

NATIONAL

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# Charge to a Congregation

On the Induction of a Young Minister,

William H. Martin.

You have chosen a servant: let him serve.

You have chosen a leader: let him lead.

You have chosen a man of God: help him remain so.

Guard his youth, and help him stay young all his life.

Let him hold to the idealism of youth, that with age it may neither mellow nor disintegrate.

Allow him to have new ideas, and to spark them in your midst; Do not be too anxious to quench these sparks with cold water.

Let differences which arise be marked by understanding and respect and humor

And bridged by your common purpose in serving God.

Lend him your encouragement and from time to time put it into words. Do not allow the hour of sleep find him depressed or disheartened.

Allow him to draw his own conclusions about people and their problems.



As he may be able to see them in a and perhaps a betdifferent ter - light.

Allow him time for spiritual refreshment:

quiet thinking and meditation

retreats for the growth of the spirit.

Don't let him feel the loneliness of the ministry,

But draw circles that will include

him and his family,
And share with him and his wife
genuine Christian love.

Have confidence in him, and, through him,

the teachers who have taught in him.

in the minds of the great thinkers he has read,

the parents and family who have nurtured him,

God who has chosen him for this part.

Tie him neither to the past nor to the post:

Help him to know the best of what has been

without insisting that he either uphold it or follow it if he knows a better way;

Allow him opportunities to leave the immediate task from time to time so that he may look again on the total task of the Kingdom.

He has come to think of the Church as people;

May you always think of him as a person,

and never as a machine or a divinity.

Keep in mind that you are inducting him

not to the ministry of this church only.

nor to the brotherhood of Churches of Christ only,

but to the Church Universal, stretching out across the world in order

to reach others who also wish to be in the Kingdom of God.

Pray for him; Allow him to pray for you, recognising that the latter may be more difficult for you than the former.

Remember that he represents among you not himself

but the Christ of God: Your response will be not to him, but to the Master of both of you.

Finally,

Show by your practices and good deeds and lives of prayer your willingness to follow the One Whom he so willingly follows.

This will be his greatest reward . . . . . . and yours.

May God bless you both in this joint venture.

-The Christian.



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President, C. R. Burdeu, 32 Salt-st., Windsor, Qld. Sec.-Treas., K. J. Clinton, 413 Mountain Highway, Bayswater, Vic. Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian" of June 12, 1913.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

Proposed Brisbane Mission. - The Federal Executive has arranged for holding a mission in Brisbane, which is expected to last from 4 to 6 weeks. S. G. Griffith is to be the missioner. A central position in the city has been secured, on which it is proposed to erect a tent capable of accommodating a thousand people, which can be made to hold more than double that number if circumstances demand it. The cause of primitive Christi-anity in the city is only represented by three churches, namely, Brisbane, Zillmere, and Albion (itself just start-The more distant churches of ed). The more distant churches of the West Moreton circuit will take an active part in the mission.

Introducing W. Gale to N.S.W. -About 10.30 on Tuesday night, June 3, a number of Sydney preachers, B.S. superintendents and other prominent workers, were seen leaving a building in the heart of the city. A satisfied, contented look appeared on the face of each one. Their general appearance bespoke contentment. They had been faring sumptuously at a magnificent dinner as the guests of Dr. Bardsley, of the North Sydney church. The doctor had chosen this method of introducing W. Gale, B.S. Organiser, to the workers, and of commending his work. All who were present report a splendid time, and much enthusiasm for Bible School work - and big dinners.

Filmers in New Hebrides. - Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Filmer are doing a splendid work for God in the isles of the South Seas. They live at Banmatmat, but their influence and work extend to the uttermost parts of Pentecost, and in addition to the visitation of 18 schools, and the var-ied duties of an energetic missionary, Mr. Filmer has a training institution, where native preachers are trained for service for God.

News Jottings. - Fifty-eight confessions in the Mildura (Vic.) mission up to Sunday night last; 7 baptised believers have also been received, and 3 have been restored. Of the total, 52 have already united with the congregation, 50 at Mildura and 2 at Merbeln . Merbeln . . . Modern buildings are sorely needed among many of the churches in N.S.W. Erskineville's new building is almost completed. St. Peter's have secured a chapel. Hornsby folk are enlarging their present church home. In many places the work is sorely hindered by lack of suitable premises . . Opening services of the Malvern (Vic.) new building at Valetta-st. will be held on June 15.



# How Effective is Our Evangelism?

Mission efforts still have a place in the programming of many Australian Churches of Christ. Sometimes they are the "big campaign" type, centred in a tent or its equivalent. More often they take the form of a fortnight (including three Sundays) of special meetings held in the local church building. Both types depend on sister churches for prayer support and the presence of delegations. The results of both include seeming successes and failures. Overall, we like to believe the best about them, and to hail them as supplying proof that we are still an evangelistic people. If visible results have been meagre, we ease our disappointment with certain welltried, optimistic phrases, which the cynic might dismiss as little more than face-saving formulae. If results have been encouraging, we are tempted to cite them as evidence that the form of evangelism we have been using is superior to any other. Too often the standards by which we judge the success or otherwise of evangelistic effort are superficial and inadequate.

A recent writer in the American weekly, Christian Standard (9/2/63), made some probing comments following a fortnight's special meetings. "Isn't it about time," he asks, "we examined the benefits and advisability of what we call 'evangelistic meetings'? First, what we call evangelism is likely to end up as revivalism. When we find that the numerical goal we set for ourselves was unreasonable, or at least unattainable, we find a substitute claim to success: 'It was a meeting of spiritual enrichment.' Was it? Was anything new added to our understanding of God's revelation to us? . . . Should we feel joy because some children under the influence of an unusual situation have made 'decisions' far beyond their understanding and their parents are sighing a relief from responsibility, for 'Johnny has been baptised'? In many instances in our experience very little effort was made to teach in the homes prior to the children's confessions, and the families have indicated only nominal interest in the work of the church. Now, however, in a twoweek period, the Christian education of 'Johnny' has begun, climaxed and ended, as far as his parents are concerned."

The writer describes the "letdown" feeling, after the insistent demands on resources and energy, and comments, "Now we can sit back, relax and wait for the 'big push' again next year." He goes on to ask, "Was the effort justified by the results? If our church has ills to be corrected, one two-week meeting is not going to render it a healthy and vital organism again. Let the church teach us and feed us and fill us with understanding, and we shall be the strong and

vital body that Christ intended us to be. Let us aim for a programme of Christian education that provides us with a well-balanced, strength-and-health-building diet, so we won't have to call in the evangelistic doctor for our ration of 'pep pills.' For when the effect of the medication is past, the malady lingers on."

The American church member who wrote this article has doubtless overstated his case in one or two particulars. Even children of only nominally interested parents usually have more behind them in the way of Christian education before they make a public decision for Christ than just a two-week mission period. But there is the thrust of truth to the suggestion that too many such parents think of their child's baptism as the climax and the end. In fact, there are active church workers who never display the same interest in either child or adult once he or she has been brought to the point of decision for Christ. It is hard to know who is the worse this type of "evangelistic" worker who forgets the need to "conserve" with friendship and understanding those who have made such decisions, or the parent whose main spiritual concern for his child seems to be that he should be "done" (for this horrible word is still in use to describe Christian baptism!).

The American writer's plea for a programme of Christian education is sound, but it is unfortunate to contrast it with the periodical calling-in of "the evangelistic doctor." Surely an effective overall programme of Christian education will include, rather than cancel out, the occassional special campaign, based, as it then would be, on the kind of continuous, whole-church evangelism, set out so well by B. J. Combridge in his booklet, Design For Development. By all means, let us be rid of the idea that missions are a cureall for a church's problems, or a guarantee of a church's evangelistic life. They are one aspect of evangelism, not the whole of it. To argue that tent missions have had their day, and that this or that other form of evangelism is preferable, is something on which it is foolish to generalise. Forms of evangelism must be adapted to widely varying local needs. No pattern that has ever been effective in reaching men for Christ should be lightly dismissed, nor should we be reluctant to try the new patterns emerging out of the thrust of modern needs.

But the really important thing is that, more and more, we enlist and train our church members as part of an on-going evangelistic activity, whose concerns include the holding of people for Christ, as well as their initial winning to Christ.

# — Those Compulsive Hymn Writers

There are enough Fanny Crosby hymns alone to keep you singing — at the ratio of ten per Sunday — for the next sixteen years. In fact, if all the known hymns were to be sung, it would require as many Sundays as have elapsed since the Lord's resurrection to the present day.

Hymn-poems seem to spring from an inexhaustible well of faith. Since the days of Jesus' earthly ministry, Christian songs have continued to flow in a never-ending stream to inspire and bless the hearts of his followers in every corner of the world. Today, fervent hymns of praise are sung in some two hundred languages and in every corner of the world.



It is so easy for our hymnbook to deceive us. It is just one volume, and not a very large one at that. Yet, sad to relate, we know so few of the hymns. And sadder still, we sing only a small number of those we do know — those "old favorites." We may examine another hymnbook, or a hundred, and find most of the "old favorites" in each one of them also. So we draw the conclusion that there just haven't been many good hymns written.

But such is not the case. It seems that the popularity of many favorites practically demands space in any new edition of a hymnbook. This leaves very little space for the new or the less popular hymns. Hymn compilers and editors are constantly striving for the "perfect hymnal." Before a new edition goes to press, thousands and thousands of hymns are carefully examined, but probably only about one out of a hundred examined ones come through this laborious screening process to gain a place in the new edition.

In view of such tremendous odds against success, it would seem that hymn-writing would soon become a lost art. But, again, such is not the case. Fortunately, the writers of hymn-poems have no affinity with Tin Pan Alley. They do not write

for compensation, but they do write by compulsion — that inner driving force that compels them to express in poetic language their devotion to God.

Noble Tribble.

P. P. Bliss, author of "Wonderful Words of Life" and many more songs, is an example of the compulsive writer. Any impressive event would instantly suggest both words and music for a hymn. He once heard a sermon in which the minister said: "He who is almost persuaded is almost saved, but to be almost saved is to be entirely lost." That statement

sparked the inspiration for "Almost Persuaded."

Charles Wesley, author of "Love Divine,"

Jesus Lover of My
Soul," and six thousand other hymns, wrote spontaneously. He is probably the only hymn writer who composed on horseback. He kept a notebook in his saddlebag and wrote hymns on his way to and from church services. He is said to have written five hymns while contemplating marriage.

Samuel F. Smith was another impulsive writer. While turning through the pages of a collection of German songs, one tune caught his eye. He liked the spirited movement and suddenly he felt the urge to write a patriotic hymn adapted to that tune. In half an hour he had completed "America" — not knowing at the time that the music was the tune of "God Save the King."

Many writers wrote without once thinking that their poems would ever be widely read, much less become hymns. Twenty-two-year-old Ray Palmer, while sick and destitute, swiftly poured out his heart on paper, punctuating the concluding line with his tears. The hymn he composed, without "the slighest thought of writing for another eye," is the beloved "My Faith Looks Up to Thee." Joseph Scriven wrote "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" to comfort his mother at a time of sorrow. Arnold Walter's "I Would Be True" was written just for his mother to see. Joseph Gilmore wrote a poem, gave it to his wife, and then forgot about it. Three years later he was surprised when he opened a new hymphook and saw his poem — "He Leadeth Me."

Illness and failing health have produced several immortal hymns. Charlotte Elliott was an invalid. Some

twelve years after she became a Christian she was burdened with the thought that she was utterly useless. Then she recalled the words of the minister who won her to Christ: "You must come to Jesus just as you are." Instantly she felt relieved of her burden and she began to write. Multiple thousands have been urged to accept Jesus by her soul-appealing "Just as I am."

During Kate Hankey's eleven months' illness she composed two hymns at the same time. Actually, her long poem on the life of Christ and his love was divided and shortened to become "Tell Mc the Old, Old Story." and "I Love to Tell the Story."

Failing health destroyed Sarah Flower Adam's dream of staging religious dramas, but it brought us the drama of her faith in "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

The world has been greatly blessed because Henry Francis Lyte decided that "It is better to wear out than to rust out." Shortly before his death he wrote "Abide With Me."

"In the Sweet Bye and Bye" seemed to be the right soul tonic for Samuel Fillmore Bennett's musician friend, Joe P. Webster. He came to Bennett in a depressed mood. However, he managed to summon up enough optimism to say: "It will be all right bye and bye." Bennett took it from there. In a few minutes both men were humming, then singing a great new hymn of hope. After a severe "testing of faith" in the life of George Bennard, the words of "The Old Rugged Cross" "seemed to sing themselves into place."

Out of sheer joy because God had helped two girls who were "troubled in soul," Frances Ridley Havergal prayed and composed all night. The morning brought "Take My Life and Let It Be." Sabine Baring-Gould also sat up all night composing because he couldn't find a suitable children's marching song. His burning the "midnight oil" paid off with "Onward, Christian Soldiers."

A rainstorm favored us with "Rock of Ages" when A. M. Toplady took refuge in the cleft of a rock. Another rainstorm blessed us with "How Great Thou Art" when it drenched Carl Boberg's body and refreshed his spirit one night while he was walking more than two miles from a church meeting.

Because Dr. J. E. Rankin felt that "goodbye" — a shortened phrase for "God be with you" — lost much of its beautiful meaning, he felt the urge to compose "God Be With You Till We Meet Again." The simple Iaith of a minister's young son, who

believed that God would take care of his mother while his father was away preaching, caused Mrs. W. Stillman Martin to write "God Will Take Care of You." The challenge of the ministry prompted Ernest Warburton Shurtleff, on the eve of his graduation from seminary, to write "Lead On, O King Eternal."

Martin Luther's compulsive urge to "compose hymns so that the Word of God may dwell among the people also by means of song" produced hymns of striking contrast. Sometimes it seems difficult to realise that the tender "Away in a Manger" is from the same pen of the composer who wrote that stirring "Marsellaise

of the Reformation" - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,"

And so it goes with hymn after hymn - vital experiences, opportune moments, trying ordeals, humiliating defeats, glorious victories, pleasant memories. All are stamped indelibly on the hymn writer's soul. The reprint of his soul crisis issues forth as immortal literature — a hymn of praise to the "King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

Now look at your hymnal again, Are you satisfied with it? Don't be afraid to say "no," if you are not. You are not being disrespectful or irreverent. You just may be another

Isaac Watts. Watts once complained about the "untuneful Psalm-versions" that were being sung in his father's church. One of the church officers said: "Give us something better, young man!" The challenge was accepted, and two years later he pub-lished the first real hymnbook in the English language (Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1707). The author of nearly all of the 210 hymns in the book was none other than Isaac Watts. himself

So when you have that urge to write a hymn-poem, don't let anything stop you. On second thought, nothing can — if compulsion really strikes you.-The Lookout.

## JOSEPH M. SMITH (former Disciples of Christ missionary) asks in this "World Call" feature . . . .

Twice an infant Chinese Christian community has been smothered in its cradle. Late in the seventh century, Christians were worshipping in the capital city of China. Less than two centuries later the rise of a hostile ruler stifled the Church before it could really begin to grow. Under the Mongol dynasty in the thirteenth century, both Eastern and Roman forms of Christianity took root in China. But in the fourteenth century a new ruler drove out both the Mongols and the Christians. For the second time, a Chinese Church disappeared without a living trace.

The third opportunity for Christi-anity to establish itself in the most populous nation on earth came early the seventeenth century, when Matteo Ricci, the Jesuit-scholar missionary, won the favor of the ruling monarch. He laid the foundations of a Roman Catholic Mission, which eventually produced the largest single church China has known. Pioneered by Robert Morrison in 1807, Protestant Missions in less than one hundred and fifty years founded Chinese versions of almost every denomination existing in the West.

When Chiang Kai-shek came to power after the first world war, China had for the first time in her history a Christian as head of state. An astonishing variety of Christian groups had begun to spring up which expressed the faith in Chinese forms. It appeared that at long last Christianity was well on the way to becoming an important, permanent aspect of Chinese life.

With cataclysmic suddenness the prospect changed in 1948-49 when Mao Tse-tung and his Communist cohorts won control of China. For the third time in its history, Chinese Christianity began to experience the

sustained pressure of a hostile regime and a growing isolation from Christians in the rest of the world. The limited information available is enough to reveal the main outlines of the programme by which the Communists plan to mould China into a modern, industrial state which will take its place in a world completely communised. When that happens, they confidently expect, Christianity, along with other religions and "prescientific superstitions," will have disappeared finally from China.

The Chinese Communist strategy does not call for the outlawing of religions as religion. The treatment of churches has followed the same general pattern as the treatment of all non-Communist groups wielding any power whatsoever over the minds of the people. All group instruments of thought and action have been brought systematically under the control of the Communist-dominated state, and such human and material resources as they command have been mobilised to further the grand design for the new China.

### Communists Deal with Religion

The Communist rulers have repeatedly insisted that there is "freedom of religion" in People's China and that everyone "has the right to believe in religion." The great enemies of new China are the twin evils of "American imperialism" and "counterrevolutionary tendencies." By definition, these are not religious in nature. But they "hide under the cloak of religion" to achieve their nefarious

In their campaign to root out the influences of "American imperialism" the Chinese Communists have sustained what is perhaps the most systematic, intensive cultivation of anger and hatred in the history of propaganda. In the struggle against "counter - revolutionary tendencies," Christians have been publicly denounced by their fellow Christians, imprisoned, sent to be "reformed through labor," or driven to suicide.

### Christians Tried as by Fire

The spectagle of the Chinese Communists conducting through propa-ganda a continuing public trial of former missionaries and other agents of "American imperialism," together with the fact that Christians and others publicly denounce their fellows for "counter-revolutionary" tendencies. raises the question, Who is on trial in China? The Chinese Christian com-munity is indeed being tried as by fire. The issue is whether faithful-ness will endure in a community so tried.

But other Christians are not called to be judges in the case, and certainly not we Christians in the West. Some Chinese Christians who fled from China mainland have joined some Western Christians in the judgment that anyone who stays alive or out of prison in Communist China cannot any longer be Christian. Much that has been said and written in the West about the Church in China has implied that it is our prerogative as Western Christians to pass judgment upon the performance of our Chinese fellow-Christians under trial.

Far from being called to act as judges in the case, it is we Western Christians who are, in fact, also being tried by the events taking place in China. This is not because the Com-munists set themselves up as the arbiters of human destiny and pass judgment upon us as "tools of the imperialists" or "counter-revolution-(cont. ft. col. 1, p. 358)

POOR WOMEN

Missionary Outlook

Mrs. S. E. Smith, Qld.

The word "missionary" usually conjures up in our minds the work of preaching the gospel in lands beyond our shores. Would this mean, then, that only a very few have the opportunity of telling others of God's love and his saving power for all mankind? We know this is not so. Each one who follows our Lord and Saviour is also "sent on a mission", the definition my dictionary gives for missionary.

Before Jesus ascended to his father, he left with his disciples the Great

aries." Rather, we are being tried for our faithfulness to the realities of a Christian existence in a world where the tragedies unfolding in China do indeed occur. Can we, for example, continue to pray earnestly for our fellow Christians in Communist China, recognising at the same time our need of their prayers that we may remain faithful in the face of threats to faith no less real, if less obvious and aggressive, than those which confront them? Do we indeed act as those who are members of a community of reconciling faith that includes all mankind?

### One-fifth of Humanity Involved

It is natural and right that we should have an especial interest in fellow Christians in China, particularly those who are personally known to us. But it is the fate of the whole Chinese nation, almost one-fifth of the human race, that is at stake and not any single part of it. The Church is not a closed and self-centred religious cuit concerned primarily with its own preservation. It is the Body through which God especially focuses his love upon all mankind. We do our Chinese fellow Christians a disservice and distort the reality of the Church when we display an inordinate concern for what happens to the Chinese Christians, and ignore the well-being of the Chinese people as a whole.

The time has come again for "judgment to begin with the household of God." The Lord who alone judges is the One who sustains the Church as his Body that it may be given in the service of love to the whole world, including China and all its people — Communists, Christians, and the vast millions of people who are neither.

Commission: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." Luke, In his Gospel, adds, "beginning at Jerusalem." This was their home base. This commission still holds good for us today, so what better place for us to start telling the good news than to those round about us. Not everyone will heed, we know—they didn't when Christ went about preaching, but it is our witnessing for him that counts.

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Our Home Mission field is as great a missionary venture as overseas work, and we must have strong churches in the homeland from whence we can draw men and women who have been called by God for evangelistic service, both at home and abroad. It has been said, "The light that shines farthest shines brightest nearest home" (Author unknown).

The population of the world is ever increasing, and we must have a deep concern for missionary service, and be constant in prayer and practical support. God will bless our efforts according to our faith. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus chides the disciples for their lack of faith. Let us show that we are taking God at his word. He has promised to remain with us. We thank God for all those who, down the centuries, have faithfully pro-claimed the love of Christ, and have gone about healing the sick and cleansing the lepers. A great deal has been accomplished in the medical field. Doctors and nurses have been able to alleviate suffering in hospitals and dispensaries, reaching many people who by reason of dis-tance from the cities would not be able to receive this care and attenand, from primary classes, students are now able to go on to University standard. Bible Colleges also provide for the native students who wish to train for evangelistic work among their own people, and many are taking advantage of the opportunity to be taught by men and women who have dedicated their lives to this branch of Christian service.

But the main task of the missionary is to evangelise, to take the gospel to everybody in the world. Jesus said: "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest." Two things can happen to a harvest. It can be gathered in when it is ready or left to be destroyed by the elements. It seems unbelievable that after twenty centuries of Christian teaching, only half the world population has heard the

gospel. What of the other half? They still form part of the world for whom Christ died. The use of alreaft, enabling men and women to get to more remote parts of the earth, also transporting medical and food supplies and equipment, is a boon to missionary enterprise.

Also, by radio and T.V. the gospel reaches further around the world than ever before, and by using gospel recordings the new missionary can go equipped with gospel messages in the languages of the people. The translation of God's Word into individual languages and dialects is of a prime importance. Today more people are becoming literate, and are looking for something to read. Let us give them something worth while. To date, the Bible (or parts of it) has been translated into less than a thousand languages, but a recent survey has revealed that there are at least three thousand languages in use today.

Paul asks the question: "How shall they preach, except they be sent?" We at home have to maintain those whom God has called. After nearly 2,000 years this outlook on missionary work still presents great problems both home and abroad. We must be "doers of the Word, and not hearers only."

News of British Churches

The church at Broomhill, Northumberland, has held centenary services. A family who moved there 100 years ago established a house-church. Converts were baptised in the River Coquet. In course of time a chapel was built. This was destroyed during the war, a plane crashing on the building. The chapel was entirely rebuilt a few years ago. The anniversary preacher was Walter Lister, who has long associations with the churches in North-East England.

Special missions have recently been held at Moseley-rd., Birmingham, and at Tasso, London, with good results.

Members who have given outstanding service have been honored by their churches, F. G. Collett has retired after serving for 42 years as choirmaster at Gloucester. Miss V. Smith has served for 50 years in the B.S. at Great Francis-st., Birmingham, and in the same church, Mrs. E. Smith is still active as a deaconess and in women's work, though now over 80 years of age.

May has been observed throughout the churches as Christian Education month

A study group in England, led by James Gray, of Lelcester, has prepared a draft for the World Convention study programme. The theme was The Heritage of Churches of Christ Within the Ecumenical Movement. The paper has been published in The Christian Advocate. — G. J. Hammond.



Supplied by R. S. A. McLean.

### "Proclaiming Reconciliation in Indian Homes"

Hazel Skuce.

Only as Christ is lifted up, can we have reconciliation. It is with this message of the uplifted Christ that. each morning at 8.30 a.m., the Biblewomen set forth. As we leave the compound in the "damny" (bullock cart), it is with the prayer that the Lord will lead us to those who are in need, and it is at this time that we decide on which village we will visit that morning. We do not know what sort of welcome will be awaiting us in the village, or whether we will find many opportunities of witnessing. In some villages, it is sometimes half an hour before we have been able to find some women prepared to sit and listen. It is not that the women are not prepared to listen, but at certain times of the year they have to be out working in the fields. Then the regular income is so small that the women have to go out and collect wood, or cut grass to sell, to help supplement the regular income. Other times we have numerous opportunities of telling the story of God's great love to us. How many times have we heard, after speaking to the women, "We know that Jesus is the Son of God up in the heavens, and we do honor and pray to him, but - our forefathers worshipped in this way and we also must worship their way. If we don't the spirits will be displeased and will bring trouble to our house.'

Recently, in Poona, at Ganeshkind, the power receiving station, there was an explosion, and a young Brahmin man from Baramati was amongst those killed. I visited the family the day after they returned from Poona, and it just broke my heart to see the utter hopelessness of their position. The parents were profoundly moved to think that we would take time to be with them in their sorrow. As the mother clung to me crying, "Maisaheb, Maisaheb, what can I do for my son, what can I do for my son now?", I thought how different it would have been if they had accepted the gift of the uplifted Christ when it was placed before them. I tried to explain to that distracted family the joy and the hope that the Christian has. We have that hope, that at Christ's coming we shall meet our loved ones who have gone before. As I was speaking Bai was

breaking forth crying, "Ram, ram" (one of their gods). How many times during those few days had they called on "Ram," but he was powerless, he could not help them. They were there in darkness without a ray of light. The message that we have to pro-claim, the message of reconciliation, is the only one that will bring peace and light to those in darkness. Today we have numerous opportunities of presenting this message to the women and children of India. We must use every opportunity that we can of uplifting Christ before these people. We know from our own experiences how easy it is to gather a crowd of child-ren together; how quickly they gather, to see something that is out of the run of everyday things. How quickly we must grasp the opportunities of being able to mould the lives of these young people. Let us be laborers to-gether in proclaiming the message of reconciliation to the Indian homes.

#### Arrived Safely

#### Sister B. WHITTAM - NEW GUINEA.

I have arrived safely at Chungribu, and am beginning to settle into the work. Only a few hours after I arrived, a man was brought in from a village some distance away. He had been attacked and mauled by a wild pig, and had numerous lacerations all over his body. It took Margaret, Roi and myself a good hour to clean and suture all his wounds.

I am at the moment making desperate efforts to learn Pidgin English. This results in gales of laughter from those in and around the aide post when I say something which sounds funny.

The people on the whole seem very friendly, and I can only pray that I can learn Pidgin quickly, so that I can speak to them.

# Mr. and Mrs. WINCH - NEW HEBRIDES.

Thank you for sending us to the New Hebrides. The trip was uneventful, but enjoyable. Everyone was at the beach to meet us when we arrived on Aoba.

We have roughed out plans for the hospital with Dr. Coulter. I am very happy with the site and the arrangements we have made. Abel Bani has told us we can have an extra piece of land, and this will help with the overall plan.

Please thank everyone for their prayers and concern for us. We are very happy here.



What is an elder? What does he do? How is he appointed, by whom, and for how long?

There was a recent question and answer relating to elders (A.C., 23/4/63). It seems that there is a great interest in the eldership, and many questions have been received from widely separated areas. These have been gathered together into the omnibus question above. Like other practices and offices of the Christian Church, the eldership has its roots deep in the Old Testament.

When Moses was appointed to be leader of the children of Israel he had a tough task. The grown men and women were called "children," probably because they exhibited most of the bad qualities without the lovable qualities of infants! The children of Israel were noisy, quarrelsome, greedy, and "tantrummy."

When Moses reached the end of his fatherly tether, he wisely asked God for assistance. The flock was far too large for one shepherd. God answered his prayer by telling him to appoint seventy men to assist in the control and care of the people. The words "control and care" are important, for they can be found throughout the development of the eldership to the form we know it — or ought to know it.

During the earthly life of Jesus, every synagogue had its elders. They presided over worship, disciplined the unruly, and settled all kinds of disputes. They controlled and cared for the people by exercising a fatherly supervision over the spiritual and material affairs of every Jesush community. When the Christian Church was formed, its newness was in its life rather than in its organisation, and there are many features in the Church comparable with the Jesush temple and synagogue, For the control and care of the followers of Christ there was the ready-made office of the eldership, which could be converted for use in the Church.

There was more than one elder in every local church. It makes sense to suggest that the number of elders would depend entirely upon the size and the need of the church.

In 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1 there is a lot said about the qualities required in an elder. Not much is said about his duties, but reasonable inferences can be drawn, especially from the letter to Titus.

Next Week: More about the eldership.

# HERE AND THERE

Owing to the Queen's Birthday holiday in Melbourne on Mon., June 10, this issue was finalised for the pressone day earlier than usual. Church news or advertisements received later than first mail Thurs., June 6 will be given priority in our next issue, which will be the special Overseas Mission Number.

The church at South Melbourne, Vic., has completed plans for the official opening of the new chapel on June 22, followed by special services on the 23rd. The previous chapel was destroyed by fire.

Churches of Christ have joined in the widespread expressions of sympathy that have followed the death of Pope John. G. V. Haigh, President of the Federal Conference of Churches of Christ in Australia, says, "We pay tribute to a gracious and ecumenical spirit that has had the most significant impact, not only on the membership of the Roman Catholic Church, but also on Christians throughout the world,"

On June 1, eight men of Footscray (Vic.) church dismantled a garage at St. Albans, and shifted it to the Monbulk Camp. Within four hours of arriving at Monbulk the garage was re-erected for use as a storage shed for tractor and implements at present without cover. H. Easton kindly donated the garage to the Camp.

On May 30, at Malvern (Vic.) church an Appreciation Social was tendered to elder James Holloway, only member in continuous membership with the church for 50 years (35 as church sec.). A large gathering of members, past members and other friends met to honor him. Musical items were ren-dered by Miss Lynette Hargreaves, Lyle Williams and Mrs. Ross (elocutionist). Appropriate remarks repre-senting "past associates" were made by B. J. Combridge, who preceded J. Holloway as President of the Vic-torian Conference. Secretary, Max Moody, spoke on behalf of the young people, and F. E. Buckingham spoke of the early days of Malvern. He presented Mr. Holloway with a wristlet watch, suitably inscribed. R. P. Clark, a former church secretary, mentioned that never before has any plaque been installed in the chapel, but it was his pleasing duty on behalf of the church to unveil a nickelplated plaque, affixed to a tile in the baptistery to bear testimony to the appreciation of Mr. Holloway's great contribution of service during the past 50 years. Mr. Holloway was also

wished bon voyage on his approaching overseas trip.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (Dr. Felix Schnyder) on June 2 opened a £50,000 John Dedman Extension to a Home for aged White Russian refugees in the Sydney suburb of Strathfield. The Home, built at a total cost of £70,000, will accommodate 50 residents. It has been built, and will be maintained, by the Australian Council of Churches. Dr. Schnyder told the gathering that Australia was one of the most important partners in world refugee work, having adopted some 300,000 uprooted people since the end of World War II.

Long terms of service in the church are an inspiration to others. We note from this week's reports that W. Watson has resigned after 33 years as choirmaster with the Grote-st. Adelaide choir. At Kingsford, N.S.W., R. Picton has resigned after 35 years as doorkeeper, and H. Pietzsch has relinquished the position of B.S. supt. at Maidstone, Vic., after 35 years' service.

The church at Glen Waverley, Vic., advises that R. W. Marshall has declined the church's invitation to continue his ministry for a further term.

F. D. Craig has accepted the invitation of Tamworth (N.S.W.) church to continue his ministry there for a further two years from January, 1964.

# A.C.C. Launches Ecumenical Book Club

A new book club, offering to members new and existing publications at reduced rates, has been launched recently by the Australian Council of Churches.

The club, operating in three sections — new publications, existing publications and special background documents — has been created to provide minister and laymen with ready access to ecumenical publications.

The General Secretary of the A.C.C., Harvey L. Perkins, who is also Secretary for Studies and Communication, said that at least four new publications would be offered to club members each year.

The first of these would be Salty Christians, a handbook on lay-training by Hans-Ruedi Weber. This would be followed by Indonesian Journey, an account of the Australian churches' team visit last year.

A special section of the club will provide members with copies of important addresses and papers delivered at A.C.C. and W.C.C. conferences and consultations, as well as background documents on Australian and international affairs as prepared by the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs.

Mr. Perkins said the first set of papers available would be a series of contributed articles on world confessionalism and the ecumenical movement.

The club will operate in three sections, membership of each being £1. Subscribers may join any or all sections, receiving publications in excess of the value of their subscription and a discount on additional purchases. Book lists will be distributed quarterly.

Full details of the club are available from the A.C.C., 511 Kent-st., Sydney.—Vaughan Hinton, Sceretary for Public Relations.

# Federal C.O.B. Notes

1. The College Church Worker's Correspondence Course is engaging the attention of over fifty students this year. Several centres are undertaking group study.

 Sincere appreciation has been expressed to J. H. Charlesworth, of Brighton church, who, through business pressure, has retired as Honorary Auditor of the College after twenty-six years' valued service.

3. The students are most grateful for the service project of several Explorer Clubs, which meant a contribution to the College larder of groceries to the value of approximately £80. This is the largest gift of its kind we can remember.

4. Dr. Keith Bowes, who will join the College Faculty at the beginning of 1964, has almost completed his special studies at Yale University, and following visitation of church centres in various parts of U.S.A., Canada and Great Britain will return home about mid-August.

5. As on other occasions, the May vacation period proved a time of intense activity in missions by College people. The church at Portland enjoyed a stimulating eight-day mission conducted by Principal Williams. Three students, David Andrews, Colin Dredge and Will Gaunson conducted a New Life Crusade at Springvale, with most rewarding results in the life of the church.—K. A. Jones, Sec.



# OUR FAMILY PAGE

# The Worst Decline?

Young people today are exposed to six declines —

...Decline in fitness, due to modern ways of moving about.

...Decline in skill and care, due to the weakened tradition of craftsmanship.

... Decline in self-discipline, due to the ever-present availability of tranquilisers and stimulants.

...Decline in initiative and enterprise, due to the widespread disease of spectatoritis.

...Decline in memory and imagination, due to the confused restlessness of our civilisation; neither the love of man nor the love of God can take deep root except in aloneness.

... The worst decline, the decline in compassion, due to the unseemly haste with which modern life is conducted.

William Temple said of callousness: "There lies the way to spiritual death." I will give an example. In August, 1945, I went to Berlin. I stayed with an American who will be remembered as one of the Good Samaritans of this period: he had run great risks to save people in Russian-occupied territory. He asked me to go to the Lehrter station, where the German refugees were arriving in cattle trucks. We went in a car driven by a young American corporal, a kindly-looking man. We passed through scenes of misery and death which will haunt me all my life, and all the while the corporal's radio played jazz. Finally, my Good Samaritan leant forward and said: "For God's sake, stop." The young man had a dispersed soul, which he could not even assemble before the majesty of death. - Kurt Hahn (World Communique).

# Parents Grahame Green.

I wonder how many young people are really intimate friends with their parents. Those who are, are extremely fortunate and those who are not no doubt envy them. If you never seem to get very close to father or mother these days, then it's pretty sure that something ought to be done about it. Quite a lot of fellows drift farther and farther away until they are almost

strangers in their own homes and even have all sorts of little squabbles and unpleasantnesses.

Being a parent is a very difficult business, particularly with a first or only boy or girl. As the parents have never had the experience before, they don't know what to expect, nor how to deal with the new member of the family. And a teenage boy can be more queer and puzzling still - sometimes moody, self-centred, selfish, conceited, without any interest in the parents concerns, and occasionally rather snappy. Parents can be difficult, too — occupied with their own affairs, too particular about tidiness, and so on. And as you've never had parents before, you've no experience in bringing them up, and often do things which make matters worse instead of better.

Both parents and offspring have a tough time with each other and deserve a lot of sympathy. But most of their troubles can be solved if they genuinely try to see the other's point of view. The one thing you can do is to see there is no fault in your side. What often happens is that when a slight strain or rift appears between them, for instance a father and son, the son draws into his shell and has less and less to do with the father. Instead of the breach narrowing, it widens. The son says, "Dad doesn't understand me. He's so narrow and old-fashioned; if I try to talk to him he won't understand, so I just leave him alone." And so, the poor fellow begins to lose his best friend. Don't you let it happen. Do everything you can to make your home a place of love, affection, mutual understanding. Take your troubles to your parents - but remember that they have their own, too. They have great hopes for you. Don't disappoint them.—Saxon's Club Bulletin.

# My Symphony

(a polio victim from the age of 9).

To be aware, ever vibrantly, of the exquisite beauties of the world, and to feel that each time I acknowledge them I am saying, "Thank you," to God:

To fill my soul with all the great and beautiful music that it is possible for me to hear;

To refresh myself with the fine poetry of the masters;

To treasure friendships and to store away happy memories of them against the times of trouble;

To preserve a keen sense of humor as a buffer against life's little irritations:

To do small tasks graciously;

To adjust myself uncomplainingly to new situations, even if not of my own choice;

To judge kindly, making all due allowances for different viewpoints and training;

To cultivate a sensitivity to the feelings of others, that I may never unwittingly hurt them;

To love all with whom I come in contact as deeply as I can, feeling that by so doing I may be able to counteract some of the hate in the world; and lastly, feeling that I have been given only the talent of being kind . . To remember the words of Emily Dickinson:

"They might not need me, but

they might;
I'll let my head be just in sight.
A smile as small as mine might
be

Precisely their necessity."

This is my symphony.

-The Christian.

#### HOW WONDERFUL

I am in his love!
How wonderful to know
That always he is here!
I find him, know his love
Only when I yield my all to him.
—Allen B. Stanger.

#### ISN'T IT THE TRUTH?

The food that I share with others Is the food that nourishes me. The strength that I spend for others

Is the strength that I retain. The freedom that I seek for others Makes me forever free. The pain that I ease in others Shall take away my pain.

The load that I lift from others Makes my load disappear. The good that I see in theirs My greatest good shall be. The love that I feel for others Comes back to my life to cheer. The path that I walk with others Is the path God walks with me.

-Grace Hill Freeman.

Wilshire Christian Church.

#### SIX BY SIX

A motorist on a dirt highway was busily engaged with a spade in the mud beside his car when a stranger approached him.

"Stuck in the mud?" he asked.

"Oh, no," the motorist explained cheerfully, "My engine just died and I'm digging a grave."



Discipleship

Jo-Anne Page, Murray Bridge, S.A. C. Morley, Brighton Gardens, S.A. John McGuiness, Ascot Park, S.A. E. Ferguson, Clovelly Park, S.A. Mrs. Roberts, Yarrawonga, Vic. Christine Mann, Edith Rancland, Tamworth, N.S.W.

Mrs. Winnell, Terry Littlewood, Wangaratta.

Anne Jenkins, Moreland, Vic. Mr. and Mrs. K. Owen, Rose Brown, Kingsford, N.S.W.

Mrs. K. Harkness, Owen, S.A. Trevor Pope, Maidstone, Vic.

# Membership

Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Green, from Hawthorn; Mrs. M. Bates, to Brighton Gardens, S.A.

G. Chaffey to Oakleigh, Vic.

Mrs. Secomb, Dennis Secomb, to Ascot Park, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Bulk, from Mile End; Mr. and Mrs. G. Daniel, from Stansbury Christian Church; Mrs. McGuire, Eva McGuire, Mr. and Mrs. W. James, Lewellyn James, from Colonel Light Gardens to Clovelly Park, S.A.

# Marriage

E. Huggan to P. Mudge, Carnegie,

Lyn Beasley to Barry Turner; Margery Judd to Ted Keating, Ormond, Vic.

Beryl Smith to William Beaton, Devonport, Tas.

Kathleen Eustice to Trevor Pitt; Loryn Woore to David McQueen, Nailsworth, S.A.

Jan Waters to David Youens; Lyn Ghys to Keith Ferguson, Caul-field, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

Allan Aworth, Murray Bridge, S.A. Reg. Mitchell, Ormond, Vic. Harry Black, Rockdale, N.S.W. Mrs. P. Adams, Murgon, Qld.

## TASMANIA

Devonport (E. W. Taylor). - E. K. Morrison (Tas. Dist. Conf. Pres.) was recent guest speaker. Newly decorated chapel with new carpets, etc., looked very attractive for Mother's Day services; B. Green, guest speaker. BL.G. commenced, 20th. Church had fellowship with New Hebridean students, Samuel and Japheth, during College vacation. Elderly members and friends enjoyed social afternoon at manse, when students gave messages, testimonies and vocal items then in evening B.S. scholars, teachers, parents and friends met in hall in social gathering with the two. On 26th, Samuel and Japheth spoke to B.S. and CE. group, also gave messages in song and speech at evening service. After-church fellowship meeting brought together many interested friends from other churches, when an illustrated address was given on work in New Hebrides.

### QUEENSLAND

East Ipswich - Leichhardt (R. Acland). - Splendid attendances both centres, averaging 156 a.m.; 99 p.m. C.W.F. birthday luncheon, June 6. Zone prayer meeting attendances very good, over 100 members taking part. Church praying for forthcoming mission with D. Willis. B.S. picnic, which had to be postponed because of inclement weather, held in ideal condi-tions, June 1. Two young lads made confession at Leichhardt on 2nd.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Burwood (A. G. Elliott, M.A. Ph.D. (Lond.), B.Sc., Dip.Ed.). — Mr. Hay-ward preached both services, May 19; p.m., combined Brigades' church parade. After-church fellowship, 26th, honored Mr. and Mrs. Laney on occasion of golden wedding. On 29th, cottage meetings held in homes of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer and Mr. and Mrs. Long. C.W.E.F. enjoyed programme on Famous Women on 30th. On June 2, parents' and friends' service and display of B.S. scholars' work proved interesting and encouraging. Visitors have included A. Smythe (Wembley, W.A.).

Tamworth (F. D. Craig). - Kinder. presented special programme on afternoon of Mother's Day; Mrs. J. Reid, guest speaker. C.W.F. held Mother and Daughter evening. C.W.F. gave items at Salvation Army musical evening on May 18. On 19th, B.S. scholar made decision. At missionary evening at manse on 20th, P. Salisbury spoke and showed slides of work in Africa. At annual church business meeting, May 22, following appoint-ments made: deacons, Messrs. Goodall, Crawford, Norris, Harman, Russell, Eagleton; sec., C. Love; treas., L. Nor-ris; organists, Sis. P. Harman and R. Harling, D. Crawford; A.C. and C.M. agent, Sis. E. Stiles; reporter, Sis. I. South; B.S. supt., D. Craig. C.W.F. attended Baptist women's anniversary, 29th. D. Chapman has been in hospital and D. Craig has been ill. Girl made confession of faith on June 2.

Rockdale (C. J. Mackenzie), - Sympathy extended to family of late H. Black. D. Oldfield (Albury) p.m. preacher, May 26. Church keeping up good attendances despite wet weather. At evening services there have been more non-members than members at times. Speaker at C.W.F. meeting, Mrs. Baker (Enmore), on behalf of Home Missions.

Gilgandra (N. Flint). - Special service held for Mother's Day, with Y.P. taking part in gospel service. On 19th, K. Crawford (H.M. Sec.) spoke at both services.

Albury - Wodonga - Lavington (D. Oldfield - P. Kavanagh). - Boys' Brigade held annual camp reunion on afternoon of June 2, followed by youth service in evening. Packed chapel and one further decision by member of B.B. Of 24 boys in Brigade, 20 have given their lives to Christ. Mr. and Mrs. Winch have arrived in New Hebrides.

Kingsford (R. M. Wilson, B.A., Dip. P.A.). - Presentation of Bible to R. Picton to mark retirement after 35 years as doorkeeper; his successor, R. Scott. Boys' club enjoyed hike, May 11. Y.P. barbecue at National Park, 25th. Y.P. conducted evening Service, 26th, presided over by B. Briguglio, duet by Misses E. and L. George, and item by Y.P. choir. C.M.S. enjoying monthly teas. Speaker, 26th C. Tarry, chile Universided tolk 26th, C. Terry, giving illustrated talk about Ballarat. C.W.F. working to outfit Aboriginal boy at Carnarvon; £7/5/- was raised for this purpose by demonstrations of Puffin cake mixtures. C.W.F. also thanks Mrs. Usher and G.L.B. members for demonstration on 28th. Missionary commit-tee arranged for Samuel and Japheth (New Hebrides), and for Miss Doro-thea Lake (missionary en route to Pentecost) to speak on 19th. Visitation evangelism has commenced, with visitors in pairs. Mrs. George well

enough to resume playing organ at evening service. Appreciation expressed to Mrs. Alexander for playing at all services in meantime. Interstate visitors have included Mrs. Green (Boonah, Qld.), R. Wilson (Launceston, Tas.).

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Brighton Gardens (C. H. J. Wright, B.A.). — Av. attendances during May were: 190 a.m.; 144 p.m. Family night, 17th, when 200 members and friends enjoyed programme arranged by C.W.F. Board of Officers has set up functional church organisation, with four depts. P. McDonald appointed asst. sec.; J. Curtis, asst. treas; Mrs. R. Drummond, minute sec. Daytime Bible study formed and well attended; creche is provided for children. W. Gloyne leading newly-formed choir, which is giving splendid service. On Pentecost Sunday combined service was held in Pioneer Memorial Hall; fellowship of 5 other churches in district was enjoyed. Mr. Wright led service.

Murray Bridge (H. Cave). — C.M.S. went to city to inspect Woodroofels works. Ladies attended Sthm. Dist. Conf. at Milang, where quartette sang. B.S. girl baptised and received into fellowship. Church celebrated 51st anniversary; N. Kingston, visiting speaker. Presence of Kingston family and other local and interstate visitors was enjoyed. 116 communicants for day. Fellowship tea held in hall. C.W.A.F. saw slides of N.T. shown by Mrs. Ikin. Mrs. H. Grundy able to attend church again.

Ascot Park (R. H. Sercombe). —
On May 29, combined meeting, coming out of recent Conference of
Christian Renewal, was held; people from Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian Churches present. Mr. Bentley (Pres.) introduced subject for discussion, The Lord's Supper. The
meeting divided into study groups,
all churches represented in each
group. Object was to discuss the
"how, when and why" of various
bodies on this subject; result was very
encouraging. Attendance was fairly
good, June 2. A number of families
away on holidays or sick. Mrs. Lorraine Woodroffe p.m. soloist. One
welcomed into fellowship after faith
and baptism, and two by transfer.

Grote-st., Adelaide (A. E. Brown). — C.W.F. celebrated 12th anniversary with Y.P. at Seaforth Home. Supper and entertainment, supplied by ladies, much appreciated by large attendance present. C.Y.F. entertained at home of Mr. and Mrs. Graham Blackeby. A. Anderson a.m. speaker June 2, on behalf of Overseas Missions Dept. Church has regretfully accepted the resignation of W. Watson as cholmaster, after 33 years.

dedicated service; J. Hall, successor. Mr. Lee, keen supporter of cricket team, recently met with a fatal accident and sympathy is extended to his family.

Owen - Long Plains (C. S. Badcock). — Youth tea and service held at Long Plains; speaker, Mr. Folland (Carnarvon Mission). Family service at Long Plains, May 12; Mrs. Woolford, speaker, Gospel service at Owen, 12th, followed by fellowship hour; Mr. and Mrs. A. Oke and family farewelled. Baptismal service at Long Plains, 19th, with former member, H. Prime (now minister at Bayswater, Vic.) officiating, Speaker, K. J. Clinton, B.A., B.D., Dip.R.E. Baptismal service at Owen, June 2. Y.P. from circuit attended C.E. rally at Balaklava and C.Y.F. at Kadina. Owen ladies conducted Guild meeting at Long Plains. Rep. from Temperance Alliance at Long Plains a.m. 9th. Combined service p.m., when G. Mathieson spoke on behalf of Overseas Missions Dept. Interior of Owen chapel painted, and cross placed on front wall.

Clovelly Park (J. C. Cunningham).
— Special gospel services have been well attended. Youth tea and service conducted by Y.P. I.C.E. and Y.P.C.E. held combined meeting with mothers present for Mother's Day. J.C.E. commenced; Mrs. Cunningham, leader. Y.P. prayer meeting well attended prior to evening services. B.S. annual meeting re-elected G. Jones, supt.

### VICTORIA

Ormond (R. McKenzle, B.A.). — 30 members attended dinner in church hall to discuss forthcoming mission plans with A. Avery. Monthly morning prayer meetings for mission and other work continuing. S. Davey (Aboriginal Advancement League) and L. Chapman addressed services, May 19. Church saddened in passing of Reg. Mitchell.

Malvern (A. B. Clark). —Av. for May: B.B., 79; p.m., 55. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. Lewis (Hampstend Gardens). B.S., with record attendance of 55, exploring possibilities of obtaining bus to transport children. Gospel in song rendered by Iris Winston and Mr. and Mrs. M. Woff. Mrs. Plews gave party for B.S. scholars. Teachers made further decisions relative to catering for youth of church. Miss D. Flatman gave travel talk to C.W.F. on May 31, when £13/10/- was raised for Churches of Christ Centre. C.M.S. donated £4 to Freedom from Hunger Campaign. Sympathy to Miss I. Mitchell on death of her brother.

Doncaster (C. G. Taylor, B.A.), - Meetings continue well attended. Pro-

gress total. Freedom from Hunger, £277. Explorers gave groceries worth £116 for Service Month; club now numbers 43. Good Companions also growing. C.Y.F. now meeting weekly, under leadership of R. Wilkes, Church's centenary plans progressing. Plans for new manse being finalised. L. Petty giving appreciated help in Christian education classes, State schools. Ladles' and men's groups holding regular meetings.

Caulfield (F. A. Youens). — Excellent attendances during May; on two occasions, a.m. attendances over 180. 3 decisions during month, Choir, under leadership of J. Machin, rendered items at Caulfield Hospital. Freedom from Hunger appeal has reached £120. C.W.F. visited Monbulk Camp site. R. Story and R. Carpenter have recovered from surgery. Y.P. afterchurch fellowships helpful and enjoyable.

Reservoir (F. B. Alcorn). - Mothers' Day family worship service well attended. Mothers and daughters took part in evening service. Regular youth tea proving great asset to church fellowship, also evening sing-a-longs after church. C.W.F. commenced knitting bee to prepare babies clothes for Dorcas group. Basketball teams progressing well. Front of chapel grounds landscaped and new seed sown; thanks to members who helped. Church acknowledges answered prayer for Margaret Raymond. Fortnightly prayer fellowships faithfully attended. Some illnesses among members include Mrs. Clarke and Mrs. Garth. Attendances average 65 a.m., 35 p.m. CM.S. holding regular meetings, one of which was addressed by G. Edsell, University lecturer

Sunshine (N. Hodgekiss).—Mother's Day meetings included evening service and after-church fellowship, arranged by men, also kinder, demonstration. Local churches met for talk by F. Byatt, and film on Freedom From Hunger. Approx, 70 ladies attended C.W.F. birthday; Mrs. V. Morrison, speaker. Ladies also attended various functions held by district churches. At C.E. camp during school holidays young girl took stand for Christ. On June 2, minister outlined church's Stewardship of Life programme.

Swan Hill (D. G. Beanland). — Church annual business meeting on 28th elected elders: D. W. Cockroft and D. H. Symes; deacons: R. D. Hercott, I. G. Owers, R. H. Rogers, A. D. Anderson, E. J. Hampson, A. W. Lock, K. A. Anderson, E. C. Rogers; deaconesses: Mesd. Henson, Hampson, Cockroft snr., Rogers snr. Reports showed 115 local and 13 isolated members on active roll. All auxillaries very active and work generally buoyant. During minister's holidays, speakers D. Treloar and L. Baxter. Church had fellowship with

many visitors, including Miss Betty Anderson (on furlough from New Guinea). State C.E. Flying Squad visited Y.P.C.E. on June 1 and 2, conducting leadership classes, youth rally and leading a.m. service on 2nd. Working bee erected new fence at rear of manse.

Carnegie (R. E. Hillbrich). — Services well attended. Y.P. assisting at p.m. services. Temple Day held Mny 25; 85 sat down to tea, provided by ladies of church. R. Hillbrich screened films during evening. Homecoming Day services held 26th; guest speaker, a.m., Conf. Pres., A. R. Haskell. Past members attended. Mrs. Morrison (Pres., C.W.F.) gave greetings. Mrs. Willing soloist at p.m. service. Temple Day offering, £310. Y.P. attended after-church gathering at Ormond when Youth for Christ conducted service.

York-st., Ballarat. — Attendances maintaining good level. Visiting speakers included Mrs. Smith (New Hebrides), F. Conry (Gideon's International), L. Brooker, guest speaker for B.S. anniversary. Prizegiving for scholars took place at evening meeting. Good standard of work shown by scholars. A. Graham (Peel-st.) brought gospel messages for month of May. Women of church partici-pated in special Mother's Day ser-Nine baptised and received into fellowship. Annual B.S. meeting well attended. M. Murray re-elected supt. and G. Hewitt, sectress. Annual meeting of C.W.E.F. on 28th elected Mrs. J. Oates, pres.; Mrs. B. Feary, vice-pres.; Mrs. V. Berry, jun. vice-pres.; Mrs. L. Mc-Niece, sec.; Mrs. G. Carey, asst.-sec.; Mrs. B. Clarke, treas. Ladies' Guild commenced special meetings in homes to raise funds for Christian Centre. Church supported Freedom from Hunger Campaign. Miss York continues work as deaconess of church.

Wangaratta (A. E. Stevens). - B.S. picnic held at Cheshunt Camp site; largest attendance on record. Annual business meeting of church elected: elders, I. K. Jackel, L. A. Johns; deacons, J. Higgins, A. Franks, R. Thomas, A. Benson, F. Zawilla, E. Littlewood, D. Grant, B. Johns; deaconesses, Mesd. McCrohan and Franks; B.S. supt., R. Bartlett; Kinder, supt., Mrs. MacIntosh. C.M.S. elected A. Franks, pres.; D. Grant, vice-pres.; G. Norman, sec.-treas. W. Searle G. Norman, sec.-treas. W. Searle (C.I.M.) gave talk concerning position of Christians in China. C.W.F. meeting elected Mrs. McCrohan, pres.; Mrs. O. Jackel showed slides of Mission work in India. During absence of minister on holidays, preaching carried on by A. E. Franks, S. Bell, A. L. Jackel and D. P. McDonough. N. Horn (Back to the Bible Broadcast) gave addresses at missionary convention, also showing slides of missionary work in other lands. Church rejoiced to witness confession and baptism of two people. Attendances at midweek meetings have considerably increased since recent mission.

Shepparton (D. B. McIntosh). Average attendances being maintained. Both C.W.F. groups active, and have completed payment of floor coverings for manse. Auxiliaries and members have contributed to Freedom from Hunger Campaign. Interesting discussion taking place at meetings of Research Groups, looking into functional life of church. Churches of Christ are well represented on Shepparton T.V., when the follow-ing panel take their turn on "epilogue": D. B. McIntosh, Chaplain Neville Moore, Sonny Graham, R. Oke (Yarrawonga), B. Prior (Echuca), and A. Stevens (Wangaratta). Grand time of fellowship enjoyed June 1 and 2, when church met for Temple Day celebrations. Need of a new hall was evident, when largest number ever to assemble for tea made it necessary to take out portion of partition between hall and main building, and set up more tables to accommodate numbers present. G. Moyes (Ascot Vale) was guest speaker and gave address at meeting which followed tea. . Target of £365 exceeded during weekend. Services continued on Sunday with Mr. Moyes as speaker. 107 broke bread for day and there were 65 present p.m., when The House that Hunter Built was screened.

Footseray (G. S. Brown). — R. F. Geyer was a.m. speaker, May 26, for B.&F.B.S. field day. Two car-loads of Y.P. visited Willis-Gadge mission. Geelong, on 28th. C.W.A.F. held Devonshire tea on 29th, with Happy Harmonists providing programme. C.W.E.F. invited Sunshine group to social evening on 29th. Many enjoyed Olympic film and educational tour of Olympic Tyre and Rubber Co., arranged by C.W.A.F. on June 3. Bruce Meyers appointed morning organist.

Mount Evelyn (J. Dow). — Work solid under minister's leadership. Education Month very successful. C.W.F. birthday meeting was highly appreciated. Mr. Davey (Gideon's International), guest speaker. In spite of inclement weather, attendances well maintained. One a.m. service had attendance of 50, when Mr. Earle was guest speaker.

Maidstone (D. A. V. Thomas). — Av. attendances, May: a.m. 85; p.m. 79. Large delegation visited Geelong mission. B.S. student baptised. H. Pletzsch relinquished position of B.S. supt. after 35 years' service. L. Mackinnon new supt., with A. Lewis asst. B.S. scholars gave concert. D. Hill and R. Corbett now recovered, after time in hospital. Mr. Cousins unable to attend services due to period in hospital, and now confined to home. Mrs. McColl welcomed back after illness. Explorers took part in district camp at Monbulk. Boys also active in collecting groceries for blind

babies and our own Homes. Members attended H.M. prayer rally at North Williamstown. At presentation night for cricketers, boys presented with trophies won during season. G. R. Brown (B. & F. B. S.) speaker, p.m., 26th.

Morwell - Newborough - Traralgon (L. G. Armstrong). — After evening service, May 26, at Morwell, Sisters Beryl Preston and Barbara Struck told, with aid of slides, of their experiences at Birdsville A.I.M. Hospital. Sis. Preston is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Preston (Traralgon). On 1st, C.E. held graduation service when group divided into inter. and junior sections. They will continue to meet under leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong. Film, Teenagers' Parents, screened at gospel service on 2nd, Mrs. M. Little (Morwell) and D. Preston (Traralgon) recovering after surgery.

South Melbourne (A. Cutt). — Av. attendances: a.m. 35; p.m. 28. Bi-weekly prayer meeting and Bible study recommenced under leadership of Alan Cutt. Good Companions' attendances have increased.

\*

Our Western churches' Radio Sunday School continues a very effective ministry, under the leadership of "Uncle George." This Sunday session is being recorded, and L. Fisher (supt. Carnarvon Mission) plays the tapes to the children in his care. The W.A. Radio and T.V. Committee hopes to extend this service to include other parts of the State which cannot receive the broadcast direct.

The incredible story of one of the boldest and most dramatic exploits of modern times - the massacre of five missionaries by savage Auca Indians — will soon be heard on radio stations throughout Australia. The story has been adapted from Elisabeth Elliot's best-seller, Through Gates of Splendor, which was condensed in The Reader's Digest. The 52-episode radio serial is being produced by the Christian Broadcasting Association in Sydney under the title, Dangerous Mission, and featuring an all-professional team. The serial will cost more than £2,000 to produce, but it will be offered to radio stations without charge. Costs will be covered by donations to the Christian Broadcasting Association, Five Dock, N.S.W. According to Vernon Turner (C.B.A. Director) this is the Association's most ambitious venture to date. He said that each year C.B.A. provides stations with 15,000 episodes of high quality broadcasting, free of charge. Dangerous Mission will be released throughout Australia on July 1.

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BROUGH, Eric George. - Treasured memories of my dear husband and our father, passed away June 17, 1962. -Ever remembered by his loving wife and family.

BROUGH. — In loving memory of Eric, called Home on June 17, 1962, loved son of Elsie and George Brough, Hallam, Vic. (late of Cheltenham), dear brother of Clarrie and Dot (Mrs. R. Rookes).

Mr. and Mrs. George Brough, Princes Highway, Hallam, Vic.

EATON. - In loving memory of our dear mother and Nana, Jessie Maria, who passed away June 12, 1962, loving wife of Ernest (dec.), mother of Jessie (dec.), Ern., Joy, Glad., mother-in-law of Kit, Keith, nana of Peter, Michael, John, James, Susan, Kaye, Andrew. Always remembered.

McKAY, G. E. - Treasured memories of my devoted wife and loving mother, who fell asleep June 3, 1953 -Inserted by husband and family.

PITTMAN. — A loving tribute to my dear friend, Marion Ettie Pitt-man, called to Higher service, June 3, 1960. "In heavenly love abiding." -Inserted by her loving friend, Olive E. Davey.

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# Coming Events

BERWICK (Vic.) 94th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, June 30. 11 a.m., C. L. Smith; 4 p.m., K. A. Mason.

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP (Vic. and Tas.) invites you to a Service of PRAISE and GRATITUDE for "Ludbrook House," to be held in the Gardiner chapel on Sunday, June 23, 1963, at 3 p.m. Song Service will commence at 2.45 p.m.

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## **OBITUARY**

Mary Elizabeth Sykes.

After a distressing illness, Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Sykes was called to be with her Lord on Wed., May 29. Throughout her illness she showed a remarkable spirit and fortitude, which proved an inspiration to all who visited her. She was 72 years of age when the Saviour called her. About forty-four years ago she received Christ as her Saviour at our Yorkst., Ballarat (Vic.) church, and for a period served as organist there. Upon her marriage she took her membership to Dawson-st., where it remained until her call to be with Jesus. During that long period she rarely missed being present at the Lord's Table. She is missed from her place in the church. To her husband and son, Jack, and her relatives, sincere Christian sympathies are extended.-F. C. Hunting.

Elizabeth Wilton.

On Tues., May 7, God took to be with himself Mrs. Elizabeth Wilton, at the age of 81 years. Mrs. Wilton received Jesus as her Saviour during Will Combridge's ministry at Maryborough, Vic., in 1912. In Oct., 1920, the family removed to Ballarat, and Mrs. Wilton took her membership to Dawson-st., where it remained to her death. When the Brougham-st. branch of Dawson-st was opened, Mrs. Wilton began to worship there and continued until her Home call. Quietly trusting in Jesus as her Saviour, she never failed in her attendance at Brougham-st., and her call to be with Jesus is a great loss to the congregation meeting there. To her sons, Fred and Cliff, our sincere sympathles are extended.—F. C. Hunting.

Maggie S. Caspersonn.

The Wagga (N.S.W.) church family is saddened by the Home call of Mrs. Maggie S. Caspersonn on Apr. 27, aged 69. Widow of the late Walter L. Caspersonn and mother of Walter and Janet (Mrs. H. Renison), she lived her early life at Junee, where she made commitment to Christ, and was baptised by Thomas Hagger during a mission he conducted in that town. She was a member of the Wagga church for several periods, 1920-1936, living for 13 years at The Rock and a short period at Juneo as an isolated member. Following a move to Sydney, she lived with her late husband at Earlwood, where he was secretary for a number of years. The home was open to the friends of the family, and many a guest preacher sat down to Sunday dinner at the home in Earlwood. She returned to Wagga, Nov., 1960. Her quiet and gentle disposition endeared her to all who knew her. Truly, she was one of God's gentle-women. Her influence will long be felt by those who knew and loved her. The church

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extends love and sympathy to the family. The funeral services at chapel and graveside were conducted by the writer. Almost the whole church membership assembled to pay their last respects to a noble soul. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

—W. J. Orlando Todd.

# Septuagesima ?

(A Hymn for June - No. 248, June 30),

Dr. John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875) wrote most of his hymns just on 100 years ago. He was born and educated in Ireland and commenced his ministry there, part of the time as chaplain to another hymnwriter, Bishop Mant. Prefacing a volume of his hymns, Monsell wrote: "We are, alas! too distant and too reserved in our praises. We sing not as if our hearts were on fire with the flame of divine love and joy. If we loved Him as we ought to do, we could not be so cold."

Such an expression was in keeping not only with his own "ideal household, full of the beauty of holiness, with genial brightness and galety playing over all the troubles of life." but also with the general tone of his hymns. Of these, unquestionably the best known is "Fight the good fight," vigorous notes still frequently heard after a century of use. "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" finds him at his poetic best, while his deep consecration is seen in a verse found elsewhere: "There feed me with thyself until I grow into the stature of the life divine; my right to plead, my privilege to know that Christ is God's and I, O Christ, am thine."

A century ago, no hymn was complete without a title — the subject matter or the occasion on which it was to be sung — many titles providing embarrassment to subsequent users. Monsell's "I hunger and I thirst" (our No. 248), with its title "Septuagesima" in his Parish Hymnal was one such, neither collect, epistle nor gospel for the day in the Anglican calendar being in the slightest degree relevant. Hymnals of his own and other communions have rectified this anomaly by a reclassification under "Holy Communion" or "The Lord's Supper." The references to manna, living waters, bruised and broken Bread, true life-giving Vine, Bread of God, offer a worthy approach to the Table of the Lord.—F.J.F.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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G. C. Jackel (minister, Broughamst., Mt. Clear churches), cnr. Geelongrd and Owen-st., Mt. Clear, via Ballarat, Vic.

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