

THE OVERSEAS MISSION NUMBER

*The Australian
Christian..*

SHARE IN PROCLAIMING
RECONCILIATION
TO AWAKENING
NATIONS

AWAKENING NATIONS

LEARN NEW WAYS

WHO
WILL
TEACH
THEM

THE WAY OF
SALVATION

A.C.GLOVER.

SUPPORT THE ANNUAL
OFFERING ON

JULY 7TH

Proclaiming Reconciliation to Awakening Nations

R. S. A. McLean.

The theme for the Overseas Mission number of The Australian Christian is Proclaiming Reconciliation to Awakening Nations. We are witnessing today an awakening that is taking place amongst nations that for centuries have been content with a pattern of life founded by their ancestors.

On Maewo Island in the New Hebrides, Reg. Combridge has commenced a small Technical School. Students are taught carpentry, turning and the dismantling and re-assembling of marine engines. Learning these occupations is foreign to the New Hebridean, because for centuries they have been tillers of the soil, producing enough food for their families and, in more recent years, a little copra.

The development of this Technical School is just one example of what is happening on a far larger scale in numerous countries. Awakening nations are anxious to learn new ways — but will they be taught God's way? This is the challenge confronting the Church.

Behind this awakening, God is at work. As Donald McGavran puts it, "In the revolutionary churning which is the world in which we live, fantastic increase of the churches is obviously the will of God. He it is

who is shaking the foundations. Since he is the Father Almighty, and not some blind force or cosmic urge, his action must have some good purpose in mind. What purpose is more in line with his intent to save men than to marshal, discipline, strengthen and multiply his churches, till the Kingdoms of this world become the Kingdom of our Lord?"

God's purpose in awakening people is that they might be reconciled to him. The changing world presents avenues of approach unprecedented in 1900 years of Christian history. Christian missionaries are welcome because they bring education, medical aid, teach new methods of agriculture and technical training. This means that the Church is able to proclaim the gospel of reconciliation to millions that previously have been unapproachable.

On our Mission fields we have teachers, doctors, nurses, as well as evangelists, but the primary task of every missionary is that of evangelism. Men are lost and God wants them found. The establishment of hospitals and schools is not the goal,

they are simply channels through which we are able to present the message of reconciliation. Unless reconciliation is proclaimed, we do not fulfil the Great Commission, no matter how many missionaries we have on the field.

The awakening in India and the Pacific Islands presents a great challenge to the Australian Churches of Christ. We could send 100 missionaries to the field, and still not have enough workers. At present we support 57 missionaries, but requests from the fields indicate that at least 70 are needed to cope with the expanding work.

Eight highly qualified young people are offering for India. There are vacancies on the field. Others are needed in New Guinea and in the New Hebrides. Knowing the needs on the field and realising that young people are prepared to go, the Overseas Board is experiencing a time of testing when it realises that, at the end of this financial year, we will face a deficit of approx. £10,000 in General Funds.

Will we allow the challenge to proclaim reconciliation to awakening nations to pass unheeded? No, let us attempt great things for our God.

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE ANNUAL OFFERING?

The Annual Offering is paid into the General Account of the Mission, and from this account all running expenses of the Mission must be paid. This means that the Annual Offering is not used for equipment, but to send forth workers into the harvest fields and to maintain them on the fields.

No matter how much money is given for equipment, the Mission cannot function unless there is a sufficient inflow of money into the General Account. We cannot meet running expenses with money given for specific projects.

We commenced the current financial year with a credit of £1,649 in General Funds. Receipts up to the time of preparing this article (10 months) were £50,125, but payments were £58,511, leaving a deficit of £8,386, which could be increased considerably unless there is a marked improvement in giving before the Financial Year closes.

Average monthly expenditure for General Purposes is £5,850. At the

end of each month up until the end of March there was a small credit balance, but during the last few months payments have exceeded receipts by thousands of pounds.

The following table of receipts and payments shows the trend during the last 10 months —

	Receipts.	Payments.
1962 July	£4,380	£4,810
August	7,873	5,086
September	7,692	6,740
October	4,236	4,428
November	5,322	7,031
December	4,603	5,955
1963 January	4,554	5,355
February	3,429	3,929
March	3,824	9,419
April	4,212	5,758

We have been working on a very narrow margin throughout the year, and the poor inflow of money during the last few months (at the same time as heavy expenditure) has caused the current financial crisis.

It should be noted that August and September (the months following the offering) were the only months when receipts were greater than payments. In March payments exceeded receipts by £5,596.

Brethren, we have been charged with the task of establishing missionary work in three countries, but we cannot possibly continue under these conditions. Unless every member is prepared to shoulder their responsibility we will have no alternative but to shamefully withdraw from one of our fields.

The Overseas Board and missionaries on the field are confident that the Australian Churches of Christ are capable not only of maintaining the work, but of expanding. Brethren, let us not fail the people amongst whom we are working. Let us not fail the Saviour.

**WE APPEAL TO YOU TO RESPOND AS NEVER
BEFORE TO THE CHALLENGE
ON SUNDAY, JULY 7th, 1963**

- Our Stewardship is on Trial -

Twelve years ago, as I sat down to write my first editorial for an Overseas Mission Number, Australian Churches of Christ had 26 missionaries serving on the two fields of India and the New Hebrides. Today, as I begin my last such editorial, we are represented by 57 missionaries in three fields, with our work in New Guinea still only five years' old. Many changes have taken place within these twelve years. Even allowing for the effects of commencing a new work, it has been no mean feat to more than double the total number of missionaries, and to have other applicants before the Board, waiting for opportunities to serve. The enlistment of some New Zealanders among the medical staff for the New Hebrides has also been a notable feature. But one thing remains distressingly common to the picture of conditions twelve years ago and now; in 1951 the Federal Board was reporting that, despite increased giving, rapidly rising costs had forced finances behind at the rate of over £5/5/- per day for the previous 18 months — now, in 1963, we are told of a crisis in our Mission work, precipitated by a deficit possibly reaching £10,000. Yet the facts are that we not only faced up to that 1951 deficit, but went on to new advances. Is it possible to do the same with the present crisis?

It is our overall sense of Christian stewardship that is on trial. Overseas Missions represents only one phase of our brotherhood's total programme. It would be a tragedy if increased giving to Missions meant lessened support for other vital but less publicised Christian activities. Only an informed sense of stewardship on the part of Boards, Committees and churches, as well as individual givers, can prevent that kind of thing happening. But it would be a pitiful reflection on our people's conception of giving if we can't do considerably better than 7½d per week per member for Missions without harming our giving to other causes. Planned Giving campaigns are showing the way, and proving that once our church members are really roused to the joy of giving, the whole area of our work benefits.

This year's missionary slogan urges us to face the facts of today's missionary needs. We are confronted in areas close to our own homeland by awakening nations. The most vivid example in the modern world is Africa, with its many new independent nations. It has been estimated that, fifty years ago under the old colonial systems, "Christian missionaries were giving fully 95 per cent. of all the education that Africans south of the Sahara were receiving and by far the greater part of the medical service" (Mathews). How are Christian Missions faring in the change-over to independency? Chester L. Morens sums

it up by saying: "African Christians, and most African governments, have a high appreciation for the work which missionaries have done, and there is a general awareness that African churches will need the support of trained manpower and financial assistance from Western churches for a long time to come . . . But there is no future in Africa for any church which is identified as being under the control of Western white men."

Such a situation — and it is obvious also in other countries with a missionary history — involves new relationships, new conceptions of the work to be done together. That is no easy task, either for missionaries or indigenous church leaders. As one of our own Disciple missionary leaders, Dr. R. G. Nelson, said in *World Call* (May, 1963): "The missionary now finds himself in a role where the use of all his abilities might actually get in the way of the leaders he is trying to help. The frustration resulting from this must be experienced to be appreciated. One missionary compared it with a truck driving long distances in low gear. Heat, frustration and tension are maximum; the results are minimal."

But whatever the difficulties — and the types of difficulties vary largely in the three fields where we have Missions — the fact remains that there is a growing, rather than a lessening, demand for missionaries. What the governments of some of the awakening countries expect from missionaries may be very different from the Church's traditional conceptions of their tasks. But the opportunities for Christian witness are undoubtedly there, even if a man goes primarily as a so-called technical missionary. Who knows how long such opportunities will continue? They must be seized *now!*

So it comes back to our sense of stewardship. Articles in this issue written by missionaries show the quality of *their* giving. Is *our* stewardship sacrificial enough to ensure not only that our missionary work, but every piece of Christian service we do together as a brotherhood, will be encouraged by the kind of giving that demands *advance!*

**"Proclaiming Reconciliation
TO AWAKENING NATIONS."**

REMEMBER

**OVERSEAS MISSION OFFERING
SUNDAY, JULY 7**

Proclaiming Reconciliation Overseas

Ira A. Paternoster

There are two outstanding dates in the Christian year which must never be forgotten. The first is Christmas, and the other Easter.

In the first we remember that God came into this world in the form of a little child, without sin, and that for a period of time he dwelt among men, revealing to them that "God is love." We remember in the Easter period that, as the God-Man, he, of himself, laid down his life upon the cross — that he died for our sins, was buried and on the third day rose again, was seen of men for forty days and then ascended to his Father's presence, there to intercede for us.

These facts, rightly understood, are the message to be taken to men of every nation, tribe and tongue.

For more than half a century missionaries representing our brotherhood have gone forth with that gospel of reconciliation to India, the New Hebrides, and now into New Guinea. The fruits of their labors are manifest to all who care to take the trouble to read.

In India these fruits are seen to-day in the lives of men like Hariba Waghmode, Mr. Bhonsle in Bombay, Mr. Hiwale in Indapur, Mr. Dongre in Dhorja and countless others who in less conspicuous ways are serving their Lord and Master.

In the work done in our Hospitals and Homes for children, the good seed is being sown by consecrated men and women, and what is true of India is also true of the New Hebrides. We think of Abel Bani on Aoba, Zacheus on Pentecost, and Isalah on Maewo, at the same time remembering the great numbers of others who over the years have borne witness and are still witnessing to the truth of the word which says, "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself."

While the work in New Guinea is yet too young for us to mention names, before long there will be those who, learning the way of the Lord, will shine forth as bright jewels for his crown.

This makes a most encouraging picture, and calls for deep thankfulness to Almighty God for his gracious leading. I can but marvel when I remember that all this has taken place during my own life-time. What a wonderful God we have! What a splendid brotherhood, also, that from the human viewpoint the necessary funds have been supplied. So often

in the past funds seemed to be inadequate to meet the pressing demands, and in answer to fervent prayer on the part of those who knew the need, money has come to meet that need. Ours has been a Mission of faith. We have told the churches of the need and have relied on our Heavenly Father to meet that need.

The time has come to challenge our brotherhood for another year of service. The work must go forward — we dare not go back in the light of God's leading. The needs are every day increasing, and with our growing membership we feel we can with confidence ask for your prayers and your gifts on July 7.

Local Church must be Missionary

E. W. Roffey, B.A.

No local congregation can afford to focus attention so closely upon its own immediate programme that it ignores the dimension of its world mission. Such a church would be failing dismally to understand the mission of the Lord Jesus Christ. Is it strange that such an attitude would bring its own nemesis and the judgment of the living Christ? Pettiness and loss of life are for those who struggle to save their lives. Salvation is in gambling life for Jesus' sake and the gospel's.

"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel" is the rallying call to the health of the church, when it is conscious both of focus and of dimension. The Christian is always a "sent" person. Wherever he is, he has been sent. Here he has no abiding city. He has been sent from the age to come to this present day. The Christian's mission is a penetrating focus upon life where he is. But it also has dimension. It is never less than a world mission.

How is a local congregation to identify itself with the total missionary programme of the Church?

This may be by direct partnership by undertaking a special programme of missionary education, or by undertaking an approved project of missionary outreach. Such projects have

been initiated by several churches. One of the most outstanding of these projects is the one undertaken by the Bexley North church, which is giving £2,000 for the first unit of the Ndul Ndul Hospital. This was their own initiative. It was not because they had an unexpected windfall. It was because they saw the need to be immediate. "If we had an immediate need (was their attitude) we would go into debt to supply it." Why not, then, for this need? This effort in no way affects the church's outreach through its normal budget offerings.

We could write of others. The Rockdale church knew that there was a need early last year for a missionary in New Guinea. "We will underwrite a missionary couple," they said. Consequently Mr. and Mrs. David Hammer became their very real Living Links on the field.

Mission means that we are sent. It is not enough to be always on a journey — it must be a journey with an end purpose. The involvement is in sharing. Sharing involves material support, a knowledge of the work, personal interest, intelligent prayers and answering the call by going or by commissioning the sons and daughters of the church — perhaps our own sons and daughters.



Preaching Christ on Medical Patrols

Sister J. Hunting

How do we present Christ through our medical patrols? What opportunities do we have and what use do we make of them?

Searching questions, when you are the missionary of whom they are being asked. We feel that our Infant Welfare patrols are a very important feature of our medical work. We are able to go out among the people, instruct them and look after some of the physical needs. Every month we visit or see the mothers and children from 50 villages. All of these villages, save our own, are nominally Roman Catholic, but we have never come across one native who personally knows Jesus Christ as Saviour. Our only access to these villages is through our medical work, but this broadens our whole Mission activity and scope.

What an opportunity, and what a challenge! The material and physical needs of these people are often heart-breaking, but their spiritual

needs are far greater. They have been in touch with religion, but not with Christ, for over 30 years. They don't know the Saviour, and their hearts through ignorance are hardened to the gospel, the only answer to the problems in their lives.

We are ambassadors for Christ. God must make his appeal through us. We've become "mammams" of many piccaninnies, because at some time or other we have looked after them when they were sick. We can show Christ's love practically. "Oh mamma, you come now," is often heard when we enter a village, so we sit down and have a chat. Later these people will come to us with confidence when they are sick, and we will have further opportunities of witness.

Many nights, when we are on patrol, are spent in all manner of "houses," often among very unsophis-

ticated people. Our lamp is always the rallying point for many of the village folk. While they are helping us put up a stretcher, or just sitting around, we talk. Talk of gardens, singings, government, tax patrols, rain, sun, spirits, poisons, the thing that is causing most interest or concern. Always an opportunity to speak for Jesus. "Hey, you no can make-Im disfella talk no-good. God I no like hear-Im," and one of the doctor boys who are giving their hearts to Christ makes a simple witness. No matter what it is, it is an effective witness, because here is a young man whose life is obviously changing, and the reality of what we've been saying can be seen. So in simple ways the news of the Kingdom of Heaven is preached in many places, and these people start to hear for the first time that the message of Christ is personal.

Challenging days and times, but not only for a missionary — for everyone who would be a true follower of Christ.

AWAKENING IN N.G.

R. V. Chamberlain

Recently it was made known over the news sessions on the wireless that two small groups were found in the Sepik area which had never before been contacted by Europeans. The contrast of these new groups with the people of our district, and even of our district with more advanced districts, underlines that the whole Territory is waking up to a new world.

Of necessity, I can only tell you firsthand of the people we live amongst. One of the greatest developments is the advance from enmity of one group with another, to present co-operation in a Local Government Council.

The Administration is pressing on with political development. A newly-reconstituted Legislative Council will have a two-thirds majority of native members. The few who are politically-conscious are being given means to express it. The Local Government Council system is an attempt to gravitate political awareness to the local level. The result in our district is an awakening to new systems of Government, and new ideas of co-operation in village life.

It is in the area of education that there is the greatest awakening. People are conscious that the Papuans are more learned than the average New Guinean, and they don't want the Papuans to hold down the jobs that are available in New Guinea. The adults say that they have grown up without the ability to read and write, and they have a strong desire to see

that their children become literate. However, the motive often is that education is the key to something better materially.

In New Guinea there is an awakening towards better things. Head hunters have given way to Local Government Councillors. Old social customs are being discarded, and a new social structure is being formed. There

is a great danger that this rapid social change will result in a crumbling of standards. Herein is the Church's greatest opportunity, to give a new Christian way of life that will replace the already discarded ancient social structure, so that the teachings of Christ might be the operative factor in the newly-awakened and educated minds of the Territory.



Children at Tung School — an awakening towards better things.

India's Physical and Spiritual Need . . .

Ray Veal

In the interest of brevity you will forgive me if in this article I empty out before you a box of facts that tell something of India's physical need, and leave you, the reader, to sort out and file in your minds those things that you deem worthy of note.

One man in every five is an Indian. Within the bounds of this country resides one-fifth of the world's population. India's material wealth is fabulous. India has one-third of the world's cattle. She has water resources which, next to those of America and Canada, are the best in the world. There are one hundred million acres of cultivable land. The forests are capable of supplying 100 million tons of wood each year. Coal and iron ore and mineral deposits are incredible. Resources of water for irrigation and hydro-electric power are limitless. No wonder that Milton in *Paradise Lost* could write of "the wealth of Ormus and Ind."

But, India presents a paradox — poverty in a land of plenty. The ordinary peasant still lives from hand to mouth, starved, illiterate, ignorant and unemployed for a third of the year. Cattle are even more starved and ill-bred and ill-used — (although it may be some compensation for them to share the same room as the rest of the family and guests). Land is still cut into little strips and tilled with the same primitive instruments that were used in the days of Buddha, and devoid of the previous manure that could boost the crop yield by 400%. Even if industrialisation comes to India at a supersonic rate, after 10 or 20 years there will still be 400 million left on the land. For India seems destined to remain an agricultural country — a country of peasants and artisans in villages — "hewers of wood and drawers of water" — for many years to come.

But, she knows her problems, and she has many of the answers — all she needs is help. Mahatma Gandhi said once to Christian countries, "I would beg of you your scientific talent. You ask your engineers and agricultural experts to place their services at our disposal . . . If you do this kind of work in a religious spirit, you will have delivered the message of Jesus." Today many technical missionaries are working in India, and are using their talents to preach Christ.

This brings us to India's spiritual need. One thing that has impressed me in India is that this is a deeply spiritual country. The Hindu believes in a god, or gods. He worships, he prays, he may even surpass the Christian in his devotion, sincerity and sacrifices. He believes that "every nation's religion is as good as any other." His faith or belief (call it

superstition, if you will) is simple and crude, but to him it is of great value. It has been a challenge to me to understand more fully the Hindu heart and mind. Hinduism has strong emotional attachments, and will not be replaced by Christianity without a struggle. As one has written, "The Christian missionary who attempts to dismiss Hinduism, in its lower forms, as a religion of superstition and crass idolatry, and in its higher ranges as lost in the abstractions of an impractical philosophy, is simply revealing his own ignorance." Gandhi was the spokesman of the people,



Ray Veal.

then and now, when he said, "Although I admire much in Christianity, I am unable to identify myself with orthodox Christianity. I must say in all humility that Hinduism, as I know it, entirely satisfies my soul, fills my whole being, and I find a solace in the Bhagavadgita and Upanishads that I miss even in the Sermon on the Mount."

So you see the task. India is a field of 450 million souls who are content with their faith. They don't want a Saviour, but they desperately need the Saviour. They need a Saviour who will come to the poor and oppressed and burdened and say, "The Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted and the right of the poor." They need a Saviour who will be real to the working man. One who will encourage the farmer with his message, "they that sow in tears shall reap in joy." One who will challenge the builders to look "for a city with foundations, whose builder and maker is God." One who will move the engineers to "beat their swords

into plough-shares and their spears into pruning hooks." And one who will remind the baker that, "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of the Father." Such a Saviour would be accepted in India. They need a Saviour who will lift the awful burden of sin that refuses to go, despite daily rituals and pilgrimages and sacrifices. One is needed who will "make reconciliation for the sins of the people" and "succor them that are tempted" and "present them faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy."

Yes, we know such an one, and his name is Jesus. We know that "God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself." We know that Jesus meant India when he said, "I am come that they might have life, and have it more abundantly." He meant the Indian when he said, "I go to prepare a place for you — And I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also." And Jesus meant you and me when he said, "Go ye into all the world and preach." And while God lendeth us breath, we will preach this message, that "awakening India" will be reconciled to him, whom to know is life eternal.

So Few Amongst So Many

B. C. Bhonsle

A few weeks ago, we had an opportunity to preach in Ambernath in a Hindu jutra. There were about three hundred thousand people who had come to celebrate this festival. We were six of us only. How few we were among so many! We preached for three hours. But our voices became so hoarse that we could preach no more. We had no musical instruments, neither had we an amplifier. We were two of us from our church. The other four brothers belonged to another group. Our preaching method was very strange this time. I preached in English, and another brother interpreted in Hindi. Then again I preached in Hindi, and it was interpreted in Marathi. There were a few Marathi-speaking, too. But most of the listeners were non-Marathi. There was a lot of noise everywhere. Shopkeepers and advertisers were using loudspeakers. There were beggars and hawkers, religious singers and dancers. We felt that every one was competing against our voices. Ours was the most feeble attempt.

We sold 25 Gospels, but we could have sold 250 very easily. There was great demand for the Gospels other than Marathi, and we never realised it, because it was not expected. Next year I have invited our Mission team from Baramati for this jutra.

Awakening India Wants To Read

B. V. Coventry

School had just come out as the motor car passed along the busy thoroughfare. Children were breaking off in all directions when leaflets came floating to the roadway. A wild rush ensued, and then in clusters children either stood around or walked in little groups as one read the Good News of the gospel. The line of bullock-carts, laden with sugar cane, seemed unending as they made their snake-like progress towards the distant sugar mills. Seated high on top of the load, the driver precariously directed the tramp of the animals while traffic coming in either direction moved cautiously along the remaining half of the none-too-wide road. As leaflets drifted to the ground from the passing motor, drivers, with one bound, jumped from their carts, picked up the word of Good News, scrambled back again, and occupied their time reading the message of redemption.

Day was fast drawing to a close as we crossed the paddy fields and railway line to arrive at the home of a man who had once been in detention for his thieving activities. There, in his home, on this very hot summer Lord's Day, one felt the warmth of the Christian fellowship as he told something of his early life, for the benefit of a friend who had come with us. It was in Baramati, under H. R. Coventry, that he first came to know of Christ's saving grace. He first saw the light of Christ through the activities and conversations of the missionaries there. With little thought, he accepted Christ as Sav-



Pandhrinath Bhalerao, receiving his B.A. (Hons.) Diploma. Since graduation, Pandhrinath has been assisting B. V. Coventry in literature work. He is one of the many Indian full-time workers supported by Australian churches.

four, and like so many, quickly forgot the new commitment. Time

passed and he learned to read. He found again in the Word of God the voice of the Master calling, saw his life estranged from God — its emptiness, lack of purpose, uncertainty — and contrasted this with the dynamic directive of the great apostles. Then, in full commitment, he surrendered his life to Christ. He is not a fluent reader, and reads little other than the Word of God, but he knows his Bible and is radiant when passing on its message to others. The pastor's testimony is, "This barely illiterate man is a spiritual gem; we can always rely upon Rambhau."

Primary Schools in the remotest villages, High Schools mushrooming all over the country, colleges opening in cities and rapidly developing rural areas, are a vivid indicator of the breathtaking changes all over the land. There is a thirst for knowledge. "Give us books, books and more books to read and improve ourselves. We have read every book in the library, we want more books to read," are common cases. "Will you teach us English, teach it to us from your Bible, or any other of your religious books; we want to learn and we want to understand your Christianity."

Are we equal to the challenge? Are we prepared to sacrifice that others may have an opportunity we take for granted? Are we prepared to provide translators, writers, publishers, and distributors that some of these needs may be met? God give us eyes to see that while it is still day it may not be said of us, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

... India And God's Challenge

E. W. Heard

Every day in Bombay the Boeing super-jets scream aloft, bound for Europe and East Asia. Their passengers are sped quickly over the city and also its hovels, the homes of the world's most miserable people — lepers. The world's richest man, the Nizam, lives in a huge palace surrounded by a tide of Hindu and Muslim poverty and squalor. Yet through the morbid contrasts comes one startling fact — India is awake.

Since 1947 her cement, paper and sugar industries have tripled production, while steel plants have increased yearly production, in just three years, from 1½ to six million tons. A leading nation in research for the peaceful uses of atomic energy, her first atomic power station will operate in 1965. A whole range of new items is now manufactured — locomotives and jet-planes, sewing machines and aluminium cables —

while chemical plants produce enormous quantities of drugs and fertilisers.

But India's population grows alarmingly. A big nation, it has 460 million people to prove it. Increasing by 8 million each year, there are 22,500 more people to feed and clothe, house and educate each day. A massive increase in schools and scholars brings learning to the new generation. There are more than twelve million High School students. The illiteracy rate has been halved in a decade. Copies of the Gospels and tracts can now be read by those who receive them. Many more Christians not

only can, but want to, read and study their Bibles.

Hinduism, its traditional religion, is cracking under the strain of a modern industrial society. Jesus Christ and his Church offer the alternative to Communism for India. We have a Mission in India. Into it we need to pour men and money in unstinted quantities. The time is short. This is God's challenge — that through us it may be Christ for India, and India for Christ.

It is difficult to exaggerate India's importance. The future belongs to Asia. Here India is a leading power. Her significance is even more evident in the strategy of Christian Missions. Where should the Church concentrate its resources? Japan and India are Asia's only two large and stable democracies. One hundred and fifty years of Protestant missionary work in India have prepared a base for what, under God, could be the greatest evangelical advance in all history.

Jack Edwards

PLANS FOR RANWADI . . .

From about twenty boys in 1957, Ranwadi has grown in five years to an enrolment of ninety-nine. From fifteen boarders, it has grown to seventy-one. The village schools have shown the same growth. Five years ago we had one village school, with an enrolment of about twenty. Now we have four village schools, with an enrolment of 120 children. In the past three years more than twenty boys have completed Grade 4 at Ranwadi, and graduated either to Nasawa or Londua. Counting these students we have approximately 250 attending school. There are many children in our villages who are not yet seven years' old, which is the age to commence school.

With an enrolment of 99 at Ranwadi, 45 are girls. A few years ago the girls were not considered worthy of an education, and so most of our women folk are illiterate. With the coming of Dorothea Lake, we shall be able to commence regular sewing classes, and the older girls will be taught mothercraft.

It is not only in New Guinea that women are counted as "something nothing," and our prayer is that, with a Christian education, the standard of our women will be raised and they will be equipped to make a worthy contribution to family and village life.

With the commencement of Grade 5 this year, Ranwadi will become a



Grade 4 Girls, Ranwadi School

"Girls' Secondary School," with classes to standard eight. The boys graduate to Nasawa or Londua on the completion of grades four or five.

Most of the baptisms on Pentecost for the past two years have been either from our village schools or Ranwadi. In the schools we have a glorious opportunity of daily teaching these children the Word of God.

Girls' Fellowship has been commenced at Ranwadi, at which the girls have the opportunity to lead

the meeting regularly, read the lessons, pray and speak. From training such as this we expect to see the future leaders of our women's work.

School commences with devotions each morning, which consist of a hymn, a prayer, a short talk, and a closing prayer. Each class has a half-hour Scripture lesson daily. What glorious opportunities present themselves to us as we faithfully present to the youth of our people the Word of God continuously.

. . . HEAL THE SICK

Sister Helen Maiden

Compared with other hospitals, the medical work on Maewo is small, but this does not make it any the less important for us to carry out our Lord's command in Matt. 10, where he sends his apostles forth to "heal the sick . . ."

At present our much needed maternity ward is in the process of being erected — after the completion of this, there will be the General Ward to build, the latter being a new addition altogether. The nursing of general patients is not at all satisfactory now, as there are only four huts in which the patient with his family can stay.

For help I have three nurses whom I am training, and a Medical Dresser. Abel is retiring in a few weeks after 10 years' service in this capacity. I will miss his services very much, as he has proved very trustworthy and reliable.

The dispensary hours are at 7 a.m. and 4 p.m. — or these are the official times in which people come for treatment and medicine. This is also the

time we attend to the In-patients. The rest of the day they are cared



Miss Dorothea Lake,
newly appointed teacher, Ranwadi.

for by relatives. Of course, I am available at any time if needed. For those of you who are wondering what my occupation is between dispensary hours it is school-teaching, and the various activities that go with it.

Usually, most patients are very appreciative of help received, although they do not say very much. Could I share with you my experiences of one woman and her baby? She had walked, with her baby under one arm and mat under the other, from a village two hours' away. She came up to me with tears streaming down her face, saying, "Sister, Aaron 'ime sick plenty — 'ime big fella short wind." After unwrapping several layers of dirty "blankets", I came to an equally dirty sick baby. However, with treatment and care, he responded very well and was home within two weeks. Yesterday I visited the particular village, and the mother very shyly handed me three lovely big mandarins, which was her way of saying "Thank you" for help given.

So, as we here seek to help our dark brethren through the medium of medicine, would you pray that we may be able to point them to the Great Healer and Physician of Souls?

Cannibalism To Christianity —

Jack Smith

Few people realise the full magnitude of this statement — the joke of the missionary in the cook-pot is often quoted and illustrated, but how many Christians really stop to think what this means? Do we fully understand the part the Christian Church has played in the emancipation of the natives?

The martyrdom of missionaries and native Christians is history now, but it played a terrible and very real part in our early missionary history. Do the native people really change when they become Christian? Here are a few illustrations.

Although the islands of the Pacific are some of the most beautiful places on earth, the heathen native seemed incapable of appreciating beauty. He lived in a dirty village in the jungle that was dank and dark, with very little light penetrating the forest. Now, the Christian native keeps his village clean and in the open, and plants

colorful trees and flowers around his house and village. The church building takes central place in the village, and this usually has short grass and flowers around it, too.

In the heathen days the best piece of flat ground was kept for the dances, but now the church building occupies this position. The pig palms where the pigs were tied before being killed for some heathen ceremony, are now either cut down or just allowed to rot away. Some of the heathen customs have been changed into a Christian service. One of these is the feast of the first yam. In old times this feast was the excuse for dancing and an orgy, but now the Christian natives bring their first yams to church, and have a thanksgiving service to God for a good harvest. Dirt and filth were prevalent in the old days, but now the Christians are as clean as any white folk. Sickness and disease took a fearful toll before the coming of Missions; now, however,

these evils are being successfully combatted in our hospitals and clinics, and, of course, as the native is educated by the Mission, so he learns to care for himself.

At Ranmawat when we arrived in 1947, there was a total population in the area of 47 people; also in that year 39 mothers and babes died in childbirth.

But what a different story today! In the same area the population is over 170, and in 1962 there were 63 maternity cases among our people on Pentecost, and not one mother or child died. From one or two small native schools, we have seen the growth to four native-taught schools and the big boarding school at Ranwadi, with 90 pupils.

From one small hut at Ranmawat has grown quite a big hospital, with a daily in-patient list of twenty-one. In the future, we look forward to the time when we shall have an indigenous church, native teachers and medical staff, and to the fulfilling of the prophecy of our Lord, that people shall come from the four corners of the earth, and sit down in the Kingdom of God.

Preaching Reconciliation in the New Hebrides

Reg. Cambridge,

One of the great barriers to preaching the gospel of reconciliation in the New Hebrides is that of language. Each of our Islands varies in its language, and even on one island there may be three totally different languages spoken, inasmuch as the people in one place cannot speak or understand unless pidgin English is spoken, or an interpreter is available. However, the gospel of Christ is preached through various mediums, and many are won into the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour.

Through the medium of schools we endeavor to help our young people by educating them and teaching them the things of God. In all our schools daily devotions and Bible study are a main part in the school curriculum. It is here at school that the teacher can exert an influence by both his teaching and his life, and thus be able to lead boys and girls to the foot of the Cross. Our schools are an opportunity given to us by God to teach the generation of tomorrow the things they must know in order to live full and abounding Christian lives.

There is another avenue which has been used by God and blessed by him in reconciling his children to himself — the avenue of healing. There has been much sickness in the Islands, and the death rate has been high. So often, through answered prayer and the modern medicines that God has given us, many have come into a much deeper Christian experience. Some have risen

from beds of sickness, and testify to his saving and healing power. Often our nursing staff, and sometimes the village elders, have gathered for prayer at the bedside of the dying, and have been able to rejoice as the Lord has led the sick back from the door of death. Yes, here at the touch of the Great Physician, man is reconciled to God.

On the Lord's Day, services are held in all of our villages in the local church building. Christians meet around the Lord's Table, and the Scriptures are read. The Word of God is preached, either by a missionary or by a native teacher or elder. It is the missionaries' duty to move around from village to village in order to preach. In some areas where it is possible, midweek meetings are held. The women have their meetings during the week, at which God's Word is explained and some of the native women are

encouraged to take part and to lead. In the New Hebrides it is necessary to walk for many hours to reach some villages. Others which are inaccessible by foot have to be contacted by means of boat.

In all these ways we preach the gospel of Christ to reconcile man to God. We must work while it is yet day, for the night cometh when no man can work.



Bactora Church, Maewo. — On the Lord's Day, services are held in all of our villages in the local church building.

Were You Challenged?

Since the last Overseas Offering, missionaries on furlough have visited hundreds of churches throughout Australia, on deputation work. They are J. Hunting, A. Draney, P. Jones, D. Howden, B. Richards, D. & M. Engling, J. & D. Smith. State Overseas Mission Secretaries have sacrificially given time and energy to enlighten the brotherhood on our Overseas work. Representatives from the Overseas Committee of our Women's Conferences have been untiring in their efforts to bring information concerning our missionary programme to the various Women's Fellowships. The Federal Secretary visited churches in every State.

In addition, we had Messrs. Bhonsle and Hiwale, from India, who travelled constantly for several months, visiting churches all over Australia, presenting a challenging message concerning India's spiritual need.

The deputationists went to your church to bring information and a challenge. Offerings were not requested, and were not made unless it was the wish of the group that had arranged the meeting.

The Annual Offering is the climax to all the time given to deputation work. This is your opportunity to respond to the challenge.



Miss A. Draney
visited churches in Tasmania,
Victoria and Queensland.

If your church did not receive a visit from a deputationist during the past 12 months, write to the Overseas Mission Secretary in your State, and see if someone can come during the next 12 months.

ies, children in the Mission schools are learning of God's love, as well as how to read and write.

We praise God for the opportunity to witness for Christ and preach his Word. We thank God for those who are responding and enquiring about the way of salvation. Several are attending discipleship classes and are being taught what it means to accept Christ and follow him. We pray that these will decide to accept Christ and that, being born again, they will be the first-fruits of the work in New Guinea.

It is the responsibility of Australian Churches of Christ to maintain this growing and expanding work. Grants-in-Aid from the Administration cover less than 10% of total expenditure. We are not relying on Government aid, but the prayerful and practical support of God's people.



S. Hiwale,
from India, visited churches in
all States.

GOD IS AT WORK

M. S. A. McLean

July 23, 1963, will be the fifth anniversary of the beginning of the work in New Guinea, for on this day in 1958, workers began clearing the site at Tung. As we look at the progress that has taken place during this period, we thank God for his guidance and leading. It is not our work but his, and to him must be given the glory.

We praise God that today there are now twenty missionaries on the field, and that, in addition to Tung, the work is being established at Pir, Bunapas, Asau, Tsumba and Chungribu.

We praise God for the large number of people that are receiving medical attention. According to the Pacific Island Year Book, the area between Wewak and Madang (which takes in our Mission) is the worst in the whole of the Pacific for malaria. Prior to the arrival of our missionaries, many people had to journey for two or three days to reach the nearest doctor.

We praise God for the children that attend our schools. Their parents were not given the opportunity of obtaining an education, but because we sent missionar-

These are critical days for New Guinea. The future is uncertain, but this is the day of opportunity. Our missionaries can see the great opportunities that exist, and appeal to the brotherhood to allow them to continue to advance for Christ. In New Guinea there is a great harvest to be reaped for God. "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth laborers into the harvest" (Luke 10: 2).



People gathered near church building at Pir.

**"PROCLAIMING
RECONCILIATION
to Awakening Nations."**

**Remember
OVERSEAS MISSION OFFERING
SUNDAY, JULY 7**

HERE AND THERE

The North Essendon - Milleara (Vic.) church announces with pleasure that Neville S. Moore has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church to appointment as minister in succession to A. E. White, when the latter commences his new work as Editor of "The Australian Christian." Mr. Moore is at present serving as Chaplain at Shepparton High School, Vic., and his new engagement will be for three years. Mrs. Moore is a daughter of I. J. Chivell, Conf. Sec. in South Australia, and a sister of Mrs. Thomas, serving as a missionary in India.

Special material for this Overseas Mission Number was supplied by R. S. A. McLean, Fed. Sec., Overseas Mission Board.

A "Christian Teaching Week" conducted at Portland, Vic., with Principal E. L. Williams, M.A., was successful in presenting the witness of Churches of Christ to all who attended. Mr. and Mrs. Williams were tendered a civic reception by the Mayor of Portland. Speaking at Rotary, as well as at a combined men's tea, were extra commitments which Mr. Williams used to witness to his Lord.

The Caulfield (Bambra-rd) church, Vic., had a wonderful day of blessing and inspiration for its 43rd anniversary services on June 2. L. G. Crisp gave a stirring address to a congregation of 270 people at the morning meeting. At the afternoon spiritual rally, K. A. Macnaughtan helped all as he spoke on the certainty of our Lord's return. The fellowship tea was a very happy occasion, when 170 sat down for the meal. Another capacity number of 268 attended the evening service, when F. A. Youens (local minister) presented the claims of Christ. There was one decision. The choir, under the leadership of J. Machin, and the soloists (Miss Genty Stevens, Robert Serves and Miss Jean Milne) greatly assisted in bringing a devotional spirit to the meetings.—G. W. Lees.

In Taree, N.S.W., the local press and radio stations are giving wide publicity to the Centenary celebrations of the Church of Christ. A wide coverage is being given to the witness of the church, and the devotion of members of the Taree congregation. The church brought Dr. L. E. Jones, of the City Church, Perth, W.A., by air to be the speaker for the 100th Anniversary celebrations. His timely messages are being appreciated. On the evening of June 9, the first gospel service following the celebrations on the 8th, there was one decision.

At the P.S.A. on the 9th, local members aided Miss Bettye Marcus and Arthur Glover in presenting an enjoyable programme.

The people of New Guinea are reported to have snapped up the first 15,000 volumes of the four Gospels printed by the British and Foreign Bible Society in pidgin English. An immediate reprint was ordered by the Society. The first edition was sold out before the books left the Sydney office of the publishers.

Men's Camp

LAUNCESTON, TAS.

Eighteen members of the Margaret-st., Launceston C.M.S., spent the June long weekend in camp at Sidmouth, when a time of rich fellowship was enjoyed in Bible study, discussion groups and recreation.

The three studies were specially prepared by C. J. Robinson on the theme, I Know My Place.

Study No. 1 (An Active Member) covered such questions as, "When a Christian gives his time to his Trade Union or politics, should he be made to feel that he is failing the Church?" and "If a layman cannot say what he believes or why he believes it, does this type of witness impair or weaken the Church's witness?"

Study No. 2 (The Priesthood of All Believers) gave much food for thought on matters such as the place of women in the witness of the Church, and in church administration and the relationship between the ministry and the laymen.

Study No. 3 (Participation in Church Worship) was centred on presiding at the Lord's Table and leading in public prayer, culminating in the question, "Do our services demonstrate the priesthood of all believers as much as those of other denominations? — Wherein do they differ?"

Practical help and experience was given in Scripture reading, aided by a tape recorder. Constructive criticism was given to those who took part. On Sunday evening the men joined with the North Essendon church choir in "Community Hymn Singing" (over the A.B.C.), after which the sound film, All That I Have, was screened.

The men deeply appreciated the services of Messrs. C. J. Robinson and G. Green in preparing the meals. This camp was the first to be organised by this C.M.S., but, following its success, it will probably not be the last.—J. Harrison.

QUESTING

A. E. White.

What is an elder? What does he do? How is he appointed, by whom, and for how long? (Part 2).

In the N.T., elders (or bishops) were expected to give leadership, not simply to represent authority. They were not appointed to fill an official position, they were elected to do a job — and their job was to care for the flock of God.

When Paul referred to prophets, teachers, pastors, and evangelists, there is no suggestion that these were to be separate from the eldership. It is much more likely that the elders were to function in these ways. Although some, like the apostles, would travel and minister to all of the churches, elders and deacons would hold office in respect to local churches, or perhaps a group of churches close enough to enjoy a common eldership.

Some denominations hold the view that Jesus ordained the apostles, and that the apostles ordained an elect order of priests which have an unbroken line of succession to the Bishops of those churches today. Our view is rather that the so-called apostolic ministry was committed to the whole Church. Elders exercise leadership in this ministry, but in no sense monopolise it. Every member of the Church is a part of the Church's ministry, but every organism requires direction.

There is no attempt in the N.T. to outline the specific tasks of the elder. Surely he was expected to do whatever was required for the control and care of the congregation, and to give direction to its witness and service. And it makes sense to assume that the deacons were to assist the elders where and when they were needed. They did not work in a different field. The difference between the two offices was in responsibility and authority.

Much of the confusion concerning the tasks of elders and deacons is probably due to the attempt to define an elder's duties as "spiritual" and a deacon's duties as "temporal and material." The N.T. knows nothing of such a distinction. All life is spiritual.

The member at play and at prayer, the kitchen and the sanctuary, the offering and the gas bill, the communion prayer and the door-mat, the sermon and the cleaning roster — these are not all of equal importance, but they are all a part of the life of the Church, and under the general supervision of the consecrated eldership.

Next Week: More about elders.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

TASMANIA

Margaret-st., Launceston (C. J. Robinson). — Members contributed over £60 to Freedom From Hunger campaign. C.W.E.F. conducted evening service on Mother's Day. Samuel and Japheth were guest speakers at May C.M.S. meeting; they also visited a C.W.E.F. meeting. Samuel spoke at morning service on 19th. Church choir rendered items at City Mission annual meeting. Table of selected books and address on Christian literature were features of Literature Week. Dr. Dulcie Holden screened film, *To Smoke or Not to Smoke*, to C.W.E.F. meeting. C.M.S. arranged their first men's camp for June long weekend. J. P. Foot (church elder) and Mrs. A. Lee both in hospital.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Subiaco (G. Smith). — Unity Week, Ministers' Fraternal, prayer and study groups in local churches beneficial to all. Major Langworthy spoke at G.L.B. parade. Excellent attendances at services. Mrs. Suth and Mrs. R. Brown bring joy and happiness to many young folk in their Happy Hour programme weekly. Mr. Suth, Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. G. Smith bring much comfort and joy to Fremantle Prison each month. Their ministry is greatly appreciated. Sickness prevalent amongst membership.

QUEENSLAND

Ann-st., Brisbane (L. G. Read). — At a meeting of the Council of Auxiliaries, on June 4, a sub-committee of 7 was appointed to prepare tentative plans for introduction of All-Age Christian Education Programme. For visitation on "Shut-in" Sunday, a band of willing workers was organised by H. J. Payne (elder) whereby members who were unable to come to church had the church brought to them; the visitors also enjoyed the inspiring experience. Speakers on June 9 were K. Harvey (Camp Hill) and R. Acland (Ipswich) during absence of minister at Caloundra Youth Camp. Following recent stewardship campaign, greatly increased financial support for church is being received, and this has allowed Board of Officers to make substantial increases in budget allocations to brotherhood depts. Monthly meeting of Board, on 5th, resolved that consideration be given by elders and Board to increase

number of elders. Elders and deacons have agreed upon a division of duties, and generally will meet separately. It is hoped this will result in more expeditious handling of church business and administration, and at same time allow elders to devote more time to the spiritual needs of the people.

Gympie - Monkland (H. E. Jones). — On June 1, group of Y.P. from Albion and Ann-st travelled to Gympie to conduct combined C.E. rally in Gympie chapel; C. Love (Fairymead Union Church, Bundaberg) speaker. Visitors remained in Gympie overnight and attended morning service, at which 6 members of G.L.B. were presented with first project badges. Baptismal service, June 2, Y.P. conducted A.N.C.M. meeting at Gympie General Hospital Nurses' Home on 3rd.

Toowoomba (A. C. Thurrowgood - H. J. Finger). — On May 26, during Youth Week celebrations, Y.P.F. presented play, *Jesus Christ Is the Son of God*. At Harlaxton church anniversary. 26th, B. Roberts (Marburg - Lowood) speaker, also at C.M.S. Freedom From Hunger film screened p.m. Mylo musicale held 29th in aid of Mylo Home. Y.P.F. visited all hospitals and Old People's Homes on "Shut-in" Sunday, June 2, and all patients given gifts and card. K. Finger (S.S.E.M.) speaker at Mylo Home prayer meeting, 5th. Plans for tent mission, Sept.-Oct., under way. Prayer partners being enlisted.

Bundaberg (W. W. Davidson). — Highlight for May was dedication of newly renovated hall at Sim's Road; ceremony performed by A. J. Sheriff (Conf. Pres.) on 25th. Greetings brought by Mayor, Ald. C. J. Neilsen, Mr. Barnes (Ministers' Fraternal). Greetings interspersed by various items in song. Dedication service consisted of reading of Solomon's dedication by W. Deboritz (church elder), prayer by W. W. Davidson (minister). Solo rendered by Mrs. G. Dick. Address by A. J. Sheriff; attendance good and thanksgiving offering exceeded expectations. Mrs. Griffin home after hospitalisation. Mrs. W. W. Davidson re-admitted to hospital. Good attendances at services.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Chatswood (R. Greenhalgh - S. Thomas). — During absence of R. Greenhalgh on brotherhood activities, S. Thomas has addressed church; we also heard from representative of

Discipleship

G. Bucknell, Strathmore, Vic.
Marle Allen, Susan Reid, West Preston, Vic.
Ian Hall, Wedderburn, Vic.
Peter Currie, Greg. Lindsay, Dennis Davies, Maryborough, Vic.
Larry Melville, Naracoorte, S.A.
Max Bice, Pyramid Hill, Vic.
Cheryl Bolt, Geoffrey Rogers, Hawthorn, S.A.
Heather Brew, Aldgate Valley - Stirling East, S.A.
Mrs. Wade, Wayne, Rodney and Lynette Wade, Peter Giltsham, Elaine Wenham, Trevor Rickard, Flinders Park, S.A.
Anita James, Robyn McRae, North Essendon, Vic.

Membership

Miss B. Armstrong, Echuca to Caulfield, Vic.
Mrs Boyd, Caulfield to Hawthorn, Vic.
Miss F. Everett, Shepparton to Bendigo, Vic.
Miss Coxhill, Moreland to West Preston, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. G. Sandercock, Brighton Gardens to Hawthorn, S.A.
Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. Carlsen, Subiaco, W.A.
Mr. and Mrs. Todd and family, Hindmarsh Christian to Flinders Park, S.A.

Marriage

Jan Wells, Wedderburn, to Lindsay Bassett, Donald, Vic.
Marlene Christiansen to Malcolm Beard, Forestville, S.A.
Colleen Sommer to Robert Warner; Dorothy Norton to John Cook; Jan Goodfellow to John Edwards, Aldgate Valley - Stirling East, S.A.

Fallen Asleep

Maynard Bills, Chatswood, N.S.W.
Mr. Collier, Clayton, Vic.
Miss Brodie, Mrs. Wilton, Mrs. Sykes, Dawson-st., Ballarat, Vic.
A. Pearce, Flinders Park, S.A.

Gideon's Int. C.W.A.F. held 43rd anniversary, the large gathering being addressed by Mrs. Beales, who brought information of Christian women's work in Thailand. C.W.E.F. held open night, when a representative from Kodak talked on photography. C.Y.F. held social evening at home of Mrs. J. Rofe, and also had barbecue picnic, on holiday, at Werri Beach. G.L.B. week brought forth substantial donations for the work, and the girls held church parade. Splendid fellowship enjoyed at quarterly church social. Turramurra fellowship meeting regularly.

Mosman (L. E. Wylie - G. Warne). — C.W.F. conducted p.m. service, May 12, and Mrs. Wylie gave the message. Offering was taken for N.S.W. Benevolent Society. On morning of 26th, the visiting speaker was A. J. Daiziel, Public Relations Officer, N.S.W. Council of Churches. On June 9, special offering was taken to assist victims of the recent floods in the north of N.S.W., which included some C. of C. members. Visitors during month were Mr. and Mrs. Goodman (Caulfield, Vic.).

Earlwood (F. Elliott - R. Craig). — In absence of F. Elliott on June 2, G. Chapman was preacher. Girl reconsecrated her life. Miss Christie and Mrs. Taggart (Belmore) rendered duet. Freedom From Hunger Fund appeal, £20. C.W.F. has planned missionary programme for June, also helping to swell Manse Fund. Young men commended for effort in cleaning ground at rear of chapel, ready for improvements. Good attendance at R. Greenhalgh's lecture to readers and communion assistants on May 28; fellowship later enjoyed at supper. Several members ill. Mrs. Selby welcomed back after illness. Congratulations to John Donnelly, who won Apprenticeship Scholarship. First of series of cottage prayer meetings held on 5th, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Strickland.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Enfield Heights (R. Sansome). — Church anniversary services, June 2, very good. Chapel overflowing at morning service, at which Messrs. Mauger and Roberts (Prospect) and Bright (Hampstead Gardens) assisted. A service on May 29, with Mr. Fairclough (Welfare Dept.) as speaker was enjoyed. Av. attendances: a.m. 72; p.m. 53. Camp for inters. and Y.P. held at Hawthorn Farm, Mt. Barker. B.S. attendance topped 200 on June 2.

Nailsworth (A. M. Norris, B.A.). — Preacher at p.m. service, June 2, was G. Rose (Kilburn), who exchanged with A. Norris. 44th anniversary of church on 9th. Pres. of Conf., (S. R. Beck) addressed morning service.

Women's choir and a men's choir each contributed to p.m. service. Temple Day offering (incomplete) to provide a piano for Windsor Gardens Kindergarten, is being received. Large group of Y.P. visited Kadina for long weekend and took part in services there. Some sickness among members.

Mount Gambier (R. V. Holmes). — Visit of S. R. Beck (Conf. Pres.) for manse dedication and 5th church anniversary appreciated. G.L.B. progressing well under leadership of Mrs. A. Geeves. Don Berrett conducted B.S. in absence of supt., David Rackett, on holidays. Church shared in series of meetings in churches of city during week of prayer for Christian unity. Minister elected president of District Fraternal, and conducted civic service in connection with Centenary of Local Government. Nine Y.P. attended Longwood Camp.

Forestville (N. Gavros). — At church tea, F. Archbold (S.U.M.) spoke on work at Chad. Y.P.S.C.E. had exchange meeting with Hawthorn; also Mr. Slade (Morialta Children's Home) and Mrs. Roberts (Bible and Medical Missionary Fellowship) as guest speakers. J.C.E. held social on May 31, also record attendance of 35 at meeting. Morning services well attended, though evening meetings small. Mrs. Thomas in hospital, following surgery.

Naracoorte (E. O. Stevens). — Young man baptised and received into fellowship, and teenage girl made her confession of faith, May 19. Mrs. Nobel screened films of Holland at C.W.F. Much sickness among members; several hospitalised. On 28th, S. Beck (Conf. Pres.) spoke p.m., and later at after-church fellowship showed slides and spoke on brotherhood activities. At annual C.W.F. meeting on 4th, officers elected for ensuing 12 months: pres., Mrs. Stevens; vice-pres., Mrs. Burzacott; sec., Mrs. Burford; asst.-sec., Miss Drew; treas., Mrs. Collins. Long family farewelled prior to leaving district.

Aldgate Valley - Stirling East (R. Sider). — One baptism during May. On May 11, men gave ladies of the church a dinner. On Mother's Day, ladies of church conducted entire service, and earned commendations. Local Protestant churches combined for evening service, Pentecost Sunday.

VICTORIA

Balwyn (L. F. Barker). — On May 26, speaker at both services was E. Sanders. In afternoon the C.W.E.F. entertained elderly citizens of Camberwell with concert and afternoon tea. Good attendances on June 2. Singing of the Ambassadors' Quartet appreciated. Speakers in absence of minister, 9th, D. Smith, who spoke on Home Missions and Evangelism, and

W. Wigney. Church camp held at Ferny Creek under direction of minister, and with Mr. and Mrs. E. Sanders as "camp parents," was grand experience. C.W.F. held birthday meeting on 5th, with Deaconess Buchanan as speaker, and soloist Mrs. Secomb; over 90 ladies present. Opportunity table proceeds went to Manse Fund, and freewill offering to Freedom From Hunger campaign.

Bendigo (G. J. Andrews). — On May 21, 3 Y.P. from Kangaroo Flat church were baptised and received into fellowship, followed by address and film presented by G. Cann (Mission to Lepers). I. Allsop (C.O.B.) a.m. speaker May 26. On June 9, 60 C.Y.F. campers from Axedale Youth Camp attended evening worship and led service, with B. Pryor (Echuca) as preacher. Over 100 participated in after-church fellowship hour. At Spring Gully, May 31, Good Companions held successful fancy dress social. Spring Gully B.S. enthusiastically enrolled in Plan of Development.

Drumcondra (R. A. Banks). — Ladies' Aid held a gift afternoon for Manse Fund. Combined churches' H.M. prayer meeting held in chapel, with B. White (Norlane) speaker. Delegation attended the Willis-Gadge mission at East Geelong, two nights a week. C.M.S. monthly fellowship tea held at Norlane with Mr. Dargen (Alcoa Co.) guest speaker. Church fellowship tea held June 6, to culminate 1st year of Planned Giving Programme. L. Mountjoy presented to church very satisfactory report of year's giving. £62 per week had been promised for local needs, but average over 12 months was £67 week. All brotherhood offerings have been well maintained. M. Douglas, sec., outlined plans for Deepening of Spiritual Life campaign for ensuing 12 months. Film, *In the Beginning*, was screened. Offering for Freedom From Hunger appeal was £86. Representatives from all ladies' auxiliaries of church attended birthday afternoon, at Belmont church, June 5. Young man confessed Christ as his Saviour on 9th.

Hawthorn (H. E. Hunt). — In spite of much sickness there have been good attendances at morning meeting. 30 present at fellowship tea. Members of C.M.S. conducted an evening meeting at which R. Tippet (C.M.S. Pres.) preached, and G. Hazlehurst sang. Attendance was 50. A lady welcomed by transfer. Sisters held a meeting and elected pres., Mrs. Morris; sec., Mrs. Wickham, 10 being present.

Strathmore (A. J. Lloyd). — Attendances for May: 58 a.m.; 35 p.m. Tennis team on top. Barry Ladgrove farewelled on leaving for Bendigo

farming district. Ell Woudstra began nursing career at R.M.H. Half-yearly business meeting elected G. Dyson, deacon. B.S. scholar confessed Christ. £15/17/2 presented to Blind Babies' Home by Explorers. Mrs. Sullivan ill. C.W.F. hostess night held at Mrs. Bucknell's. Ladies attended Essendon C.W.E.F. birthday. V. Quayle (Essendon) spoke a.m. June 2.

West Preston (T. T. Robinson). — Av. May attendances: a.m. 132; p.m. 109; comm. 122. Family service p.m. May 12, featuring Good Companions and Explorers; guest speaker was F. Morgan. Two tennis teams in winter comp. enjoying good tennis. Explorer boys collected over £40 worth of groceries for Kew Cottages during May as part of their service activities. Y.P.S.C.E. had "roundabout" night on 25th, when Y.P. enjoyed short swim at baths, brief visit to airport, table tennis and supper, with stereo. music. P.B.P. progressive supper night held 28th. Bible study and discussion held by K.S.P., June 6. Y.P.S.C.E. conducted a debate on June 4. Hike and picnic at Hanging Rock for Y.P. on 10th.

Wedderburn (M. Roberts). — Attendances at services being maintained following series of special meetings, with 6 decisions. L. Lanyon continues to conduct monthly service at Aboriginal settlement in Moulamein and Balranald, N.S.W.

Ivanhoe (H. W. Street). — Fight against proposed establishment of Totalisator Agency Board premises in Ivanhoe has been taken to Minister for Local Government. Monthly exchanges of minister with Hurstbridge, and plan for assisting Hurstbridge with presidents and readers, working smoothly. Y.P. conducted gospel service at Middle Park on June 2. Monthly kinder and primary teachers' preparation classes being held. Mr. Trembath recovering in hospital following surgery. Slides of work of Regions Beyond Mission shown to C.W.F. on 11th. Two of church's five tennis teams still undefeated for season.

Dandenong (A. R. Lloyd). — Morning services well attended. Church parades on first three Sunday nights of month continue. Two Y.P. have made decisions. 34th birthday meeting of C.W.A.F. held June 5; 100 ladies present. Miss Rye (Vic. Soc., Prevention of Cruelty to Children) speaker. 30 men of C.M.S. made tour of Dandenong glass factory, following monthly tea on 6th. S.C.E. meets regularly at home of Mr. and Mrs. Max Edwards; av. attend. 24. Marion Warmbrunn in hospital for surgery. Church regrets removal of Mrs. Cole (hospital convener) to Warragul district. Sympathy of church goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd and family in passing of Mrs. Lloyd, snr.

Pyramid Hill (C. G. Henderson). — At business meeting, May 15, Arthur Broad elected deacon and treas. B.S. anniversary held on 19th; B. Prior, guest speaker. One decision and baptism, 26th. Services well attended. Brotherhood speakers much appreciated.

Maryborough (R. Pritchard). — Church appreciated services of Messrs. Drake, Filby and Silke, who preached during minister's vacation. On May 30, C.Y.F. held bowls evening to assist Building Fund. Y.P. and Harcourt Y.P. held joint night, 21st. Y.W.F. held annual meeting and 7th birthday on 22nd; Sis. Greer screened films of America. Mrs. A. Kennedy elected pres. and Miss B. Lunn, sec. C.M.S. work active. Monthly tea held June 2. Three young men baptised at gospel service. Choir continues valuable service at morning and evening services. Colin Pritchard has been in hospital and Mrs. S. Lunn is ill.

Moreland (G. A. Grainger). — During past few weeks, C.W.F. has been busy. At combined meeting for Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, offering of £6 was received for Miriam; also large box of useful gifts for use in the hospital in New Hebrides presented from C.W.A.F. On May 29, a luncheon given to honor all elderly ladies of congregation in appreciation of their loyal witness. A visit to patients of Greenvale has been made by ladies, also regular visit to Mount Royal. Fawkner church combined for baptismal service on May 26, and again on June 2, when 4 Y.P. (3 from Fawkner and 1 from Moreland) were baptised. An after-church singing of favorite hymns was good opportunity for fellowship on both occasions. Church has appointed C. Latimer as supt., with W. Green as sec. of Church School. Girls' basketball team doing very well.

Middle Park (J. Weldon). — Student minister giving very acceptable service. Special meetings have been arranged for June and July, with after-church fellowships following the services. Church organist and B.S. supt. honored prior to marriage. He has rendered wonderful service.

East Preston (T. Lane). — Church embarked on Stewardship of Life campaign for period of 3 months. Methodist minister preached at morning service on Pentecost Sunday. C.W.E.F. enjoyed demonstration of floral art by Mrs. Phillips. C.W.A.F. sending parcel of clothes to Aboriginal girl. After-church film services to be held once a month.

North Essendon - Milleara (A. E. White, B.A. - T. R. Mason). — Attendances at services at both churches well maintained. Bethany groups meeting each Wed. in several homes; reasonably well attended and helpful. Men's tea, June 2; David Scott (Brotherhood of St. Laurence) guest

speaker. C.W.A.F. had happy birthday celebration, on 11th, with 60 present, including visitors from other churches. Mrs. Mallis guest speaker, on mission work in India, and Mrs. M. Fielder, soloist. Local group providing complete outfit of clothing and shoes for boy at Carnarvon Mission. Two teenage girls baptised, and married lady and teenage girl made confession on June 9.

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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.

BIRTHS

DIXON (nee Chappell). — To Roy and Joy, a daughter — Grace Keren, at Blackwood and District Community Hospital, on June 5. Both well.

FERGUSON (Broderick). — On May 26, at Maleny Hospital, to Beryl and Keith (Peachester, Qld.), God's gift of a daughter — Debra Ann. Sister for Ralph and Sharyn.

DEATHS

ADAMS. — On June 7, Joseph, late of Queen's-rd., Melbourne, beloved husband of the late Florence Maude Adams, loving father of Cyril and Edna (Mrs. Horace Lee) — aged 87 years.

LLOYD, Amy S. — On June 11, formerly of Ivanhoe and Carnegie, at her son's residence, 41 Wilma-ave., Dandenong, Vic., widow of the late Arthur H., loved mother of Ross, mother-in-law of Ettie, grandmother of Alice (Mrs. Bates), David and John, great-grandmother of Bronwyn and Llewella Bates and Karen Lloyd. Aged 83.

SMEDLEY. — On June 12, 1963, Ruth, of 15 Carn-ave., Ivanhoe, Vic., devoted mother of Harold and May, Ena (dec.), Beryl and Albert Meyer, darling nanna of Keith and June, Lorraine and Max Bradbury, great-nan of Lynette, Karina and Wendy. Aged 88 years. "A life of loving service."

IN MEMORIAM

BROUGH. — Loving and treasured memories of Eric George, dear brother and uncle, called to his Heavenly Home, June 17, 1962.
—Ever remembered by Clarrie, Win. and Graeme.

HANCOCK. — In loving memory of our dear mother, Alice Maud, who passed away June 19, 1953. "In God's care."

LENG. — In loving memory of our dear mother, Eliza Leng, who passed away, June 9, 1956.
—Always remembered by her family, Horsham, Vic.

PARKER, Harold. — Cherished memories of my dear husband and daddy, called Home June 21, 1959. "Some day we'll understand."
—Inserted by Betty and children.

GOLDEN WEDDING

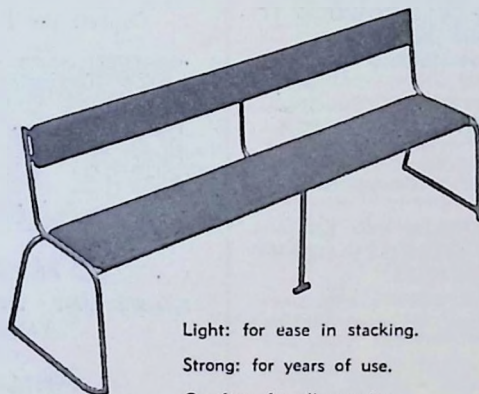
DICKSON - PATERSON. — Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Dickson announce, with pleasure and thanksgiving, the 50th anniversary of their wedding, celebrated at Princes Hill Presbyterian Church, June 21, 1913. Present address, 18 Leopold-cres., Mont Albert, Vic. At home, Sat., 22nd and Sun., 23rd, afternoons.

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Fifty Years Ago

From "The Australian Christian"
of June 19, 1913.

Editor: F. G. Dunn.

New Chinese Evangelist. — It has just been decided to engage an additional evangelist for the Chinese work in Australia, in the person of A. John Sing. For some time past it has been felt that W. Jame could not possibly do justice to all the Chinese work in Australia, hence an engagement has been offered to, and accepted by, Mr. Sing. The new evangelist will be stationed at Sydney as from June 29, relieving W. Jame for the work with the mission in Queensberry-st., Melbourne.

Close of Hagger-Clay Mission, Mildura, Vic. — The mission terminated with a great thanksgiving service in the chapel on Mon., June 9, when there were six decisions and a thank-offering of £20/10/6. Total decisions show 65 confessions, plus 7 baptised believers added and 3 restorations. 15 of the decisions were from the B.S., which has grown to a total enrolment of 130 with the addition of 24 new scholars.

Strange Form of Dentistry. — Mary Thompson writes: "One morning lately in a village I was talking to some women outside a potter's house, and I noticed a little distance off that the potter had a piece of paper and seemed to be muttering invocations over it. Some time after he took a tack and fastened the paper on a post, and after he had hit the tack once or twice, he asked a woman sitting in front of him some questions. I found out afterwards that she had given him some money, and came to be healed of toothache. Needless to say she went away suffering. I asked the potter if he really believed what he had done would help the woman, and he assured me he did, and said that the woman would have been healed if she had brought a longer tack."

From Here and There. — For the forthcoming Brisbane mission, a choir of one hundred voices has already been formed under the leadership of A. E. Forbes (Aibion), who, besides being a leader of song, is a good soloist and cornet player. . . The brethren at Malvern, Vic., have made a forward movement, having purchased a suitable building for a chapel for £500. They are few in number, and will have to borrow most of the money, but the building is a bargain at the price and the prospects are good. . . At the B.S. demonstration in Prahran, Vic., there were 700 in the building, or trying to get in. . . For the F.M. Offering, our 22,000 members in Australia are being asked for less than a penny a week! Who so poor that he or she cannot raise the price of a postage stamp weekly?

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OBITUARY

Harriet McDowell.

The death of Mrs. H. McDowell occurred on Sun. May 26, at Mildura, Vic. Mrs. McDowell was born in Dublin (24/3/1884), and her 79 years of life were a triumphant witness to the grace of Christ. She has left the memory of a radiant faith, an inner strength and peace, and a spirit of good cheer and encouragement. Converted at a mission meeting at the age of 18, she began her life in the church with the Presbyterian communion. She was baptised in 1906 in a Baptist Church at Pertenmatulzburg, South Africa. With her husband she associated with Churches of Christ during the Scoville mission of 1912, their first church being at Murrumbena, Vic. This fellowship became the Carnegie church, and the McDowells worshipped there continually, except for about two years at Blackburn, until moving to Mildura three years ago. Mrs. McDowell is remembered by many for her faithfulness in the work of the local church and her ready assistance in the Conference women's work. She is survived by her husband George, her daughter Vera (Mrs. Costain) and her three sons George, Victor, and Walter. There are nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild. A service was conducted at the Mildura chapel by the writer and C. Lang, whose association with the family stretches over 50 years.—A. F. Cant.

Thomas Percival Roberts.

His life was a personification of Isaiah's advice, "In quietness and confidence in the Lord God shall be your strength." It was through these attributes that our brother influenced all who were privileged to know him at Portland, Vic. A large number attended the service to pay tribute to a life well lived. Confronted with medical advice that the earthly walk was soon to close, Tom witnessed in a way that causes the "angels to rejoice." "Though he be dead, he will yet speak," in this church and community. We rejoice that "death is not death" to a Christian. For this one it was not death, but a door through which he walked "nearer to his God."—A. C. Male.

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Greetings and Gratitude

Hariba Waghmode, B.A., B.Ed.

We Indian brethren send our Christian greetings to you all in Australia. We remember your prayers for us over the past years. We know that this Mission work in India is the fruit and answer of your prayers and labors. I wish to give you a brief account of the Mission work in India.

It began with evangelistic efforts in 1908, at Baramati. In course of time, educational and medical works at Baramati, Shrigonda, Dhond and other villages developed along with the evangelistic work. In times of necessity, orphanages both for boys and girls were also opened at Baramati and Shrigonda respectively, which today have developed into big hostels for boys and girls. As education increased, there was a natural hunger and thirst for literature. Hence we have lately opened up Friendship Centre Libraries at various centres (Baramati, Indapur, Lasurna, Dhond, Shrigonda). Also we are engaged in production and distribution of Christian literature, and are conducting a Bible Correspondence Course. As the need for higher education was pressing, we have opened a Christian High School at Baramati, which takes students

up to matric. level, under Christian influence. Also, we have commenced our work in Bombay, and we hope and pray that it will be established permanently. We realise that all this work cannot run without the prayers and sacrifices of many. Many have given of their prosperity, while others have given their life for this cause of God. We gratefully acknowledge your love for us and praise God for

his wondrous salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord.

We humbly request you to pray for the following—

1. The missionaries who have answered the call of God and have come to India.
2. Our churches in this area. Some of them are small and weak. Pray that they may be strong and witness for the Lord.
3. Our Indian evangelists and Bible-women, that they may give a faithful witness for Christ.
4. Our Indian co-workers in other departments of the Conference.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of the Church to take the gospel into all the world. The Australian Churches of Christ share this task with other Churches who are sending missionaries to labor for Christ in various parts of the world. We have sent missionaries to India, New Guinea and the New Hebrides. Other missionary Societies have also sent workers to these countries, but it is our responsibility to work in a particular part of these lands.

In India we work in an area about 150 miles from Bombay; in New Guinea along the lower reaches of the Ramu River; in the New Hebrides on three Islands, Maewo, Aoba and Pentecost. In all of these places there are great opportunities. People are inviting us to send missionaries to them. Praise God for the open doors of service! Too often we lament about closed doors—dwelling on situations where missionaries are being persecuted, and fail to praise God for open doors, and neglect the challenge they present.

If we are to accept the challenge to go forward for Christ in these areas, then every member of Churches of Christ must give prayerful and practical support.

The Overseas Mission Board can appeal to no other churches but the Australian Churches of Christ to

assist in its missionary outreach; it is entirely our responsibility. It is not a matter of some members making substantial gifts, but of every member being diligent in prayer, and praying that God will reveal how much they should give, and making a faith promise that they will give that amount.

Receipts during the previous financial year revealed that average giving was less than 7½d per week per member. As Dr. G. Hall said in commenting on this at the W.A. Conference, "Doesn't that make you feel miserable?"

As we approach the Annual Offering, we appeal to every member to search their hearts concerning their response to the challenge of taking the gospel to every creature. Giving at the moment is inadequate to maintain the work. We therefore challenge every member to increase their giving.

This appeal is made to those whose churches are working on the budget system, as well as to those who make an Annual Offering.

**"Proclaiming
Reconciliation
TO AWAKENING NATIONS."**

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**Remember
OVERSEAS MISSION
OFFERING,
SUNDAY, JULY 7**



"COME OVER AND HELP US."



Village Women's Club, Goroka, New Guinea. These women are more advanced than those in our Mission area. People in New Guinea are learning new ways. Who will teach them the way of salvation?

—Block courtesy Department of Territories.