



W. Fraser.

THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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When We Worship

We present two interesting extracts from "Christian Advocate," weekly magazine of our British Churches of Christ. Together with a report from one of our Victorian churches, they present interesting sidelights on our worship services.

Take Time: Don't Rush

Complaints are sometimes made in church meetings that the Sunday services are too long and various suggestions are made whereby they may be shortened. "Cut the sermon," "omit a hymn," "use more communion trays," "condense the notices." There seems to be an underlying idea that a shorter service is necessarily a better service; that efficiency means more efficacy.

Are we rushing through our periods of worship so that we may hasten to feed the poor, to preach to our neighbor, to lift up the heathen? No, we rush so that we can get to a tasty meal, or so that we can watch our favorite T.V. programme, or take a nap or read the paper, or play golf or go on an outing. If none of these attracts us we may rush because we are nervous and have the habit of doing everything in a hurry.

We sing, "Take time to be holy," but we are too busy to take time to meditate, to praise, to listen to the Word of God in a relaxed atmosphere. There is pressure by the more worldly members to "pay our respects" to God in the smallest capsule of time possible. Movies and T.V. programmes are getting longer, but periods of worship are being compressed. Why? Is it because we

are so spiritual that we don't need more time to become holy? Or is it a lack of appetite for spiritual food? Do we hunger and thirst after righteousness, or do we fret when the Lord's Supper takes more time than a newscast?

Time is precious and we should "redeem the time." Our periods of worship should be planned so that our worship will be most effective. Time should not be wasted, but "efficiency" and "cutting" do not really save time if they reduce our exposure to God and multiply our exposure to the secular world.

Let us take time to be holy — time for more spiritual songs, for sermons that are long enough to move the sinner and edify the Christian. Let us take the time to promote activities of the church which will build us up in the most holy faith — time for Christians to exhort one another about giving and living. Time for meditation on the meaning of the Lord's Supper. Time for silence — to be still and know that God is with us! — Christian Advocate.

"Return to Primitive Christian Practice"

The following is taken from a church newsletter. It was written by the vicar of an Anglican parish church in England, who has worshipped in one of our churches

and seen our "order of vice," and who is conversant with both our "position and plea" and our literature. — Editor, Christian Advocate.

Future Arrangements.

There is to be a complete change in the pattern of our Sunday morning worship. After long consideration and discussion both with individuals and with the Church Council, I have decided that the time has come to return to the Ancient and New Testament practice of making the service of Holy Communion the central act of worship at which all communions will be made.

Numerous and weighty reasons lie behind this decision. The most important of all, is the fact that the Holy Communion is the ONE UNIVERSAL act of Christian worship.

The Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, is, however, a service known and treasured by every branch of the Church. Attendance at Holy Communion IS obligatory upon every true Christian, first of all because our Lord himself laid the obligation upon us:

"This do ye in remembrance of Me";

and, secondly, because it is a thoroughly Scriptural Ordinance, having been the consistent and unaltered practice of the Church from New Testament days onwards. Every Christian should take as a watchword this saying, and should honor it:

"The Lord's own service on the Lord's Day."

I call upon all confirmed members of our Church to support this return to primitive practice, both loyally and with enthusiasm . . .

Liturgy of Movement?

In making an interesting report to the Federal Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union, the secretary, R. P. Morris, referred to combined communion services which his home church of Brighton, Vic., had held with one of the local Methodist churches.

Following the combined service held in our Brighton chapel, the Methodists had expressed their appreciation of the conduct of the service. "You know," said one of them to Mr. Morris, "you people say that you have no liturgy, but in actual fact you have one — a liturgy of movement." He went on to refer to the pattern of movement in the distribution of the emblems, which remains basically the same each Sunday.

It's a point of view worth thinking about.

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Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian,"
April 4, 1912.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

Melbourne Welcomes Conference
Visitors. — Melbourne occupies a
position of pre-eminence, not only
among the cities of the Southern
Hemisphere, but among the cities of
the world in the number of churches
pleading for a return to the purity
and simplicity of New Testament
Christianity. The members of its
thirty-five congregations throw open
wide their doors and their hearts
to the incoming visitors.

Growth at Prahran, Vic. — An
increase of 50 per cent. in five months
(counting in those with us who are
coming by letter) is Prahran's record.
Our adult Bible Class numbered 80
in attendance yesterday. Last night
we had one more confession and
three baptisms. Bro. Wakefield, of
the College of the Bible, was received
from Paddington, N.S.W. He takes
charge of our J.C.E. work, and made
a fine start yesterday. — P. J. Pond.

A Generous Gift. — For several
years, Bro. Gilbert Goudie and the
late Sister Goudie, of Ultima, have,
through the agency of the Victorian
Conference General Dorcas Committee,
distributed annually to the necessitous
poor of the Churches of Christ in
Victoria sums varying from £40 to
£50 per annum. This money was
derived from a portion of their estate
which they mutually agreed to reserve
for this object. The estate having
been realised upon, Bro. Goudie has,
with a Christian kindliness and fore-
thought worthy of the warmest com-
mendation, set aside in perpetuity
the handsome sum of £1,000, so that
the charity may continue . . . in
future to be known as the Margaret
Goudie Fund.

Progress of Union Church, Port
Pirie, S.A. — Encouraging reports of
our various branches were presented
at the first quarterly meeting on
March 20, when Bro. Taylor presided
over an attendance of nearly 120
. . . The preacher's report stated
that our first few months of union
had been got over satisfactorily, and
we felt called to extension in other
parts of the district. The secretary
reported 200 resident members. The
treasurer's statement was not as
satisfactory as it should be, and Mr.
Clark pleaded for more liberality
and a more general adoption of the
duplex envelope system.

News Briefs. — T. Hagger has ac-
cepted the invitation of the Victorian
Home Mission Committee to fill the
position of State Evangelist. He will
commence his duties in August . . .
At the Queenstown, S.A., mission,
conducted by W. C. Brooker, there
were four confessions last Sunday
night.

RESPONSE TO NEW DELHI

Last week we looked at some of the general aspects of the Third Assembly of the World Council of Churches, held at New Delhi. Today we take a closer look at particular features which seem worthy of special comment.

One of these, surely, was the place of Christian youth in the Assembly. Many of these had met in their own gatherings before the Assembly sessions began, and they came enthused and ready to see great things happen. Some of them were disappointed, and did not hesitate to say so. One of their number, William Daniels, of our own American brotherhood, told his *World Call* readers (Feb., '62) how the 110 Youth Participants gathered after sessions in their tent village and, "bundled against the cold in their blankets and overcoats . . . exploded their insights for one another far into the wee hours of the morning." He went on to say, "Many of the youth are disappointed that the World Council of Churches does not appear to be geared for action . . . They fear that beyond the impressive barrage of statements there will be no inspired follow-up, and that the statements will fall to the denominational fields as lifeless and ineffective as the cinders of burnt-out fireworks." Philip Potter warned the Assembly against dismissing this as merely the natural impatience of youth not yet fully aware of all the problems. "We are in serious danger," he said, "of driving young people to despair of the churches and therefore in flight from them" and the work of the Church "may perish for lack of younger men and women to take it up, because they despair of anything really happening (in it)."

This doesn't mean that the young people as a whole felt that New Delhi had failed. Far from it. One Australian youth delegate said, "Everyone can agree that it has been a great event . . . For me personally a wonderfully exhilarating experience . . . The different denominations not only met together, but showed by their remarkable unanimity that they form one people, even across such barriers as the Iron Curtain." Yet this same writer, referring to "our seniors," said, "They are far more strongly bound by the traditions of the past than we are. Therefore we should not wait until they take the initiative, but where possible take the initiative ourselves" (*Presbyterian Life*, 19/1/62).

It was on the issue of intercommunion that the young people, and many others, felt what they regarded as a holy impatience and a desire to take the initiative from their elders. This same spirit has been obvious in every ecumenical youth gathering in recent years. Changes come

all too slowly, for despite the fact which we noted last week, that for the first time at an Assembly an open communion was held at the invitation of an Anglican host church, there were disturbing counter-signs, like the temporary walkout by one national group from a communion service its own confessional group was holding, because it feared heresy!

If this strong feeling among the youth was a healthy and significant feature of New Delhi, so also was the emphasis on the part of the laity in the life and work of the Church. It was clearly seen that (as a Dutch sociologist put it) "any church which is static or purely introspective is committing suicide in a dynamic self-directed society," and that for more effective outreach the Church must better equip Christians who try to do God's work in a secular job. Three lay workers challenged the Assembly with their statements one evening, saying to ministers: "Do not forget that from the pulpit you can never really penetrate the world with Christ's word and act of redemption. This penetration of the world belongs far more to *our* ministry . . . This then is our plea to you: become our partners and let us be your partners. Do not continue to play only solo instruments but let us join in Christ's great orchestra so that *together* we can play the symphony of redemption."

Another vigorous call for fuller partnership came from the Younger Churches, who realised their own need to prove themselves no longer mere extensions of Western Churches ("pot-plant Christianity," as D. T. Niles called it) but courageous enough to "break out of their ghetto existence and move into the stream of national life with their faith, struggling all the time to interpret that faith in the idiom of their own land" (Perkins).

In many other ways the Assembly itself set out to interpret the faith in language which almost (not quite) managed to avoid using terms unfamiliar to the ordinary reader. Now the big task is to bring it down to the language and life of local congregations around the world. This will not be easy, as is evidenced by a report from Canada that in follow-up meetings held there in March, some churches showed themselves unwilling to face the things that are difficult to do together. But the call went out for local groups to be formed to study how to work and pray together — and this is the kind of call we all must heed if New Delhi is to prove to be what the Archbishop of Canterbury called it — "a symbol, a milestone on a journey . . . a signpost telling us to go on."

Christian Education Not Being Supported

One of the privileges of belonging to the Christian fellowship is the sharing of joys and sorrows—our affirmations and our concerns one with another. In this report, the Department of Christian Education in Victoria and Tasmania would share with the Australian brotherhood one of its deep concerns.

The Conference figures for 1961 have just been released. They reveal that during the year the total enrolment of B.S. scholars showed a decrease for the second year in succession; a drop of 256 (196 in Victoria; 60 in Tasmania). No one who has the well-being of young people at heart, to say nothing of the brotherhood at large, can remain complacent in the face of these facts. For they possess at least a two-fold significance:—

- i. If this trend persists, it means that we would not hold our own numerically in terms of young people in the community. Over the past few years the enrolment of State Primary Schools has shown an annual increase of approximately 2½ per cent. To hold our own we also should be registering an increase approximating this figure. Anything less than this rate of increase means that we are falling behind.
 - ii. But more important still, it means that many hundreds of boys and girls are being denied Christian teaching and nurture. If our losses were the gains of Bible Schools of other Churches, the overall position might not be so serious, but this is not the case. Other Churches report that their total B.S. attendances are almost stationary. The position is that increasing numbers of girls and boys are growing up in the community who will never attend any Bible School.
- What might be the causes of this decline? Lacking detailed information which covers all cases, we may never really know, but we can interpret the situation as we observe it. All of the following reasons have some truth in them—they are based on the observations of a group of superintendents whom we consulted; also the opinions of members of the Bible School Committee—all responsible and concerned persons.
1. The Conference figures for 1961 showed that some 700 names were removed from church rolls because of revision. This could account for many children.
 2. The rapid growth of the Melbourne metropolitan area and other large centres has meant a rapidly changing distribution of population. The churches and Bible Schools are not yet serving many areas wherein there are thousands of boys and girls, many of whom transferred from Bible Schools in other areas but who have not, or cannot, link up. It is no surprise, either, that schools in the "older suburbs" register the more serious decrease in scholar enrolment.
 3. Poor teaching: now obviously this statement will be unfair to the many fine teachers we have serving in our schools. But it remains a lamentable fact that too many of our teachers are inadequately trained, and possess an inadequate vision of their ministry. When we remember that the teacher is 90 per cent of the lesson, poor teaching weakens the worth of our Bible Schools. The biggest problem here is what we can call "Sunday School moralism" with its grimness and lack of joy; its neglect of real life; its concentration on content to the exclusion of personal needs. And all this in spite of printed lesson material which is second to none.
 4. But the Church itself is too often at fault. Too many Officers' Boards are uninterested in the Bible Schools and the problems they face. Not enough churches assume real responsibility for the school; too many schools are "on their own." Clear evidence of this is seen in that . . .
 - i. Few churches help schools pay for lesson materials or equipment. Every school should be an item on the church budget.
 - ii. In far too many churches, schools meet in drab and unlovely buildings; few churches have a conscience about improving classrooms.
 - iii. Teaching is too often left to the "young people," with the more qualified, mature persons standing aside.
 - iv. Too few churches include the Bible School in their overall plans—if they plan at all!
 - v. Not enough care is taken of young converts who make their decision whilst being members of the school.
 5. The Bible School situation is also but one aspect of the overall situation which the churches as a whole are facing in respect to adults. Youth problems are always adult problems in the last resort. Many adults are sending their children to Bible School, but have no intention that these children will become Christian. These adults, by their own non-attendance at church, do not encourage their children to take Bible School seriously. This is clearly seen when we picture the "average" Bible School, where half the children are from so-called "non-church" homes. The Kindergarten Department is usually the biggest, and the further one moves along the school the smaller the attendance becomes, with a falling away of landslide proportions in the early teens.

These matters must be of real concern to all ministers, Boards of Off-



1. The Conference figures for 1961 showed that some 700 names were removed from church rolls because of revision. This could account for many children.
2. The rapid growth of the Melbourne metropolitan area and

cers, B.S. supts. and workers in all the churches. No responsible member can ignore these trends, especially when it is remembered that the fortunes of the Bible Schools provide a reliable barometer for the church as a whole. We must have no panic, either, in the face of these facts, but a responsible and careful assessment of what they mean, so that an effective remedy can be applied. We do not, for our part, intend to let the matter rest here, but will accept the challenge which the situation contains.

To conclude, let us offer this series of "thought starters" for all the responsible people who have stayed with this article so far.

- We will never solve our youth problems until we tackle adults. This requires total brotherhood effort and the co-operation of brotherhood Departments. It requires our brotherhood and the local churches to re-state the meaning of the mission of the
- Church in terms of present day practicalities.
- The Bible School should assess the work it is doing. Are our teachers sufficiently trained? Have we enough teachers? Have we the right kind of teacher? Are our classrooms adequate? Have we enough equipment of the right kind? Should we be thinking of a scholar drive? Is the school serving the community to the limit of its resources?
- The local church should be looking more to its own programme of Christian Education.
- In all of this, we must never neglect the needs of State Departments of Christian Education throughout Australia, including the Federal Board of Christian Education. For the most part, these Departments are being starved of the financial resources needed to enable them to tackle creatively and efficiently the work which lies at their hands. Until the brotherhood comes to a greater realisation of their need and gives them the necessary help, a lot of important youth work will remain unfinished — or worse still, only half-started. The need for Christian knowledge is as urgent a matter at home as it is anywhere overseas. In view of the advance of a "militant paganism" in our own country, the churches are in danger of neglecting the spiritual welfare of their own children.

We say these things and bring them to the attention of our co-workers in Christ in all the States, because we believe in the brotherhood as an instrument of the love and concern of its Master, Jesus Christ.

L. A. Trezise — Director, Dept. of Christian Education, Victoria and Tasmania.

R. V. Longthorp — Associate Director, Dept. of Christian Education, Victoria and Tasmania.



Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

Fraternal Delegates, Federal Conference from India

S. P. Hiwale and Barnabas Bhonsle have accepted an invitation to come to Australia for Federal Conference. Mr. Hiwale is one of our senior workers in India, and at present is the pastor at Indapur. Mr. Bhonsle is our pastor at Bombay. It is expected that these men will be in Australia for approximately three months, and an itinerary which will enable them to visit every State is being planned. Mr. Hiwale will be able to tell of the general work of the field, and Mr. Bhonsle will tell of his new work in Bombay.

Mr. Coventry writes concerning continued difficulties in securing a site in Bombay. He has looked at numerous sites, but each one has some problem attached. From all enquiries that have been made it is almost certain that we may have to pay anything from £2,500 to £5,000 for land. Many are not at all willing to sell to Christians or have them near them.

Motor Vehicles — India

Two new motor vehicles are being purchased for our work in India. One is a Mobile Dispensary which is described as an extremely versatile vehicle, and has been designed for use in isolated villages and settle-

ments. The Mobile Dispensary is valued at £1,600 and will be purchased in England and shipped to America. On arrival in U.S.A., Church World Service will take over and re-ship to Dhond, via Bombay, without any further freight costs to us. Through the generous offices of Church World Service we will save over £1,000 in freight, import duty and other costs that are involved.

The second vehicle is a Station Wagon which will be used for evangelistic work in Baramati. Failing the importing of a new vehicle, the only one available in India is the all steel body Jeep, and the cost is approximately £2,200. The need for a new vehicle for evangelistic work is clearly shown in the account given by Mr. Coventry of a recent book tour: "We returned home Sunday night from our 16-day book tour. It was really tiring, and as I caught 'flu at the finish, I did not end up with the pep that one might. Since returning, Arzun Powar, our driver-mechanic, whom we take to help with numerous jobs, has gone down with something. He has not responded at all to our treatment, so I have sent him to Dhond.

"Our book tour was a grand success. We covered approx. 1,000 miles, some of it over very rough roads. We sold over Rs. 2,000 of literature, including many Bibles, spoke at approx. 11 meetings, and had 19 book displays.

The motor gave us endless trouble — all kinds of breakages, a broken front main leaf on which we have so far done approx. 350 miles (all bound up), broken fuel pipe, broken oil pipe, water pump bearing, leaking radiator, etc. My 'flu is about out of the way, but weariness is still present. We had late nights most of the time, with one full night at the wheel to get to our next stopping place in time for their programme the next a.m. Then the summer is really with us, with anything but pleasant nights.

"Sickness is very much around us. One of our older men, Gopalrao, the fellow who minds the goats, went down with a stroke while we were away. A young lad (former Dhoraja lad) died suddenly, almost certainly of cholera, two weeks ago, and several others have various ailments. Thanks for the contribution that can be used for some of those poor ones in the villages. From the home from where the lad died, we also had the father in hospital for over two weeks, and they are desperately poor, so we'll be able to help them. We are doing it now with grains."

The contribution referred to here by Mr. Coventry is £100 recently sent from our Milk and Relief Fund to enable our missionaries to assist needy people suffering as a result of the drought. Contributions to this fund will enable our missionaries to aid needy people on our three fields.

Challenging Missionary Conference

Over 160 people attended the Missionary Conference held at Macclesfield, South Australia, on March 17. (continued ft. col. 1, p 198)

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



WOMEN



FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Programme for May

Theme:

"The Ten Virgins"

Mrs. Ron. Richards, W.A.

MEDITATION.

Parables are not riddles, neither are they mere metaphors, but are narratives from ordinary life in which spiritual truths are hidden under natural resemblances. Our main object in studying them ought to be to know the mind of Christ, for "never man spake like this man."

Speak to my heart! speak now
I pray,
God of salvation, and Lord of
Creation,
O speak to my heart today!

HYMN.

No. 602, "Master, speak! Thy servant heareth."

PRAYER.

"Our Father, we thank thee for the Lord Jesus Who redeemed us; for the Holy Spirit Who has been promised to take of the things that are Christ's and show them to us. Lead us now as we ponder thy Word, reveal the truths concealed therein, make us sensitive to thy voice, and responsive in heart and will, in his blessed Name we pray. Amen."

(continued from p. 197)

It was a day of inspiration and information. The morning session commenced at 10.30 a.m., when Miss Kennedy spoke concerning the New Hebrides. The need for a greater emphasis on praying for our overseas work was stressed, and three prayer sessions were held throughout the day.

Information on our work in India was brought to the Conference during the afternoon session, and Miss Jessie Trout, of the U.C.M.S., told of the work the American Disciples of Christ are doing in Mexico, Japan, India, the Congo and the Philippines. An audio-visual prepared by Rex Chamberlain was used to tell the story of the New Guinea Mission during the evening session, and R. McLean closed the Conference with a missionary challenge.

The Chairman of the S.A. Overseas Committee, C. Butler, presided over the gathering, and members of the Committee took an active part in leading prayer sessions. It is expected that another missionary Conference will be arranged at a later date.

BIBLE READING.

Matt. 25: 1-13.

DEVOTIONAL.

The parable of the ten virgins is one of several parables that our Lord told in connection with his second advent. Now, we believe in the certainty and imminence of his return, and this Word goes even deeper, teaching that, at his return, the visible Church will consist of two classes of people, "possessors" and "professors" — and the Lord would speak to you and me this word of warning, lest we be only outwardly professing to be a Christian, and not really born again.

The ten virgins the Lord spoke of had much in common. They all expected, with interest, the bridegroom's approach. They were friends, they were dressed alike, and looked alike; they were all waiting — and yet there was a difference. And that difference parted them forever. At the critical moment, some realised that they had made one fatal oversight — too carelessly content with seeming to be ready, they were found lacking.

The Scripture says, "If any man hath not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" (Rom. 8: 9), so the main question is, "Am I his? Am I ready?" The Bible shows us plainly that the only thing which separates us from God is sin. So what is my attitude toward it? Have I been lulled into a degree of tranquillity which inclines me to be "broadminded" on things that don't really measure up to God's standard? Do I excuse myself on the principle that "everybody does it these days, anyway?" Am I unwilling to be different from the world? If so, let's face it before God, and let's get it right while we have the opportunity. I read in his Word, "If my people, which are called by My Name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7: 14).

Yes, preparedness will cost you something. Maybe less sleep and more prayer and Bible study — less luxury and more discipline, less pride and more humility, less idle talk and more testimony. It will certainly mean less of self and more of him. But won't it be worth it? To be found ready; to go in with Christ; to be in his immediate Presence in

the most intimate fellowship with him forever.

"Let us prepare for promotion, today,
Jesus is coming to earth again.
What if it were today?
Faithful and true would he find us here
Watching in gladness, and not in fear,
If he should come today?
Signs of his coming multiply,
Watch, for the time is drawing nigh!
What if it were today?"

HYMN.

No. 170, "Rejoice, rejoice! our King is coming!"

MISSIONARY NEWS.

MISSIONARY PRAYER.

BUSINESS.

ADDRESS.

HYMN.

No. 314, "May the grace of Christ our Saviour."

BENEDICTION.

1 Thess. 3: 12, 13.

OPEN FORUM

BAPTISTS — CHURCHES OF CHRIST.

Discussion concerning closer fellowship between Churches of Christ and Baptists interest me intensely. Having been brought up in a Baptist church and brought to a saving knowledge of Christ, and entering into baptism and church membership, I felt that the Baptist Church was nearer to New Testament teaching than any other. However, after fourteen years of membership with the Church of Christ, I can see no real, tangible difference in these two divisions of the Church of God.

The obvious prejudice between many members of both congregations is definitely the work of Satan. Christ unites — Satan divides. Satan leads us to look at others' faults with a magnifying glass, and that includes differences in the Church. Christ tells us to love the brethren, and as this means all members of God's Church, this is the first place for Satan to put in a wedge. Unconsciously, perhaps, we forget to extend that love to God's people who worship in other churches, and pride would have us believe that we are right, and shift the blame of division on to others. The Christian who sees Christ, and him only, can work in happy fellowship with true Christians of any denomination.

Prayer is a powerful weapon. Let us use it to the uttermost to bring about the "oneness" for which Christ prayed.—Mrs. R. F. Genat, Empire Vale, N.S.W.

POSTSCRIPT . . .

The passing of an emergency does not remove the debt of gratitude.

Jessie Wells Clark.

A perennial problem in the Church involves "emergency Christians." In those who recognise a lasting debt of gratitude to God long after the emergency has passed, the problem is solved.

During one of our frequent wars, a letter was supposed to have been written by a naval officer to his wife on the eve of a battle.

"My dear wife" he wrote, "I do not have much time, but I want you to know I love you and the children very much. Everything I have I want you to administer as you see fit. Hastily — because we are nearing the enemy." Then the letter concluded with a postscript. "P.S. Forget the mournful stuff above. We just whipped the enemy."

During any great emergency, there are thousands who fervently look to God for help, believing in prayer and depending upon it throughout hours of danger and of suffering. They make great promises to God as they ask him to carry them through. Probably they mean it sincerely at the time. But when the enemy has been defeated or the emergency passed, and they've done with pain and death and suffering, what postscript will they write?

May there be no postscripts of ingratitude from the Christian. Rather, let him have such unchanging gratitude that he will feel totally incapable of ever repaying God for his wonderful care.

Debts to God and Man.

We owe a debt to God, by reason of creation, the cross, and the million and one blessings he has given us since then. Recall the story of a young nobleman who sat in a chapel in Europe and wept as he looked upon a painting that depicted the crucified Christ.

Beneath the painting were these words: "All this I gave for thee, what hast thou given for me?"

Face to face with the great debt he owed God, Count Zinzendorf, for the first time in his life, realised how far he was falling short of repaying that debt. They tell us that he sat before the picture during the whole of an afternoon, alone in the little chapel, and thought, and wept bitterly. After that heart-searching experience the young count went home with the determination to serve God to the best of his ability. Repenting of his former ingratitude, he embarked on a life of Christian service that has left a permanent

mark in the history of missions and benevolence in Europe and in America.

Paul, the great apostle to the Gentiles, realising how much God had done for him, felt that the only way he could possibly repay him was to give his whole life to preaching the gospel.

"I am debtor," he wrote to the Romans, "both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you . . ."

Indirect Payment.

There is a strange thing about this debt we owe to God. We can repay him for all his blessings to us only by feeling ourselves debtors to the whole world. We repay God indirectly.

Livingstone paid on his debt to God by giving his life for the people of Africa. "People talk of the sacrifice I have made in spending so much of my life in Africa," he once said. "Can that be called a sacrifice which is simply paid back as a small part of a great debt owing to our God, which we can never repay?"

Morrison felt himself a debtor to the Chinese; Grenfell repaid his debt by going to Labrador; David Brainerd repaid it by his work among the American Indians, giving his life while only twenty-nine years old; and Shelton by opening up Tibet for God's Word — at the cost of his own life.

It is not quite possible to cry with Paul, "Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift," without finally saying in all humility with Isaiah, "Here am I, Lord, send me." "Send me to black and white, to friend and foe, to Jew and Gentile — to all mankind. Let me tell of Christ and his power to save; let me tell others how grateful I am for all he has done for me."

Let no man retract the promises made to God in time of trouble, but let these promises remain intact. Let the gratitude for all his love and care and protection swell to such proportions that the world may have gained another bidder for the souls of men, and not a double-minded person who ungratefully adds a retracting "postscript."—Christian Standard.

It isn't the people who tell all they know who cause most of the trouble in this world. It's the ones who tell more.—Management Digest.

Garageman to a woman driver: "We just wash cars, not iron them."

QUESTING

A. E. White.

Is it right to accept an invitation to a wedding when I know that there will be alcohol at the reception?

I can't say what is right for you. I can only say what I do, and what I believe to be right for me.

In the first place I don't like to see alcoholic drinks at weddings, and I have not seen humor, goodwill, or decency increased by its presence at social functions. The evidence of others that alcohol is a major factor in road accidents is beyond dispute, and I have my own evidence of lives wrecked, marriages destroyed, and homes broken. I have no friendly feelings whatever towards it.

But that is not the question. I do accept invitations even when I know that alcohol will be there, too, and I have proposed toasts at such functions. If I stay home and pretend I am making some kind of witness, I am, in reality, self-righteously judging other guests as unworthy of my company. And it would be arrogant and presumptuous of me to expect others to change their customs just to have me around. No! I will not decline a wedding invitation on the grounds that alcohol will be there.

Presiding at such a function is a different matter. I feel strongly that I should not preside at social gatherings where alcohol is used for toasts and refreshment. As a guest I have no control over what is done; as master of ceremonies I must surely accept some responsibility for what is said, done and drunk. When I am asked to act as M.C. I enquire if alcoholic drinks will be used. If they are, I must respectfully decline to preside. I do not use the occasion in order to give a temperance lecture, nor do I use my privileges to press for replacement of alcohol by non-intoxicating beverages. And, most certainly, I do not desire them to feel that the presence of a minister is restrictive, and would spoil what they are pleased to think is fun.

Jesus did not cut himself off from people even when he could not approve their actions. If I refused to mix with people for such reasons, it might indicate that I am drunk with self-righteousness and self-importance. This is as bad as any other form of drunkenness.

Next Week: Remarriage of divorced persons.

HERE AND THERE

Churches are being asked to make Sunday, April 8, a World Day of Prayer for Prisoners of Conscience. The tragic fact that numbers are growing of folk imprisoned for conscience sake should in itself be enough incentive for regular prayers.

An obituary in this issue records the recent Home call of Mrs. Ira A. Paternoster, of Sydney. Mr. Paternoster himself has been in hospital for some time, and his hospital address is "Athol," 6 Thompson-st., Clifton Gardens, N.S.W. Mr. and Mrs. Paternoster served the churches with splendid leadership over the years, and we extend to our brother and his family the brotherhood's warmest love and sympathy in this time of loss.

Members of Victorian churches are requested by the Vic.-Tas. Conference Executive to remember the forthcoming Annual Conference in private, family and congregational prayers. To have the various sessions undergirded by the prayers of thousands of individuals will prepare the way for the presence of the Holy Spirit and increase the effectiveness and inspiration of the gatherings. All members are welcome at all meetings. Those who have accepted the office of delegate are urged to be present at each of the three business sessions on April 12, 13 and 14. Last year's rallies were splendidly supported by members. Similar loyalty this year, by even larger numbers, to the rallies on April 15, 16 and 17 will build on the attainments of 1961, to the glory of our Lord.

M. H. A. Pleper has accepted a further two years' ministry with the church at Albion, Qld., on completion of his present term of three years.

The Annual Conference of the Victorian Temperance Alliance is to be held this year on Thurs., April 26, in the Scots Church Hall, 99 Russell-st., Melbourne. There will be a business session at 10 a.m., at which issues relating to the use and consumption of alcohol, and vital to the public welfare, will be considered. At 12.45, the Conference luncheon will be served, at which the H. R. Francis Memorial Lecture on Alcohol and Health will be delivered. A new feature this year will be an open discussion at 1.45 p.m., introduced by H. Palmer Phillips on the subject, *The Alcoholic Content of Beer*. The invitation is extended to all to attend the Conference and to take part in the urgent discussions.

On Mar. 4, good attendances marked the commencement of J. E. Brooke's ministry with the church at Ringwood, Vic. Morning service at 10.30 was held as a family worship. On Mar. 9, a public welcome was given Mr. and Mrs. Brooke and family, and words of welcome were given by W. A. Thompson (Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres.), the Mayor, Cr. Baxter, and representatives of Ministers' Fraternal, district schools and the local church. Good congregations on Mar. 11 and 18 showed appreciation of Mr. Brooke's messages, helping toward a splendid start of "Encounter" meetings on Mar. 25, when G. Stirling (Canberra) gave stirring addresses, with one decision at a.m. service.

A British philanthropist, Sir David James, has offered the Free Churches in Wales, £250,000, on condition that they come together, put up a like amount, and use the money for the pensions of ministers and ministers' wives. Sir David recently gave the Anglican Church in Wales £204,000 to help in augmenting the salaries of its clergymen. He has said that he has not approached any one Free Church with his latest offer because he does not wish to offend the others, but if the Free Churches are interested and will unite they should go and see him. So far the response has been hesitant. Sir David James is a Methodist. His wife is a member of the Church of England. Now aged 74, he is living in semi-retirement after a many-sided business career. Since 1930, he is believed to have given away more than one million pounds. His wish is to foster Christian unity in Wales among Anglicans and Nonconformists alike. —E.P.S.

Good attendances marked the closing day of the ministry of C. G. Henderson, at Portland, Vic., March 18. A gentleman who had been baptised the previous Sunday was received into fellowship at the morning service. At an after-church fellowship, which was also attended by representatives of the Ministers' Fraternal, civic bodies and members of other churches, a gift of notes was made to the preacher, and the Officers' Board presented Mrs. Henderson with a vase in appreciation of hospitality given to them. A gift to the family was made from the B.S. G. Champness (Kaniva) showed films on local and Kaniva work. On March 15, Women's Groups combined for a farewell meeting to Mrs. Henderson, when gifts of cutlery (Aft. Group), and jewellery (Ev. Group) were presented,

and thanks expressed from Group leaders. These meetings concluded a happy and successful ministry at Portland, and the church wishes them well in their new work at Pyramid Hill.

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Report On New Delhi

A congregation of close on 200 met in Lygon-st. chapel, Vic., on Tuesday, March 27, to hear Principal E. L. Williams report on the Third Assembly of the World Council of Churches at New Delhi. The meeting was convened by the Vic.-Tas. Conference Department for the Promotion of Christian Union, which also serves as the Federal Committee. W. A. Thompson (Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres.) presided.

Mr. Williams, in speaking on the theme of the Assembly, *Jesus Christ, the Light of the World*, said there was no toning down of the confession that Christ is unique.

In speaking of the experience of the Assembly, Mr. Williams said there was frank encounter across racial, national, political and denominational lines, and that encounter was necessary to jolt us out of our partial insights and understanding and to lift us into a world of larger vision.

It was the feeling of the Assembly, he said, that whilst co-operation expresses unity, it is not enough.

Mr. Williams went on to point out that the W.C.C. is not a church, and therefore not a super Church or a united Church, but simply a fellowship of Churches in which we express the unity that we have.

After speaking on the achievements of the Assembly, Mr. Williams concluded by saying that such assemblies as the one at New Delhi are expressions of bridge-building processes, and whilst there are real difficulties to be overcome, New Delhi is another expression of the unity which we have. The present situation demands both urgency and patience. The particular witness of Churches of Christ was made at New Delhi. Whilst we must continue to share in many areas of common witness, we must not shirk the responsibility and privilege of making our distinctive witness.

At the conclusion of Mr. Williams' address a question period followed.

Realising the importance of the New Delhi Assembly, the Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union has published a digest of Mr. Williams' address under the heading, *Reflections on New Delhi*. Copies are being sent to secretaries of all churches throughout Australia for distribution to our membership. — R. P. Morris.



Give God Time

We are such impatient creatures. We are known as the workers of the world, spirited, restless, eager to see results. Too many of us are like the children in Longfellow's tale who dug up the freshly planted seeds in their eagerness to see the newly sprouted roots.

Time seems so long. In our eagerness for the arrival of tomorrow we miss the blessings of today.

God in his infinite wisdom tries to teach us the lesson of patience. He works slowly to bring about changes. No great transformation is ever accomplished quickly. Today, you are as I see you; yesterday you were a little child, dependent upon the care of others; tomorrow you will be changed from what you are today.

What happens? Not very much. So little, in fact, that you and I cannot perceive the change.

A small bit of yellow clay lay buried in the earth. After years of changing, wrought slowly by heat and pressure and chemical action, this bit of clay was transformed into a beautiful, priceless jewel, so costly that today it is held safely under heavy guard. What happened? Not very much. Only a day-by-day change, observed by no one.

Yesterday, as I washed my kitchen wall, I saw the story of life written there. What happened? Not very much. Each one who walked into the room stirred up small particles of dust, the heating system sent small whiffs of smoke into the room, daily cooking produced small puffs of steam, smoke from my neighbor's chimney crept in through the windows.

What happened? Not very much. A little at a time the dust and grime accumulated, so slowly that the naked eye could not discern it.

What does this have to do with life? Only this: the little things which happen today are slowly shaping the future. What happens today surely creates another link in the long chain called life. Life is formed, growth is accomplished, maturity is achieved in the little day-by-day happenings.

In our eagerness to see results, we forget that "God is good unto them that wait for him; to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that man should hope and quietly wait for the

salvation of Jehovah" (Lam. 3: 25-26). Patience is a part of God's plan for life.

Alice in Wonderland skimmed through the air hardly touching the ground, going faster and faster until, finally, exhausted, she stopped and propped herself against a tree. Looking around she found to her surprise that she was right where she had started. "Yes," said the queen, "what would you have it?" "In my country," said Alice, "we would get somewhere if we ran very fast for a long time." "Strange sort of a country," replied the queen; "here, it takes all you can do to stay in the same place."

How true this is! Today it takes all we can do to stay in one place long enough for God to accomplish his purpose with us. He gives us strength. He renews our spirit. He removes fear and tension. With him we "mount up with wings as eagles." Without him we are lost. With God all things are possible. To work, and then to wait, to give God time his wonders to perform, this is a faith to live by. —H. I. Rudduck, in *Christian-Evangelist*.

Miracles Happen When People Give

A miracle happened in Galilee when the boy gave his five loaves and two fishes. The Lord Jesus took them and blessed them — the hungry multitude was fed.

A miracle happened in July, 1959. Robert Hill, a thirteen-year-old Negro boy, son of a United States Army sergeant stationed in Italy, read about the missionary Dr. Albert Schweitzer's hospital work in Africa. He was very moved and decided to help as much as he could. With the money he had he bought a bottle of aspirins and was determined to get them to Dr. Schweitzer. He asked the Allied Air Force commander in Southern Europe if an air force plane could drop the bottle at Schweitzer's hospital. A fantastic request perhaps! The story got around and an Italian radio station picked it up and broadcast the winsome story.

And then something happened! It did something in the hearts of the listeners. Gifts of medical supplies poured in to the extent in weight of 4½ tons, valued at over £140,000.

The Italian and French governments co-operated and provided planes to take these supplies and flew Robert Hill, together with these gifts, to Dr.

Schweitzer's hospital. Dr. Schweitzer himself said, "I never thought a child could do so much for my hospital."

Thousands of disease-ridden Africans were healed when a Negro boy gave a bottle of aspirins to the Lord Jesus for his servant, Dr. Schweitzer, to use in his ministry of healing.

Five thousand Africans in Nyasaland have heard the gospel and found new life because missionaries were sent there by the British Churches of Christ.

Four thousand African children attended schools and are educated.

Many thousand sick and diseased are made well.

Miracles happen when people give. —Victor Smith, in *Our Missions Overseas*.

Looking Up

My father had a habit of looking up, so much so that new neighbors before they got to know him christened him "Mr. Lookup." One day, somebody said to him, "You know, you won't find anything on the ground by looking up." He replied simply, "But there's a lot more to be seen when one looks up." There is, indeed, and a lot more to think about as well as a lot more to aspire to.

One Easter season a Sunday School teacher asked some of the Junior Department to draw a picture of their idea of Easter. There were many ideas, but an eleven-year-old girl drew a real Easter picture. It was a cave in the side of the hill, such as is described in the gospels. It had a large stone beside the entrance and two women stood near to it. One woman, with hand upraised, was standing with a look of joy and wonder on her face, but the other woman was bowed down in grief. On being asked why the one woman was crying, the little girl artist replied, "Oh, she hasn't looked up yet."

Many people are bowed down in grief and shedding tears of regret when, by changing their attitude, they could be rejoicing. If all our contemplation on life is of things which are happening here on earth, we shall be sad. We shall find no solution to the world's many terrible problems. Those who look upward expectantly catch a vision of God and are able to see his world as he intended it. They were able, even in its miseries, to find the joy which passeth understanding and which no man can take away.

—A. Williamson.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Mrs. E. Nance-Kivell, Carnegie, Vic.
Sis. F. Lee, Manning, W.A.
Miss D. Holmes, Malvern, Vic.

TASMANIA

Collins-st., Hobart. — On Mar. 18, N. Pell, National Director Christian Endeavor Union, spoke at afternoon C.E. session and evening gospel service, after which he was guest speaker at combined C.E. rally. All meetings at Collins-st. All addresses appreciated. On 24th, morning service was addressed by H. Street (Sudan Interior Mission). His informative sermon was challenge to greater dedication.

QUEENSLAND

Albion (M. H. A. Pieper). — Excellent attendances at gospel services over past weeks. Youth and guest nights creating great interest. One decision on Mar. 11. Morning service, 11th, addressed by S. Chalmers (Qld. Conf. Pres.). Youth work has commenced year on high note with Inter-Y.P., C.E., J.C.E., Boys' Brigade, Life Boys and Good Companions showing increased attendances. Albion Y.P. won 3rd place in recent Y.P.D. swimming carnival. Colin Dredge has entered College of Bible. At annual business meeting, 7th, S. Neil, T. Dack, J. Curtis, N. Smith, D. Price, A. Dunn, F. Winter, were elected deacons; G. Owen, sec.; C. Connell, treas.; Mrs. B. James, deaconess. Treasurer's report showed 75 per cent increase to brotherhood under Budget system. Amounts included H.M., £532 (incl. £200 special gift by church), and Overseas Missions, £359.

Maryborough - Baddow (D. G. Nelson). — Annual business meeting of church, Mar. 16. Following were elected to office: elders, H. Oakley, A. C. Popp, C. Hamann; deacons, D. Brooks, R. Heitman, G. Baker, J. Deutschmann, J. Ferguson, D. Stewart, O. Bell; deaconesses, M. Burnham, M. Oakley, B. Popp, I. Jones. A blessing was extended to them at dedication service, 18th. At gospel service that night seating was filled to near capacity, when 87 witnessed 5 Y.P. follow their Lord in baptism. Four more came forward to accept Christ. There have been 9 decisions and several reconsecrations in past few weeks. Delegates went to Design for Development camp at Caloundra, Mar. 30-Apr. 1. Church is in great spirit in all depts.

Dalby (P. C. Woolford). — Church had fellowship with Sonny Graham; building well filled. Committees formed for planned mission later this year. Plans and specifications being prepared by architect for new buildings in new area. Attendances at high average. At first parade of newly-formed boys' and girls' clubs, film screened.

Kingaroy (H. C. Wheat). — Annual meeting held Feb. Reports indicated busy year. Fifteen members transferred to other churches during year. Two welcomed by transfer and three Y.P. baptised recently. M. McNicol retired from position of sec., after 15 years of faithful service. B. Whittall elected in his place. Other office-bearers re-elected. Church enjoyed visit by Sonny Graham. Manse has been moved to new position, and removal of church building is in progress. All auxiliaries working towards new church building. Choir formed to assist at gospel services. Ladies held successful "bring and buy", Mar. 3, in aid of Building Fund.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Dalkeith-rd. (C. G. Flood). — Services well attended; many visitors. Church appreciated visiting soloists, Mesd. Armstrong, Pennington and Johnston. Mr. Alden conducts song service Sunday evenings. Young man confessed Christ. Mrs. King making steady progress in Bethesda Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. H. Jones carry with them good wishes of church as they leave to minister at Gympie, Qld. Mrs. Kidd and Peter moved to Applecross after many years' association with Claremont church. C.W.F. having good meetings, with many young married women attending. Men working on grounds and, erecting new fences around church property. First wedding celebrated in chapel. B.S. continues to grow and has large teenage group, under leadership of Terry Rogers. Church continues to play its part in inter-church activities; recently host to Claremont-Nedlands Council of Churches. Church conscious of God's blessing as it consolidates its work under gracious yet vigorous ministry.

Manning (W. H. Nightingale). — Work in healthy condition. Speakers at Feb. gospel services have been A. Cutts, B. Mason, D. Croot. Much interest aroused. Two restorations and two additions, one by faith and baptism, one by transfer; both young men whose services will be very helpful. A. Harris speaker at quarterly

Discipleship

T. Roberts, Portland, Vic.
Miss C. Hubbard, Mrs. J. Nielsen, Albion, Qld.
Ron Stroud, Parkdale, Vic.
Mrs. G. McEwan, Ascot Vale, Vic.
Ray Potter, Terry Fleming, Newmarket, Vic.
R. McDonald, North Balwyn, Vic.
Roy Tucker, Glenda Ponting, Brian Steele, Kingaroy, Qld.
Eric Evans, Manning, W.A.
Mrs. Hyde, Hamilton, Vic.
Jennifer Plant, Sunshine, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, Clayton, Vic.

Membership

R. Goffin, Ormond to Prahran, Vic.
Mrs. R. Stroud, Chelsea to Parkdale, Vic.
Mrs. M. Russell, from Clayfield Baptist; Mrs. M. Bird, Mrs. G. Hubbard, from Clayfield Brethren; Miss C. Skerman, from East Ipswich to Albion, Qld.
Malcolm Thomas, Wangaratta to Ascot Vale, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. N. Combridge, A. Smail, Belmont, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. C. Dorgan, Janice, Wendy and Judith Dorgan, Sunshine to North Williamstown, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Tucker, Gladstone to Kingaroy, Qld.
A. Harris, from Wubin; Mrs. E. Dorsett, Mrs. I. Feeney to Manning, W.A.
Mrs. Knight to East Burwood, Vic.
Mrs. P. Plant, Rochester to Sunshine, Vic.

Marriage

Muriel Westrope to Alwyn Brown, Bankstown, N.S.W.
Gwenneth Collings to Howard Bradshaw, North Balwyn, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. E. M. Moncur, Ascot Vale, Vic.
Mrs. R. Sutherland, Belmont, Vic.

church and C.E. tea. B.S. flourishing, and new tinies added to kinder, each Sunday. Church saddened by passing of Sis. F. Lee. Sis. Morris gone to "Joondanna" home for aged.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Bankstown (S. C. Rogers). — C.W.F. took part in World Day of Prayer, Mar. 9, and conducted biscuit stall at Boys' Home fete, 10th. They held missionary meeting, 22nd. Mr. Scott (B. & F. B. S.) addressed church a.m., 18th. G.L.B. church parade and distribution of badges conducted at gospel service. Young man re-dedicated his life to the Lord. "All-age Variety Night," 23rd; proceeds swelled New Hall fund. Mr. Stephenson gave much pleasure with recitations. G.L.B. Cadets enjoyed picnic at Wiley Park, 24th. Infant dedication service, as part of a.m. service, 25th. C.Y.F. and C.E. visited Wiley Park Y.P. for film afternoon.

Taree (V. T. Parker). — B.S. picnic held at seaside, Mar. 10. Church appreciated visit of W. H. B. Palmer (Conf. Pres.) to the Manning River. Accompanied by Mrs. Palmer, the President brought message to the church, 11th. Minister, V. T. Parker, with his wife and son, have now settled in, and early moves for advancement of work are being surveyed.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Berri (H. E. Greenwood). — Minister has completed series of six special sermons. Film, *Dust or Destiny*, screened Mar. 25. This is to be followed by film evening once a month. Bordertown men were entertained weekend, 23rd, by C.M.S.

Murray Bridge (H. Cave). — Presence of Sis. F. Kennedy for a Sunday made church aware of Missions in New Hebrides as never before. Slides were shown, and Miss Kennedy spoke at B.S., J.C.E. and morning worship service. Big attendances at both services. Girls of church and B.S. will enter 4 teams in local basketball assoc. B.S. and J.C.E. working well on changed times. Barbara Howell home after surgery.

Beverly (W. A. Russell). — Harvest Thanksgiving services, Mar. 4; special choir assisted p.m. Goods sent to Morialta Children's Homes. Two welcomed by transfer. Mr. and Mrs. Russell back after holidays to commence fourth year of ministry. C.E. room renovated and kinder furniture repainted, thus completing re-ture painting scheme. Back to B.S. social evenings held for Junior and Inter. depts, Mar. 2 and 9. Fellowship en-joyed with Mrs. McDougall (W.A.), also relatives and family of Mr. and

"The Australian Christian"

Mrs. Walladge on occasion of their ruby wedding.

Enfield Heights (R. K. Sansome). — Church farewell D. Harwood, moved to Geelong, Vic. Minister commenced 2nd year with church in Feb. Attendances: a.m., 68; p.m., 50. Night numbers increased greatly during last few weeks. B.S. attendance Mar. 18, 164. Mr. and Mrs. Heard visited, spoke to school and addressed church on morning, 11th. Two Y.P. baptised, 18th.

VICTORIA

Ascot Vale - Newmarket (G. Moyes). — Sympathy of church extended to Mr. Moncur and family in sudden Home call of Mrs. Moncur. Splendid meetings at combined gospel services during March, averaging 68, with 4 confessions. One lady and two lads from C.Y.F. were received into fellowship by faith and baptism, and one young man by transfer. Church appreciates visit of 20 members from Box Hill during Mar. for rendering solos and duets. Ascot Vale B.S. picnic, Parkdale, 4th. On 25th, church welcomed C. Minns (Berwick) and his faithful companion ("seeing-eye") Andy. It was an inspiration to hear Mr. Minns reading the Word of God from "Braille." Good Companions recommenced, under leadership of Mrs. D. Boxhall, with attendance of 19. Frank Petrie still very ill.

Box Hill (L. S. Dewberry). — Attendances at morning meetings in excess of 230, and gospel services continue to encourage. During March there were four decisions. P.S.A., arranged by C.M.S., 11th, and E. L. Williams gave a very informative talk on some aspects of World Council meetings at New Delhi. B grade cricket team premiers in local District Competition. C.E. societies participated in morning and evening services, 25th, assisted in presenting the message in morning service and gave choral items at gospel service.

Drumcondra (R. Banks). — Good attendances at morning services maintained. Harvest Festival services held, after which display of goods donated to Bethany Babies' Home. Drumcondra Y.P. attended youth rally at Norlane, Mar. 18; B. Willersdorf, guest speaker. Half-yearly group rally of women of Geelong Churches of Christ held at Norlane, when T. Street (U.A.M.) told story of Mission work at Gnowangerup, W.A. Mr. Street also spoke and showed colored slides at Drumcondra prayer meeting, 21st. F. Combridge (Social Service Dept.) addressed church, 18th, on work of C.F.A. Successful "Family Camp," with approx. 30 adults and 30 children, held at Hall's Gap, 23rd-25th, under fine leadership of Mr. and Mrs. C. Candy, East Kew.

Chelsea (C. G. V. Thomas). — Annual meeting of C.W.F., Mar. 13, elected Mrs. C. Thomas, pres., Miss S. Green, vice-pres., Mrs. Davis, treas., Mrs. N. Brown, sec., Mrs. R. Taylor, pianist. Special services held to celebrate 38th anniversary of church. W. J. Thomson was guest speaker, having been church's first full-time preacher in 1924. Many visitors, members of previous years and those with associations to church since its early years. Morning attendance, 130. Evening service well attended, when C. Thomas was speaker.

Hampton (C. L. Smith). — At gospel service, Mar. 18, there were two decisions. B.S. picnic held at Wattle Park, 3rd. At annual meeting, all officers, with exception of H. Maunder (who tendered resignation), were re-elected. Auxiliaries presented encouraging reports. Cricket club won "C" grade premiership in Moorabbin District Cricket Association.

Hartwell (K. J. Clinton, B.A., B.D., Dip.R.E.). — John Paver (C.O.B.) commenced service with church in field of Youth Fellowship, and will assist minister in visitation. Recent visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Blenkiron, S.A., now in C.O.B. B.S. enjoyed happy picnic at Ferny Creek. Good Companions report happy weekend at Flinders, 29, with 4 leaders and helpers, making journey; thanks to student Jim Dow, who recorded an address for their use at their camp service. Senior cricket club reached semi-finals, but were beaten by 42 runs. C.W.A.F. raised over £7 for Church Building Fund at "Come As You Are" afternoon, and a recent salmagundi night realised £10/11/-. C.Y.F. raised £15 towards rebuilding Monbulk camp; their target, £100.

Kangaroo Flat (J. K. Martin). — Church has now obtained self-government, and at first annual business meeting a Board of Officers was elected. Chapel is in an expanding new area on Melbourne Highway, and membership is growing. Youth club formed for older children. C.W.F. is active, and good interest shown in weekly prayer and Bible study group. Good numbers are attending weekly carpet bowls evenings.

North Fitzroy (J. Turner, B.A.). — 89th church anniversary, Mar. 25, with well attended services. Many past members renewed fellowship during day. Past and present members conducted 11 a.m. service, when speaker was P. Foster. At 3 p.m., E. L. Williams spoke and Messrs. Woff, snr. and jnr., delighted with duets. 5 p.m. fellowship tea enabled old friends to meet and recall past days. Closing service was addressed by J. Turner, and Miss Frances Cowper was soloist.

Parkdale (P. Perry). — Two young men confessed their faith in Christ at gospel service and a married man was

immersed and he and his wife received into membership, Mar. 18. The Bible Schools of Como-parade and East Parkdale combined to celebrate their anniversary, 25th. D. Thomas and S. Leigh were guest speakers. Ladies' monthly snowball meeting held in home of Mrs. A. Parker. L. Brooker, guest speaker at C.M.S. meeting held in home of Mr. Cunningham. New chapel finance committee reports that £4,000 has been donated since fund was opened 3 years ago.

Prahran (T. H. Ede). — C.W.F. held meeting, Mar. 19; guest speaker, Mrs. Major Broadstock, of Lyndon Hostel. 30 ladies present to hear a most inspiring address. Church business meeting, 21st; Messrs. Robbins and Matt elected elders; Messrs. McKenzie, Burton, Mortlock, Lee, Goffin, I. Bunnett, C. Bunnett, deacons. Repairs and painting of manse nearing completion.

Carnegie (A. R. Lloyd). — B.S. picnic at Carrum, Mar. 17. Church expresses sympathy with Vernon Board and Michael Murray in their sad bereavement. Y.P. held discussion groups after church, 18th. Mrs. Lloyd was leader at C.W.F. camp at Hall's Gap. Annual business meeting, 21st. Those elected: elders, A. Mudge, G. Warmbrunn; deacons, Messrs. Ferguson, Manning, Miller, C. Meadows; treas., K. Miles; B.S. supt. Cliff Meadows; deaconesses, Mesd. Mudge, Warmbrunn, McCarty, Roach, Chiffy. Sympathy of church with Mrs. Hill and family in passing of Mr. Hill. Those ill are Miss Pepper, Mr. Nicolson. Arthur Galletly has resigned as church sec. after years of service. Miss Button showed slides of recent trip to New Zealand. Ladies' Aid purchasing chairs and tables for kinder. and primary dept. Church regrets passing of Mrs. Nance-Kivell (matron, Emmaus Rest Home).

East Preston (T. V. Weir). — All avenues of work moving along well. Coming to church annual business meeting, minister was involved in car accident but has now recovered. New organ, given by anonymous donor, has been received. B.S. picnic, Toorourrong Reservoir, Mar. 3.

East Burwood (H. J. Patterson, M.A. - R. Lawton, C.O.B.). — Excellent attendances have marked opening services of H. J. Patterson's ministry. Record B.S. attendances Mar. 18 and 25; 222 and 226. Average of 50 at Boys' Club. New inter. group commenced. Y.P. supporting church services. Monthly sing-alongs enjoyed by large numbers. All auxiliaries ably supporting work. Ladies enjoying happy meetings, with av. attendance of 15. Church welcomes back Mr. and Mrs. M. Ripper to church and district, after several months at St. Kilda. Lady welcomed into fellowship, Mar. 25.

Hamilton (A. B. Clark). — B.S. picnic held at Byaduk, with 100 scholars and 50 parents attending. Noel Greenwood, prior to moving to Maryborough, built pulpit for church, which was dedicated in special service. Church Board has purchased additional piano for work in new B.S. hall (nearly completed). A. Wyett presided on his last morning service before taking up his new job as accountant for Lilydale Shire Council. 51 in attendance p.m., Mar. 18. Mrs. Hyde (Bulart) soloist, and after the sermon confessed her faith in Christ. Church's musical fellowship provided two items for Salvation Army P.S.A. in Hamilton Gardens. Group consisted of Francis Clark (elec. guitar), John Wyett (piano-accordion), Adrian Clark (guitar), Ron Snibson (string bass).

Mitcham (K. Bowes, M.A.). — B.S. picnic held at Healesville, with attendance of 140. 9 Y.P. attended Eastern District Camp at Frankston. K. Bowes led studies for seniors. During his absence from Mitcham, visiting speakers were W. Carnaby and W. Jones (Blackburn). On 18th. C.M.S. held first birthday, with 18 present. New officers appointed were: sec., Austin Fraser; vice-pres., Norm. McLeod. Tape recorder being sent to help Mission work in New Hebrides. Gospel service, 25th, led by P.B.P.

Mount Evelyn. — Good meetings. Liberal offerings of small membership outstanding; approx. £100 given for Christmas Bowl, Aboriginal and Bush-fire Relief. Two B.S. girls baptised, Mar. 18. Many non-members in attendance. Mrs. Foote speaker for Women's World Day of Prayer in Methodist chapel. Members blessed with the services of W. F. Nankivell during College vacation. Trevor Lawrie (C.O.B.) engaged for year. Mrs. Fisher's health still indifferent.

Oakleigh (E. J. Miles). — Business meeting, Feb., elected: elders, S. Fordham, R. Skinner, C. McGregor; deacons, K. Masterton, J. Masterton, S. Lunn, J. Randall, D. Fraser, J. Herdman; deaconesses, Mesd. McGregor, Fordham, Penrose, Gilbert; treas., K. Buchanan; sec., A. Brown. G. Gilbert replaces R. Tucker as B.S. supt. Whilst minister enjoyed well earned rest, speakers were B. J. Combridge, S. R. Baker (B. & F. B.S.), S. Fordham, L. Chapman, K. Masterton, F. Mathieson. B.S. enjoyed successful picnic at Mornington. After-church fellowship, Mar. 11, to honor Beryl Hunt and Bruce Marston, prior to marriage. Visitors have been Mrs. Reesby (N.Z.) and D. Olafsen (S.A.). Recent soloists included J. Milne, G. Fordham, A. Brown, A. Briggs, H. Walker.

Geelong (A. C. Caldicott). — March attendances avge., 183 a.m.; 91 p.m. Two adult decisions and baptisms

recorded, one being a visitor from England, who returns home shortly.

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COMING EVENTS

STRATHMORE BIBLE SCHOOL (Vic.), is holding its 12th Anniversary on Sundays, April 8 and 15, at 3 and 7 p.m.

BRUNSWICK (Vic.) **BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY**, April 8. 3 p.m., Ted Heath; 7 p.m., R. V. Longthorp. Bright Singing by Scholars. All Welcome. Concert and Prize-giving Night, Friday, April 13, at 7.45 p.m.

A PUBLIC MEETING

of Church Members,

**LYGON-ST. CHAPEL,
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 1962.**

Song Service, 7.45 p.m.

Subject:

"Reasons Why We Should Withdraw from W.C.C."

Prominent Speakers from the Brotherhood.

Musical Items. Closing 9.30 p.m.

Sponsors: Evangelical Fellowship.

BIRTH

DIXON (Chappell). — On March 28, at Ainslie Private Hospital, Vic., to Roy and Joy, a daughter — Susan Mary. Both well.

DEATHS

CONNING. — On March 27, 1962, Jessie Malvera, beloved friend and adopted mother of Agnes Best for 42 years. "Resting in the everlasting arms."

NANCE-KIVELL. — A tribute of love and esteem to honor our late Matron.

—From Guests and Staff of Emmaus Rest Home.

NANCE-KIVELL. — A tribute of love and esteem to dear Matron, who was called to rest, on her birthday, March 17, 1962. "Underneath are the everlasting arms."

—Lovingly remembered by Agnes Best.

SALISBURY. — On March 3, 1962, Stephen George Salisbury, beloved husband of May, loved father of Alma, Ed. and Jack, loved father-in-law of Ralph, Emily and Dawn; loved brother of Nell, Tom and Ed. Aged 71 years. "Resting where no shadows fall."

IN MEMORIAM

LOUEY, Henry. — Loving memories of our dear father, who was called Home on April 15, 1961. "In love abiding."

—Remembered by Vera and Thora.

BALLOCH, Alexander. — Treasured memories of a dear husband and Dad, passed away April 9, 1952; also dear Jean, Oct. 4, 1958. "Always remembered."

—Mrs. Balloch and family.

ENGAGEMENTS

WATT - CHARTERS. — Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Watt, 52 Osborne-ave., Glen Iris, Vic., have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their youngest daughter, Barbara Anne, to Norman Peter, only son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Charters, Elliott-ave., Jordansville, Vic.

HUGGAN - MUDGE. — Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Huggan, 27 Tanner-grv., Northcote, Vic., have pleasure in announcing the engagement of their second daughter, Elaine M., to Peter L., eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Mudge, 5 Beach-st., East Malvern, Vic.

GOLDEN WEDDING

BARNES - GALLOWAY. — The family of Mr. and Mrs. A. Barnes take pleasure in announcing the 50th anniversary of the marriage, celebrated at Bendigo Church of Christ, April 8, 1912. Congratulations, Mum and Dad. Present address: 59 Clarke-st., Newtown, Geelong, Vic.

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3 p.m., SATURDAY, APRIL 14, 1962.

Minister: R. C. DIXON.

Secretary: G. W. LEES.

PROFESSIONAL

DIRECTOR, Australian Frontier.— Applications are invited for the position of Director Australian Frontier. This is a new organisation formed in 1962, independent of but under the general auspices of the Australian Council of Churches. Its purpose is to promote the exploration of the frontiers of thought and conviction existing between various groups in the community, and to undertake study and research into the relevance of Christian beliefs in modern society. The Director will work in association with a Commission of 10 members, whose chairman is Dr. J. R. Darling. His office will be located in or near one of the capital cities, and it is intended that an Assistant Director should be appointed as soon as possible. The salary will be within the range of £3,000 x 100 — £4,000 per annum. The commencing salary will be fixed according to the qualifications and experience of the successful applicant and retirement benefits will be negotiated with him. The appointment will be for two years in the first instance. Applications, giving names of 3 referees, should be forwarded to reach the undersigned, from whom further information may be obtained, not later than May 12, 1962. F. G. Engel, Hon. Sec., Third Floor, 511 Kent-st., Sydney, N.S.W.

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Melbourne, APRIL 11-17, 1962.

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Wed., April 11—C.W.F. Conference. All day from 10.30 a.m.

Thurs., April 12—Ministers' and Secretaries' Tea, 5.45 p.m. Discussion on "Membership Conservation." Opening of General Conference, 7.30 p.m. Presidential Address: W. A. Thompson.

Friday, April 13 — Conference Business, 7 p.m.

Sat., April 14 — Conference Business, 7 p.m. Aim: All delegates at all business sessions.

IN MELBOURNE TOWN HALL.

Sun., April 15, 2.45 p.m. — Conference Sermon Session. Speaker: G. R. Stirling, B.A., of Canberra. Induction of Incoming President, C. G. Taylor, B.A. Items by Churches of Christ Choral Society.

IN COLLINS-ST. BAPTIST CHURCH

Mon., April 16, 7.30 p.m. — Brotherhood Inspirational Rally. Overseas and Home Missions. Speaker: R. S. A. McLean, Sec., Overseas Mission Board. Home Mission "Focus." Items by Choral Society.

Tues., April 17, 7.30 p.m. — Brotherhood Inspirational Rally. Dept. of Christian Education and C.E. Committee. Youth Choir. Dramatic Presentation. Worship. Audio-Visual.

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OBITUARY

Mrs. I. A. Paternoster.

Ethel Olive Paternoster, aged 80 years, of 32 Cammeray-ave., Cammeray, N.S.W., passed quietly into the presence of her Lord during the evening of March 20, 1962. She had sustained a broken hip from a fall about a fortnight beforehand, had undergone surgery and later developed complications. During this time her husband, Ira A. Paternoster, was also in hospital. A service was conducted on March 23 at North Sydney chapel by the church's minister, M. C. Campbell, and E. W. Roffey, with the latter officiating at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium. Mrs. Paternoster's passing has brought a large circle of friends to record their appreciation of a lovely, faithful and self-sacrificial ministry. She was baptised at Norwood, S.A., by the late A. C. Rankine. In 1905, Mrs. Paternoster journeyed to Lexington, Kentucky, U.S.A., to be married to an Australian theological student. She has assisted Mr. Paternoster in ministries in the U.S.A., Adelaide, New Zealand, Melbourne, Tasmania and N.S.W. Our sister has been honored by the women of the churches, and has been President of the Sisters' Conferences of South Australia and of New Zealand. For 25 years Mrs. Paternoster has lived at Cammeray; for many of those years in quieter ministry and in somewhat indifferent health. Her interest in the Kingdom has been continuing and vital. To Mr. Paternoster (still in hospital), Ira (ministering in U.S.A.), Gayle and Gene, we express our love and Christian fellowship.—E. W. Roffey.

Midlands District Conference

The annual meeting of the Midlands District Conference of Churches of Christ met at Wedderburn, Vic., on Sat., March 24. The theme of the Conference was Let God Be God, and the afternoon and evening sessions were addressed by C. G. Henderson, recently at Portland, and now with Pyramid Hill.

The various churches presented their reports. Wedderburn reported that their ladies had installed a stainless steel sink in the manse, and that the church is looking forward to a new minister shortly. Dunolly reported better attendances at church and B.S., the chapel is shortly to be painted, and they had sent a donation to the Monbulk appeal. St. Arnaud reported that they were still receiving help from sister churches, some of them many miles away. Maryborough reported an evangelical campaign under A. A. Avery, which

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strengthened the church. They also reported that they were planning the centenary meetings due in May, and would like the names and addresses of all past-members of the church who are to be invited to a "Back-to-Maryborough." They also hope to lay the foundation of their new building during the centenary year.

R. C. Pritchard was elected secretary and treasurer, and John J. Alderson elected press representative for Conference. A motion of appreciation for the services of H. Evans, of Wedderburn, the retiring secretary, was passed.

Conference decided to continue paying the subsidy to St. Arnaud, and the ladies donated £5 to the Monbulk Appeal.—John J. Alderson, Havelock.

Eastern District Y.P. Camp

Frankston, Vic., Labor Day Weekend.

On Friday, March 9, 108 teenagers (15 years and up) from 11 churches of the Eastern District Conference, entered the C.E.B.S. Camp at Frankston.

' Ideal weather and an ideal camp surround assisted the campers to achieve a most successful time. The leaders, Mr. and Mrs. Manallack (leader and mother respectively), with Herb. Prime (student preacher, Bayswater) as Junior Study leader, and Keith Bowes (student preacher, Mitcham) as Senior Study leader, were ably supported by enthusiastic group leaders. The theme, Jesus Christ, the Light of the World, provided much food for thought and discussion. The participation by all in the discussions and group work was profitable.

The singing of this camp was very fine and most ably directed by Gerald McLeod and Danny McDowell.

Sunday morning communion service proved to be a moving experience — the open air worship grotto is very lovely.

Name tags worn consistently, ice-breaker games, full participation in all sports and swimming, especially the life-saving (?) carnival, helped all to get acquainted.

On Sunday evening the campers divided for the gospel service, half attending Frankston and the other half, Chelsea. A grand evening was experienced on return to camp, when a number of the Frankston C.Y.F. attended. The closing session, when thanks were expressed and devotions wound up the camp, brought together all the richness experienced. It was a fine camp, in which a development of outreach by all in relation to new friends, to study of God's Word and to fellowship with God was evident. The leaders thank God for their privilege in being used so wonderfully.

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