

*H. Fraser*

# THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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## — Brotherhood Tribute — to B. J. COMBRIDGE

Retiring Vic.-Tas. Home Mission and Evangelism Dept. Secretary.

### REPRESENTATIVE DINNER.

On Tuesday, Dec. 4, 1962, approximately seventy folk representing Vic.-Tas. Home Missions and Evangelism Department members, Conference Officers and Departments gathered for a farewell dinner at the Victorian Churches of Christ Centre.

W. A. Thompson (Dept. Chairman) welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Combridge, their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. I. Sinclair, together with those representing Departments of Conference. A. R. Haskell (President-Elect) expressed on behalf of Departmental representatives pleasure at being able to honor Mr. Combridge in this way. He paid tribute to Mr. Combridge's brotherhood outlook and his vigorous leadership, both in the Department and in Conference meetings. Mrs. Strack, presenting a sheaf of flowers to Mrs. Combridge, expressed gratitude for quiet steady support of her husband, and her readiness to be so often parted from him because of the demands of the Departmental work. A. A. Avery, the Dept's Field Officer, and D. H. Smith (Secretary-Elect) expressed their appreciation of their association with Mr. Combridge, and spoke of the debt they owed him for his friendship, patience and readiness to share with them at all points.

A presentation of a camera and 35 mm projector was made, and the Tasmanian Sub-Committee gave a case to contain color transparencies.

B. J. Combridge responded and expressed appreciation for the gifts and the complimentary remarks.

### PUBLIC FAREWELL.

Well over two hundred friends gathered at Lygon-st. chapel to honor the ministry of forty-seven years, including twelve-and-a-half in the Department of Home Missions and Evangelism. A. A. Avery led in a song service, with Miss V. Louey at



B. J. Combridge.

the organ. W. A. Thompson presided. Solos were rendered by Mrs. Quaife, of Preston, and A. R. Lloyd read the Scriptures.

### Greetings.

Greetings from over one hundred churches, C.W.F. groups, interstate Home Mission Departments and the Conference of Home Mission Representatives were presented. A number of country members travelled long distances to be present.

### Many Tributes.

Mrs. Stafford, President of Vic.-Tas. Women's Conference, spoke of Mr. Combridge's contact with C.W.F. groups through the monthly newsletter, and made a book presentation.

C. J. Orr (Tasmanian Dept. representative) spoke with feeling of the esteem in which Mr. Combridge is held among the Tasmanian churches, and paid tribute to his vital interest in Tasmanian progress.

R. F. Geyer, on behalf of the Dept., reviewed some of the highlights of Mr. Combridge's work and made reference to such things as: the programme of Home Mission expansion, the development of numerous major projects, the steady assistance to new churches, and the fact that all those receiving subsidy at the commencement of his ministry are now strong and self-supporting. Mr. Combridge was responsible for the implementation of the Ministers' Car Fund and the development of the Dept.'s activity from doing Home Mission work only to a wider concept of promotional and evangelistic work. At an interstate level he had been responsible for writing the manual, *Design for Development*, to assist local churches.

The brotherhood expressed its thanks through C. G. Taylor, B.A. (Vic.-Tas. Pres.). In lighter vein, Mr. Taylor said he wanted an apt quotation from the classics. "I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him," came to mind, but he was sure that Mr. Combridge's services would not be lost to the brotherhood because of retirement. Appreciative reference was made to so many activities for the brotherhood through the years. In presenting Mr. Combridge with a barometer and a substantial cheque, Mr. Taylor said he believed they conveyed something of the love and esteem in which B. J. Combridge was held among the brethren.

### Response.

In response Mr. Combridge said it was hard to believe he was the man about whom all these things had been spoken. He recalled happy associations with so many folk, and spoke highly of the loyalty and assistance from Dept. members. While retire-

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C. G. Taylor, B.A., Editor.

A. R. Haskell, Manager.

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## FEDERAL DIRECTORY

30th FEDERAL CONFERENCE, Aug. 26 to Sept. 1, 1964, BRISBANE, QLD.

Federal Conference: President, G. V. Haigh, 63 Seventh-ave., Kedron, Qld.; Secretary, Stanton H. Wilson, 16 Alverna-gve., Brighton, S.5, Vic.; Treasurer, R. A. Strongman, 6 Dent-st., Glen Iris, S.E.6, Vic.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY—

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Sec.-Treas., K. J. Clinton, 413 Mountain Highway, Bayswater, Vic.

ment would bring with it release from the pressure of office he did not intend to lose contact with the brotherhood. He told how recently he had seen his farewell advertised as a memorial service, and this, along with Mr. Taylor's classical allusion, placed him in somewhat of a quandary as to his position! But he still felt very much alive, and looked forward to the years of retirement. Deep appreciation of the brotherhood's gifts was expressed, and in a closing word the churches were urged always to see that people are more important than buildings or any material growth.

Along with our concern for people was a need to present them with a living Christ, both in our spoken word and through our own lives. There were no substitutes for this ministry.

K. A. Jones (a past chairman) concluded with a prayer of thanksgiving.

## Garden Party

CHRISTIAN GUEST HOME,  
OAKLEIGH, VIC.

On Saturday, Dec. 8, a Garden Party was held at the Christian Guest Home, when the Women's Committee of the Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Social Service held its annual rally to raise funds for the reduction of the debt on the Home. About 400 were present to enjoy the fellowship of the afternoon, which began with prayer by F. M. Combridge.

Mrs. Ward, the president of the Committee, welcomed the visitors and introduced Mrs. V. Stafford, President of the Christian Women's Fellowship, who brought a greeting, called the roll of the churches and received the gifts. £1,931 was raised, including £300 from the guests and staff of Emmaus Rest Home, Christian Guest Home and Will H. Clay Nursing Home.

A special feature was the singing of the choir of the elderly residents, under the leadership of Miss Heather Gall.

Opportunity was taken to honor Miss J. W. Button who, after serving as Matron of the Will H. Clay Nursing Home since its opening on Oct. 13, 1951, has resigned to be married. F. P. Chipperfield, Chairman of the Dept., made a presentation of a leather-bound copy of the Amplified New Testament, and a suitably worded letter, with a cheque, and was supported by the Secretary, W. T. Atkin. Miss Button, in her response, spoke of the joy experienced in the service which she had rendered during her term as Matron.

Afternoon tea was served by Mrs. L. L. Lowrey and her helpers, which brought the function to its close.—  
W. T. Atkin.



J. H. McCORMICK, Qld. Conf. Pres., discusses an important . . .

# EVALUATION CONFERENCE

## COMPOSITION.

The Consultation which met Nov. 15-18, 1962, comprised 24 Anglicans, 21 Methodist, 20 Presbyterians, 6 Congregational, 5 Churches of Christ, 5 Baptist, 4 Lutheran, 1 Salvation Army, 1 Greek Orthodox, 1 Church of South India representative, and visiting members of the East Asia Christian Conference special working committee.

## PURPOSE.

The purpose of the Conference was to assist the E.A.C.C., which has planned a number of special evaluation conferences on *The Question of The Church's Mission in a Particular Area*. And it was at the suggestion of the Secretary of the Australian Council of Churches, Harvey Perkins, that Queensland was chosen for this first evaluation.

## PLANNING.

The decision to invite the E.A.C.C. to hold this Conference in Brisbane was made at a joint meeting of the Qld. Committee of the Aust. Council of Churches and the International Missionary Council. Churches of Christ have two representatives, L. G. Read and W. Giezendanner, on the Queensland Committee, with J. H. McCormick an ex-officio member as President of the Conference. L. Read was a member of the special planning committee appointed.

## REPRESENTATION.

We were invited to be represented by six nominees. The Conference Executive nominated three — G. V. Haigh, L. G. Read and myself, and paid the £5/5/- fee requested for each. The Youth Department nominated H. J. Harvey and paid his fee. P. French was nominated by the Overseas Committee, who paid his fee.

## THE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME.

As preliminary background reading, official representatives of the Churches were supplied with reading material (*A Decisive Hour for the Christian Mission*; or *Local Church and World Mission*; *Christ's Ministry and Ours* — these were all Jn. R. Mott Lectures; *An Advisory Study* — a working paper on a world level for Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.; and *The Evangelistic Task of the Australian Churches in Their World Setting*, by C. Williams.

Introductory lectures were given by Dr. J. Flemming, of Singapore, who has had twenty-five years' experience in China and South East Asia. His

Report on participation of the Churches of Christ in Queensland in the Evaluation Conference arranged by the East Asia Christian Conference in co-operation with the Queensland Committee for the Australian Council of Churches, and the International Missionary Council.

theme, *The Constant and the Changing in the Mission of the Church*, was a general introduction and underscored the pressing necessity for self-understanding of what we are as Churches, and of the demands of the gospel upon us. This was followed by a thought-provoking analysis of the Church in Indonesia under the theme, *Confessional Loyalty and Christian Unity in the Mission of the Church* — by Miss A. L. Fransz. It was inspiring to hear the fundamental conviction that we must present Christ together in the local situation or the Ecumenical Movement could well flounder on "confessionalism." It was inevitable that the third address should then take up the theme of *The Lay and the Ordained in the Mission of the Church*. The Burmese layman, U. Kyaw Than, associate secretary of the E.A.C.C., graphically presented the urgent need for the mission of the "laity," as 97 per cent of the population was outside the fellowship of the Church. We have given too much attention, he said, to the "gathered" community and too little to the "dispersed" community, where every Christian is an evangelist. We need to forget about claiming time to carry on with the structural organisation of the Church, and concentrate more on fitting church members for particular Christian witness where they live and work.

Against this background of reading and addresses, followed by questions, the Conference representatives met in three commissions to consider and evaluate the *Mission of the Church in Queensland* in three areas — Urban Society, Rural Society and Overall Concern and Strategy. From these particular points of view, each commission sought to answer the following questions:

1. What are the positions at the frontier of mission which must be held?
2. What are the growing edges of the Church's work and witness which must be encouraged and supported?
3. What are the things which the Church should now give up because —

- (a) they are out of date?
- (b) they are unproductive?
- (c) they are uneconomical (wasting men, money and time)?
- (d) they could be handled better by other bodies?

4. What are the new tasks to be undertaken?
5. In what ways can the overall task be thought out and carried out together by the total people of God in each area?

What are the particular relationships and forms of administrative organisation, by which the churches can better fulfil the calling to do together the things which need to be done in our time?

6. What are the implications, as we face these issues, of our denominational separateness from one another, and our involvement in our respective confessional families?

## THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE.

After merely two mornings and an afternoon to discuss these questions, and the draft report, it is not surprising that little more was done than to "scratch-the-surface" on some issues. The reports of the commissions were tabled at the closing plenary session and some discussion resulted. It was interesting to note that every group had something to say on the need to give specialised attention to the mass media of radio, television and journalism. One commission went so far as to suggest the Church provide places to confront the world in music, drama and art, as well as other suitable media. Another commission suggested the setting up of a Training Institute for the purpose of carrying out this specialised use of mass media.

Schools and hospitals came in for some searching discussion. One commission suggested they be considered on their merits as to whether they ought to be handed over to other control or even closed; that many administrative positions filled by ministers should be given to laymen. Another commission considered whether the expense and time given to some things in relation to other calls upon the Church's resources was a priority to be maintained, and mentioned duplication of places of worship, church organisation, schools and hospitals. The final group thought existing institutions ought to be maintained, but considered it may be more important to extend the Church's



work in other fields — e.g., social work and rehabilitation and chaplaincies.

### FOLLOW UP OF THE CONFERENCE.

Through our presence on the Queensland Committee of the Australian Council, a further meeting of representatives will probably take place in February of next year to give further consideration to the questions raised and the answers given. Other possibilities are also being explored in relation to local areas.

### MY PERSONAL IMPRESSIONS.

By courtesy of the East Asia Christian Conference Working Committee, I was invited to sit in as an observer to their discussions of the business

of the Churches in an area where the majority of the world's population is centred. The vivid impression that here were men of learning and outstanding leadership, "determined to press forward in the belief that there were some things that could only be worked out in the family circle," came to me on numerous occasions. This is not some "cut-and-dried" experiment, but a living fellowship of believers seeking to face up honestly to the demands of their confession of Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. They are hampered by "confessional" ties, by Western thought patterns and seemingly hopeless odds, but they are convinced that the Holy Spirit is as active and powerful today as he was in the pages of Acts. There are real barriers to be overcome, but "Christ has broken down the wall of partition!" He has al-

ready achieved the reconciliation of man with God and man with man! This must be communicated and demonstrated. He who said, "Follow me!" also said, "Love one another as I have loved you." If we believe the Christ who "reconciles us to God," then we must live as the "community of the reconciled" who are about their Father's business of reconciling men unto him. For one who belongs to a movement that claims to have come into existence to bridge the gap between the disciples of Jesus, this has been a profound and rather rude reminder that it is time we stopped standing on "soap-boxes" to convince ourselves and got down into the stream of human suffering and need, to minister in the name of the One who came not to be ministered unto but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

## Relationship Between State Conferences and Federal Conference

B. J. Combridge.

Recent correspondence in the Open Forum concerning an amendment to the constitution of Federal Conference reveals the need for clear thinking. Comments made in these letters indicate a confusion of thought regarding the authority and powers of Federal Conference.

One writer groups together both State and Federal Conferences, complaining that they are ceasing to be Conferences of CHURCHES. Federal Conferences never have been conferences of churches. Criticism based upon false assumptions is itself invalid. Another refers to "free discussion of matters of brotherhood interest at Federal Conferences." As the following statement will show, this is not the function of Federal Conference. It seems necessary, therefore, to set out clearly the relationship between the churches and State Conferences and Departments on the one hand, and Federal Conferences and Departments on the other.

### The Authority of State Conferences

Among Churches of Christ, organisational authority resides in the local congregation. The authority of State Conferences rests on the fact that they are composed of delegates from local congregations, which are the recognised basic unit of authority. Through their representatives, churches control State Conferences and control those who conduct the work of Departments. (Comments about the Departments being "lords of the churches" are therefore entirely unfounded). By this means, expenditure and activities of State Conference Departments are subject to the churches — the bodies which provide the finance. In Churches of Christ this principle is basic and fundamental.

### The Authority of Federal Conference

The authority of Federal Conference is entirely different from that of State Conferences. The idea that it is a kind of "higher court" to which "lower courts," such as State Conferences, are subject, is quite erroneous. So also is the idea that it is designed for free discussion of matters of brotherhood interest. Local congregations have no representation as such in Federal Conference. Federal Conference is fundamentally a conference of State Conferences. Official representatives are appointed, not by churches, but by Conference Executives. This means that the authority of Federal Conference is derived from State Conferences. It is not a resident authority. It has no direct relationship to the basic authority — the local congregations. Its relationship with churches is indirect, and only through State Conferences.

The effect of this is that the function of Federal Conference is to discharge **ONLY** such duties as are referred to it by State Conferences, the bodies directly related to and controlled by the churches. If Federal Conference acts outside these limits, it exceeds its valid powers.

### Valid Exercise of Federal Functions

Some State Departments which report to State Conferences co-operate with Boards and Committees which operate on a Federal basis. This procedure is valid only because the various State Conferences (composed of delegates from local churches, be it

always remembered) agreed that these particular activities could be more effectively conducted at a Federal level, and so empowered Federal Committees to accept and perform certain specified tasks as agents, and with the support of State Committees.

Thus these Federal bodies have no inherent or resident authority — it is derived from local churches which confer this authority through State-Conference-appointed and controlled Departments. The right of Federal Conference to financial support for the tasks committed to it derives from the commissions given by the churches via State Conferences and Departments.

The tasks referred to Federal Conference are quite clearly defined in the Constitution of Federal Conference, and the rights of State Conferences are recognised and preserved therein. Federal Conference may not assume responsibilities. It may only accept responsibilities referred to it by State Conferences. It cannot give itself additional powers either by altering its constitution or by any other method. The function of Federal Conference and Federal Departments is to discharge the several tasks which State Conferences, the direct representatives of the churches, in their wisdom have decided can best be done on a Federal basis.

### The Constitution of Federal Conference

The Constitution of Federal Conference has been framed on the basis of the fundamental facts set out in this statement. In the nature of things it could not be otherwise.



Confusion arises from lack of appreciation of the fundamental structure of the brotherhood and procedures which are based upon the authority of the local congregation. The major objective of Federal Conference is "To enable the States to co-operate . . ." in various stated activities. So long as this applies, the limitations inherent in this situation must be accepted, and any attempts to operate beyond these limits can only lead to chaos.

### The Recent Amendment

The amendment to the constitution which has called forth criticism introduces nothing foreign to the nature of Federal Conference. All it does is to clarify a situation about which

previously there was confusion. This confusion was based upon erroneous assumptions that Federal Conference possessed powers in its own right, or that it was a conference of churches, authorised to consider matters of general interest, or that it was some kind of higher court. Seen in its true perspective, this amendment simply sets out the correct procedure in the existing circumstances. Federal Conference is more remote from the churches than State Conferences, and the amendment guards churches from being committed financially to proposals which neither they nor their direct representatives have approved. It ensures that Federal Conference shall confine its activities to areas approved by the churches from which resources are provided.

### Conclusion

The foregoing is an attempt to state clearly the fundamental facts upon which our Federal procedures are based. Whether or not we approve of these facts is entirely beside the question. If they apply, we must accept them. So long as our churches adhere to the principle of congregational government, as at present practised among us, there is no alternative. All constitutions are restrictive and the restrictions of this constitution are determined by certain basic concepts, such as congregationalism. If we subscribe to these concepts, we must abide by their clear and logical implications. And the Constitution of Federal Conference, including the new amendment, formally declares these implications.

## New South Wales Roundup

In recent months things have happened in our churches which will make this Conference year one of the most progressive on record. The most outstanding item of news is that by beginning of 1963 more churches than ever before will have a regular full-time ministry, when ten more churches will be supporting men on a full-time basis. This in turn will help to send numbers of full-time preachers to an all-time record. The number of men coming into the State will be in excess of the number of men going out. Men who have left the State are L. Barker (to Vic.), Rex Ellis (to W.A.), and H. Earle will retire in Toowoomba after a 5½ year ministry with the church at Inverell and more than 40 years in full-time work with our Australian and New Zealand churches. J. Anderson will remain in the State to take up a ministry with the church at Mayfield after a five-year term with the church at Wollongong, where he will be replaced by D. Mansell, who comes from a service with the H.M. Dept., Qld. Kingsford has welcomed R. Wilson, and R. Hilford will occupy the brand new manse at Hornsby as full-time preacher. P. E. Thomas is serving an interim ministry at Belmore, which anticipates a ministry with R. Evers at the end of 1963. Another church with a similar long-range plan is Chatswood, where at the end of 1963, C. G. Taylor will come to lead a work which includes the new cause which has opened up at North Turramurra. The circuit at Campbelltown, which went full-time last year with A. Leane, will bring another full-time man into the field in the person of D. Norling, who will go to Campbelltown. Austral, which has more than doubled its membership this year, will commence a new cause at West Liverpool.

This year marks the twenty-first year of the establishment of the Woolwich Bible College, one of the distinguishing features of the recent service being the record number of diplomas granted. The service which was held at Enmore was supported by an overflow congregation. Those who received diplomas are: B. Reid who goes to Queensland; B. Benz to Belrose-North Balgowlah; B. Armstrong to Caringbah; M. Campbell to N.Z.; G. Hopson to Qld.; M. Hodgson for a period to Wingham-Taree; J. Main to Auburn; D. Schofield to extra studies at University; D. Surtees to Bowral; M. Hall to Pendle Hill; D. Foletta to Canley Heights; R. Powell to Inverell; Miss D. Bussey gained the missionary certificate. Two others who have completed four years' study have been called to churches in N.S.W. They are J. Sedman who goes to Wyoming, and A. Smith for a short ministry at Mayfield. It is interesting to note that of the 15 mentioned above, 12 are remaining in the State, 4 of them remaining with the churches they have been serving as student preachers.

### CIRCUIT WORK.

Over recent years the policy here has been to encourage small adjacent congregations of equal numerical strength to combine as a circuit under the leadership of a full-time preacher, with student assistance. This has met with great success. A solid work of this nature has been led by R. Sack, who leaves for Broken Hill in March after completing five years at Loftus Park-Holroyd. H. Davie has led the work at Doonside-Seven Hills, and has just concluded a special series of meetings at Doonside, with 16 additions by Christian baptism. After three years of circuit activity, the churches

at Carramar and Fairfield will separate at the end of the year to enable E. McIlhagger to concentrate at Fairfield in a full-time capacity; attendances and offerings there have doubled in the last three years, and a chapel will be built in 1963 as the first unit of a master plan of buildings. Carramar anticipates a final year student ministry next year, and plans for full-time work in 1964.

### BUILDING.

Several churches in the last few months have made additions to their building and equipment. Caringbah has opened a new hall, Hornsby and Bowral a manse, and Carramar has built a new primary hall and a tennis court on the land adjoining the chapel. Penrith, a growing area at the Pacific foot of the Blue Mountains, has opened a new chapel. This church went full-time at the end of last year under the leadership of exit student, Alan Webb.

### DEPARTMENTAL.

The three full-time Directors are now carrying on their work with bigger and better office space, following renovations to City Temple under the direction of the Executive Committee. Department of Home Missions and Evangelism is budgeting for a £5,000 offering to help the £65 weekly subsidy and to help open new churches in metropolitan and country areas. Department of Social Service has completed three more units for aged people at Pendle Hill, and these have been occupied. Dept. of Christian Education has plans in hand for 3 youth camps at Lake Illawarra during the holiday period, the largest being from Dec. 25 to Jan. 1, with 120 registered. Registrations from N.S.W. for the Australian Youth Convention in Adelaide have totalled 25.



## THE SLAVIC CHURCH.

George Wladysuik, who is a graduate of Woolwich and speaks several Eastern European languages and also Russian, is working as part-time preacher with a Slavic Church of Christ which meets every Lord's Day at City Temple. The members come from all over the metropolitan area and are of 5 different nationalities. Mrs. Wladysuik conducts a Bible School in English. A fund has been established to provide at some future date for a full-time minister.

## OVERSEAS MISSIONARY VISITORS.

New South Wales is well represented in our Mission fields and a number of trained people with excellent qualifications are in touch with the Federal Board seeking overseas

service. A very active State committee, with E. Roffey as Secretary, keeps the brotherhood alerted so far as our overseas work is concerned. A recent brotherhood rally held at Enmore was unique in that all the fields were represented in the persons of Pauline Jones (New Hebrides), Japheth Karae and Samuel Buli (students from New Hebrides in training at Woolwich) and R. McLean, recently returned from a visit to New Guinea.

## BOYS' HOME.

Our Boys' Home at Pendle Hill caters for 30 boys. The much-loved manager, A. Dalton, is at the moment recovering from a severe illness. T. Long, a Woolwich College student, is helping to fill the gap during the holidays.—E. McIlhagger.



Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

## Letter from India

[The following letter conveys Christmas greetings from Ray and Betty Veal, in India. They speak, not only for themselves, but for all our missionaries].

Salam,

It is good to drop in on you at this Christmas time, if only via media of the printed page. We have dropped the more familiar form of address—"dear"—to say Hello in a typical Indian fashion. Salam means, "May peace be with you," and that is our sincere wish for you at this time—that Christ's peace will be with you, and that Christmas '62 will bring "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men."

There is not much thought in our minds about Christmas as this letter goes to press, but by the time you receive it you will be caught up in the activities of this happy time, and we will be preparing to spend our first Christmas in India. Perhaps in some ways we will be better able to capture the true spirit of Christmas because of our Eastern surroundings. And yet I feel that our thoughts will frequently wander towards Australia, and some of our first Indian Christmas will be spent in reminiscing and wondering about what the folks at home are doing.

Our first five months in India has been a most interesting and happy time. Naturally it has been a time of getting-used-to-things. All of my five senses (and my wife's six) have been treated to many new experi-

ences. Some have been pleasant and some . . . well! not so pleasant. I'm afraid that my taste buds and my smelling apparatus have had cause for rebellion on not a few occasions. Given time, however, I'm sure the necessary adjustments will be made to the Indian diet and the characteristic India odors. Perhaps I should make just one confession! The Lord said, "No man having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of heaven." But I have been looking back! I've been looking back to Australia with eyes fixed on some very material things. Not a modern home, not a sleek motor car, not even an inner spring mattress—just a pound of sausages!

On our arrival in India we went almost immediately to our new home at Shrigonda. Later it was thought more desirable for us to move to Dhond, where we could join with Dr. and Mrs. Williams in language study. This new arrangement is working quite well. We seem to be making good progress with our studies and enjoy them very much, but there are those moments when we would love to be more active in the work amongst the people. In India there is so much to be done, so few to do it, and perhaps so little time to do it, that it is difficult at times to be patient. But no doubt God is using this time of study to prepare us in so many ways, hitherto unknown to us. We do ask God to help us to grasp speedily this means of communication between us and the people. We have the Good News of the gospel to tell, and we covet the opportunities that have been given, and those that will increasingly be given to us.

For our fellow missionaries there seems to be "never a dull moment." They work long hours, with plenty of overtime and a few days off—and are content. This is God's work. And working for God is such a thrilling experience. There is no agitation for higher wages or for shorter working hours or for better conditions, for all are content with the reward of abundant joy that is God's gift to all his co-laborers.

The Evangelistic, Educational and Medical work goes on daily—almost a twenty-four hour service (in some places it is). Homes and villages are visited daily by the Bible women, or pastor, or evangelistic teams. Hundreds of children sit daily at the feet of teachers who desire to see them grow, not only in wisdom and stature, but also "in favor with God and man." Scores of people come and go daily from the hospital, where they receive treatment for body and soul. I wish that you could be here and see all this for yourselves, and to experience the thrill of being able to witness what God is doing in India. There are difficulties, too, and disappointments and failures, but we do not let these blind us to the joys and the victories.

India needs Christ. She continues to face disease and poverty and sin. And as we look upon sin-stained faces we are continually reminded of the words, "There go I, but for the grace of God." While the Christian knows Christ and is enriched by him, these people do not know Christ and are not enriched by him. Shall we say, "not yet"? For "every saint has a past and every sinner has a future." Our past is removed as far as the East is from the West distant. Their future in Christ is glorious, but as yet unrealized. They live in a world of sunsets and darkness, but we know that for many the Son of Righteousness will rise and shed abroad in their hearts his marvellous light.

You who read this letter, I know, are genuinely interested in Missions. You would be on the field, too, if you could. But please don't forget that we could not be here but for your lively interest. You are giving as unto the Lord, you are praying without ceasing, and you are working as you are able—and God will bless you for it. Our prayer is that your lives will inspire many others to a living interest in Missions. Is it not well said, "The Church that ceases to be a missionary force will become a missionary field"? The force of your giving and your prayer is being felt by us here.

May Christmas '62 be, as the word suggests, a time of thanksgiving for Christ, and may the new year be a year of unparalleled achievement for Christ.

God-be-with-you, and God bless you,  
Betty and Ray Veal.



## Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian"  
of Dec. 19, 1912.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

**A Revised Hymn Book?** — Many who sing such hymns as "I love thy kingdom, Lord," frequently neglect the church services on the Lord's Day, and the great majority avoid the prayer-meeting as though the bubonic plague raged there. Is it not time to agitate for a revised hymn book so that those saints may not sing untruths when they do meet for worship? Would not something of this sort more accurately express the minds of many singers: "I love thy kingdom, Lord, and sometimes care to go; but I prefer a cricket match, a lodge, or picture show"?

**Visitor's Impressions of Japan.** — I have just had the pleasure of visiting our esteemed Bro. and Sister Davey in Tokyo, and feel that Australia has reason to be proud of its representatives in Japan. Bro. Davey is a man of tireless energy, and besides being one of the leading men in the National Sunday School movement has, for the past two years, been treasurer of the Federated Mission Board of Japan. Our brethren have three chapels in Tokyo and school buildings which cost £8,500 to erect. — W. T. Fenn (Melb.).

**Mrs. Eddy's Fortune.** — The late Mrs. Eddy, founder of Christian Science, made her religion pay. She left in her will about two million dollars (£400,000) in trust for the movement she originated, but the Supreme Court of Massachusetts has declared the will null and void.

**From Here and There.** — H. G. Harward closes his work in New Zealand with a mission at Kaitangata, after which he will take up his work in N.S.W. as State Evangelist . . . The tent mission at Castlemaine (Vic.) closed on Sunday night last with 41 confessions. Twenty-five of these have so far been received into fellowship . . . The Baptists of Australia intend starting a publishing house of their own. A company is to be formed, called "The Australian Baptist Publishing House." The various Unions have agreed to support one paper, which is to be called the *Australian Baptist*, and which is to be regarded as the official organ of the Commonwealth, and have further agreed that "no other paper of similar character is to be sanctioned or recognised." . . . Friends of A. B. Chappell will be glad to know that he had a splendid trip as far as Norfolk Island, en route to Oba, South Seas. . . . At Grote-st., Adelaide, the ballot taken to decide where the new building should be erected resulted: 228 favor building on present site; 37 in front of school.

## QUESTING

A. E. White.

Our church restricts its sporting activities to active church members. Do you think this is good, or should we permit non-members to join with us and encourage church members to belong to non-church clubs?

There are dangers in exclusiveness. There are barriers enough between those inside and those outside the Church. These barriers may be due to ignorance of the Church and its mission, a feeling of unworthiness, a cynical awareness of our failings, or due simply to the habit of not going to church.

One way we can meet with others is through the auxiliaries of the church. These include the sporting groups, and I feel sure that we should open them to non-members who seek to join. To do this is to give us a chance to know them and to have them know us. We should do this, not to have an excuse to preach at them or to improve their manners or conduct, but because we like people and like being with them, and because the Christ who is our Lord may commend himself to them through his servants.

Church members could also join non-church sporting groups for the same reasons. We work with non-Christians, shop with them, travel with them, vote with them, go to hospital with them—why should we not play with them? I know some fine Christian young men and women who play representative sport, and by their life and through their opportunities they make an effective witness for the church. We could do this same thing in the humbler spheres of local cricket, tennis, bowls, track and field, swimming, etc. The opportunities here are also available to Christians in trades unions, political parties, and social and welfare organisations.

Some churches have had unfortunate experiences with sporting auxiliaries. The behaviour of some non-members has been such an embarrassment that churches have reacted by barring all but the elect. These difficulties have usually arisen because there has been a lack of support by church members themselves. They seldom occur when there is active participation and continuing interest by church members. There may be risks in opening the door to non-members, but they are risks well worth taking. We have more to gain than to lose by sharing with others.

Next Week: Questing will be on holidays.

## Musings

A Conference President's Week.

**SUN., DEC. 9.** — I was at Croydon this morning for the last of my Presidential Sunday appointments this year. It was good to see the way this work has developed during the ministry of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkie Thomson. Tonight I was home at Doncaster to take part in the farewell to Brian Ricketts, who has served as our student assistant minister this year. The large gathering was a tribute to a young man who has made a real place for himself in the affections of our people.

**MON., DEC. 10.** — No preacher's "off-day," this — it even included going to both a Speech Afternoon and a Speech Night, and listening to some of the same speeches twice!

**TUES., DEC. 11.** — Our officers' meeting tonight was preceded by a committee discussion on ways of promoting our Centenary Missionary Appeal. There's a healthy wish to make this special year mean something to others, as well as to ourselves.

**WED., DEC. 12.** — After a day which included some sick visitation, I thought again of some of the things Canon Ducker says in his *Christian Therapy for A Neurotic World*. His comments on some forms of Christian visitation of the sick have a punch behind them: "The medical profession may visualise us as kindly souls taking flowers to a sick person, chatting about sweet nothings for a few minutes, perhaps having a word or two of prayer, and then making a hasty retreat from a situation which is out of control." Yet many involved in this kind of ministry not only feel the need to be better equipped to serve, but are actually doing something about it.

**THURS., DEC. 13.** — With our local weekly prepared and three newsletters finalised for our church papers in other countries, I went into the Austral for some work on the A.C. before going on to the Centre to preside over a Conference Officers' meeting.

**FRI., DEC. 14.** — Pride of place at our Christmas tree function tonight was the giant stocking filled with toys by our kinders, plus gifts of food brought by senior scholars—all presented to Doug. Nicholls, M.B.E., for his *Aborigines Mission* work at Fitzroy. The youngsters certainly got at least as much joy out of this gift as out of Santa's visit to them.

**SAT., DEC. 15.** — I notice that today's quote on the date pad is from Wordsworth: "Soft is the music that would charm for ever." The poet had never heard a transistor radio in the hands of a teenager!



# HERE AND THERE

This is the final issue for 1962. There will be no issue for the next two weeks, but "The Australian Christian" will resume publication with the *Aborigines Missions* issue, Jan. 8, 1963. Our regular columns "Questing" and "Musings" will be "rested" during January, resuming with the first copy in February.

Holiday-makers who are planning to stay at either the Lansdowne Caravan Park, 61 Hume Highway, Cabramatta, N.S.W., or the Carramar Caravan Park, 559 Hume Highway, Carramar, N.S.W., may be interested to know that, although it cannot be seen from either place, the Carramar Church of Christ building is quite close. The small congregation at Carramar always enjoys meeting visitors, especially those from interstate, and guarantees a warm welcome to those who attend services while staying at either of these Caravan Parks.

Following upon the Planned Giving Campaign recently conducted by the Taree (N.S.W.) church, the Board of Officers, together with Wingham deacons, has invited a second minister to the Manning Valley. Official word has now been received that D. H. Paddon, at present ministering in the Boondall-Zillmere-Redcliffe circuit in Queensland, has accepted an invitation to commence a three-year ministry in the Manning Valley on Sept. 22, 1963, laboring together with V. T. Parker, of Taree church. M. Hodgson, graduate from Woolwich Bible College, has accepted an invitation for an interim ministry, commencing in January, until the arrival of Mr. Paddon in September.

Lindsay Swalwell, a member at Footscray, Vic., is congratulated on gaining his M.B.B.S. degree at Melbourne University.

Gordon R. Clark, B.A., B.Sc., of the Church of Christ at Glen Waverley, Vic., preached a sermon at the August meeting of the I.V.F. Graduates' Fellowship, Vic. Entitled "The Earnest of the Spirit," it is a study of the phrase as found in Eph. 1: 14. It has since been published in a typed booklet, and copies can be secured from D. A. De Pyle, 24 Hodgson-st., Lower Templestowe, Vic., at a cost of 2/6. The introduction to the booklet refers to Mr. Clark as "senior lecturer in mathematics at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, and graduate in arts and mathematics at the Universities of Melbourne and London respectively. With

an extensive teaching experience in our Grammar Schools, he combines a systematic theological training at the College of the Bible in Victoria."

A further batch of 1962 unpaid accounts for The Australian Christian has been mailed to the subscribers concerned, and payment must be made before Dec. 31, 1962, to ensure continuity of subscription for 1963. Failure to remit payment by the end of this year will involve automatic cancellation of subscription.

W. S. Lowe, at present Assistant Secretary in charge of the Trade Promotion Division of the Department of Trade, Canberra, has resigned to accept a senior position with John P. Young and Associates, one of Australia's leading Management Consultants. Mr. Lowe will take up his new position early in January, with headquarters in Melbourne. He will be head of a new Export Division to be set up by the company. Mr. and Mrs. Lowe and family will reside in Brighton, and return to membership with the Church of Christ there.

## C.E. "Continental" Night

The West Preston (Vic.) Church of Christ hall was packed beyond capacity, when 200 Endeavorers from 20 churches attended the "A La Continental" Night held on Nov. 24, and conducted by the Vic.-Tas. C.E. Committee.

Endeavorers were entertained by artists, and during the evening received supper in four different stages.

Artists included Allan Rowe, Anita Skewes (elocutionist), L. E. Brooker (conjurer), Mr. and Mrs. D. Prout, with Peter Pitts of 3GL as compere. As a token of appreciation for services rendered, Miss Gwen Barranger was presented with a crystal bowl and a barometer by the president of the committee, C. Thomas.

Although designed as a social and party gathering, the challenge given by L. E. Brooker, together with the messages in song from Mr. and Mrs. Prout, capped by the closing item, "Inasmuch," by Anita Skewes, marked the night as highly successful, both socially and spiritually.

Appreciation is expressed to Mrs. Booth and the Reservoir ladies for the catering, Danny McDowell and Co. for the lighting, Kevin Gluyas, sound, and Coburg, West Preston and Reservoir Societies for waiters and waitresses.—L. Stewart, sec.

## Christmas Greetings from Russia

The following letter of Christmas Greetings addressed to all Christians of the world from the President and General Secretary of the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptist in the U.S.S.R. has been received by our Federal Conference Secretary, S. H. Wilson.

### TO ALL CHRISTIANS OF THE WORLD.

Dear Brethren and Sisters in Christ:

On the days of the great Christian festival, Christmas, the solemn words of the angels' song, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men" will sound with a new power in all the churches of the world.

We all shall listen to these words, well-known to us from our childhood. They will remind us of the birth in Bethlehem of the Saviour of the world, and of the greatest Friend of mankind — Jesus Christ.

Besides, the angels' song will remind us of the fact that the words, "on earth peace" still are the words of a fine prophecy which awakens in the mankind golden dreams of an earth-planet without any weapon and wars. The task of all Christians of the globe is to understand that the realization of the golden dream of an earth without weapon and wars depends not only on statesmen and political figures, but to an even greater degree on all peoples and all churches, members of which are hundreds of millions of Christians, trying to live according to the commandments of their Teacher Jesus Christ, while one of his commandments says, "Put up again thy sword into his place; for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

The task of Christianity is not only to sing together with the angels about peace on earth, but to make the peace among all peoples on the earth.

May the Prince of Peace — Jesus Christ — preserve peace in the whole of the world in the New 1963, as in all following years.

Let us unanimously pray for it, and practically contribute to the cause of peace on earth.

With warm Christmas and New Year greetings on behalf of the Union of Evangelical Christians-Baptists of the U.S.S.R., we are:

Jakov Zhidkov, President.

Alexander Karev, Gen. Sec.



S. E. Matthews has accepted a further 12 months' ministry with the church at Henley Beach, S.A.





## The Christmas Story

Ira A. Paternoster.

There is little that has not been better written in the past by others upon this wonderful event in history. It has not wanted for those who have denied that ever such an event took place, but I take it that you who read these lines will receive with me the wisdom of the words of Charles Gore, D.D., as taken from his book, *Can We Then Believe?*

Bishop Gore says (speaking of Jesus): "He is the Alpha and Omega, the first and last, the eternal Son and Wisdom of God, the Creator of all that is, who is 'the fulness of the times,' that is, at a certain climax of history, came down from heaven and was incarnate and made man. Thus he appeared in history and submitted to historical limitations, but he was all the time something more than a man — something transcendent and eternal. Such a claim is of the essence of Christianity. There is no 'like case' to that of Jesus of Nazareth."

In the Babe of Bethlehem God chose to identify himself with humanity so that we could gain an intelligent understanding of what God is like. Forever after, when our enquiring minds sought an answer to the question "What is God like?", we found our answer in the Man Christ Jesus. In him we have made clear to us that "God is love." In his answer to Philip's, "Lord shew us the Father and it sufficeth us," Jesus said, "Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? He that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?" Later in the same conversation Jesus said, "Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me; or else believe me for the very work's sake."

Too many stop short at the Bethlehem story, which is so very appealing in its humanity that we fail to go on to the deeper meaning of the life, death and resurrection of this same babe born in the manger. In doing this we miss the real inspiration of the "Man of Galilee." Only as we measure up to the lesson of the Cross are we really able to worship with the shepherds on that first Christmas morning.

# OUR FAMILY PAGE

Christmas and Calvary are not far apart as we consider the life of the Christ, yet how very much occurred between these two events. We know very little until we see Jesus breaking in on the history of the world. As we follow the events of his life, how conscious we become that truly he came not to do his own will but the will of his Father in heaven, and we feel again the challenge of his life as we face up to each new day. He sanctified all of life. Childhood has a new meaning for us; and we are led to think of the sanctity of honest labor as we picture him at the carpenter's bench.

As we make our gifts this Christmas let us think again of the gift that would mean more to him than anything else — the gift of our own life in renewal of service for another year.

## Controlling Anger

C. F. Kemp.

How can I control my anger? Many people would like to know the answer to this question. Anger can be one of the most destructive of all emotions. It can separate friends, create tension in the home, destroy the spirit in an office, an organisation, or a congregation. Anger not only hurts others who may be innocent victims of its results, but it hurts the one who lets it get out of control. His own happiness, his own personality, his very health are affected.

No one wants to be angry all of the time. The question is, how can it be controlled? Dr. George Stevenson and Harry Milt, of the National Association for Mental Health, in a recent book, *Master Your Tensions and Enjoy Living Again*, say that "if you can't control your anger, then the thing to do is to get rid of it."

They make three suggestions. The first is to work it out. When a person becomes angry, rather than taking it out on some innocent victim, he should find something to do, something that will draw off his tension. Activity, even if it is only walking, helps work the anger out of the system.

Their second suggestion is to talk it out. This is good for problems but especially for anger. When we verbalise our feelings to someone else they tend to lose their destructive power and then we are able to see the situation with more understanding.

Third, they suggest it is well to talk it over with the person with whom you are angry. Many real problems between persons are based on misunderstanding.

The writings of such men who write from a psychological and psychiatric orientation underline the importance of an emphasis found in the New Testament, years ago. "You have heard that it was said to the men of old, 'You shall not kill . . . . But I say to you that every one who is angry with his brother shall be liable to judgment'" (Matt. 5:21, 22a). Before one offered his gift at the altar it was better to go and be reconciled with someone who had anything against him and then offer the gift.

It was not enough in New Testament teaching merely to overcome anger. The anger must be absorbed in love. This is the ultimate antidote to anger — it grows out of understanding, forgiveness, it requires patience, personal discipline and prayer. When one can recognise his anger, control his anger and transmute it into love, then he is living in the spirit of Christ.—The Christian.

## PRAYER AT A WEDDING

"Husband and wife." The solemn words fell clearly  
In the hush. The minister with hand Uplifted, offered prayer, while heads were bowed.  
Yet his was not the only prayer that rose  
From dim-lit pews for her — radiant but pale,  
And him so grave and proud. The bride's  
Lips moved, "O Lord, this bond must last. So help  
Love brave the crises — things like pain and loss.  
It's strong for bearing any lesser cross."  
The filtered light turned gold the gray strands in  
Her mother's hair. Her prayer was washed with tears.  
"Dear Lord, help them to see we're halfway braced  
With courage for the heavy blows. It's more  
The nagging, little things that, like the drops  
Of water, wear away their rock of faith  
Each in the other. Teach them both the art  
Of patience — sometimes yielding. Just being in  
The right can do so much to tear apart —  
Yet nothing — nothing for a broken heart!"

—Leora Wilber Houston,  
in *Hearthstone*.

Student marriages: Proof that a little yearning is a dangerous thing.





# INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

## TASMANIA

Devonport (E. W. Taylor). — R. Story (U.F.M.) screened film, *Were Sometimes Darkness*, at p.m. service. At invitation of W.O.A.M., the C.W.F. conducted meeting in Methodist Hall, Mrs. Taylor, speaker. Married man accepted Christ, Nov. 25. Church annual business meeting, 28th. W. Ratcliffe (elder) and C. Nunn (deacon) added to Board. R. Edmunds (Invermay) speaker Dec. 2. Elderly members were conveyed to Port Sorell, 5th, where happy time of fellowship was enjoyed. Christmas tree and party for kinder and cradle roll held 8th. At gospel service on 9th, 1st Boys' Brigade, Tas., held their first parade and induction of leaders and boys. B. Green conducted service.

Walton back after absence through broken leg. Mr. Armstrong attending services after illness.

Epping (H. M. Long). — Auxiliaries closing year's activities. C.W.E.F. had family concert, with some auxiliaries taking part. C.E. held social evening, Dec. 7. B.S. held Christmas party, 8th. C.W.A.F. held Christmas luncheon, 11th. K. Wakeley made literature rack for chapel. H. Long has commenced 2nd year of ministry.

Wagga Wagga (W. J. O. Todd). — Young man from Teachers' Training College baptised Dec. 1. C.Y.F. break-up for year on 7th. Items by Y.F.C. Rhythm Group and address by M. Hall (graduate, Woolwich). R. Powell home after completing course at Woolwich, prior to commencing ministry at Inverell.

## QUEENSLAND

Camp Hill (K. J. Harvey). — B.B. and G.L.B. combined to present display on afternoon, Nov. 24; many parents and non-members present. All clubs now in recess. B.S. held Christmas tree, Dec. 7; many scholars' parents present. C.W.F. and C.M.S. combined for final meeting of year to present special Christmas programme. C.W.F. officers for ensuing year are pres., Mrs. N. McLucas; vice-pres., Mrs. G. Harvey; sec., Mrs. E. Cranston; asst. sec., Mrs. S. Mansell; treas., Mrs. E. Tinney. Church happy to welcome home Mr. and Mrs. B. Scott and family after 6 months' absence. Holiday period already showing effect in Sunday attendances. Averages for Nov.: a.m. 68; p.m. 46.

Hawthorn (R. C. Dixon). — Attendances have risen since arrival of new minister. Midweek prayer session also well attended. S. Riches (chairman of Board), S. R. Beck (sec.), L. J. Hook (asst. sec.) and W. Ferris (treas.), re-appointed at elders' and deacons' meeting. G. Knight and H. Young recovering following surgery. A. A. Glastonbury appointed to position of Senior Probation Officer of State Aborigines Dept. 48 women attended Christmas break-up party of C.W.F., at which Mrs. C. Butler was devotional leader. Morning service on 9th was last of series of 8 re-broadcast over 5DN at 9 p.m.

Beulah-rd. (R. Clymer). — B.S. picnic and anniversary services held. Guest speakers, B. Marriott and J. Halbert. Teachers' dedication service conducted by H. G. Norris. C.Y.F. welcomed Unley C.Y.F. at teen-tea and entertained boys from Lochiel Park at social evening. Good attendance at barbecue and cracker night. Men and women of church have completed number of toys for under-privileged children. Guest speakers during minister's visit to Broken Hill were K. Horne and R. Kitto, and following his recent accident, G. Mathieson and R. McLean. Church happy to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Braddock, after their journey overseas, and is thankful to have minister restored to health again.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Hamilton (W. D. Howard). — Church thanks R. Caslin, C. Fraser, H. Robson and J. Moran, who spoke at services during minister's vacation. Mr. and Mrs. D. Ewers highlighted visit to Federal Conference. T. Fraser and Y.P. conducted prayer meetings. Annual Northern District Convention speakers were L. Wylie (Conf. Pres.), K. Crawford and Mrs. Bell, all from Sydney. Mr. Crawford also addressed a.m. service, Dec. 2, on Social Service and H.M. activities. Numerous visitors have attended services. Mr. and Mrs. A. Fraser home after stay in Qld.

Beverly Hills (R. W. Beadle). — Young man baptised following his confession of faith, Nov. 18. Bruce

Glenelg (C. E. Curtis). — Church visited and shared gospel service with local Y.M.C.A. in their hall for dedication of leaders; soloist, Mrs. Anson. K. Horne (Youth Director) attended

## Discipleship

M. Arnold, Glenelg, S.A.  
Gregory Crittle, Ormond, Vic.  
Allan Strack, Essendon, Vic.  
Peter and Ivan Hill, Echuca, Vic.  
James Baensch, Bentleigh, Vic.  
Margaret Worrall, Jan Baldwin,  
Georgina Adamson, Gary Davis,  
Camberwell, Vic.  
Joan Robinson, Janice Holland,  
Croydon, Vic.  
Pam Jones, Hartwell, Vic.  
David Blandford, Beverly Hills,  
N.S.W.  
Cheryl Brimble, Carolyn and Milton  
Harwood, Adriana van Sluys, Belmont, Vic.  
Gail Newman, Bruce Harmon, Kevin  
Hawkins, Doug. Dowling, John  
Matherick, Carnegie, Vic.

## Membership

G. Legge, from Emerald; Miss  
M. W. Johnston, from Ormond,  
to Black Rock, Vic.  
Mr. and Mrs. F. Taylor, Mudgee to  
Beverly Hills, N.S.W.  
Mrs. Dennis, from St. Kilda; Mrs.  
L. A. Trezise, from Reservoir  
Presbyterian, to Surrey Hills, Vic.  
Mr. and Mrs. Geishner, Kyneton  
to York-st., Ballarat, Vic.

## Marriage

Eileen Sheppard to Leslie Edmonds;  
Joy Hare to James Harnden;  
Judith Strack to Brian Langley,  
Essendon, Vic.  
Dorothy Thompson to Neil Jansen,  
Echuca, Vic.  
Patricia George to Dennis Crow-  
hurst; Heather Edwards to Ralph  
Crowder, Beulah-rd., S.A.  
Phyllis Wood to Barry Reid; Rhonda  
Hill to Max Hall, Epping, N.S.W.

## Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Murdoch, Essendon, Vic.



teachers' study session and preached at gospel service; Miss Dobbin, soloist. Av. communicants for month, 184. One baptism. C.E. entertained older church members to tea on Sunday night, after taking them to see Youth Hostel and Rest Home. Y.P. also had children from Colbrook Home as guests to tea, and then at church service. F. G. Mathieson preached in absence of minister at Birdwood.

**Albert Park (C. E. Watson).** — Annual church meeting elected deaconess, Mrs. Geddes; deacons, Messrs. Morris, Mower, Kennedy, Verco, Hollams; treas., A. Pawson; sec., R. Fax. All youth groups having successful end of year demonstrations. Kinder Christmas tree held 8th. A. Pawson elected gen. supt. B.S. Teacher dedication service, 2nd, with Youth Director, K. Horne, leading service. Nativity play, Stained Glass Window, performed by Y.P. during service, 9th.

**Mount Gambier (R. V. Holmes).** — Church regrets removal of Pitkin and Criddle families to Adelaide. Builders have commenced work on manse. Lifeboys, G.L.B., C.Y.F., C.M.S. and C.W.F. all held concluding meetings for year. Building full for Y.M.C.A. service. D. Rackett acting sec. until annual business meeting, with D. Finnis as minute sec. D. Sander now evening organist, and Mrs. D. M. Fimmell, morning organist.

**Henley Beach (S. E. Matthews).** — Married lady baptised. Arrangements being finalised by Board to conduct beach witness in the form of religious films on the sand at West Beach each Sunday night during Jan. G.L.B. wound up successful year with excellent variety concert.

## VICTORIA

**Balwyn (L. F. Barker).** — Church pleased to welcome 4 new members through faith and baptism, Dec. 9. Auxiliaries closing year of good service and interest. £95/5/- extra given to Manse Fund by C.W.F. groups. Evening Fellowship ladies' choir for evening service, Nov. 30, and soloists, much appreciated. Letter box installed for Christmas greetings, and stamp money for Inter-Church Aid. Explorers' church parade and assistance in church service brought many parents along. P.B.P. proud of being placed second for aggregate marks of all competitions in final count at trophy night. W.M.B. re-elected Mrs. Cuthbert, snr., pres; Mrs. R. Evans, sec.; Mrs. Knight, treas.; Mrs. Sanders, vice-pres.

**Bayswater (H. S. Prime).** — D. Armstrong (Ringwood Methodist) speaker at C.E. consecration meeting; C.Y.F. conducted p.m. service.

Good Companions street stall, Nov. 10, raised over £37 for Building Fund. Ais Pormes (Indonesia) speaker at a.m. service and C.E. meeting, 11th. Mrs. E. W. Heard speaker at evening service. Explorers took part in evening service, Boys' Sunday. C.M.S. film night raised £10 towards Land Rover for New Guinea with showing of excellent slides of overseas travels by Russell Tully. G.C. Christmas party, 21st, with girls from Montrose, Croydon and Boronia as guests; girls brought gifts for "Uncle Charlie." C.Y.F. basket tea, 25th, with Mitcham Y.P. as guests. Church parade at evening service and after-church song service. C.W.F. film night, 26th, with offering for Hospital Visitation Committee.

**Bentleigh (F. L. Ewers, B.A.).** — Youth auxiliaries well led throughout year. Men and boys led gospel service on Boys' Sunday. Y.P. assisted in leading and singing at monthly youth service, Dec. 2. Men continue to assist East Bentleigh working bees to complete building. I.C.E. sponsored shower tea to honor Elizabeth Wallington and Barrie Margetts. Three meetings held as beginning for Woman to Woman evangelism, with Mesd. Amos and Manning as speakers. Contacts were made in district, and church is conscious of need for continuance of campaign. Much spiritual blessing manifest.

**Echuca (B. L. Pryor).** — V. Longthorp (Dept. C. Ed.) recent speaker. Minister exchanged with D. Beanland (Swan Hill). Ladies took charge p.m., Dec. 9, and talent money, £150, was handed in and dedicated. Film, Talents, screened. Clubs, kinder and B.S. have held break-ups. Mrs. Pickens in hospital.

**Gardiner (F. A. Youens).** — Temple Day, Dec. 2, with offering of £381. A.m. speaker, C. G. Taylor (Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres.). Hospital Sunday offering, £27. Y.P. early morning breakfast, 2nd; followed by prayer meeting; 25 attended. C.W.F. groups' Christmas meetings, 4th and 5th. Y.P. conducted p.m. Christmas service, 16th. Nov. averages: 200 a.m.; 110 p.m.

**Geelong (A. C. Caldicott).** — Two Americans (husband and wife) made decision and were baptised. 105th church anniversary, conducted by students of M.B.I., outstanding event. 760 attended sessions during day. £500 raised since Oct. for reduction of Centenary Hall debt. Combining prayer meeting and choir rehearsal in one night has improved prayer meeting attendance. Large number of members attended H.M. quarterly prayer meeting.

**Black Rock.** — Grand gathering at homecoming day heard R. McKenzie, B.A., at morning service, and Conf. Pres., C. G. Taylor, B.A., at gospel

service. 60 attended fellowship tea and enjoyed hearing reminiscences from first student minister — after actual church building was opened in 1936 — E. R. Sherman. Mrs. Lawrence recalled first tent meetings in district. P. Payne, who has conducted a 7-year part-time ministry at Noble Park, will commence part-time ministry with church in 1963.

**Croydon (W. J. Thomson).** — Two B.S. girls received into fellowship of church after baptismal service, Dec. 2. Church members attended "progressive" dinner arranged by C.W.F. Annual meeting of C.M.S. elected: pres., S. Baker; vice-pres., R. Clarke; sec.-treas., R. Bullen. C.W.E.F. enjoyed "mad hatters" night arranged by Mrs. Thomson, at their Dec. meeting. 16 Explorers and leader attended rally at Assembly Hall, 8th. C. G. Taylor, B.A. (Conf. Pres.) a.m. speaker 9th. B.S. scholars sang Christmas carols, p.m. service. G. Floyd returned to work after accident. Congratulations to tennis club on continued success in retaining top place on ladder.

**Footscray (G. S. Brown).** — C.W.E.F. visited Talbot Colony, Nov. 22, and entertained patients. I. J. Chivell (S.A. Conf. Sec.) speaker a.m. 25th; Mrs. Quaife (Preston) soloist p.m. C.W.A.F. held Tupperware afternoon at Mrs. Lucke's home, 27th. Many attended mannequin parade, sponsored by Prestige, for C.W.E.F., 28th. Miss W. Lee (Pahran) soloist, Dec. 2. Missionary group and C.W.F.'s have held final meetings for year. C.W.A.F. made presentation to Mrs. F. T. Morgan in appreciation of her services during her time at Footscray. £31/11/8 presented to Social Service Dept. at rally on 8th. Members of all auxiliaries presented £816 as their thankoffering, during special p.m. service on 9th. W. Newham (Surrey Hills) soloist.

**Redcliffs (S. K. Bannon).** — C.Y.F. had great fun recently with "progressive" supper, 5 homes being visited. Y.P. held tea and boys' and girls' clubs parade, Nov. 25, when Jungle Doctor film was screened. B.S. tea and Christmas tree, Dec. 5. Gifts on main tree for primary, kinder and cradle roll. Empty Christmas tree provided for older scholars, who brought gifts to be sent to Aboriginal Missions in W.A. Boys' club held parents' night, Dec. 10, with many interested parents present. Social evening given Kaye Cameron and Ian Campbell, 8th. C.W.F.'s combined for Dec. meeting. A.m. av. attendance, 111.

**Swan Hill (D. G. Beanland).** — Church had visit from D. H. Smith (Sec., Dept. H.M. and Evang.), who spoke at Sat. night fellowship and a.m. Dec. 2. C.W.F. purchased feltex carpet for portion of manse. Jan Hunting visited C.E., 7th, and showed slides of Mission work in New Guinea.



Lyn Baxter (C.O.B.) p.m. speaker 9th. Auxiliaries in recess for holiday period.

**York-st., Ballarat.** — A.m. average attendances 86. Visiting speakers have been L. Winckel (S.U.M.), Mr. Derring (Carnarvon), Mr. Finger (South Sea Islands), Mr. and Mrs. Neil Wescombe (outgoing missionaries to Ramabai Mukti Mission, India), Indian pastors, Messrs. Hiwale and Bhonsle, also Samuel and Japheth (New Hebrides). Men continue to minister to church. There have been 2 new members by transfer. Church pleased to have Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Combridge present Dec. 9. Ladies' Fellowship and Ladies' Guild held Christmas breakup, which took form of carol service, and items by visiting artists. Miss York continues to visit sick and needy people in surrounding district and members of church.

**Box Hill (L. S. Dewberry).** — Junior Good Companions went to Box Hill Fitness Centre. C.W.F. held final meeting, Nov. 27. Thanksgiving offering was £94. Contribution of £50 for Homes annual offering. Mrs. Nixon and her group provided musical programme. On 28th, Y.P. held social and devotional evening. Junior Good Companions had craft night, 29th, for "Uncle Charlie's" gifts. C.Y.F. held fancy dress night, 30th. Boys went on fishing trip to Kyneton, Dec. 1, and assisted in church service, 2nd. On 5th, U.F.M. presented film, *Were Sometimes Darkness*, at special meeting. C.Y.F. held beach picnic at Mentone. Christmas Festival being held during Dec. with appropriate messages from minister. Choir gave special anthems on 9th; soloist for gospel service, Miss Pat Searle. Av. attendances for Nov., a.m., 207; p.m., 115; communicants, 162.

**Sunshine (B. F. Goldsteen).** — Large number of visitors attended church anniversary services. B.S. functioning well under leadership of new supt., R. Iliff. C.E. activities included evening at members' farm and breakup at Geelong. G. Noble represented in Commonwealth Games. Well attended social evening, Dec. 7, to raise toys for "Uncle Charlie." Two baptismal services.

**Preston (G. W. Barnett).** — Boys' Sunday observed Nov. 18, Explorer club assisting p.m. service. D. Hibbert guest speaker. Six Y.P. baptised and welcomed into fellowship, 25th. Another young girl welcomed by faith and baptism p.m. communion service. C.W.F. concluded activities for year with outing at Marysville. C.M.S. held film night; scenic films supplied by General Motors screened. Lady welcomed into fellowship by faith and obedience, a.m. service, Dec. 2.

**Shepparton (T. A. Fergusson).** — Series of four Teaching Fellowship

meetings, held early in Nov., with K.A. Macnaughtan (Melb.). Church extends thanks to Mr. Macnaughtan. B.S. held social evening and gave proceeds, £10/13/6, to New Building Fund. S.R. Carr, speaker a.m. 11th, gave report of Fed. Conf. meetings. B.S. anniversary services, 25th, H.F. Gross, B.A., appreciated guest speaker; children sang under leadership of supt., Chaplain N. S. Moore, B.A., Dip.Ed. Total attendances were: afternoon 174; p.m., 132. Offering for school work, £20. Sympathy of church extended to Mrs. F. Harris and members of her family, in loss of their father.

**North Williamstown (R. C. Bust).** — All depts. of church school held prizegiving and cradle roll presentations afternoon of Dec. 9. Good Companions and Young Explorers held combined party, 11th. Endeavourers visited home of Mr. and Mrs. Myerscough to view slides taken on world tour. Mrs. Fitzgerald's health improving. Mr. Tanner ill. C.M.S. and K.S.P. organised monster Christmas evening for church families, 14th. Ladies over sixty were presented with gifts. Sympathy expressed to Mrs. D. Thatcher in loss of father.

**Doncaster (C. G. Taylor, B.A.).** — Meetings well attended. Studentasst. minister, B. J. Ricketts, farewelled at after-church gathering, Dec. 9; presented with wallet of notes. New members on Official Board — J. Berry, K. C. Morris and H. Read — allotted to functional committees. Good Companions and Explorers held combined breakup night, 8th.

**Belmont (M. D. Hamilton).** — Men attended Drumcondra C.M.S. to hear W. Andrew (V.F.L. umpire). C.W.E.F. breakup took form of back-to-school night; each lady brought lunch-box and childhood photo. Chapel packed Dec. 2; 4 Y.P. baptised. Youth clubs and cricket club attended church parade. Kinder had Christmas treat during the afternoon of 8th, and at night B.S. had theirs, when each scholar brought a gift for some needy child. Good Companions entertained mothers at Christmas service and breakup on 11th. C.E. also had function. Y.P. attended Drumcondra C.M.S. carol singing at Fyansford, 14th.

**Essendon (V. Quayle).** — Boys' Sunday observed Nov. 18, boys taking part at 11 a.m.; address given by R. Baldry. 70 fathers and sons enjoyed fellowship tea. Speaker at 7 p.m., B. Sheppard. Baptismal service held. Temple Day held Nov. 25. Gifts amounted to £550. Soloist at a.m. service was Mrs. D. Ferguson. Lad welcomed into fellowship. A. R. Haskell (Conf. Pres.-Elect) speaker 7 p.m. at combined auxiliaries' church parade. Soloists were Mrs. P. Lynch and Miss B. Tippet. Kinder scholars entertained at Christmas party, Dec.

1. Annual family service held p.m. 2nd. Special items given by three families — Cheals, Hartneys, Stracks. Minister assisted by his son Len, for his children's talk. 41 Elderly Citizens entertained at Christmas party on 5th; each presented with a gift. Miss Ruth Povey, returning to Portland for High School teaching duties, farewelled 9th. B.S. brought gifts for Aborigine children at Condah. N. Summerton elected pres. C.M.S. at their tea meeting; speaker, D. Watt, who also screened film, *The Homesteaders of U.S.A.*, at p.m. service: soloist, Mrs. N. Hutton. Mrs. S. Hainsworth still in hospital. Mrs. Moss and Miss J. Ferguson welcomed after illness.

## OPEN FORUM

### THE R.C. "BOGEY."

I would like to commend the Editorial in the A.C., 20/11/62. Surely this should be our attitude to Rome and all other communions.

If we as a movement segregate ourselves from any talks and negotiations regarding unity we will find ourselves, instead of being a great Restoration Movement, just another little sect that is passed by. If we claim to stand for truth and seek truth, what are we afraid of?

While we realise that the Roman Catholic attitude towards unity must change before we could ever enter into any sort of unity, why should they change when we hold so uncompromisingly and bitterly to our old prejudices and fears about them? —Mrs. Barbara Andrews, East Malvern, Vic.

### THE R.C. "BOGEY."

It is to be sincerely hoped that there are not many of our members who are prepared to make serious accusations based on false assumptions, such as were used by Mrs. Youens in your issue of 27/11/62.

Her letter accused the church of "condoning" Rome's attitude and of being "hoodwinked" into Rome's desire.

There is not a shred of evidence to support either statement.—J. E. Smith, Camperdown, Vic.



Wangaratta (Vic.) Church of Christ has planned a five-week mission under the leadership of D. Willis. The commencing date is Jan. 30, 1963. Wangaratta has a population of 14,000. Wangaratta members are seeking the prayerful support of fellow Christians. Current news of the mission will be sent to those wishing to share as prayer partners. Letters will be welcomed by A. E. Stevens (minister), or by Selwyn A. Jackel (prayer convener).



**BIRTHS**

**AVERY (Reveleigh).** — To Lianne and Allan, on Dec. 1, at Dandenong, Vic., a son — Neville Mark. A welcome brother for Colin and Peter. Both well.

**CARTMEL.** — On Dec. 12, at William Angliss Hospital, Ferntree Gully, Vic., to Joan and Noel, a daughter — Pamela Sue. Sister for Ian, Robert, Barbara and Richard.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**DIXON.** — In loving memory of my friend Alice, passed away Dec. 20, 1961. Always remembered. Sadly missed.

—Ethel Robertson.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

**BALDWIN - ANDERSON.** — The engagement is announced of Rosalind, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Baldwin, Ocean-st., Mt. St. Thomas, N.S.W., to Allan, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Anderson, Regent-st., Wollongong, N.S.W.

**BENZ - SCHREINER.** — The engagement is announced of Elke, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Schreiner, Austral, N.S.W., to Barry, only son of Mrs. P. E. Benz and the late Mr. K. A. Benz, Mile End, Sth. Aust.

**APPROACHING MARRIAGE**

**BANGSUND - WARREN.** — On Jan. 5, 1963, at the Northcote Church of Christ, Vic., Joy, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lef Bangsund, to Vern., elder son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Warren, Auckland, New Zealand.

**SILVER WEDDING**

**MARSH (Cornish).** — It is with happiness and thanks to God that we announce our 25th wedding anniversary. The marriage ceremony was held at Brunswick Church of Christ, Dec. 18, 1937, the late A. J. Fisher officiating. Edith and Alf Marsh, 22 Horne-st., Brunswick, Vic.

**GOLDEN WEDDING**

**WATSON.** — Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Watson announce, with gratitude to our Heavenly Father, the 50th anniversary of our marriage at Lilyville Church of Christ, Sydney, on Dec. 12, 1912, by the late W. G. Bagley. Present address: 5a Haig-st., Bexley, N.S.W.

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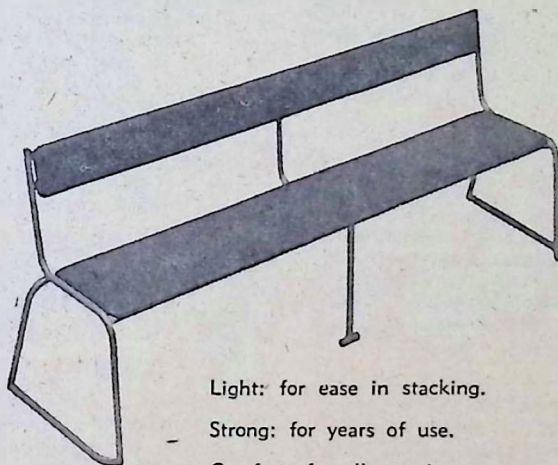
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## Coming Events

**TOOTGAROOK CHURCH (Vic.).** The church at this popular bayside resort invites visitors to its Sunday services. Speakers for the month of January will be — 6th: A. R. Haskell; 13th: W. W. Saunders; 20th: S. R. Baker; 27th: K. W. Heath. A signpost on the Nepean Highway indicates the locality of the chapel.

**NORTH WILLIAMSTOWN (Vic.) 75th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, Feb. 17.** Past members and interested friends invited to share in the three services. Meals provided. Auxiliaries and clubs will be holding reunions each night of preceding week. Send your name and address to A. R. Haskell, 21 White-st., North Williamstown, for details of arrangements.

### HOLIDAYING at the PENINSULA This Year?

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11.15—Communion Service.  
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**SPECIAL CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE, 9.30 a.m.**

Minister: M. D. Keatch.

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Services 11 a.m., 7 p.m.

Minister: A. E. HURREN.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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R. V. Holmes (minister, Mt. Gambier church), 146 Commercial-st. East, Mt. Gambier, S.A.

D. Rackett (acting secretary, Mt. Gambier church), Box 251 P.O., Mt. Gambier, S.A.

T. W. Blue (secretary, North Parra-matta church), 61 Leura-rd., Auburn, N.S.W.

R. C. Dixon (minister, Hawthorn church), 79 Angas-rd., Westbourne Park, South Aust.

R. McLeod (secretary, Peel-st., Ballarat church), 319 Sebastopol-st., Ballarat, Vic. Phone 58493.

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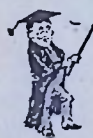
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B.S. CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS.

Commencing 100 years ago, a Sunday School of 35 scholars and five teachers met in the Temperance Hall in East Ballarat, Vic. This was the beginning of what has proved to be "a century of witness" by the Bible School.

To celebrate this Centenary, special meetings were held.

A Back to Dawson-street evening was held on Sat. night, Nov. 3 (attendance 222), when former scholars, teachers and superintendents attended to reminisce and enjoy meeting old friends.

During the evening Misses H. Brodie and L. Franklin had the pleasure of sitting in suitably inscribed chairs, purchased to honor these women. Miss Brodie was on the teaching staff in 1899, and Miss Franklin was appointed a teacher in 1901. In recognition of the long and splendid service of Neil Reid (sec. for 22 years) and Geoff. Reed (supt. for 10 years), presentations were made to these men. Members of the Reed family have served in an executive capacity in the school for the past 47 years. Reflections on the past were given by Harold Reed, Miss H. Morrison and J. A. Wilkie, who recalled that he commenced as a teacher in 1913, and that in 1916 he had 100 scholars in the Bible Class. To complete the evening a commemorative plaque was unveiled in the school hall.

Three special services were held on Sunday, Nov. 4, when former scholars and teachers were the speakers.

At 11 a.m., E. M. Price presided and Lloyd Morris spoke on *The Finished Product*, taking as his text Col. 1: 28 (attendance 340).

At 3 p.m., more than 500 greatly enjoyed the scholars' singing. Mrs. F. Manning, for 20 years a missionary, serving in India and Africa, spoke to the children on *The Christ-Centred Life*.

The chapel was again filled for the evening service, when the speaker was Lin Fitzgerald (son of a former minister, G. T. Fitzgerald), whose subject was *Your Witness for Christ*.

The celebrations continued the next Lord's Day, Nov. 11; at 11 a.m. was the teachers' dedication service; at 3 p.m., Miss Jan Hunting spoke to the kinders and primary children, and at 7 p.m. W. W. Saunders was the guest speaker.

Centenary projects have been the purchasing of new seating for 150, new class room and hall heating, new lighting and carpet in the main hall, and also much painting.

Equipment was not the sole object of planning for the Centenary. Much

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thought and attention this year was given to extending the adult Christian education programme. Geoff. Reed (supt.) has been in conference to implement this, and also is planning further growth of the school.

After leading in all the planning for the B.S. Centenary celebrations, it was a very great disappointment to Geoff. Reed to have to go into hospital, thus missing the Centenary he had done so much to make a success.



## OBITUARY

Reg Wearne.

On Dec. 6, Reg. Wearne was suddenly taken from us, passing away at the home of one of his friends. He was a loyal Christian worker, an officer of Kangaroo Flat (Vic.) church, as well as having a long association with C.E. in this area. He joined the church in 1926, and was linked with Golden Square church for a number of years, and later at Bendigo. He was always ready to serve on the Lord's Day, and ready to help when needed in the Church School. His sudden passing has left a place in our church which will be hard to fill. The service at the home of our brother was conducted by H. Hargreaves, and at the graveside by the writer, where a large number of friends and relatives gathered to pay their last respects. We commend his loved ones to the One who can sustain in such a time of need. We pray that the faith and memory of our brother will continue in lives influenced by his kindly deeds and life to the witness of Christ our Lord. —J. K. Martin.

Mrs. Ada Murdoch.

After a very lengthy illness, Mrs. Ada Murdoch passed to be with her Lord on Oct. 17, 1962, at the age of 81 years. The late Mrs. Murdoch spent the early years of her Christian experience in the Newmarket (Vic.) church, and then transferred to Essendon as one of the foundation members of that church. Throughout her long life there was a continuing interest in the life and worship of the church as she sought to honor the Lord whom she loved so well. Her graciousness and patience in sickness were an inspiration to those who visited her. Funeral services in the Essendon chapel and at the Fawkner Cemetery were conducted by V. Quayle. The sympathy of the church has gone out to her husband, son and daughter, and to their families in their bereavement. We rejoice together in the blessed promises of the gospel that can give us comfort in sorrow.—V. Quayle.

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