to be doctors. The family Bible was brought out, and Bruce Coventry read. Allan Pyne led in prayer, with Bruce Coventry translating. For the first time in history, a Federal President of Australian Churches of Christ was ministering to the Bombay Church of Christ.

(To be continued next week).



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NOTES FROM THE READINGS

As Suggested for

Sunday, October 23

JUDGES 2: 7-23.

After Joshua's death, a generation arose that adopted the idolatrous customs of the nations around them, and, as a judgment from God, often suffered at their enemies' hands. Occasionally, God raised up judge-deliverers, but their work led to no lasting repentance by the people.

"**Baalim**" (v. 11). — The plural of Baal. These were local gods, worshipped by the Canaanites.

"**Ashtaroth**" (v. 13). — The plural of Astarte, "the Canaanite fertility and war goddess" (Myers).

"**spillers**" (v. 14). — Plunderers, marauders.

"**judges**" (v. 16). — "Champions" (Smith); "heroes" (Moffatt). "They were leaders or persons of power upon whom the community looked with respect; they were not lawyers" (Myers).

"**prove**" (v. 22). — "Test."

2 CORINTHIANS 8: 1-15.

Paul cites, as inspiring examples, the Macedonian churches' giving to help the needy in Jerusalem, and Christ's own self-giving. He urges the Corinthians to show a similar generosity.

"**we do you to wit**" (v. 1). — "We want you to know" (R.S.V.).

"**abounded unto the riches**" (v. 2). — "Poured out a flood of rich generosity" (Moffatt).

"**to their power**" (v. 3). — "To the limit of their means" (Phillips).

"**first gave their own selves**" (v. 5). — "The root of liberality is the consecrated spirit" (Reid).

"**as he had begun**" (v. 6). — "Paul has asked Titus, who had started the arrangements for this fund at Corinth, to visit the church to see the scheme through to a successful result" (Howard).

"**by occasion of the forwardness**" (v. 8). — "Only using the zeal of others to prove how sterling your own love is" (Moffatt).

"**according to that a man hath**" (v. 12). — "God does not ask for what we have not got. He judges our liberality in relation to the means we possess, not by the amount we actually give" (Reid).

"**by an equality**" (v. 14). — "At present it is within their power to help the Christians at Jerusalem. Later on the position may be reversed. The position of equalised supply is taught in the story of the manna" (Howard).

The Church Must Proclaim Its Faith

All over the world today rise voices clamoring to be heard. Even the leaders of the nations are using the United Nations as a sounding-board for the things they want the world to know. In the midst of these harshly competing voices the Church must make itself heard, not with the sighings of yesteryear but with a living word for our day. If, as we so often assert, "Jesus Christ is the answer," the Church must see to it that every available means is used to make his message heard.

It must

PREACH JESUS

— and the *real* Jesus, not the pious caricature we sometimes make of him when we cut him down to our size. It must preach the strong Son of God, who stood so stoutly for right against wrong, for truth against falsehood, that men either had to listen to him or get rid of him. It must present the Man who dared to attack the racial bigotries of his day, and even made outcasts the heroes of some of his stories. It must reveal him as the Champion of the poor, who knew how to burn with anger at man's inhumanity to man.

The Jesus who comes striding out at us from the pages of the New Testament is altogether different from the "gentle Jesus, meek and mild" of our childhood. H. G. Wells discovered that. Though he turned from Christianity, he admitted that Jesus seriously disturbed him. "He was like some terrible moral huntsman," he wrote, "digging mankind out of the snug burrows in which they had lived hitherto . . . To take him seriously was to enter upon a strange and alarming life, to abandon habits, to control instincts and impulses, to essay an incredible happiness . . . Is it any wonder that to this day this Galilean is too much for our small hearts?"

Those last words are penetrating. Is that why we so rarely dare to listen to *all* that this disturbing Jesus has to say? But the Church must

PREACH HIS TRUTH

— all of it — without fear or favor, if it is to be true to its Master.

Our trouble is that we like to make our own selections. We prefer his comfort to his challenge. On the shelves of the Melbourne Public Library is an attractively bound book, with the soothing title, *The Bedside Bible*. It is made up of a selection of the most comforting and hopeful verses in the Bible. Obviously, the editor meant this as the kind of book you could leave with the sick. But in the Bible comfort and challenge belong together; you can't divorce one from the other without losing something vital.

As a contrast, this writer sat down one day, and gathered together all the words of Jesus recorded in the four Gospels. In went the so-called "hard sayings" as well as the great words of comfort and hope. Then, when the list was complete, the words were read through slowly, again and again. They hit home with new force and meaning. Here spoke the revolutionary Christ, with daring principles and precepts that tore the mask from war and hate, injustice and oppression, prejudice and power for power's sake, and showed them up as the evil things they are. Yet these are the sayings we so often automatically tone down, accommodating their greatness to our littleness, more intent on explaining them away than daring to believe they *can* be lived out — with his help. Harold Bosley has said, "We have fought against the full meaning of those insights from the very beginning of our Christian experience. We have wanted them close enough to gain comfort from them . . . but not too close; near but not too near; powerful but not too powerful."

But the Church, to be effective in our day, must listen to him now as it has never dared to listen before. It must see to it that his message, in its fulness, gets through to the people. It must

PREACH SALVATION

with all the fervor of the old-time evangelist, coupled with the passion of those who "hunger and thirst for righteousness" in the whole of men's living.

Jesus can do it, we say. He can change the individual, he can redeem society. His words have saving, as well as judging, power. He can be for this generation what he was for Paul — "Christ our hope." But he must be preached in his fulness; no sectional Christ will do. No Figure imprisoned in stained-glass windows or traditions and creeds can save this age; such a would-be Saviour is remoter now than our sputnik-circled moon.

He must be shown to be where he always is — in the midst of human need. His call to repentance, his promise of forgiveness, his gift of salvation, his passion for God's Kingdom — these must be made urgent and real in the Church's preaching. For if ever an age needed such a Saviour, it is this so-called "world of nuclear giants and ethical infants." At a time when the best brains of the world shudder to think where we are heading, the Church must take its stand anew on the great, positive certainties of its faith. It must preach Jesus, his judging word, his saving act, in a way that will *make* men listen!

HANDS ACROSS THE TASMAN

ECUMENICAL.

Canon Alan Richardson, well-known Church of England Professor, recently paid a visit to the Dominion, and has given lectures in the various centres to clergy and theological students.

Trevor Huddleston, who was to have been one of the main speakers at the Dec-Jan. Ecumenical Youth Conference at Lower Hutt, will not now take part owing to his elevation to an African Bishopric. Arrangements are being made for an alternative speaker to share in the programme.

H. F. Gross, B.A., is Chairman of the Y.C.N.C.C., which is sponsoring the Conference, and in which we will have a worthy representation. 1,600 places have been booked.

Mrs. A. Chapman (St. Albans, Christchurch) has been elected Chairman of the Women's Committee of the N.C.C. This is the first time one of our own ladies has had this honor. I. W. Ogier, Onehunga, is present President of the Auckland Branch of the N.C.C.

Under the heading "2 3 4" the July editorial in *Church and Community*, the official organ of the N.C.C. in this country, pointed out "That is the number of missionaries who are at this moment being supported by the member churches of the N.C.C." The editor, Alan Brash, cited some interesting figures in relationship to the Mission outreach of these Churches. The same Churches will give £NZ 308,400 for the work with which the missionaries are associated. Gifts to other bodies like the Mission to Lepers and the B. and F. B. S. would probably account for a further £NZ 150,000 to £NZ 200,000 yearly. The year's provision for Inter-Church Aid from the 1959 Christmas Bowl Appeal for £NZ 25,000 totalled £NZ 32,150. Last year £NZ 21,000 was raised in this way.

The S.C.M. in N.Z. is calling for a General Secretary to take charge of this developing work in the Student world.

FIELDING FELLOWSHIP.

For some time a group of members associated with the Palmerston North church has been meeting for fellowship in various homes. Chaplain W. Harford, who is stationed at the R.N.Z.A.F. base at Ohakea, has been giving valuable assistance to the group, which latterly has been meeting for Sunday night services in a local hall. As a result of investigations recently carried out, the opportunity came to purchase an older type house on one and a quarter acres, on the edge of the older and

New Zealand Newsletter.

newly developing housing areas. It will be possible to use part of the house for worship services in the meantime, and finally the building could become part of the educational unit. The price was ridiculous — house and land costing only £2,000.

Palmerston North church also celebrated the opening of their new suburban extension at Takaro on Aug. 7. This fine new unit will allow for the development of an all-age Christian Education programme. The building, which is of local brick, is insured for £10,000. A chapel will be added to the street frontage in the future development of the work.

Invercargill laid the foundation stone of their new church building at East Invercargill recently. It is hoped that the building will be ready for use in the early part of 1961.

PERSONAL PARS.

Gavin Munro, M.A., B.D., will travel to America for studies at Yale University. He has received a Fulbright Scholarship and a travel grant under the United States Educational Foundation in New Zealand, along with 10 other New Zealanders. He is present minister of the South Dunedin church and a Lecturer at Glen Leith Bible College.

Roger Marshall, minister in the Matamata-Waihou circuit, has been hospitalised in the Hamilton hospital with a heart condition.

Miss Phyllis Batterham, who will conclude her training at the Deaconess College, Dunedin, will take her first appointment with one of our churches during 1961. The arrangement will be through the Home Mission Committee, which is responsible for sponsoring this new ministry to the Churches. It is interesting to note that Mrs. Myrtle Yates, now of Te Hana, Northland, once served as a deaconess for an interim period with the church at Dominion-rd., Auckland. Mrs. Yates (nee Cole) had graduated from Glen Iris College and was waiting to go to our Indian Field.

EVANGELISM.

The Ashburton church recently experimented with a Church and Home Week. Studies, worship and special services helped make a worthwhile programme. Three young people made decisions, and there was one re-consecration. The Christchurch District has arranged for a School of Evangelism which is creating a great deal of interest. The Donkey is the name of the Christchurch District paper. The use of the name has

aroused much controversy locally — but the use of a suitable block and the words, "The Bearer of Jesus," makes it clear enough as to what is meant by the title. Wellington members living in the Porirua Basin area have been meeting at Tawa for communion services conducted in the name of the Wellington Conference Committee. The Dominion C.W.A. is to hold another Convention along the lines of one held last year for the first time. They found it a most valuable way in which to help their work.

DISTRICT ELDERSHIP.

At a meeting held at the Pt. Chevalier chapel, Auckland, on Aug. 8, a District Council of Elders, which had been in process of formation for some months was finally constituted as an official group. The District elders will meet together quarterly for fellowship, and the discussion of matters relative to their ministry. T. Mitchell (Mt. Albert) presented a paper which opened the way for discussion on the functions of the eldership in the life of our churches in the Twentieth Century.

LAST LINES.

The Governor-General (Lord Cobham) has been speaking out again on important issues. His latest utterance had to do with the important place that parents occupy. In speaking to a Conference in Wellington the other day, he declared that the young people of today were being criticised unjustly, and that their misdeeds constituted only a youthful manifestation of a widespread evil.

In this address to the biennial Conference of C.W.A. Institutes, he ventured into what he called "dangerous waters, waters that have already been so stirred by self-styled experts that the bottom is no longer visible through the mud." He pointed out that when so few citizens really know where they are going, "and so many are anyway trying to get there without a ticket, how should we complain when our children spend their spare time in aimless and expensive pranks?"

To the young, questioning minds, religion could seem a wholly unnecessary adjunct to the business of getting on with life. He is also reported as saying that young people were expected to be able to live in a crowd before they had learned to live with themselves, and that this was the reason for many falling prey to the easy ways and bad company.

The address received front page publicity in the main dailies.

(cont. ft. col. 1, next page)



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

Another Missionary Nurse for New Guinea

With the development of the medical work in New Guinea, up to 2,500 people come within the scope of the Department now, and with the outreach to Chungribu and the planning for a hospital in the near future, it is considered necessary to have another nurse on the spot immediately. More medical patrols are planned, too. To this end a horse has been purchased, and we hope to have in operation a pony medical service. Such patrols are being made already, but the scope is limited because the work has to be carried out on foot, making it impossible to go far afield.

Mrs. Frank Beale, as far as house and other duties permitted, has also helped, but the coming home of the Beales in December next will withdraw this help for the time being.

Our new nurse comes well equipped to the task, and holds three nursing certificates. Her father, Robert John Anderson, is the preacher of the Wollongong (N.S.W.) Church of Christ, and his family are keen workers in the Swan Hill Church of Christ. Thus she has a good back-

ground to commence missionary service in our still pioneering work in New Guinea. It is worth recording that, when our new worker is added to the nursing staff in New Guinea, there will be three nurses, each of whom is a daughter from a manse. Mrs. F. Beale, daughter of the late



Sister Betty Anderson,
who will fly to New Guinea,
November 28th.

PRISONS.

In his report to the House of Representatives recently, the former Secretary of Justice said that he believed that there were many unnecessary imprisonments, and that he was sure that there could be a reduction in the use of prisons as a means of crime control. One third of prisoners in this Dominion were under 21 years of age, Mr. Barnett reported. It is interesting to note the Department's confession that "one is aware of mistakes in policy and practice." "I confess to an oversight which may easily be corrected in the future. We have been too intent on production of revenue and too little concerned about other ways in which the prisoner may help the community and himself." "There are deeper satisfactions by helping for no reward." It is good to know that our administrators of justice are concerned with ways and means of not only controlling crime, but also seeking to be more concerned with the prisoner in his real needs.—W. B. Burn.

Will Waterman; Janet Hunting, the daughter of Frank Hunting, preacher of the Dawson-st. church at Ballarat, Vic, and now Miss Anderson.

ANXIOUS TO BE AT THE JOB.

Frank Beale, Supt. of the N.G. Mission, commenting on our latest arrival, Barrie Richards, said: "When I came back to Tung I found Barrie had tackled several tasks around the place, and was really anxious to get into the new building schemes at Chungribu."

Barrie himself, giving a few early impressions, says: "After the sixteen-mile walk I found Win ready to greet me. It was nice to see somebody I knew (Mrs. Beale and Barrie come from the same home church, Gardiner, Vic.). The first thing that struck me was that conditions were better than I expected, and the houses much nicer than I had anticipated. The work that Frank and the others have done in pioneering out here is really terrific. I do not think that people quite realise the hardships they had in starting up the work here, and putting up the buildings.

"This last week, Frank and I have been up at Pir getting some more of the building work done, and sawing up more timber to extend the single teacher's house. The new school house has been erected and half the roof covered in. The next job planned was the making of desks for this new school. (This will mean two schools in the Pir area).

"I am getting to the stage where I can make myself understood most of the time, but do not always understand what the people are saying to me. I still can't get real meaning into pidgin.

"Although it is going to be pretty lonely up at Chungribu. I am looking forward to getting a start, although the work is pretty tough up here. I feel the Lord is giving me strength to face each day as it comes."

LITERATURE DISTRIBUTION, INDIA.

This work continues to progress. It was estimated that, 20 years ago, literates in India would not exceed 10 per cent to 12 per cent of the total population. This had increased to approx. 17 per cent in 1956, whilst the Times of India reported in October last year that literates now numbered more than 40 per cent of the total population. Considering that this has also increased considerably, this result is more amazing. Bruce Coventry, who heads our literature work, adds: "This surely gives some idea of the increase in potential reading public for Christian Literature."

The Christian Advocate (British Churches of Christ weekly) said in a May issue: "In view of the teeming populations in many lands who have never read the Gospel, in view of the inadequate supply of missionaries to take the message, in view of the fact that in some countries doors are closed to missionaries in person, Christianity must be propagated to a greater extent than ever before by means of the printed word rather, than the spoken word."

As a means to this end we pay tribute to the Glenelg Missionary Press (Glenelg Church of Christ), South Aust., for its valuable contributions already made in the printing of thousands of tracts for India and the New Hebrides.

The latest venture undertaken by this group is to print a series of twelve tracts. Ten thousand of each will be printed, making a grand total of 120,000 double-sided tracts. The work that must be put into such a venture can only be partially imagined. The printing is done by a group who have been trained for the task, while the young people of the church do the sorting and packaging, etc. It is a busy hive of industry when the papers begin to roll off the press. Such a unique labor of love,

(cont. ft. col. 1, next page)

IRA A. PATERNOSTER discusses the Christian's confidence in the face of death

"THANATOPSIS"

The first of the American poets, William Cullen Bryant, was a great lover of Nature. He was born Nov. 3, 1794, and came of Puritan stock. He began to write verse when only eight years old, and his poem, "Thanatopsis" (A View of Death) was written when sixteen or seventeen years of age. It is a poem of some eighty-one lines, the closing ten lines reading:

"So live, that when thy summons comes to join the innumerable Caravan, which moves to that mysterious realm, where each shall take his chamber to the silent halls of death, thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night, scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed by an unfaltering trust, approaching thy grave, like one who wraps the drapery of his couch about him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

This faith sustained him through his long life of eighty-four years.

As one grows older and in deep and abiding faith contemplates the closing of a long, and one hopes not altogether wasted, life, naturally the sentiments of such lines as those quoted above promote other and similar thoughts. These lines were written by a young man with the whole of life before him. Today we look backward over the path we have been led and rejoice in the faith that has sustained us, and now is our most treasured possession.

One marvels at the patience and long-suffering of our Heavenly Father. We cannot but remember the many times we have failed him, yet he

always done after working hours, is truly commendable.

We are happy to announce that Bruce Coventry, who heads the literature work, will not return home as early as anticipated, but will extend the time for a further twelve months. Word has just come through giving this decision, that, family health permitting this additional time will be given in India. Most of it will be spent in the placing of this work on a sound position. He has a willing team of Indian workers, and some of our Indian leaders have written tracts for publication.

It is estimated that thousands of tracts have gone out through this source. Estimating that at least five people read each tract, the numbers of readers would go into millions.

has been long-suffering to us, until we can say with the Psalmist, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." In our youth we often went forth in our own strength, and invariably failed. Today our trust is no longer in the arm of flesh. Only the years can teach some people the lessons so badly needed, but it is good when one does learn them before it is too late.

The future is bright with the promises of God. His assurance of his everlasting presence for those who will put their trust in him will sustain men in the darkest hours of their experience. To be able to say with Job, "Though he slay me, yet will I trust him," is to learn the real meaning of life.

Bryant saw God in Nature and wrote:

"The groves were God's first temples.
Ere man learned to hew the shaft, and lay the architrave,
And spread the roof above them
— ere he framed the lofty vault, to gather and roll back the sound of
Anthems; in the darkling wood,
amid the cool and silence, he knelt down, and offered to the Mightiest solemn thanks and supplication!"

Multitudes have seen God in Nature — in the babbling brook, the forest glade, the song of the linnet and in the jungle beast "seeking his meat from God." The Psalmist sang, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament showeth his handiwork," and Paul, in Rom. 1: 19, 20, could write "The knowledge of God is clear in their minds; God himself has made it clear to them; from the foundations of the world men have caught sight of his invisible nature, his eternal power and his divineness, as they are known through his creatures, thus there is no excuse for them; although they had the knowledge of God, they did not honor him or give thanks to him as God." Instead, like so many today who prefer to worship God in Nature, they create for themselves gods on the golf course, football field or sea beaches. But what profit is in these when one reaches the end of life's journey? Nature worship can only bring one to the brink of the grave and holds out no hope for what lies beyond.

It is only those who have faith in God as he is beheld in the face

of Jesus Christ who are assured of life everlasting. Peter saw God in Christ when he said, "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God." The soldiers saw God in the One they helped nail on the Cross and exclaimed, "No doubt but this was the Son of God" (Matt. 27: 54), and Thomas, when he beheld the nail-pierced hands and side, cried out, "My Lord and my God." Jesus, in speaking with his disciples, said, "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father." To the one who believes in such a Saviour there is no fear in death. He can say with sublime confidence, "Once this earthly tent-dwelling of ours has come to an end, God, we are sure, has a solid building waiting for us, a dwelling not made with hands, that will last eternally in heaven (2 Cor. 5: 1). Bryant's faith in God and in the resurrection found expression in the following lines of his Hymn of Death, written after the death of his father:

"Rest, therefore, thou whose early guidance trained my infant steps —

Rest in the bosom of God, till the brief sleep of death is over, and a happier life shall dawn to waken thine insensible dust."

Even so we, with confidence in the finished work of Christ, can say with Paul as he wrote in his great sermon on the resurrection in 1 Cor. 15, "Death is swallowed up in victory. Where then, death is thy victory; where death is thy sting? It is sin that gives death its sting, just as it is the law that gives sin its power; thanks be to God, then, who gives us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

Dr. F. Townley Lord closes his book, *Conquest of Death*, with these words: "Heaven is no longer remote, a completely new country, for already he (the believer) shares its spiritual life. And that sharing, he knows, cannot be broken even by the grave. It is the Christian Faith, not as a speculation to which we give our intellectual assent, but as an enriching experience of Divine fellowship possible to every one of us, that makes all the difference to our outlook on the future."

Thy word is true, thy ways are just:

Above the requiem "Dust to Dust!" Shall rise our psalm of grateful trust: Hallelujah!



Theme for the Week: "THE PERSECUTED"

Sunday, October 23

Acts 4: 13-20.

Thought Text: "They recognised that they had been with Jesus" (v. 13, R.S.V.).

These men spoke with the authentic accent of their Master. Once they had fled for their lives through Gethsemane's shadows; now they stood, erect and untroubled, in their enemies' presence, with that same bearing that had made Pilate cry out about Jesus, "Behold the Man!" The risen Lord had made all the difference to these men. His living Presence with them meant a peace and a power they had never known before, and which their enemies had only seen once before in one Man.

Is there about us any of "the fragrance of Christ" his courage, serenity and faith — which makes it immediately apparent that we are Christians?

O God, help us to come so close to thee, through this day's worship and each day's service, that something of the beauty of Jesus may be seen in us. Amen.

Monday, October 24

Acts 8: 1-8.

Thought Text: "And there was great joy in that city" (v. 8).

Luke leaves us in no doubt as to the reason for that joy: "Philip preached Christ unto them" (v. 5). Campbell Morgan points out that the Greek word translated "preached" means "to proclaim as a herald" — and there was something as thrilling as that about the way Philip came to a city which was under the spell of a sorcerer, and so effectively presented Christ to needy men that even the sorcerer himself believed!

Faithful preaching of Christ, and loyal witnessing to him, will always set people rejoicing, not with the bubbling effervescence of a passing emotion, but with an enduring experience which proves his words real: "Your joy no man taketh from you."

WHEN SOARS the SOUL

A Week of Daily Devotions, Based on Readings
Suggested by the "Book of Family Worship"

May all thy followers, Lord, find a growing joy in believing. Amen.

Tuesday, October 25.

Mark 13: 7-13.

Thought Text: "Take heed to yourselves" (v. 9).

Four times in this chapter, Jesus uses the warning words, "Take heed!" Here his disciples are urged to look to themselves — in a time of world upheaval they are not to despise the value of individual lives, fully committed to God. Men of faith, with "the power to see it through," never count for more than in the days when evil seems to crash in on all that is good in the world.

Surely John Bunyan had in mind the words, "He that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved," when he described a pathway to hell leading from the gates of heaven itself. To go so far, and then to fall! Test the foundations of your faith, "put on the whole armor of God," "keep thyself pure!"

We thank thee, O God, for those who have stood steadfast to the end, and for those who, even now, suffer for their faith. Be thou their Strength, and ours. Amen.

Wednesday, October 26

1 Peter 2: 19-25.

Thought Text: "That ye should follow his steps" (v. 21).

These words, besides being the inspiration of a Christian novel, are the source both of comfort and challenge for our living today. Of comfort, because he as the Pioneer, the trail-blazer, has gone ahead of us and marked the way. As James Edmeston put it in his hymn, "Thou didst tread this earth before us, Thou didst feel its keenest woe" — or as the writer to the Hebrews expressed it so beautifully long ago, "In that he himself hath suffered, being tempted, he is able to succor them that are tempted" (2: 18). He knows the way we take.

But the challenge lies in those ascending tracks of his. Dare we risk the adventure of really following him — cost what it might?

Lord, save us from the folly of going our own way, and pretending it is thy way for us. Amen.

Thursday, October 27

1 Peter 4: 12-19.

Thought Text: "If any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed" (v. 16).

Men and women of the Way (as the followers of Jesus were first called) had only slowly accepted the

name of "Christian," with which the wits of Antioch had dubbed them. Possibly, they felt themselves unworthy of it. But now Peter bids them rejoice in it, if, like their Master, they suffer persecution: "Rejoice in so far as you share Christ's sufferings" (v. 13).

"It is something great to be a Christian in a time like this," said a man of our own generation when he saw his church building bombed into rubble. Do we wear the name "Christian" with that kind of thrill? May nothing I think or do this day besmirch the honor of thy Name, O Lord. Amen.

Friday, October 28

Hebrews 11: 32-40.

Thought Text: "How strong they became, who till then were weak" (v. 34, Knox).

"Let the weak go to the wall!" has always been the brutal philosophy of the military dictator. But the Christian Church has counted too many so-called weaklings among its martyrs ever to despise the seemingly insignificant. Its first great missionary needed a doctor in constant attendance during some periods of his work, but to him we owe the thrilling words, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me!"

Paul knew from experience that, when he looked in faith to his Lord, "my very weakness makes me strong in him" (2 Cor. 12: 10, Phillips).

Keep us, O Lord, from forgetting what thou canst do with even the weakest of us, if only we give thee all there is of us. Amen.

Saturday, October 29

Philippians 1: 12-20.

Thought Text: "Proclaiming Christ from wrong motives" (v. 17, Knox).

Here is a phrase that ought to bring us up with a jerk! Paul knew that some of his critics were degrading their high ministry of preaching by venting their jealous spleen against him in personal attacks. They were forgetting the central motive of Christian preaching — so to present and exalt Jesus Christ as Son of God and Saviour that men might be won, and held, to life-changing faith in him. How do the motives behind our own Christian service measure up alongside that?

What of our attitude to our critics? Are we as "big" as Paul shows himself to be?

O Master, so control our lives that love will be the motive behind all we do for thee. Amen.

HERE AND THERE

The brotherhood extends Christian love and sympathy to Miss Hazel Skuce (at present on furlough from missionary service in India) in the death of her mother in Adelaide on Sept. 29. S. Matthews minister of Miss Skuce's home church of Henley Beach, S.A., conducted the funeral service on Oct. 1, and overseas Missions were represented by A. Anderson (F.M. Sec.), Miss Dorothy Geyer (India) and Mrs. Butler (Sisters' Conf. Mission Supt.). Miss Skuce decided to continue with Federal Conference plans, and left for Perth on Oct. 5.

The next meeting of the Ministers' Wives' Association of Victoria will be held at the Churches of Christ Centre on Mon., Oct. 24, at 11.30 a.m. (note change of date). Mrs. L. Trezise will speak of her experiences overseas and also show her films. Please make a special effort to attend.—J. M. Graham, Sec.

P. Woolford, now ministering at Loxton, S.A., has accepted a call to minister with the church at Dalby, Qld., at the close of the present ministry there of G. Gibson.

The Good Neighbour Council of Victoria is seeking sponsors for migrant children who will be given the opportunity of attending Good Neighbour Camps, to be held at the Anglesea Camp of the National Fitness Council of Victoria in January, 1961. These Camps are held in two consecutive sessions, one being for boys and one for girls. Preference is given to recent arrivals in the country, except in a few cases where the parents are experiencing particular hardships. The cost per child is £10, including transport from Melbourne, and at the last Camp, of the 87 children who attended, 32 were sponsored for the full amount, 29 paid only £3 each, and 24 paid £6. Two children paid the full fee. Those who would like to help may write to the Council at 32 Market-st., Melb., C.1.

R. Beadle (Beverly Hills, N.S.W.) is leading the churches at Maryborough-Baddow, Qld., in a mission, Oct. 9-23. K. Beadle assisted with visitation prior to the mission.

Emergency aid sent by World Vision Inc. to Mission agencies in the Republic of Congo during its recent political crisis brings to 100 the number of denominational and independent missionary groups all

around the world helped by World Vision since its beginning 10 years ago. The programme of Emergency Aid is one of World Vision's five basic objectives, which include also: Christian Social Welfare Services, Missionary Challenge, Evangelistic Outreach and Christian Leadership Development. September, 1960, was World Vision's anniversary month, marking a decade of service to established evangelical Mission organisations.

The Boonah-Silverdale circuit mission, Qld., held from Sept. 4 to 25, was a blessing to the churches. Ten young folk made primary decisions, and others are showing a vital interest. The churches had been in special prayer for over a year, and the meetings were advertised over radio, in the press and by leaflets. Attendances varied, but the chapel was well filled on many nights. Almost 200 were present at the concluding meeting, when the evangelist, David Mansell, and song-leaders, J. Christensen and O. Risson, were thanked and presentations made. Support was received from churches as far away as Warwick and Ipswich, and many folk from local denominations attended. Expenses were well covered by the thankoffering of £90 received to date.—R. J. Hill.

Work has begun on extensions to the school hall at Chatswood, N.S.W., and the erection of a new B.S. classroom building, planned to cost £18,000. Leonard Bills, a church officer, is the builder.

Excellent messages from H. J. Patterson, M.A., and very good attendances, despite inclement weather, marked the "God and Victory in Life" teaching mission held at Echuca, Vic., Sept. 4-18. Prior to the commencement of the mission, the men of the church undertook some interior redecoration, with very pleasing effect. The dark three-ply dado boards have been replaced by light ash boards, the window frames and doors and the two side wings on the platform painted, and the floor sanded and treated. Features of the mission were the most helpful and instructive messages, an average attendance of just under 50 for the 16 meetings, the special items and bright song service, the happy fellowship, also the delegations from the Shepparton, Bendigo, Rochester and Pyramid Hill churches. Whilst there was no outward response, we nevertheless believe that the church has been richly blessed and better

fitted to continue the Lord's work in this district.—D. P. Holloway.

Alan M. Norris, B.A., has accepted a call to Nailsworth church, S.A., for a three-year ministry from Jan. 1, 1961.

Dandenong church, Vic., announces that arrangements have been made with J. K. Bond, State Evangelist of Western Australia, for a five weeks' mission, commencing Feb. 19, 1961. Land has been secured in the heart of Dandenong itself for the erection of the 100 ft. x 30 ft. tent. J. Machin (Caulfield) will act as songleader. Preliminary planning is in hand for an extensive visitation programme during November and the New Year.

N. Cheal, long active in C.M.S. work in Victoria, has been elected chairman of the Inter-Church Council of Men's Societies of Vic.



Northern Wheatbelt Conference

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The Northern Wheatbelt Conference was held at Morawa, Sept. 15-18, 1960. At the business meeting on Thurs. 15th, elections resulted: pres-elect, K. Croot; sec., G. D. Carslake; treas., K. Croot; organiste, Mrs. Thygesen; asst.-organiste, Mrs. R. Carslake. The film, *Oil Town, U.S.A.*, was screened on the Saturday night to a good attendance.

Mr. Collingwood (Conf. Pres.) was guest speaker, and addressed the church at worship service. Afternoon services commenced at 2.45 with the women's meeting, at which Mrs. Collins was guest speaker and Mrs. G. D. Carslake, retiring pres., capably presided. Greetings were brought from various groups. Mr. Collingwood addressed the men, and afterwards the Y.P., at their meetings. A happy time of fellowship was enjoyed around the tea table, at which a condensed report of all the work was presented, showing progress. Attendance at the gospel meeting was very encouraging; Mr. Collingwood again brought the message and also welcomed the incoming pres., G. Powell, and made a presentation to the retiring pres., G. D. Carslake.

Steady progress is reported in the work at Wubin, with everyone working together and looking forward to the time when they can obtain the services of a preacher. Meetings at Buntine have changed to Bible study gatherings, at request of the folk there. Bible study is also held at Three Springs each month.—R. Thygesen.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

David Warwick, Ronald and Eric Ruhland, Rodney Abbott, Garth and Leone Young, Trevor Kruger, David, Lorraine and Terry Muller, Boonah-Silverdale, Qld.

Mrs. Kimpton, Rockdale, N.S.W.

N. Geer, Miss Hill, A. Ware, Dorothy Urwin, Diane Williams, Coburg, Vic.

Rodney Ferris, Kevin Peowrie, Box Hill, Vic.

John Gillespie, Brunswick, Vic.

Beverley Brown, Geoffrey Porter, Warrnambool, Vic.

of experiences in Great Britain. All three services on Sept. 25 were well attended, and 136 communed during day. A presentation was made to R. Rugendyke in recognition of his interim ministry of recent months. Reports presented at annual meeting on 28th, showed that 21 new members were received by faith and baptism during 1959-60, and 17 by transfer, giving a total of 159 in membership, with a further 8 in isolation; av. attendances were: 130 a.m.; 102 p.m.; with 116 communicants; gifts for all purposes amounted to £4,388. Re-elected to church executive were S. Moignard (chairman), P. Bennett (sec.), and W. H. Leng, O.B.E. (treas.). Mr. and Mrs. Stirling led 30 Y.P. in camp over holiday weekend, Sept. 30-Oct. 3. F. J. Stephenson, visiting from Subiaco, W.A., was welcomed as guest preacher at morning service on Oct. 2.

Kingaroy (H. C. Wheat). — Services have been well attended and more are joining in prayer and Bible study meetings held during week. B.S. picnic, held at Barambah Creek, was well attended. Newly formed school at Murgon joined in with us for this day of fellowship. It is encouraging to see this new school grow. C.Y.F. visits Murgon on the last Friday of every month, the Y.P. from Murgon joining with Kingaroy for remainder of month. M. Pieper (Albion) was guest speaker for B.S. anniversary on Oct. 2. Theme was *Thanks Be To God*. Sept. 18 began Education Week in Qld., and in the evening service a number of High School students and teachers took part. Film-strip, telling how the Bible was given to East Africa, and slides on education work of our Mission in New Guinea were presented. Two of the men teachers gave thoughts on Jesus the Teacher, and minister gave appropriate address.

Membership

Miss P. Harrison, Woorinen to Maidstone, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Carr, Geelong to Surrey Hills, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. Lydlard, Moreland to Coburg, Vic.

Miss Steenson, Hampton to Box Hill, Vic.

Mrs. H. Boone, Ararat to Minyip, Vic.

Marriage

Judith Lee-Archer to Bill Cunningham; Lesley Cooper to Laurie Taylor, Bentleigh, Vic.

Edith Cox to Alan Miles, Moreland, Vic.

Edith Martin to Donald Handasyde, Bayswater, Vic.

Verna Young to Max Heath, Doncaster, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Fisher, Nailsworth, S.A.

Mrs. M. E. Teeson, Brighton, Vic.

Mrs. Arnott, Doncaster, Vic.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Kalgoorlie (F. H. Griffiths). — Morning meetings have been well attended, with many Perth visitors welcomed. Mrs. Griffiths suffers from indifferent health. Well organised social by C.E. for Christian Centre project was very successful, raising £16. Monthly youth teas are regular feature under newly-formed Youth Council. Following the teas, youth have conducted gospel meeting in pleasing manner. B.S. emerged victors in State Increase and Attendance Campaign, the first time for many years. Scholars contributed £4 to Bible Sunday appeal. C.E. took part in well supported D.U. rally, two meetings being held in chapel. Mr. Griffiths is president. Mr. and Mrs. Calladine have been farewelled to Perth.

QUEENSLAND

Maryborough - Baddow. — While church has been without a minister appreciated service has been given by Chas. Young and H. B. Robbins, both of Melbourne, John Sherriff (rep. Social Service Dept.), and Kevin Reade, both of Brisbane. Mr. and Mrs. Young spent several weeks, and all enjoyed fellowship with them. Both the B.S.'s have held their anniversaries. Recent visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Robbins, Mr. and Mrs. Mackay, and Mr. and Mrs. Kickbush (Marburg) and Mr. and Mrs. Wilson (Paramatta).

NEW SOUTH WALES

Rockdale (C. J. Mackenzie). — On Sept. 18, G.L.B. and B.L.B. paraded at morning service. A lady was baptised at evening service. B.S. anniversary was held on Sept. 25. Meetings were well attended. Mrs. A. Saunders was afternoon speaker to kinders. and G. Sloman addressed evening meeting. Singing of children was delightful. There was a very well attended concert and prize-giving on 27th. C.W.F. visited ladies at Ashwood House on 28th, spending delightful day. They also inspected Community Centre and cottages.

Wollongong (R. J. Anderson). — Meetings in all branches of the work are being well maintained. On Sept. 25, a family of four obeyed their Lord in baptism and were received into fellowship on Oct. 2. On the same date a young man made his decision. On 29th, church assembled for a special social evening, first to offer congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wallace, who celebrated their Golden wedding; Mr. Wallace has been church sec. for a number of years. The same gathering also welcomed home, after 21 months abroad touring the Continent, Warrick Holyoak and Terry Gibb, who showed colored slides of places visited, and related experiences encountered. On Oct. 3, combined Churches of Christ South-Coast Fellowship enjoyed a "family" picnic to Cordeaux Dam.

AUST. CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra (G. R. Stirling, B.A.). — Mrs. G. R. Stirling was speaker at C.W.F. meeting on Sept. 22. Minister, at a tea sponsored by C.M.S., told

Hornsby. — Successful B.S. anniversary was held on Sept. 18 and 25, with R. Bartholomew, L. Thomas and H. Sargent as guest speakers. It came to a close with a film night and senior prizegiving on 27th. Delegation from church attended mission at Auburn, with E. Hart as missionary. Large group of Y.P. attended outing at Palm Beach on Oct. 3, arranged by Dept. of Christian Education.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Nailsworth (A. M. Norris, B.A.). — B.S. anniversary services were largely attended. School choir, led by M. Gaskin, provided bright singing, and illustrated addresses by A. Norris and E. Richards were appreciated. Sympathy is extended to relatives of late Mrs. Fisher. All depts. of church are in excellent heart. Number of members are visiting Perth for Federal Conference.

Clovelly Park (J. E. Webb). — Speakers during minister's absence at Mt. Compass mission were C. Curtis (Glenelg), A. J. Ingham and A. R. Jones (Conf. Pres). Y.P. enjoyed mystery hike to Belair, when B. Bowden (Hawthorn) was guest speaker. One hundred church members met for fellowship dinner on Sept. 28, after which it was decided to introduce budget system of stewardship as from Nov. 6. Basketball teams concluded season with a sports and barbecue night at "Rivett's." Attendances are maintaining high figures and work is progressing well.

Grote-st., Adelaide (L. E. Jones). — Church is pleased to have minister back after successful mission in Melbourne. Attendances at all meetings continue to please. On Oct. 2, numbers were further increased with three ladies welcomed into membership by transfer. Mrs. Sellick is home after trip to Japan. On Sept. 27, C.W.F. visited Christian Rest Home and provided entertaining programme and supper.

VICTORIA

Drumcondra - Norlane (R. A. Banks - K. Ludgater). — P.S.A. and fellowship tea were held at Norlane on Sept. 28. Y.P. from the four Geelong churches attended gospel meeting and several Y.P. took part. Sympathy of church goes out to E. Crossfield in loss of sister, also to Mrs. G. Batty in loss of father. Cricket club (Drumcondra) held annual meeting; two teams are entered for Protestant Churches Assoc. K. Ludgater and Mr. Robinson (Inland Missions) occupied pulpit in absence of R. Banks at Bet Bet. Combined social by cricket and basketball teams was held on Oct. 1, when

presentation of trophies was made. Mrs. McLure is in hospital; E. Crossfield and Mr. and Mrs. C. Combridge are ill.

Maldstone (H. L. Pietzsch). — L. E. Snow and T. Ede were of great assistance during absence of preacher for last two weeks. Prayers of the church were with Mr. Pietzsch and two members of his family, who have been ill. Film service was conducted by H. Easton (Footscray) on Oct. 2, when *Shield of Faith* was screened. Men of church were able to make solid car park inside grounds because of a generous donation. Explorers are again to be congratulated on winning at Explorer sports on 1st. Ladies have tidied up inside of church property, scrubbing floors and having lino laid in kitchen. Amongst visitors have been Mr. and Mrs. W. Clencie, foundation members of work at Maldstone. Proposed mission has been postponed until late this year, when R. Patterson will be able to lead in the preparation considered so necessary. Miss P. Harrison, recently welcomed by transfer, is giving valuable assistance in B.S. Good progress is being made by Margaret Salmon, who received first degree burns about the body when her nylon clothes caught fire, but it will be many weeks before she is back in class.

Moreland (C. M. Dunse). — Sept. was eventful in life of church, with C.M.S. breakfast and youth tea on 11th. C.Y.F. has been introduced by representatives from Dept. and office bearers were dedicated at special evening service later in month. C.W.E.F. conducted evening service on 18th, with Mrs. Clencie (State Pres.) as guest speaker. On 21st, C.W.A.F. held happy birthday meeting, with Mrs. Sterling (State Pres.) as guest speaker. On 27th, C.M.S. prepared supper for a naturalisation ceremony at Brunswick Town Hall. Presentation was made to Edith Cox and Alan Miles prior to their marriage. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. George Harman in the passing of her mother. Visit from B. J. Combridge (H. M. and Evangelism Com.) was appreciated.

North Williamstown (R. C. Bust). — Appreciated messages have been given at morning service by rep. of Inter-Church Aid and H. Walmsley (Mission to Lepers). Mrs. Cheal (Essendon) addressed special meeting of W.M.B. C. Rewell has been appointed church treas. in succession to G. Ogden, who is leaving district. Pam King succeeds Lorraine Robson as leader of Primary. Girls' No. 1 basketball team were runners-up in District Churches Comp. Good Companions, under leadership of Lexia Bryant and Sandra Shaw, won Good Companions' sports on Oct. 1. C.W.E.F. sponsored organ recital given in chapel by J. Bryant, snr. V. C. Staf-

ford gave illustrated talk to C.M.S. on his visit to Christian Education Conference in Japan.

Surrey Hills (R. A. Ryall). — B.S. anniversary and Temple Day was held on Sept. 11. Scholars sang splendidly, under leadership of W. F. Newham, to a well filled hall. J. G. Shaw spoke to afternoon service, and R. V. Longthorp addressed evening meeting. Contributions to Temple Day amounted to £940. B.S. hall and kinder hall have been painted. Visitation Comm. members' efforts over many weeks in making contact with people who might be persuaded to be active members has met with some measure of success. To mark church 70th anniversary, three meetings were held. Morning meeting crowded chapel, when R. C. Bolduan spoke. Afternoon gathering was addressed by B. J. Combridge, when he most acceptably recalled some church history. Over 200 people were entertained at tea in the school halls, and greetings from past and present members, including those from Scotland, Brazil and California (U.S.A.), were read. R. Ryall addressed evening meeting, when over 100 were present.

Black Rock (R. K. Sansome). — Church has held Operation Good News mission, with G. Barnett (Preston) as missionary. Members are grateful for splendid messages given by missionary and help given by visiting soloists, conductors, pianists, organists and projectionists. On Friday evenings a panel consisting of Mrs. Ward, Messrs. L. Smith, R. Tucker and Cole, and guided by missionary, answered questions submitted by congregation. This deviation created much interest and was most helpful. Happy Hours, conducted by preacher and fellow C.O.B. students, were most successful, and B.S. attendances since Happy Hours have increased. Even though a great amount of advertising and preparation was entered into, local response was disappointing, the only full meeting being film evening, when *Teenage Rock* was screened. Attendance of delegations from sister churches was encouraging and appreciated. The gospel message bore fruit on the final evening, when a young lad and a young man accepted Christ as Saviour. Attendances at C.M.S. meetings are encouraging, av. being 16. C.W.E.F. members are busy working for annual fete.

Coburg (F. Rees). — Attendances have been well maintained, an average of 107 breaking bread in Sept. Six decisions have been recorded in recent weeks. A husband and wife have been welcomed by transfer. C.E. has averaged 38 in last month.

East Preston (T. V. Weir). — Youth Council has made important decisions concerning future of youth work in

the church. Monthly film rallies are now being directed by Y.P., assisted by K. Earl. B. Thomas was thanked by Y.P. for his help in original direction and help. C.Y.F. held breakfast service in home of I. Mackey, then conducted morning service in chapel. Hour of song fellowship was held in home of J. James on Sept. 18. Attendances at services are being well maintained. C.W.F. has conducted several successful functions to raise funds for debt reduction. Church sympathises with Mr. and Mrs. R. Stirling on death of Mrs. Stirling's mother, and with Mrs. A. J. Fisher, on death of her sister. Prayer fellowship has been having some very successful study nights.

Geelong (A. C. Caldicott). — G.L.B. gained third position in State at recent G.L.B. sports day. Seventy G.L.B.'s and Boy Brigaders have toured Geelong factories. New B.S. at East Geelong is in good heart under superintendency of Mr. and Mrs. Dudley Simper. Girls' basketball team has gained 2nd premiership for year (night and day teams). Ladies' Aid excelled themselves catering for 350 at Geelong and District basketball banquet. A young man has made his decision and was immersed on Oct. 2. Minister gave devotions at Anglessea weekend camp conducted by R. Dixon for Caulfield Y.P. Cricket and tennis teams are being organised for coming season. Sick list includes Mr. Russenberg, Mrs. P. Drayton, Mr. Vafiopolous, Mr. Kennedy, Mrs. Falconer. New 3GL announcer, Peter Pitts (St. Yarra) has been welcome visitor, also Capt. and Mrs. Kent (East Malvern).

Bayswater (H. S. Prime). — New church hall is approaching roofing stage. Designed to seat 250 in main hall, it will meet needs of B.S. in foreseeable future. C.W.F. held evening meeting with Mrs. Ryall as Executive representative, speaking on work of C.W.F. Ladies also held enjoyable afternoon when visited by Mrs. Ward and 8 members of Social Service Com. Reps. from other Eastern District groups were also present. Matron Button showed slides of Guest Homes, etc., and Mrs. McCarthy spoke of Social Service women's work. Over 80 friends attended kitchen tea held for Edith Martin and Donald Handasyde, prior to their marriage. Good Companions and Youth Club hold church parade 2nd and 4th Sunday each month. Fellowship meetings continue to be held fortnightly, with Bible study and discussion. Church gladly receives two teenage girls into fellowship by faith and baptism. C.M.S. inauguration meeting was held on Oct. 6.

Box Hill (W. A. Wigney). — During mission with R. J. Duckett (Lygon-st.) three decisions were recorded by boys, one of whom was son of songleader, H. Hince. B.S.

held anniversary, Sept. 25 and Oct. 2. Speakers were Ian Tanner, Terry Lane (C.O.B.), Mrs. Smith and W. Wigney. Under leadership of Ron Muller, children's choir gave splendid items. After evening service on 2nd, an audio-visual of church work was screened. Visitors have been Mr. and Mrs. Blenkiron and family (S.A.) and Mr. Potts and Mildred (Blackburn).

Brunswick (R. E. Burns). — Tennis team had successful season. They reached grand final and were narrowly defeated. Youth Club visited G.T.V. 9. A man made good confession and was baptised on Sept. 25. Mrs. Wickham spoke to ladies on afternoon of 25th. She explained work of C.W.F. Council. Mrs. Betty McColl has been unable to meet with church through illness.

Morwell - Newborough (L. G. Armstrong). — Annual business meeting of Morwell church was held on Sept. 21, and those elected were: elders, H. Preston, M. Little; deacons, D. Preston, T. Skerry, L. Reeves, J. Sullivan, E. Read, G. Teese; deaconesses, Mesd. Little, Read, Schilling; treas., L. R. Reeves. Reports showed auxiliaries to be functioning well. Membership stands at 64. B.S. attendance is 90. Good Companions have been active in holding special worship service, also assisting in gospel service. C.W.F. is working hard to provide goods for sale of work.

Oakleigh (E. J. Miles). — 44th church anniversary was success. Crowded meetings, comprising past and present members, brought rich fellowship. Over 260 communed for the day. 160 enjoyed tea together, tastefully arranged by ladies of church. Excellent singing by congregation and artists was inspiring. G. Brown (Pahran) was guest speaker at morning service, and E. J. Miles in evening. Thanksgiving offering has reached over £850. Church is in healthy condition and plans are being prepared for renovations and additions to property.

Strathmore (K. Parry). — Attendances in every dept. of work were well below average during Sept. Much of this can be attributed to continued trainless Sundays. Church is indebted to those members who are providing transport each week. During the absence of pres. and vice-pres., Mrs. K. Parry presided at meeting of C.W.F. on 28th. Guest speaker at C.M.S. on Oct. 2 was C. Lord (Parliament House Officer). Instead of usual midweek prayer meeting and Bible study, on 5th, a visit was paid to Essendon mission. Officers have appointed Margaret Weatherhead asst. leader to Mrs. Joy Irvine of Good Companions. Mrs. Irvine has not enjoyed the best of health of late. Kindergarten will enjoy much

needed additional space provided in extended kinder. room.

Warnambool (F. W. Bradley, interim). — Two Y.P. made decisions on Sept. 25 and were baptised following Sunday, when two more Y.P. made the good confession. Temple Day offering closed at £213. S.W. District Conf. Executive met at Pt. Fairy on 29th and formulated plans for strengthening of work there. Church expresses thanks to two members for resuming publication of weekly news-sheet.



Prior to the Abundant Life Crusade conducted at Chatswood, N.S.W., by C. H. J. Wright, B.A. (Unley, S.A.), Sept. 25-Oct. 9, ten prayer groups met each week for six weeks. Studies on prayer, written by the minister, L. K. Green, B.A., B.D., have been used. Woolwich College students led in Saturday night open-air meetings, and extensive publicity was coupled with visitation of more than one hundred homes on the congregation's prospective member list.

BIRTH

CUNNINGHAM (Heazlewood). — To Bernice and John, on Sept. 22, at the Red Cliffs District Hospital, Vic., a son — Peter John. Brother for Jennifer.

DEATH

GOUDIE — Jessie Caroline, dearly beloved daughter of the late Irvine and Mary Goudie, beloved sister of Rowland, Ellis (dec.) and George, was peacefully called Home to be with her Lord on Sept. 30, 1960.

GOUDIE — Jessie Caroline, on Sept. 30, 1960, dearly beloved sister and sister-in-law of Rowland and Freda, loved aunt of Winifred and Harward Mountjoy, June and John (Tocknell), Irvine and Ross, loved great-aunt of Gavin, Murray, Owen and Dale Mountjoy and Rosemary Tocknell. "In God's care."

IN MEMORIAM

BROWN. — Cherished memories of Lucie, loving and devoted wife, also dearly loved mother and grandmother, who was called to her reward on Oct. 13, 1959. "Beyond the sunset."

—W. A. Brown and family.

MARRIAGE

GREEN - TACONO. — The marriage was celebrated on Sept. 24, 1960, of Benita, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Tacono, Lemon-ave., Mildura, and Albert, only son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Green, 9th-st., Mildura, Vic. The officiating minister was R. Hilford.

R. V. LONGTHORP, Asst. Director, Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Christian Education,
discusses

LEADERSHIP—a Need and a Pattern

"Where there is no vision the people perish": life's experiences convince us of the truth of these words from the Book of Proverbs. Real living demands a lofty vision and a sense of purpose. It is equally true, also, that without leadership the people likewise perish. The greater part of Biblical history is, in one view, the story of a people's fortunes as determined by their leadership. When God wants a people to rise to new levels of life and to reach new depths of insight and knowledge, he sends a leader to challenge and chasten. The leadership which Jesus gave was decisive for the lives of the disciples — the first Christian community. It was Jesus' dynamic qualities as a leader that made it impossible for the rulers of state and church to ignore him. The leadership of the apostles was utterly necessary to the early Church, for, through these men, the Spirit of God instructed, guided and witnessed in that hostile world. The Church today needs leadership in all of its parts as it needs few other things, for there is so much to be accomplished.

In the Church of today a high level of leadership is demanded for the work amongst young people as well as adults. The world Council of Christian Education, at its Convention in Japan in 1958, listed some weighty reasons why this is so; these were, "the constant rise in the level of public education; increased dependence on effective local churches; social changes, requiring a realistic encounter of the Church with the whole man in the context of living; the resurgence of Biblical theology, challenging the Church to get a deeper grasp of its distinctive nature and work in our confused world."

Because effective leadership is in short supply, some may ask, Where are we to get our leaders? One reason for the shortage may be because of the type of leadership which the Church has encouraged and used over the past. Here the pattern has been for the leader to dominate, to rule, keeping leadership within his own strong, expert, individualistic self. He does all, thinks all, plans all. This tends to suppress aspiring leaders, for, by this pattern, one only is leader, and, in spite of abundant grace and goodwill — no matter how fine his relationships to others may be — there is room for no other leader. But leadership need not be thus — it can be dynamic,

frequently shifting from person to person, not being the sole possession of one or two exceptional persons who are able to dominate others. Leadership can be shared. This new type of leader can be clearly distinguished from the old style "boss." A boss creates fear — a leader inspires confidence. A boss fixes blame — a leader corrects mistakes. A boss knows everything — a leader asks questions. A boss makes work drudgery — a leader makes it interesting. The boss is really interested in himself — the leader is interested in the group. Such leadership needs dynamic relationship to Jesus Christ. It is a stooping down to become the channel of God's redeeming love for persons, so that they know, serve, and enjoy him forever as members of his Body on earth, responsibly assuring the Church's tasks.

The days through which we are living, as well as those ahead, are

critical days for the Church of Jesus Christ. For they will see the Church either content to remain in the backwaters of life — a quaint relic of other times — or else they will see it surge forward boldly, giving fresh impetus to God's world. So much depends upon the quality of the leadership which is given to the Church, of the pattern of that leadership and the vision which motivates it. The task of training leaders of the right type is urgent; that is why schemes of leadership training are being given so much prominence by the educational agencies of our Australian brotherhood. All of us must keep asking the questions, What sort of leader does our present situation require? Where are such leaders to be found? How best can we train them? For whilst it may be true that leaders are born, not made — they are not born already made.

New Cantata

Composer Conducts First Performance.

The Victorian Churches of Christ Choral Society is to present at its concert at Lygon-st., Melb., on Nov. 10, a sacred cantata, *Abraham*, written for this concert by its conductor, Valentine Woff. The work is based on the story of Abraham as recorded in Genesis, chapters 17-22. The opening chorus, "I am the Almighty God," is a fine musical interpretation of the injunction of God to Abraham. The covenant between God and Abraham forms a theme which is carried forward by recitatives, choruses and chorales in a blend of vigorous and tender passages.

The wonder of Abraham as God tells him that Sarah is to bear a son is sympathetically portrayed, and followed by moving passages as Abraham experiences dismay in the sacrifice of Isaac. The chorales in simple, yet effective, harmony merge Abraham's faith with our own, as the application is made to Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. The whole emphasis is gathered up in the final chorus, "Blessed be the name of the Lord."

Mr. Woff has several musical compositions to his credit (an anthem, *The Lord is my Shepherd*, written some years ago, is included in the programme), but the recent work, *Abraham*, appears as his magnum

opus. It contains many rich passages in its brief compass — the cantata takes only 35 minutes. In this work Valentine Woff has made an outstanding contribution in the field of sacred cantata. It will stand favorable comparison with other works of its kind—V. C. Stafford.

Mission to the Spiritual Life of the Church

A successful series of meetings over the period of a fortnight resulted in a great uplift to the spiritual tone of the church at Dandenong, Vic. With speakers drawn from various suburban churches the mission placed the emphasis on the inner side of the personal spiritual life during the first week, and then in the second week, the concentration was on the out-working of this in Christian living. Songleader for the mission was Graeme Williams, and his leadership was much appreciated. At the concluding service, R. N. Gilmore (minister) made a presentation to Mr. Williams, to express the gratitude of the church. The mission concluded with the Temple Day services — there were over 100 people present at both services. Principal E. L. Williams, College of the Bible, was speaker at the morning service and F. L. Ewers (Bentleigh) in the evening. Temple Day thankoffering was £290.

Coming Events

LYGON-ST. CARLTON (Vic.) 106th ANNIVERSARY and HOMECOMING DAY, Nov. 6. 11 a.m., L. S. Dewberry (Horsham); 3 p.m., J. W. Searle (Principal, M.B.I.); 7 p.m., Evangelistic Rally, L. S. Dewberry. Join us in three great inspirational services. Happiest fellowship assured, hospitality provided.

MAIDSTONE (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, Oct. 30 and Nov. 6. Oct. 30: 10.15 a.m., Communion Service; 11 a.m., E. Westaway; 3 p.m., L. Finger (Cradle Roll, items); 7 p.m., F. Rees. Nov. 6: 10.15 a.m., Communion Service; 11 a.m., T. Ede; 3 p.m., Kinder. Demonstration (Miss J. Squires); 7 p.m., H. Pletzsch; Prize Distribution. Conductor: D. Hill. Please note change of time for Communion Services. Hospitality arranged. Phone 317-9564.

NTH. WILLIAMSTOWN (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, Oct. 23. 9.45 a.m., Communion Service; 11 a.m., Dramatisation: Youth Going Christ's Way; 3 p.m., The Kinders and Primary at work; 5.30 p.m., Fellowship Tea; 7 p.m., Church School items and film, This Way to Heaven.

SOUTH MELBOURNE (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, Oct 23 and 30. Oct. 23: 3 p.m., P. Perry; 7 p.m., K. Harvey; special singing by scholars. Oct. 30: 3 p.m., Kindergarten and Primary afternoon; 7 p.m., K. Bowes and pageant, Youth Going Christ's Way. Special invitation to all past scholars.

CAMBERWELL (Vic.) 44th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, Nov. 13. 11 a.m., K. W. Barton; 3 p.m., P.S.A., L. G. Crisp; musical items; 7 p.m., K. W. Barton. All past members welcome. Hospitality provided. Phone WB 5555.

OAKLEIGH (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, Oct. 23 and 30. Oct. 23: 3 p.m., L. Crisp; 7 p.m., L. Seath. Oct. 30: 3 p.m., A. White; 7 p.m., E. Miles. These services will be held in the Town Hall, Drummond-st., Oakleigh. Nov. 6: 3 p.m., Kindergarten and Primary Anniversary, to be held in the Chapel, Warrigal-rd., Oakleigh. Special singing at all services. A hearty welcome to all.

BRUNSWICK (Vic.) CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, Oct. 30. 11 a.m., W. A. Thompson (Conf. Pres.-Elect); 3 p.m., Musical Afternoon and Dedication Service; 7 p.m., F. J. Runston, Hymns and Their Story. All past members and friends are invited to be present. Hospitality provided.

BAYSWATER (Vic.) CHURCH AND BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, Oct. 16 and 21. Oct. 16: 11.15 a.m., K. J. Clinton; 3 p.m., R. Muller; 7 p.m., H. S. Prime. Afternoon and evening services at Public Hall, High-st., Bayswater. Special singing at services. Friday, 21st: 7.45 p.m., Concert and Prizegiving at Bayswater Public Hall. All welcome.

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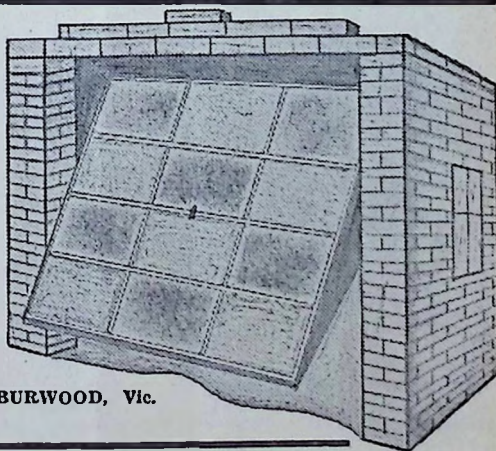
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Whose Hymn?

(A Hymn for October - No. 105,
Oct. 23).

There are at least four reasons because of which the authorship of a hymn may not be accurately known.

(1) Some are "lost in the mists of antiquity," or not recognised as of worth until long after the death of their author. (2) Other authors are so annoyingly modest that they take great pains to suppress knowledge of their part in the production. (3) Some hymns are so greatly mutilated from their original form or have suffered at the hands of so many amenders that any one ascription of authorship could be challenged. (4) People other than the original author sometimes, through either malice or forgetfulness, claim authorship.

Michael Bruce, "the youth of real genius" in favor of whom the question of authorship of today's hymn is almost certainly resolved, lived only a few weeks beyond his twenty-first birthday. One John Logan, whose undoubted ability was mixed with a variety of failings, published Bruce's poems, with certain others added, three years after the author's death, and another 11 years later included many in a volume of poems allegedly his own. Even legal action which held that the poems were Bruce's did not stifle controversy as to authorship. (One author does not add much by way of clarification when he goes into print with the statement that Logan, who died in 1788 - "edited an edition of Bruce's poems in 1824")

In 1781, Bruce having died in 1767, his hymn appeared in a publication very important in the history of hymnody. The Church of Scotland, reluctant to embark on the singing of anything but the psalms, took one more step towards hymnody as we know it, by publishing a set of scriptural paraphrases. In this, Bruce's lines, "Where high the heavenly temple stands," appeared as a paraphrase of Hebrews 4: 14-16. The five verses comprising our No. 105 are worth studying alongside that passage as an example of a free rendering which does not lose or mar the essentials of the original, but rather extends and beautifies its meanings.—F.J.F.

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OBITUARY

Thomas M. Darlow.

The church at Echuca, Vic., has been saddened by the Home call of T. M. (Tom) Darlow. Mr. Darlow was associated with the church for some 40 years. During this time he has given faithful service to his Lord. For over 30 years he was on the Officers' Board, for much of which time he was church treasurer. About two years ago, declining health caused him to retire from the Board. He still continued to minister, in giving out hymn books, and collecting books after the service. When the congregation had all gone, he would make sure all windows were closed and fastened and doors locked. On Sunday, Sept. 25, Mr. Darlow did not arrive at church. We thought the very wet day had kept him indoors. In the evening his near neighbor rang us to say they were anxious, as they had not seen any sign of Mr. Darlow. We went to his home and found him in bed, in his last long sleep. After a service in the chapel on Tuesday, 27th, he was laid to rest in the Echuca Cemetery. The writer spoke at the service in the chapel and D. Holloway conducted the service at the graveside. There was a large attendance of members and friends at the chapel and graveside. —W. B. Payne.

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BOYS' HOME

LINDISFARNE,
TASMANIA.



Secretary: J. W. Heard, 118 Main-rd.,
Rose Bay, Hobart, Tasmania.

Refrigerators

Leading makes including
KELVINATOR, WESTINGHOUSE,
CROSLEY, METTERS and
HALLSTROM

50-8434 (4 lines)

Snellgrove's Electric-Land
(S.B. RADIO)

205 GLENFERRIE-RD., MALVERN,
Vic. (near Tramway Depot).