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The Story of Dhond

Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

The Story of Dhond Hospital

Dr. R. Williams.

In 1927 our medical work at Dhond was commenced by Dr. Oldfield in a garage. Two years later the present outpatients' block, including theatre, of the Ashwood Memorial Hospital was opened, and this was followed by the present ward block (Grace Edwards). Dr. Lindsay Michael joined the work in 1938, but was called up during the war. After Dr. Oldfield left in January 1947, Dr. Michael carried on as Superintendent. During the war our medical work was growing quickly, and this continued afterwards during the first few years of Indian Independence and the subsequent unrest. For a time after Partition there was a Sindhi refugee camp established in Dhond, which held up to 12,000 refugees from the north, many of whom were among those who swelled the numbers of patients attending the AMH. Our highest numbers were reached in the year 1950, when there were nearly 37,000 outpatient attendances (over 100 per day), 1500 inpatients (average stay 6.4 days), 327 confinements and 534 operations. Since then the number of patients has declined and at present is fairly stable, showing a slight increase in recent years. In 1962 there were 15,440 outpatient attendances, 1,169 inpatients (average stay 5 days), 206 confinements and 156 operations. The reasons for the decline included the closing of the refugee camp, the entry of several doctors into private practice in Dhond, and, in the past 3 or 4 years, the establishment of a railway hospital which gives free O.P. treatment to

railway employees, while their mid-wifery cases are given free food and treatment. Also, recently the municipal hospital in Dhond has been greatly enlarged. It also gives free treatment and food. (Dhond is an important railway junction with large locomotive repair workshops; hence the railway is a major factor in Dhond's life. There are 27 different rail tracks and engines can be heard for 24 hours a day.) On the other hand, we do not supply food to our inpatients; this is the responsibility of the patients' relatives and this perhaps may deflect some patients elsewhere. Dr. Michael's departure in 1955 was greatly regretted; he



Dr. G. H. Oldfield,
Pioneer Australian Doctor at Dhond.

was beloved of all who came into contact with him, and the Indian people recognised him as a man of God.

Dr. Crowley came as Superintendent in 1957. He brought our X-ray plant into operation and this is a big asset, as it is the only plant for 40 miles around. Unfortunately, he had to leave for health reasons about Christmas 1959.



Dr. Patil,
as Melbourne World Convention
Visitors Remember Him in 1952.

The hospital has been served by a number of Indian doctors, the most note-worthy, of course, being Dr. Patil, who has faithfully worked here for over 30 years, and has carried on as acting Superintendent on many occasions. Among the many other Indian doctors who have served here is Dr. R. Parkhe, who came from our Baramati Boys' Home and was supported by Mrs. Vawser during his education. He served here in 1951, and since has taken a higher surgical degree and is now a busy surgeon in Poona and an honorary surgeon at its large public hospital. Recently he was offered an assistant professorship in surgery at Miraj Medical College, which he has declined.

A very faithful member of the staff is Prabakhar Sansare, who triples as (pharmacist) compounder, laboratory technician and anaesthetist, and has served here for 28 years. One of his sons is at present doing a laboratory technician's course, and will join our work in August.

Dhond is growing, now 23,000 (6,000 in 1927), and the hospital has built up a record of a high standard of service, so that many patients still prefer to come here and pay (as they are able). However, we must reach out. The arrival recently of a new mobile dispensary should enable us to extend Christ's ministry of health (continued on p. 162)

ing of the whole man into the adjacent district more fully. This is not a new concept; Dr. Oldfield, in a report to the International Missionary Council, 1957, mentioned the possibilities of such work, and Drs. Michael and Crowley did medico evangelistic village work. However, we hope that the arrival of Dr. Thomas will enable us to make regular weekly visits into the villages about and thereby facilitate the entry of the gospel into these places.

For over 20 years there have been plans to build more ward blocks, a maternity and children's blocks being envisaged. Soon we hope to have a bathroom and toilet block built. Another general ward block would be very useful, certain parts of which could be set apart for maternity, children's or surgical cases, as the

present block is grossly over-crowded during busy periods. I have been impressed by the prevalence of T.B. here, and feel that we could set up a work here for the sufferers of this disease. Not only will it fill a need but give us an opportunity, as the treatment is necessarily prolonged and our Bible women and staff have a better chance to reach them with the gospel. However, this work and village tours are expensive, and would not be self-supporting as the general hospital at present virtually is. A great advantage in this type of work would be an X-ray camera, of the type used for chest surveys in Australia.

We need your prayers and interest in our work at Dhond, and pray that in our service here we all may follow truly in the footsteps of him who went about doing good.



Dr. and Mrs. Williams and family.

Inter-Church Aid Builds New Lives

Li is a 12-years-old Korean boy. His parents are poor, but poverty is not going to stop him from leading a normal and useful life. What could stop him from doing so — what could, in fact, force him to become a derelict, rejected by the society in which he lives — is the fact that he has only one arm.

The loss of a limb is a handicap for a youngster in any nation. In Korea, the opportunities for obtaining artificial limbs and for training amputees to live a normal, useful and full life are very limited.

But the outlook for Li's future is no longer dark. And the ray of hope that shines on him today is a light that comes from the churches in many parts of the world, including Australia.

As a result of gifts received already this year from Australian churches, the Australian Council of Churches' Inter-Church Aid division has been able to contribute towards an amputee rehabilitation centre in Korea.

The centre will fit artificial limbs, train young and old in their use and give guidance in vocational training.

In addition, new facilities are being provided to train medical, social welfare and psychology students in the methods and purposes of good amputee rehabilitation practice.

Support for the Korean Amputee Rehabilitation Centre, which is operated by Korean Church World Service, is but one of 54 Inter-Church Aid operations receiving backing from Australians in 1963.—A.C.C. Information.

Fifty Years Ago

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

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

Building Bought at Launceston. — The Launceston church has bought the building which was formerly used by the Catholic Apostolic Church for £800. It is a fine looking building, with plenty of ground, and is situated in a good part of the town. It is a vast improvement on the old meeting place. The church itself will raise about £200 towards the payment; the remaining amount will be arranged for.

Tract Scheme, W.A. — A forward movement in the distribution of tracts has been inaugurated by the brethren in W.A. From a leaflet headed "Tract Scheme," we learn that "a company of brethren and sisters are financing the delivery of 10,000 tracts per month. The tracts will be carefully chosen, accurately checked, and suitable for all kinds of distribution." This is a movement in the right direction, and might well be followed by other States. If we want to make headway we must distribute our literature.

From Here and There. — Len Gole wires the following from Queensland: "A most successful Conference, optimistic, progressive and uplifting." . . . T. J. Gore was 74 years' old last Lord's Day. There were good meetings at Henley Beach, S.A., where the church is making fine progress under his care . . . W. A. Strongman has resigned his work on the Tweed, N.S.W., and will assist the Harward mission at Lilyville during April . . . The leader of song in the Victorian Conference gatherings was Nat Haddow, of the Lygon-st. church. He has rendered good service in this direction for many years. A word of praise is also due to S. H. Pittman for his services as organist . . . While in all the other States Conferences were being held on the 21st, brethren in Adelaide were assembled in an all-day meeting for "the deepening of the spiritual life" in Grote-st. chapel. The theme for the day was "A Restoration of New Testament Religion," and the motto, "Back to Christ."

Report on Victorian Conference. — All the meetings of the Victorian Conference were well attended. Indeed, at some of the meetings numbers had to be turned away. Even the Masonic Hall, which holds about 1,600 people, was not sufficiently commodious to hold all that came to the Home Mission demonstration on Friday night. It has been abundantly demonstrated that even for our business sessions the Lygon-st. chapel is not large enough. A motion was therefore carried that a larger building be secured next year, more particularly for the Friday's sessions.

Conference of Christian Renewal

The S.A. Council of Churches called a public meeting in 1961, attended by representatives of all the major communions in S.A., when a special Conference Committee was elected and charged with the responsibility of organising a Conference of Churches in S.A. as soon as practicable. This vision became a glorious reality when 130 delegates, appointed by the various communions, gathered for Bible study, prayer, thought, planning and fellowship in the Conference of Christian Renewal — S.A.'s first comprehensive Conference of Church delegates.

Church affiliation of the delegates included 34 Methodists, 24 Anglicans, 21 Presbyterians, 21 Churches of Christ, 16 Congregationalists, 3 Salvationists, 2 Lutherans (U.E.L.C.A. and E.L.C.A.), 1 Baptist, 1 Greek Orthodox, 1 Society of Friends and 2 from Y.W.C.A. The Conference was well balanced in that 55 of the delegates were ministers and 70 were laymen. The women of the Churches were well represented with 37 delegates, and a good overall balance of age, middle-age and youth was maintained in the total number of the Conference.

It may well be asked did the Conference achieve anything? In answer we may state that it was a real achievement to gather officially appointed Church delegates for study and prayer on the mission of the Church in the world today. A genuine sorrow for the divisions of the Church, and a sense of urgency to overcome the barriers now separating Christians, was manifest at the Conference.

During the Conference it became evident that deep differences exist in the doctrine and practice of the Lord's Supper, baptism, and the ministry. Regional Committees are being set up to promote Bible study on these diverse questions, seeking the Holy Spirit's guidance. It was stated at the Conference that the next move forward will have to come from ordinary members, as the theologians of Adelaide had gone as far as they could on these divisive issues.

Bible Studies. — The Conference spent two hours daily studying the Epistle to the Ephesians. Prof. J. Peter, A.B.C. Federal Director of Religious Broadcasts, graphically introduced a chapter each day, and then the Conference divided into 12 study groups for discussion. Denominational barriers melted away as the delegates frankly shared with each other. The Bible study was one of the highlights of the Conference.

Public Meetings. — The four public meetings in St. Peter's Cathedral, Brougham Place Congregational

North Adelaide, Jan. 20-28, 1963

church and the Adelaide Town Hall were well supported by the public, and were a feast of inspiring preaching by Stuart Jackman, of New Zealand, and Paul Verghese, an associate General Secretary of the W.C.C. Mr. Jackman challenged us to tackle the problem of communicating the gospel with an unheeding complacent world. He also urged us to truly listen to one another, to the world and to God, so that we may present a relevant, cohesive gospel. Because man puts his trust in Governments, the Church has a unique and necessary function in meeting man's deepest needs through compassion, love and forgiveness. Paul Verghese clearly demonstrated to us that before we can talk creatively about the witness, service and unity of the Church we must humbly seek renewal by offering ourselves, body as well as spirit, completely to God, so that we may be transformed by the renewing of our minds. Only as we allow ourselves to be transformed in the power of the Holy Spirit can we prove the will of God in unity, witness and service.

Commissions. The Conference divided into four Commissions —

The Church and Society — urban, rural and satellite towns.

The Church and Politics — majoring on peace and war and immigration.

The Church and Education — majoring on religious instruction in schools.

The Church and Unity — majoring on inter-communion and New Delhi unity statement.

Introductory addresses for the four Commissions were given to the full Conference by Mr. Ramsay, General Manager of the Housing Trust (Society); Stuart Jackman (Politics and Unity); C. D. Fisher, Headmaster of Scotch College (Education). Each Commission divided into several groups to study particular aspects of the main subject. After many hours of detailed study, reports and recommendations were brought to the full Commission, where they were debated and recommendations agreed on to submit to the plenary sessions of Conference. The following resolutions were among those carried at the plenary sessions of Conference:

Commission 1 (Church and Society).

That all churches be urged to co-operate in the establishment of a centre for the training of the whole Church, with special emphasis on the ministry of Christian laymen in such specialised areas as communications, migrants, youth, the professions, workers in industry, commerce,

rural life and patterns of leisure. We urge the South Australian Council of Churches, in consultation with Australian Frontier, to take appropriate action at an early date.

Commission 2 (Church and Politics).

Believing that war is contrary to the mind of Christ and that everything possible should be done to remove those things that make for war, the Conference agreed:

1. That Christians should openly declare that nuclear weapons should never be used.

2. That Christian should make every effort to prevent further development of nuclear weapons, nuclear testing and stockpiling.

Dealing with immigration, the Conference resolved that there is no basis in fact for believing that one race is superior or inferior to another, and that the Christian gospel recognises the equality of all men before God. Therefore this Conference urges the Commonwealth Government to revise without delay the present immigration policy in accord with these principles.

Dr. Crowley moved from the floor of Conference that this Conference asks the Australian Council of Churches to urge the Federal Government to contribute to the U.N. Special Fund, even if this requires increased taxation. The U.N. Special Fund was set up at the request of under-developed countries to help meet their expansion programmes without the crippling burden of interest repayments. This motion was carried.

Commission 3 (Church and Education).

That the S.A.C.C. inquire into the possibility of establishing an ecumenical chaplaincy in the university.

That the S.A.C.C. organise periodic ecumenical Consultations on the responsibility of the Christian teacher.

Commission 4 (Church and Unity).

That we request the S.A.C.C. to invite the Churches to set up working groups to consider the nature of the ministry and the practice and meaning of baptism. The Conference also recommended that the S.A.C.C. encourage Churches to engage in united Bible study, prayer, discussion groups, fellowship and action.

In concluding, we rejoice in the privilege of sharing in such a Conference. The fellowship with our brethren and sisters of the other Churches was rich and sweet, both in the University Colleges where we lived, and around the Conference table. It was a thrilling experience to see so much agreement achieved, but an equally humbling experience to come up against apparently insuperable barriers like the ministry,

(cont. ft. col. 1, p. 164)

Bethany (Tas.) Changes Its Name

Bethany Boys' Home at Lindisfarne, Tas., will in future be known as Bethany Children's Home. This follows the adoption by Conference of two policy statements concerning Bethany.

The brotherhood policy during the fifteen years of the life of Bethany has been to provide a Christian home for boys. Those directly concerned with Bethany over the years have sought to interpret the ideals of the brotherhood in a practical way. Efforts have been made to give a maximum of love and care for the individual child, and a minimum of the disadvantages of institutional life.

Girls As Well As Boys

In keeping with the brotherhood ideal, Conference has decided on the extension of the policy of the Home to care for girls as well as boys. Children come to special Homes from families, and families come with both girls and boys! It is tragic enough that children lose the comfort and security of their natural home. Often it is a further tragedy that boys and girls are separated from their brothers and sisters.

With this new policy, new problems will arise at Bethany. Some of these are facilities, clothes and new domestic situations. At present there is one vacancy, and however desirable it may be for boys to have a sister, one wouldn't inflict fourteen brothers on one girl! This single vacancy will thus be filled with a boy. For the time being, therefore, and perhaps for some years, it is likely that the only change will be in name.

"Temporary" Children As Well As "Permanent"

A second statement of policy by Conference provides that children in

baptism and the Lord's Supper. It is only as we can humbly and lovingly listen to the guidance of the Holy Spirit and our other brethren in Christ that the way forward will open up. We pray that we shall have the courage to obey and follow the Spirit's promptings.

Churches of Christ were fortunate in having a strong delegation who adequately shared the brotherhood's convictions. By our prayers and thoughtful interest and support we can share in realising the goals and hopes of this Conference which will make it a significant step toward the realisation of Christ's will that "they may all be one."—S. Neighbour, Chairman; R. H. Sercombe, Secretary.

1963 TASMANIAN DISTRICT CONFERENCE — BETHANY CHILDREN'S HOME. Malcolm Davis.

need of a home for a short term should be received. Such needs arise because of broken homes where there is a possibility of reconciliation, or because of parents who are ill, or where one has died, and so on. Children from these circumstances have been helped in the past and have left Bethany after a year or two. A clear statement of this, however, means that welfare agencies in the State can be informed accordingly. Vacancies at Bethany can thus be used, making for worthwhile service to the children as well as economic advantages to Bethany.



First "Bethany" Boy Baptised
when Home at Dover, Tas.

In incorporating these new policy aspects into the running at Bethany, as always, due consideration will be given to the circumstances of the Home and the children. For example, a few "permanent" boys might experience adverse feelings of insecurity if too many "temporary" children were coming and going. At such a time admission of a family group of boys and girls might be desirable.

These changes in policy represent the possibility of wider and more effective service among needy children. As well, a heritage of high ideals in practical expression of Christianity is maintained.

"Friends of Bethany"

A new scheme of financing the running of Bethany was announced at Conference. This scheme is called, "Friends of Bethany." It provides for the keeping of a list of subscribers who voluntarily undertake to give an amount of money each year towards the running of Bethany.

It is considered that "Friends of Bethany" will include the many friends which Bethany has already, and who give both directly and through churches. It is hoped to enlist also a considerable number who are sympathetic to the work at Bethany and who would willingly give practical support if invited to do so.

The scheme is being implemented through printed publicity and personal promotion by committee members, staff or agents. It is hoped that "Friends of Bethany" will introduce new "Friends." The scheme is seen as a means of eventually overcoming the present budgeting and operational difficulties due to indefinite finance. As enough regular supporters are enlisted, the present Social Service offering from the churches will become available for other projects.

Anyone who has a special interest in Bethany, or who would like to become a "Friend of Bethany," or who would like further information is encouraged to write to the secretary (see advertisement in next issue).

Finance for Completing Capital Development

An ambitious target of £3,000 in 1963 was adopted by Conference. Completion of the building modifications and the provision of a new vehicle are to be provided by the £3,000. Government assistance in the building and taxation concession on the vehicle, it is anticipated, will be worth a further £1,800.

The Conference in Hobart has set the work at Bethany on to its final stages of development. With the attainment of the target of £3,000 during 1963, the planned developmental work could be completed during 1964.

A wonderful spirit of Christian service prevails. Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Morfaw and Mrs. M. Pearson are in full-time service, and are making a magnificent contribution.

This work is commended to the brotherhood as an excellent piece of practical Christianity worthy of your prayerful and practical support. As well as providing love and care for those in need, it is a witness for Christ and the Church.

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In recognition of A. F. Williams' twelve years' service to the church at Kaniva, Vic., as secretary, the church tendered a tea and social evening to Mr. and Mrs. Williams prior to their departure to America for seven months.

CHARLES DOW, Australian minister now in U.S.A. for further studies, surveys . . .

"These Past Fifteen Months"

November 29, 1961, was a very emotional day in the lives of the Dow family. Aboard the S.S. Orsova, we sailed out into the darkness from Port Melbourne, leaving behind many wonderful friends who had contributed so much to our lives. My native bagpipes blurted out the tune, "Will Ye No Come Back Again" as we left, and as we still feel, we wanted to cry out, "Yes! Of course we will." It was through misty eyes that we saw the lights of home disappear over the horizon as we made our way down towards the Port Phillip Heads.

American Church Life

After a very interesting and largely calm trip across the Pacific, visiting such places as New Zealand, Suva, Honolulu, Vancouver and San Francisco, we finally arrived at Long Beach, where we had to disembark. My wife felt like kissing the ground as, whilst she was not sick, she often commented she was not well! We went from Los Angeles to El Paso by train, and were greeted by Mrs. Hilda Williams, formerly of Australia. After a hug and a kiss, Auntie said, "Charles just keep talking, I want to hear that Australian accent." She is still very much an Australian and would like to be home, only that her family are integrated in the American life. We spent a fortnight (they don't know this term) with this wonderful Christian woman, but like all good things it had to come to an end. Whilst there I preached in the Methodist Church, which had a membership of 1,500. I was told the minister received 15,000 dollars a year. The American people in the bigger churches pay very well, and the minister has far greater status than his counterpart at home in Australia.

We were so eager to get on with our self-imposed assignment that we left a day too soon. As we passed through the North of Texas we ran into a snow blizzard, which was our first experience of a snow-storm. We arrived at Steubenville, one of the large steel centres of America, with the temperature at 6 degrees below zero. It was so cold that Peter and Robyn cried with the burning sensation on their faces. But soon we drove (with the Chairman of the Elders' Board) the 20 miles to Smithfield, where we were to live and work for the next 18 months. We were greeted by a large serving of ham and eggs, which had a flavor of welcome, and soon we were made to feel very much at home. The Christian

Faith is the greatest passport to friendship that we can possess, and no matter where we went we were always received as though we belonged — and surely we all do when we are proud to belong to the Family of God.

Smithfield is a small town of 1,200 people. It has been a centre of coal mining and now houses people who work at the nearby steel mills. The town itself could be anywhere across the face of the Western World. It has its longs and thins, broad and stout, just as we have at home.

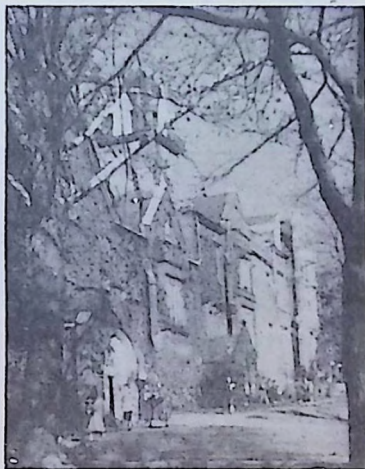
around 5,000-6,000 dollars, but you must realise the cost of living is vastly different. I don't think the minister is any better off than the minister at home who gets £25. But in the larger churches, as I said before, you get much more. The ministers generally are well trained in structure, but theologically I am sure they are not ahead of the average minister at home, save those who go on and do their Master's or Ph.D. degree, which more do than at home. They are encouraged to do this, with aid.

Jean and I had to learn a very real lesson early in our stay. It is so easy as a foreigner to judge people from your past experience. We learnt to accept them for what they are, and when we did this we found the American people to be generous folk, most concerned that you should like America. They are proud of their people and their nation. In fact, many fail to understand why we should want to return home to Australia. But on this we are still very determined, once I complete my academic studies and save enough to return.

Bethany College

It is difficult to express just how I felt the first day I went to Bethany College. It is a beautiful campus, and there is a quiet efficiency which permeates not only the administration office but also the lecture rooms. After sitting under numerous professors one is soon made aware that truth is a sacred path for us to tread. There are times when one is called upon to leave the inadequacies of the past behind. To go into the Campbell Mansion and see the bed where Alexander Campbell slept, and to look within the octagonal study, with its windows of clarestory style, was memorable. Campbell saw this as a symbol that he might receive light from above. As we looked at material mementoes of the Campbells, I was sharply reminded of lectures at Glen Iris in Restoration Studies. I wished I had paid attention more, and the experience might have been richer still. In fact, it drove me back to re-read the wonderful story of how God caressed the fertile mind of Alexander Campbell, who had few peers. The whole experience was a wonderful thrill that needed to be felt rather than explained.

Dr. Geoff. Whiting and his family came to see us before their departure home. Geoff. was keen to visit God's Acre, where the Campbell family



Bethany College, Virginia, U.S.A.

Church life in America is similar in many ways to what we know at home. In Australia we seem to labor under the wrong impression that all the churches are large, and have big congregations. Most are in the 200 to 400 bracket, except in larger cities where they feel it is better to have a bigger group and not become over-capitalised, and so are able to give to others more than many of our smaller churches can, engaged in a battle for survival owing to the smallness of many of our congregations. The general attitude towards church by many is disconcerting. They see it in the same way as a club. They say, "So and so sent her or his dues along." But like all situations you find a hard core of people who want to serve their Lord in the best way possible. Most ministers get paid

are buried. Campbell's grandson was buried there this past month. Marge, Geoff., Jean and myself felt something of the heritage which is ours, as we stood at the foot of the grave of Thomas and his brilliant son. I tried to imagine what they would say to us today. Our world and the church scene are so different from their place in history, that I am sure he would call us to heed the leading of "the Spirit," and be obedient to the purpose that called us into being. The need for a united Church is just as valid as in the days when they trod this earth. We said goodbye to the Whittings, who were on their way to see the tall skyscrapers of New York before they returned to the West Coast and to work at Hartwell, Victoria. It was with heavy hearts that we said goodbye, but we looked forward to the day when we had completed what we had come to do, so that, we, too, might return home to serve in the life of the brotherhood.

Experiences and Hopes

Since coming we have had many strange things said to us. Once when I preached at a large church in the south, a woman came up to me and said, "That was really wonderful. I didn't understand a word you said,

but I just love your accent." Another woman in a store asked when we learned to speak English. We were quick to remind her that we had been speaking English since our country's inception. I gave a political science lecture at Bethany, and was asked by a supposedly intelligent American, "Are the people of Australia like those in the play, *Summer of the Seventeenth Doll*?" It has been a pleasure to be able to show slides of Australia, and tell many of the Australian way of life. Our overseas publicity needs to be lifted, not only for economic reasons but also so that our culture can enrich the rest of the world.

It has been a thrill to travel across America and see the wonderful beauty of the country. It has been a thrill also to be in communities where the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ) are wielding a strong influence. It is hard for most Australians to understand that, in America, men of the Disciple tradition are large enough and strong enough to make a real contribution to the life of the country. The Vice-President, Lyndon Johnson, is a member of our City Church in Washington, where Dr. George Davis is the minister. Dr. Davis is a wonderful preacher, and at a ministers'

workshop he gave one of the finest addresses I have ever heard.

On June 9, I plan to graduate at Bethany, after completing my B.A. degree, which I commenced in Western Australia. At present I am negotiating to go to Indianapolis to Butler University to work on my Master's Degree, majoring in Church History and Disciples' contribution to the Modern Ecumenical Movement. When this work is completed, and the necessary money is available, it is our hope and prayer that we shall be able to come home and share in the task of reconciliation. I am often reminded of Harry Daniels, that wonderful Indian Christian leader, who said, "Our task is of one beggar telling another where to find food."

We have enjoyed the experience very much, and feel that out of it all we shall be better fitted to serve and minister within the life of the Church. There have been disappointments, but we had those at home as well. But the realisation that the gospel is supra-national is adequate compensation for any sacrifices the experience has involved. Jean, Peter, Robyn and I wish our Australian brotherhood God's richest blessing in the days that are ahead.

"I Have No Room"

Ira A. Paternoster.

One of the most telling stories of Jesus is recorded in Luke's Gospel, chapter 12. It was told after a man had come asking Jesus to speak to his brother that he divide the inheritance with him.

In the story of the rich man whose ground brought forth in abundance, the most tragic part of his thinking is evidenced in the words found in verse 17, "I have no room." In this is seen the failure of his whole life. His barns were bursting at their sides where he had been hoarding for a future time instead of passing on to others the fruit of his labors. He had a blueprint for the future — a future he was not to see. How selfish we can become in life until the time comes when we "have no room" for those finer qualities of life that are the source of all real living. It is only as we look beyond self that we find the real joy of service. The man who received only one talent lost all because he lived for self. He had no real interest in his master's good, so he buried his talent in the ground. Looking only to the safety of himself he failed entirely.

This man lacked a real incentive for life. He could not see beyond his present advantage. His conception of his soul's need was a perverted

one. When he said, "I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink and be merry," he reckoned without the Master of his soul. No man can successfully make anything of his life who fails to take God into account. God is not mocked, for what a man sows he reaps, and the more spendthrift he sows the greater the harvest, whether of life unto life or death unto death.

I have been reading recently the history of God's people as recorded in the books of the Kings and Chronicles, and have become impressed again that with God "them that honor me I will honor, and them that despise me I will lightly esteem." Of King after King it is revealed that as soon as they neglected the service of God, calamity overtook them. We can argue against this as much as we like, but it is as true today as in those Old Testament stories. "He is the same yesterday, today and forever" is a truth we do well to ponder, and not to leave it until we have to hear the words, "Thou fool, this night is thy soul required of thee."

Thomas Yates in his book, *The Strategies of Grace*, in writing of this rich man says, "In physics a vacuum is another name for a crushing pres-

sure from without and nothing within to meet and resist. This man had allowed the pressure of outward things to grow, and there was no inner life of the spirit to resist the pressure. Nature abhors a vacuum. So does God, of this kind, and one night the self-complacent man went where the pressure of the temporal is felt no more. He went to learn in eternity that which he had not known in time, that he was a self-made pauper, that life had a thousand meanings which had not dawned upon his intelligence, a thousand melodies, and not one of them had he heard, charged to the full with significances he had never perceived, enriched with wealth he had wholly missed. It is a story of nemesis — the nemesis of the self-centred."

Jesus urges us to "seek the Kingdom of God; and all these things will be added unto you." Such a search is a never-ending one and will fill our best moments with unspeakable joy. We will never be found deploring the fact that we have no room!

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W. A. Russell has advised the church at Beverley, S.A., that he wishes to relinquish the full-time ministry at the close of his second term of service. This will take effect in January, 1964, when he will have served 41 years with South Australian churches. M. T. Lawrie has accepted the call to minister to the church for a term of three years, commencing Feb., 1964.

Choral Societies "Get Together"

The Victorian Churches of Christ Choral Society journeyed to Adelaide, for the weekend of March 8-11, at the invitation of the South Australian Churches of Christ Choral Association, to present a combined Choral Concert in the Adelaide Town Hall, on the evening of the 9th. Much preparatory work had been done by the S.A. Conference Sec., I. J. Chivell, and W. Watson, choral conductor, to ensure the success of the first "get-together" of the two choirs.

An audience of over 800 was very enthusiastic of the sacred concert and cantata, Abraham, which is a composition of Valentine Woff, the Victorian conductor. The choir numbered 110, and they performed under the leadership of W. Watson, V. Woff and McA. Woff. The solo work was shared by Adelaide and Melbourne singers. D. Hele, organist, and A. Anderson, pianist, were accompanists.

Victorian members assisted in the Sunday morning service at Grote-st., and a combined choir provided effective singing. The visitors were guests of Adelaide church members and are appreciative of the splendid hospitality arranged for them. A tour of the Christian Guest Homes and Longwood Youth Camp was enjoyed on the Sunday afternoon prior to the visitors entraining for Melbourne that evening.

It is hoped that the choirs will make the event a bi-annual one, and Melbourne will have opportunity to welcome the South Australian group during 1965.

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Friendships are Sacred

We should never let a friend go out of our lives. If misunderstandings arise, let them quickly be set right. Friendship is too rare and sacred a treasure to be thrown away lightly . . . Yet, many people are not careful to retain friends.

Some lose them through inattention, failing to maintain those little amenities, courtesies and kindnesses which cost so little — hooks of steel to grapple and hold our friends . . .

Some drop old friends for new ones. Some take offence easily at imagined slights, and ruthlessly cut the most sacred ties. Some become impatient of little faults, and discard even truest friendships. Some are incapable of deep and permanent affection, and fly from friendship to friendship.

When we have once taken friends into our lives, we should cherish them.

—Author Unknown.

QUESTING

A. E. White.

My unmarried brother is deliberately hostile to the Christian message. He declares that if he observes the law, does an occasional good deed, and is kind to animals, he will be all right. How can I impress on him the need to be born again, and get through his hostility to the gospel?

When we find the good that is in Christ and his Church, it is natural for us to seek to share that good with other members of our family and with our friends.

However, we seem to have least success with those nearest to us. I have several books on evangelism and not one of them has anything to say about winning members of one's own family. Perhaps the authors take it for granted that Christians have already influenced their husbands, wives, sons, daughters, brothers and sisters, and that they are Christian. If the authors assume this, they take too much for granted.

Of course, it can and does happen that Christians win their own families. But not always. In some ways, we seem to be unfitted for witnessing to those closest to us. I do not know the reason. It may be because we care so much and try too hard.

Then, again, perhaps our methods are inappropriate. I have known cases where church folk have embarrassed their families and their friends by talking too much, too often. There is a persistence which irritates rather than captivates. We must speak, and many fail to say the words that should be said. But there is also a time for silence. Speaking is not the only way of witnessing.

Your letter suggests that, in conversation with your brother, a discussion on the problems of the world causes him to decry the Christian faith. Maybe, your brother has a conscience about God that makes him take an attacking defensive role with very little provocation.

But you have probably done quite enough talking about religion, and most of us learn that we very seldom win folk to Christ by argument. You may think that you have failed in your efforts. Well, accept this. Not even Jesus could bring everyone into the Kingdom. Surrender your failure and stop witnessing to your brother as an evangelist. But keep on being brotherly and God may yet find a way to change the failure into a victory.

Next Week: Suggestions for a church library.

(Send Questions to the Editor.)

Musings

A Conference President's Week.

SUN., MARCH 10. — An informal Presidential visit to Ringwood this morning turned out to be well timed, with Principal Williams giving the first talk in a brotherhood series, answering the question, *Why Churches Of Christ?* Tonight I was at Brighton to hear Miss Lorna Ford, U.F.M. missionary-elect for New Guinea. I felt as any minister feels when he sees someone he baptised going on to full-time Christian service. It was fitting that two girls should make their decision in a service like this tonight.

MON., MARCH 11. — Today's Labor Day holiday gave us a chance as a family to visit friends for the kind of relaxing day in which no one worried about time — or anything else!

TUES., MARCH 12. — Tonight I was present as a guest at the annual dinner of the Churches of Christ University Association, held at the Melbourne University. It came as a surprise to me to learn during the night that the Association has been in existence since 1920. Its aim this year is to raise £100 towards chaplaincy work at Melbourne's second University, Monash.

WED., MARCH 13. — The A.C. has had its budget problems over the years, but it hasn't yet come to the point of publishing an appeal quite as moving as this one in the *Port Phillip Gazette*, one of Australia's early newspapers: "It is no use to honey the matter — payments must be made at least once a quarter, or else I shall run down to heel. Everyone says how well the paper is getting on, when the fact is that I have not enough money to buy myself a shirt or a pair of breeches. My wife is now actively engaged in turning an old pair wrong side out. Come, come, pay up friends. Keep peace in the family and enable me to wear my breeches out.—The Editor."

THURS., MARCH 14. — A record short meeting happily marked my last time in the Presidential chair at our Conference Officers' session tonight.

FRI., MARCH 15. — Thinking of a remark made to me last night that some old-time writers hit out straight from the shoulder, I'm reminded of what Augustus Toplady (author of "Rock of Ages") said about John Wesley: "Wesley is guilty of Satanic shamelessness, of acting the ignoble part of a lurking, sly assassin." To which Wesley retorted, "I do not fight with chimney sweeps." Who wants to revive those "good old days"?

SAT., MARCH 16. — This afternoon I spoke at the official opening of Pascoe Vale's new building — my last such task as President.

HERE AND THERE

Members of Vic-Tas churches are urged by the Conference Executive to make constant prayer-preparation for the 1963 Annual Conference, to be held from Sunday, March 31, to Sunday, April 7, by including it in private devotions, public prayers and church prayer meetings. This intercession, together with loyal and unstinted participation in the various Conference sessions by the largest possible numbers, will help to make Conference effective in advancing the Kingdom business, rich in fellowship, strong in unifying influence, and replete with inspirational power.

The former Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Fisher of Lambeth, has accepted the invitation to serve as President of the British and Foreign Bible Society, London.

Cyril Minns, of Berwick, Vic., with his guide dog, Andy, has proved a most interesting speaker at a number of church functions in recent months. He recently visited Portland for its B.S. anniversary P.S.A. on March 3, when an audience of 217 greatly appreciated his presentation, and the demonstration on the techniques of a guide dog later given by Mr. Minns and Andy on the lawn near the chapel. At the C.M.S. monthly tea on the same evening, 23 men enjoyed his talk on "Obtaining and Training a Guide Dog." The P.S.A. offering of £26/15/- was given to the Blind Institute and Guide-Dog Training Centre. A. C. Male (resident minister) was the speaker at other meetings of the anniversary on Feb. 24 and March 3, presenting at the final service an audio-visual prepared by himself and the sup't.; there were three decisions at this service.

The Vic-Tas. Ministers' Wives' Association will hold its Conference Luncheon at the St. Kilda Town Hall on Wed., April 3, when the country wives are invited to be their guests. An invitation is extended to all suburban members and to wives of our College students. Please come and make this a time of fellowship. —May Shaw, Sec.

J. G. Shaw, at present ministering with the church at Springvale, Vic., has accepted an invitation to succeed C. G. Taylor in the work at Doncaster, Vic., beginning his new ministry in Feb., 1964.

The developing role of Inter-Church Aid as a "nation builder" was emphasised in Sydney this month by a World Council of Churches officer from Geneva. Dr. J. Harry Haines, a U.S. Methodist, who is responsible for the supervision of Inter-Church

Aid projects in Asia and the Pacific, visited Australia briefly during a 10-weeks' tour of these areas. Dr. Haines said that experts of the highest qualifications were being made available to a number of countries. They were advising on the best ways by which churches throughout the world could help nations undergoing rapid development. In Burma, North and South India and East Pakistan, teams of experts were doing surveys and advising councils of churches on special projects for which there was urgent need. It had quickly found that technical guidance was required not only in preparing programmes for submission, but also in carrying them out, he said. Inter-Church Aid's concern is for people in need, whether this need is for food, education, medical care, trade-training or Christian guidance and the opportunity to worship. Australia's annual Inter-Church Aid programme was making a significant contribution to the world's underprivileged.—Vaughan Hinton.

The church at Bentleigh, Vic., has farewelled Misses Shirley Thompson and Joan Wells, who left on March 8 to serve as missionaries with the Poona and Indian Village Mission and Sudan Interior Mission, respectively. Both are nursing sisters and Melbourne Bible Institute graduates. Each was presented by the minister, F. Ewers, with a gift on behalf of the church, which was challenged to prayerful support of these two young women. A. Quinton (S.I.M.) and B. Tyson (P.I.V.M.) spoke on the work of their Missions, and both young ladies gave appreciative responses to the crowded gathering. Miss Wells will serve in Ethiopia, and Miss Thompson in India. Mr. and Mrs. Mac. Wolf gave two messages in song.

After speaking at the evening service of her home church at Brighton, Vic., on Sun., March 10, Miss Lorna Ford was presented with a cheque for £25 by S. H. Wilson (minister), as an assurance of the church's practical goodwill and continued prayer support as she leaves for New Guinea to serve with the Unevangelized Fields Mission.

The church at Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Vic., had much pleasure in welcoming Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Youens and family at a special service on Thurs., Feb. 28. Representative speakers extended sincere and warm welcomes, and musical items were rendered. Mr. and Mrs. Youens suitably responded, and a happy time of fellowship was enjoyed by all. On the following Sunday, W. A. Thompson (Vic-Tas. Past Pres.) inducted Mr.

Youens into the ministry at Caulfield. The service, with following address by Mr. Youens, proved an inspiration and challenge, setting the standard and tone for the future ministry.

A Place to be Filled — Urgent!

Our Carnarvon and Norseman Missions both need consecrated Christian women to serve in Kitchen-Dining-room departments. The need is particularly great at Carnarvon, where someone is needed to take charge of the catering and cooking for the feeding of over 100 children.

This is a ministry of vital importance because, if this department runs smoothly, the work of the missionaries in the other departments is made so much easier. A stable Christian woman, or a married couple, could do a great service for God in this way. We believe that somewhere among the people the Lord has those whom he would call into this work, and the need is therefore made known.

The Federal Aborigines Mission Board would be glad to hear of any who would consider giving service. Enquiries may be made direct to the Secretary, J. K. Robinson, 11 Almond-bury-rd., Mount Lawley, W.A., or to the Secretaries of Aborigines Committees in the various States.

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"WOMAN TO WOMAN" EVANGELISM Ormond, Vic.

Months of preparation by Committees of Women resulted in three inspiring evening meetings at Ormond, Vic.

On Tuesday, March 5, 122 women and girls gathered in the chapel—there were four decisions, with women acting as counsellors.

On Thursday, March 7, the attendance was 114 women— young and old. Two decisions resulted. (On Tuesday and Thursday nights, some of the men held a prayer meeting in the hall during the time of the meeting in the chapel).

On Sunday, March 10, the attendance was 160 (including 113 women and girls), and there were two decisions. Miss Moya McCrackett was song leader each night. Mrs. R. V. Amos spoke at the three meetings and Mrs. M. Morrison presided. Soloists assisted each night, and women did everything in the three meetings. Many women spoke of the help received before and during the mission. Men were appreciative of Sunday's meeting.

We thank all who helped in any way, and we give God the praise for this wonderful week of witness. —R. McKenzie.



Why People Stay Away from Church

C. J. Pike.

Often I meet some of the great company which no man can number of those who "used to go to church." When I ask them the obvious question: "Why don't you go now?" I receive such a variety of answers. Now and again the answer is: "There are too many hypocrites there." Incisive as is George Buttrick's retort: "Then come right in, there's always room for one more"; to speak so is not always the best way of dealing with such people.

The truth often is that these folk have been deeply hurt by the attitude of some professing Christian, and so they have lost their faith in the Church. They need to be reminded that, as Henry Ward Beecher put it: "The Church is not a gallery for the exhibition of eminent Christians, but a school for the imperfect ones." They need to remember that even our Lord had a Judas in the Twelve, and others who let him down, too, but he felt it was worthwhile persevering with the fellowship. And what a good thing he did, too, for though we might have criticisms to level at individual members of that fellowship we have this to offset and silence those criticisms, that they gave to their contemporaries, and to us, the priceless message of Christ. It does seem a little ungrateful, and it may well be disastrous, for men to kick out from under them the ladder by which they have arrived at their religion.

It is always hard to deal with wounded hearts, especially if the wounds were caused by a member of the staff of the hospital that wants now to help them on the road back to health. Prevention, they say, is better than cure. If our words and actions within the fellowship were a little more Christian; if we had the grace to say those difficult words "I'm sorry"; we should not so often be confronted by the more difficult task of restoration.

For the most part, however, the reasons that people give for lapsing in church attendance are much more mundane, and follow a single pattern of changing habits with regard to

Sunday. "Life became so busy, we slipped out of the habit." "We get up late, mess about doing odd jobs, or visit relations, or go out in the car." "Sunday evenings? — Oh, we watch television." Where husband and wife are both out at work — and that applies to most young marrieds and many middle-aged — Sunday tends to begin late and be devoted to the innumerable things which "must be done" which get left over from the week. Where there are children, the old idea of taking it in turn to go to church doesn't find as many advocates as it used to.

Many a girl says her boy friend "isn't interested," and many a boy has gone outside to find his girl and then confesses that he can't get her to come along. Thus early do they show what are going to be the priorities of their life.

The above has not exhausted the reasons given. But enough has been said to bear out the general impression that church-going is no longer regarded by such as having a priority. It is just viewed as an optional extra; a hobby for those that like that sort of thing. They feel no sense of need for the Church, and certainly no urge to attend. Caught up in the business and pleasures and comforts of this life, they have no concern for "eternal life." Brought up with an easy-going idea of a God of love, they have no knowledge of the judgment that works itself out as silently and relentlessly as do all the laws of God in his universe. And any big sense of God, and any thoughts of having to answer to him for life, are just non-existent.

Accepting contemporary standards and explanations of conduct, they excuse sins in themselves and condone them in others. They have no conception of sin — that separation from God — which has such inevitable results in the life of those who doom themselves to it, and in the life of those who follow on and reap the harvest. God acted in a big way at Calvary in an effort to avert their tragic plight, but neither their plight nor his way out of it means anything to them. No sense of personal failure leads them to seek the forgiving grace of God in Christ, and no gratitude to any Supreme Being makes them want to return thanks. It is the first chapter of the Epistle to the Romans all over again: "When they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened . . . for this cause God gave them up."

The same Apostle says that God "hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." But how are we going

to carry out this ministry? The answer might be found if by our living out of the Christian faith they were persuaded that we had a much more vigorous and victorious life than could be found anywhere but in Christ and in the fellowship of his Church. That worked in the days of the New Testament, but if it is to work today it will mean a lot more serious and dedicated living on our part, for so often the life of the Christian is not very different from that of his non-Christian neighbor. It might be found through friendship; for all the luxuries of life cannot supply that, and many hearts are still hungry for someone to take a strong interest in them. It might be found through help given in time of need, and a confidential word about the help that we ourselves have received from Christ and through his Church.

The answer must be found through prayer. But it will have to be the sort of prayer that does not give up easily, and the prayer of the one who listens for God's leading and is committed to Christ sufficiently to help him answer the substance of his own prayer.

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LET US ALL PRAY . . .

Lord, Who hast called me to thy service, set me free . . .
From all fear of what the future may hold;
From anxiety about the things which tomorrow may bring;
From bitterness or spite towards anyone;
From cowardice when men revile thee, or danger threatens;
From failure to do thy will, and to seek thy glory;
From laziness and indolence, and from a desire to follow an easier way than thine;
Lord, let thy love take control of all my thoughts and impulses, and make me ever ready to serve thee with all my heart, and soul, and mind and strength, that thou in all things may be glorified through thy servant. Amen.

"Oh, Willie," cried his mother in exasperation, "will you please be a good boy?"

"I'll be good for a shilling, mum," offered the enterprising young scamp.

"Oh, dear," sighed the sorely tried mother, "Why can't you be good for nothing, like your father?"

Our worst foes are not belligerent circumstances but wavering spirits.—
Helen Keller.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Mr. Wade, Burwood, N.S.W.
Miss Langford, Perth, W.A.
Russell Griffiths, Dianne Drew, Gayle Phillips, Camp Hill, Qld.
Susan Gray, Gaye Dickson, Brighton, Vic.
Mr. Manfried, Mr. Ross, Albury, N.S.W.
J. Williams, North Perth, W.A.
Carol Habberfield, Mrs. R. Roberts, Warrnambool, Vic.
Alvin Cooke, Peter and Adrienne Hartam, Sally, Wendy, Peter and Michael Boxhall, Yvonne Ashlin, Kerilyn Davis, Irene Sotnikov, Leslie Waters, Kenneth Moore, Robert Banks, Rodney Beechey, Collins-st., Hobart, Tas.
Paul Richardson, Caveside, Tas.
Cheryl Milne, Dianne Wordon, Bordertown, S.A.
C. Thomas, Miss J. Thomas, Mrs. J. Newsome, Gardiner, Vic.
Glenys Besson, Malvern, Vic.
B. Downs, D. Mitchell, M. McLaren, H. Evans, Kilburn, S.A.

Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Jorgenson, Brisbane to Camp Hill, Qld.
Mr. and Mrs. K. J. Patterson, Balaklava, S.A. to North Perth, W.A.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Clark, Colac to Warrnambool, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. F. Youens, John and Rodney Youens, Gardiner to Caulfield, Vic.
Miss George, from Ascot Vale, Mrs. Phillips, from Camberwell, Ian Fisher, from Carnarvon, W.A., to Blackburn, Vic.
T. South, from Tamworth, Mrs. Thurkettle, from Enmore, to Padstow, N.S.W.
Miss J. Knight, Tamworth to Inverell, N.S.W.
Collin Tilley, Bordertown to Kilburn, S.A.

Marriage

Eileen Gardam to Trevor Harman, Devonport, Tas.

Mavis Burt, Inverell, N.S.W. to Robin Ireland, Boronia, Vic.
Ruth Kelly to R. Pulford, Kilburn, S.A.

Fallen Asleep

Mrs. Magilton, Tootgarook, Vic.

TASMANIA

Devonport (E. W. Taylor). — Mrs. Roberts (M. & B.M.F., India) spoke to C.W.F. and in evening showed slides of work to members and friends. G.L.B. commenced, 15th. Members attended Tasmania District Conference in Hobart. Speakers for Mar. 3 were L. Walshe and C. Nunn. C.E. took charge of morning service at Ulverstone, Feb. 24. On Mar. 8, Mrs. Stafford (Pres., Vic.-Tas. Women's Conf.) spoke to Ulverstone and Devonport ladies. Saturday night youth rallies are proving great attraction. Speaker a.m., Mar. 10, was L. A. Trezise (Vic.-Tas Youth Director).

Collins-st. Hobart (L. G. Cooke). — Church annual meeting held. Secretary's report listed three main highlights for year — celebration of 90th anniversary of church, Feb. 25; Federal Conference, and arrival of new minister. Official Board for 1963 is M. Atwell (sec.), Dr. E. W. Knight (asst. sec.), D. Hemmings (treas.), L. Moore, D. O'Brien, W. Rushton, C. Neville, R. Struthers, H. England, C. J. Mason (deacons). 15 decisions for Christ since Federal Conference. Church was host-church to Tasmanian District Conference, Mar. 2-4. C. G. Taylor (Pres., Vic.-Tas. Conf.) was guest speaker at the Sunday services and a fitting culmination to services occurred when 6 Y.P. confessed their faith in Jesus Christ.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Peaufort-st., Perth (L. E. Jones, B.A., B.D., Ph.D.). — Annual meeting of church on Feb. 21 elected A. M. Bell, J. S. Bridge, W. Calladine, J. J. Collingwood, A. B. Povey, C. F. Povey, B. McNess as deacons. Fans installed on chapel walls have eased discomfort in hot weather. W. Yeomans participating in Trade Mission to India. Prayer and Bible study, Feb. 28, at home of J. S. Bridge, was attended by 29 members and it was decided to hold future meetings in the chapel. Special series of evening meetings has commenced as preparation for Easter. Prayer service has commenced prior to gospel service.

North Perth (J. K. Robinson). — Men's training class has commenced. Youth tea held, when four girls who attended Youth Convention in Adelaide, related their experiences. Mr. and Mrs. K. Patterson and family welcomed. One baptism and welcome into fellowship. B.S. picnic very successful. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Miles (Vic.) visitors Mar. 10, Mr. Miles being a.m. speaker. At a crowded gospel service congregation witnessed baptism of a mother and her three children and the confession of a lad. C.W.F. held first meeting for year, Feb. 27. Five new members were welcomed and J. K. Robinson addressed meeting.

QUEENSLAND

Camp Hill (K. J. Harvey). — Young man baptised Feb. 17, and received into fellowship 24th, along with two others by transfer. Extensive visitation campaign engaged in by B.S. teachers, G.L.B. and B.B. leaders. All very well received in homes of district. All auxiliaries benefited with new members from campaign. Fellowship enjoyed during Feb. at Wednesday evening Fellowship, with D. Eagling (New Hebrides), Mr. and Mrs. W. Lantz (U.S.A.), and Miss Shelton (Ethiopia) working with Sudan Interior Mission. B.S. conducted successful promotion and prizegiving in conjunction with morning worship service; many non-members present. Annual business meeting, Feb. 16, preceded by fellowship tea. Officers elected were: elder, R. Cardew; deacons, D. Cranston, D. Collins, Geo. Mackay, F. Ray, B. Scott, Don. McCucas. After filling position of sec. since commencement at Camp Hill, Don McCucas has relinquished this office, and Des. Collins is new sec. R. Tinney is again B.S. supt. At G.L.B. church parade, Mar. 3, two young girls made their decision.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Albury - Wodonga - Lavington (D. Oldfield - P. Kavanagh). — Last week Feb. highlighted by ministry from Geo. Jones and Gems of Joy. This work was greatly blessed and will be long remembered. Entire Powelling family baptised on Mar. 3 by Ian Sproule, who was Mr. Powelling's comrade through last war. D. Oldfield recovering from illness. Weekly gospel services to commence at Lavington under P. Kavanagh from April.

Epping (H. M. Long). — C.M.S. barbecue was successful event at home

of Mr. and Mrs. Poole (Windsor). Cottage group discussions recommenced. Men's training class commenced, with 16 attending. Minister exchanged with D. Wakeley (Asquith). At Telopea, after-church farewell was held for A. Weedon, when appreciation of his ministry was shown. At opening meeting of Telopea C.W.F., Mrs. Long was speaker.

Burwood (A. G. Elliott, M.A., Ph.D., B.Sc., Dip.Ed.). — Adult Christian Education has begun again with 13 discussion groups. Considerable interest being shown in year's studies. At youth tea and service, Mar. 10, H. Hayward (Woolwich) was welcomed as assistant minister and youth leader. C.W.F. meeting, Feb. 28, with Mrs. Ward (Almoner of Western Suburbs Hospital) as speaker. Man made his decision, Mar. 10. Visitors have included Miss A. Toka (New Hebrides), Mr. and Mrs. Gross (Des Moines, U.S.A.), Mrs. Stevens (Albury), L. Dewberry (Box Hill, Vic.). Principal E. Roberts-Thomson (Baptist College) addressed church, Mar. 10.

Campbelltown (D. O. Norling). — Rapidly growing community continues to present challenge to this new church. This year has already seen two additions by faith and baptism and three by transfer. Plans being prepared for Operation Advance. Youth meetings have taken on new look; ladies' Fellowship will commence this month; B.S. teacher training classes commenced Mar. 3.

Liverpool West (D. O. Norling). — Introducing another new church to the brotherhood. The foresight and generosity of the Austral church and Home Mission Dept. have made possible establishment of new work. The two months church has been meeting have shown evidence of great possibilities. B.S. has grown to 45; av. attendance at morning service has been 14, and gospel service, 24. Much prayer and effort needed to further this new cause.

Inverell. — New platform furnishings, including new pulpit, have added dignity to chapel interior. These have been made available by generosity of Cosh and B. Winter families. A. Mackie (church treas.), who is a master builder, made all the furnishings. One welcomed into fellowship by transfer.

Padstow (A. Surtees). — Happy time of fellowship, Feb. 9-10, when 10th church anniversary was held. Number of past members present and greetings received from others. B.S. picnic held on 16th, at Yulong Oval, Liverpool. Annual church business meeting on 27th, when following were elected: elder, M. Wilkinson; deacons, Messrs. Barter, Badger, Craven, Fraser, Gordon, Hammil, Harris, Hunt. New electronic organ purchased by church members. Boys' Brigade camp held at Bundeena. Two

welcomed by transfer from sister churches. Over 80 ladies attended C.W.F. 10th anniversary, Sis. J. Dickson being guest speaker. Thirty Y.P. travelled to Bexley North on Mar. 8 to conduct their meeting. Pre-Crusade rally, held in chapel on 2nd, was conducted by Ambassadors for Christ.

Hornsby (R. Hilford). — Film evening held Feb. 23, proceeds for Organ Fund, which now stands at £346, this passing amount required from church members. Church picnic held at Willow Park, Mar. 4. Ladies, in conjunction with Asquith, conducted stall at the Boys' Home fete, 9th. Large congregation shared in guest night on 10th, conducted by R. Hilford and assisted in song by S. Dellaport (Asquith). Monthly after-church fellowship followed, led by R. Bartholomew. Soloists have been Mrs. Bishop, Mr. Glazier, Mrs. Dallinger.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Tumby Bay (D. P. Holloway). — During minister's absence on holidays, visiting speakers were E. Laslett, N. Hodgekiss, Samuel Buli (New Hebrides), R. Telfer, T. Lang. Successful junior camp held at Redcliffs, at which Samuel and Japheth (New Hebrides) were present. Church happy to have fellowship with these students. B.S. picnic at Redcliffs, Feb. 20. Harvest Thanksgiving services, 24th, after which produce was sent to Christian Rest Home and local hospital.

Beverley (W. A. Russell). — Harvest Thanksgiving services well attended. Goods given to Morialta Children's Home. D. Thoday (Seniaphore) was guest preacher. Valerie Gibson made presentation on eve of marriage. Present ministry will conclude at end of year.

Bordertown (D. R. Oakes). — Mr. Oakes and family have received warm welcome as they commence work in Bordertown and district. S. Beck (Conf. Pres.) and A. Anderson (Advisory Board) assisted at induction service. At C.M.S. meeting, Feb. 28, D. R. Oakes showed slides of Carnarvon Mission. Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith (New Hebrides) visited church and spoke at midweek meeting. New manse under construction and work progressing well.

Flinders Park (P. R. Whitmore). — Meetings well attended and pleasing number attending recommenced prayer and Bible discussion. C.W.F. have issued year's programmes and second meeting of day group was garden party, which included devotions, garden trading table and Devonshire afternoon tea. Large group, including many visitors, attended. Harvest Thanksgiving services, Mar. 3. Church extends sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Higgins in loss of new-born baby.

Mount Gambier (R. V. Holmes). — Church held 2nd annual planning conference. Committees on evangelism, programme and stewardship reported. Suggestions for new year's activities received and passed to committees for action. New manse nearing completion. Three additions by transfer welcomed. B.S. and youth clubs have made strong commencement.

Stirling East - Aldgate Valley (R. D. Sidler). — Annual business meeting held Aldgate Valley revealed year of steady progress and good stewardship. Manse and Property Committee has performed good task. Both places now have Housing Units for B.S. work. Stirling East ladies have £140 to complete platform and furniture improvements. Elected to diaconate were K. Brokensha, K. Dover, G. Norton; Mesdames Brokensha, G. Knight, K. Pfeiffer. Feature of meeting was appointment of elders, R. C. Long and L. H. Walters. R. W. Knight and R. Hasslett were re-elected secretaries, and E. E. Walton, treas. Minister has settled into work and gradually visiting all in the very large circuit. C.W.F. has recommenced for year, meeting fortnightly on Fridays, and alternate Sunday evenings at manse. C.W.F. enjoyed visit from Mrs. G. Smith (New Hebrides), whilst C.M.S. enjoyed visit from Murray Bridge, with excellent talk by R. Graham. Visitors welcomed to services. Harvest Festival goods donated to Morialta and Colbrook Homes. A.V. Dorcas held luncheon when ladies of H.M. Committee visited and spoke.

Kilburn (G. Rose, L.Th.). — Church held banquet, at which Mr. and Mrs. S. Beck and Mr. and Mrs. J. Chivell were guests of honor. Mr. Beck, as Conf. Pres., gave greetings, and Mr. Chivell spoke on Our Task. Minister presented year's programme, which was attractively printed, each member receiving a copy. Acute shortage of teachers in B.S. Junior section held beach picnic at Largs Bay. First meeting for year of C.W.F. was held at home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Royals. C.W.F. held mystery hike, attended by 36. Life Boys' and Life Girls' Brigades both active. Girls' recently formed Brigade attended in parade at youth service, Mar. 3. Boys' and girls' basketball teams in practice for season's games.

VICTORIA

Balwyn (L. F. Barker). — Shopping service held Mar. 8, well attended and creating much interest in district. A. Hughes (Baptist) was special speaker, and Mrs. Willing soloist. Visitation in preparation for Live For Christ Campaign being intensified, and homes being circularised with weekly pamphlets advertising campaign and new activities of church.

Cricket season closed and youth now looking forward to football season.

Belmont (F. Langford). — Y.P.C.E. having record attendances. B.S. picnic held at Portarlington. Some members attended District Conference at Colac, Mar. 2. B. & F.B.S. film, *The Potter's Clay*, screened 3rd. Good Companions celebrated 2nd birthday, 5th. Cricket team, in their first season, have won semi-final.

Brighton (S. H. Wilson). — Harvest Thanksgiving service well supported, gifts distributed to College of Bible and Inter-Church Aid. Lorna Ford (former member) spoke at evening service, Mar. 10, prior to her departure for New Guinea as missionary with U.F.M. Minister presented cheque on behalf of congregation. B.S. parents' and scholars' night well attended, when film, *The Right Start*, screened Feb. 24. Mrs. Brough, Mrs. A. Edwards and Mr. Howitt making improvement after returning from hospital. Church regrets serious illness of Dr. Paul Jenner. Two young ladies of senior Bible Class made good confession, Mar. 10.

Ascot Vale — Newmarket (G. K. Moyes). — Many Y.P. at D.C.E. camps during holidays. Minister camp director at Hall's Gap. Church services and offerings well maintained. Feb. 9 weekend retreat for C.Y.F. to plan programme at bayside home of preacher's parents. Adult Christian Fellowship has averaged 24 in mid-week meetings; studies in *Christion faith* led by Ray McKenzie (Ormond.)

Castlemaine (A. Mudford - interim). — Following completion of A. B. Titter's ministry, H. Hargreaves (Bendigo) took services for three Sundays until A. Mudford commenced interim ministry on Mar. 3. Two young ladies baptised Feb. 24.

Ivanhoe (H. W. Street). — Sympathy extended to Mr. Street on loss of brother by drowning in Tasmania. 32 present at H.M. quarterly prayer rally, Feb. 27. C.W.E.F. meeting, Feb. 21, took form of Holiday Reminiscences. Men conducting evening services during March at Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh. Good Companions enjoyed swim night at City Baths, 1st. Cricket club concluded excellent first year by finishing fifth in strong local competition. Junior team also showed promise. Church enjoyed fellowship with Mrs. Kingston (Tas.) on short vacation from Hobart. Church property "clean-up" being undertaken by men.

Maryborough (R. Pritchard). — Men's tea held during Feb. to establish a regular men's work. Members of State C.M.S. Executive were present, also conducting evening service. Y.W.L. has commenced in morning service, with Mrs. Drake as supt. B.S. picnic, Avoca, on Mar. 2. W.M.B. annual meeting, 28th; following were elected: pres., Mrs. F. Davies; vice-

pres., Sls. Bryant, Mrs. A. Sewell; sec., Mrs. Drake; treas., Mrs. R. Bursill. Y.W.F. has decided to work towards purchasing electric organ for new church building. Many thanks due to men who worked hard in preparing site for new building. A new door has been fitted to chapel and porch removed. Mrs. Monk and Mrs. Engleton in hospital. Mrs. Woolman home from hospital.

North Williamstown (T. A. Ferguson). — Well attended church annual business meeting. L. C. Firth succeeds A. Haskell as sec., C. Rewell re-elected treas.; J. Hope, R. Greene, C. Rewell, C. Dorgan, deacons; Mesdames Bryant, Coxhead, Milne, V. Hope, Dorgan, Rewell, Wakefield, deaconesses; M. Wakefield, B.S. supt.; Mesdames Griffith, Shaw, Haskell, organists. Two deaconesses will attend future Board meetings and have power to vote. Men and ladies completed substantial renovations to and cleaning of manse. Attendances at services growing. Bible study session attended by 21 on Mar. 6. Soloists at p.m. meetings have been L. Stewart, Mrs. Griffith, A. Haskell. Church picnic held in conjunction with combined Pi Fraternal sports meeting at Mentone, 11th. K.S.P. gained 2nd place, and P.B.P. 3rd place in their respective sections. W.M.B. had enjoyable picnic meeting in local gardens, 12th.

BOARD VACANT

Elderly Ladies. — 2 vac. in private home, experienced care and attention. Charges moderate. 33 Elliott-ave., Carnegie, Vic.

BIRTH

LORD (McCredden). — To Barbara and Graham, at Victor Harbour, S.A., on Feb. 2, a daughter — Cathryn Rae.

DEATH

HARVEY. — On March 4, Charles Victor, 108 Emmaline-st., Northcote, Vic., beloved husband of Rose, loved father of Raymond and Gladys (Mrs. Stoneham), father-in-law of Jean and Ted, dear grandfather of Beth, Kelvin, Lesley, Robyn. "Awaiting the glorious resurrection."

IN MEMORIAM

NANCE-KIVELL. — Treasured memories of Mrs. Nance-Kivell, who entered the Ivory Palaces, March 17, 1962. Always remembered by Agnes Best.

PATERNOSTER. — Ethel Olive. Loving memories of a wonderful wife and mother called Home, March 20, 1962. "Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep." — Ira A. Ira Jr., Gayle and Gene.

PRESTON. — Emma A. Loving memories of dear mother, reunited with Dad and George, on March 22, 1959. — Maude.

ENGAGEMENTS

BEERS-WHITE. — The engagement is announced of Faye, second daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beers, 31 Crofton-st., Geelong West, to Neville, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. White, 6 Viola-cres., Highbett, Vic.

LANGLEY-WILLIAMS. — Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Langley, 112 Hurd-st., Portland, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their eldest daughter, Elsa, to Barry, second son of Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Williams, "Blanden," Kaniva, Vic.

NASH-MILLER. — Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Nash, 93 Golf-rd., South Oakleigh, Vic., have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their eldest daughter, Carole Ann, to Laurence John, second son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Miller, 10 Dallas-ave., Oakleigh, Vic.

MARRIAGE

DUFFIN-THOMAS. — The marriage is announced of Coral Barbara, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Duffin, 19 Springfield-rd., Box Hill, to Norman Ray, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomas, 2a Tyne-st., Box Hill, at Box Hill Church of Christ, Vic., on March 16.

SILVER WEDDING

GREENWAY-ANDERSON. — Phyl and Francis announce, with pleasure, the 25th anniversary of their marriage, which took place at Northcote Church, Vic., on March 5, 1938, W. T. Atkin officiating. Present address: 16 Bath-rd., Burwood.

GOLDEN WEDDING

WILKERSON-THORN. — The family of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Wilkerson announce with pleasure and gratitude, the golden wedding anniversary of their parents, which was celebrated at Northam, W.A., on March 26, 1913.

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VIC. - TAS. 98th

Annual Conference

MARCH 31 - APRIL 7

At Lygon Street—

Sun., March 31, 2.45 p.m.—INAUGURAL
DEVOTIONAL SERVICE.Presidential Address: C. G. Taylor,
B.A. Subject: "The Hour is Come."
Choral Items - Doncaster Choir.Mon., April 1 — MINISTERS' and
SECRETARIES' TEA, 5.45 p.m.
Address and discussion on "Mere
Interdependency." Speaker: Alan F.
Cant, B.Ed., of Mildura.OPENING BUSINESS SESSION,
7.45 p.m. Reception of Kangaroo
Flat. Devotions and Focus. Con-
ference Executive Report. Advise-
ment Dept. Notice of Motion.Tues., April 2 — MINISTERS' SES-
SION (Brotherhood Centre), 10
a.m. - 4 p.m.COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE OLD
BOYS' TEA, 5.30 p.m.CONFERENCE BUSINESS, 7.15 p.m.
Reports of C.M.S., Dept. of Chris-
tian Education, College of the
Bible. Devotions and Focus. Notice
of Motion to Amend Constitu-
tion, Clause 10.Wed., April 3 — WOMEN'S 77th
ANNUAL CONFERENCE, St. Kilda
Town Hall, 10.30 a.m. 2 & 7.30 p.m.
Devotions. Business. Address: Prin-
cipal John Morley, M.A., Dip.Ed.Thurs., April 4, 7.15 p.m. — CON-
FERENCE BUSINESS.Reports of C.W.F., Dept. of Home
Missions and Evangelism. Notice
of Motion, "Drink and Gambling."
Devotions and Focuses.Fri., April 5, 7.15 p.m. — CONFER-
ENCE BUSINESS.Notice of Motion, "Capital Punish-
ment." Reports of Advisory and
Overseas Mission Depts. and Co-
ordinating Committee. Devotions
and Focus. Declaration of Poll.Sat., April 6 — PRESIDENT'S GAR-
DEN PARTY, College of the Bible,
2.45 p.m. Brief programme. En-
riching Fellowship. Afternoon Tea.BROTHERHOOD RALLY, Collins-
st. Baptist Church, 7.30 p.m. Churches
of Christ Choral Society.
Audio-visual devotional. Dramatic
Presentation. Address: Dr. G. A.
Whiting, of Hartwell.Sun., April 7, 2.30 p.m. — CONFER-
ENCE SERMON SESSION —
MELBOURNE TOWN HALL.Preacher: Glen S. Brown, of
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Induction of New President. Ser-
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VIC. - TAS.

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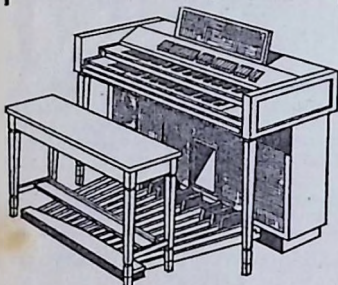
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OBITUARY

Jessie Ferguson.

After several months of illness, Jessie Ferguson passed to be with her Lord on Feb. 6, at the age of 59 years. The late Miss Ferguson was a gracious Christian soul, and a friend to many. Although her life on earth may not have been as long as we would have chosen, it was a life rich and full of love, graciousness, faith, service and Christian understanding. Hers was a life woven around Christ and the church. At the early age of 11 she entered the B.S. at Essendon, Vic. When she accepted Christ as her Saviour, it was the beginning of years of faithful service in the Essendon church. She served with devotion as a B.S. teacher and in many activities of the church. At the time of her passing she was a member of the Women's Evening Fellowship, and was held in the highest respect by all. For a number of years she had been in charge of the flower roster for the chapel, and it was most fitting that a large number of floral tributes at her funeral should speak of the love and esteem in which she was held. Hers was a deep, abiding faith that carried her through health and sickness, and gave light at the end of her earthly road. Funeral services at the chapel and the Coburg Cemetery were conducted by V. Quayle. The sympathy of the church has gone out to the loved ones, who know that for her "to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord."—V. Quayle.

John Murdoch.

Only four months after the Home call of his wife, John Murdoch passed away at his home on Feb. 15, at the age of 81 years. John Murdoch spent the early years of his Christian experience in the Newmarket (Vic.) church, and was later to become a foundation member of the Essendon (Vic.) church. He was also a member of the first Officers' Board, and throughout his long life maintained an active interest in the life and work of the church. In the home he was known for his devotion to his family, and tenderly nursed his wife during the closing years of her life when she was confined to bed. We thank God for the influence of this man of faith and the part he exercised in the building up of the church, and rejoice in the knowledge that he has entered the "house of many mansions." Funeral services at the Essendon chapel and the Fawcett Cemetery were conducted by V. Quayle, with W. A. Kemp, the only remaining member of the original Officers' Board, leading in prayer at the graveside.—V. Quayle.

Mrs. E. Houghton.

On Feb. 19, 1963, after a period of illness, Mrs. Houghton (formerly Elizabeth Foden) passed away peacefully

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to be with Christ. Born in South Melbourne, Vic., she was baptised in her teenage life and took up active membership with the church at Middle Park. Throughout the rest of her life and through many hardships and sorrows, the death of her husband and the raising of six sons and two daughters, Mrs. Houghton remained a loyal member of our Movement, serving with the churches at Middle Park, Broken Hill and East Malvern. During her life her strong faith was her strength and our inspiration. We will remember her loyalty to the church she loved; we will remember her quiet prayerful presence at the services; we will remember her buoyant cheerfulness through sickness, and her concern for others. The church at East Malvern shares with her family in their sorrow, and also the joy of a confident hope that our departed friend's reward is now complete.—P. Andrews.

Ann Johnston.

Castlemaine (Vic.) Church of Christ chapel was filled with mourners when the funeral took place on Dec. 10, 1962, of Mrs. Ann Johnston. Her death occurred suddenly at her residence on Dec. 8, and was a great shock to her husband, family and friends. Born at Woodbrook 71 years ago, she spent her early years there, where the family name is well known and respected. Devoted to her home life and family, she was a dedicated and life-long member and worshiper in the Church of Christ. When aged seven years, she first entered active church life and, with the family, walked seven miles to Harcourt for regular worship. At the age of seventeen she came to Castlemaine to live, and had lived there ever since. Her husband, W. Johnston, has given life-long service to the church, and with their family, Harold, Nancie (Mrs. E. Dunn), Andrew and Heather (Mrs. Barrow, N.Z.) the church has shared worship, witness and service. A. Titter, Geoff. Barnett and R. J. Duckett conducted the services, paying tribute to the life and work of Mrs. Johnston and family. The lengthy cortege proceeded to the Harcourt Cemetery. Large numbers expressed their sorrow in beautiful floral tributes. Mrs. Johnston will be affectionately remembered by all.—N. V. Hall, sec.

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