

THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Yearly 27/6 (A. & N.Z.), 32/6 (For.) Weekly — 5½d. through church agent

Colman's

Downs areas, the church feels it is meeting the challenge of the spiritual needs of a growing population and looks forward to a time of development and blessing. The need of able leadership is well met by the ministry of Mr. and Mrs. P. Woolford and an able Board of Officers. —R. J. Hill.

Missionary Vision in the West

The Church at Manning, a rapidly growing suburb six miles south of Perth, has for some time been challenged by its inability to adequately proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in the area where the church is situated. With a total membership of thirty, a Bible School of one hundred and twenty, and without a minister, they felt that the task was beyond their own power.

In November the Manning officers approached the elders of the church at South Perth seeking advice and assistance.

The problem was approached from several aspects, but the outstanding thing to emerge was the proposal to conduct a tent mission as a joint venture. With South Perth releasing its minister, Geo. Wood, at no cost to Manning, it was further planned to seek the services of other specialists in mission evangelism. Thus a team of qualified men, each consecrated to his special field of service, backed by the combined resources of the two churches concerned, would launch a concerted drive with the object of establishing the young church at Manning to the extent that it could reasonably plan for a full-time ministry at the conclusion of the mission.

Events moved swiftly with the Officers' Boards of both churches endorsing a plan for a six weeks' mission using the services of a four man team. The team is to be Geo. Wood as evangelist, Jack Bond, organiser and personal worker, Bill Bowden (Hawthorn, S.A.), song leader and associate evangelist, and Le Donaldson (Fremantle), pianist.

It was after much prayer and deep consideration that it was decided to put the venture to both churches simultaneously on Dec. 23 so that the Lord's people could indicate their support. The Church at South Perth immediately promised £1,084 as outright gifts to be available before the mission commences, and the church at Manning, £247.

The mission is now a definite programme timed to commence a week after Easter. —J. Swift.

New Building, Dalby, Qld.

The official opening of the new church hall and class rooms at Dalby, Queensland, took place on December 1, 1962, and was a very happy occasion for the members and friends of the church. The hall, designed by D. Cranston, is modern in appearance and provides for the general use of Bible School, auxiliaries and church meetings. A rapid building programme, undertaken by builders H. Christensen and H. Scholl of Toowoomba, with the aid of voluntary work, and the assistance of all concerned, resulted in a saving of approximately £1,500 in costs.

Before the opening of the door, G. Pedler, a foundation member of Dalby church, spoke in an appreciative manner of the help given in the construction of the building and pointed out that whilst the venture

was one which had demanded much prayer and hard work, it was hoped that the situation in an expanding housing area would result in many coming to know the Saviour. Following the opening, Dr. R. L. Green chaired the meeting in the hall, and welcomed local Parliamentarians, Council members, ministers of the local churches and visitors from Toowoomba, Brisbane, Boonah, Chinchilla and other areas. D. Mansell was the visiting speaker and fellowship with him was appreciated as, at the time the building operation commenced, he conducted a tent mission on the site.

With the expected declaration of Dalby as a city during 1963, and its added importance and expansion in connection with the discovery of commercial oil fields in the Western





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Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian"
of Jan. 16, 1913.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

First Issue of "Australian Baptist". — We congratulate our Baptist brethren on their forward movement in journalism. The first issue of the Australian Baptist just to hand indicates careful preparation and editorial ability, but the effect is marred by the poor paper it is printed on. It is issued from the new Australian Baptist Publishing House, Ltd., and is the official organ of the denomination in the Commonwealth. The Baptists have recently federated their publishing, educational and missionary work, and by concentration of effort will, doubtless, accomplish more than when each State worked alone. The Publishing House finds its home in Sydney, Melbourne has the College, Adelaide directs the Foreign Mission work, the States thus dividing the labours and honors. As "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery," we feel flattered that our successful Federal work has been thus imitated.

Another Chapel in a Day. — Our churches are establishing a reputation for building chapels in a day. Another of these was erected on Sat., Jan. 4, at Guildford, W.A. While the building was not absolutely finished, it was sufficiently so for services to be held on Sunday. W. B. Blakemore spoke in the morning, and H. J. Banks in the evening.

Items of Interest. — At Semaphore, S.A., the contractor has started on the building again, after the holidays. Last year was a successful period in the history of the church, the increase being 44 by faith and obedience, received in other ways, 22, total 66. The church expects much greater advance when it has a building of its own. . . . From the young men's camp in the district, Cheltenham (Vic.) received about 60 visitors, including W. H. Allen, W. A. Kemp, J. I. Mudford. The camp young men visited several homes carol singing. . . . A social was given by the South Yarra (Vic.) church in honor of its choir-master, F. Lewis, and organist, Mrs. T. Murphy. Mrs. Murphy was given a silver tenpot and a crystal honey jar, and F. Lewis a silver hot water jug and a large leather bound edition of Sankey's hymns. . . . E. G. Warren, who has carried on a successful work in Kadina, S.A., for six years, has been invited to continue his work for another year. . . . A number of brethren in the Boort (Vic.) district are making a strenuous effort to start the cause in that town. They have purchased and nearly paid for a block of land, and hope soon to be able to erect a chapel and arrange for regular meetings.

"IF GOD BE GOD"

Maybe you've had something of the same kind of experience as the mother who, seeing the head of her small daughter bent industriously over a piece of paper, asked her, "What are you drawing, dear?" Without looking up the child answered, "A picture of God." "But how can you do that?" the mother said. "No one knows, what God looks like." "Oh, they will when I get through" was the confident answer. The task of making God real to men is not, alas, as easy as that! But in one thing at least the child was right. The really important thing is not how many people say they believe in God, but what kind of a God it is they believe in, and how much difference it makes to the way they live. Most of us in this country would readily say, "I believe in God," but it doesn't take much probing beneath the surface to find that we mean by that simple statement an amazing variety of Gods.

There's the God of the "hit parades," for example. One of the oddities of our time is the way Tin Pan Alley writers have found it profitable to introduce a nice, comfortable sort of God into many popular songs. They have vied with novelists and playwrights in calling him by curious names — "The Man Upstairs," "Somebody," "The Big Fellow." Miss Jane Russell added a profound comment of her own: "When you get to know him, he's a Livin' Doll." By comparison, one song that had quite a vogue was almost reticent in calling God simply "He." Think for a moment of some of its sweet and soothing sentiments . . . "It makes him sad to see the way we live . . . He'll always say, 'I forgive' — surely this isn't the kind of God we're asking people to believe in! Yet it's the kind of kindergarten portrait of God that many grown people still carry around with them. It's one thing to have a child saying, as one did in a recent poll: "I imagine God as an old man with longish white hair and a nice clean-shaven face, with blue eyes like grandfather's." It's another thing for an adult to have an equally sentimental idea of God as a perpetually smiling old benevolent.

There is, of course, the other extreme — the picture of God as a stern sadist, a surly snooper begrudging man the slightest fun. The well-known English writer, H. G. Wells, never quite got over the impact of that kind of God on his childhood. In a book which he wrote during World War I, titled *God the Invisible King*, he had this to say about his childhood picture of God Bogey, as

This script of a T.V. talk given by the "Australian Christian" Editor over A.B.C.-T.V. during 1962 is published with acknowledgments to the Australian Broadcasting Commission.

he called him: "He and his Hell were the nightmares of my childhood; I hated him while I still believed in him, and who could help but hate? I thought of him as a fantastic monster, perpetually spying, perpetually listening, perpetually waiting to condemn and to 'strike me dead'; his flames as ready as a grill-room fire." To try to frighten any child into obedience with that kind of distorted picture of God is a cruel and terrible thing.

But some say that God is neither sentimental nor sadist — only the figment of man's own imagination, summoned to aid him when life grows too much for human struggling. Unable to face reality, we thrust our faces into a chloroform mask and dream up the God we want.

The Bible has the answer to that — as indeed it has to all these inadequate pictures of God. It shows us a God whom men have found disturbing and demanding, as well as comforting. In the one breath, it speaks of his "goodness and severity." It offers no neatly indexed catalogue of God's attributes. Rather, it tells how men, struggling with life's realities, discovered insights about God which at times amazed and bewildered them — insights which they realised were more God's self-revealings than their own discoveries. They did not always understand or act wisely, but they shared their insights, and men's understanding of God grew. It was one thing to sing sublimely of his creative power: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth . . . The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handiwork;" it was another thing to believe with a shepherd boy: "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want . . . though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death I will fear no evil, for thou art with me." It was one thing to call him, "the Lord God of Israel," so that one nation could feel smugly sure that "we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture." It was another to discover his concern for the whole of the world he had made, and to believe that "all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God." They saw him as both Creator and Saviour, the Sovereign Lord of the universe and yet the Sustainer of all who put

their trust in him. They discovered a personal relationship to him as Lawgiver, Judge, Father, Mother, Shepherd, Saviour, Friend, righteous and merciful, holy and loving.

But there were times, too, when God seemed hidden and unknowable, and Christian faith affirms that it took the coming of Jesus to bring the portrait of God into true focus. "God is spirit . . . God is light . . . God is love" are great Christian convictions. "He that hath seen Me hath seen the Father" was Jesus, own staggering claim. To say that God is like Jesus is to declare that he came adventuring into human history at tremendous cost to himself for the outworking of his mighty purposes, revealing himself in matchless teaching as intimately concerned with all that happens to man, and finally showing in what happened on the Cross and in the Resurrection the full measure of his undefeatable, redeeming love for sinful man. When Jesus talked most intimately about God, he said, "Not even a sparrow falls to the ground without your Father . . . If God so clothe the grass of the field which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?"

But that's too fantastic, surely, for modern man to believe? When science and space exploration have shown us how tiny in vast creation is this pin-point we call earth, how can we possibly believe that the Maker of it all has a saving concern for every human individual? Bertrand Russell is one who flatly denies such a faith, and waxes satirical about it in his book, *Fact and Fiction*. He tells of the death of Dr. Thaddeus, an eminent theologian, who finds his way to heaven, only to be greeted with amazement. Heaven had never seen a creature like this before. Where had he come from? He replied that it was from earth, which was part of the solar system, which was part of the Milky Way, which was one of the galaxies, of which there were some hundred million. It took years of patient search in the heavenly libraries before someone located Earth, whereupon the sorely tried Dr. Thaddeus cried out, "Throughout my long life I served him diligently . . . and now it seems that he was not even aware that I existed!" Is that where Christian faith ends — in disillusionment and despair?

Have a look at the other side of the space picture. When we were spectators, through our T.V. screens, of the space flight of Col. John Glenn, we saw how precisely the

scientists could pin-point at any time where the space capsule was, where it could confidently expect to be at a certain time, what Col. Glenn himself was doing and saying. All this we accepted, in many cases without a second thought. This is what the amazing mind of man can do, tracking in minutest detail the path of a single man through outer space. Then how can we call fantastic the reverse idea — that the God who fills the universe can at any moment of time pinpoint the needs of individuals and move to their aid? This Space Age is making it easier, not harder, to believe in the kind of God Jesus revealed, the One about whom Peter could say from experience, "Casting all your care upon him, for he careth for you."

But there are still tremendous problems which faith must face. If the Christian Church is right in affirming that God is actively at work in this world for which his Son died, then why isn't the world better than that it is? What of all the things that go wrong? What about the existence of evil and suffering? There are no glib, easy answers to such problems. Doubtless, many of us have at times felt like the character in a Walpole novel who cried out, "How can there be a god, and life be as it is? If there is a God, he ought to be ashamed of himself." It is easier to make God the whipping-boy of our complaining than to face

the fact that Christianity has never promised immunity from trouble for those with faith in God. A man once rushed into a minister's home after his son had been killed in an accident, and grabbing him by the arm cried, "Tell me, where was your God when my boy was killed?" Quietly the minister answered, "Just where he was when his own Son was killed."

The Apostle Paul put it this way: "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself." That tragic cry from the cross, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" wasn't the last word; later came words of quiet trust and thrilling victory. The Christ on the cross was not alone; God was with him. But so were two thieves, being crucified with him. His was the centre cross; he was in the midst of human suffering. He always is.

William Temple underlined the point in a memorable way when he wrote, "There cannot be a God of love," men say, 'because if there were, and he looked upon this world, his heart would break.' The Church points to the cross, and says, 'His heart does break.' 'It is God who has made the world,' men say, 'It is he who is responsible, and it is he who should bear the load.' The Church points to the cross and says, 'He does bear it!'

I said earlier that it seemed to me the important question is how much difference faith in God makes

to the way we live. I have seen men and women of faith dealt stunning blows, and despite (or because of) the secret burden of pain they will always carry, emerging with an added strength concerning which they simply say, "God is our Helper." I have listened to preachers, talking as confidently as I am about the love of God, struck down in their prime with some disease or other, but some, unable any longer to speak, have written their testimony in words more powerful than any they ever spoke from their pulpits. Put simply, what they have been saying is, "God has never failed us."

There are no easy answers to life's problems. There is much about God that is shrouded in mystery beyond our finite minds' power to understand. But if God be God, the God whom Jesus revealed, then all the evidence of man's experience says, "We can trust such a God, and our trust will never be betrayed." If God be God, then his created world is not left to spin madly to its own destruction; God's redeeming purposes will be forked out, whatever man's folly and sin. "This is our Father's world" — and we can dare to believe with the Apostle Paul that "there is nothing in death or life . . . in the world as it is or the world as it shall be . . . nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."

— AN APPRECIATION —

F. Bell.

I have just read with great interest "The Christmas Story" on Our Family Page, A.C. 18/12/62, by Ira. A. Paternoster, and cannot resist the impulse to write — what? — a word of thanks — a word of testimony — undoubtedly a word of sincere appreciation of the life and work (including recent A.C. articles) of this great man of God, for such he is in the hearts of many.

The vivid pen picture he has given in the above-mentioned story, together with the challenging food for thought, is typical of what his ministry has been over the years to me, "a child of his in the Faith," and possibly to many others. I quote from his article: "... 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' . . . 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." That has been the challenge of Mr. Paternoster's own life to those with whom he came in contact. He has given

of himself unstintingly. During sickness in our home (with mother bedridden for 15 years), bereavements, the difficult and, for us, sad years of war, he made Christ real to us. We came to know whom we have believed, and our hearts were filled with the joyous knowledge that he will never leave nor forsake those who put their trust in him.

I visited Mr. Paternoster this week for the first time in a few years. He is still in a convalescent hospital. The hour I spent with him was indeed a time of refreshment for me, and I was forcibly impressed by the fact that his interest in every avenue of the work of our brotherhood is as keen as ever, his love for the Lord and his anxiety for the souls of men is still the same, and he is still taking every opportunity to witness to those around him. I overheard another patient telling a departing minister that "Mr. Paternoster lets us listen to the hymns and services on his transistor radio. It is so good!"

Among gifts I have received recently is a small "weather ornament,"

which changes color — pink when rain is coming, blue when fine weather is here, etc. To me it is a parable reminding me of the One who gave the Perfect Gift, and with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. As I came away from visiting Mr. Paternoster, this little ornament at home came into my mind, and as I crossed the street I found myself saying aloud, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and for ever!"

As I, personally, accept the final challenge of "The Christmas Story" and bring the gift of my own life in renewal of service for another year, may I quote the following lines written by Mr. Paternoster during those troublous (but very happy!) days of which I have already written. May they continue to bless and comfort others:

The Cross may seem heavy that you have to bear,
And no-one be ready your burden to share,
But if you are trusting in Jesus, my friend,
You'll find he is bearing the heaviest end.

(cont. ft. col. 1, p. 21.)

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



WOMEN



FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Interstate News

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Devotions had been prepared by the Isolated Committee, led by Mrs. Newcombe, assisted by Mesd. Henderson, J. Brown, Mercer and Smillie.

Mrs. Ewers welcomed all sisters present, visitors being Mesd. O'Neill, Gemmel, and J. Brown. We were specially pleased to have with us Mrs. J. Bolton, missionary-elect to New Guinea, her mother Mrs. Morrissy, and Mrs. Bolton, senr. Mrs. Ellis, new minister's wife at our Maylands church, was also present, and she brought greetings.

Mention was made of the passing of two of our veteran sisters, Mrs. Way and Mrs. Jones (Harvey). The prayer text was then shared from Matt. 28: 6 and 18.

The roll was called, 105 sisters responding from 21 Fellowships. Ap-

He knows just how much you can take of the load,
As onward you travel this wearisome road;

And he will give grace and his own mighty power
To guide and to keep you in life's darkest hour.

He'll walk by your side and will hold fast your hand,
And when your foot slips he will help you to stand;

The tempter will leave you if Christ is your Guide,
And when the storm rages, in him you can hide.

A Rock and a Fortress you'll find him to be,
Just open your eyes and his presence you'll see;

Whatever you ask, if you only believe,
His promise to you is that you will receive!

Be anxious for nothing, but daily in prayer
Just lay upon Jesus your every care;

Yes, he will protect you from sin and from shame
If only you trust in his Wonderful Name!

Jesus Christ! The same yesterday — and today — and for ever!

Mr. Paternoster may be in "retirement" — but he is still in the service of the King! May the Lord continue to use, if not his voice, then his mind and his pen in the challenging service of the "Man of Galilee."

ologies were 9. Financial statement, as read by Mrs. Beck, showed a balance in hand of £1193/11/11.

We were pleased to receive a Christmas message from Mr. and Mrs. H. Veal, missionaries in India.

We had received the W.C.W.F. Topic Project Books, and these were on display after the meeting.

It was decided to hold an Auxiliary picnic in King's Park on Tues., Jan. 22, at 11.30 a.m. It is hoped that missionaries on holidays will be able to join up then — also any country or interstate sisters in Perth at that time.

Blessing Bag Session: The Superintendents of the Budget Committees first brought their reports — **Home Mission:** Mrs. Manning asked that we pray for K. Patterson, who will shortly be coming to W.A. as Organiser, that God will bless him and his work here.

Overseas: Mrs. Gordon reported on a happy time of fellowship spent with Messrs. Bhonsle and Hivale in their cabin on the *Oreades*. Several people went down to the ship, and time was spent in prayer and a farewell message. Prayer was requested for all outgoing missionaries as they make their final preparations.

Aborigine: Mrs. Pallot brought various items of news — Friday, Jan. 18 is the annual Aborigine Demonstration, to be held in the Centre.

Hospital: Mrs. Sonsee thanked all sisters who had supplied used Christmas cards and magazines for distribution. Prayer was requested that the need for a hospital chaplain be filled.

Social Service: Mrs. Holloway advised that the Friendship meetings are proving helpful, and are to be continued. Prayer for the Welfare Centre ministry was sought.

Representatives from the Fellowships brought in their blessing bags, after which Mrs. Ewers offered a prayer of thanks.

Mrs. Ewers was pleased to be able to introduce Mrs. J. Bolton, missionary-elect to New Guinea, to the sisters and presented her with a cheque. She assured Mrs. Bolton of our prayer support and interest. Mrs. Bolton thanked us and told of the work she and her husband hoped to do, and asked that we continue in prayer for them both.

Mrs. Wyss thanked Mrs. Ewers for her leadership during the year,

and wished her God's riches blessing during the Christmas break.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with prayer. —P. Reid, Sec.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

There were 108 ladies present at December monthly meeting held at City Temple, Friday, Dec. 7.

Mrs. Bell was in the chair, and especially welcomed Mrs. R. Wilson who, with her husband, has commenced a ministry at Kingsford; also Mrs. Marshall, a Victorian now residing in N.S.W.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and confirmed. Mrs. Bell reported that she had visited Bowral sisters and was present at the Newcastle Convention.

The Christmas programme was presented by the ladies of Caringbah church. This included carol singing and reading, then excerpts from a play which was written by one of the ladies. The narration and the singing of the hymns which followed the theme, *Jesus and the Woman*, were very beautifully presented, and appreciated and enjoyed by all present.

After thanking the Caringbah ladies, Mrs. Bell closed the meeting with hymn and benediction. Next meeting will be held on Feb. 1, 1963. —Jean Torode, Asst.-Sec.

VICTORIA - TASMANIA.

At the meeting in the Centre on Fri., Dec. 7, 1962, at 11 a.m., the President, after directing our thoughts towards the meaning of Christmas, introduced representatives from our Surrey Hills C.W.F. group, who presented an inspiring Christmas devotional service.

The President welcomed 186 ladies, representing 70 churches (a record) and special visitors — Mrs. W. Lantz (U.S.A.), Mrs. J. Smith (missionary on furlough, New Hebrides), Mrs. Stanhope and Mrs. Blackwell (mother and grandmother of Dr. Stanhope, New Guinea missionary), Matron Head (Emmays), Mrs. Harmer (Warracknabeal), and new delegates, Mrs. Pippard and Mrs. Morris (Malvern-Caulfield) and Mrs. Parker (Springvale). Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Stanhope returned greetings.

All present were inspired and challenged with the address given by guest speaker, Mrs. Lantz. Six apologies were received and recorded. Minutes of previous meeting were taken as read, the only business arising being a brief report on *Woman to Woman* campaign conducted at Camberwell. This was presented by Mrs. Strack. Correspondence was read and received — no business.

General business included encouragement to all to promote sale of calendars to help reduce debt on

Ludbrook House, and use every opportunity to publicise Women's Day of Conference, 1963, in St. Kilda Town Hall.

Treasurer reported a further amount of £23 received for Monbulk — total now £1233/12/4. C.W.F. has completely bought all fittings, as mentioned in previous Council minutes. C.W.F. Catering Committee has been able to contribute to Brotherhood Departments £40, including £5 each to Ludbrook House and Monbulk. Our thanks go to this committee for most valued service throughout year. Mrs. Pettigrove led in prayer, remembering those bereaved and those ill. Mrs. Judd, for many years a valued member of Dorcas, received the Home call, as did Mrs. Kerrison (St. Yarra). Mrs. McColl was in hospital. Mrs. E. L. Williams (Sec., Overseas Missions) spoke of the excellent gift of £700 by Ormond. Mr. Simpson is now doing all packing of overseas parcels, and there is still room in packaging for more goods for New Hebrides. C.W.F. groups please note.

Overseas Dept. (Federal) now has good maps available of each of our Mission fields at 5/- each (total for group of three, 15/-), available from Mrs. Williams. Mrs. Ward (Social Service) advised the urgent need for a Matron for Will. H. Clay Nursing Home. Good response received for Inter-Church Aid in goods of excellent condition; New Australian family among many helped during the month. Mrs. Evans (Temperance Committee) outlined history of Eileen Nance-Kivell Memorial Bursary and read conditions — Mrs. Kicketts is first recipient and will attend University for further studies in this field.

The President thanked Surrey Hills ladies and extended personal and Executive Christmas wishes to all. Mrs. Hedges expressed thanks on behalf of C.W.F. members to President and Executive for services during year. After the singing of the W.C.W.F. hymn, the President brought a helpful and delightful Council meeting to close with prayer and benediction. — E. M. Rankine, Sec.

prayer, items, when a group would sing beautifully in parts; folk standing to read out their favorite verses of Scripture, broken periodically by someone leading off into a chorus, and finally, about four young people standing and giving a short impromptu sermonette.

We were all "at one" in the Spirit, and could feel the vitality and life in the meeting. After the meeting, all the young folk came to my home for supper. They oozed in the door and sat anywhere they could find enough sitting space. There wasn't much floor space left by the time everyone got in. Then began a further hour of fellowship, laughter and choruses.

What a fitting close to the year's work that everyone of us should praise and sing to God for his goodness! During this time of recess through Christmas and New Year, please pray that these young folk will have courage to continue their Christian life and witness and return with new strength and zeal in the New Year.

I do give all my Australian friends greetings and pray that at this season, our Lord will become more real to each one of us and that we will seek to live nearer to him in the coming year.

★



Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

New Missionaries — New Guinea.

As announced in the December issue of "Goodly Pearls", Mr. and Mrs. J. Bolton of Western Australia have been appointed as technical missionaries for New Guinea. The Boltons are members of Cottesloe church and have been actively engaged in youth work. Mr. Bolton had nine years' experience as a carpenter in the building trade before commencing studies at the Perth Bible Institute two years ago. John and Joyce visited eastern States before flying to Madang from Brisbane.

Miss Jennifer Smith, Rockdale, N.S.W., is another newly appointed missionary for New Guinea. Jennifer is a qualified school teacher and will teach at Pir while Miss Howden is home on furlough. We have had requests from many villages in the Ramu River area for teachers, and the appointment of Miss Smith will enable us to fulfil some of them.

Miss Smith and Sister Janet Hunting will visit churches in Queensland prior to leaving for New Guinea from Townsville on Jan. 27. Miss Aileen Draney will return to New Guinea at the same time.

New Missionary Magazine.

Commencing in February, the Overseas Board will produce, bi-monthly, a magazine called *Missionary News* of the Australian Churches of Christ. It will replace "Goodly Pearls", which has been published quarterly since 1935. The magazine will feature news from the mission fields, articles from missionaries, forward moves, photographs of missionary activity and prayer requests. There will be a special page for children. One year's subscription is 3/- including postage. All State Overseas Committees are at present making a drive for subscribers. A good start was made at the Longwood Youth Camp in S.A. when over 80 young people subscribed. You are invited to complete the coupon that appears in this issue of *The Australian Christian* and forward it to your State Overseas Secretary.

Testimony Meeting — New Hebrides.

Miss H. Middlemiss.

Our Bible Class breakup for the year took the form of a "testimony" meeting, and a good crowd of young folk arrived. We were delighted also to have Amata young people join with us. It was a truly wonderful meeting. About forty young people kept the meeting going solidly for nearly two hours. We had hymns,

ABOVE ALL THAT WE ASK OR
THINK

Inter-Church Aid 1962

A total of £176,750 subscribed by Australian churches and the general public was sent to churches in over 40 countries in 1962.

- 1962 Programme launched through the Christmas Remembrance Bowl Appeal of 1961 £100,000
- Supplementary Programme, Sept., 1962. 41,750.
- Christian Aid Week for Freedom from Hunger (N.S.W.) 15,000
- Assistance in 24 emergencies, earthquakes in Yugoslavia and Iran; famine in Kenya and Zululand; floods in Korea and Hong Kong; refugees returning home to Algeria; and war-created refugees in India, etc. 15,000
- Earmarked for various purposes by donors 5,000

£176,750

7,000 persons passed through the offices of the Resettlement Dept., coming from Europe, and White Russian Refugees from China. — F. F. Byatt, Secretary.

WITH HIM IN THE GARDEN

It has been said that one is "nearer God's heart in a garden than anywhere else on earth."

We read that Adam and Eve heard the voice of God speaking to them as he walked in the Garden of Eden. The disciples who went with Jesus to the garden of Gethsemane must have felt that God was very near, as Jesus spoke with him in prayer.

Our reading tells us that after Jesus had risen from the grave, Mary Magdalene went into the garden to seek him. She said, "He is not here"; but when he spoke, she knew him by his voice.

Those who really know Jesus, know that he is always near, that we can feel his presence, and speak with him anywhere; but what better place for this purpose than in a quiet garden. As we walk along the path the thought comes to us, "He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness." The rich brown earth reminds us that, "The earth is the Lord's and the fulness thereof," and even the grass suggests, "If God so clothed the grass of the field, which today is and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, oh, ye of little faith."

We pause beside a border of violets, standing together like shy little children, telling us that Jesus was never too busy to notice the little ones, for he said, "Suffer the little children to come unto Me."

The forget-me-nots grow nearby, urging us to "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

Pansies are for thoughts, and they suggest that we must keep our thoughts pure. "Whatsoever things are pure . . . Whatsoever things lovely . . . think on these things."

The roses tell us, "God is love."

The sweet smell of the honeysuckle fills the whole garden, and reminds us that when Mary anointed the feet of Jesus, the sweet smell of the ointment filled the whole house. Jesus said, "She hath done what she could."

Jesus spoke of the lilies, "Consider the lilies of the field. They toil not neither do they spin, yet even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

The lily of the valley suggests, "Yea, though, I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me. Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me."

The fuchsias bow their heads and say, "Pray without ceasing."

The white chrysanthemum gives its message in one word, "Mother," and

Mrs. E. Pfeiffer, Malvern, Vic.
John 20: 1-18.

the red poppies always bring the thought, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friend."

The thorns on the cactus in the rock garden suggest, "They plaited a crown of thorns and placed it on his head." The cactus flowers close up at night and their message is, "I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work."



The rocks remind us, "The Lord is my Rock, in Him will I trust."

The white gardenia bruises when we touch it, and brings the thought, "He was bruised for our iniquities."

The Canterbury bells, like church bells, call us to "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

The everlastings quote John 3: 16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

The sparrows in the tree chirp their message, "Not a sparrow shall fall to the ground, but your Father taketh note."

The seed beds tell us, "As ye sow — so shall ye reap."

A few drops of rain remind us, "Man hath planted, Apollos watereth, but God giveth the increase."

The sunflowers are really happy as they turn their heads to follow the sun. So shall we be truly happy if

we follow the Son of God, for "He that hath the Son hath life."

Sweet peas will be lost unless, like Zacchaeus, they climb up where they can see. We can almost hear them say, "We would see Jesus."

The ivy climbs every barrier and overcomes every difficulty. It pushes its way through every crack, up walls, and over fences, stopping at nothing. It tells us, "Go ye into all the world."

The snowdrops say, "Wash me and I shall be whiter than snow," and the trumpet daffodils tell us to "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord."

The asparagus fern mixes with every kind of flowers. It says, "For all shall know me from the least to the greatest."

The lonely wallflower says, "The Father hath not let thee alone."

The little flowers of the honesty plant remind us to "Live a quiet and peaceable life in all goodness and honesty."

A heap of withered grass and flowers suggest, "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the Word of the Lord shall endure for ever."

The old gum tree is always the same — never changes. It tells us, "Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and for ever."

Have you ever looked at the hyacinth and felt it a shame that this lovely flower blooms for such a short time, and then fades and dies. Remember, there is still life in the bulb, and the thought rises, "I will come again."

Wherever we go, we always find geraniums — in the gardens of our loveliest suburban homes, in the window boxes of modern flats, in the tiny garden of the humblest country cottage or outside the door of the poorest slum dwelling. At any time of the year we can find flowers on them. They always remind me of the last message of Jesus, "Lo, I am with you always."

Jesus also said, "Seek and ye shall find," and I am sure that if we, like Mary Magdalene, seek him in a quiet garden, we too, shall find him. At first we may say, "He is not here," then we shall feel his presence, and as we draw near to him, he will draw near to us, and when he speaks, we shall know him by his voice.

"There's a garden where Jesus is waiting;

There's a place that is wondrously fair;

For it glows with a light of his presence,

'Tis the beautiful garden of prayer."

HERE AND THERE

Fifty-one single subscribers to "The Australian Christian" will not receive their copy of the paper after the next issue, unless they forward payment of their subscription, due to the end of 1962, immediately. We posted out accounts and reminders on five occasions in 1962, also inserted paragraphs re unpaid accounts in these columns. One account dates back to October, 1958, others to July, 1959, yet these and others remain unpaid despite regular reminders each year.

Many wonderful tributes were paid at a farewell service to Mr. and Mrs. P. Griffiths on completion of their nine years' ministry with the church at Kalgoorlie, W.A. There was a good representation of local and district churches. The Mayor and Mayor-elect, Sir Richard and Lady Moore, spoke appreciation of the work of Mr. Griffiths and of the loyal support of Mrs. Griffiths. Thanks and good wishes were expressed as presentations were made. Church is enjoying messages of T. Morrison (C.O.B. exit). Four Y.P. have been farewelled with Scripture presentations.

An opportunity of full-time Christian service is offered to a competent stenographer with a sense of vocation. An advertisement in this issue indicates that there is a vacancy in the Victorian Conference Executive office. Any who may feel that this constitutes a call to a ministry for Christ and the Church, either in a full or part time capacity, are invited to contact the Conference Secretary, W. W. Saunders, at the Churches of Christ Centre, 217 Lonsdale-st., Melb. Phone 32-2446.

The Austral Coy. advises that stocks of the 1963 Churches of Christ calendar were exhausted prior to Christmas, 1962. The demand was beyond the estimated quantity printed, and orders are still being received, necessitating a reprint. Supplies will be available at the end of January.

Graduates of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., planning studies at an Australian University, are reminded of the assistance available to them through the T. E. Rofe Settlement. Application should be made immediately to the Secretary, together with a report of progress in studies.

The first weekend of 1963 saw the commencement of the ministry of R. Hilford with the church at Hornsby, N.S.W. A welcome meeting was held on Jan. 5 for Mr. and Mrs. Hilford, under the chairmanship of

G. S. J. Glazier and was attended by over 120. Words of welcome were expressed by Mr. Hayward (Ministers' Fraternal), K. E. Crawford (Conf. Exec.), Mrs. Bartholomew (C.W.F. pres.), H. Bishop (Y.P.) and J. Ellerby (church). L. Wylie (Conf. Pres.) led in dedicatory prayer; Mrs. Ferry, I. Bentley, Mrs. Bishop, Mrs. Laidlaw, Mr. Glazier and Mrs. Cole gave items. Mr. and Mrs. Hilford suitably responded and Mr. Purdy (Baptist) closed the meeting with the benediction, after which supper was served in the chapel grounds under floodlights. Mr. Hilford's ministry commenced on Jan. 6. Misses K. Baker and M. Torode (Epping) were duetists, p.m. Both services were well attended and the church looks forward to great things under the new leadership.

On the advice of doctors in the New Hebrides, Mrs. Combridge, accompanied by her family, returned to Australia in December. The brotherhood is requested to pray for Mrs. Combridge that she will respond rapidly and be completely restored.

Miss Alice Jones, so well known in church and C.E. work in South Aust. as "Auntie Al", has this year completed 50 years in C.E. leadership and Bible school teaching. Her church membership is now at Owen, S.A.

A brotherhood meeting is to be held in the Northcote chapel, Vic. (Bastings-st., just down from High-st.) on Feb. 6, at 8 p.m. Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, of Pentecost New Hebrides, and Miss Dorothy Howden, of New Guinea, will be welcomed as they return home for furlough. Sister Inez Groves will be farewelled as she leaves for India, and Dr. and Mrs. T. Thomas, also for India. All churches are urged to make this a really memorable occasion.

Word has been received that the church at Lillimur, Vic., which came into being prior to 1888, has closed, and the members have transferred to Kaniva church.

Barmera church, S.A., is rejoicing at the commencement of its first full-time ministry, with T. F. Lawrie. A civic welcome was given on Dec. 14. The induction service on the 16th was performed by E. P. C. Holland, Home Missions Organiser. S. R. Beck (S. A. Conf. Pres.) presided. Moorooka church attended the service. The building was filled for both services, and a happy spirit of fellowship and anticipation was evident.

D. A. V. Thomas, minister at Frankston, Vic., will commence a ministry at Maidstone, Vic., in February, 1963. R. H. Patterson, present minister at Maidstone, will succeed Mr. Thomas at Frankston.

A brotherhood service of Communion and Dedication will be held in Rockdale chapel, N.S.W., at 11 a.m. on Jan. 20, when a missionary-elect for New Guinea, Miss Jennifer Smith, will be commissioned prior to her leaving for the field on the 21st to serve as a teacher. R. M. Wilson, Kingsford's minister, will give the address.

B. McKelvie, a member at Clayton, Vic., will commence a ministry at Telopea, N.S.W., on Feb. 3. Both Mr. and Mrs. McKelvie have completed their studies at M.B.I., and Mr. McKelvie graduated from Melbourne University with his L.Th. degree.

Grote-st. church, Adelaide, S.A., is pleased to announce that its minister, Lloyd Jones, who last year gained his Master's Degree in Theology, has been advised from the United States that his Doctorate of Philosophy has now been earned for research and thesis in the field of Biblical Theology.

Another link with the early days of our brotherhood was broken in recent weeks with the death of Mrs. Marie Moysey, at the age of 97 years. Mrs. Moysey, a sister-in-law of the late G. B. Moysey, was baptised into Christ by one of our pioneer preachers, Stephen Cheek, eighty years ago.

A. W. C. Candy has accepted the invitation of East Kew Church, Vic., to continue his ministry there for a further three years on completion of his present term.

Stan Strother, a member at Carnegie, Vic., has received his B.Sc. (Agriculture) Degree at Melbourne University.

The new chapel and buildings at Port Pirie, S.A., are almost completed and church services are being held in the new hall. The official opening will take place on Feb. 16, and special services will be conducted on the 17th. The church will welcome former members and visitors to the opening.

Douglas Tasker, Director of the Christian Television Association, Vic., familiar through such programmes as The Living Christ, Talk Back, and The Friendly Road segment of The Tarax Show, will be absent from Channel 9 programmes during the first part of 1963. He is visiting centres in Hollywood, Toronto, New York and London, looking at recent developments in the field of religious programming.



"The More Excellent Way"

Give me the love that suffers and is kind,
That envies not, nor vaunts its pride or fame,
Is not puffed up, does not discourteous act,
Is not provoked, nor seeks its own to claim.
Give me the love that thinks no evil thought,
Nor dwells complacent on another's sin,
But in the truth delights, and evermore
Still seeks the erring to the truth to win.
Give me the love that springs from holy faith,
And still believes, although it cannot see;
That even for the hopeless hopes the best,
And loves because of what is yet to be.
Give me the love that all things sweetly bears,
Whate'er my Father's hand may choose to send,
Give me the love that patiently endures
The wrongs that come from human foe or friend.
There is but One can live and love like this;
The Christ — love from the living Christ must spring;
O Jesus! ever live thy life in me,
And all thy heaven of love and blessing bring.

—Author Unknown.

Doing Something for God

Television actor Robert Young tells how his daughter Kathy often talks to God following her formal prayers.

Usually she asks for many things. But one night, after her list of requests, she paused and asked, "And now, God, what can I do for you?" The question jolted him, Young says. What can she — or I, or anyone — do for God? he asked himself.

OUR FAMILY PAGE

"Certainly," he adds, "I don't know if we do anything for him. But I've decided that one way to serve God is by taking a real and continuing part in church life. For me, there has been no one great inspirational moment. But, over a period of time, my family and I have discovered that church attendance and religious experiences have added new strength to our lives. It's a strength we all need, and we won't find it any other way."

Family Tensions

Charles F. Kemp.

Some tension is not necessarily bad. George Buttrick tells of an experience when he was visiting in a home. The husband said, "In all these years we have never had a difference of opinion," to which Dr. Buttrick replied, "How horribly dull!" The authorities on family life are in rather common agreement that some differences, even some hostility, may be of value. A good home is not one that has no problems, but one that has discovered the means whereby they can be understood and worked through.

Of course, conflict can be bad. One only has to glance at the statistics on divorce to recognise the great numbers who find their conflict is so great that they sever the marriage relationship and disrupt their homes. More than a thousand times a day a divorce is granted in America.

These homes have been broken by conflict. This tells only part of the story. It says nothing of the homes broken by desertion and separation, or the thousands of other homes in which bitterness and strife characterise the atmosphere of the home. (A psychological divorce may already exist, even though the partners continue to live in the same house. They keep up appearances; they have not gone to court "for the sake of the children," but there is no warmth, no understanding, no love.) Mace and Mace, after an extensive study of family life, went so far as to say that half of the couples in married life were living together unhappily. If these figures are even approximately true, it is a tragic situation.

Drs. Duvall and Hill, in their widely read book, *Being Married*, distinguish between destructive and constructive quarrels. Destructive quarrels centre on the person, rather than the issue. They are belittling and punishing and lead to alienation and separation. Constructive quarrels centre on the issue, not the person. They lead to more complete understanding of dif-

ferences and make the marriage stronger and contribute to a deeper and more realistic expression of love.

Of course, the basic task is to discover how conflict can become constructive instead of destructive. Conflict is inevitable. The method of handling conflict with skill and understanding must be learned. This is a subject often omitted from courses in premarital preparation; yet this may be about the most important subject of all. It may be the place at which the marriage relationship stands or falls. One couple said, "We thought we were ready for marriage. We read and studied all about it, but we never learned how to disagree. No one told us this would be a problem."

Persistence in Service

Charles F. Kemp.

The apostle Paul, writing to the people at Galatia, said, "And let us not grow weary in well-doing, for in due season we shall reap, if we do not lose heart." (Galatians 6: 9).

Apparently it was a real problem to Paul for, writing to the Thessalonians, he said almost the same words, "Brethren, do not be weary in well-doing." (2 Thess. 3: 13.) Writing to the people at Corinth he said, "Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart." (2 Cor. 4: 1.)

All men who have sincerely tried to serve have known what he meant. Every pastor knows what he meant. Service is one of the most rewarding experiences in life. It offers satisfactions found in no other way — but it isn't easy.

When we study the lives of the great servants of the race we find this has been true. St. Francis was ridiculed, Luther was opposed, Wesley was stoned and mobbed, John Milton was imprisoned. All such men knew opposition, ridicule, at times persecution and frequently indifference from the very people they were trying to serve.

We do them an injustice if we think their lives were all thrilling and exciting. They were at times. They were also monotonous, filled with drudgery and hard work, at times very discouraging. They became weary in well-doing — but they did not lose heart.

Jesus himself knew this experience. The people often disappointed him, his closest friends misunderstood him, the ones he wanted to help opposed him — but he never gave up. —The Christian (U.S.A.).



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Marilyn Evans, Blackburn, Vic.
Margaret Barrett, Margaret and Rowena Bilney, Dorothy Beck, Lorraine Wardle, Raelene Stott, John Ludwig, Kevin Low, D. Nicholson, Naracoorte, S.A.

Alan Kimber, Canberra, A.C.T.

Mrs. McColl, Shirley Curnow, Maldstone, Vic.

Lloyd Powell, Albion, Qld.

Yvonne Ryan, Kevin Rankin, Drumcondra, Vic.

Jan. Brown, Rhonda Stevens, Graham Smith, Janice Gove, Beryl Triplett, Bendigo, Vic.

Anne Conlin, Diane Watson, Carol Haberfield, Warrnambool, Vic.

Julie Barton, Merrilyn Lawson, Trevor Brown, Sunshine, Vic.

Betty Temple, Raymond Wright, Brian Quinn, Ray Ennis, Kalgoorlie, W.A.

Beryl Forscutt, Rockdale, N.S.W.

Mrs. Manuel, Dean and Kym Manuel, Mrs. R. Hallam, Jennifer Hallam, Robyn Oliver, Margaret Davies, Kadina, S.A.

Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Addicott, Richmond, to Blackburn, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Hilford, Mildura, Vic., to Hornsby, N.S.W.

Mrs. Beaumont, Edwardstown, S.A., to Mosman, N.S.W.

Mrs. D. Nicholson, Mrs. K. Stott, Naracoorte, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Quandrell, Wangaratta, to Mitcham, Vic.

A. L. Morton, Epping, to Hornsby, N.S.W.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Atkinson, R. Wilton, Colleen and Robert Rogers, C. Reeves, Mr. and Mrs. R. Smith, Russell Smith, Georgetown, N.S.W.

Marriage

Val. Thompson, Lane Cove, to John Main, Auburn, N.S.W.

Wendy Stamp to Ron Baskerville, Malvern, Vic.

Marcia Wattus to John Briton, Georgetown, N.S.W.

Barbara Davie, Hawthorn, to Ralph Gericke, Naracoorte, S.A.

Isabel Edmonds to Barry Tattersall, Drumcondra, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Brian Storey, Canberra, A.C.T.

Mrs. Hardcastle, Mosman, N.S.W.

Mrs. Collins, Toowoomba, Qld.

Mrs. R. Wilson, Maldstone, Vic.

Mr. McGregor, Oakleigh, Vic.

AUST. CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra (G. R. Stirling, B.A.). — Many visitors welcomed over holidays. Average of 173 communicants during Dec. Crowded service Christmas Day. One baptism, 30th. Over 50 shared in Y.P. camp. Church saddened by passing of Brian Storey, who had been active in Y.P. work. Recent transfer of several members has weakened church.

TASMANIA

Collins-st., Hobart (L. G. Cooke). — B.S. anniversary well attended. Kinder and Primary sections featured in afternoon. Evening service featured pageant, A Shadow Was Cast. C. Neville is school supt. Christmas party on afternoon Dec. 15 for junior groups. Senior school presented concert in evening. Six B.S. children have made their decision in recent weeks.

Launceston (C. J. Robinson). — Both sessions of B.S. anniversary well attended. In afternoon, Kinder, and Primary scholars presented programme Jesus, Friend of Children. In evening senior school programme was based on theme Let There be Light. C.M.S. and C.W.E.F. combined for Christmas devotion service in chapel, followed by social evening. Miss Shirley Alderton was one of the soloists at the annual "Messiah." C.W.F. again assisted at annual old folk's tea, arranged by Launceston City Mission. E. Morrison was speaker at morning service, Dec. 16. Choir rendered Maunder's sacred cantata Bethlehem that evening. I.C.E. held Christmas programme on 16th to which all members were invited. Evening service took form of special Christmas service, with nine readings and appro-

priate carols. C.Y.F. fellowship hour viewed audio-visual, Advent at New Delhi. Church has welcomed several visitors in recent weeks. Congregation showed net gain of 16 members for year.

QUEENSLAND

Maryborough - Baddow - Hervey Bay (D. G. Nelson). — Special series of morning addresses appreciated. Attendances at all services encouraging. Adelaide-st. and Baddow schools held successful Christmas tree programmes. Children brought gifts, which were sent to Carnarvon and Norseman mission children. C.W.F. combined at Baddow for Christmas party. Proceeds went to Mylo Old Christians' Home, Toowoomba. Many parents attended open night of C.Y.F. and were interested in the functionings of the group. Programme included screening of The Stones Cry Out. 60 Y.P. gathered for last meeting of year on Dec. 18, each dressed as opposite sex. Y.P. joined in singing carols in several areas of locality, 20th; elderly church folk's homes visited in preference. Attendances at Hervey Bay growing over holiday period owing to influx of visitors.

Toowoomba (A. C. Thurrowgood - H. J. Finger). — Combined Ladies' Fellowship held final meeting for 1962 at Mylo Home. Mylo Committee entertained guests at Home. Delegation attended Dalby church opening. Men from church journeyed to Caloundra for working bee on camp buildings, Dec. 7. C.M.S. and Gattin C.M.S. combined fellowship at Helidon, Dec. 3. Y.P.F. went to Shannon Park for carol singing. Fellowship tea held Dec. 9. Film and talk given by Padre McKay (A.I.M.). B.S. held Christmas parties Dec. 8, 13, 15. Church extends welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Earle and Kathleen, now living in Toowoomba. Christmas Day service held 8 a.m.

Albion (M. H. A. Pleper). — Special services towards close of 1962 attracted big attendances. 124 present at "End of School Year" service, when school choir (The Happy Wanderers) brought messages in song. 140 attended B.S. Christmas service. Additions to church highest for some years, being 21 throughout year. Average attendances: 120 a.m., 75 p.m. Church looks forward to completion of hall extensions and alterations to present buildings this year, also introduction of All-Age Sunday School. Two young men confessed Christ.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Naracoorte. — I. J. Chivell preached at both services, Dec. 18. At gospel service, 15 teenage girls and a young man were baptised. A young man made his decision. Other services have been conducted by S. Hayes, L. Fisher, D. Penny, V. Hoskin, J. Wardle, A. G. Dinning. C.E. held annual social, and offering received in aid of fund to erect doctor's residence in New Hebrides. C.W.F. final meeting for year took form of a social afternoon. Mrs. Burzacott led devotions, followed by varied programme and talk by Mrs. J. Williams. Kinder, and Cradle Roll Christmas party held 8th, when large gathering of children, parents and friends gathered. Children presented several items and joined heartily in singing. C.Y.F. invited members from other churches for open meeting. Film, *The Unfinished Task*, was screened.

Ascot Park (R. H. Sercombe). — Kinder and Primary Christmas parties Dec. 15, and senior school 21st. C.W.F. entertained pensioners from adjacent flats, 13th, and distributed gifts among them. Christmas cheer parcels sent to various hospitals. Number of visitors at Sunday services. *The Stained Glass Window*, a Nativity play, was excellently presented by B.S. at evening service, 23rd. Costuming and scenery very effective. Congregation then joined with Baptist church in outdoor carol singing. Church extends sympathy to Mrs. Duffy and family in loss of her mother. Infant thanksgiving service held a.m., 23rd.

Hawthorn (R. C. Dixon). — A married couple confessed their faith Dec. 23. At conclusion of meeting, church combined with Baptist and Methodist in open-air meeting, which drew a large attendance.

Murray Bridge (H. Cave). — B.S. held Graduation service and junior Bible class formed for 1963. Choir sang special numbers for Christmas service, Dec. 23. Church shared in town carols service and combined communion on Christmas morning. Many visitors and families attended communion service, 30th, which was presided over by G. Hennig. Mrs. Hilda Grundy confined to bed.

Forestville (N. Gavros). — In recent pulpit exchange, R. T. Wootton (Black Forest Baptist) spoke at a.m. service. Av. communicants, 126. C.W.F. held Christmas meeting at Salvation Army Sunset Lodge. Dorcas ladies distributed small Christmas gifts to elderly members of church. Mrs. G. Mathleson, visiting speaker Y.P.S.C.E., told of work of Prisoners' Aid Society. Gifts of groceries given by C.E. for distribution to families of prisoners. Kinder and Primary children had happy time at Christmas tree. Y.P. went carol singing on Christmas Eve,

visiting hospitals and shut-in folk. Special service held Christmas morning.

Kadina (M. T. Lawrie). — B.S. anniversary great success; guest speaker J. A. Luff. C.E. Fellowship very active among Y.P. Successful men's concert raised £42. Choir active under leader, A. P. Russach. B.S. picnic held at Nile beach with Moonta B.S. S. E. M. Riches visited church, spoke on Mission to Lepers and showed slides.

Murray Bridge (H. Cave). — To raise money to add to church Building Fund for eventual remodelling of chapel front, C.Y.F., assisted by all auxiliaries, staged "T.V. Spectacular." Well calculated organising by H. Cave, assisted by Howard Long; designing of scenery by minister and Jennifer Klingblat helped produce a successful evening. £20 was received. Christmas tree for kinder had big gathering; several Cradle Roll babies introduced. Nativity scene enacted by kinders. Evening presented grand opportunity for teachers to meet parents of B.S. children. J.G.E., now numbering 14, had own social afternoon on 19th, after a splendid year of meetings and service.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Auburn (J. Main). — Amalgamation of Auburn and North Auburn churches is to take place on May 1, 1963. John Main, who has conducted a student ministry during past year, was married to Val. Thompson in Dec. and they commenced full-time ministry at Auburn on Jan. 13. Boys' Brigade conducted camp at Quiet Valley. Church held fellowship tea at which D. Eagling, on furlough from New Hebrides, spoke and showed slides. Four young men baptised Dec. 9, and three welcomed into fellowship, 16th. Christmas morning service well attended and inspiring.

Mosman (L. E. Wylie). — Mr. Nicholson and party attended fellowship tea and then took part in evening service, Dec. 9, with messages in song and in word. Church sorrowing in passing of Mrs. Hardcastle. Midweek fellowship meeting held at home of Mrs. Toovey. On evening of 23rd, message given Mr. Muir (O.A.C.). Fellowship hour followed at which audio-visual, *Christmastide*, was screened. Visitors during month included Martin family (W.A.).

Earlwood (F. Elliott). — Good meetings Dec. 23 at which speakers were L. Thomas and G. Christenson. Open B.S., when Y.P. presented Christmas story in flannelgraph. Offering made on behalf of Overseas Mission. Penrith's challenge accepted and used stamp collecting in full swing. Splendid attendance at 9.30 service, Christmas morning. Offering received for Christmas Bowl Appeal. W. Hill

(Marrickville) was speaker. Attendance fair on 30th, when F. Elliott commenced interim ministry. Mrs. Gilbert was soloist. Church appreciates help of visiting speakers during time without full-time minister.

Georgetown (R. B. Elbourne). — During minister's vacation, church has welcomed home Mr. and Mrs. D. K. Porter (U.P.A. Home at Orange), Mr. and Mrs. S. Ogilvie and Elaine Smith (Tahlee Bible and Missionary College), C. Good (U.A.M., Derby), Mr. and Mrs. S. Rogers (Bankstown). All will assist in services during Jan. Mr. and Mrs. Elbourne are commencing third year of ministry. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have purchased a bus to help transport to school and clubs. Morning school commences Feb.

Hornsby. — Church supported local United Churches Christmas Witness, Dec. 19, at Waitara Oval. Y.P. Christmas break-up took form of barbecue at Apple Tree Bay. Church's Christmas party held in hall. Church shared with local Baptist church at their Christmas social, 22nd. Mr. Bartholomew conducted Christmas Day service at 8.15 a.m., which featured a combined Churches of Christ-Baptist choir. My Christmas Gift to the Lord offering amounted to £110. Church picnic held on New Year's Day at Willow Park. Recent speakers have been Messrs. Bartholomew, Ellerby, Glazier, P. H. Morton.

Telopea. — During year, 10 added by faith and baptism and 5 by transfer. Church membership now stands at 57. Youth activities have flourished and attendances always increase at church parades. Regular attendances maintained despite lack of full-time minister. Church looks forward to coming of Mr. and Mrs. McKelvie in Feb.

Rockdale (C. J. Mackenzie). — C.W.F. officers for year are: pres., Mrs. Mackenzie; sec., Mrs. S. Creek; treas., Mrs. G. Green. Mrs. Shuttle retired from secretaryship after seven years of office. Y.P. producing own paper. Usual break-up parties held to conclude year's activities. C.M.S. sent color spool to Mr. and Mrs. Hammer, Jr. (New Guinea) who took photographs, returned it to the church and slides were shown on Dec. 2. Speaker, a.m., Dec. 16 was from Gideon's International. Christmas tree held for Sydney City Mission, and goodly number of gifts and money were handed on. Very well attended service Christmas morning. Many visitors from every State of Commonwealth welcomed over holidays.

VICTORIA

Bendigo (G. J. Andrews). — B. Wells, student preacher at Spring Gully, farewelled after year of faith-

ful service. D. Marr (C.O.B.) will commence ministry early Feb. Items by Maryborough Ladies Choir featured at a floral service. Four baptised into Christ. Candlelight carol service, Dec. 16, led by choir, B.S. scholars participating. One decision at Spring Gully, 16th. Pictorial Christmas service, 23rd, presented by C.Y.F. D. Triplett (M.B.I.), E. Duus, A. Mudford have assisted with preaching appointments. Gifts placed on empty Christmas tree forwarded to Aborigines Missions. Grocery gifts for Christian Guest Home received from Spring Gully B.S. scholars.

Dramcondra (R. A. Banks). — Two Y.P. baptised Dec. 16 and received into fellowship 23rd. Carols by candlelight evening arranged by C.M.S., held at property of Mr. and Mrs. Noye (Pyansford), well attended and enjoyed. Gifts brought by Kinders and Primary scholars to Christmas break-up were sent to Aborigines and Overseas Missions. C.W.E.F. sent gifts to Carnarvon Mission. On Dec. 23, colored strip film, *The Bells of Christmas*, in conjunction with tape recording, was feature of evening service. There was good attendance at 9 a.m. service, Christmas Day.

Maidstone (R. H. Patterson). — Lady and B.S. scholar baptised. Soloists have been Messrs. Rattan and North, Misses A. Dowling and D. Gray. Fancy dress social held for B.S. scholars on 8th, followed by Christmas tree and party for Kinders, 15th. C.W.F. held break-up and variety night, with proceeds going to Monbulk Rebuilding Appeal. C.W.F. visited Christian Guest Home on Women's Offering Rally Day. Gift of incinerator from C.W.F. and £10 from girls' gym. classes to Maintenance Fund much appreciated. Explorer club held display and demonstration, Dec. 15. In absence of minister on holidays, D. Smith (Dept. Home Missions) and L. Snow addressed services, 23rd. Sympathy of church extended to family of late Mrs. R. Wilson.

Mitcham (E. W. Heard). — Annual business meeting received good reports from all auxiliaries. Church membership now 112. Morning services averaged 59 for year, and are increasing. Officers re-elected were J. Binney, D. Beasy, N. Ryan. 122 scholars in B.S. Clubs and auxiliaries had break-up parties, Christmas tree, etc. C.W.E.F. had large number present for its Christmas party. £20 was donated to Homes' annual appeal. Carol singing by Y.P. at the homes of older members on Christmas Eve appreciated. Special Communion service held Christmas morning, which was shared by Baptist people, well attended. Church shared in carols by candlelight on lawns of Presbyterian church. Mr. and Mrs. Christensen (West Moreton) were visitors. Mr. and Mrs. Wilkerson (Mt. Gambler)

and Mr. and Mrs. Damm (Albury) have come to reside in district.

Wangaratta (A. E. Stevens). — Christmas activities included carol services at Whitfield and Wangaratta. Churches combined on Christmas morning for worship service in Methodist building. Cheshunt youth camp well attended in both senior and junior sections. Open B.S. being conducted during holidays. Addresses given by M. McDonough and S. Jackel during minister's absence.

Oakleigh (E. J. Miles). — B.S. invited parents to social evening, Dec. 15. Two people confessed Christ, 9th. Cinemascope screening of *The Robe*, 11th, with proceeds toward Youth Fellowship project. Miss Jean Milne and Mrs. E. J. Miles trained Y.P. for their part in Christmas service, 23rd. Crowded chapel heard Y.P. sing carols by candlelight in service, after which congregation retired to school hall to see *Nativity* play by Primary B.S. scholars, under leadership of Miss J. Canterbury. Fellowship was then enjoyed by all. Christmas morning service at 7.30 a.m. well attended. Y.P. sang carols and message was given by minister. Recent visitors J. Coventry and Mr. Coventry snr. (S.A.), Mr. and Mrs. Farmer (Qld.). Soloists have been Mrs. Ferris (Cheltenham), Mr. Barber (Camberwell), A. Briggs.

Box Hill (L. S. Dewberry). — Good Companions held Christmas function at beach, with annual presentations for club and basketball. C.M.S. and C.W.E.F. held picnic and barbecue at Kallista, 14th. C.Y.F. presented sacred drama, *The Stained Glass Window*, 16th. C.Y.F. and Y.P.C.E. combined, 19th, to visit district hospital taking gifts and flowers to patients.

Footscray (G. S. Brown). — B.S. empty Christmas tree appeal realised £4/12/6 for Bowl of Remembrance appeal. Many enjoyed social, 21st. Kay Ashlin and Yvonne Lewis duetists, 23rd. Combined Christmas Day service, 9.30 a.m., had Mr. Phillip (Baptist) as speaker. Mrs. G. S. Brown soloist 30th. B.S. continues through holidays with good attendances. Many visitors present over holiday period.

Sunshine (B. F. Goldsteen). — Christmas worship service held Sunday morning for Kinder., Cradle Roll and parents. B.S. functioning as open school during holiday period. Services conducted by R. Iliff and H. Pletsch during minister's absence.

Warrnambool (F. W. Bradley). — B.S. anniversary services well attended. Scholars sang well, under leadership of Mrs. Groves. A. C. Male (Portland) guest speaker. Two decisions p.m. C.W.F. donated £77 and B.S. £75 to Youth Hall Fund. Service broadcast over 3YB, Dec. 9, and recording made for Hymns We

Love session. Mrs. Ferguson (Melb.) gave illustrated talk on Overseas Missions work to C.W.F. Auxiliaries had variety of Christmas functions. Good Companions held annual church service, 16th. There was one decision. Minister underwent surgery and is recovering. C. LeCouteur preached 23rd. Baptist church joined in Christmas Day service at which minister presided and Mr. Simmons (Baptist) preached. Church enjoying fellowship with many visitors. G. Dalton recommenced work after illness.

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ENGAGEMENT

LILLEY - CARSLAKE. — The engagement is announced of Freda Marion, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. T. Lilley, 35 Xavier-st., Bunbury, W.A., to Graham Brian, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Carslake, Pintharuka, W.A.

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BIRTHS

CLARK (Hunt). — To Marion and Owen, on Dec. 31, at Loxton, S.A., a son — Phillip Leslie. "We thank God."

HENDERSON (Strender). — To Gwen and Gordon, on Dec. 25, at Boort, Vic., a daughter — Janine Gwen. Sister for John and Max.

WILLIAMS (Butler). — Jeannette and Bruce are happy to announce the arrival of a son — Paul Bruce, on Dec. 13, at St. Georges, Kew, Vic. A brother for Kerry.

DEATHS

MCGREGOR — Cleveland Lyall, at his home, 2 Webster-st., Chadstone, Vic., on Dec. 20, 1962, dearly loved husband of Vera, loved father of Enid (Mrs. A. Holden, Box Hill), Malcolm, Stuart, Keith and Margaret (Mrs. F. B. Burt, Blackwood, S.A.), dear father-in-law of Alan, Verna, Dot, Ivy and Bart (S.A.), adored granddad of 13 grandchildren; loved brother of Allison (dec.) and Jean (Mrs. Mallyon, S.A.).

"Life is ever the lord of death
And love can never lose its own."

ORAM. — On Dec. 15 (suddenly), at Christian Rest Home Portrush-rd., St. Georges, S.A., Jane Rowe, wife of the late pastor W. G. Oram, formerly of Semaphore, loved and loving sister of Richard Merrifield, also Jim and Tom (dec.) Aged 79 years. "He bringeth them unto their desired haven."

IN MEMORIAM

KALLMIER. — Cherished memories of my dear son, Arthur Cecil, who was called to Higher service, Jan. 9, 1961. "Forever with the Lord." — Inserted by his loving Dad.

KALLMIER. — Fond memories of our dear nephew and cousin, Arthur, who was called Home, Jan. 9, 1961. "Till he come." — Inserted by his loving Auntie Al, Uncle Jim, Auntie Stell, Uncle Bly and Donald.

KENNETT. — In loving memory of our dear wife, mother, and grandmother, Myrtle, who fell asleep Jan. 16, 1962. "Always remembered by her loved ones."

LACY. — Fond memories of my beloved husband and our father, Kenneth Edward, called Home, Jan. 18, 1955. "Behind all shadows standeth God."

— Inserted by his loving wife and family.

LACY — Kenneth Edward, much loved son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. R. Gray, called Home, Jan. 18, 1955. "Time passes, but memories stay."

MOYSEY — W. F. C., died Dec. 9, 1922, aged 61 years, and his wife, Marie Anna, died Dec. 13, 1962, aged 97 years. Beloved parents of Rosa (dec.), William, Olive, Victoria (dec.), Ruby, James.

ENGAGEMENT

WILSON - PFEIFER. — Mr. and Mrs. D. Wilson, 55 Nicholson-st., East Coburg, happily announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Belle, to Harry, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. C. Pfeifer, 23 Warley-rd., East Malvern, Vic.

GOLDEN WEDDING

JENKIN. — Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Jenkin, 26 Warburton-st., Brunswick, Vic., announce with pleasure the 50th anniversary of their marriage celebrated on Jan. 16, 1913, at Swanston-st. Church of Christ, Melbourne, by the late W. H. Allen. "Thanks be to God."

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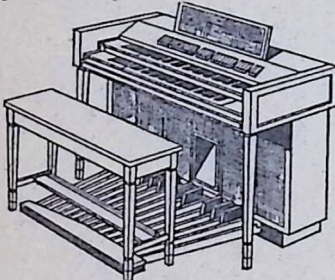
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OBITUARY**Isabel Kerrison.**

Mrs. I. Kerrison passed to her reward on Dec. 13 at the age of 80 years. She was a good woman, and a loyal Christian worker. Nearly 40 years ago she yielded her life to Jesus Christ during a tent mission at South Yarra, under the ministry of the late E. C. Hinrichsen, and for many years was a devoted worker in the church there. She possessed a serene faith, was noted for her good works and hospitality. Two years ago she moved to Oakleigh, Vic., where she attended the Lord's house when able. She was greatly loved and will be sadly missed. Largely attended services were held at South Yarra chapel and Brighton Cemetery. Many beautiful wreaths were a tribute to a wonderful life. We lovingly commend the daughter and sons to the grace of God and the comfort of the Holy Spirit. —E. J. Miles.

Cyril A. Rowley.

At Kadina, S.A., on Aug. 25, 1962, the Home call came to Cyril A. Rowley, at the age of 66 years. Following indifferent health and a stay in hospital, the end came suddenly as his wife was attending him at home. He was born at Somerton in the Adelaide Hills, and later lived at Semaphore, where he became a member of the Baptist Church. From Semaphore the Rowley family took up farming at Wudinna on Eyre Peninsula, where they became some of the early members of the Church of Christ when it commenced under the ministry of Frank Hollams, 1929. C. Rowley, with his family, moved to Kadina in 1943, and became actively associated with the church. Both at Wudinna and Kadina Mr. Rowley served periods as a deacon. He was of quiet disposition, sincere and honest in his Christian life and witness. The funeral took place at Kadina following a service in the home. To his wife, his son, Keith, his father, sisters and brother, and all relatives, we extend our sympathy. They are comforted by the knowledge that the parting is only for a time, until we all meet in the presence of the Lord. —M. T. Lawrie.

Sidney Allster Burns.

S. A. Burns was called to be with the Lord whom he loved and served, on Dec. 24, 1962, at the age of 60 years. Mr. Burns had been a member of Churches of Christ for 12 years, being baptised at Mayfield, N.S.W., during the ministry of L. S. Dewberry. He served as a deacon in Mayfield church for a number of years until ill-health caused him to relinquish his position. His faith in Christ expressed itself in loving concern for the welfare of others

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NOW to . . .

D. H. Smith,

Churches of Christ Centre,
217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne, C.1.

32 - 2445 32 - 2446

and in practical service in the life
of the church. A testimony to the
graciousness of his life was evidenced
in the large number of people who
attended the funeral services at May-
field chapel and Sandgate Cemetery,
conducted by the writer. To Mrs.
Burns, her son (A. Burns), and
daughter (Mrs. R. Tyler) the Chris-
tian sympathy of Mayfield church
is extended. We share with them
the blessed hope of that glad re-
union in the presence of the Master.
—R. B. Elbourne.

J. Harrison.

After many years of faithful ser-
vice with the church at Carramar,
N.S.W., Jim Harrison has been called
to Higher service. He was baptised
at Canley Vale, and later, with his
wife, linked up with the Carramar
church and gave loyal service as
deacon and C.F.A. agent. He was
one of those quiet, steady Christians
whose influence had a telling effect
within the church and in the out-
side community. Services at the
chapel and cemetery were conducted
by H. Long. To Mrs. Harrison, Peter
and Robert, and to Mavis and Barry
and June and John, we give the
assurance of the loving prayers of
their brethren, in the knowledge that
with the Lord death is but a change
from life to life.—E. F. G. McIlhag-
ger.

Lola May Simpson.

The church at Port Lincoln, S.A.,
lost a gracious, faithful member, when
Mrs. Simpson was suddenly called to
be with her Lord on Dec. 18, at the
age of 62 years, whilst undergoing
surgery. Of Baptist background, she
moved into Wudinna district during
1916 pioneering days of West Coast.
When Churches of Christ began wit-
ness in the area she entered whole-
heartedly into our movement. It is
not too much to say that there would
have been no continuing witness to
our plea in Wudinna, but for her
faith, zeal and loyalty. She was a
true help-mate of her husband, Cecil,
who served as deacon and treasurer
of the church. She served in every
capacity she could in the church —
organist, leader of women's work,
teacher. She showed real love and
wisdom and guided her five children
into active fellowship in the church.
Seven years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Simp-
son retired from their farming and
settled in Port Lincoln. Many came
to know the gracious hospitality of
her home, which was always open to
all. The Home call was sudden and
unexpected. We sorrow at her pass-
ing because of our sense of personal
loss, and cherish her memory. We
extend Christian sympathy to her
husband (Skip) and children, Doug,
Iris, Newton, Gwen, David, and to all
the family circle, and rejoice with
them in the certain hope that we
shall all meet again in the future.—H.
G. Norris.

Department of Social Service

(The Church in Action).

Churches of Christ Centre,
217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne, C.1.

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just as helpless as an individual with-
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