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THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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HISTORIC BUILDING

Percy Everett, well-known Geelong and Melbourne architect, has been featuring sketches of historic and outstanding examples of architecture in the Geelong Advertiser. Under the caption of Historic Church On Newtown Hill, the Latrobe Terrace church was included in the series.

In his article included with the sketch, Mr. Everett says, "That unique building that was known as Trinity Church, years ago, has intrigued me since childhood. Its centenary was celebrated some years back, but its original architectural character has, fortunately, been retained completely. It is about the closest to the Lancelot form of Gothic that this district possesses. The well-proportioned Western facade — steeply pitched roof — flanking gablets and raking buttresses, are delightfully detailed. The broached

(cld. next page)



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NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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spire, sets off that elevation to
Latrobe Terrace nobly indeed.

"The bluestone masonry is again
unique, in that it is formed with
squared blocks of random sizes, yet
without any distinct courses."

Footnote: This masterpiece, includ-
ing pipe organ, was purchased by
the Hope-st. congregation for £1,800,
and the present membership at Latrobe
Terrace shortly celebrates its 104th an-
niversary.

Notes from the Readings

As Suggested for

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1.

JEREMIAH 18: 1-17.

Jeremiah compares Judah in the
hand of God to a vessel on a pot-
ter's wheel, using the figure in a way
which "teaches the divine patience
as well as the divine sovereignty and
freedom" (Smith). Yet judgment
must come when his people sacrifice
to idols — an act as much against
nature as snow deserting Lebanon.

"the potter's house" (v. 2). — His
factory, including "workshop, a field
for storing and trading clay, a kiln
for vessels and a dump for discards"
(Hyatt).

"the wheels" (v. 3). — "Probably
the upper stone which carried the
clay and the lower stone which the
potter turned with his feet in order
to leave both hands free for his work"
(Welch).

"Will a man leave the snow" (v. 14).
— "Does the snow of Lebanon leave
the crags of Sirion?" (R.S.V.).

"to walk in paths" (v. 15). — "Have
gone into bypaths, not the highway"
(R.S.V.). "The distinction is between
a rough track across fields and a built
public road" (Welch).

COLOSSIANS 3: 12-25.

Paul follows up positive teaching on
the life of the individual believer
with specific injunctions on Christian
home relationships.

"Put on, therefore" (v. 12). — "As
the sin to which the Christian has
died has been sufficiently characterised
by a short list of typical vices, so
here the life of virtue to which he
has risen is characterised by a brief
allusion to certain typical virtues.
As on the negative side special stress
was laid on anti-social sins, so here
the most prominent virtues are those
which have a direct social value"
(Dodd).

"put on charity" (v. 14). — "Put
on love, which binds everything to-
gether in perfect harmony" (R.S.V.).
"Love, in its binding power, gives
perfectness, or completeness, to the
other virtues in combination" (Vine).

"be not bitter" (v. 19). — "Do not
be harsh with them" (R.S.V.). This
verse and the next suggest that Paul
was concerned about too severe a
discipline in the home.

DON A. V. THOMAS (Frankston, Vic.) says . . .

It Might Have Been Your Son!

We have just returned from the graveside of a young lad who took his own life. He had recently begun attending our Youth Club. He had come to one church service. To my knowledge he had never been to a church before. His family are "decent" folk, but there has never been any positive Christian influence, and obviously not the sort of understanding shown that young people always need. Friction somewhere at home? Worry over school work? (He was an apprenticed carpenter). Well, enough stress to bring about the tragedy which confronted us. What does one say at such a time? We can be sure that from the human standpoint there is no reasonable answer. But I have the assurance of my faith in God through so many experiences, and this I must seek to convey in a gentle and understanding way to people who have been hurried by circumstances into the dungeon of Giant Despair.

But now . . . there are tears . . . tears of sorrow? of despair? of regret? Who can rightly analyse human experience? This is surely one of the great times of testing that Jesus experienced so that he could help us in similar times. One of the most comforting and reassuring things that we read is that "Jesus wept."

Sometimes they were

Tears of Sorrow

How much he poured out his soul to Mary and Martha at Bethany when he came and found them in their sorrow, following the death of Lazarus. But it was a blessed time, a sacred time; and it became a time of rejoicing as Lazarus emerged from the grave. But even if Lazarus had not been raised their sorrow would have turned to joy, as they realised the victory of faith in Christ's power over sin and death.

What blessed times we sometimes are privileged to share with bereft loved ones. At such a time of sorrow in the experience of a true believer we get into the inner sanctuary of the human soul; . . . and God is there . . . and we emerge triumphantly, strengthened together in our faith.

Sometimes they were

Tears of Despair

Such was his experience as he wept over Jerusalem tears of despair, if I dare analyse our Lord's feelings. There was nothing more he could do than he had done, or was about to do. But he knew that even the Cross would be "to the Jews a stumbling-block, and to them that perish, foolishness."

How often we despair! Just twelve years ago I buried a man, and afterwards took the opportunity of a word to his middle-aged son. He seemed touched in some way, but his final word was, "I don't think we need the Church, thank you." Just a month ago the mother passed away, and I was requested to conduct the service. But it was so obvious that they still "did not need the Church." Oh, the despair and the tears that are ours because we cannot "get through" to those who are outside of Christ!

And I am sure there were times; yes! there was one time, at least, when there were

Tears of Regret

That was the occasion when a young man, influential, wealthy, morally perfect . . . "went away sorrowful" because he turned down the challenge of Jesus. And the Saviour's sorrow is evident in the words, "How hardly shall they that have riches enter the kingdom of heaven!"

But what are we trying to say? Let us stop long enough to remember that the tears of Jesus were human tears, as well as Divine. Do you ever weep? Most of us have known real sorrow. I learned twelve months after the event that my father, who meant so much to me, had died. I wept. They were tears of sorrow, not of despair or regret. And now there is a glow in my heart whenever I sit quietly and remember dad.

But many have been our tears of despair when those we love, or those we are seeking to win to Christ, turn a deaf ear to our words. I wonder whether it is not sometimes our fault because we talk too much and live too little! If only people could see more of Christ in our lives, and be led to realise that he is the Christ who still does things; then, maybe, people would more readily understand, and more often respond.

I believe we have spent too much time expounding our own theories and trying to explode the theories of our brethren in Christ; and we have spent far too little time living Christ out in the world.

How often Christ must still weep tears of despair over his Church, divided on petty issues, with the result that the world still regards the Church as rather insincere. During this week we shared in an Anglican worship service. There were many denominations and not a few nationalities represented, but our experience was one. We experienced Christ. And yet, for some

reason, we hesitate to go on from here.

When Jesus Christ came into the world, it was to a hostile world: a world at variance with God. But he was willing to take a chance; "he emptied himself . . . and being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death on a Cross." Studdert Kennedy penned these words:

"And sitting down they watched him there,

The soldiers did.

There, while they played with dice,
He made his sacrifice,
And died upon the Cross to rid
God's world of sin.

He was a gambler, too,

My Christ,

He took his life and threw

It for a world redeemed. . . ."

He took a chance! He died! it was the only way . . . and because he trod that way, the Way of the Cross, I cannot imagine any tears of regret from our Lord.

But I fear we will have many regrets. While we are wrestling with our theological differences (or are they?), many "sons" and "daughters" are drifting out of the Church, or passing by the Church — because we dim their vision of the Saviour. I am not suggesting that an undivided Church will bring salvation to all the world. But it is the only way that result could ever possibly be achieved. I am not foolish enough to suggest that, because there is a positive influence in a Christian home, there can be no failures among the children of that home.

But, oh, the tears of regret, and the pangs of remorse, if, while we were busy about our human problems and while we were trying to safeguard our personal feelings, your son, or my son, slipped into eternity outside of Christ. Me? Not me! Yes, you, sir! It might have been your son.

During basic training at Fort Carson, Colorado, in the meanest part of the winter, I found solace at the end of each cold, noisy, tiresome day of training by sitting in the peace and quiet of the regimental chapel. One night I noticed a soldier seven rows ahead of me, his head bowed in prayer. The chaplain came in and went over to him.

"Can I help you, son?" he asked.

The soldier's answer sustained my spirit for a long time.

"No, thank you, sir," he said. "I'm being helped."

HANDS ACROSS THE TASMAN

EXPERIMENT IN EVANGELISM

During late June and early July, members from the Auckland District Churches met together in the first **Spiritual Life Convention** held in this country. Under the auspices of the Home Mission Committee, it was organised by the church at **Mairangi Bay**, on the north shore. There were 25 full registrations, but over 50 people shared in one or more of the study-worship sessions which were held each night from Wednesday, 7.30 to 9.40 p.m., and all day on Saturday. All present voted it a most successful experiment, and it could mean a new pattern for the life of our work. The World Council of Churches Study Booklet, **Light of the World**, was used during the sessions. These Conventions have proved a great blessing in our American situation, and, modified to suit our conditions here, could prove equally effective in the deepening of our spiritual life and practical witness.

OFFICIAL OPENINGS

of the new buildings at Feilding and Invercargill East took place in July. In future the new work at Invercargill will take the name **Glenarry church**. Sister Phyllis, full-time deaconess, is undertaking a valuable and much appreciated ministry in the area. A. W. Grundy, former minister at Invercargill, turned the key and an address was given by Dr. A. L. Haddon at the Invercargill opening. Conference President, A. C. Tucker, shared in the opening of the Feilding chapel.

THE CHANGING SCENE.

Ministerial moves recently announced are: E. T. Williams, from Gisborne to Gore-Mataura in 1962. C. A. Brown concludes full-time work at Ponsonby-rd., Auckland, early next year, but will continue to undertake preaching and some leadership for a period. B. T. Delany concludes his ministry at Nae Nae this November. R. Hoffman, who spent a period at Invermay, Tas., has accepted an extended ministry with the South Wellington church, where he has been interim minister since his return to N.Z. G. B. Davis, of Dominion-rd., moves back to N.S.W. late this year, and we understand that his successor at the Dominion-rd. church, Auckland, will be Graeme Benjamin. J. W. Chambers has accepted an extension of ministry with Levin church, and E. R. Vickery, following return from World Convention, has accepted a further three-year term with the Queen's-rd. church, Wellington. K. C. Ogler concludes at Linwood church, and will proceed overseas during 1962 to study at Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis. W. Harford

New Zealand Newsletter

is recuperating, following a period in hospital due to ulcers. He is Chaplain at the R.N.Z.A.F. air station at Ohakea. G. L. Sweet will conclude his ministry at the Trentham church in January, 1962. G. D. Munro has returned from overseas following a period of study at Yale, on a Fulbright Scholarship, gaining the S.T.M. degree. Dr. A. L. Haddon, prior to representing our churches at New Delhi Assembly, will leave at the beginning of October for a lecture tour in the U.S.A. Lectures will be given at Texas Christian University; Phillips University, Christian Theological Seminary and the College of The Bible, Lexington.

PERSONAL.

The Southern Cross, on its visit to New Zealand in October, will have on board Mr. and Mrs. Ian Mitchell, returning from England after a period of work there; Mrs. McFadden, of Petone church; Mr. and Mrs. B. Kirby and family, returning here on furlough from Dadaya, Southern Rhodesia; and the first African from our Rhodesian field ever to come to this country, Mr. Gumbo. Mr. Gumbo will spend time visiting the churches throughout the Dominion, and also do work at the Bible College, Dunedin.

UNITED FINANCE.

The Treasurer of the Dominion Activities Fund — the unified approach for financing all our Departmental and Committees' activities — has advised that only 21 per cent of the total amount required for day to day work of the Committees is in hand for the first six months. However, the fact is that some churches have not yet forwarded any amounts, and are possibly holding funds on behalf of the brotherhood committees. Many churches do not send in their offerings received week by week until the end of the financial year. Eight churches have forwarded more in the first half of this year than they did in the whole of last year.

SECT SPLITS.

Some months ago several newspapers reported a division in the ranks of the Exclusive Brethren, as a result of recent orders issued from the President of the sect in the U.S.A. Members were forbidden to eat meals with other than their own members, or even share directly in tea-breaks with fellow-workers. We heard of one man who moved to the other side of the room whilst having his cup of tea in order to be "separated"

from people who were not members. The most recent report tells of ten dairy farmers who are members of the sect, who are withdrawing their shareholdings from the Waimea co-operative Dairy Company because it has become a matter of conscience for them not to hold shares in a company. As a result, they will be paid 1d. less per lb. of butter fat supplied, and would get none of the normal shareholders' benefits. The Open Brethren have made public a statement in which they deny any association with the Exclusive group, and maintain that they remain completely autonomous in their local congregations. We understand that several hundred Exclusive Brethren members have broken away, and are finding fellowship with other churches, in a few instances with our own.

INTER-CHURCHWISE.

Harvey L. Perkins, LL.M., B.D., E.Com., general secretary of the Australian Council of Churches, has been paying a visit to this country during July and August. The two-day annual meeting of the New Zealand Council was held in Christchurch on July 26 and 27. In addition to including observers from N.C.C. Branches in cases where they are not represented by one of their members in a voting capacity, this year's gathering included specially invited observers from the Brethren Assemblies, Assemblies of God and the Apostolic Church. A new departure from the usual practice is that the meeting was open to the Press. The New Zealand Council for Christian Education has been advertising for a General Secretary. "Exploratory conversations," which began in February of last year between representatives of the Church of England and those appointed by the four Churches at present negotiating for union, were continued recently at Feilding. A further meeting is projected for 1962.

THE APPOINTMENT

of Dr. and Mrs. David Coulter as fraternal missionaries by the Australian Churches to the New Hebrides could do much to strengthen the relations between our churches. We believe the appointment is a significant one, and commend these new missionaries to the Australian brotherhood. They have one daughter, Ruth Jean, born on July 10 last.

IN BRIEF.

Proposed "Incentive" payments to teachers in schools who would be prepared to extend their academic qualifications have been postponed as a result of present economic situation. The Government made it plain

that it would not tolerate any direct action by way of strikes on the part of teachers for better pay and conditions, as suggested by one small group. However, the present shortage of teaching staff is regarded as a serious matter. Losses through transfer of teachers to other jobs continue. The Department has undertaken a recruitment campaign in an attempt to alleviate the shortages . . . The Public Questions Committee of our Churches is concerned that we cannot find a common mind on the matter of capital punishment. This issue in New Zealand has been one of party politics, with a most

undesirable effect. Each time there is a change of Government in office there can be a change of law regarding the matter. . . . H. F. Gross, B.A., of our Department of Christian Education, has edited the report of the recent Lower Hutt Ecumenical Youth Conference, which is now available. A total of £2,100 has been provided by the young people who attended the Conference for Inter-Church Aid work through the National Council of Churches. Gifts from them continue to come in for this some eight months after the Conference was held, which is indicative of the impact of the gatherings.—W. B. Burn.

in India the doors are wide open for Christian service. There are well over 1,000,000 people in the area in which we are working, and the responsibility of winning these people for Christ is ours. There are no other Missions working in the area. What a tragedy it is to see people bowing down to idols, and to see scores of people dancing before their god. On the other hand, what a joy it has been to visit nearly one hundred Christian homes in Baramati, and to hear the people testify to the joy and blessing they have received since they became Christians. It is encouraging to know that a large percentage of the non-Christian people are prepared to open their homes to our evangelistic workers.

A letter of welcome read by Grace Jadhav, a student at the High School, is typical of the messages of welcome that have been given in many places:

Mr. R. S. McLean, Secretary, Home Board. Dear Sir. On behalf of the students of this High School, I have great pleasure in extending to you a hearty welcome to our country and especially to our midst here in Baramati. When your predecessor paid his last visit, some of us were then in the Mission Primary School, and recall with gratitude his promise that some day we would have the privilege of studying in the High School. That promise has been fulfilled, and two generations of students have passed through this school appearing for the S.S.C. Examination. We like our teachers and our school, the spacious playground, nice class rooms and beautiful furniture. We know that many more students would like to join our school. We hope it will be possible for you to be with us at the time of our school gathering. It will be a time of great rejoicing for all of us. In the meantime, as you travel about in our country, may God protect you and grant you journeying mercies.

Yours obediently,

Grace Jadhav.

On behalf of the Mission High School, Baramati
(Part II of Asau Visit, next week)

★

PRAYER

I know not by what methods rare.
But this I know: God answers prayer.

I know not when he sends the word
That tells us fervent prayer is heard.

I know it cometh soon or late:
Therefore, we need to pray and wait.

I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the guise I thought.

I leave my prayers with him alone
Whose will is wiser than my own.



SAFARI IN INDIA

R. S. A. McLean.

A week has passed since I arrived in India. Travelling by sea and air, I arrived in Bombay six days after leaving Fremantle. At Bombay I was met by E. W. Heard and members of the Bombay church. While I only had a short time with them before catching the train for Dhond, they enthusiastically told me about their plans to build a chapel, and expressed gratitude that the brotherhood at home had responded so well to the appeal for funds to build a place of worship. They are giving careful consideration to several blocks that are available, but it is no easy decision to make, and they request our prayers that the right one will be made.

It was quite a thrill to arrive at the Dhond station and be warmly welcomed by Dr. Patil, Sister Walker and members of the Dhond church. The chapel was crowded at the welcome meeting that night and garlands were presented by each auxiliary. The church expressed gratitude for the support given by the Australian churches. They appealed for more missionaries to be sent, and especially for a doctor for Dhond Hospital. One of the encouraging features of my visit to India so far is the requests that have come from several quarters to send out more Australian missionaries.

After I had spent a day at Dhond, B. V. Coventry came in his car to take me to Shrigonda. We spent a very busy morning visiting several villages, and finally came to Dhorja, where we have a Boarding School for boys. It was indeed a new experience to enter the dwellings of the village people. Most of them are very poor indeed, but possess a wonderful faith. From many of these poor families,

young people attend our Mission schools until they matriculate.

We returned to Shrigonda, and in the evening a welcome was given by the girls at the Shrigonda Girls' Home. There are 120 girls in this Home, and Miss Vawser and Shantabai Choudhari are doing a wonderful work amongst them. The girls are divided into families, with a senior girl in charge. I was introduced to each family, and it was a pleasure to see their clean quarters and to note the immaculate way the girls dressed.

In the evening we returned to Dhond for a Committee meeting. This afforded an opportunity to meet some of the missionaries from Baramati, and it was indeed a pleasure to meet once again my old College friend, Hariba Waghmode, as well as Mr. Bairagi, who is the Principal of the Baramati High School and supervisor of our educational work.

After the meeting we motored over to Baramati. Here we have the Boys' Home supervised by Mr. and Mrs. Heard, the Primary School which has over 1,500 scholars, and the High School. The work that is being done amongst these young people is greatly appreciated by the community at Baramati, and we must pray that many of them will be led to the Lord. It was good to see the work being done by Miss Geyer in the High School, and to meet the Bible Women who, with Miss Skuce, regularly visit thousands of homes in this area.

An important work amongst young people is being done at the Friendship Centre at Baramati. Young people meet here of an evening to play games and to read books from the library. Christian literature is available so that they can read the message of life.

During the short time that I have been here, I have come to realise that

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

The Captive Maid

Naomi Neville, Tas.

The story of the captive maid in Naaman's household has always been a favorite of mine. Ever since I was a girl she has been held up to me as an example, and I find that there are still many things which I can learn from her.

We all know the story of the little Jewish maid who was taken captive by the Syrians and sent to serve the wife of a general in that far off land. We are left to imagine the little girl's feelings of utter desolation, as, bereft of loved ones, home and country, she was surrounded by strange people, customs, languages and gods. It would be enough to break many an adult's spirit, but we do not find her overwhelmed by her circumstances. On the contrary, she was in a position of confidence, going about her duties cheerfully. When she learned from her distressed mistress of the general's leprosy, she immediately told her of the prophet Elisha in Israel, through whom God had worked many miracles. Such was the confidence placed in her that soon the words of the slave girl reached the king, who sent the general to Israel in the hope of a cure.

We remember how Elisha told the general to dip himself seven times in the Jordan, and his skin was restored as clean as a child's. Then Naaman returned to thank the prophet, and to acknowledge Jehovah as the only true God. Imagine the little maid's joy when the general returned home, cured of his loathsome disease.

What is there that we can learn from this simple story?

1. Trust in God.
2. Faithfulness in duty.
3. Compassion.
4. Practical assistance.

How easy it would have been for her to have forgotten her God, or to have compromised. There she was, in a land where superstition and idol worship prevailed, and yet she remained true to the faith of her fathers. What courage and strength of character she showed!

We, in easier circumstances, let our faith grow cold, and seek to compromise with the world around us. Consequently, our worship becomes a joyless ritual and our lives a dreary round of chores, instead of a glad service for our Master.

Because of her faith in God she had strength to perform, daily and faithfully, the duties allotted to her. How often her mistress must have watched her cheerful ministries, until one day she told her of the master's dreaded disease.

No matter how monotonous and lacking in glamor our lives may be, our lot could scarcely be worse than hers. There are vessels of honor, and some of more humble uses, and although we may consider ourselves a strictly utilitarian sort of pot, we will be used of the Master if we are clean and ready. No matter how menial the chore, it will become a privilege if we remember that, as we do it unto the least of these his brethren, we do it unto him.

Another thing about the captive maid which always impressed me was her compassion. Instead of being preoccupied with her own troubles she lent a sympathetic ear to the mistress' sorrows. How often we burden others with our worries, and never spare the time and effort to listen to others. To be a good listener really does take time and concentration. It is little help to a friend if we listen with only one ear, and then say, "Never mind, it'll all work

out right in the end." To show a loving concern for others, even as Christ had compassion on the multitudes, demands something of us.

In this case the maid not only showed sympathy, but she gave assistance. She might well have considered this problem beyond her, or have lacked the courage to speak to her heathen mistress of her own God. But no, her concern brings the spontaneous answer: "Would God my lord were with the prophet that is in Samaria, for he would recover him of his leprosy." Would God that when we are moved by compassion, we also would speak of our God. So often we deny the Water of Life to thirsty souls because we lack the courage to speak of our faith. We do not speak to others of those things which mean so much to us because we are afraid of what they will think; and yet so often they come to us, knowing that we are Christians, and hoping we can give them what they lack. David puts it so simply in Psalm 107, verse 2, when he says, "Let the redeemed of the Lord say so."

Naaman would never have been cleansed of his leprosy if it had not been for the words of the little slave girl, and there are those whom the Lord would heal if we will point the way to him. If we are in the place of the Lord's appointing, he will give us opportunities of service.

We may not be great or talented, but the humblest of us can point others to him. Let it be said of each one of us, "She did what she could." The greatest can do no more.

TWO FROM LEVITICUS

(A Hymn for September — No. 884, September 24)

The hymns of Charles Wesley, before being collected in 1780 in *Hymns of the People called Methodists*, had been published at intervals in groups under various titles. The latest and with 2030 hymns by far the largest, such group was "Short Hymns on Selected Passages of Scripture." We draw only two of our 26 Charles Wesley hymns from it, probably because the hymns generally are not up to the standard of the writer's early work. Most of his greatest hymns (including "Hark, the herald angels sing", "O for a thousand tongues", "And can it be?" and "Jesus, Lover of my soul") were written more than 20 years earlier.

It is apparently by coincidence that both of the Scripture hymns mentioned find their basis in the book of Leviticus. The better known of the two, "A charge to keep I have" (our No. 592) has attached to it in many Methodist hymnals the notation "Lev. 8:

35," the relevant portion reading: "Keep the charge of the Lord, that ye die not: for so I am commanded."

The complexities of Mosaic instructions concerning burnt offerings, trespass offerings, peace offerings, meat offerings and sin offerings seem most unpromising material for Christian hymns. Nevertheless, Wesley seized on Lev. 6: 13 ("The fire shall ever be burning upon the altar; it shall never go out") as starting point for another striking hymn, "O thou who camest from above" (our No. 884). He spiritualises the passage with the thought of kindling "a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart." Some have challenged — for its six-syllable length — the word "inextinguishable," but just as with his words elsewhere, "incomprehensibly made man," how could the idea be better conveyed? Wesley's stated aim of embracing in his hymns all important religious truths and illustrating them from Scripture is also furthered by use of 2 Tim. 1: 6 in the line "still stir up thy gift in me."—F.J.F.



Theme for the Week:
"PETER AND JOHN"

Sunday, October 1

John 21: 15-25.

Thought Text: "Lovest thou me?" (v. 15).

There is something deeply moving in this dawn picture of the Man who had died on the cross because "God so loved the world," here searching the soul of one fisherman with his question, "Do you love me?" And the man who had thrice denied his Lord, now three times over humbly says, "You know I love you." He was never quite the same man after that. Love bound him to the Master in a way that boastful self-confidence had never done.

"If you love me," Jesus had said in the Upper Room, "you will keep my commandments." For Peter, the Lordship of Christ became the supreme thing. On that test, how deep is our love for him?

O Lord, our love for thee is weaker far than we desire. Kindle it until it becomes the master passion of our lives. Amen.

Monday, October 2

Acts 2: 38-47.

Thought Text: "All that believed were together" (v. 44).

Here is the key to all that followed after Pentecost — the believers stayed together, learning, communing (with their Lord and with each other), praying, sharing, praising. No wonder a victorious community was born out of those who were determined to stay together. Physically, that wasn't possible for long; all too soon they were "scattered abroad." But there had been time enough for a bond to be formed which persecution could not destroy.

A true "togetherness" of spirit had been born, which later found vital expression in the offering from Gentile churches to the needy in Judea — and finds expression still in ventures like Inter-Church Aid.

WHEN SOARS the SOUL

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

Lord, increase that spirit in thy Church. May the isolationist discover fellowship, and the spiritually proud true love and humility. Amen.

Tuesday, October 3

Acts 3: 1-11.

Thought Text: "Such as I have give I thee" (v. 6).

Already Peter had learnt that lack of material riches doesn't necessarily brand a man as poor, any more than their possession makes a man rich. He had no silver or gold, but he knew where his true riches lay — and he was ready to share them. In the same way Paul described himself as "having nothing, yet possessing all things" (2 Cor. 6: 10).

The Church today is richer by far in material things than the Early Church. But has it the same confidence in the power of the Master's Name? Has it something real to share with spiritually needy men?

O Master, may thy Church in every land seek and know that spiritual power, which alone gives it something real to offer men. Amen.

Wednesday, October 4

Acts 3: 12-26.

Thought Text: "You killed the very Source of life" (v. 15, Goodspeed).

Whatever the translation of this particular phrase (and there are some interesting variations — Prince of life, Author of life, Pioneer of life), it was a daring title for anyone to apply to a recently crucified man. Campbell Morgan points out that the word literally means "a file-leader, one who takes precedence, one who goes first," and sees in the use of the title a hint of the resurrection, whose truth Peter then asserts so strongly.

Truly, all our future hope lies in him, but here and now, also, he is "Christ our life," the source of that "life to the full" which is his gift to those who trust in him.

Lord, keep us from the folly of being so busy trying to live our own lives in our own way, that we miss out on the secret of that more abundant life. Amen.

Thursday, October 5

Acts 4: 1-12.

Thought Text: "Howbeit, many of them which heard . . . believed" (v. 4).

There is a ring of triumph in that old-fashioned word, "Howbeit." The preachers of the gospel might be arrested, but not the power of their word. That went on winning men, despite all their enemies could do.

As Paul put it so well, "The word of God is not bound" (2 Tim. 2: 9). No prison has ever been able to hold it. For example, what happened in Madagascar last century has been repeated many times in the Christian era. There persecution banned all missionaries from the island, but when, after 25 years they were able to return, they found that the number of Christians had multiplied fivefold, held together by their reading of a banned book — the Bible.

We thank thee, O Lord, for all printers, distributors and preachers of thy Word. May many find thee today through their work. Amen.

Friday, October 6

Acts 4: 13-22.

Thought Text: "A notable miracle . . . we cannot deny it" (v. 16).

They could not deny it, but they could — and did — defy it. So it has always been; the church which gets results will always rouse opposition. Our Lord was a realist, and he told his disciples bluntly, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." If it is ever an easy thing to be a Christian, something has gone wrong somewhere; standards have slipped.

But when we can give them evidence, like that of the healed man, people will at least recognise that we have been with Jesus. Is "the fruit of the Spirit" sufficiently in evidence in our own lives to turn others' thoughts to him?

Dear Master, make our lives the kind of miracles in which thy love may be truly seen. Amen.

Saturday, October 7

Acts 4: 23-31.

Thought Text: "When they had prayed, the place was shaken" (v. 31).

These men had been threatened, but it wasn't they who were shaken; it was the place in which they prayed for courage to go on witnessing. They knew what they must do; as for the threats of men, they could safely leave those with God.

It was an audacious prayer, and God was quick to answer such faith. But it was also humble prayer; they knew they could not face persecution in their own strength — they needed what God alone could give.

Heavenly Father, we thank thee that such courage still lives among persecuted Christians today — courage that shames our timidity and fears. Grant them all needed strength to stand firm for thee. Amen.

HERE AND THERE

Cr. Aub. Jackel, deacon with our Wangaratta (Vic.) church, has been elected Mayor of the City of Wangaratta for a third term.

The Kingaroy (Qld.) church has purchased a new manse property in the main street, opposite the Kingaroy Park. This will allow good opportunity for expansion. The present chapel will be moved alongside the manse for use as a hall, and a new chapel will be built in the same grounds.

The church at Belmore (N.S.W.) farewelled its minister, F. D. Craig, Mrs. Craig and family, at an evening on Aug. 25. Presentations were made from the church and C.W.F.

The recent election of John Williams, of the North Essendon (Vic.) church, to the Essendon City Council, was remarkable for two things. The first was John's age—23 years—and the second was that he defeated 4 other candidates. John is a member of the Board of Officers at North Essendon-Milleraa, asst. treasurer of the church, and supt of the Primary Dept. of the B.S. Church members helped with his campaign.

Marrickville (N.S.W.) is very happy to announce that Mervyn Bedwell has accepted the call to the full-time ministry with the church. In the meantime, the church continues to appreciate the interim ministry of P. E. Thomas. Mr. Bedwell will commence in the near future.

During the winter months just ended, much good work has been done in the training of leaders for all sections of the churches' life in Victoria. This training was conducted by the Department of Christian Education. Thirty-five Church School workers attended the various courses offered by the Victorian Council of Christian Education; more than one hundred persons enrolled for the Leader Diploma Course, which ran for thirteen weeks; fifty-six persons attended the Leader of Leaders' course, which was designed to increase the effectiveness of teaching in the Church Schools. Currently, an enthusiastic group is attending an Adult Seminar, with a view to establishing adult study groups in the churches.

A representative group of former students of the Federal College of the Bible gathered with the present student community in an enjoyable annual reunion on Tues., Sept. 12. L. G. Crisp presided over an interesting and varied programme, which included brief talks from C. Young,

J. G. Shaw and J. E. Brooke. Informal fellowship was enjoyed during the supper period.

The church at St. Albans (Vic.) is temporarily meeting with the Sunshine church and the two churches are planning development and expansion together. All matters relating to both churches should be addressed to the secretary of the Sunshine church until further notice.

Friends of Miss Lucy Griffiths, of the Cheltenham (Vic.) church, offer their congratulations upon her appointment as Secretary of World Youth Projects, an adjunct of the World Council of Churches. Lucy takes up her appointment in Geneva next November. Formerly she was Secretary of the A.C.Y.C.

The Essendon (Vic.) Ministers' Fraternal, with the co-operation of the district Sunday Schools, organised a Combined Sunday School Demonstration in connection with Education Week, Aug. 20-26. Window displays of Sunday School work were seen at some shopping centres. At 2.30 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 20 a procession of scholars and teachers, assisted by the Essendon Salvation Army and City Bands, marched from the Strand along Mt. Alexander-rd. to the Essendon Town Hall, where V. Quayle, who was actively engaged in organising the demonstration, was Chairman for the P.S.A. The Mayor of Essendon, Councillor G. Ireland, gave an "Address of Welcome" to the 800 people present. Guest speaker was Les E. Brooker.

The Half-Yearly Convention of the Victoria-Tasmania Conference of Churches of Christ was held at Ballarat on Sat., Sept. 9. About three hundred shared in the gatherings, representing close on fifty churches. A full report of what proved a most enjoyable Convention will be included in next week's issue.

The Vic.-Tas. C.W.F. Annual Missionary Rally will be held in the Lygon-st. chapel on Wednesday, Sept. 27, commencing at 10.30 a.m., with a social cup of tea, followed at 11 o'clock by a devotional service. Afternoon session at 1.30 p.m. All women are invited to attend. — B. L. Williams, Sec., Missionary Comm.

The new Activities Hall of the church at Flinders Park, S.A., was opened on Aug. 19 and dedicated on the 20th. It is considered one of the most modern halls in the State. Valued at £18,000, it is the result

of two years' planning and voluntary labor by members and friends. The opening day was included in the news session of NWS-9. Those taking part in the opening and dedication were D. K. Beiler, S. E. Matthews, C. E. Curtis and K. Horne. J. B. Baker is the present minister.

Delegates of district churches met in the Essendon (Vic.) chapel on Sept. 6 to consider together the booklet, *Design for Development*. Vic.-Tas. H.M. Sec., B. J. Combridge, and Field Officer, A. A. Avery, introduced the booklet in a thought-provoking way which left no doubt that the church's task was to integrate evangelism into the programme in such a way that the whole church was involved. A period of discussion followed, and after the meeting delegates continued their fellowship and discussion over a cup of tea. If the whole church can be as enthusiastic in implementing and carrying through the suggested programmes as these two brethren were in presenting them, there is no doubt that a rich harvest will result. We understand that similar area meetings will be held in other centres. If there is one in your district, be sure that you attend it. —V. Quayle.

VENTURE IN UNITY

The five local churches in East Kew, Vic., have begun a series of combined evening services and discussions based on the theme for the World Council of Churches Assembly in New Delhi, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.

On the first Sunday evening of September, the Baptist and Presbyterian churches worshipped together in the Baptist Church, and the Bible study of the first topic, *The Glory of God*, was led by G. Fairservice. After the service, groups met together to consider the questions raised in the presentation of the first topic.

The Church of Christ and the Methodist Church worshipped in the Methodist Church and the Bible study was led by A. W. C. Candy. After the service the Anglican Church joined with these two churches for Bible study and discussion of the topic.

On the first Sunday night of October arrangements are being made for the Methodists and Anglicans to worship in the Presbyterian Church, and the Baptists to worship in the Church of Christ. After the services there will be Bible study and discussion of the second topic, *The Break of Day*.

On Tuesday, Oct. 31, at 8 p.m., all the five local churches will combine for worship and for the presentation of the findings of the two previous gatherings. One of the delegates to the Third Assembly in New Delhi will lead the Bible study on the third topic, *The Servant King*, and this will be followed again by group discussions.

OUR FAMILY PAGE

When is a Church

Remember the conundrum which asks, "When is a door not a door?" The answer, "When it is a jar." Often in my mind I ask that question about the church, but never as a conundrum; instead, as a matter of fact. When is a church not a church?

Our method is to establish an organisation of persons, to erect around them a building, to hang out a sign that says, "This is the church." But a church in the true and highest sense of the term is not an organisation of persons, no matter the loftiness of the constitution which binds them together, nor the beauty of the building in which they are housed. A church, in the true sense, is a fellowship of persons, wholly consecrated to the spirit, the teachings, and the life of Jesus Christ, thoroughly and completely dedicated to making his Way known among all mankind, and disciplined daily to live as he lived.

When is a church not a church? When less than the spirit of Christ prevails among its members. When in its official family there is strife, bitterness, accusation, and littleness. When among its membership there is lacking a dedication to the Truth in discipline and in attitude that was manifest in the life of Jesus Christ.

Is there not often an unworthiness in our so frequent use of the word, "the church," as it refers to the local fellowship to which we belong? Historically, the church is the body of Christ. It is a fellowship of persons, in, and through whom, the love of God abounds, and whose very purpose is to make vivid the Will of God among men as proclaimed in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. To do violence in our little fellowship to the love of God as expressed toward all men and to the teachings and to the spirit of Jesus Christ, and to do so under the banner of the church is to use the word, "church," unworthily.

When is a church? — Christian Messenger.

Make Your Faith Attractive

Our shopkeepers excel in the art of window-dressing, seeking to attract the passer-by to go in and buy.

We humans always like to try to make our homes look attractive. The good housewife spreads color with cushions, curtains and the rest.

Paul says that Christian people should do something similar with their

lives. "Adorn," he says, "the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things."

This means making our religion attractive, putting it into the shop window where it looks enticing. But it is also incumbent upon us to see that when folk come to enquire, and visit the work room, the goods are every bit as good as they appeared in the window.—Selected.

The Value of Silence

One of the great passages from the Book of Isaiah reads, "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." (Isaiah 30: 15). Just to read the words slowly carries with it a sense of assurance and confidence.

Great souls have learned the value of quietness. The greatest minds have learned to be still. Those who have known serenity have known that in the midst of life's activity they must have some periods of silence. It is not the mere lack of noise that makes silence have value. It is in quietness that one feels the reality of God. "Be still, and know that I am God" (Psalm 46: 10), wrote the Psalmist. "For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation." (Psalm 62: 1).—The Christian.



If I could see
Children languishing in sore distress,
And I should turn and leave them
comfortless,
When I might be
A messenger of hope and happiness
How could I ask to have what I denied
In my own hour of bitterness supplied?

If I might share
Another's load along the dusty way,
And I should turn and walk alone
that day,
How could I dare—
When in the evening watch I kneel to
pray—
To ask for help to bear my pain and
loss,

If I had heeded not another's cross?
—Anonymous.



I fancy most of us still fail to realise that the Christian religion is a terrific, lovely, explosive, world-shattering force, and not an anodyne against life's little or large disturbances. The "Magnificat" is as much more revolutionary as it is more beautiful than "The Red Flag." — H. L. (Dick) Sheppard.

Even a mosquito doesn't get a slap on the back until he starts working.

Ripe — For What?

An American newspaper editor, burdened with the continual flow of news which indicated moral laxity and breakdown in his country, sat down at his typewriter and wrote, in fifteen minutes, a leading article which stirred the nation. It was reprinted in forty publications; within a week of its appearance 1,000 people had tried to reach him by phone, letter, or personal conversation in the street.

"What is wrong with us?" he wrote.

"It is in the air we breathe. The things we do. The things we say. Our books. Our papers. Our theatres. Our movies. Our radio and television. The way we behave. The interests we have. The values we fix . . ."

"Why has a moral deterioration set in among us that brings corruption, loose behaviour, dulled principles, subverted morals, easy expediences, sharp practices?"

He went on to quote the father of a ten-year-old son, who asked:

"What do I do? I am concerned about my son. We try to teach him right from wrong. But the air is filled with today's easy interpretations of what is right and wrong. . . ."

The title of the article that obviously touched a sensitive spot in the life of a great nation was, "Can't we tell right from wrong?" That was ten years ago. To our shame, it is even more timely now.

Trouble is God's Care

Some people jeer at those who find God only when great trouble comes. But that is God's way. He reveals himself as a great need appears. We seek help and there he stands. It was thus the disciples, on the storm-tossed sea, looked up and beheld the Master.

Only the disciples did not, at first, know him. Today Christ appears to help us in human guise. A doctor advises, a nurse cares, a patient in the next bed shares and sympathises. Christ is speaking but we do not always recognise him.—Chap. Lyman R. Hartley, Presbyterian Hospital, New York, from *Religion and Health*.

An old-timer is one who remembers when a do-it-yourself kit consisted of a strong pair of hands.

—Frank J. Pepe.

A fellow said he hasn't spoken to his wife in months — but he's sure his turn is coming any day now.



Discipleship

Joy Cook, Janet Rivett, Marie Crouch, Portland, Vic.

Carol Prout, Ormond, Vic.

Mrs. C. McArdle, Long Plains, S.A.

Marion and Linda Strack, Essendon, Vic.

John Campbell, Marrickville, N.S.W.

Lorraine Uren, Nailsworth, S.A.

Membership

Mr. and Mrs. G. Chislett, Rosevale to Portland, Vic.

Mrs. McGregor, Black Rock to The Patch, Vic.

Trevor Scheonfisch, to Mt. Walker, Qld.

Miss Osborne, from Croydon; Mrs. D. Bray, from Glenelg; Mrs. D. Hull, from Newmarket, Vic., to Unley, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. P. Ward-Smith, Boondall to Dalby, Qld.

Marriage

Josephine Hindmarsh, Harvey, W.A. to Rodney Cook, Red Cliffs, Vic.

Lorraine Neumann to Bevan Miller, Mt. Walker, Qld.

Marion Hunt to Owen Clark, Ormond, Vic.

Betty Smith to Eric Thomas, North Perth, W.A.

Darrelle Baker to Brian Cox, Burwood East, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Mundt, Rosewood, Qld.

J. Jensen, Rosevale, Qld.

H. Ambrose, E. Ipswich-Leichhardt, Qld.

AUST. CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra (G. R. Stirling, B.A.). — Men's Sunday celebrated Sept. 3, with C.M.S. fellowship and tea, showing of films, and special participation by men in evening service. Delegation also attended regional meeting of men at Bowral, 8th. Church host to monthly

united church service, 4th. Mr. and Mrs. Ewen McGregor and family farewelled on removal to Albury. Annual report shows membership 181 (increase of 22); a.m. av., 145 (increase of 15), p.m., 111 (increase of 9), with 143 at communion (increase of 16); total giving, £4,144; B.S., enrolment 315, av. attendance, 220.

QUEENSLAND

Dalby (P. Woolford). — During minister's holiday, members appreciated messages from C. Dunne and F. Winter (Toowoomba) and P. Ward-Smith. Church has bought land in another area of town and is planning new buildings. House That Hunter Built, screened at an evening service. Attendances constant and work progressing. Prayer meetings in members' homes attracting good attendances.

East Ipswich - Leichhardt (R. Acland). — Attendances at all services down, mainly due to school holidays and sickness. Church elders visited C.Y.F. meeting, Aug. 30. W. E. Reeve (elder) gave address. C.W.F. met 7th, with 20 ladies present. Mrs. S. Chalmers (Brisbane), guest speaker. At monthly meeting of C.M.S., informative address on communism, given via tape recorder. Variety concert by local and visiting Brisbane artists, 9th, proceeds to New Building Fund. John Feeney entered hospital for further surgical treatment. Church extends Christian sympathy to Mrs. H. Ambrose and Mr. and Mrs. A. Feldhahn in bereavement.

Maryborough (D. G. Nelson). — After much thought and discussion by church officers, Sept. 1 saw introduction of new planned offering system. Time of fellowship enjoyed by all who attended loyalty evening. C.Y.F. continues to grow.

West Moreton Churches (D. W. G. Holmes). — Lowood teaching mission, conducted by minister, proved blessing; town canvassed. At youth night of mission, Youth Project winners announced; senior section, Lorna Kickbusch (Marburg); junior section, Jennifer Domrow (Rosewood). Prizes were: week at Woolwich Bible College for Lorna, and set of books for Jennifer. Lowood's 12th anniversary tea had M. Pieper (Albion) speaker. Lowood commenced weekly prayer meetings. Marburg ladies commenced sewing days for Missions. Rosewood J.C.E. growing vegetables for Mission funds. One family (plus a few smaller donations) from Rosevale, gave

£120 for stove at Caloundra Youth Centre. Rosewood held birthday dinner party for Mrs. Lane, oldest member. Rosewood introduced Budget system of giving. Circuit saddened by loss of Mrs. Mundt (Rosewood) and J. Jensen (Rosevale). 12 Rosevale primary scholars collected £4 for Missions through class Mission Boxes.

Townsville (R. Veal). — Church now meeting at Armstrong since sale of Hermit Park property. New property, with manse adjoining, has been purchased. Negotiations in hand for plans for new building. This follows visit of Fed. Sec., Stanton Wilson, and negotiations with State H.M.C. during David Mansell's visit to lead youth camp at Magnetic Island. Dennis Foletta (Woolwich) spent week in Townsville and Magnetic Island, spoke to church, worked with Y.P. Preacher, wife and family holidaying in Melbourne.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

North Perth (E. C. L. Ots). — June McCulloch selected for State basketball team. Flora Romeyn passed nursing examinations. Much sickness among members. Sympathy to Mrs. Ormiston in death of husband. J.C.E. holding puppet shows to augment funds for National Convention. C.W.F. financed painting of new kitchen, and also donated £100 for that project. Minister conducted services at Bridgetown. Church planning Mission of Friendship.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Beverly Hills (R. W. Beadle). — Good meetings during August. Recently formed Girls' Brigade paraded in uniform, Sis. Armstrong and McPherson are Brigade's leaders. C.M.S. meeting addressed by Mr. Sparks. Church striving to liquidate building debt within six weeks.

Rockdale (C. J. Mackenzie). — Minister commenced third year with church, Aug. 20. Mr. Palmer (Conf. Pres.) speaker, 27th. For Men's Week, men of church active at evening service, speaker being Christian business man (W. Butler). On Sept. 5, at combined men's meeting, speaker Hon. Richard Thompson, M.L.C. Special guest artists and Questions Without Notice, featured. Miss Troy and John Bentley back after hospi-

talisation. Minister gave missionary talk at C.W.F., and had native articles and curios on display.

Hamilton (W. D. Howard). — Members renewed acquaintance with H. Robson (Mayfield), a.m. guest speaker, Aug. 13. A. Gilchrist gave insight into work associated with Billy Graham campaign, p.m., 20th. John Moran addressed church, 27th, in absence of minister in camp. Miss Daphne Robson gave illustrated address on work done by missionaries at Dr. Grahame's Homes in India, prior to her leaving for that field. A. W. Stephenson (Principal, Woolwich) spoke a.m., Sept. 3. Sis. Moran welcomed back into fellowship after illness. Numerous visitors welcomed.

Belmore. — On Sept. 23, fellowship shared at tea-table and gospel service with visiting C.Y.F. team. At a.m. service, Max Meyer spoke on A.M.A.F. Over £80 raised by ladies at fete held in home of Mr. and Mrs. Dean in aid of Manse Fund. Sympathy extended to Kent and Bowser families in Home call of H. Kent.

Earlwood (G. Sloman). — Church's 23rd anniversary successful. Fellowship tea, followed by inspirational rally with guest speaker, R. J. Anderson (Wollongong), who was accompanied by Mrs. Anderson and family. Song leader, E. Oswald. Appreciated messages in song, recitation and instrumental music from various members of sister churches appreciated. Numerous visitors helped pack chapel to capacity. Conf. Pres., W. H. B. Palmer, gave address a.m. service, Sept. 10. Sympathy expressed to Mr. Hudson and family in loss of Mrs. Hudson, snr. Much regret felt that Mrs. Morris suffered stroke. Mrs. Avar, Mrs. Gabb and Mr. Roots unable to attend through illness. A. Webb preached gospel message, and J. Hudson, soloist; one young man baptised. Offerings totalled £118 for Manse Fund; £10 contributed by B.S.

Hornsby. — Y.P. conducted gospel service, Aug. 20, with Herbert Bishop giving final message. On 26th, Y.P. conducted nursery rhyme social. Over weekend, Sept. 8, camp held at Youth Centre (Lake Illawarra) under the auspices of Y.P. Recent speakers, Messrs. Boswell, Dallinger, Christensen, Ellerby, Roberts and Jackson (B. & F.B.S.).

Marrickville (P. E. Thomas - int.). — Church membership intermingled in members' homes on Friday night, Sept. 1, as part of "Togetherness" phase of church's prayer-powered programme. C.W.F. met in the home of Mrs. T. Benson for luncheon and "bring a gift, buy a gift" afternoon. Musical youth rally, Sept. 9. Newly formed cricket team commenced play in churches' competition.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Nailsworth (A. M. Norris, B.A.). — Sept. youth service ably conducted by Y.P., addresses being given by K. Thompson and J. Lambert; large attendance. Young woman recently baptised and welcomed. On Conference Sunday, a.m. speaker, M. T. Lawrie (Kadina); many visitors present. In basketball one girls' team and one men's team secured premiership honours.

Ascot Park (R. H. Sercombe). — Attendances down during school holidays. Ascot Park won prizes for greatest increase in new scholars. 89 present, a.m. New innovation is disciples' class meeting after evening service, goodly number of young teenagers attending.

Owen - Long Plains (C. S. Badcock). — Good attendances maintained. 6 registered for C.E. Convention in Perth. Kinder. dept. of Owen B.S. recommenced, Sept. 10, after lapse of 2 years. Combined C.M.S. met at Owen, when men from Edwardstown C.M.S. conducted meeting. R. M. Wilson visiting speaker at Owen, a.m., Aug. 13. Owen church celebrated 79th anniversary, Sept. 3, when K. D. Horne (Youth Director) was speaker at morning service, and P.S.A., Miss Dawn Chivell (elocutionist), Leon Sander (pianist), Bob Angove (soloist), rendered items, and Owen Male Quartet sang at evening service. Both churches had fellowship with Max Wilson (Hobart) during fortnight mission at Long Plains.

Unley (C. H. J. Wright, B.A.). — During past month meetings well attended. At morning service, Sept. 3, church welcomed visitors, Mr. and Mrs. French (Hurstville, N.S.W.), also Mr. and Mrs. Neville Moore (Shepparton, Vic.), on 10th, when Mr. Moore gave address to church, also a talk to Adult Classes on his work as chaplain to Shepparton (Vic.) High School. Two confessed faith at evening service.

Victor Harbour. — Church still managing well, with help of brethren, during time without minister. Y.P. enjoyed social family night. Many members attended youth night at Conference, when B.S. was awarded Efficiency Campaign. C.W.F. busy sewing for Missions.

VICTORIA

East Kew (A. W. C. Candy). — On Aug. 27, largest services for some time when 108 communed. Morning service crowded; gospel service well attended, when young man from Holland made decision. Mrs. James left for

extended tour of England and the Continent, and was presented with gift from ladies. Time of fellowship and prayer enjoyed after service, Aug. 27. Special prayer meetings being conducted in interests of ill members; evidences of answered prayer already appearing. C.M.S. entertained men from Nth. Balwyn. Men conducted gospel service, Father's Day. All youth work going ahead well. Newly-formed J.C.E. meets in hall during latter part of morning worship. C.Y.F. and junior clubs well attended. Junior tennis conducted Saturday mornings. Senior tennis A team won semi-final.

Collingwood (S. Wilkerson). — Sept. 3 monthly parade of church auxiliaries; increased attendance; C.W.F. led service. Lady welcomed by transfer. Gardiner men assisted at a.m. service, Aug. 27. Church grateful for their help once a month. C.E. held service, Singleton Lodge, Sept. 2. Cricket club annual meeting made plans for new season. Much work done in complete kitchen renovation. Members deriving great help from pre-gospel meeting prayer sessions.

Shepparton (T. A. Fergusson). — Food parcels being sent to missionaries overseas. Games night, organised by C.W.E.F., raised £11/1/- to purchase clothing for Carnarvon. C.M.S. recommenced, with N. Read, pres. Sympathy of church extended to E. O'Donnell and family in recent passing of loved wife and mother. Chaplain N. S. Moore addressed church a.m., Sept. 3. Several fathers took part in gospel service, and film, *This Way To Heaven*, screened. Av. no. communicants, Aug., 91. Av. weekly Budget offering, £45/7/9. In addition, average of £74 monthly for past 7 months added to New Building Fund.

Warrnambool (F. W. Bradley). — During minister's vacation, church helped by S. Harrop, G. Dalton, E. Houston, Mac Smith (Y.M.C.A. sec.) and Technical College chaplain (N. Merret). Several members ill. Number of non-members attending gospel service. Lady baptised Aug. 20, and received into membership, 27th. C.E. and Good Companions having good meetings. Bricklayer commenced on youth hall. Neville Bradley accepted position as B.S. supt.

Swan Hill (G. A. Harrison). — C.E. has excellent attendances. Preacher conducted C.E. consecration meeting Sept. 9. Church presentation made to Mr. and Mrs. H. Catemole, who have left district. W. Cockroft speaker Sept. 3 gospel service. Church has had fellowship with number of visitors.

Burwood East (G. Carslake). — Visiting speakers during C.O.B. vacation included A. Pigdon (J.E.W.) and T. Mason. Attendances good. Five

Y.P. baptised Aug. 13. Fences erected one side of church buildings by voluntary labor; first step toward preparation of ground for day kinder. All clubs well attended. Mrs. Smith continues to make good progress in health. Newly formed cricket club has joined "B" Grade South Suburban churches.

South Melbourne (K. Turner). — Church made presentation to J. Livingston, retired from Officers' Board after many years' faithful service. P. Andrews conducted evening service, Aug. 27. Miss Bev. Wilson participated in Ecumenical Work Camp held at Coober Pedy, S.A. Y.P. held "Roaring 20's" night Sept. 6. Monthly prayer meeting held 7th. Recent visitors included Mrs. Grant (Adelaide). Church appreciates continued assistance of Hartwell and Cheltenham churches in conducting of a.m. services.

Warracknabeal. — Church regrets that Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Randall have returned to Melbourne because of Mr. Randall's illness. Their interim ministry was appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have been farewelled from the district, also Mrs. Evans. Appreciation of their services was expressed by church and C.W.F.

York-st., Ballarat (C. Terry). — Men of church, together with those of other Ballarat churches, participated in series of classes of instruction in reading, presiding and preaching. D. Hamilton (Belmont) guest speaker at 68th church anniversary. All officers returned at annual business meeting, Aug. 31. School reported slight increase since change-over from afternoon to morning school. Auxiliary reports show varied interests. Church extends sympathy to family of late Mrs. M. Marshall.

Lygon-st., Carlton (R. J. Duckett). — All meetings keeping up well. Many members prevented by sickness and age from attending. S. R. Baker guest preacher, p.m., Sept. 10; short film on B. & F. B. S. work. Midweek prayer and Bible study class still maintains between 50 and 60 in attendance. Many visitors and Y.P. present.

Northcote (A. B. Withers). — Attendances quite good. W. T. Atkin spoke on Social Service; offering for that Dept., £102. Mr. Kitchen spoke on behalf of B. & F. B. S. Annual meeting of church held, Sept. 6, when reports from all auxiliaries showed work in healthy condition. Basketball club had successful winter season, all teams reaching final series. Cricket club commenced practice. Some members ill.

Essendon (V. Quayle). — On Aug. 10, W.M.B. had guest speaker (supt., Aborigines Com., Mrs. Steele). Good Companions held service for graduation of girls to senior club. C.M.S.

tea, guest speaker, Mr. Webber. 98 attended p.m. 13th, when **Teenage Conflict** screened. Two B.S. scholars made decision. 30 Y.P. attended C.Y.F. study camp at Seaford, returning to assist in evening service. Monthly family night, 19th. On 20th, Mayor and Mayoress, Councillor and Mrs. G. Ireland, along with other councillors, attended special evening service in connection with Education Week. Good Companions' choir and girls of church auxiliaries assisted at girls' service, 27th. Av. attendance, August, 11 a.m., 101; 7 p.m., 77; communicants, 103.

North Essendon - Milleara (A. E. White, B.A. - A. J. Lloyd). — Av. communicants, Aug.: 141 N.E., 27 Milleara. Church took part in Essendon Sunday Schools' Rally during Education Week. Mr. and Mrs. J. Lycett were on committee, R. Drayton and A. E. White prepared shop window display, and ladies did floral arrangements in Town Hall. S.C.Y.F. conducted inspiring communion service, Aug. 20, with 216 present. Pres. was D. Roberts, and speaker, R. Conning. Evening of Aug. 20, S.C.Y.F. conducted service at Emmaus. During minister's holidays, speakers F. Funston, D. Ploog, P. Brooks, J. Lloyd, R. Geyer. Attendances affected by sickness and school holidays. Recent activities of C.W.F. included afternoon at manse and street stall.

Ormond (R. C. McKenzie, B.A.). — One young lady confessed faith and was baptised, Aug. 27. 200 McKinnon High School pupils attended special service in chapel for Education Week, when minister gave address. Some members attended district prayer rally at Cheltenham, 30th, for New Life Crusade at East Bentleigh. P.B.P. gained 1 first and 2 seconds and K. S. P. 2 seconds and 1 third in Bible Reading contest. Church commenced non-stop 24-hour prayer chain for East Bentleigh Crusade. This will continue every Wednesday until conclusion of mission. Members have committed themselves to one half-hour each, 48 members taking part.

St. Kilda (I. Richer). — Special meeting decided to try, during next 2 years, to raise enough money to build new and larger hall at rear of church property. Talent Fund is one means to be used. Explorer Club progressing favorably, and now has its own free library. Boys devising their own schemes to raise money for new hall. Church pleased to note the increase in evening attendance, especially among Y.P. Church property improvements carried out by Y.P. M. Ripper accepted office of B.S. supt. B.S. has successfully completed Operation Seven. On Aug. 27, H. Pietzsch (Maidstone) gave address at youth service, at which Y.P. assisted. Midweek prayer meeting resumed.

Portland (C. G. Henderson). — On Aug. 27, F. Combridge (Social Service Dept.) addressed a.m. service. Slides on Homes were shown in evening. After screening of film, **Talents**, church decided to try similar scheme for period of 3 months, and on Sept. 3, 5/- talents were issued to members after morning service. Members of West. Dist. Executive attended meeting at Hamilton, Sept. 7. C.E. represented at Warrnambool, 8th, and 6 members attended half-yearly Convention, Ballarat. Baptismal service held during a.m. service, 10th. Three girls baptised, then received into fellowship. Two added by transfer.

Red Cliffs (S. K. Bannon). — Series of special Sunday evening services concluded, Aug. 20. There were 2 decisions. Av. p.m. attendance during that time well over 100. C. L. Lang and B. Snoxall speakers, 27th, while minister on holidays. W. W. Saunders (Vic. Temperance Alliance) visiting speaker, p.m., Sept. 3. The C.W.F.E.G. held 2nd birthday, Sept. 7, with excellent attendance. Proceeds from stall, £10. Sympathy of church extended to Roshers and Spriggs, in recent bereavements.

NOTES FROM THE READINGS

As Suggested for

Sunday, Sept. 24

JEREMIAH 7: 1-14.

Josiah's reforms had given the Jerusalem Temple a central place in the nation's worship, so that the people looked on it and its sacrifices as a sign of God's protection. In this bold, challenging sermon Jeremiah insists that God wants a radical change in the people themselves, and that to show them how misplaced their faith in ritual is, he is prepared to destroy the Temple itself, as the earlier Shiloh had been.

"called by my name" (v. 10). — Dedicated to God.

"a den of robbers" (v. 11). — "Jesus quoted this phrase when he cleansed the Temple, combining it with a quotation from Is. 56: 7. In the present context the emphasis is not as much upon the robbers as in Jesus' words. The robbers' den was usually a cave in which they could find refuge and have a feeling of safety" (Hyatt).

"Shiloh" (v. 12). — 18 miles N. of Jerusalem. This early centre of worship (note Eli and Samuel) was apparently wrecked by the Philistines when they swept through Benjamin.

COLOSSIANS 3: 1-11.

Paul passes from refuting error to make a positive declaration of what the new life in Christ must mean,

giving a summary of moral instruction as to the transformation which takes place in character and conduct, when Christians "live a new life by the power of the risen Christ."

"risen with Christ" (v. 1). — "The reference is to baptism. Paul always describes baptism so as to emphasise the spiritual reality which alone gives significance to the eternal act" (MacLeod).

"your life is hid with Christ in God" (v. 3). — "Its essence is Christ himself, and it will be manifested when Christ is manifested in glory" (Beare).

"evil concupiscence" (v. 5). — "Evil desire."

"for which things' sake the wrath of God cometh" (v. 6). — "We pay the full price for every moral detour from the path that leads to life . . . We choose our own punishment when we choose immoral ways" (MacLeod).

"neither Greek nor Jew, etc." (v. 11). — "Greek nor Jew — racial differences; circumcised and uncircumcised — differences of religious tradition; barbarian, Scythian — cultural differences; slave, free man — social differences" (MacLeod).

DEATH

SHARP. — At Brisbane, on Sept. 7, Marjorie Sharp, of 124 Grant-st., Ballarat, Vic., dearly beloved wife of the late Henry, and loved daughter of Winifred and James Lacy, and loving sister of Verna (Mrs. N. Floate), Jim, Gwen (Mrs. Mason), Fred, Dulcie (Mrs. A. Floate), Enid (dec.), Norman, Betty, (Mrs. E. Jepsen) and Elsa (Mrs. L. Murphy). "With Christ which is far better."

IN MEMORIAM

MACDONALD. — In memory of our loved ones — our mother, Isabella Macdonald, who died at Horsham, Sept. 12, 1938; Harry, killed in France, Aug. 15, 1918, and Morrison, who died at Beaufort, Sept. 19, 1925; also dear Nellie, who died at Seaford, Aug. 25, 1960. "Loved with an everlasting love."

—The Family.

HALLIDAY — Margaret Jane, called Home 24/9/1952. Always lovingly remembered by son Fred, three sisters, brother and granddaughter, Rose.

POTTER — Ernest, loving husband of Esther, passed away 24/9/1954; "a keeper in the House of the Lord."

APPROACHING MARRIAGE

MUDFORD - GRAHAM. — The marriage of Rennice Jean, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Mudford, 15 Kirkwood-st., Eaglehawk, Vic., to Alan James, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Graham, Bendigo, Vic., will take place at the Church of Christ, Short-st., Bendigo, on Saturday, Sept. 30, at 11.30 a.m.

Coming Events

NORTHCOTE (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES, Oct. 1 and 8, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. All welcome.

COLLINGWOOD (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, Oct. 1 and 8. 1st.: 3 p.m., Demonstration of Scholars and Cradle Roll; 7 p.m., I. Mackey. 8th: 3 p.m., R. Brooker; 7 p.m., S. Wilkerson. Tea provided. Renew old acquaintances and enjoy bright singing and thoughtful addresses.

NORTH FITZROY (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL, 88th ANNIVERSARY, will be held on Sundays, Oct. 8 and 15. All past members and friends invited to come home to these services. Reunion Tea, 5 p.m., Oct. 8.

HAMPTON (Vic.) CHURCH

Past Members and Friends are invited to share in the

FIFTIETH

Anniversary Services

SUNDAY, OCT. 22, 1961.

11 a.m.—K. A. JONES.

3 p.m.—Pleasant Sunday Afternoon — C. G. TAYLOR.

7 p.m.—C. L. SMITH.

Fellowship Tea at 5 p.m. — Ring

XW 6108 — W. D. Allen.

Bible School Anniversary, Sept. 24, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

BALWYN (Vic.) CHURCH

Past Members and Friends are invited to share in the

39TH

Anniversary Services

OCTOBER 7 and 8, 1961.

Saturday, Oct. 7—

8 p.m.—Thanksgiving Service.

Film: Talents.

Musical Programme — Val. Woff.

Sunday, Oct. 8—

11 a.m.—K. A. Macnaughtan.

Soloist: Mrs. D. Adcock.

7 p.m.—E. L. Williams.

Soloist: Lyle Williams.

After-Church Hour of Fellowship.

BIRTH

WALDRON (nee Holt). — To Shirley and Alec, Roma, Qld., on Aug. 30, the precious gift of a daughter — Loretta Shirley.

VISITING SERVICE OF AUXILIARIES

The V.S.A. seeks to train, channel and accredit those who would like to offer some practical help on a personal voluntary basis at the Kew Geriatric Hospital and Kew Children's Cottages. Training course about to commence. Particulars from Victorian Social Service Dept., 217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne. Phone 32-2447.

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OBITUARY

Mrs. Ruth Perkins.

Services were conducted on Friday, Aug. 25, at the Chatswood (N.S.W.) Church of Christ for Mrs. Ruth Perkins, widow of the late Roy Perkins and mother of Barton. Mrs. Perkins was a foundation member of Chatswood, and faithful in her attendance at the services and the various women's auxiliaries up until the time of her death. For a number of years she resided in Melbourne, and was in membership with the church at Ivanhoe. Following the death of her husband, who had for many years served as chairman of the N.S.W. Young People's Department, Mrs. Perkins made possible the erection of the main building at the Youth Centre, Lake Illawarra, which was named "Perkins Hall" as a fitting tribute to the services rendered by Mr. Perkins. Mrs. Perkins will be greatly missed, but the memory of her will serve as an inspiration to many for years to come. —Leslie Green.

Mrs. Florence Augusta Clarke.

After several months of ill health, Mrs. Florence Clarke passed to be with her Lord on July 7, at the age of 75 years. In April, 1918, the late Mrs. Clarke transferred her membership from the Maryborough church to Essendon, Vic., where she remained a loyal member until the time of her death. Our sister was devoted to Christ and the Church, and was active in the Ladies' Guild and Mission Band. She also had a very deep interest in the wider work of the brotherhood, particularly Overseas and Home Missions, and was a member of the Churches of Christ Choral Society. We thank God for her devoted service and rejoice in the blessed hope of the gospel. Services in Allison's Funeral Parlors and at the Fawcner Cemetery were conducted by the writer. Christian sympathy is extended to her sister, Mrs. Grigg of St. Arnaud.—V. Quayle.

Lionel Ninnies.

The church at Beverley, S.A., suffered the loss of a gracious Christian gentleman in the Home call of Lionel Ninnies on Aug. 20. His health had been falling for a long time, but his passing came suddenly. Mr. Ninnies was baptised during the ministry of the late H. P. Manning, and immediately sought to be of service for the Lord, as he worked in the C.E. Societies and B.S., and presided at the Lord's Table. As an officer of the church he was thorough and most reliable in the performing of his duties. He was property convener for three years. During the 26 years of membership with the church he was happy in the service of the Lord. He was a man of strong faith in God, and his time of suffering cemented

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his love for the Christ whom he loved
and sought to serve. He leaves a
widow, daughter Mary (Mrs. Helps)
and two sons, Robert and Arthur. We
commend the sorrowing ones to the
God of all comfort and understand-
ing.—W. A. Russell.

James Jensen.

The church community at Rosevale,
Qld., was saddened at the loss of J.
Jensen, who passed away quite sud-
denly during hospitalisation for a
broken leg, at the Ipswich General
Hospital. Mr. Jensen, who had been
bed-ridden for 28 weeks, died at the
age of 69, leaving a wife, two sisters
(Mrs. May Zimmermann and Mrs.
Anne Zimmermann) and two brothers
(August and Andrew, both of Rose-
vale). Our late brother had been in
the church since his early years, serv-
ing as B.S. supt., as a member of the
Officers' Board, and also in the capa-
city of treasurer for the Building
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