

# THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

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## Three Men Go to Church

Carl R. Brown.



*Edward*

The FIRST MAN went to church indifferently. He hesitated at the entrance, undecided. He strolled down the aisle, unaware of the attentive usher, looking for the most vacant pew, then, dropping into the first seat, sprawled himself comfortably.

Taking the worship folder as carelessly as a handbill, he crumpled it into his pocket.

With the first hymn he stood belatedly, and occasionally his lips moved with the rhythm of the music. He bowed his head at the proper time but his thoughts roamed the hill-sides and the market places.

The Scripture lesson reminded him of verses his mother taught him down on the farm. He wondered where he might be this Sunday if his parents had not inevitably taken them to church every Lord's Day. No questions asked. No decisions required. It was taken for granted, and here he was, a creature of habit.

He had no quarrel with the sermon, or the theme, *The Christian and His Civic Responsibility*. Not that he agreed, but, frankly, he wasn't listening and soon forgot. He wondered that some shook their heads and others beamed approval.

Several young people accepted the invitation and made the good confession, but he was not even curious about them. He slipped by the pastor on his way out rather than meet him, and have to make some remarks. In fact, he had no remarks to make.

The SECOND MAN went to church beligerently. He entered nonchalantly, almost defying someone to show cause for his coming. He dropped into the first seat available, leaving the usher to lead on down the aisle. He welcomed the worship leaflet as something on which to doodle and scribble silly remarks.

He stood with hymn book outstretched, and sang lustily but irreverently, thinking of the false implications of some phrases. "Like a mighty army Moves the Church of God." A Boy Scout brigade, he said. "All one body we." Yes, but several hundred frag- (cont. col. 1, p. 338)

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ments, he thought. During the prayer his eyes roamed the sanctuary, and as he caught sight of neighbors he said to himself, "hypocrite," "dead beat," "no good."

The reading of the Scriptures recalled his boyhood when he resented giving up a fishing trip or game to go to church. "You go to church, or else —" was his father's admonition. Now that his father was gone, why did he come here? Maybe, he thought, just to prove his independence.

The sermon on a Christian's responsibility was to him a melodrama and show off. Why not let the church be the church, and not a reform movement? Besides, the church is impotent to change social conditions and it had better not try.

He smiled at the youngsters who went forward, and thought they had better wait till they had grown up and know what it is all about. As he hurried out of the vestibule he slapped the pastor on the shoulder and said cynically, "That's giving the Devil his dues. Hit him again for me." Deep down in his heart, he wondered which side he was on.

The THIRD MAN went to church gladly. His face beamed. He shook

hands with all in reach. He deferred to an usher who took him well front, and thoughtfully he moved over to centre. He carefully scanned the leaflet before the organ prelude.

Standing, he sang joyfully as though the words expressed his own heart's desire. In reverence his lips seemed to repeat the pastor's prayer as his own.

The morning lesson comprised verses he had learned by heart as well as by memory. He envisioned the family circle of his childhood, and the excitement of getting an early start for church. He thrilled to recall that this pew had seated the family for many years.

The sermon stirred him deeply. While being a loyal Christian he had perhaps emphasised attendance and Bible reading, and neglected responsibilities to his fellow citizens.

After the benediction, he congratulated the new recruits and wished them God's blessings. As he clasped the pastor's hand he said, "That was a great sermon from which we all may profit. Thank you. I am glad I came!"

What you take to church has much to do with what you take away.—  
The Christian (U.S.A.).

## Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian"  
of June 5, 1913.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

Limited Liability Company in N.S.W. — Portion of a circular issued by our N.S.W. Conference reads: "Dear Brother or Sister, As you are probably aware the Conference this year decided in favor of the establishment of a Limited Liability Company to aid in the financing of church buildings and such work. The reasons such a course proved necessary are briefly as follows: (1) Any committee undertaking to help a church obtain a home of its own must bind the personal and private property of the members of such committee in any guarantee given, and this we believe you would not for a moment acquiesce in. (2) Church property is considered a very poor investment by the investing public, hence the difficulty in arranging loans. (3) After some years of efforts we have not succeeded in raising sufficient funds to effectually help even one congregation to obtain a building."

Story of Dr. Joseph Parker.—When announcing a collection for some charity in City Temple, London, Dr. Parker gave it out in the following striking manner: "We can hear what we want to hear. There are some folks present who might be sitting right at the back, and if I said in a whisper, 'If you come to see me tomorrow, I'll give you a £5 note,' they could hear; but the same people, if I were to say, in a voice like thunder, 'Now we are going to have a collection,' would reply, 'Did the Doctor speak? Did we hear a sound?'"

Appeal for Murray Bridge, S.A.—J. T. Train writes: "On Sept. 15, 1912, a cause was established here by H. J. Horsell, with 12 members; today our membership stands at 34, but we are very much hampered in our work owing to the unsuitable place we have to hold our meetings in — a skating rink, a large barn-like structure built of iron, its appearance both outside and inside being very uninviting. A lot has been secured in a very suitable position in this growing town of some 1200 in population."

Items of Interest.—The Bible School which was started at Boort, Vic., on May 11, has grown each Sunday since. G. H. Oldfield conducts an Adult Bible Class . . . During T. H. Scambler's three months at Maylands, W.A., there have been 18 additions, some by immersion and some by transfer . . . The membership at Frahran, Vic., has now risen to 150, of whom only just over 50 were meeting 18 months ago. Although electric cars were not running last Sunday, about 300 people were present at the night service. . . The church at Stawell, Vic., has had a 300 candle power gas lamp placed over the doorway of the chapel.

## Youth Council to Send Work Teams to Flood Areas . . .

Young men and women in N.S.W. are being urged to offer their services to farmers and householders in the flood stricken areas of Northern New South Wales.

The chairman of the N.S.W. Christian Youth Council (A. Bristow) said that the Council wanted to organise work parties of six to eight people who could spend about a week in one of the flood areas.

They would assist farmers in the rebuilding of fences demolished or damaged by the floods, and provide manpower to help householders whose homes suffered damage.

Mr. Bristow said that the secretary of the Northern N.S.W. Flood Relief Committee (R. Weinkler) had welcomed the offer of assistance.

Work for C.Y.C. teams would be planned by the Food Relief Committee, and opportunity already exists for teams in the Kempsey district.

In the floods, at the beginning of May, extensive areas of Central and North Coast areas of N.S.W. were inundated. Between 4,000 and 5,000 homes and more than 700 farms suffered damage.

Mr. Bristow said that people who might be available to join a work

team for a week in late June or early July would be welcomed.

Persons interested have been asked to contact either the Australian Council of Churches, 511 Kent-st. (phone 61-5224) or Mr. Bristow, 16 Ballantyne-rd., Mortdale Heights, Sydney, for further details.

Mr. Bristow said that each year the N.S.W. C.Y.C. organised a work camp to which young people gave their time and energy to work on a service project such as the building of a home for an Aboriginal family as was done last summer at Dubbo. Seventy-five took part.

It was hoped that sufficient young people could make themselves available at this time of the year to form at least two or three work teams.—A.C.C. Information.

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It was announced on May 28 that Australian churches have now given more than £1,000,000 since 1951 to aid needy people overseas. The money has been spent in more than fifty countries, with help ranging from assisting in rehabilitation and resettlement of refugees to the care of the aged and schooling for underprivileged children.

Guest Editorial —

## - GLORIOUS OPPORTUNITY -

FRANK HUNTING, Ballarat, Vic.

I have before me on my desk two letters which came in recent mail. They both say the one thing, our brotherhood is being confronted with a glorious opportunity. Both letters concern Overseas Missions. One requests confidential information concerning someone who has spent more than six years acquiring highly skilled training for Mission service and is now applying to our Board to serve overseas. The other letter is from Ron McLean, for thirteen years a missionary and now our Overseas Mission Secretary. In this letter Mr. McLean informs our ministers that by the end of the financial year our Overseas Board may be £10,000 in debt.

### A POSSIBLE REACTION

I think I can hear some of my brethren saying (for I have heard them say similar things at other times over similar matters) that our Overseas Mission Board has overstepped the mark. They have pushed forward too fast in sending out too many missionaries before they were sure of adequate financial support. A good case for very much more caution, for sending out fewer missionaries — a keeping of our missionary programme down to the size of our present missionary giving — could easily be made out. And this argument could be made to have all the sane, sound, arguments of common-sense, balanced business practice. I could even bring my own particular line of argument to bear and from the Scriptures quote that we are to owe money to no one. And this applies to Mission Boards as well as to individuals.

### UNEASY REFLECTIONS

But there is something wrong with all this line of thinking. A few years ago we had three highly qualified nurses training in our Federal College for missionary service. They never went. Our Mission Board never had the money to send them. Then we learned that, on the field, desperately overworked missionaries had been praying for years for nurses to come out to relieve the suffering of the people and the burden of the missionaries. We here at home could easily have given the money to send out those nurses, for we were entering one of the most prosperous times ever experienced in Australia. May God forgive us our terrible failure.

One of the most heartening things I have heard in years came from Mr. McLean himself. Speaking to my board of deacons he said some-

thing like this: "The need is on the field, young men and women are eagerly training and equipping themselves and are offering to go out. We shall send them."

### DISGRACE OR GLORY

Can anyone, who has any sort of a missionary concern, think other than Mr. McLean on this matter? Our young people are eager to go to our Mission fields. They are joyously training to equip themselves for the big tasks the Mission field will demand of them. These trained and equipped young people are making possible to our churches a most glorious missionary era on our three Mission fields. Can we, in whose homes are television sets, wall-to-wall carpets, refrigerators, and every modern comfort and convenience; can we who drive about in late model motor cars, who spend on sport and pleasure and entertainment as much as many natives have to keep them in one year; can the young people of our churches whose earning capacity is beyond anything anyone even dreamed of in their wildest dreams, and who spend large sums on clothing and transistors and anything that may be wanted — can we look our Saviour in the face and withhold the money that will keep our missionary programme expanding?

Let no one think that our missionary giving is out of proportion and we are already giving too much. Someone must have heard something like this, for they became busy about a few statistics concerning our giving, and discovered that Churches of Christ in Australia only give 7% of what they use in the cause of Christ to Overseas Missions. There are thousands of us in our churches who can never hope to go to the Mission fields. If we cannot go, we must see to it that those who are equipped and called, are sent.

### EDITOR'S NOTE —

We have been happy to make space for the above article, following immediately on last week's official announcement of a crisis in our Mission finances.

As a minister whose strength of spiritual leadership is well recognised, and as the father of Sister Janet Hunting, one of our missionaries to New Guinea, Mr. Hunting is well qualified to make such an earnest appeal.

Our Overseas Mission Number, to be published on June 18, will give ample proof that on our three fields is a work which we dare not let regress because of any stewardship failure on our part.

# THE BIBLE IN OUR TIME

There are many today who reverently keep Bibles in their houses to collect dust. There are others who read with the set determination of a duty, neither seeking nor expecting to understand, catching chance phrases and using them as slogans.

Others yet, understanding, turn away from the obvious meaning of the Word of God and seek to weave theories of their own making. They read and perhaps understand, but will not heed God's urgent Word.

To sit under the judgment of the Word of God is a difficult and uncomfortable position and few persist in it.

And so we bring our meaning to the Bible, seeking to use it, manipulate it and bend it to our own ideas.

No less harmful are those who stress the many texts in the Bible which call for separation, either to build a political system of racial segregation or to justify a continuance of denominational segregation. The Bible used as a means of bolstering up our own theories is the Bible misused.

Yet there is another side. The period of the Reformation, when many misused the Bible, was a period when many more heard God speak to them personally through his Word.

The influence of Luther's Bible in Germany and of the Authorised Version in the English-speaking world was immense. Many of the nations of Europe, as well as the nations of the New World — Canada and the U.S.A. — were formed by the Bible in their own tongue. Language and laws, manners and customs were all formed to a large extent by the Bible.

## Next Step Crucial

It may well be a fact of immeasurable importance that the new nations of Africa are coming to birth in our day with the Bible already translated into their own tongue. Almost all the leaders of the New Africa have already felt the influence of the Bible, and its teaching has fed their longing for freedom.

The next step is crucial. Will the Bible play its part in moulding the language and laws, the manners and customs once again?

Europe has passed through a period of bitter division in attitudes to the Bible, leading to a dead legalism on the one hand and a contemptuous neglect on the other. The Modernist crisis was one of the bitterest church disputes in modern European history, and it extended to the U.S.A. and wherever European or American missionaries went.

Fortunately, there are signs that the worst is over. The shattering events

E. H. Robertson, in an article in "Bulletin of the United Bible Societies," says some striking things about changing views on the Bible.

of the past 30 years have exposed the facile optimism of the liberal and the neat answers of the fundamentalist as superficial and ill-matched to the demonic issues of our day.

Out of the very heart of the struggle in Nazi Germany, as the Confessing Church sought to declare the Christian faith against German Christian errors, there came a new confidence in the Bible as the Word of God, which liberal and fundamentalist together could understand.

God spoke, through his Word, to men in their confusion and taught them again to witness, even unto death, for the things most surely believed.



The influence of the struggle spread widely beyond the bounds of Nazi Germany, as did the influence of its best known theologian, Karl Barth. In Norway the influence can still be seen in theological writing, preaching and about 2,400 to 3,000 Bible study groups in homes. In Holland a serious attempt is being made to relate a Biblical faith to the issues of contemporary society.

The post-war development of the Evangelical Academies, the Kirchentag and Bible Weeks in Germany has had a direct influence upon the church life of Scotland and England. Scotland's Kirk Weeks were modelled upon the German Kirchentag and issued in

a growth of effective Bible study in many parishes. England has taken over the German Bible Weeks in a big way, and developed considerably the training of laymen as group leaders of these Weeks.

## Quickened Interest

This English form of Bible Weeks has been exported. First an attempt was made at Buffalo in the United States, and then later in many other American towns. Later, a Bible Week was held in Kampala in Uganda and has now extended to Asia.

The earnest searching of the Word of God by ministers in Germany during the Nazi period has thus spread outwards, like ripples on the water, to give a Biblical movement which has reached world-wide proportions. It has been mostly amongst the Protestant churches of the world, and has left everywhere some form of ecumenical Bible study, aimed at the renewal of the churches.

A parallel movement within the Roman Catholic Church has had its own development.

Among Benedictines, the influence of a liturgical movement springing from the monastery at Maria Laach, in Germany, has given a peculiarly powerful form to all Biblical renewal. Parallel with this the Dominicans of the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem have powerfully stimulated Bible study.

This twin movement has had repercussions in all French-speaking countries, and far outside that limit in countries of Europe, notably Austria, in Argentina, and more recently in English-speaking countries. The restoration of the Bible to a central place in the people's devotions has been a character of 20th century Catholic piety.

The Orthodox Churches have likewise shown a quickened interest in the Bible as a guide to life. No one can doubt that the Greek Orthodox Church has recovered a central place for the Bible in its preaching and daily devotions. And the pan-Orthodox meeting in Rhodes in 1961 showed this to be true of many other Orthodox Churches.

The day has passed when Catholic and Orthodox circles the Bible — at least in a modern translation — could be stigmatised as a Protestant book. There is evidence of a recovery of confidence in the Bible everywhere, although, of course, different parts of the Church of Christ

apply different principles of interpretation.

### Making Discoveries

In the midst of revolutionary changes there is evidence that some men have made far-reaching discoveries about the Bible and its relevance for our time. After studying these discoveries in theology, in life, in methods of study, in application to political questions, one is struck by the immense amount of discovery and the meagreness of results. Why have the signs of renewal not blossomed in to a revival? Why are so many people still unaffected by Karl Barth, or the Confessing Church, the Kirchentag or the Biblical Renewal?

One of the reasons seems to be that the Bible does its most effective work in a time of crisis. It is no accident that Barthian theology is usually called "a theology of crisis."

The Psalms spoke powerful words to the Calvinists of Holland under Spanish tyranny, to the Covenanters of Scotland in time of persecution and to many peoples in many countries in times of war. The most startling revival of confidence in the Bible in our time came when the Church was threatened by Nazism.

This may well be because of the emphasis in the Bible itself. From the earliest Prophet to the latest Epistle, the Bible speaks words of judgment in critical times. It seems out of joint with times of quiet progress. It rings true and relevant when men's hands fail them for fear and they are faced with overburdening decisions.

Thus the Bible becomes more and more irrelevant as men adjust themselves to their problems, rather than meet them. There are, of course, moments in the life of everyone when the crisis breaks through the routine: love, death, birth, disaster, suffering.

But these are isolated moments in a man's life and it is noticeable that there is a turning to religion at such times. All pastors recognise that in moments of revealed crisis, pastoral work is possible.

### An Uncomfortable Book

One other factor must be mentioned. The Bible has some uncomfortable things to say which men do not wish to hear. Many difficulties in understanding the Bible can be traced to an unwillingness to accept what it has to say.

Any attempts to hide behind the excuse that it is too difficult, when what we mean is that its word is too hard for us to bear, meet the just remark of a pastor from Communist Germany: "How can they say that the Bible is difficult when young Communists are poring over much more difficult and much more tech-

nical literature to discover what Communism is all about."

Sometimes the Biblical teaching is crystal clear, but we dare not understand. The Christian Church has a vested interest in its present forms and Christian people, like others, have their pleasant prejudices. This unwillingness to hear some new thing, except in times of great disturbance,

plays a bigger part in weakening the voice of God through the Bible than we are prepared to admit.

What is now emerging, although it has not yet gone very far, is a new openness to the Bible. When both are fully grown, we may see a Bible-use as effective in time of peace and prosperity as it can be in time of crisis. But that time is not yet.



Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

### Birth of a New Day in the S.W. Pacific

K. Ludgater.

"Backwash of Empire" was the name coined not so many years ago by an authoress visiting the New Hebrides — and it was thought by many to be very appropriate. The islands, of course, are rather small and insignificant (the total population is just 60,000), and have since 1907 suffered the additional drawback of having two countries, France and Britain, united in a Condominium Government. This undoubtedly has had a very detrimental effect, and previous missionaries wondered if anything would ever be done to develop these islands.

Today "things are moving" here as never before, and it does seem that a new day is gradually dawning with new opportunities, especially for young people. Just now there appears to be a race to see which administration can help most financially, especially in education. The French, of course, give our schools no assistance whatsoever, but are rapidly establishing free public schools on almost all islands, in competition with Missions. Their teaching staff and other assistants, such as cooks, are very well paid, and their schools apparently lack nothing.

On the British side, financial assistance is provided for buildings and equipment on a pound-for-pound basis, and our Mission received £1,065 last year, and has been promised £2,050 for 1963. A most important advance was made last year by the opening of a Teachers' College in Vila, with an annual intake of thirty-six. Students are selected after completing Senior Primary school, and are trained for two years. At present we have eight doing the course, and we are expecting a definite improvement in our village schools in the next few years as a result of this.

The Church, then, is still largely responsible for the task of educating

these Islanders, and it presents a great opportunity for evangelism and Christian teaching.

As missionary teachers, my wife and I consider that we have a God-given opportunity, as do all those who serve in our Mission schools. Direct Bible teaching may add up to only an hour a day, but this is considerably more than our young people receive in Australia. Low standards in English amongst the lower grades limit the amount that can be taught, but by Grade 8 pupils have acquired quite a good knowledge of English and enter their studies with enthusiasm. All the forty-five boys here at Londua are members of the Scripture Union, and in free reading periods many choose Bible books, despite a fair selection of other reading material. Some have purchased copies of *First Principles*, a few have one-volume Bible commentaries. As these "boys" (aged 14 to 26) are the leaders of tomorrow, you can see how we thank God that there are no restrictions on Bible study and worship in our schools.

The Government will soon be ready to provide further education for almost all those capable of going on. Some are now sent to the Solomons for secondary education and medical training (three Londua boys went this year), others go to Vila for teacher training, and a select few may go farther afield. Here the Church also has a responsibility to equip promising young men for service in our hospitals, schools and churches. What we will really need soon will be fully-trained native workers, and we must not be content to give them the second-best. Young boys capable of the best we can provide are in our schools now, and now is the time to establish scholarships for them to give them what they deserve.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Combridge wish to thank sincerely all those who assisted in the ministry of prayer, and in practical ways, during the recent illness of Mrs. Combridge and Denise

(cont. ft. col. 1, p. 342)



## That Green-Eyed Monster

Charles F. Kemp.

Edgar Jackson, a Methodist preacher in Mamaronek, N.Y., U.S.A., was interested in discovering just what kind of a response different types of sermons would have on his congregation. He enlisted the assistance of two trained observers in the field of group work and psychotherapy, and asked them to study the reactions of the audience.

He kept a careful record of the responses people made, and particularly of the number of people who sought him out in private to discuss the topic of the sermon as it related to their own lives.

He alternated between what he called a repressive-inspirational type of sermon and an analytical type of sermon. The first emphasised positive aspects and an appeal to the inspirational and heroic. The second took a searching look at life and placed the responsibility directly on the hearer.

The difference in congregational response was very marked. The analytical type of sermon produced far more requests for counselling than the other.

The sermon that resulted in more requests for a personal conference than any other was a sermon on jealousy. If it was of that much interest to his congregation, maybe it would be well to include his outline here.

One of the difficulties that causes economic, social and personal distress among us is the jealousy that is generated by the common practice of "keeping up with the Joneses."

Let's face it and see what we can do about it. From what source does

Maree, which necessitated their return to Australia for medical treatment. "We are happy to report complete recovery enabling us to return to Mnevo. We praise our Heavenly Father, who knows and supplies our needs before we ask."

Psalm 147: 5. — "Great is our Lord and of great power. His understanding is infinite."

# OUR FAMILY PAGE

the difficulty emerge? From fear, insecurity, false standards for life and a lack of true love.

What can we do about it? Four suggested steps:

1. ADMIT IT. As long as you keep fooling yourself by denial, nothing constructive can be done. A hard step but essential.

2. ANALYSE IT. Let's take our jealousy apart and see what makes it tick. How did it start? Is it based on reality? Is it true or just?

3. ATTACK IT. Let us use our best judgment, reason and candor to face this thing honestly and come to terms with it so our best self will have a chance to live. What are your true values and goals? If they are not good enough, now is the time to replace them. No one can do it but yourself.

4. ABANDON IT. Start out with courage on a new course in life. Live beyond the small competitions, the small values, the small emotions. This may not be easy, but there is no easy way to pull yourself out of quicksand and get on firm ground.

You do not stand alone. The power of the Christian faith sustains you in your quest for life's true values. But it places the burden squarely on your shoulders. Little values produce trivial lives. True values produce heroic lives. Which would you have?—The Christian (U.S.A.).

## Memories

As we grow older, our happy memories become our shining treasures. We hoard them like a miser and keep them tenderly within strong walls, as if they could be stolen or destroyed. In a more realistic sense than the miser and his guarded gold, they are our life's savings. He who has none discovers too late that he has sunk into a miserable poverty from which there is no recovery.

These are hard days through which we are living and tolling. If we do not salvage from such times some high and worthy experience, we shall be poor indeed as we look back on our years together, for beautiful and enduring memories will be lacking. There are new friends to be made, new situations to be met, new temptations to master, and a multitude of daily occurrences that demand our best in patience, judgment and human relations. A new task can become an adventure, a first handshake with a new acquaintance can be thrilling, and every physical and mental test can well become another milestone for us in the growth and development of that which is the most important of all — our character.

Sordid and shabby experiences leave nothing for the memory but regret. Shirked duty leaves nothing for the character but softness. Slightest human contacts leave naught for the life but ill-will. Only experiences which we remember as good and wholesome will come to our aid in future years as angels of joy and light. Those remembered otherwise will make us hang our heads.

When ageing Jacob came to die he told of two enduring memories which nurtured him in life and went with him into death and eternity. "I remember Rachel, who died with me in the way. I remember God, who blessed me at Luz." The experiences he had shared with a brave and loving wife and the blessings he had received from a good and great God, gave him the sight and scent of roses in December. But with Judas Iscariot it was another story. His black memories of disloyalty and betrayal drove him to suicide in the prime of his life.

Let us so live and serve today that tomorrow will find us growing rich in "memories that bless and burn."  
—Frank Johnston Pippin.

★

## OH, THIS IS FAITH

To trust God when the skies are clear,  
The pathway straight ahead,  
When guidance shines like brilliant stars

To tell us we are led;  
To trust God then is easy faith  
That puts an end to doubt.  
But what of trust when storm-clouds form

And little stars go out?  
To trust God when we cannot see,  
To take him by the hand  
And step with confidence, serene,  
Across a strange, dark land;  
Oh, trust when courage is a wraith —

Oh, this is faith! Oh, this is faith!  
—Berniece Ayers Hall.

## THE ERROR

Wife (reading fortune card husband got from scales): "You are a leader of men. You're brave, strong-willed and popular with the opposite sex." (Pause). "It has your weight wrong, too."

Most people know about the famous portrait of Whistler's mother, seated in her rocking-chair. But have you heard the story that Whistler came home one day, and was agast to find his mother on her hands and knees, scrubbing the kitchen floor! "Mother," he exclaimed, "Have you gone off your rocker?"

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR



QUESTING  
A. E. White.

Programme for July

Theme:

The Strong Helping the Weak

Mrs. Keith Horne, S.A.

MEDITATION.

Grant us, O Lord, Steadfast hearts, which no unworthy affection may drag downwards; Unconquered hearts, which no tribulation can wear out; Upright hearts, which no unworthy purpose may tempt aside.

HYMN.

No. 602, "Master, speak, thy servant heareth."

PRAYER.

O God, our Father, be so near to each one of us this day that we may become aware of how real thou art, and how willing to help us in the time of our need.

Forgive us for our lack of faith, and the wilful pride that ignores the Way, the Truth and the Life. Will thou so fill us by thy Spirit that we may be channels of thy love in a needy world.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

BIBLE READING.

Romans 15: 1-7.

DEVOTIONAL.

One of the great stories of the Christian Church is about a man who has come to be called St. Vincent de Paul. One day, the story goes, he was concerned about a friend who was suffering extreme mental anguish, and because of his concern Vincent prayed for him. While he prayed it seemed as if a voice was saying to him, "Take it upon yourself." He did, the story goes, and the burden of his friend came upon him. Many years later, Vincent held the post of Chaplain to the Admiral of the French galleys, to which convicted prisoners were condemned for hard labor. He stood one day on the quay and watched prisoners being loaded from the prisons onto a galley to be chained to an oar, and a toil from which only death would free them. As he watched, one man broke the ranks and moved to his wife to say good-bye to her, knowing he would never

see her again. Vincent watched the man embrace her, and it seemed the voice came to him again, "Take it upon yourself." He moved quickly to the man's side, whispered something to him and the man slipped away in the crowd with his wife, and Vincent joined the file of shuffling men moving onto the galley. He was chained to an oar and seated on a rower's bench to toil under the lash of the galley driver. Days passed before the mistake was discovered, and Vincent was released. The story caused such a stir, that many people became concerned about the plight of galley slaves and convicts.

"Take it upon yourself," the voice had said! And how like the sentiment expressed by Paul this is: "The strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak." We often think of the weaknesses and burdens of other people as something we ought to put up with. Some people are like the little girl who was heard singing, "When all my neighbors and trials are o'er."

Do you notice that Paul does not say that we ought to "bear with the infirmities of the weak," but we are to "bear them." As Christians we have a God-given responsibility to serve our fellow man. We are not here to be served, but rather to serve. Ours is a world where the infirmities of ignorance, intolerance, prejudice, and unbelief are so strong. "Pleasing ourselves" is the exact thing we will do, unless we set ourselves to pursue the way of the Master, whose way is love.

HYMN.

No. 595, "Go, labor on."

MISSIONARY NEWS.

MISSIONARY PRAYER.

BUSINESS.

ADDRESS.

HYMN.

No. 97, "Let every heart and tongue."

BENEDICTION.

W.C.W.F. PRAYER FOR JUNE.

Pray for the women of Congo, Southern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, and South Africa, asking God's presence in every problem that they have. Pray for a better understanding between white and colored people, for we are all children of God.

Should non-members be told not to take communion until they have fulfilled the new Testament requirements for church membership? (Part 2).

It is impossible to share effectively in the communion service unless there is personal commitment to our Lord. It is not enough simply to eat the bread and drink the cup. The most important aspect of our communion service is our recognition of the living Christ in the fellowship of the church.

When we say that it is the Lord's Table, we do not mean only that historically he initiated this act of worship. He is actually present, and we enter into communion with him. In this relationship our sins are forgiven, our lives are cleansed, our faith is strengthened, our hope is renewed, and our love is deepened through an awareness of God's greater love for us.

Is it possible to enter into this experience without having followed the conventional way of church membership? I say that it is possible, because it is happening. This is not to ignore the traditional way of joining the church, nor to weaken our witness to the restoration of New Testament principles and practices. It does mean that an even greater emphasis is placed upon the inward response than upon enforced outward expressions of that response.

We have no authority to declare that the Christ will withhold himself from any that love him and seek him in the communion experience. The steps to discipleship must never be regarded as meritorious works to justify our place at the Table. Christ is our only justification.

Our attitude used to be stated as "we neither invite nor debar" any from attending the Lord's Table. It is more customary today for those presiding at the Lord's Table to "invite all who love the Lord" to partake. This still places the responsibility upon the worshipper.

The normal way is to come to communion through faith, repentance, confession, and obedience, but sometimes the Lord's Table can be the way leading to these other things.

Let us by all means continue to present the Christ and the Church of the New Testament, but let's have done with fences around the Lord's Table.

Next Week: What are elders?

(Send Questions to the Editor).

# HERE AND THERE

On May 26, recordings were made by the A.B.C. of hymn singing by the church at North Essendon, Vic. These will be broadcast over National radio stations on Sun., June 9 and Mon., June 10.

Another series of Pleasant Sunday Afternoon programmes has been arranged for the Christian Centre, Perth, W.A. The first of the 1963 programmes was held on May 5, when the Therry Society presented in full costume the Passion Play, *Via Crucis*, to an audience of 350.

W. H. Nightingale, who is serving the church at Wellington Point, Qld., has been appointed a minister of Churches of Christ in Qld. for the third time in 57 years. Mr. Nightingale has served the Australian brotherhood well in many ways over the years, and we wish for him continued joy in service.

The next meeting of the Vic.-Tas. Ministers' Wives' Association will be held at the Churches of Christ Centre on Mon., June 17, at 11.30 a.m. The speaker will be Mrs. G. Whiting, and all members are invited to be present.—May Shaw (Sec.).

J. Main (Auburn) and A. Surtees (Paddisow) were guest preachers at the 57th anniversary services of the church at Hornsby, N.S.W., held on May 26. Guest artists were Miss B. Marcus and A. Glover. The P.S.A. and anniversary basket tea were enjoyable fellowship features. All services were well attended.

Australian churches have given £43,500 to the Freedom From Hunger Campaign so far this year. C. R. Sprackett, Inter-Church Aid secretary of the Australian Council of Churches, said that this amount had been paid over to the national committee of the Freedom From Hunger Campaign, or paid direct to the project overseas. Inter-Church Aid would contribute a minimum of £50,000 to the national appeal for funds to grow more food in under-developed countries. The money had been allocated for agricultural training and crop improvement programmes in India, Korea, East Pakistan, Egypt, Uganda, Sierra Leone and Italy. Mr. Sprackett said that in addition to playing important parts in the efforts of many local Freedom From Hunger appeals, hundreds of churches throughout Australia were abiding by the Biblical injunction to "go the second mile." Christians were being urged to give their fullest support to the community appeal and, in addition, to provide at least £50,000 as a special contribu-

tion from the churches. In hundreds of congregations, special appeals were being made so that this could be reached. We are glad to note from our own church reports that Churches of Christ are playing a worthy part in this giving.

A well attended social evening at North Balwyn, Vic., was held on May 25 to honor R. W. Vautier at the conclusion of his six-year ministry. Appreciation of the service given by Mr. and Mrs. Vautier was expressed by all auxiliaries. Presentations were made on behalf of the B.S., C.E., C.W.E.F., as well as the church gift, presented by the elder.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thomson commenced a further term of service with the church at Croydon, Vic., on May 5.

A personal letter from Mr. and Mrs. Keith Skillicorn (Australian missionaries serving with British Churches of Christ Mission, India) tells of plans for their furlough at the end of this year. They are still hoping to find a suitable furlough home reasonably close to Brighton (Vic.), their home church. On present plans, they will arrive in Melbourne during the second week in December after a visit to relatives in Perth and a brief evangelistic campaign at Subiaco, W.A.

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## Opening of New Hall YARRAWONGA, VIC.

April 20 was a great day for the church at Yarrowonga, when the spacious new hall and modern kitchen were opened and dedicated by D. H. Smith, Home Mission Sec.

A large crowd gathered for the opening. Folk from other churches in the town were present, also delegations from our churches at Shepparton, Wangaratta and Wagga.

Before entering the hall, Mr. Houghton, senr., gave a resume of the details behind the erection of the hall. Mr. Purton, as chief builder and organiser, then opened the door of the hall, thus allowing those present to enter into the building for the dedication service. Mr. Smith gave a very fine address.

Arising out of a need for better facilities, the church members agreed to build a new hall and kitchen, adjoining the already existing buildings.

This work was undertaken by voluntary labor. The actual cost of the

hall and kitchen was £1,100, which is a very modest sum for the erection of the lovely buildings. Mr. Purton and other helpers gave of their time and effort freely and tirelessly. The kitchen has an entrance from the outside as well as a sliding door into the hall. There is also a servery into the hall, twin stainless steel sinks, a refrigerator, an electric hot water urn and necessary cupboard space.

Nearly £400 has already been raised by direct giving. The deep appreciation of the church is extended to all who have helped in so many ways.

After the dedication service, the ladies served afternoon tea, and visitors were invited to inspect the kitchen and other facilities.—A. Chappell.

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## "Here Come the Boys"

—some notes on recent activities of the Explorer Boys' Movement in Victoria and Tasmania.

May was "Service Month." This year the lads were set the task of collecting groceries, which would be distributed to the following fields of Christian Service:

- Burwood Boys' Home.
- Blind Babies and Children's Home.
- Bethany Children's Home — Tasmania.
- Berry Street Foundling Home.
- Christian Guest Home (Oakleigh).
- Emmaus Rest Home.
- Federal College of the Bible — Glen Iris.
- Kew Cottages.
- Will H. Clay Nursing Home.

A quota of 10/- per boy was set, and we are glad to report that this quota has been exceeded many, many, many times! One young "genius" turned in £25 worth. Good work, boys!

The Explorers' programme of LEADERSHIP TRAINING for 1963 has also made a vital commencement. Some thirty-one Junior Leaders qualified for the Junior Leader's Certificate after an intensive three-day course, held during school holidays. The young men, whose ages ranged from 13 to 15 years, learned with basic techniques such as springboard work, swimming routine, gymnasium work. Looking over this group, one feels that the future is in good hands.

Lastly, would churches in Victoria and Tasmania please note that Boys' Sunday for 1963 will be observed on Sunday, Nov. 3? The date has been brought forward a week on account of school exams. The television programme, relating to Boys' Sunday, will take place on Sunday, Oct. 27.—R. V. Longthorp.



# INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

## Discipleship

Norma Fredricksen, Maryborough, Qld.

Mrs. T. Cummins, Thomas Cummins, Ruth Nelson, Nth. Rockhampton, Qld.

Judith and Dale Nelson, William-st., Rockhampton, Qld.

Mrs. Hale, Cheltenham, Vic.

Carolyn McDonald, North Balwyn, Vic.

Janice Farrar, Rosemary Kitchen, Mr. and Mrs. S. Blyth, North Essendon, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Squires, Mrs. Bonnor, Morwell - Newborough - Traralgon, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. G. Foxhill, Kurt Foxhill, Canberra, A.C.T.

Valdi Klavins, Morawa, W.A.

## Membership

T. Cummins, Nth. Rockhampton, Qld.

Mr. and Mrs. K. Baldry, Carnegie to North Essendon, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Morgan, Footsray to Preston, Vic.

Bob. Griffiths, Chadstone to Richmond, Vic.

Mrs. Farmer, Annerley, Qld.; Mrs. Parkin, Castlemaine to Newborough, Vic.

D. Pederson, Edwardstown, S.A.; P. Cambridge, Albury, N.S.W., to Canberra, A.C.T.

## Marriage

Heather Kahl, Lenswood, S.A., to Robert Marshall, Naracoorte, S.A.

Faye Beers to Neville White, Patricia Bruce to Bernard Belgrove, Cheltenham, Vic.

Barbara Wilson to Ian Lobbe; Dianne Wilson to Michael Hill, Box Hill, Vic.

## Fallen Asleep

George Romeril, Castlemaine, Vic.  
Mrs. Pearson, The Patch, Vic.

### AUST. CAPITAL TERRITORY

Canberra (G. R. Stirling, B.A.). — Mrs. D. J. Munro, recently returned from Washington, D.C., spoke to C.W.F. on women's work in U.S.A. Men's activities have included forum on the population explosion, bonfire night on May 24 in aid of this year's project (to help furnish Bombay church), and discussion led by Dr. D. Kemsley on science and religion. Number of communicants averages 171. Av. attendance at morning services, 200. Youth service, night of May 5, attended by 220. Ladies' choir and discussion panel shared in evening service, Mother's Day. Three baptised, May 26.

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Morawa (K. Turner). — Young man baptised, received into fellowship, May 12. B.S. anniversary on 19th; theme, *More Precious Than Gold*; record attendance. Executives of Geraldton, Dalwallinu and Morawa C.W.F. met to plan inaugural meeting of Northern Districts Women's Conference. Minister conducted service at Perenjori recently. C.W.F. adopting 2 New Guinea school children. Mark's Gospel being studied at mid-week meetings.

### QUEENSLAND

Rockhampton - North Rockhampton - Moongan (V. G. Boettcher). — Attendances well maintained. Av. attendances at city churches past month: a.m. 71; p.m. 93; 81 breaking bread. Offerings for local work have averaged £37 per week. Meetings at Moongan have averaged 25. Twelve decisions and rededications recently. Organ recital given on recently installed electronic organ by city organist; organ dedicated to God's service. Four new members recently welcomed into church at Craig-st. C.S.S.M. after-school meetings averaged 75; two special rallies had attendances of 75 and 150. Mission conducted in William-st. chapel by F. Leivesley. Mr. and Mrs. J. Steele farewelled; presentations made prior to departure for Redcliffe. C.Y.F. picnic outing to Yeppoon by bus and cars on May Day enjoyed by 70 Y.P. and friends. Girls' club social evening at Craig-st. on May 18 largely attended. Successful combined B.S. picnic, Botanical Gardens, 19th. Home and Family Week meetings, May 19-

25, conducted by Stanley Chalmers (Social Serv. Sec.), interested both old and young; Moongan also visited. Special services given prominence in press and radio. Prayerful planning for evangelistic effort at William-st. Work of C.W.F. enlarging; projects being undertaken. Street stall recently raised over £85. Interior chapel improvements at William-st. in progress.

Ann-st., Brisbane (L. G. Read.) — C.Y.F. has own live-wire newspaper, *Mini-Messenger*, published fortnightly. Mini has just had its 2nd birthday, and editress, Pam Joyner, and her literary team have big plans for 3rd year. After-church fellowship, May 26, arranged by C.Y.F., featured inspirational singing, plus film and refreshments. As part of Literature Week, special book display arranged. Rosslyn Bassett and Jay Back chosen to represent Ann-st. C.Y.F. on Qld. Christian Youth Council. Garden party at Government House marked Commonwealth Youth Week; Churches of Christ Y.P. represented.

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Hornsby (R. Hilford). — Church is pleased to report R. Hilford improved but still very sick; fellowship of prayer of brotherhood appreciated. Messrs. Glazier and Dallinger preachers, 19th. Dallinger family contributed in song p.m.; one decision. B.S. held bonfire, 24th; proceeds for Freedom From Hunger Campaign amounted to £9/15/. At anniversary gospel service, 26th, offering for same appeal was £19/12/6.

Inverell (R. Powell). — During recent weeks, B.S. has enjoyed strip film, *Peppy the Pup*, in serial form. Teenagers' Fellowship assisted in making tape-recorded commentary. C.W.F. assisted auxiliaries in Inverell district in providing Austerity Dinner in Campbell Park on 25th, for Freedom From Hunger Campaign. Girls' and boys' club held bonfire and cracker night out of town on 26th, when many children and parents attended. Supper was later served at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Angus Mackie, and concluded enjoyable and noisy night.

Epping (H. M. Long). — C.W.F. conducted gospel service on Mother's Day. Life Boys hosts to leaders and members of 1st Toronto team, May 17-18. Despite rain, teams enjoyed inspection of Warragamba Dam. Church parade a.m. 18th, when visiting leader gave children's talk. Teams attended a quarter-deck parade in

afternoon. C.W.F. anniversary meeting on 21st addressed by Mrs. Chambers; 135 present. Youth tea held by Y.P.C.E. on 26th; guest speaker, Dixie Willis (W.A.). At gospel service, church Life Boys' team (37th Parramatta) formally constituted, with leading official of Life Boys taking part. Service concluded with baptism of 3 Y.P.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Lenswood (A. J. Ingham). — Church welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Ingham back after several weeks' vacation in Victoria; Ross Graham guest speaker in Mr. Ingham's absence. Continued interest in monthly Bible study. B.S. commencing 3 months' Efficiency Campaign with Overseas Missions as theme, and plans to have visiting missionaries during this period. Offering of £16 on Harvest Thanksgiving day went to Freedom From Hunger Campaign.

Unley (J. E. Webb). — Plans made to commence a club for boys, 8-14 years; leadership in the hands of Tom Anderson and Noel Colledge. £28/7/6 was received at C.W.F. gift social. May 19 was Youth for Christ day, when number of Y.P. took part in both services. Minister explained to senior B.S. scholars ordinances of the church at a.m. service. Ian Gates (C.O.B.) presided at evening service; Y.P. formed choir and provided special music. Dr. John Lawton gave the address. A number of visitors attended this service.

Goolwa (R. W. Saunders). — Will Bovey and John McKinlay were responsible for quarterly family night in church building, providing spiritual entertainment for both old and young; impromptu plays with spiritual message and background have proved most popular, as many as possible taking part, creating active interest in work of church. Contacting as many parents as possible, every effort is being undertaken to make arrangements for early start of new church building. Girls' basketball team making helpful contacts with non-church Y.P.

Port Pirie (K. J. Parry). — Attendances well maintained. Av. communing, 60; p.m., 90. Chapel overflowing for combined Easter service; approx. 250 present. B.S. attendance increased by over 50 since opening of new chapel. 80 present at family tea prior to p.m. service, 5th. Family social, 11th. Two decisions, 19th. Inter-Church Fellowship now functioning well.

Glenelg (C. E. Curtis). — Church social held after evening service, Apr. 28, to farewell members leaving for abroad. C.W.A.F. and C.W.E.F. combined for special Mother's Day afternoon, May 1, with special items; Mrs.

Fax, guest speaker. Special youth tea, May 5, with Maurice Coombs as guest speaker, and again for evening service, with parade of all youth groups. Excellent Mother's Day a.m. service, with good attendance. Av. communicants for past month, 191. Basketball teams have entered 4 girls' teams and 6 boys' teams.

## VICTORIA

Carlton (R. J. Duckett). — Ambassadors' Quartet's items greatly appreciated, p.m., May 19. E. McClean has suffered slight stroke; A. Johnson is in hospital following heart attack, and Mrs. H. Faull has been under hospital treatment. Request from G. Sonsie (New Guinea) for special equipment to assist him in his building work met with ready response from members; instruments on their way to him. 4th monthly box opening for 1963 £1,500 Missionary Appeal brings total to £550. Mrs. Pang, Miss Seehusan, Miss Prittie, Mrs. Lees and Mrs. Moriano still ill. Midweek prayer and Bible study session continues with active interest. After 8 years' capable leadership as B.S. supt., H. A. Faull has relinquished position on accepting office of church sec.

Richmond (N. B. Wells - W. S. Gaunson). — B. Wells assisted in 3-day vacation school at Emerald. C.Y.F. went to "New Life Crusade" at Springvale on 31st; Bill Gaunson song leader. Men from Gardiner continue to give appreciated service as helpers once a month at a.m. meetings. In Church School, competition under way to help enlist new scholars and encourage regular attendance. Since beginning of May, list of announcements printed and handed out, rather than spoken from pulpit. Church heartened at progress made by E. Brodie, following illness.

Preston (G. W. Barnett). — Dr. E. R. Killmer guest speaker C.M.S., May 5. At monthly film service on 12th, *The Hidden Heart*, and B. and F. B. S. color film, *Unto The Hills*, screened. Mothers' nights held by Good Companions and P.B.P. club. In absence of minister on holidays, services May 19, 26, addressed by F. Morgan, B. & F. B. S. representative, K. Gluyas and R. V. Longthorp. Church rejoices in return home of sec. (A. Quilfe) after surgery in hospital, and prays for speedy recovery.

Hartwell (G. A. Whiting, B.A., M.R.E., Ed.D.). — On May 4, about 150 met in hall for tea, after which plans for Functional Committees for church were outlined, discussed, and adopted. C.W.A.F. held enjoyable afternoon on 14th, in aid of Building Fund, at residence of Mrs. Pione. On 15th, in spite of inclement weather,

er, good delegations from district churches met in chapel for quarterly H.M. prayer meeting. Interest displayed in discussion and prayer group in midweek meeting. Special offering taken for Freedom From Hunger Campaign realised £158/5/-. Sympathy of church expressed to Mrs. B. Greenwood in bereavement of sister. Guest soloists, Mesd. Ware, Gove, Warmbrunn, Miss C. Powter.

Kyneton (K. H. Pitt). — Children sang well at anniversary services. A. Matheson spoke at 3 well-attended meetings; 73 at afternoon service. Welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Wilmshurst and family (Warragul). Number of other visitors during month. B.S. attendances encouraging. Morning services averaging 30.

Collingwood (S. H. Wilkerson). — Chapel crowded for gospel service on May 5, when special Crusade meeting conducted by Vic. C. of Christ-Baptist Tennis Assn., assisted by Ambassadors' Quartet. Summer pennants awarded during fellowship hour after the service. Sunbeam demonstration was given for C.W.F., 7th. Working bees have done further work on church building. Mesd. Tolson, Trainor and Witham present on 5th, after long absence, due to illness, etc. Homecoming Day on 19th, great success. Speakers were A. Titter and V. Longthorp. Musical items given by R. Warry, Watt Family, and P.S.A. conducted by Vic. C. of Christ Choral Society. Zone leader, P. Wing Tang, visited Explorer club on 16th. Mission plans well in hand. "C" grade tennis team undefeated in competition.

Castlemaine (A. C. Mudford - int.). — On May 5, Youth Sunday, splendid number attended youth tea. Barbara Brumby and Frank Freeman assisted in evening service. Mother's Day, on 12th, featured appreciated duet by Mesd. Macdonald and Sainsbury. May 19 was Thanksgiving Day, thanksgiving offering being received for brotherhood purposes. Church has been saddened by the sudden passing of Geo. Romeril. Sympathy extended to bereaved.

Box Hill (L. S. Dewberry). — On May 8, Y.P.C.E. held mothers' evening at home of Mr. and Mrs. B. Marchant. Junior and senior Good Companions combined on 9th for mothers' night. On 12th, mothers and babies attended combined kinder and primary meeting. Mothers' afternoon held on 14th with C.W.F. groups. Good Companion groups held gym night on 16th. On 17th, C.Y.F. group joined with Y.P. of other Box Hill churches for film night, arranged by Inter-Church Youth Council. Films related to appeal for Freedom From Hunger. On 22nd, Y.P.C.E. had salmagundi night. Good Companions visited Heinz factory, 24th. Y.P. conducted I.C.E. at Bayswater on 26th.

C.M.S. meeting held same day had speakers from Y.M.C.A. Training classes for those who assist in morning services held during month.

**Coburg (F. Rees).** — Planned Giving Programme led by A. Avery (H.M. Dept.), commenced with increased attendances on May 26. Two young men have confessed Christ. J.C.E. changing from Sunday afternoon to 11.30 a.m., under panel of leaders.

**North Essendon - Milleara (A. E. White, B.A. - T. R. Mason).** — Av. attendances for May: a.m. 125; p.m. 92; communicants 132, at North Essendon, and morning services only at Milleara, 34 (comm. 25), B.S. 89. C.W.E.F. spent a weekend at Monbulk Camp, and on previous week C.Y.F. were at Mt. Evelyn. Members attended quarterly H.M. prayer rally at Strathmore on May 15. On 19th, C.Y.F. travelled to Emmaus Rest Home and conducted service with guests there. On 22nd, Focus Night at church well attended, when film and messages on work of Dept. of Christian Education, led by Viney Longthorp and P. Williams, were listened to with interest, and questions answered by visitors. Two teenage girls baptised, 26th. Sympathy of church is with Mr. and Mrs. Medhurst and family in loss of Mrs. Medhurst, snr., and with Mr. and Mrs. E. Roffey, in loss of Mr. Roffey, snr. Alan Marshall elected as Chairman of Official Board. Robert Alves added to panel of church organists.

**Fairfield (T. A. Fitzgerald).** — May month for special meetings. Addresses appropriate to Mother's Day, Youth Sunday and Family Week given by minister. Quarterly meeting of Fairfield Council of Churches held in chapel, May 8. K. A. Jones speaker, E. Forbes soloist. United after-church meeting held in parish hall on 12th to see screening of Freedom From Hunger Campaign film. W.M.B. visited Ivanhoe society on 14th, to meet Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith (New Hebrides). Fairfield Inter-Church Youth Fellowship visited a.m. 26th, Mr. Fowler (United Aborigines Mission) spoke, and R. Darby (Ivanhoe) presided.

**Clayton (J. L. Reid).** — Excellent attendances at services. B.S. flourishing. Auxiliaries active; G.L.B. membership of 40. Recent speakers, Dr. Springer (Radio H.C.T.B.) and Mr. Chang (Borneo Evangelical Mission). Dorothy Tucker and David Soffe have sent encouraging reports of their undenominational missionary work in N.G. A number of members are ill.

**North Balwyn.** — At final service (baptismal), conducted by R. W. Vautier, B.S. scholar made good confession. After-church fellowship held in home of Mr. and Mrs. Geyer. Burwood Boys' Home appreciative of groceries collected and earned by

Explorer boys. C.W.E.F. celebrated 4th birthday on 20th, and conducted gospel service, Mother's Day. Judge Nimmo spoke at C.M.S. meeting. Church Development Council annual meeting, May 26, re-elected officers.

**Yarrowonga (R. Oke).** — Church attendances good, members appreciating new ministry. A married lady confessed her faith in Christ, has been baptised and received into membership. Junior girls' club (17 members) formed, under leadership of Misses B. Nothrop and S. Chappell. At annual business meeting all reports, particularly those concerning youth work, very heartening. B.S. gained several new scholars during year. Officers' Board now is: elders, J. Houghton, R. Starr; deacons, J. Colless, R. Caldwell, C. Davis, K. Danes, W. Nothrop, D. Starr. New hall and kitchen valuable asset. Attendance over 30 at Ladies' Guild special mothers' afternoon.

**Morwell - Newborough - Traralgon (L. G. Armstrong).** — Deputation led by V. Longthorp (D.C.E.) visited Morwell-Traralgon churches on Youth Sunday. Special services at Newborough and Morwell held on Mother's Day. C.E. conducted Newborough meeting whilst kinder and primary depts. held afternoon gathering at Morwell. Gospel service led in song by Ladies' Fellowship Choir, under capable direction of Mrs. H. Taylor. Offering for Spastic Children's Assoc. was received. Three baptised; two additions by transfer to Newborough. At annual meeting of C.W.F., following elected: pres., Mrs. Armstrong; sec., Mrs. Sullivan; treas., Mrs. Reeves.

**St. Kilda (L. Baxter).** — Youth service, 5th; speaker, Alan Matheson. Several Y.P. from Gardiner among visitors; all enjoyed fellowship in hall after service. Church grateful to Ian Allsop (C.O.B.) for preaching while minister recovering from operation. Anniversary services, 19th, inspiring; church grateful to all who took part. At fellowship after evening service, supper provided by ladies.

**Chelsea (C. G. V. Thomas).** — 3 young girls and one boy made public confession of faith p.m., May 5. Cottage prayer meetings started for winter months in members' homes. Bay-side C.Y.F. car trial, 18th, with local girl as belle of the trial. C.W.F. street stall raised £15/10/-, 24th. City of Chelsea held week of prayer for unity of all Christian people. Annual business meeting held p.m., 24th. All reports most encouraging. Those elected: elder, A. Augustine (sec.); deaconesses, Miss Green, Mrs. Chubb, Mrs. Goudie, Mrs. Parker; deacons, B. Fielder, G. Goudie, K. Holt, E. Page, T. Parker (treas.), H. Sando, L. Smith, H. Taylor, R. Taylor. New appointment, Ron Davies as asst. B.S. supt. £500 saved from general ex-

penses during 1962 passed for transfer to Hall Fund to help pay off capital debt.

**Bentleigh (F. L. Ewers, B.A.).** — Recent highlights included Missionary Week, when representatives of five Societies presented their work in various challenging forms; offering amounted to over £125. Good Companions invited mothers to meeting on 10th in honor of Mother's Day. C.E. societies held anniversary and graduation night on 12th, the three societies taking part; F. Manning, speaker. Evangelism committee sponsored series of studies, including tape recordings on evangelism and counselling, prepared by Billy Graham team.

**Essendon (V. Quayle).** — On May 5, minister conducted B.S. teachers' recognition service. B.S. anniversary singing excellent under baton of R. Tippett; speakers, J. Shaw, V. Quayle. C.W.E.F. held mothers' evening, 7th; Mrs. Fairservice (Pres., Presbyterian Missionary Union) spoke and showed films of her tour to Hong Kong and Japan; each mother received gift, after which a delightful supper was served; soloist, Mrs. J. Goldsworthy. On 9th, 40 Good Companions entertained mothers at social evening; Mrs. J. Hartney (leader, Senior Club) led devotions. After supper, gift was presented to each mother. Anniversary services continued, 12th; speakers, Messrs. Averill and Muller. C.M.S. held excellent film evening 17th; proceeds for New Hall Fund. R. F. Geyer (B.&F.B.S.) guest speaker a.m. 19th. C.M.S. held tea meeting; speaker, E. S. Aspinall (Ess. Tech. School Chaplain). At special family service p.m., Heather and Ian Ferguson rendered duet; N. Cheal read the Scriptures. After-church song service at home of Mr. and Mrs. D. Ferguson. Mrs. Summerton ill in Sacred Heart Hospital.

**Brighton (S. H. Wilson).** — Church saddened by Home calls of Dr. Paul Jenner and Mrs. Chisholm. Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Morris and Rowland returned after 4 weeks' visit to Japan. Christian Student Fellowship ably led church in worship, 5th. C. of C. Choral Society presented sacred cantata, Abraham, and other items, 11th; inspirational singing delighted those who attended. Church grateful to W. W. Saunders, C. Latimer, A. R. Pigdon and C. Hazlehurst for ministering during Mr. Wilson's absence on holidays. 2 additions to membership by F. and O. during month.

**South Yarra (B. F. Goldsteen - C. G. Dredge).** — One received by faith and baptism, one by transfer. Good Companions functioning successfully and Explorer Clubs commenced under leadership of C. Dredge. Successful B.S. rally held under guidance of C. Kimber, and follow-up function being arranged to maintain

interest of children. Series of Sunday evening meetings being arranged by each auxiliary. J. Brown and R. Walters elected elders, with H. Kerison. C. Dredge assisting at present in New Life Crusade at Springvale.

**Peel-st., Ballarat (C. W. Jackel).** — Interest maintained following Willis Crusade. On occasions, building comfortably filled. Chart addresses on God's answer to man's greatest question meeting with marked interest. Several men and women have participated; solos by Valerie Schrader, Mrs. Jean Graham, Marlene Chapman and Pauline Hunter enjoyed. Competitions arranged by Mrs. A. Graham at well attended Ladies' Fellowship helpful and entertaining. Interest keen in effort to have the senior school commit to memory books of the Bible, awards being given to individuals who succeeded. Woman to Woman evangelism under way. Representatives present from all churches when Vic. Berry compered kitchen tea for Judy Jepsen and Graeme Jackel. 21 Endeavorers at cottage meeting at home of Mrs. Chapman. Recent annual meeting decided to purchase an electronic organ conditionally, to have White-Coleman mission next year, to renovate buildings and tidy grounds, and support Freedom From Hunger Campaign. Among visitors from Wangaratta on May 19 were A. L. Jackel, who presided, and Mrs. Wilma Jackel, who sang. At same service, minister inducted elders and deacons. Several have visited Willis-Gadge Crusade at Geelong and supplied choir items. Softball teams meeting with measure of success.

**Ringwood (J. E. Brooke).** — Attendances regular. At C.M.S., May 7, Col. Stephenson (S.A. Bayswater Boys' Home) surveyed social work of Salvation Army. Y.P. took part in Commonwealth Youth march and service on 5th, also p.m., when lad made good confession. P. Williams (Chairman, Dept. Christian Education) spoke on work of Dept., a.m., with Y.P. leading in service. C.Y.F. camp at Monbulk, May 10-12, had members of Officers' Board sharing in 7.30 a.m. communion. C.W.E.F. held mother and daughter evening, 14th. District prayer rally at Montrose supported by Wed. evening group, 15th. K. Barnes, recently returned from Hong Kong, now appointed church sec.; thanks expressed to A. Cleland for services pro tem. First official report of Planned Giving Programme shows average of £95 p.w.; before commencement, £62. 3 Endeavorers attended C.E. camp at Belgrave Heights. Organist, N. Nankivell, back after illness.

**Ivanhoe (H. W. Street).** — Men and women of church visited Mount Royal Home for Aged on May 19, distributing literature, speaking with patients and providing evening meal for Ward 14. Special Marriage Commemoration

Service 19th, married couples renewing marriage vows; musical items by Mrs. Bev. Beazley and Mr. and Mrs. Mac. Wolf. Welcome extended to G. Reed, home on vacation from Qld. University. Films of recent Y.P. camp at Hall's Gap shown at after-church fellowship. Special bookstall set up in hall to publicise Literature Week. House-warming party given to Mr. and Mrs. A. Reed in new home at Frankston. Newly-formed girls' basketball team recorded first win.

**Malvern (A. B. Clark).** — Good meetings continue under new minister. 89 broke bread on Mother's Day, with 60 present at night. Mother's Day bouquets presented to Mrs. Buckingham and Mrs. Pfeifer. C.M.S. had monthly meeting, when C. D. Harding spoke on Cruelty to Animals. Successful progressive dinner on May 10 by C.M.S. and C.W.F. enabled members to get to know new minister and family. Gospel music rendered by Lois Sonsie, McLean Duo and Helen Flanders. B.S. continues to get new scholars; attendance up to 49.

**Norlane (B. White).** — At last Friendly Hour (fortnightly after-church sing-song at manse) 31 gathered around organ. Solos from Miss E. Smith, Mrs. R. Grazules and Mrs. W. Pope appreciated. G.L.B. and B.B. formed under capable leadership of Mrs. C. Allen and Miss C. Meyer, and G. Allen and R. Lee. C.W.F. had interesting demonstration by Mrs. Dandy on covering lampshades and making plastic baskets. £5 voted for Freedom From Hunger Campaign. Drumcondra C.M.S. met at Norlane on 26th. Mr. Dargen (Alcoa Co.) gave interesting talk and film on production of aluminium.

**Cheltenham (R. C. Bolduan).** — District H.M. prayer rally, 15th; 70 attended. Many parents and scholars attended B.S. picnic, Cheltenham Park, 4th. Lady made good confession and was baptised, p.m., 26th. Three Y.P. took part in p.m. service on Youth Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith visiting speakers, 19th. Mrs. Chong and Mrs. Shue (Queensberry-st. Mission) spoke to Snowball ladies. E. S. Sanders (Sec., Temperance Alliance) speaker at C.W.F.

**Wattle Park (L. G. Crisp, L.Th., Dip. R.E.).** — Combined meeting with Presbyterian Church was film service, conducted by B. & F. B. S. Planned Giving maintaining a high standard, with up to £108 in weekly giving. Annual meeting revealed all depts. in healthy condition. C. Young elected elder and G. Kennedy added to Board. A. R. Pigdon first lecturer at series of lectures on conduct of Sun. morning service. C.W.F. conducted Mother's Day service; Mrs. Merritt, speaker. Trophies presented to the Junior Cricket Club at conclusion of successful season. Tennis club ranch night at Box Hill North raised £7 for funds.

Burwood Boys' Home will benefit by Explorer boys' "10/- per boy" drive during May. Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Kemp have gone to England, Mr. and Mrs. Young to Qld., Mr. and Mrs. Muller to Fiji, for short visits. 5 Y.P. baptised, 26th. Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Miriam (New Hebrides) amongst many recent visitors.

**The Patch (A. E. Hurren).** — Recent Y.P. activities included variety evening, in aid of B.S. Equipment Fund; fellowship tea, followed by screening of *The Quest*; and conducted tour of Spencer-st. signalling system. Colored strip film in opening exercises of B.S. is adding interest, and teenage class, conducted by W. Compston, has commenced each Sun. afternoon. Two scholars made good confession, p.m., 19th. Delegation attended E. District H.M. prayer rally at Montrose. Members of C.W.F. visited Mt. Evelyn birthday meeting. Guest speaker at recent C.W.F., Mrs. Adamson (Methodist). Visitors continue to attend and work in good heart. No p.m. services to be held in winter months.

★

With this issue, C. G. Taylor commences his thirteenth year as Editor of *The Australian Christian*, and will continue to serve in this capacity until the issue of Nov. 12, 1963, just prior to leaving Victoria for his new work with the church at Chatswood, N.S.W. He appreciates kindly letters received from a number of readers.

Though without a minister at the moment, the church at Kelleve, Tas., has maintained its work, with some appreciated help from members at Collins-st., Hobart. The church buildings are being moved to Copping. The moving of the Bream Creek chapel has already been accomplished, thanks to local members and some from Hobart. During the reconstruction of this church building, Reg. Jacobson found a letter in a bottle which had been put between the walls when the chapel was first built. The letter was dated April 26, 1893. On May 16, the church appreciated the privilege of meeting with Samuel and Japheth, from the New Hebrides.

#### GOLDEN WEDDINGS

**REED - FRANKLIN.** — Mr. and Mrs. Harold L. Reed announce, with pleasure and thanksgiving, the 50th anniversary of their wedding which was celebrated at Ballarat, by Principal A. R. Main, on June 7, 1913. — Present address, 125 Errard-st., Ballarat, Vic.

**STRONGMAN - HOLLOWAY.** — Mr. and Mrs. Walter Strongman announce, with pleasure, the 50th anniversary of their marriage at Moreland Church of Christ, June 9, 1913. At home at 3 Creswick-st., Glen Iris, Vic., Sunday, June 9.

**ENGAGEMENTS**

**MILDERN - KEY.** — Mr. and Mrs. A. Mildern, 51 Oakover-rd., West Preston, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their only daughter, Joy, to Bruce, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. D. Key, Ivanhoe, Vic.

**DRAKE - HOLLAND.** — Mr. and Mrs. F. Drake, Wills-st., Maryborough, Vic., take pleasure in announcing the engagement of their youngest daughter, Beverley Ann, to Christopher, only son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Holland, of Sandy Bay, Tasmania.

**DEATH**

**McDOWELL.** — On May, 26, Harriet, of 96 Chaffey-ave., Mildura, Vic. (late of Carnegie), beloved wife of George, devoted mother of Vera (Mrs. Costain), George, Victor and Walter. Aged 89 years. "For ever with the Lord."

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### Coming Events

**NEWMARKET (Vic.) BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY**, June 16. Speakers: 3 p.m., D. A. V. THOMAS; 7 p.m., L. E. BROOKER. All welcome.

**NORTHCOTE CHURCH (Vic.) 60th ANNIVERSARY and HOMECOMING**, Sunday, June 16, 11 a.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A.; 7 p.m., A. B. Withers. Wednesday, 19th, 8 p.m., Thanksgiving Service and Fellowship. Representative speakers. A welcome to all. Hospitality 44-4205.

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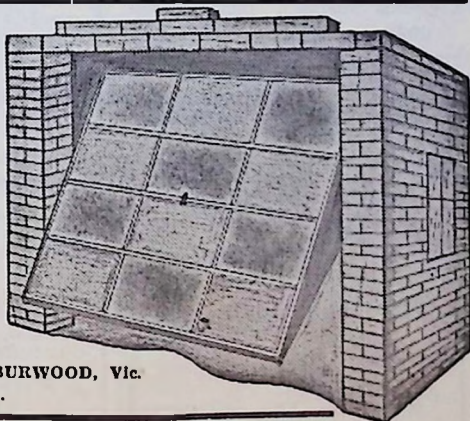
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**HONORS LIST, FIRST TERM, 1963.**

**Apologetics:** D. Andrews, T. Mason, B. Wells; 9 others passed.

**Practical Church Work I:** A. Coleman, I. Gates, E. Kernick, E. Williams; 3 others passed.

**Practical Church Work II:** D. Andrews, T. Mason, F. Rees; 8 others passed.

**Old Testament:** A. Coleman, A. Cutt, C. Dredge, I. Gates, W. Gaunson, E. Kernick, R. Lawton, E. Williams; 17 others passed.

**Comparative Religion:** D. Andrews, T. Mason, B. Wells; 9 others passed.

**Religious Education:** W. Gaunson, R. Lawton; 10 others passed.

**Homiletics I:** A. Coleman, A. Cutt, I. Gates, E. Kernick, E. Williams, 3 others passed.

**Homiletics II:** B. Adams, I. Allsop, M. Drake, W. Gaunson, G. Lawrie, R. Lawton, D. Marr, J. Paver, C. Smith; 7 others passed.

**Homiletics III:** D. Andrews, P. Andrews, B. Dowsett, G. Harrison, K. Mason, T. Mason, A. Page, K. Pitt, H. Prime, G. Setsman, B. Wells; 1 other passed.

**Greek I:** A. Coleman, I. Gates, E. Kernick, E. Williams, 2 others passed.

**Greek II:** C. Dredge, W. Gaunson, G. Lawrie, R. Lawton, 9 others passed.

**Greek III:** C. Heier, T. Mason; 7 others passed.

**Church History I:** A. Coleman, I. Gates, E. Kernick, E. Williams; 2 others passed.

**Church History II:** C. Dredge, W. Gaunson, R. Lawton; 11 others passed.

**Doctrine:** D. Andrews, T. Mason, 5 others passed.

**Ethics:** T. Mason, F. Rees; 8 others passed.

**Economics:** D. Olafsen.

**English Grammar:** J. Davis, M. Gaskin, D. Olafsen; 1 other passed.

**New Testament:** A. Coleman, A. Cutt, C. Dredge, I. Gates, W. Gaunson, E. Kernick, R. Lawton, C. Smith, E. Williams; 16 others passed.—E. L. Williams.

**OBITUARY**

George Romeril.

The church at Castlemaine, Vic., has been saddened by the sudden passing of Mr. Romeril. He was baptised at Brighton by A. E. Forbes, and welcomed into the fellowship of the church on June 5, 1927. He was also in membership in the churches at Bentleigh, Gardenvale, and later came to Castlemaine and was welcomed into fellowship, Oct. 7, 1958. For

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some time he was an isolated member whilst working in Gippsland as an engine driver. Because of an accident, Mr. Romeril had been in ill-health for some years. The church expresses sincere Christian sympathy to Mrs. Romeril and family in the loss of a loyal husband and father. He was a loyal servant of the Lord, but was unable to attend services because of failing health. After a service at the undertaker's parlor, the cortege left for the Cheltenham Cemetery, where H. A. Hunt (Hawthorn) officiated at the graveside. We commend all who mourn to our Heavenly Father's care. "Until the day dawns and the shadows flee away."—A. C. Muddford.

★

A New Testament Conference is to be held at the University of Sydney, Aug. 24-31, 1963, dealing with matters bearing on the interpretation and significance of the New Testament and its place in the life of the Church today. The speakers will include Prof. Denis Nineham and Prof. Gunther Bornkamm, distinguished scholars from Great Britain and Germany. The membership fee will be £2. Accommodation will be available for members at the University Colleges, or at adjacent Theological Colleges, for the duration of the Conference at the cost of £8. Requests for further information (enclosing stamped addressed envelope) may be sent to the chairman, Canon I. F. Church, St. Francis' College, Milton, Qld.

At Maryborough, Qld., the Church of Christ is calling for tenders for the removal of the house on the new site. This is the essential preliminary to the building of a new chapel, plans for which have been drawn up for some time.

## ADVERTISEMENT CHARGES

Deaths, Memorials (space does not permit verse), Births, Engagements, Marriages, Thanks, 5/-; Wanted, For Sale, To Let and similar ads., also paragraphed Coming Events, 24 words, 4/- (every additional word, 1d.). Displayed Coming Events and other ads., 5/- inch. All ads. 1/- extra booking fee if invoiced out.

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