

# THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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## The Church Must Go!

One of the favorite sayings of Robert Ingersoll was, "The Church must go." The Church must, for its very existence' sake, keep on going, else it is not the Church.

When a chapel burns down, however, especially if it is not a "thriving" church, or if it finds itself unfortunately designated an "inner-suburban church," the prevailing advice is that the church must go.

When fire destroyed the chapel at South Melbourne (Vic.) last May, there was a family without a home. It was the sole responsibility of this family to decide what was to be done. This decision was made even more difficult when taken into account was our responsibility to the rest of the brotherhood.

The decision to rebuild was no "on the spot" decision. We discovered that we had first to answer some questions. Was it worth while rebuilding? How were we going to

finance the scheme? Would it become a liability upon the brotherhood? In answering these and many other questions, we arrived at the only decision that we could with a sense of having done right.

The church's responsibility is tremendous in areas like South Melbourne. To abandon these people to their own resources as they face the characteristic fears of a closely quartered community would be un-Christian. As homes make way for a different type of dwelling, a few words of encouragement could mean the reclamation of a soul or a family. Many people will soon be moving into a new accommodation a few hundred yards from our chapel. A welcome on their arrival and the assurance of a friendly spiritual home for themselves and their family may give them the new start they need. The area in which we have chosen to remain to wit-

ness for our Lord will in a few short years be encircled with new buildings — home to many — and Christ must hold an important place.

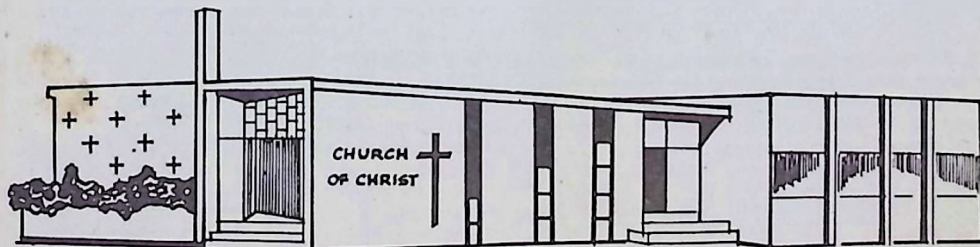
Dependence upon God through prayer became very important to us. We found the truth in "first they gave themselves" (2 Cor. 8: 5). Through the willingness of the Home Mission Department to help us make our prayers a reality, we conducted a Planned Giving Campaign. Under the competent and dedicated leadership of Allan Avery, it was a very successful venture. With each member having a new grasp of the meaning of responsibility, we more than doubled our offering, and this commitment is for the next three years.

The new building will cost £11,615, plus furnishings, and this includes a completely new chapel and hall. With the money in hand and our pledged giving, we are confident that we will once again have a debt-free building. The building is due to be completed within twelve months of the old one being burnt. The members and officers are to be congratulated on their faith, enthusiasm and practicability.

We have appreciated the assistance given by our sister churches. There have been words of encouragement, prayer and financial help. May God give his reward.


A special word of thanks goes to our sister church at Gardiner, which has faith enough to subsidise our venture each week to help pay the interest on borrowed money. It is an example which shall never be forgotten.

As this article is being written, a new home is being built for the church at South Melbourne. We ask that you pray for the congregation and their officers, that God may have the praise and glory.—On behalf of the Officers' Board, Kevin R. Turner, minister; J. Tipping, sec.



Design of Suggested New Buildings, South Melbourne, Vic.

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# Christian

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

A. R. Haskell, Manager.

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## Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian"  
of Feb. 27, 1913.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

College Opening Dinner. — On Mon-  
day evening last the Lygon-st. Dorcas  
Society entertained the students of  
the College of the Bible at dinner.  
H. Kingsbury presided, and short  
speeches were delivered by the chair-  
man and Bren. Main, Dunn, Craigie,  
Huntsman, Gordon and Edwards. B. W.  
Manning, on behalf of the students,  
thanked the sisters and officers of  
the Lygon-st. church for their an-  
nual dinner, which was highly appre-  
ciated by all the boys.

Adelaide Business Man Answers Call.  
— An article in The Mail tells of  
W. C. Brooker's decision to give up  
a prosperous business and become  
full-time preacher at Queenstown.  
"The proprietor of a large furnishing  
establishment in the heart of Run-  
dle-st., Mr. Brooker has been many  
things in his time. He is now 40  
years old, but in appearance he has  
the youthful vigor of a man of 25.  
At one time he swung the sledge-  
hammer in a blacksmith's shop, and  
right through life he has been con-  
nected with the church. 'I am going  
into a serious business now,' he re-  
marked, when questioned by a re-  
porter. 'My idea is that it is always  
best to do the best you can and the  
most you can. I do not believe in  
wasted energy.' The Mail reporter  
concluded a feature article by saying,  
'Really, it confirms one's faith to  
meet one like Mr. Brooker.'

News and Notes. — T. H. Scambler,  
at present at Kalgoolie, W.A., has  
accepted an extended engagement with  
the church at Maylands, W.A., and  
enters upon the work in this new  
field on March 2 . . . G. H. Old-  
field who, during his vacation with  
his home folk at Mosman, N.S.W.,  
took his old place as teacher in the  
B.S., has returned to the College . . .  
We hear that W. Gale has been ap-  
pointed Bible School organiser for  
New South Wales . . . G. T. Walden  
is conducting a short mission at  
Cottonville, S.A. Up to Sunday night  
there were seven confessions . . . The  
building at Semaphore, S.A., is slowly  
approaching completion and it is  
hoped to open the building in mid-  
April, with a big mission conducted  
by S. G. Griffith . . . W. B. Blake-  
more writes from Perth: 'We are look-  
ing forward to Bro. J. E. Thomas'  
visit in March. He will be a great  
help to us in our Conference gather-  
ings. He will remain four or five  
weeks after Conference and preach at  
Lake-st. I am to go to Adelaide  
and help them at Grote-st. while  
Bro. Thomas is here. The exchange  
ought to do us both good.'



## Christian Unity Can't Be Bought!

Last year a dramatic offer was made to the Welsh Free Churches by Sir David James, London-Welsh philanthropist. Disheartened by the slowness of unity moves, he decided to make a cash offer which would serve as an incentive towards a union of Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Welsh Methodists and Baptists within a time-limit of ten years. He proposed to make an immediate gift of £250,000 for the establishment of a United Free Church Fund to which the Welsh Free Churches should contribute £750,000 over a period of ten years. Provided a union could be achieved within that time, the entire fund would go to the united church. If not, money contributed by the various groups would be returned to them.

Varying reactions to the offer have since been expressed. The Secretary of the Union of Welsh Independents (Congregationalists) has announced that his churches are being strongly advised to accept. "We shall give full support to the four-denominational committee working for unity," he says, "and feel this can be accomplished within the time limit without any principles being sacrificed." However, the final decision remains with individual churches. Meanwhile, the Welsh Baptist Union has advised its member churches not to accept the offer, and is asking each church to vote upon the issue. However, in a letter to Sir David James, the Baptist Union Secretary stated that the offer had been deeply appreciated and carefully considered. Refusal did not mean that Baptists are not concerned with the union of the Free Churches, he stated. They shared with others the desire to press on to a fellowship deeper than co-operation.

The mixed reception which has greeted the proposal so far indicates that some, at least, feel that Christian unity cannot be bought in such a fashion. The cash offer introduces an incentive which is out of place in such a context. No Christian union worth the name can be born out of anything less than an overwhelming conviction that this is the Master's will for his Church. But honesty demands that if money be rejected as an unworthy motive for union, it should also be rejected as an unworthy *hindrance* to it. Twenty-two years ago, Hugh Martin listed the difficulties in the way of Christian union as apathy, ignorance, sincere conviction and *vested interests* — and those vested interests are still a powerful enough drag on the wheels of the Church's progress towards union (if "progress" is the right word — "crawl" sometimes seems more appropriate).

Whatever may be thought about his money offer, Sir David James' action at least effectively

dramatised how some men in the pews feel about the unity lag. In a recent *British Weekly*, Brian Cooper had a close look at the unity situation in Britain, and laid the blame "fairly and squarely upon the clergy of all denominations who do not take the ecumenical movement seriously enough, who basically do not think unity matters very much, who don't care enough." "For too many clergy," he says, "the unity movement is just another 'ism,' one of numerous Christian causes worthy enough in its way, and worthy enough to be occasionally supported, but not one seriously affecting local church life... Unless unity and all activities connected with it are given a *high degree of priority*, then the outlook is bleak indeed."

The British Baptist leader, Dr. Ernest A. Payne, recently admitted that, "in spite of fifty years of ecumenical action, there has not been in Great Britain a single union that has gone beyond ecclesiastical boundaries." Speaking of "inertia" as one of the major obstacles to Christian unity, he commented, "It is true that most of the younger generation are for a few years impatient. They think for a while that they could do better than their fathers. Then they settle down with things as they are."

This isn't the whole picture. There are facts behind the encouraging statement that more has been done in the interests of Christian unity in this century than ever before. But it is still true that, at the local church level, indifference and inertia remain major stumbling blocks on the way to unity.

That is as true of our own country — and of our own churches — as of any other. We Churches of Christ have a traditional plea for unity, based on restoration of New Testament Christianity. We would agree with Principal Williams that "there can be no true union without restoration. To abandon the restoration principle is to draw the teeth of our plea. On the other hand, restoration without unity is incomplete" (*A Biblical Approach to Unity*). All this we accept in theory — but what does it mean *in practice*, in the local church? We would dismiss the idea that unity can be bought with money, but it has a price, and a high one — not the sacrifice of Bible-based convictions, but of prejudice, ignorance, apathy, self-righteousness. Far more important than whether or not, at the top level, we belong to the World Council of Churches (and I do not minimise that) is whether we are doing anything, *at the local level*, to help fulfil our Saviour's prayer, "That they all may be one." How much do we really care about Christian unity?

# "I PLEAD AN ALIBI . . ."

A College President has been telling how years of association with students have left him uncertain whether the degree B.A. stands for Bachelor of Arts or Bullder of Alibis. The remark reminds me of the story of the lad who went up from his village to triumph in the university. He came back, alas, without prizes, medals, or distinctions of any kind. At first there was a little bewilderment. It gradually leaked out, however — he allowed it to leak out — that the professors had a spite at him.

Students are not alone in making alibis do duty for honest self-blame. Excuses, evasions, rationalisations are resorted to by us all. They are handy and convenient devices and soothing to complacency and egoism. We can't bear to be put in the wrong. We are on our feet in an instant protesting, explaining, rebutting. Judging by what psychologists tell us about the defence mechanisms of the mind the strongest motives determining behaviour are not those which spring from the impulses and instincts which we share with the animals, such as hunger or self-preservation; they are those which spring from the desire for self-vindication.

## Beware of Rationalisation!

People don't always appreciate that some of the shrewdest and soundest psychology is to be found in the Bible. It is a psychology piercingly true to life and, if you happen to be thinking of Freud and Jung and Adler, extraordinarily up-to-date. Take the case of Elijah and the sad sequel to the triumph on Mount Carmel. The man who, single-handed, fearlessly confronted the prophets of Baal, rose and ran for his life from the taunts and threats of a woman. And when you track him down to his hiding-place in the wilderness what do you find him saying? Not, "I am a recreant, a coward, a poor apology for a prophet," but, "I, even I only, am left; and they seek my life, to take it away."

The defence mechanism is at work. He is making an alibi do duty for self-blame. You couldn't find a clearer example of what psychologists mean by rationalisation. His mind has arrived at a compromise which will give it a measure of peace. He is not deliberately manufacturing an excuse to save his feelings. You can't charge him with conscious hypocrisy. He is evading the facts but he is unconscious of evading them. This is what makes rationalisation so mischievous. Elijah is emphasising a

## How We Evade the Duty of Self-Blame

Robert James McCracken,  
Minister of Riverside Church,  
New York.

fact — his solitariness in Israel — which, while it is true as far as it goes, is irrelevant. It is obscuring the true fact, that he has shirked his duty, deserted his post, been frightened out of his wits by Jezebel.

## Better Use "Nasty Words"

We all make alibis do duty for self-blame. When we make a mistake, it is a slip; when somebody else makes it, it is a blunder. What in us is righteous indignation, in another is bad temper. What for us is a clever stroke of business, in a fellow competitor is unethical behaviour. A man tells himself that he is merely indulging in a harmless flirtation, or a woman that romance and love have at last come into her life. They are rationalising, dressing up reprehensible conduct in an indefensible course of action, persuading themselves that they are actuated by worthy motives. The words with which they should be facing their consciences are nasty words, nasty words because they stand for nasty things, words like fornication and adultery.

There is another defence mechanism of the mind which psychologists call projection. The word, like the science of psychology, may be modern, but the thing is as ancient as the hills. And once again, if you want a crystal clear illustration of what is meant by projection, you can't do better than turn to that supreme psychological textbook and source book, the Bible. You recall how, after David had done a very contemptible thing in the matter of the wife of Uriah the Hittite — not only taken Bathsheba from Uriah, but put him in the front line of battle so that he was killed — the prophet Nathan came and told him the story of the rich man with many flocks and herds who took the poor man's one ewe lamb. David was passionately indignant with the rich man, condemned him to death there and then. It never occurred to him, until Nathan courageously declared, "Thou art the man," that the story was an exact picture of his own conduct. He had repressed the memory of it and the guilt of it — memory and guilt alike had sunk into his unconscious where they were not dead and buried, but festering and ulcerating — and he gained a meas-

ure of relief, as we all do, by projection, being angry with his own fault when he saw it in someone else.

## Eased by Blaming Others

What is behind all this defence mechanism, this building of alibis? Ugly facts we will not acknowledge, and of which we may not even be conscious. Cowardice in the case of Elijah. Greed in the case of Judas. Adultery and murder in the case of David. People repress into their unconscious, desires, impulses, feelings which they refuse to acknowledge because the acknowledgment would be distasteful and a blow to their self-esteem. Just as we dissociate ourselves from those who have insulted us, so we refuse to recognise or identify ourselves with our faults and weaknesses. This is how unethical behaviour, immoral conduct, censoriousness, selfishness, pride, become dissociated; we are practically unaware of their existence. If two people have a quarrel, and come separately to tell you about it, you will often notice that their respective accounts of what happened differ, sometimes to a surprising extent. This is not because one of them is telling lies, or both of them, but because they each repress, and therefore fail to remember or recognise, the weak points in their own case.

Why are ugly facts kept out of their consciousness? Because we need to stand well in our own eyes. We can't afford to forfeit self-respect; when that goes practically everything goes. It has been said that to have good foreign relations with others we must have good domestic relations with ourselves. Contempt from those about us is hard to bear, but God pity the wretch who has contempt for himself. People will go to any length to preserve a certain kind of self-respect — projection, fantasy, compensation, rationalisation, repression, one defence mechanism after another. And all because we cannot endure to be put in the wrong. We have to find some way of assuring ourselves that we are all right, some way of holding our heads up, facing the world, keeping on the job. Without some sort of self-acceptance there is nothing for it but suicide. We must be at rights with ourselves, even if it means making wrong seem right.

But to make wrong seem right, to ignore, repress, forget it, is not to dispose of it. Down it goes into the unconscious, and what mischief it works there, festering, suppurating, ulcerating. For the unconscious is



not a storehouse but a mill. Guilt feelings are not disposed of when they are disguised; they are only covered up. They are not dead and buried; that, though underground, they are very much alive is demonstrated by the fashion in which a sentence in a sermon or a novel, a scene in a film or a play, a chance meeting will bring them right up from the unconscious to the conscious level of the mind. Much of the hypertension, neurasthenia, neurosis of our time comes from the failure of people to live with themselves, to adapt themselves, not to their environment, but to themselves. We have got to be at rights with ourselves, but the only way to be that is to face the facts about ourselves. If you have a bad temper, don't disguise the fact, acknowledge it. If you have strong sex urges, don't turn a blind eye on them, recognise them for what they are. I

read somewhere about a man who looked at himself in a mirror for some minutes, and then said out aloud, "You dirty cad." And after that he went out and began life over again.

### The Way of Deliverance

There is one thing the Bible keeps saying that some psychologists and psychiatrists never say: To be right with yourself get closer to God. No sooner had the Prodigal acknowledged, "I have sinned," than he made the resolve, "I will arise and go to my Father." This is what Jesus urges on us. When we see ourselves for what we really are, are ashamed of ourselves, have difficulty in accepting ourselves, we can be sure of one thing — God will accept us. About nothing is Jesus more emphatic. There is One who can deliver us from self-pity, self-excuse, self-defence. Though we are tied and bound

with the chains of our sins, yet in his great mercy he can loose us from our chains, can empower us to live nobly and courageously. He believes in us, sees beneath our worst to our best, helps us to believe in ourselves because of his faith in us, calls forth what is fine and splendid in us, quickens our hope, revives our faith, helps us to begin life anew. In the presence of God our littleness is apparent, but his is not the greatness that creates a sense of inferiority. It humbles and yet it exalts. It challenges, inspires, energises. Nothing produces a greater happiness. Nothing gives such a sense of well-being. Nothing brings a deeper peace. I can say nothing more important to you than the thing our Lord said again and again: "Get closer to God." For there is the ultimate secret — not what you can do to justify yourself, but what God can do for you by making his strength your own.



Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

### Reverses at Nduli Nduli Hospital D. Coulter.

Until recently we had five nurses and a dresser at Nduli Nduli Hospital, and it has been a very happy place in which to work. The work was done cheerfully and efficiently with no more lapses than one would expect anywhere. I have seen something of the work of nurses in other parts of the New Hebrides, and in comparison I was most impressed with our own. There has been an atmosphere of friendliness and happiness, and much to demonstrate loyalty and care. Our dresser has been with the hospital for some time and I have recently trained him to assist in the laboratory work. He has been eager and quick to learn, and has mastered a number of laboratory procedures.

Quite suddenly everything seemed to change. It was after a wedding at Lovutialau, just before Christmas. All of our staff went in the evening, except a nurse who was sick, and another who was on duty. The next day everyone was strangely subdued and this persisted. It was a different hospital. One nurse was off sick and another went home on holiday, but there was nothing unusual about this. At this time another boy from Londua school began to train as a dresser. Then we discovered that there had been heathen dancing at Lovutialau the night of the wedding, and it in-

cluded many local young people, including a school teacher, some who were to have been baptised at Christmas, and our nurses and dresser. This was the reason for the change. They were full of shame, or fear of the trouble it would bring from the old men. From here it was just one thing after another. A nurse told Sister one night that she was going to Santo, and went next morning. Our experienced dresser did not come to work, and I discovered him laboring on the roads with others as punishment meted out by the old men. I persuaded them to let him work at the hospital for the period of punishment — without pay. Our senior nurse, on whom we rely heavily, became sick. Another developed a severe psychiatric illness and needed constant supervision for fear she would kill herself. The nurse who went off sick first returned, but not wholly fit. Our experienced dresser went off to Santo because of further trouble — a problem of immorality, which seems to drag down even our best young people. On top of this an epidemic of dysentery developed amongst babies and young children, crowding the hospital more than usual, with only an inexperienced dresser and a convalescing nurse to assist. They worked from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. for days on end. Two babies died in this period. An old man with dysentery died of a heart attack. A young man with severe heart failure died on New Year's eve. A boy

aged nine had tetanus and required supervision day and night until he died. A day-old baby died for no apparent reason — as many deaths as in the previous 12 months. We sent for Sister Maiden to come from Maewo to assist, but she could not get here for a week.

The Sunday before Christmas the baptismal service was held at our rocky Nduli Nduli beach. In the roar of tropical rain and with the breakers crashing over the rocks it was a real physical baptism for the 28 young people, and we pray that the spiritual baptism is as striking to them. It was a moving service, but our hearts were sad as we thought of those not being baptised because of the trouble. We had heard, too, of another Nduli Nduli school teacher being in prison on Santo for drunkenness and fighting.

Yes, we were sad, but not disheartened. Rather were we more mindful of the needs, and more determined to serve them in the name of him who sent us. Pray for these people.

### Time for Praise

II. Maiden.

"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think" (Eph. 3: 20).

How true these words have proved to be in my recent experience of once again being on my own. When first faced with the knowledge of being on my own for an indefinite period, I was shocked, to say the least.

Immediately I thought of all the Christmas activities that had to be arranged, and the loneliness and isolation. How could I ever survive? Looking back on this period it has

(cont. ft. col. 1, p. 118)

## THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



# WOMEN



## FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

**W.C.W.F. PRAYER FOR MARCH**

For the women of Argentina and Paraguay, and for a real revelation of Jesus Christ in their hearts.

**Interstate News****VICTORIA - TASMANIA.**

At the Council meeting held in the Reception Room, Churches of Christ Centre, on Feb. 1, 1963, at 11 a.m., devotions were led by the President, assisted in prayers by Mesd. Candy and Fallon. A welcome was extended to new delegate, Mrs. Maldment (Reservoir), to Mrs. Reid, present after illness, to Mrs. Davey (Brighton), recently returned from abroad, to visitors Mrs. Henderson (Swan Hill), and Mrs. Allan (Grafton, N.S.W.).

Guest speaker, Mrs. Col. P. Dale (life-member of Women's World Day of Prayer) was welcomed and introduced. Minutes of the last meeting and correspondence read and accepted — no business arising.

Treasurer reported total C.W.F. contributions to Monbulk were now £1,248/12/4; approximately £400 now owing on Ludbrook House. Roll call — 115 present. Obituary prayer offered by Mrs. Spargo, remembering families of the late C. McGregor, Mr. Cartmel and Mrs. J. Bailey. Also those ill — Miss Ferguson (Essen-

(cont. from p. 117)

been just wonderful to see God's hand in everything. To accept the fact was the main thing. Having done this, all things have certainly worked together for good.

The Christmas season has been one of great blessing. I think the simplicity in which it was celebrated could teach many of us a lesson. While I did not understand what was being said in the 2½ hour Christmas service, it was evident that Christ himself was present in our midst. This same spirit was carried right through the various activities, and I have enjoyed taking part in them all.

At the moment I am writing from Nduli Nduli, Aoba, as I have come over to help out in a very busy time at the hospital. When I return in a week or so I will be taking with me a friend, Miss Margaret Harris, who arrives from the West this week. To think that provision is being made for me to have company and help during the Cambridges' absence is really wonderful.

don) and Mrs. Pang (Lygon-st.). Reports from Supts. of Catering, Aborigines, Missionary, Social Service, Home Visitation and Overseas Committees. Please publicise Women's Day Conference, St. Kilda Town Hall, on Wed., April 3.—E. M. Rankine, Sec.

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA.**

Devotions for the Feb. meeting were conducted by the Aborigine Committee, led by Mrs. J. Pallot, Supt., who opened with prayer. Mesd. Johnston and Richards sang, Mrs. Ford (Carnarvon) offered prayer, and Mrs. Dewing (Norseman) read from Romans 5, and brought the message on being full of joy in service at all times in all things. Devotions closed with a hymn.

Mrs. Ewers welcomed all sisters present, visitors being Mesd. Dewing, Ford, Christenson, R. Carlisle, Harris, Wilkinson, Sumner and Patterson. We were pleased to have greetings from Mrs. Ford and Mrs. Patterson, who is the wife of our H.M. Organiser.

The prayer text was shared from John 17: 11. Mention was made of the passing of C. H. Hunt and Mr. Jeffrey, and also Mrs. Vawser, mother of Miss Edna Vawser, in South Australia. Mrs. Johnston led in prayer for the loved ones left to mourn. Prayer was also asked for Mrs. Digwood and Miss G. Wellings, who are in hospital.

The roll was called, 84 sisters responding from 21 Fellowships. Apologies numbered 8. Financial statement, read by Mrs. Beck, showed a balance in hand of £716/10/4. Sisters rejoiced to hear Budget aim had been exceeded, the amount raised being £1,382. The amount received from the Blessings Bags was £235/0/6.

**Reports.**

**Home Missions.** — Mrs. Manning was happy to report the arrival of K. Patterson and family in W.A. Prayer requested for the Manning-South Perth mission to be conducted after Easter.

**Overseas.** — Mrs. Gordon advised that Miss A. Harris (Dalwallinu) had gone to New Hebrides as visitor and companion to Miss H. Maiden. Miss Thea Luke (Subiaco) is missionary-elect for Pentecost, New Hebrides, as school teacher, in May. Prayer requested for health of Mrs. R. Cambridge, and for all Overseas Missions and missionaries, that the New Year may see untiring effective witness made for the Master.

**Aborigine.** — Mrs. Pallot advised that there were to be 20 to 30 new children admitted to Carnarvon this year. Children had returned to the Mission after holidays in Perth. Mrs. Dewing was introduced, thanked the sisters for clothing parcels sent, and told of the opportunities to witness in Norseman at the Christian Centre — pray for Mr. Roberts and this work. Aborigine C.W.F. held meetings in town.

**Hospital.** — Mrs. Sonsee asked that we pray for the sick in hospitals.

**Chest Hospital.** — Mrs. Verge and Mrs. Dunwoodie said thank you for Christmas cheer, and reported on the Christmas visit.

There being no further business, Mrs. Ewing closed in prayer. — P. Reid, Sec.

## 24 HOUR CHAIN PRAYER BY WOMEN OF 146 COUNTRIES

The Women's World Day of Prayer to be held on Friday, March 1.

This great day of intercession by the women of the world was inaugurated 77 years ago in the United States of America, and is now observed in 146 countries. The chain of prayer begins in services on the Tonga Islands, where Queen Salote leads her subjects in prayer, and finishes on St. Lawrence Island, Alaska.

The subject for the day's meditation will be "More than conquerors" (Rom. 8: 37) in an order of service prepared by a group of Christian women of Korea. One cannot estimate what great things will be accomplished as a result of the groups both small and large who will gather throughout the day and bow before God in worship, confession and intercession. But prayer does more for those who pray than those for whom we pray.

The President of the Women's World Day of Prayer in Victoria says, "True prayer throws open the channels of the whole being to the influence of the Holy Spirit and quickens us to become the so much 'more than conquerors' that God needs for the doing of his will and purpose in the world."

A considerable percentage of the offerings on the World Day of Prayer will be used for the spread of the Scriptures. We do well to remember that of the 2,378 languages in the world, only 190 have the complete Bible, and 937 part of the Bible. Half of the languages of the world do not possess a single sentence of Scripture.

There will be services held in practically every suburban district, as well as in many country districts in every State.



In Melbourne there will be notices in many city stores — G. J. Coles are featuring 50 notices in their many stores. We hope churches will feature notices of nearest service, so that women will have every opportunity to attend.

A woman (Mrs. Pope) will conduct the Epilogue on GTV 9 on the night prior to the "Day."

The Lady Mayoress, Lady Herring and women leaders of various churches, have been asked to attend the service at Assembly Hall, Collins-st., Melb., at 2 p.m.

★

## Adults Discover Study

Going deep into the faith with his friends is an experience which seldom leaves a man unchanged. When believers delve together into the life-healing doctrines of the church, that group may truly experience something not unlike a new conversion.

Fellowship is the essential mark of the church. But there is no fellowship except where people really meet each other, and share together. Groups that are small (six to eight persons) are not optional but imperative when your church begins to harvest its adult-growth potential.

Let groups be small and personal — let the Holy Spirit speak through this new reality, this never-previously-gathered group. He can create it a whole, a unity. It will not be a nameless collection of individuals, for if it becomes a fellowship in the Holy Spirit it is nothing less than the church herself. He can inbreath the life, change, and healing to the group as a whole, and to each participant.

Children need teachers, but adults need to search and examine for themselves. Adult groups might have some kind of chairman, but a teacher cheats us out of learning. Learning through listening has few rewards, but seeking with a fellowship wins real advancement.

There is a good question waiting for us if we are willing to face its answers — "What is the mission of the church?" If we keep going past the second-hand slogans that may at first be offered to some real thinking, a new light can be shed on our whole life and witness in the world. Some will be smitten with a new humility that could be the mark of having encountered God's Spirit at a deep transforming level.

It's a question to wrestle with for months, not minutes. Wrestling with a twin question may confront us with an entirely new vision and obedience — "What is the church?"

When your adults discover study, your church is on the verge of rebirth—Mark Wendelborn, "New Zealand Christian."

## QUESTING

A. E. White.

What is the best method of election of church officers?

First of all, I believe that the choice of church officers should be democratic. It is sad but true that members do not always elect the right persons for office, but it is better for them to choose wrongly than not to choose at all.

No one has been able to devise a fool-proof method of electing representatives in churches, or in unions, mothers' clubs, or Parliament. This is almost certainly because electors are not sufficiently interested, or they are not competent because of ignorance. They may know some persons but not all, and they may know a little about the tasks to be done, but not enough. Consequently they are not equipped to match the man with the job.

It is exasperating when a minister and church leaders discover just the man for a certain church service. Over many months they persuade him to accept nomination and then see him defeated in competition with some popular or influential member who is long in membership but short in capacity.

Occasionally a person takes offence when defeated in an election. This is a great pity, for it is almost certain that no offence is intended. It is impossible to know the motives of electors, but I know of no occasion when it could be said that church members voted against the defeated candidate. Rather they voted for the one elected. The glaring errors come because many are not interested enough to bother voting, and because members do not know enough about their own church officers and the persons required to fill them.

It is taken for granted that members will approach church election time with a spirit of prayer and commitment. God is just as anxious as we are to get the right man into the right jobs. But prayer is not a substitute for common sense and hard work.

I am not able to outline methods of election which will meet all needs. Some churches have traditions which may be very hard to change, no matter how desirable a change might be. Then there are some churches which are very large, and some are very small. These have special problems.

However, next week I shall list some suggestions which may be helpful.

Next week: More about elections.

(Send questions to Editor.)

## Musings

A Conference President's Week.

SUN., FEB. 17. — There was a happy spirit about North Williamstown's 75th church anniversary this morning. This church has had some great days in its history, and with a new ministry due to begin next Sunday it is hoping for fresh advances. Back at Doncaster tonight I heard Harold Steele tell what it means to "walk with God."

MON., FEB. 18. — An urgent S.O.S. from the Conference Secretary for a new photograph, sermon title and Presidential message, all for the Conference Handbook, forced me to shake off at least some of the effects of Mondayitis and get things moving. But it's one thing to have a sermon title — it's quite another to have the sermon!

TUES., FEB. 19. — One of the men who made a lasting impression on me as long ago as 1938 at the 10th C.E. World's Convention in Melbourne was Dr. E. Stanley Jones. He said then, "The night I yielded my life to Christ I felt I wanted to put my arms around the world and share what I had found with everybody." His life has shown that that was no passing emotion. Reading one of his recent books today, I noticed these moving words: "After 56 years I still want to put my arms around the world and share this with everybody. That is the reason I can't retire. I hope my dying gasp will be the words of Wesley: 'I commend my Saviour to you.'"

WED., FEB. 20. — This morning's informal opening session of the College of the Bible attracted the usual group of interested friends. It was a pleasure to bring a greeting in my Presidential capacity, for I have nothing but gratitude and admiration for the work of the College. Today marks the beginning of E. L. Williams' 19th year as Principal. Morning tea on the lawns was a happy finale to the opening session.

THURS., FEB. 21. — The Australian Christian had to be finalised for the press today because of the Royal Tour holiday next Monday. That meant a full day at the office, followed by the Home Mission Dept. meeting tonight.

FRI., FEB. 22. — Today has been busy with some more editing — this time the local weekly — followed by some weekend preparation and visiting, and a Christian Union meeting.

SAT., FEB. 23. — Amelia and I represented the brotherhood at the Official Arrival ceremony for the Royal couple this morning. This afternoon I was back at the College for another speech at the Garden Party there, then into the Town Hall tonight for the State Royal Reception. Some day!

## HERE AND THERE

Members of Australian Churches of Christ share the pleasure of our fellow-citizens at the presence amongst us of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II, and His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh. We trust that their tour through Australia will bring to them both, as well as to all whom they meet, much joy and satisfaction, as well as the health and strength necessary for the discharge of their many responsibilities.

D. A. V. Thomas was inducted into the ministry at Maldstone, Vic., on Feb. 3, by D. H. Smith, Sec., Dept. Home Missions and Evangelism. T. Hampton (sec.) welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and family into fellowship. The congregation met after the evening service for an informal welcome. Sister churches were represented.

The oldest citizen of Toowoomba, Qld., Alexander Marriage, died on Feb. 3, at the age of 101 years, 5 months. His wife predeceased him in 1955, at the age of 101 years, 4 months. Mr. Marriage was a staunch member of the Toowoomba Church of Christ.

Wilma Nothrop, of Yarrawonga, Vic., is congratulated on receiving her B.A. and Dip.Ed. degrees.

Charles Young celebrated the commencement of his seventeenth year as Hospital Chaplain for our Victorian churches by meeting the Queen at the official opening of the new Royal Children's Hospital, Melb., on Mon., Feb. 25.

One of the pleasing features of the away-from-Easter Vic.-Tas. Conference has been the increase in country representation which has resulted. Country folk who are planning to attend this year's Conference, to be held from March 31 to April 7, are reminded that hospitality is available if they need it. Mrs. B. Sterling, 61 Francis-st., Ascot Vale, is hospitality convener and applications to her will receive prompt attention.

On Feb. 3, the chapel at Grote-st., Adelaide, was crowded for the farewell to Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Jones, at the end of a much appreciated ministry. An interim ministry has begun, with Mr. and Mrs. A. Brown.

At a service in the Preston City Hall on Feb. 19, F. T. Morgan was commissioned by Dean Thomas, Chairman of the Victorian Council for Christian Education in Schools, to serve as Chaplain of the Preston Technical College, the largest Tech-

nical School in Victoria. Mr. Morgan (Churches of Christ minister) was first appointed as a chaplain in 1955, and has given splendid service in this capacity. There are now thirteen full-time chaplains serving in Victorian High and Technical Schools.

Once again the Churches of Christ Choral Society will be rendering choral numbers at the Vic.-Tas. Conference, March 31-April 7. Conductor Valentine Wolf is anxious to augment the choir for the occasion and would be grateful to have singers share in practice at 8 p.m. at the Churches of Christ Centre, Thurs., March 14, and in a special rehearsal in Collins-st. Baptist Church, at 2.45 p.m. on Sunday, March 24.

David Russell concluded his ministry at Yarrawonga, Vic., on Feb. 3, with good meetings. After the morning service, he was presented with a gift from the church. Mrs. Russell was farewelled at an afternoon held at Mrs. Ralph's home during the week, when she was presented with a gift, and gifts were also made to the boys, Philip and Robert. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Oke commenced their ministry on Feb. 10. A welcome evening was extended to them and their boys on the 12th, when welcome speeches were given by R. Starr, Mrs. Colless and Mr. Jones (Ministers' Fraternal). The evening concluded with a social in the new hall.

The aerosphere tent being used in the Willis-Stevens mission at Wangaratta, Vic., attracted widespread newspaper, radio and T.V. interest. Since the mission began on Jan. 30, many visitors and non-members have attended, and much interest is apparent in Wangaratta itself. The church is being supported during the mission by scores of prayer partners. Two B.S. scholars made decision on Feb. 10, and on the following night one teenager of R.C. background and also three former non-attendants. The mission concludes on March 10, and continued prayer support is sought.

B. McKelvie, L.Th., wife and baby daughter, have arrived from Melbourne, and taken up residence in the repainted manse of the church at Telopea, N.S.W. On Sat., Feb. 2, they were welcomed by representatives of the brotherhood (Conf. Pres., L. Wylie), Epping church and local auxiliaries. At the worship service on 3rd, Mr. and Mrs. McKelvie were extended the right hand of fellowship, and H. M. Long (Epping) presented

the charge to preacher and to church. In addition to his full commitments, B. McKelvie will be taking post-graduate studies at Woolwich Bible College. Church attendances and offerings have increased over the past few months.

The inner suburban church of Newmarket, Vic., faces tremendous opportunity, with another 180 flats being built within 200 yards of the church building, in Australia's biggest 20-story flat block. This is part of the new flat development in Newmarket. G. K. Moyes (minister) has visited 354 flats already built, and many Good Companions and 40 new B.S. scholars have been added as a result. Many parents are showing real interest in the church.

R. A. Banks, minister at Drumcondra church, Vic., has undergone surgery in Melbourne. The congregation joined in prayer after the gospel service on Feb. 10 to petition the success of the operation and restoration of health for Mr. Banks. His condition is satisfactory and improving.

## 75th Anniversary

NORTH WILLIAMSTOWN, VIC.

Very successful 75th church anniversary celebrations were held at North Williamstown, Vic., from Feb. 11 to 17. Special auxiliary re-unions were held during the week, when large numbers of former auxiliary and club members attended their respective reunions. Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Mackenzie (Rockdale, N.S.W.) represented the past ministry and Mrs. Mackenzie was speaker at the women's reunion. D. A. V. Thomas (Maldstone), a former member, addressed the C.M.S. and K.S.P. groups. Janice Dorgan, a local member, related highlights of the Commonwealth Games at the P.B.P. and Good Companions' night.

The celebrations climaxed with three outstanding services on Sunday, 17th. Past members assisted in the worship service at which the speaker was C. G. Taylor, B.A. (Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres.). The P.S.A. was addressed by E. W. Heard (missionary, India) and the musical programme was provided by Valda Tasker (violin), Ian McNeill (soloist) and Nancy Rodger (piano). D. H. Smith (Sec., Dept. Home Missions and Evangelism) preached at the gospel service, at which Geoff. Ogden was soloist. Additional seating was provided for the services.

Visitors were entertained in members' homes for lunch and the ladies catered for the reunion tea in the church hall. Children were entertained by the Y.P. in a nearby hall. The meetings were rich in spiritual content and fellowship, and the church welcomes the stimulus and inspiration as it enters another year of service.





# OUR FAMILY PAGE

## A Christian's Choice

Carl R. Brown.

Many years ago, returning via train from a Savings and Loan Convention, my associates were spending their time and money in the club car.

Finally Steve came in and sat with me. "Carl," he began huskily, "we like you. Though you don't drink with us, neither do you scold or preach."

Steve was, even then, a brilliant young attorney with many wealthy clients, president of a financial institution, trustee of a large suburban church, and he owned his home in an exclusive community. His future was rosy and certain, so it seemed.

Over the years I watched Steve's rise and his fall. Gradually social drinking overtook him. Clients turned away. His partnership broke up. He lost his standing and his home. He died a pauper and almost an outcast.

I often wonder whether what Steve said to me, "You don't preach to us," was a compliment or an indictment.

If alcoholism is a disease, as we are told, it differs in one important respect from all other diseases. There is a simple and positive preventive for it. We have never known an abstainer to become alcoholic. Habitual abstinence builds up an immunity which resists the ravages of crises, losses and failures. It puts savings in the bank (literally and figuratively) for urgent future needs.

The hazards even in moderate or occasional drinking are very real and imminent in a day of high speed, devastating explosives and intricate machines. Nor can the church be passive when the vested liquor interests flaunt their wealth by subverting public officials and corrupting standards of morals and decency.

As Christians we have commitments beyond our own comforts and well-being. Paul writes: "Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor" (1 Cor. 10: 24). Our own personal conduct is the greatest resource at hand. Whether we like it or not, people are watching us as Christian leaders and followers.

Think particularly of the host of young people determined to make the most of life. On every hand they are lured. The billboards, magazines and T.V. glamorise social drinking.

The person of "distinction" holds a glass. The non-conformist is a "square." Many are looking desperately but in vain for a prop to their better judgment. What is our testimony to those who look to us? Our practice of abstinence may be the straw to which some can cling.

The abstainer, without raising any finger of judgment and without any feeling of self-righteousness, believes that saying "no" to alcoholic beverages is one way to say "yes" to a fuller Christian life. He finds life meaningful and exciting and feels that alcohol would detract from his good life. He insures himself against the many hazards of excess and he may be a pillar of strength to a brother.—The Christian.

## Three Generations In One Home?

The lengthening life span means that millions of parents already have reached their seventieth or eightieth birthday. Circumstances will force many of them to give up their own homes. They will be compelled to consider whether or not to live with their married children. And their sons and daughters, having families of their own, will be confronted with a decision equally momentous: Shall we or shall we not invite our aging parents to live with us in our home? However the matter is decided in any given family, there are some factors in the situation it is well to take into account.

1. There are millions of three-generation families today in which the oldest and the youngest members are contented and feel themselves to be blessed by their regular association in the home. "We couldn't get along without her constant inspiration to us." "The young folks keep me young. I love it."

2. Thousands of families deeply in love with each other have conscientiously decided that to live together in the same home would not be the best solution of this problem for them. "Dad wanted to live alone." "We felt it would not be fair to our children."

3. Friction in family relationships, whether one, two or three generations are involved, do not indicate, necessarily, that family members do not love one another. Living together in a home is very intimate association and it is inevitable that personal interests will conflict occasionally. This is true particularly where members of a family are free to grow and express themselves creatively.

4. There are constructive measures that can be taken at home to improve personal relationships, particularly where three generations are involved in sharing living quarters. Every member of a household has individual interests which should be respected. A certain amount of privacy and opportunity to be alone are prerequisites of happiness, self-respect and continued development.

This provision for privacy is important. No group is stronger than the loyalty of its members to each other. Such loyalty may need to be expressed occasionally by defending one's family outside of the home, but much more frequently it must be demonstrated in the way members of a family meet their obligations to one another at home.

To ask, what are my obligations to the other members of my family is more wholesome than to dwell upon my rights. Especially important in any home is the ability to communicate with one another, to say how one feels about any given suggestion or arrangement. This is a necessary step in adjustment and forgiveness—talk it over and come to an understanding. No two persons are alike, nor should they be expected to be so. Families improve their relationships when they recognize individual differences and profit from them.—R. Lantz in The Christian.

## Redeeming the Time

Have you ever thought that the average man by the time he is 70 years old will have spent about 25 years in bed and, allowing 1½ hours for meals, over 4 years at the table? How much time watching T.V., reading papers, etc.? How much time doing the will of God?

"When as a child I laughed and wept, time crept.

When as a youth I dreamed and talked, time walked.

"When I became a full grown man, time ran.

And later as I older grew, time flew.

"Soon I shall find while travelling on, time gone.

Will Christ have saved my soul by then? Amen."

(From The Old Clock in Chester Cathedral).

He: "On what grounds does your father object to me?"

She: "On any grounds within a mile of our house."



## INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

### Discipleship

Mrs. Brand, snr., Mrs. E. Brand,  
Ascot Park, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. N. Thatcher, Ray  
McCoy, Joy Robinson, Wattle  
Park, Vic.

K. Cosh, E. Cosh, Misses G. Hooper  
and T. Cosh, Narembreen, W.A.

David Gilchrist, Inglewood, W.A.

Mrs. Whitt, Mrs. Ziemer, Mrs. Wild,  
Albert Critchelow, Fay McDon-  
ough, Beverley Patterson, Dorothy  
Zawilla, Wangaratta, Vic.

Patsy Cox, Rona Parnall, Andrew  
Walters, Ringwood, Vic.

### Membership

Mr. and Mrs. I. Ross, from Grote-  
st., Adelaide; Mr. and Mrs. M.  
Rough, from Port Pirie to Ascot  
Park, S.A.

Robert Savage, Perth to Ingle-  
wood, W.A.

Mrs. E. Austin, Malvern, Vic.

S. McCredden, Box Hill to Ring-  
wood, Vic.

### Marriage

Loris Brown to Jack Shannon;  
Elsie Paydon to Edward Russell;  
Kathleen Jenkins to Stanley Ban-  
nister, Wattle Park Vic.

Lorraine Winter to Brian Hopgood,  
Malvern, Vic.

### Fallen Asleep

H. N. Slmpson, Mrs. M. Wright,  
Swanston-st., Melbourne, Vic.

Mrs. K. Hopkins, Box Hill, Vic.

A. Chappell, Yarrowonga, Vic.

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Narembreen (B. Mason). — Church  
thanks G. Burt for messages during  
absence of minister. Four Y.P. bap-  
tised Feb. 3, when T. Morrison (Mer-  
redin) was guest speaker.

Fremantle (L. Donaldson). — Fel-  
lowship with interstate brethren en-  
joyed. About 50 Aboriginal children  
and staff from Norseman Mission  
were present at worship service in  
Jan. On Feb. 2, the whole church  
took part in a Day of Fellowship  
at Rockingham. Over 70 members  
of all ages came together for lunch-  
eon, inspiration and discussion. J. K.  
Robinson and J. E. Gough gave ex-  
cellent messages which greatly con-  
tributed to the success of the day,  
which was planned by the Christian  
Education Committee as a means of  
launching the Summer School of  
Christian Education. The school has  
been designed to augment the weekly  
Prayer and Bible study meetings.  
Response has been encouraging, with  
about 50 attending each session as  
the development of the church is  
traced from the Day of Pentecost  
down to the Restoration Movement.  
W. Paget has agreed to assist in  
these studies.

Inglewood (A. W. Morris). — Mr.  
and Mrs. Morris have commenced  
second year of service. Family  
Church continues favorably; seating  
is taxed to capacity at morning ser-  
vice. Thanks to Alan Green, who  
helped with Junior Scripture exam-  
inations. One welcomed by transfer  
and another by faith and baptism.  
Joy and Pauline Boor leaving on ex-  
tended overseas tour.

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Ascot Park (R. H. Sercombe). —  
Meetings returning to normal after  
holiday period; several families still  
away. Two received by transfer Feb.  
10. A good attendance a.m. 17th, and  
two more were received by transfer.  
Two ladies baptised at p.m. meeting.

Hawthorn (R. C. Dixon). — Min-  
ister recovered from illness. On Feb.  
3, congregation witnessed baptism of  
young married couple. On 17th,  
special services held to celebrate Har-  
vest Thanksgiving. Mr. and Mrs.  
Dixon entertained members of Board  
and their wives at social evening held  
at manse on 11th.

Prospect (A. J. Griffiths). — Rep-  
resentatives of auxiliaries met with  
church officers to analyse work and  
make plans for more effective min-  
istry on part of every church mem-  
ber. Increased interest and attend-  
ances have been shown in worship  
services, prayer meetings and youth  
groups. C.W.F. groups have planned  
meetings for next 12 months. Day

group spent day in Botanic Gardens  
in Feb.

Nailsworth (A. M. Norris, B.A.). —  
At an after-church fellowship on  
Feb. 17, good wishes were expressed  
to Malcolm Gaskin, who leaves for  
the College of the Bible to take up  
study. Mention was made of the fine  
work done by the guest over a num-  
ber of years as leader of C.E., prayer  
meeting and, more recently, choir  
master. A present of books was made  
on behalf of the church by Mr.  
Norris.

Naracoorte (E. O. Stevens). — Church  
has received fresh impetus with ar-  
rival of Mr. and Mrs. Stevens and  
family. Services have been well at-  
tended, and a number of visitors  
present. B.S. resumed Feb. 3. C.W.F.  
held opening meeting on 12th, when  
new members were welcomed, and  
Mrs. Stevens was presented with  
spray of flowers. C.Y.F. met first  
time for year on 15th. Happy day  
of fellowship spent at Wyoml Beach,  
16th, on occasion of Men's Fellow-  
ship annual picnic, over 90 members  
gathering.

Grote-st., Adelaide (A. Brown - Int.).  
— Attendances continue to please,  
with increasing membership through  
transfer and baptism. C.W.F. meet-  
ing on 19th had Overseas Committee  
providing programme with slides, etc.,  
of work on Mission fields. Mrs.  
Brealey and Mrs. Illman recovering  
from surgical treatment. Youth work  
continues with much success.

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Inverell. — While church awaits  
arrival of new minister, members of  
Tamworth church have readily as-  
sisted morning services. Messrs. Muir  
and Crawford's addresses were ap-  
preciated. Members of local congrega-  
tion have assisted at evening services.  
Many visitors welcomed over past  
weeks. Teens Fellowship spent after-  
noon blackberrying and swimming at  
Capetan on 16th.

Epping (H. M. Long). — Thanks to  
Dr. J. York, T. Long, J. Henderson,  
C. Cole, G. Marley, L. Lake (Boys'  
Brigade) who addressed services dur-  
ing minister's holidays. Life Boys'  
Team has recommenced under leader-  
ship of Col. Bartrim, Jim Wilson,  
Peter Walker, Jr., Hugh Marshall.  
Minister elected pres. of local Min-  
isters' Fraternity. 22 Y.P. attended  
sing-song at manse after evening ser-  
vice, Feb. 17.



## VICTORIA

**Brunswick** (R. E. Burns). — McCall family have started business in another district; they will be greatly missed. Mr. Dawson is B.S. supt. in place of Max McCall. Mr. and Mrs. Jenkin celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary and friends gathered to wish them well. During minister's absence, Messrs. Marsh, Lowry and Fletcher conducted services. Mr. Rowan still continues to improve in health and is able to attend services. Youth club commenced Sunday Fellowship by going to see improvements at Monbulk Camp. Mrs. Brush back at services.

**Drumcondra** (R. A. Banks). — Visiting preacher occupying pulpit during next few weeks, whilst minister is in hospital, after surgery. Annual meeting of W.M.B. elected pres., Mrs. J. B. Jakobi; sec., Mrs. R. Pearce; treas., Mrs. R. Banks. Meeting received with regret resignation of Miss H. Wiltshire, after 11 years as treas. On Feb. 10, presentation and farewell given to Mr. and Mrs. Flitton, who, with their family, are transferring to Belmont. Members attended combined missionary meeting at Latrobe-terr., when Mr. and Mrs. Smith (New Hebrides) spoke on their work and showed colored slides. G.L.B. held inaugural meeting 12th, with Mrs. Archbold as leader and Miss Sandra Douglas, asst.

**Maidstone** (D. A. V. Thomas). — G. Ogden soleist p.m. service, Feb. 3. C.W.E.F. made gift of hall carpet for manse. Good attendances at services. New Explorer group, "The Midgets," for boys 7-9 years, has been formed. Good Companions now meeting under leadership of Misses B. Boseley and M. Pletzsch.

**Swanston-st., Melbourne** (K. A. Macnaughtan). — Church sympathies with family of H. N. Simpson (church officer) and relatives of Mrs. M. Wright in their passing. Special memorial features introduced into morning services on Feb. 3 and 10. Sympathy also with Mrs. A. Wilson in death of her brother. Mrs. A. H. Hedley, Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Mitchell and others have not been well. Final payment on manse has been made, an excellent property thus being secured in five years. Reports from Ruth and Nell Westcombe indicate they have settled in well into work of Ramabai Mukti Mission, and are filling a real need. One man baptised in Jan., and he, and a lady, received into church fellowship.

**Morwell - Newborough - Traralgon** (L. G. Armstrong). — At first meeting of C.W.F. for year, ladies enjoyed visit of State Pres., Mrs. V.

Stafford, and Mrs. Morrison. All church activities functioning well. B.S. welcomes help of new teachers, Mrs. G. Teese, and D. Shaw (visiting from Gympie, Qld.). Morwell hold prayer and Bible study fellowship on Wed. evenings, and Traralgon groups meet on Thurs. nights. Prayers of church are with Gaye Little, who has undergone surgery at Children's Hospital.

**Swan Hill** (D. G. Beanland). — During minister's vacation pulpit was occupied by W. Cockroft, S. Scott and I. Crowe. B.S. and Good Companions have recommenced with good attendances. Baptismal service conducted on 10th when young man was immersed. C.E. had Missions as their theme for Feb., with special meetings featuring work in India, New Hebrides and New Guinea. B.S. elected Darryl Scott, sec.

**Wattle Park** (L. G. Crisp, L.Th., Dip.R.E.). — Splendid attendances, with many visitors over holiday season. Two baptisms Jan. 27 and two more confessed their faith. Since the Planned Giving Campaign in Oct., av. offering has been £80 per week. Offering on Feb. 3 reached £113. Plans in hand for building of new Primary Dept., and new Manse Fund has been started. Gift of exterior blinds for kitchen at Ashley Hall made by C.W.F. Active membership now stands at 112. Church congratulates minister on completing Diploma of Religious Education.

**Celac** (B. Dowsett). — Church has enjoyed the messages and fellowship of I. Allsop (C.O.B.) for month while preacher was away. On Feb. 10, Mr. and Mrs. Smith (New Hebrides) spent day with church, and Mr. Smith preached and showed slides of their work. Church regrets removal of Mr. and Mrs. J. Clark to Timboon. Mr. Clark has helped with preaching and presiding.

**Ivanhoe** (H. W. Street). — Seminar with W. Lantz (U.S.A.) was so successful that further 12 weeks' course under guidance of Miss B. Bates commenced on Feb. 13. Group Bible study sessions, under H. Street, are proving helpful. Film, *Martyred Men*, screened to large congregation Feb. 17. At after-church fellowship, Mr. and Mrs. A. Reed, and sons Geoff. and Ken., who are removing to Frankston, were honored for their loyal service over many years. Minister conducting special series of addresses on theme, *Men With a Vision*. A. Cook has moved to Horsham to undertake 3 years' course at College of Agriculture. C.W.F. enjoyed luncheon at home of Mrs. N. Fisher on 12th.

**Box Hill** (L. S. Dewberry). — Messages by C. Young enjoyed while minister was on holidays. C.W.A.F. held election of officers on 12th. Pres., Mrs. Dewberry; sec., Mrs. Jeffrey;

treas., Mrs. Clare. Ian Strickland has entered M.B.I. for training. Visitors have included C. G. Taylor (Conf. Pres.), Mr. Smith and Mrs. Potter (Sydney), G. Young (Qld.).

**Malvern**. — Meetings for month have been conducted by F. E. Buckingham and P. Retchford. Soloists, W. Newham, E. Marriott. Visitors, Feb. 10, included Mr. Hopgood and son (N.Z.). Presentation made to Lorraine Winter on approaching marriage. C.M.S. held successful opening meeting. A. Plews appointed sec., and J. Blucher, treas. 34 attended C.W.F., when Mrs. Illingworth gave talk on Japan. Prayer meeting, conducted by F. E. Buckingham, attended by 17.

**Ringwood** (J. E. Brooke). — Preaching appointments during minister's holidays filled by N. Westmore, P. Williams, W. Nankivell and A. Baker. Pledged Giving continues to average approx. £100. Three additions by discipleship and one by transfer. Capacity attendance at clubs' commencement service, p.m. Feb. 17, led by P. Williams, chairman, Dept. Christian Education. C.Y.F. visited by New Hebridean students, Samuel and Japheth, Feb. 15. J.C.E. commenced 17th with 21 members, under leadership of Barry Baker. Church extends congratulations to Rodney Clutterbuck on winning scholarship to Dookie Agricultural College. Plans being made to extend and improve church property. Attendances at services well maintained.

**Yarrawonga** (R. Oke). — B.S. and clubs now meeting in new hall, which is proving a great asset. Fellowship enjoyed with former minister, R. V. Holmes and family. J. Colless undergoing surgery in Heidelberg Hospital. Church saddened at passing of foundation member, A. Chappell.



## *News of British Churches*

**William Mander**, of Leicester, the doyen of Churches of Christ ministers, though he has now retired, celebrated his 80th birthday on Jan. 14 by sitting in the vestry at Evington-rd. church, Leicester, to receive gifts towards the cost of the proposed Home for the Aged.

An anonymous donor had promised to match the gifts received on that day, pound for pound. At the close of the day, Mr. Mander had received no less than £1,626. This was more than matched by a cheque for £1,650, making a total of £3,300. A sum of £3,000 is already in hand, so that Mr. Mander's birthday effort has brought the project appreciably nearer.

Whilst spending a Sabbatical Year at Overdale College, Dr. Oliver R. Whitley, a Professor at Denver, Col-

orado, U.S.A., is making a survey of the problems facing local churches and the social characteristics of their members.

In his New Year message to the churches, the President of Conference, David Black, of Edinburgh, said that "The image of the church needs to be changed from that of a body of people constantly talking, to that of a body of servants and brothers." He called the churches to a deeper involvement in service to the community and a more vital evangelism.

## Painting a Home QUEENSLAND

Queensland entered into the field of ecumenical work camps with the holding of a six-day camp at Kallangur recently.

Arranged by the Queensland Christian Youth Council, the camp was attended by 19 Queenslanders and 3 Victorians — 10 girls and 12 boys. They were members of the Anglican, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches, Churches of Christ and the Society of Friends.

The service project was the exterior painting of the Marsden Home for Boys. The campers, who lived at the home, were assisted by five boys who were residents of the home during the vacation.

The five working days began at 5.45 a.m., with campers taking part in a quiet time at 6.15 a.m., beginning work at 7 a.m. and finishing at 4.30 p.m.

Despite interruptions caused by rain the painting was completed on time.

Evenings were occupied with study programmes and devotions, based on the relevance of the Church to young people.

On a Sunday morning, campers took part in church services in the district. The campers were invited to conduct one of the evening services.

During the camp meals were prepared by the girls, with the assistance of the home matron, Mrs. Ballard.

Camp leader was Geoffrey Campbell, and leader of the girls was Miss Jennifer Kerridge. The work leader, Neville Shield, was assisted by Peter O'Loughlin.—Vaughan Hinton.

## Camp — Belgrave Heights VIC.

There was fellowship and fun in plenty at the Churches of Christ Evangelical Fellowship Christmas Camp at Belgrave Heights. The work and foresight of men of our brotherhood in

the provision of the new men's building and ablution block, complete with hot showers, was very much appreciated by all who attended.

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Muller (Box Hill) acted as Camp Parents, assisted by Frank Ewers (Bentleigh) as Chaplain.

In the beautiful setting of the countryside, we had the privilege and opportunity of listening to gifted Bible speakers at the Belgrave Heights Convention, as they explained the Scriptures, challenging us to a deeper consecration to our Lord and Master.

Our own early morning prayer meetings were hallowed and blessed times, as was the time of communion, when we gathered closer to each other and to him around the table.

After hamburgers and a hike on New Year's Eve, we gathered for a Watch Night service, conscious of the need of the Holy Spirit's power to meet the strains of pressurised everyday living in our own lives, and committing the New Year to Christ our Lord.

Those wishing to attend the Fellowship Camp for the Easter Convention at Belgrave Heights, send notification to secretary — Alan Thomas, 1434 High-st., Malvern, Vic.

★

### GIVING

It is strange, but very true,  
Giving just enriches you.  
If you give a kindly deed,  
If you plant a friendship seed,  
If you share a laugh or song,  
If your giving rights a wrong,  
Then the joy you feel and share  
Makes more goodness everywhere.  
It is strange but very true  
Giving just enriches you.

## WHAT ARE TEENAGERS MADE OF?

(With apologies to the Nursery Rhyme).

Noise in groups, but quietness alone  
Varying amounts of confidence and feelings of inferiority . . .  
Questions about God, religion, the Church . . .  
Daydreams of the future and nightmares of present failures, disillusionment and fears . . .  
Child-like foolishness at one moment and amazing maturity at another . . .  
Fads and fancies, fun and pain . . .  
Idealism about love and marriage, yet some startling mixed-up emotions . . .  
Periods of aggressive good humor and moments of quiet reflection and loneliness . . .

— Christian Advocate.

## Coming Event

THE PATCH (Vic.) CHURCH ANNIVERSARY and TEMPLE DAY, March 3, 1963, 11 a.m., K. A. Jones; 7 p.m., J. E. Brooke. A Special Welcome to Visitors and Past Members.

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of the

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY, Vic.,

on TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1963, at 7.45 p.m. in the  
COLLINS-ST. BAPTIST CHURCH.

★ Chairman: The Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. FRANK WOODS.

★ Guest Speaker: The Bible Society's Territorial Secretary for PAPUA and NEW GUINEA, LEO. BUCKMAN.

★ Musical Programme by the METHODIST YOUTH SINGERS under the direction of Mr. D. PHILLIPS.

Admission Free. Offering for the World-Wide Work of the Society.



**BIRTHS**

**ANDREWS (Wilson).** — On Feb. 12, to Barbara and Phil, a son — Trevor Stanley.

**CONOLE (Hill).** — Jan and Ron happily announce the safe arrival and God's gift of their son — Shayne Ronald, on Feb. 8, 1963, at Wimmera Base Hospital, Vic.

**PARRY.** — Joy and Kelvin happily announce the birth of Gregory and Joanne's little sister, Roslynne Joy, at Port Pirie, S.A. on Jan. 22.

**POLLARD (Joyce).** — To Dorothy and Gordon, at the Warracknabeal District Hospital, on Jan. 26, a son — Glenn Wayne. Brother for Vivienne, Julianne and Debbie.

**MARRIAGE**

**HAWKER - DINNING.** — The marriage of Winsome Faye, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Hawker, Blair-st., Portland, Vic., to Stewart Deane Dinning, "Aldeane," Mundulla, S.A., only son of Mrs. I. E. Gave, and the late Mr. R. A. Dinning, was solemnised at Portland on Feb. 23, at 4 p.m.

**GOLDEN WEDDING**

**FITZGERALD.** — On Wed. Feb. 6, 1963, Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Fitzgerald thankfully celebrated, with their family, the 50th anniversary of their marriage, which was solemnised at Armadale, W.A., by the late H. P. Manning. They were "At Home" to many friends on Sat., Feb. 9, at Glen-ave., Blackwood, S.A., where they are now happily retired.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**MAIDMENT.** — In loving memory of Wilfred, called Home March 1, 1957. A loving husband and father, ever in our thoughts.  
— Inserted by his wife and family.

**WHITE.** — On Feb. 3, 1953, George Morrison, dearly beloved husband of Popsy and loved father of Joe and Roma. "Some day we'll understand."

**TO LET**

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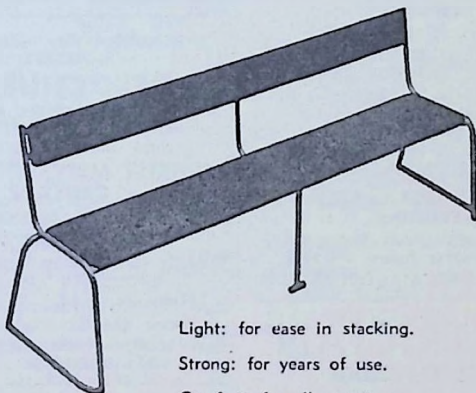
**ENGAGEMENT**

**FRASER - STOW.** — Mr. and Mrs. M. Fraser, 14 South-st., Ipswich, Qld., have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their second daughter, Sandra Jean, to Kevin, third son of Mrs. A. L. Larke, and the late Mr. A. H. Stow, 18 Ferntree Gully-rd., Oakleigh, Vic.

**ENGAGEMENT**

**RACKEMANN - LANAWAY.** — Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Rackemann, 55 Allice-st., Bundaberg, Qld., have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their youngest daughter, Beth, to John Arthur, only son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Lanaway, 48 Cluden-st., Brighton, Vic.

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**OBITUARY**

**Laura Emily Reeves.**

Miss Reeves was called Home, suddenly, on Feb. 1, at the age of 76 years. In 1903 the late T. Hagger held a tent mission at North Fremantle, W.A., and she was one of those who accepted and obeyed Christ. Always struggling against ill-health, she nevertheless maintained a sterling witness of service for her Saviour. She gave of her talents and abilities wherever they could be used for Christ. As North Fremantle did not develop as a residential area, and with the coming of the tramways the church there was closed, members transferred to Fremantle. Here she was an organist, choir member, C.E. leader and a B.S. teacher. In 1916 she came with her mother and sister to Vic., and for a time lived at Bayswater. Moving closer to the city she was organist for the church at Malvern-Caulfield until moving to Surrey Hills, when she became a member of the Balwyn church. Early in her Christian life she tithed and continued to do so even throughout advancing years and partial blindness. She was more than generous to those in need. She had some sad valleys to pass through, as one by one her loved ones were called Home, leaving her without any near relatives. L. Barker, minister of the church at Balwyn, conducted services, and the frail body which had been the temple of the Holy Spirit was laid to rest in the Box Hill Cemetery.—W. J. Thomson.

**Mrs. M. Wright.**

Early on Sunday morning, Feb. 3, Mrs. M. Wright was called Home to be with Christ. Mrs. Wright had celebrated her 88th birthday on last New Year's Day, and passed away on the day on which, eight years before, her husband had died. Originally associated with the North Melbourne (Vic.) church, in which her parents had been foundation members, she and Mr. Wright, with their daughter Lillian and son John (the latter now an officer of the Swans-ton-st. church), transferred to Swans-ton-st. when the North Melbourne church ceased to meet. They were welcomed into fellowship at Swans-ton-st. on Jan. 29, 1939. Their firm yet friendly Christian witness earned the loving respect and esteem of all who knew them. Physical disabilities prevented Mrs. Wright from attending church services for some years prior to her decease. We are grateful to the Lord that, in the last weeks of her life, she did not suffer, and that her passing was gentle and peaceful. The interment took place in the Melbourne General Cemetery on the day following her death. At the morning service at Swanston-st. on the following

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Sunday, when other members of her family, now serving in various suburban churches, also were present, special reference was made to her passing, a favorite hymn ("O for a thousand tongues") was sung, and prayer was offered for the bereaved relatives. We commend them to the care of our Father as they lovingly remember a godly mother whose faith they, and we, may well follow.—  
K. A. Macnaughtan.

William Hodgekiss.  
The church at Gilgandra, N.S.W., has felt a great loss in the Home call of its secretary, William Hodgekiss. Through many years his one aim was to live and work for the honor of his Lord. This was expressed in various ways, including President of the Gilgandra Hospital Board and President of the Parents' and Citizens' Association of the Gilgandra High School. Our brother worked in the church as an elder and secretary, and in the B.S. as teacher and supt. He was keenly interested in the mission of the church at home and overseas, and helped personally in the work among the Aboriginal people. The town of Gilgandra showed its respect by a large assembly at the funeral conducted by the writer from the chapel which Mr. Hodgekiss had lavishly furnished with flowers every week for many years. Mrs. Hodgekiss, Alan and Neil (minister, Sunshine, Vic.) have a great sense of joy in the knowledge that their loved one, being with his Lord, is at rest.—  
Noel Flint.

## WANGARATTA FOR CHRIST CRUSADE,

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Under leadership of D. G. Willis.

Wangaratta Church of Christ invites the Australian brotherhood to be Prayer Partners.

Please write for current news to  
A. E. Stevens, 25 Rowan-st., Wangaratta, Vic.

COME EARLY for the . . .

## N.S.W. BIBLE COLLEGE 21st BIRTHDAY

Thanksgiving Rally  
Friday, March 1, 8 p.m.,  
ENMORE TABERNACLE.

Speaker:

H. J. PATTERSON, M.A.  
Special Items and Greetings.

Thankoffering for  
New Library Building.  
1963 Official Opening  
Service, Sat., March 2, at  
Woolwich, 3 p.m.

## Department of Social Service

(The Church in Action).

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

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SOCIAL SERVICE is the hands and feet of the church, functioning according to the measure of support it receives.

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Information from the Secretary.  
32 - 2447.

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