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CIRCULATING AMONGST CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH AND NEW ZEALAND

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Dr. John R. Mott and the Missionary Conference.

THE third visit of John R. Mott to Australia has been even greater in its interest, richer in its immediate blessing and result, and possibly will be of greater lasting effect than either of his former visits. He has had a worthy reception by University men and church leaders, who recognise his value to the kingdom of God. Few men we meet improve with the sense of bigness which every one experiences in the presence of Dr. John R. Mott. Dr. Fitchett, after an appreciative reference to the forceful personality of our distinguished visitor, well remarks that "the crown of Dr. Mott's force lies in the fact that he consecrates every faculty of brain and body and will to the highest service of all, the spread of the religion of Jesus Christ. So he has made a mark on his generation which has the quality of endurance. His work will live when, perhaps, the names of men who have stood high in politics, or have made vast fortunes, or have written popular books, or have gone to the South Pole or the summit of the Himalayas, are forgotten."

Comparing the two world-famed speakers now in Australia, Dr. Mott and Gipsy Smith, the editor of the "Southern Cross" says that the former "has not, perhaps, Gipsy Smith's magic of speech, but is as much a 'revivalist'—though in other terms—as he; and as loyal and courageous a servant of Jesus Christ." It certainly is interesting to attempt to compare the two great men. It is, we think, quite true to say that Gipsy Smith would reach and powerfully influence for good a constituency quite untouched by the statesmanlike utterances of Dr. John R. Mott, and we are equally sure that Dr. Mott would reach leaders and thinkers unattracted by Gipsy Smith. As all sorts of folk have to be influenced for Christ, we are grateful to have men of diverse gifts to reach them.

It has been interesting to see University professors and students, archbishops and bishops, church leaders of all Protestant

bodies, and numbers of workers, both men and women, representing different missionary activities, all manifestly enjoying the privilege of sitting at the feet of Dr. Mott. Our visitor impressed us as one who combined true greatness with a humble spirit. He listened as patiently and as appreciatively to others as they did to him. His addresses were largely the fruitage of his own experience, but self was never obtruded. As one listener remarked, he was too big a man to be other than humble.

The missionary conference.

To many of its members the "Australian 'Mott' Missionary Conference" held last week in Melbourne will be one of the great experiences of a lifetime. It was widely representative and was largely attended. Its spirit was admirable. The discussions were on a high level, and much valuable information was given. Dr. Mott praised it highly. True, he found one serious fault in it—that it should in any sense be called the "Mott" Conference. It may be

admitted that the title was a mistake, though his presence largely made the conference on such a scale possible.

The general subject of the conference was "The Problem of the Pacific and Adjacent Lands, and Australia's Responsibility Thereto." Different surveys had been previously made, and reports were presented relating to the following themes: "Australia's Present Share in the Missionary Enterprise," "Australian Aborigines," "The Adequate Training and Equipment of Young Australia for the Missionary Task," "The Problem of the South Pacific and East Indies," "The Adequate Training of Missionaries in the Light of the New Situation and Task," and "How Best to Reach the Church at Home with Information and Appeal." A Committee of Findings was at work during the conference and on the closing day presented a draft of findings which was with some modifications adopted by the conference. These findings related to all the surveys referred to and were also determined in part by the helpful discussions which took place. The Australian Aborigines, the New Hebrides and the Moslem world naturally received special attention. It was felt that we owe a special duty to the aborigines, that additional inviolable reserves should be made for them, and that more missionary workers should labor among them. Consideration of the unhappy conditions prevailing in the New Hebrides under the Condominium led to a decision to seek the Prime Minister's help in securing a better system of government. It was decided that in view of the unprecedented accessibility of the Moslem World to-day Missions Boards be requested to take into consideration what can be done to take advantage of the favorable situation for the presentation of the gospel, and that the attention of Boards be called to the great field of 40 million Moslems at our doors in the East Indies and of the 70 millions of British India.

World Dominion.

Great Jehovah, mighty Lord,
East and boundless is thy Word,
King of kings, from shore to shore,
Thou shalt reign for evermore.

Jew and Gentile, bond and free,
All shall yet be one in thee;
All confess Messiah's name,
And his wondrous love proclaim.

From her night shall China wake,
Africa's sons their chains shall break,
Egypt, where thy people trod,
Shall adore and praise our God.

India's groves of palm so fair,
Shall resound with praise and prayer;
Ceylon's isle with joy shall sing,
"Glory be to Christ our King."

North and south shall own thy sway;
East and west thy voice obey;
Crowns and thrones before thee fall;
Kings of kings, and Lord of all.

—Selected.

The findings also related to a Continuation Committee of the conference; to the training of missionaries, higher education and leadership; prohibition in mandated territories; the home base and missionary information; and other important subjects.

Dr. John R. Mott gave a series of really great addresses, the subjects being, "The Rising Spiritual Tide," "Forces Released Through Co-operation," "The Native Arm of the Service," "The Race Problem," "The Outlook in the Moslem World," "Enlisting Larger Gifts for Christian Missions."

Shortly a report of the conference will be issued, containing full information. The surveys made, the chief points of the discussions, the findings of conference and the addresses delivered by Dr. Mott will all be included. The price of the volume is 2/-. All who can may be advised to secure a copy.

Recruiting for the Lord's service.

It is part of John R. Mott's work to secure recruits for the Master's service. In one of his Australian addresses he said that one of the burdens pressing heavily upon him was the need of considerably increasing the number of young men, and the finest of young men, who would devote their lives to Christ's cause. He said the need was pressing for many reasons: (1) To fill gaps in the leadership of the Christian church; (2) To provide worthy successors for those noble spirits who have so long borne the strain, and who must soon lay down the colossal burden; (3) To supersede a few men who are not fully qualified for the positions which they hold. There is need for Christianising the impact of our so-called Christian civilisation on an unchristian world. We must have men of outstanding ability for the leadership of the Christian forces. If we are to get more strong men to crowd the pews, we must multiply the number of strong men in the pulpit. Dr. Mott looked to the Universities to supply the auxiliary forces. The recruiting officers should be first the mothers, then the Christian Student Movement together with the Y.M.C.A. in its work for High School boys; University and theological professors, and the ministers of churches.

In telling how to appeal to young men, the speaker urged that we do not speak of the attractions of the Christian ministry, except the attraction of the Cross. Low level appeals will not get the men. Rely on the heroic appeal. If you make the gospel difficult, you make it triumphant. Let us lay siege to the strongest natures, men that have decision of character. You won't sweep them in by emotional appeals; you must lay siege to them. Dr. Mott told a story to show how his own lack of persistence in the work had been rebuked. He had tried for fifteen minutes to win a man, and had given up. A Hindu whom he met in India tried for forty-one hours and got his man.

Again, Christ's solution of the problem must not be neglected: "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest that he thrust forth laborers into his harvest." We have sometimes thought we could do more good by a sermon than by prayer. We have placed reliance upon human means. But these are only means to be used by a superhuman power.

Building a zone of silence.

In his addresses, and particularly to students, Dr. Mott commended the withdrawal from other men to practise the presence of God, the getting alone with God to renew spiritual life. He cited the example of Christ and greatest of his followers. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Our danger is in superficiality in life and work. An Archbishop of Canterbury said: "We have high churchmen, low churchmen, and broad churchmen. We need deep churchmen."

"Build a zone of silence round your busy noisy lives." This striking piece of Dr. Mott's is applicable not only to theological students and preachers, but to all the people of God who live in a world of care. To those preparing for the Master's

service, such words as the following are of great value:

Another consideration which makes this practice of solitary prayer obligatory is that without it we fall into professionalism. What price must we pay to rivet this habit upon us? It will cost time, and some would rather pay in any other coin than this. How much time? I do not know. Time enough to forget what we have been doing, and what we are going to do next—time enough to forget the clock and the bell, time enough to forget time. We need time enough to meet God, to hear his voice. What is religion if it is not conscious union with our God?

We do not drift into Christlikeness. It will cost sacrificial effort. I congratulate those to whom it is most difficult. The things we most value are the things that cost us—or some one else—most probably both. Cultivate the habit of going alone with God. It is solitude to which I have directed you, but a solitude that is not solitary. Secret prayer is not a monologue. It is a dialogue, for he is there. In these undergraduate days of ours, let us not fail to build around these busy noisy lives of ours a zone of silence!

Selected Wisdom of Samuel Rutherford.

"For there be many Christians most like unto young sailors, who think the shore and the whole land doth move, when the ship and they themselves are moved: just so, not a few do imagine that God moveth and saileth and changeth places, because their giddy souls are under sail and subject to alteration, to ebbing and flowing. But the 'foundation of the Lord standeth sure.'

"It is (as now I know by experience) hard to keep sight of God in a storm.

"I know that an afflicted life looks very like the way that leads to the kingdom.

"Nay, whether God come to his children with a rod or a crown—if he come himself with it, it is well.

"Hold fast the truth for the world; se! not one dramweight of God's truth, especially now, when most men measure truth by time, like young seamen setting their compass by a cloud.

"It is not long days, but good days, that make life glorious and happy.

"Look for crosses, and while it is fair weather mend the sails of the ship.

"Your soul is a castle that may be sieged, but cannot be taken.

"I desire not to go on the lee-side or sunny side of religion, or to put truth betwixt me and a storm; my Saviour did not so for me, who in his suffering took the windy side of the hill.

"It were good that we should knock and rap at our Lord's door. We may not tire to knock oftener than twice or thrice. He knoweth the knock of his friends.

"When I look over beyond the line and beyond death to the laughing side of the world I triumph, and ride upon the high places of Jacob.

"And I know that it were necessary to taken more pains than we do, and not to make heaven a city more easily taken than God hath made it.

"Your rock doth not ebb and flow, but your sea.

"But now upon some weak, very weak, experience I am come to love a rumbling and raging devil beast. Seeing we must have a devil to hold the saints waking, I wish a cumbersome devil rather than a secure and sleeping one.

"We may make a cross old in time, new in use, and as fruitful as the beginning of it.

"Grace tried is better than grace, and it is more than grace; it is glory in its infancy.

"I find men mistaken in me; it would be no art (as I now see) to spin small, and make hypocrisy a goodly web, and to go through the market as a saint among men, and yet steal quietly to hell without observation.—From "The Christian Advocate" (New York).

The Bible.

"The Book of books, holy, sublime and true, Spirit-inspired in every thought and word. Revealing God, and Christ as Saviour Lord, Teacher of all that men should be and do; A heavenly light within earth's midnight gloom."

The Daughter of Jairus.

A. R. Benn.

Sitting, one day in the study of a brother preacher, I heard from his lips the true story which I am going to try to write. To me it is worth much to say it is true; but I have to confess to certain verbal liberties which in no sense affect the story.

The story my brother told me suggested the title which appears above. The reader remembers that Peter, James and John were the favored ones whom Jesus took with him into the home of Jairus. But this man's house is with us to-day, scattered all over our Australia, and "this same Jesus," when he is invited, perhaps sometimes when uninvited, enters the home where sickness and bereavement are. As he enters, his presence realised bids the tumult of sorrow to be hushed and sorrow's tear to be dried. In his visits to the house of Jairus Jesus often takes with him some favored disciple, and it was one so favored who told me the sad sweet story of a twentieth century daughter of Jairus.

The disciple's name who told me the story—shall it be Mark, in honor of the one who gave us so good an account of the first century little girl who was sick and died? Following is substantially what Mark told me.

"It was while I was stationed at C—— that I made Dolly's acquaintance. First of all, she was coming to our Bible School; then later on she ceased coming. I don't know how many Sundays she missed, but it was shortly after we noticed her absence that some man—if I remember rightly, it was the butcher—spoke to me about the home in which Dolly lived, and suggested that it would be well for someone to visit the home. I did so, and it was the first of many a visit. When I went into the home this is what I found: first of all, Dolly, a dear sweet girl living in poverty and having neither father nor mother. I found that the only one in the house who was capable of doing any house work or caring for Dolly was an aged grandmother, infirm and totally blind. The old lady, handicapped as she was, was doing her best for the young life whom providence had placed in her care. The house was poor, almost to the point of destitution."

"And Dolly, why had she stopped coming to Sunday School; clothes not good enough?" I ask. "I think her clothes would not tempt her to vanity," continued Mark: "but the reason for absence was beyond the reach of the draper or dress-maker. A fell disease had laid its relentless hands on Dolly. This is she," said Mark, taking a photo. from his study mantelpiece. It was the picture of a young girl of about fourteen—a good face, one could hardly doubt that it was one which was the outward and visible sign of a pure good girl, a kind face too, and despite her

dark surroundings, a happy one. It was a grief to think that it was the picture of a very young girl who knew that her days were numbered. How one could have wished that the Saviour were on earth, and could have come into that home and have taken Dolly by the hand and have spoken the word that would have defied the best medical verdict!

"I carried her out that day to have this photo. taken," continued Mark; and I think, if I remember rightly, there was a quality in his tone and a moisture in the eyes of this strong man. "I loved her as if she were my own daughter. When I first went into the home, I found Dolly was quite an invalid but very cheerful, though her circumstances were almost inconceiv-

Gifts.

God—thou hast made the world so beautiful,
A flock of birds on pinions fleet and strong,
Then—though it were not yet enough to soar—
Gave to them song.

God—thou hast made the world so beautiful,
A bower of June with roses gay abloom,
Then—though it were not yet enough to grow—
Gave them perfume.

God—thou hast made the world so beautiful,
A million beings, soul their priceless gem,
Then—though it were not yet enough to live—
Gave love to them.

ably sad. She was not having, and really could not have, the medicine and nourishing food that she needed. I did what I could to make things better for the poor child. I told people about her, and they came to the rescue. I tell you there's a lot of one phase of Primitive Christianity in the world to-day if they get the appeal. When I think how the money and gifts came pouring in in that not too rich community, I feel inclined to contradict the man who says the world's getting worse all the time. And the neighbors, how they used to send in the nourishing food that the poor girl so much needed!" "He commanded that something should be given her to eat," I suggested, for I was thinking of what the original Mark tells us in his fifth chapter.

"I was also successful in enlisting the sympathy of a doctor," continued Mark. "From the first he gave us not the slightest hope of Dolly's recovery. He continued to visit her once a week during her long illness, and did what was in his power to make it easier for her. The doctor advised us to have her removed to a sanatorium, thinking it would be better for

all concerned; but Dolly's own wishes in the matter decided things. 'If I'm to die, I'll stay here and die,' she pleaded; and she stayed, often suffering, but patient and trustful. Sometimes I would have money given me for Dolly, and I used to bring it to her and place it on a little table which stood near her bed, and then she would take it just as she wanted to. No one ever touched it but herself save at her request. That little table was her bank, and from it she would even make presents. The number of visits I paid this dear girl went well into three figures—sometimes in the day, sometimes at night, and at times more than once in one day. She always maintained that she had a better night when we had previously prayed together. It was a delight to her to give me some token of her love, a tie for instance; also a ring which I wear was one of her gifts. Some time after her going, her blind grannie said to me, 'It will be your birthday on —, and poor Dolly left instructions I was to give you a nice shirt out of the money she left.' I was there the night that Jesus came into the home and called Dolly away. I didn't literally see him, though he was very close; nor did I hear him, but I believe the little girl 'at the point of death' both saw and heard him; for she looked up with so bright a look, once, twice, just before she fell into the last long sleep. Jesus said to her, 'Dolly, I say unto thee arise,' and she left us to be forever with the Lord."

About that ring: when my brother preacher told me the story I was wondering whether it was quite the best thing to buy this ring, seeing it was costly, and Dolly and her folk were so poor. After all, what is the use of a gold ring to a preacher? Might not the money have been more wisely spent—"sold for much, and given to the poor"? Then came the words of Jesus to me. "Let her alone, she hath wrought a good work on me: she hath done what she could." Then thought I, a gift has a soul as well as a body, and the ring will be a token of a little maid whom Jesus loved and took to himself. It will be to the recipient of it an inspiration to visit the sick, especially the poor sick; and wherever he preaches the gospel that will bless and save, this gift will be with him. Now I am glad about that ring, just as I am about the alabaster box of very precious ointment.

What Our Saviour Does.

God fills all space in this grand world below;
His love and truth heal sickness, sin and woe;
His teachings, taught in our old Bible grand,
Are preached in every nation o'er the land.

God's love is truth and life, as we all know,
And every thing we do a seed we always sow;
That seed will grow in truth and love divine,
If God we serve with all our heart and mind.

Oh, may this loving truth in me abide,
That I may help a brother o'er the tide;
That I may teach him how to watch and pray,
With love and truth to walk the narrow way.

Our Young People.

Conducted by Leslie C. McCallum, M.A.

Victorian Notes.

The Geelong City church recently celebrated its Bible School anniversary with marked success. Bro. L. C. McCallum was the visiting speaker and delivered appropriate addresses. The scholars, under the direction of Mr. A. McCaskell, sang splendidly. The concluding function of the celebrations was the very fine scholars' demonstration held on March 22. The programme, organised and directed primarily by Mrs. Stevens, assisted by Mrs. Dawson, Miss Alford and others, was generally acknowledged to have been the best yet presented. The awards for the year's school work were distributed by Mr. McCallum. Gifts expressive of appreciation for services in church and school were presented by Bro. Stevens and Bro. Putland to Miss Cook, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. McCaskell and Miss Edna Audsley. At the conclusion of the entertainment, the secretary of the school, Bro. R. Carr, expressed thanks to all those who had helped to make the meeting so successful.

The Bible Class connected with the Geelong City church has just completed another year of its history. During the past year much activity was displayed. Six members of the class have been added to the teaching staff of the Bible School, while another member has become organist to the school. Thirty-seven letters of sympathy and good cheer have been sent to those in need of them. Financial assistance has been rendered to the church in many ways. At a cost of 14/- sufficient walnut stain was purchased to renovate the sides of the aisles in the chapel, the work being done by members of the class. Two dozen morning hymn books and three dozen Sankey's books were presented to the church, and 49/15/- was paid into the general fund of the church. Other donations were as follows:—Hospital Sunday, 6/6; Bible School and Young People's Dept., 10/-; renovation of kinder room, £1; and £2/9/8 towards the support of an Indian orphan. Sometimes we are asked, "How can we secure teachers for our school?" This report in part answers that query. Get a live Bible Class, and you should have little difficulty in securing workers. Mr. Stevens is the teacher and Mrs. Dawson the secretary of the Geelong Bible Class.

On April 11 the Bible School at Parkdale celebrated its third anniversary. In the three years of its existence this school has made steady progress. The enrolment has gone up from sixteen to one hundred and fifty-five. One serious

drawback is the lack of teachers. Why is it that church members refuse to make use of the great opportunity for service that presents itself in the Bible School? The prospects at Parkdale are exceedingly bright, and given the needed workers, a great future lies ahead of this school.

Supplies for the annual offering to be taken on May 2 have gone out to all the churches. Church secretaries are asked to communicate with the organiser at once should these not come to hand. It is hoped that every church and school will have a part in the offering.

Our Picture.

Of the five gold medals which were presented at the Easter conference to members of our Bible Schools for ten years' unbroken attendance at Sunday School, two went to scholars of the St. Kilda school. Edna and Athra Burgess, whose pictures appear this week, have both attended school for more than ten years without a break. Four years ago their sister Elsie received a similar reward for having attended thirteen consecutive years. Such records surely show not only good health, but also a very keen interest in and love for the Bible School.

The work of the Victorian Bible
School & Young People's Department
requires an offering of £365 on
May 2.

Children's Year.

Three Months' United Recruiting.

The year moves on, and soon the two months that were to be given to a publicity campaign will have passed. During May, June and July a three months' united recruiting campaign is planned. It is suggested that as early as possible a special meeting of the workers in your school be held. At this meeting emphasise the need and possibilities of this combined recruiting effort, and enlist the help of everyone available. Many who are not regular Sunday School workers will be glad to help.

Immediately after this meeting, approach the leaders of other Sunday Schools in your district and arrange a meeting of workers from all the schools to plan a district canvass. Group the workers in pairs, and give to each pair a rough diagram of the portion of the district which they are to work. Make each pair of visitors responsible for twenty or more houses. The canvassers will visit every home in their section, and endeavor to ascertain if there are children there who might be induced to attend Sunday School.

Meanwhile let each school also give special attention to regaining absentee scholars. Many of these might be induced to return if they know that the school is still interested in them. The best absentee visitor is the teacher; but where this work is beyond the strength of the teacher, let other visitors be appointed.

Determine to have a good school with an attractive and well prepared programme each Lord's day, and you are bound to attract new scholars. Keep increasing the equipment and the efficiency of your school, and you will find your work growing in interest and usefulness. A great opportunity is presented to us. Children's year will pass all too rapidly. Let every Christian become busy in the service of the King.



Gold Medallists.

Edna and Athra Burgess, of St. Kilda S.S., Vic.

Prayer Meeting Topic.

April 28.

The Message of Obadiah.

(Obadiah 1-21.)

F. J. SIVVER, B.A.

The Book of Obadiah is the shortest of the prophetic writings and the smallest of all the Old Testament books. It is a short sharp cry against the pride and malignity of Edom, and a prediction that judgment is about to fall upon it and upon "all the nations."

THE EDMITES.

"The evil that men do lives after them": this is strikingly illustrated in the activities and attitude of this people. Esau's despoliation of the spiritual, and his constant clamoring for the satisfaction of his appetites, was perpetuated in the history of his descendants. Dr. G. A. Smith observes, "The wise men of Edom, the cleverness of Mount Esau, were notorious. It is the race which has given to history only the Herods—clever, scheming, ruthless statesmen, as able as they were false and bitter, as shrewd in policy as they were destitute of ideals. 'That fox,' cried Christ, and crying stamped the race."

The purple mountains which formed the habitation of these wild sons of Esau run out from Syria into the desert. They are about 100 miles long and some 20 miles across, and are said to be the finest rock scenery of the world. Obadiah's form of address is worthy of note, "O thou that dwellest in the cleft of the rock, whose habitation is high; that saith in his heart, Who shall bring me down to the ground?"

THEIR OFFENCES.

Although of kindred blood to the Israelites, the Edomites were their sworn enemies. When Joshua asked permission to lead his people through Edom, although he offered big recompense for any damage done to their territory, they churlishly refused. When Jerusalem was being sacked Edomite chiefs exultingly shouted, "Down with it! down with it! level it to the ground!" And when the people of Judah fled across the Jordan valley, they "stood in the crossway to cut off those of his that did escape," and delivered them over to the Syrians.

T. McWilliam, in his "Speakers for God," has this fine comment on Edom's treachery, "Man is seen at his lowest in heart and intellect when he denies the claim of blood-kinship, and when he adds to his callous offence a warm espousal of the cause of a ruthless oppressor, the treachery can scarcely be either forgotten or forgiven during the life of a man or that of a nation. If the massacre of Glencoe be recalled to the memory of Scotsmen, let it only be so to understand the wounding sense of wrong that had so burned itself into the heart of the Jewish nation that the 137th Psalm—a beautiful pathetic song of exile, which still brings tears to the eyes as we think of those who hung their harps on the willow trees by the waters of Babylon and sighed for a return to their beloved capital—is concluded with a curse on the old-time inhumanity and treachery of Edom."

THEIR DOOM.

In simple yet scathing language Obadiah denounced the treachery of the Edomites, and in blunt and unmistakable terms foretold their doom.

The closing sentence of the book shows, however, that the prophecy is not, as some suppose, an impassioned expression of national and religious hatred and a desire for vengeance, but was the outcome of a deep-hearted belief in the unflinching justice of Jehovah, and was inspired by a vision of the coming of the unconquerable kingdom of the Lord, "And saviours shall come up on Mount Zion to judge the Mount of Esau; and the kingdom shall be the Lord's."

TOPIC FOR MAY 5.—HUNGERING AND THIRSTING AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS.—Matt. 5: 7.

41st N.S.W. Conference.

A. L. Haddon, M.A.

The 1926 Conference was quite equal to the best of recent years. While it is evidently impossible to prevent some from wasting time on unimportant details, the discussion was kept at a high average level. There was a plain determination to gain from the conference practical help in overcoming difficulties and extending the work. The addresses, too, were unusually helpful. Much of the success was due to the visit of Principal A. R. Main, whose wise words and broad outlook ministered to all sections of the brotherhood. His Saturday address on "Three Internal Foes"—legalism, worldliness and apathy, and the conference sermon on "The Church's Message for the World of To-day" were magnificent and ought to be made available in printed form.

Executive and Home Mission.

The committee recorded its appreciation of the splendid service of the Conference President, G. Fretwell, during his term of office. It has been a strenuous year for him. Nearly every congregation has been visited, and service unstinted has been cheerfully given to every department of the work. More than once during conference appreciative reference was made to the President's work. If occasionally during the sessions doubt was expressed as to some of his decisions, it was not that any failed to recognise his earnest desire to be fair to all.

As far as monetary contributions go, New South Wales interest in Federal matters is pronounced. When appreciation of the College of the Bible was being expressed, however, reference was made to the small numbers of N.S.W. students going to College, and the small numbers of College students coming to N.S.W. It was thought that both these matters could be set right by a definite personal contact with the men concerned.

Preachers' Provident Fund.—This fund continues to be of great service to the brotherhood throughout Australia. Assistance to the sum of £209/0/6 in cash was distributed during the twelve months ended Dec. 31, 1925, and subsidies totalling £132/14/- (equal to 8/- in the £1 contributed) were allotted to preachers who contributed to the Endowment Fund. The management expenses amounted to £27/0/9.

Federal Capital Site.—Immediately after the conference of last year, a committee, acting for the Federal Executive, selected a site for church purposes. This had to be endorsed by the Federal Central Commission. In November four weeks' notice was received from the Commission, to again apply for the site, and to furnish particulars of the money to be expended, and the buildings to be erected. Application was again made, but without supplying the details required, as these had not been prepared by the Federal committee. On this account the site has not been made available for us. But others will be open in due course. A number of brethren have set up the Lord's table at Ainslie, and for the present are having meetings once each month.

Training Classes.—During part of the year a central class was conducted by brethren A. L. Haddon, G. Fretwell and S. J. Southgate. Rockdale has had a useful class under the leadership of J. Chydesdale. In the country young men have been realised that a more ambitious course of study was necessary to attract and hold the young men of the churches. With the approval of the Executive, a three year course has been outlined, divided between seven teachers. The following have been invited to form a council for the oversight of this work: G. Fretwell, A. L. Haddon, M.A., S. J. Southgate, P. E. Thomas, B.A., Dr. E. A. Bardsley, Hon. D. R. Hall, C. S. Rush, B.A., with a Principal to be appointed, and the President of Conference. Conference endorsed these

proposals. After some discussion the following was agreed to: "This conference recommends that the committee be very careful in making appointments to the instructing staff of the training class established by it, to see that no one be appointed holding modernist views."

New Buildings.—It was reported that South Kensington would very shortly open a fine new building free of debt, and that Belmore, Burwood and Epping contemplated building.

Publicity.—The publicity committee (A. L. Haddon and C. R. Hall) were thanked and re-appointed.

Central Building.—G. Fretwell, W. H. Hall, E. J. Hilder, T. E. Rofe and S. J. Southgate had represented conference in discussions with the Sydney church officers on the question of remodel-



W. H. Hall.

Newly-elected President of N.S.W. Conference of Churches of Christ.

ling of the City Temple to provide central offices and a large auditorium. Those mentioned above were appointed, in conjunction with the City Temple trustees, to become trustees of the property known as the City Temple, Campbell-st., Sydney, after the Executive and H.M. Committee and the City Temple church have approved of the Trust Deed.

Conference Arrangements.—Owing to the difficulty of getting a representative gathering of delegates at the Saturday afternoon business session of conference, the Bible School and Young People's Department suggested that the report of their work should be presented at the Monday night meeting, and the opportunity given for its discussion. The proposal was agreed to by the Executive, conditional on the report being formally adopted at a later business session of conference. The Foreign Mission and Social Questions Committees were advised of this alteration, and adopted the same plan for their evening meetings. As larger attendances and fuller discussion had resulted conference instructed that the change be made permanent.

Union with Baptists.—The representatives of Churches of Christ and the Baptist delegates met in Conference in June, 1925. Statements of belief and practice were exchanged. Negotiations are proceeding; but there is nothing definite to re-

port. G. Fretwell, J. Crawford, E. Davis, A. Morris and S. J. Southgate represented the brotherhood. They were re-appointed and instructed to continue in their efforts to bring about union.

Statistics.—The conference returns indicate that additions for the year were 692—losses 462—leaving a net gain of 230; the membership now being 41,48. The morning services have been discontinued at Fairfield and Wahroonga—the members in these congregations linking up with Canley Vale and Hornsby. In the Bible Schools there are 3,655 scholars and 508 teachers, making a total enrolment of 4,163. This is an increase of 48 scholars and 3 teachers. At the churches reporting there have been 134 additions from schools.

Financial.—The total receipts for the year were: Home Mission £4,857, Foreign Mission, £2,913, Bible School £604, Social Questions £144.

"The Christian Messenger."—Approval of the State paper seems to be unanimous. The various reports and frequent references were highly appreciative of the work of C. R. Hall as editor.

Special Missions.—The State team, A. Baker and L. E. Clay, have continued their campaign during the past twelve months. Missions have been held at Bankstown, Mosman, Paddington, Rockdale, Inverell, Granville, Erskineville. Belmore mission was held prior to last conference, and Gilgandra mission was in progress when this report closed. Exclusive of the last mentioned town the decisions reported were 459 baptisms 303, received into fellowship 257. At present definitely linked up with the local congregation or some other Church of Christ 209. The total cost of the campaign to the end of the conference year was £950. The receipts from mission promises amounted to £512. Unpaid promises total £181. Three churches reduced their H.M. subsidies as a result of the missions: the total reduction being £2 per week. Owing to the heavy expenditure, and the difficulty of planning further missions, the committee arranged with the evangelists to close their engagement with conference. Appreciation is expressed of all their faithful service, and all good wishes extended to them in their future work for the Lord.

Organiser's Efforts.—After three months' vacation, H. G. Harward resumed duty in August. Since that date he has held special services, and conducted brief missions at Guildford, North Auburn, Wagga. He has given special help to N. Sydney, and is at present assisting the church at Hurstville. A number have been baptised in these meetings.

Future Work.

It was recommended:

That subject to the approval of the Federal Executive, a special tent campaign be held in the Federal Capital, and if possible Bren, Hinrichsen and Brooker be invited to conduct this effort.

That the financial objective be £2,500. That the expenditure be through subsidies, the securing of new preachers, and in co-operation with the churches at Taree, Wingham, Lismore, and Bangalow, the strengthening of the work in the Manning and Tweed River districts.

The following resolutions were carried:—That this conference send an evangelistic team to Murrumbidgee to conduct a mission, and that following the mission an evangelist be located at Murrumbidgee for at least twelve months.

That it be recommended to the incoming committee of the Chapel Extension Fund that such committee take the necessary steps to arrange for an annual offering in each church in this State on behalf of the fund. Such offering to be used in taking up and paying for in full an equal amount in the capital of the company. Each church to appoint brethren in whose names the shares shall be registered.

That in view of her retirement from the position of secretary of the Sisters' Conference Executive after 21 years of faithful work, this conference extends to Mrs. T. J. Andrews warmest congratulations upon her devoted service during this long period, and wishes for her the abundant blessing of God through the coming days.

(Continued on page 250.)

The Home Circle.

Conducted by J. C. F. PITTMAN

The Wreck of What He Might Have Been.

I knew a youth of large and lofty soul,
A soul aflame with heavenly purpose high;
Like a young eagle's, his clear, earnest eye,
Fixed on the sun, could choose no lesser goal.
For Truth he lived; and Love, a burning coal
From God's high altar, did the fire supply
That flushed his cheeks as morning tints the sky,
And kept him pure by its Divine control.
Lately I saw him, smooth and prosperous,
Of portly presence and distinguished air,
The cynic's smile of self-content was there,
The very air about him breathed "Success,"
Yet by the eyes of love, too plainly seen,
Appeared the wreck of what he might have been.

The Famine Sufferers.

Frances Anderson's Mission Band was raising money for the famine sufferers. A guest at dinner, Mr. Keith, asked her many questions and Frances enlarged on the plight of the famine sufferers. She added that she had six cents in her mite-box, but that Lucy Bartlett had fifteen. Later Mr. Keith slipped something into Frances' hand under the tablecloth. It was a shining half-dollar.

Her first thought was, "Now I will have more than Lucy Bartlett!" Then she remembered a box of water-color paints that she had wanted a long time. Mr. Keith didn't tell her what to do with the money. She could buy the paints for thirty-nine cents and put eleven cents in her mite-box.

The next morning she tied the half-dollar in the corner of her handkerchief and put it in her pocket, thinking she might buy the paints in the afternoon. At noon she hurried home for she was as hungry as a bear. There was nobody on the street in sight. A team of horses hitched to a coal cart stood by the curb but no driver was there.

When the driver came back a few minutes later with his coal ticket signed, there was nobody in sight on the street. The horses knew that a little girl had been there a few minutes before, but she had disappeared, and they couldn't tell about it.

A bewildered little girl suddenly found herself in a black dungeon with the ground crumbling under her feet. The rolling sound was familiar and Frances soon realised that she had fallen into a coal-hole on the sidewalk. She was in somebody's coal-cellar.

Soon she made out some stairs across the room. She went up and knocked at the door, called and shook the door. Dead silence. There was nobody at home. No escape in that direction. She decided to go back under the coal-hole and if she heard anyone walking on the sidewalk to call out.

Climbing up on the coal, she gave a cry of dismay. The driver had come back, replaced the heavy iron cover and driven away. There was no possibility of attracting any one's notice there. She remembered an electric light bulb near the stairway. Groping back she turned the light on. At least she need not be in the dark. As she sat down on the stair-step she realised that she was hungry. She began to cry. Between her tears and the coal dust, she was soon unrecognisable.

At Frances' home, three blocks away, was great excitement. They had learned that Lucy Bartlett left Frances at the corner three blocks away: all after that was mystery. Frances had disappeared! The police were notified. The evening papers came out with black headlines, "Mysterious Disappearance!"

In the meantime Frances was sitting on the stairs wondering what her family were having

for dinner. In fact, they weren't having any! At last Frances heard steps and a woman's voice saying, "If Jane hasn't left that light burning again!"

She rushed up the stairs crying, "Let me out. O let me out." Instead of the door opening, she heard the woman run across the room, calling, "Fred, there's somebody in our cellar." "Nonsense," said a man's voice.

But soon a stern voice called, "Who's there?" Frances' voice broke into sobs as she said, "I didn't mean to fall into your cellar. I am a little girl and I want to go home to my mother."

The door opened suddenly and a young man stared dumbly at her for a few seconds. "You fell into the coal hole! Why child, you're not Frances Anderson!"

"Yes, I am, too," said Frances indignantly. Then as she looked down at her grimy self, she added, "But I guess I don't look much like her now!"

The young man seized her hand. "The whole city is stirred up about you. They think you've been kidnapped and your mother is wild. Come along." And the two ran down the street to Frances' home.

There was so much crying and laughing and talking that it was some time before any one asked Frances if she were hungry.

"Hungry!" said she. "I could eat crusts without any butter!" Very soon a tray of food was brought in. Frances looked at it and said, "Wait a minute." She took a sooty handkerchief from her pocket, untied a knot in the corner, took out a shining half-dollar, crossed the room and dropped it into her missionary mite-box. "I was going to use part of it for a box of water-colors," Frances confessed. "But now they can have it all. You see, I have been a famine sufferer myself!"—Retold from a story by Harriet Lummis Smith.

Virtue Ever Erect.

In his "Memoirs," Benvenuto Cellini tells of his father, who "made a mirror, about a cubit in diameter, of bone and ivory, with figures and foliage exquisitely wrought and of beautiful design. The mirror was in the shape of a wheel: in the middle was the glass, and round about were seven circles, in which were carved, of combined ivory and black bone, the seven virtues; and the whole mirror, and therefore, likewise, of course, the circles were poised so that as the wheel turned, all the figures turned too; but as weights were attached to their feet they kept upright. And since he had some knowledge of the Latin language, he put a Latin verse round the mirror, namely:—

Rota sum; semper, quoque me verto, stat virtui
(Turn Fortune's wheel whitherso'er it may,
Still virtue stands erect.)

Music Hall Manager.—"Who is making that unearthly noise in the dressing-room?"

Assistant.—"Oh, sir, it's only Miss Blondey, the lion-tamer. She just caught a mouse."

"Do you act towards your wife as you did before you married her?"

"Exactly. I remember how I used to act when I first fell in love with her. I used to lean over the fence in front of her house and gaze at her shadow on the curtain, afraid to go in. And I act just the same way now when I get home late."

Why is a candlemaker the most sinful and unfortunate of men?

Because all his works are wicked, and all his wicked works are brought to light.

The Family Altar.

J. C. F. P.

MONDAY.

Now the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him; and he cannot know them, because they are spiritually judged.—1 Cor. 2: 14.

Dr. J. D. Jones (soon to pay his second visit to Australia), writing of his stay in Venice, says, "I remember seeing an American gentleman sitting in a room which contained Titian's glorious 'Annunciation,' listlessly turning over the leaves of his catalogue, and looking the very picture of weariness and boredom. And I overheard his wife say to him, 'Come along, John, to room so-and-so; there's something besides saints there.' John found absolutely no delight in the glowing canvases by which he was surrounded. The truth is, you need more than a clear eye to appreciate a picture, you need a little of the artist's soul." Reading—1 Cor. 2.

TUESDAY.

For we are God's fellow-workers.—1 Cor. 3: 9.
"Mr. Dan Crawford, the African missionary, says that the wild tribes among whom he labored are skilled in carving in red mahogany, and that before starting the day's work they offer this prayer, 'O God, thou hast made all things beautiful, but we must lend thee a hand.'" Reading—1 Cor. 3.

WEDNESDAY.

With me it is a very small thing that I should be judged of you, or of man's judgment.—1 Cor. 4: 3.

The following words are found in Hurrell Froude's journal, dated October, 1826: "I sometimes try to assume a dignified face as I meet men, and am never content to be treated as a shilly-shally fellow. I must not care the least, or even indulge a thought, about the impression I make on others; but make myself be what I would, and let the *seeming* take its course; or rather, be glad of slights, as from the Lord. This will be a hard struggle. O Lord, give me strength to go through with it." Reading—1 Cor. 4.

THURSDAY.

Our passover also hath been sacrificed, even Christ.—1 Cor. 5: 7.

"He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our paschal Lamb to-day;
We too sing for joy, and say,
Hallelujah!"

Reading—1 Cor. 5.

FRIDAY.

For ye were bought with a price; glorify God therefore in your body.—1 Cor. 6: 20.

"Lord, I come to thee for rest;
Take possession of my breast;
There thy blood bought right maintain,
And without a rival reign."

Reading—1 Cor. 6.

SATURDAY.

Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing; but the keeping of the commandments of God.—1 Cor. 7: 19.

Circumcision "is of no consequence in itself. It is not that which God requires now. And the mere external rite can be of no consequence one way or the other. The heart is all, and that is what God demands. But the keeping of the commandments of God is something, *is* the main thing, is everything; and this can be done whether a man is circumcised or not." Reading—1 Cor. 7: 1-19.

SUNDAY.

The fashion of this world passeth away.—1 Cor. 7: 31.

In the introduction to his "Cromwell," Carlyle wrote, "So much falls silent; human speech, unless by rare chance it touch on the 'Eternal Melodies,' and harmonise with them; human action, interest, if divorced from the Eternal Melodies, sinks all silent. The fashion of this world passeth away." Reading—1 Cor. 7: 20-40.

Western Australian Conference.

A. G. Brown.

The opening meeting was devoted to prayer and inspiration. Bro. A. Lucraft was the leader, whilst Bro. A. G. Brown was responsible for the address. As the keyword of conference was suggested, "Thy will be done, O Lord." It was an hour of inspiration.

Tuesday evening was devoted to the Bible School demonstration at which most of the suburban and city schools were represented by items. The audience filled every available inch of seating space. This was a wonderful time, and in many parts was heard the commendation "The biggest and the best." The address, given by Bro. W. J. Thompson, on "Seeing the Invisible," was a fine effort.

Thursday afternoon was set aside for the preachers' session, and in company with those, who, from time to time give platform assistance, we passed a very happy time. Mr. J. Urquhart, of Maylands Baptist church, introduced the subject of "Conscious Existence after Death." His message was highly appreciated and roused much interested discussion. A vote of thanks was tendered him.

The Glen Iris Old Boys held a meeting after the preachers' tea. The office of president has been bestowed upon Bro. Allan Brooke. A committee was formed to take in hand the arrangements of the Old Boys' portion of Federal Conference. We were glad to welcome Bro. E. H. Hinrichsen, and watch with keen interest the work he is engaged upon.

What has been described as, for W.A., an unprecedented Foreign Mission demonstration was held on Thursday evening. The building was filled, and the offering amounted to nearly £50. Bro. A. J. Ingham gave us a splendid message on "The Waiting Hosts." Bro. Keith Robinson was the other speaker, his topic being "Forming a Missionary Concept." His address also was greatly appreciated.

On Friday morning the delegates assembled for business. Our year's motto, "Swing Wide the Gates," we discovered, had been attended to. Statistics show increases all along the line. In church members the increase was 167; in Bible School teachers 22, and scholars 210. In giving also has the upward grade been evident, almost £1,000 increase being given for all causes. This year, in the number of evangelists laboring, we create a record with 15, despite the fact that we have said farewell to 4. Two new churches were received into conference, and we were able to hear of the close of our second mission (Bunbury) with 81 decisions.

It was our joy to welcome to conference Bro. and Sister Hinrichsen and Bro. and Sister Brooker. The conference viewed with gratitude the manner in which these brethren are being used. If there were any apprehension concerning the expenditure incurred, the number of souls being won would alone allay such. But we have the joy of stimulated enthusiasm throughout all our work.

Another mark of the onward march is the re-establishment of the South-west Conference. We take heart too, as we regard the grand contribution the State has been able to make in men at the College of the Bible.

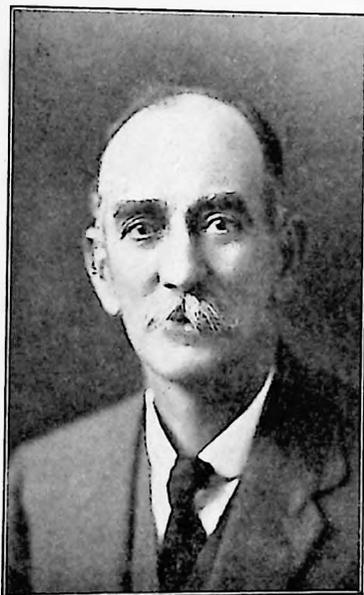
The future work clause created an animated discussion, and the plea of far northern Geraldton, with southern Albany, together with any intermediate towns, and our Kalgoorlie work was stressed. We are happy to hear of the possible extension of the missionaries' stay until October next. "Another Year of Aggressive Evangelism" has become our password, and all are straining to accomplish this. Simultaneous missions following Federal Conference; the placing of several new evangelists; continued tent mission work, and development of weaker causes make an imposing programme.

Reports from the fields, together with the ad-

resses of the preachers who are laboring with the H.M. Committee, showed that all had pulled together and had done much good work.

At the Home Mission rally at night the chapel was again taxed heavily to hold the crowd. The choir, under the baton of Bro. Hoskin, of North Perth, sang magnificently. Mr. Hy. Wright, retiring president of conference, introduced his successor, Mr. Albany Bell, and gave his presidential message on "Men's Need of the Church." Bro. C. H. Hunt later spoke with telling power on "The Men God Needs," whilst Bro. A. Brooke's address on "Measuring up to Our Message," crowned the evening. The conference male quartette again delighted with their item.

On Saturday there was again a very fine attendance of delegates. The Foreign Missionary Committee's report was very heartening. Here



Albany Bell.

Newly-elected President of W.A. Conference of Churches of Christ.

again in interest taken and in offerings given an increase is noted. We have had joy in the welcoming and farewelling of our over-seas workers on their way to and from the fields. A greater interest has been shown in orphan upkeep, and this spirit is to be fostered in the ensuing year by the Bible School Committee.

The Bible School report was presented to a very fine attendance, and evoked a deal of discussion. The committee reported a great year, both in establishment, assistance for building purposes, and in consolidation works. This year marks the coming of the first Federal gold medal to Western Australia. We congratulate the winner, one of our Cottesloe scholars. Statistics showed increase of 22 teachers and 210 scholars. 91 scholars have been added to the church during the year. One new school has been commenced at York.

This committee deals also with young people's work, and under its guidance, a young men's outing was successfully arranged. Classes for Bible School workers were conducted, and attention given to fostering healthy sport among the young men and young women of churches and schools. A resolution of encouragement was passed through when it was reported that in dis-

tant country areas some of our young women, who are public school teachers, are conducting Sunday Schools. One case was mentioned where the Sunday School exceeded in numbers the day school.

Attention was paid to social welfare work. The committee has been seriously handicapped by want of funds, but has been giving what attention was possible to the question of establishing institutional buildings. Their greatest work was performed in finding employment for unemployed folk.

Again this year the Literature Committee's report justifies the formation of the book department. A healthy financial report was submitted, and a vote of appreciation was tendered Mr. D. M. Wilson, who supervises the work. This year about £350 worth of business was transacted.

The Church Building Extension Committee's report showed a year of increased activity. But there should be a greater response to its annual appeal. The committee was glad to report the generosity of the Lake-st. church in donating a block of land to them for church work at Inglewood. The capital of the fund stands now at approximately £1,700, all of which is out on loan.

On good authority it was stated that Lake-st. has seldom been taxed so severely as was the case at the young people's rally on Saturday evening. In every corner folk stood. Seats were crammed full, some sat on the edge of the platform, and then some could not get in. All appreciated the very fine programme. Some new features were introduced, including a telegraph office, and an animated newspaper, "The Western Outlook."

The largest meeting of the conference was that of Sunday afternoon, when the Perth Town Hall could not seat the crowd who attended. The choir and quartette party again rendered fine service, and the congregation again were able to appreciate the beautiful pianoforte selections of Mrs. E. C. Hinrichsen. "The Church and Her Victorious Message," was the theme of Bro. Hinrichsen's address, and all sat it through spellbound. It was a great gathering, and by the offering taken the Preachers' Provident Fund will benefit to the extent of almost £15.

The conference picnic was again a huge success. Held at the Subiaco Oval on Monday, a larger crowd even than last year was in attendance. A programme of sports had been arranged by a committee, under the leadership of Bren. Maston Bell and W. R. Hibbert, and it was energetically contested by the various representatives of the churches. Rounded off by a concert at Subiaco, the proceeds of which go to Home Mission funds, the day was one of strenuous enjoyment.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions were carried in conference, together with many which expressed appreciation of the work of various of the brethren. Particularly enthusiastic was that accorded our much-loved Home Mission Organising Secretary, Bro. Hibbert.

That conference views with rejoicing the forthcoming Federal Conference in W.A. It is full of hope that a record number of interstate visitors may be present, and the proceedings divinely guided and divinely blessed.

That conference sends greetings to the faculty and students of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris. It is appreciative of the high value of that institution, and remembers with satisfaction that W.A. students are still in residence.

That Conference is appreciative of the help afforded by the Women's Auxiliary. It acknowledges that by the grace of God the sisters have been able to render invaluable services, both of a material and spiritual nature. It confidently looks for such help in the coming year.

That conference gives thanks unto God for the presence of the Hinrichsen-Brooker mission party, and for the success which has attended the missions to date. Conference regards with satisfaction the prospect of the presence of the missionaries till October at least, and commends this special work to the whole-hearted support of all the churches.

(Continued on page 251.)

Foreign Missions.

Conducted by G. T. WALDEN, M.A.

Letter from Bro. Hughes.

Bro. A. Hughes in a letter from Colombo writes:—"Our farewell from Australia in Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth was an experience not easily forgotten, and the sympathetic interest of the members of the churches in each State will be a source of strength in the coming years of service.

"Our trip from Perth has been very enjoyable. From Adelaide to Perth we all felt the effects of a considerable rolling of the ship, but since leaving Perth we have enjoyed every moment. We entered into the sports on board, and were fortunate in securing a couple of prizes. This trip has been a much-needed rest. The two Sundays on which we have been on board have been enjoyed. On the first Sunday I assisted in the evening service, presiding. Edna Vawser sang, and Mr. Hall, a Baptist minister, spoke. Last Sunday Mr. Price-Jones, a missionary from Papua, presided, Edna sang again, and I was the speaker. We have had a devotional meeting in the dining saloon every day, our largest attendance being 21. We generally have 15 present. Very good, I think, for a mixed crowd on a boat that is only about half filled.

"You will be interested to note the composition of the sports committee—President, Mr. Hall, Baptist minister; secretary, Mr. White, Church of England minister; treasurer, Mrs. White; manager, myself, Church of Christ missionary; committee man, Father Walsh, on his way to a monastic life; and Miss Raw, the daughter of an actor."

All our missionaries speak of the great kindness and hospitality of the Western Australian F. M. Committee and others. It is fortunate for our missionaries to have such prodigal kindness on their last Australian port of call. Miss Edna Vawser and Miss Nellie Morris have also written from Colombo. They were well.

Reports from Bro. and Sister Pittman.

Bro. G. P. Pittman on Feb. 4 says: "One young man was baptised this month, a Takari from the Settlement. He has been hesitating for a long time as his relatives, and especially his mother, have opposed his becoming a Christian. He is a smart young fellow, with great possibilities, but he needs our prayers."

Bro. Pittman reports Baramati 73 church members, adherents 10, children 92, total 176, additions 1. There are four Lord's day meetings held at the chapel, and four on week days. There are three Sunday Schools of 21 teachers and 248 scholars, with an average attendance of 192.

Mrs. G. P. Pittman sends a very interesting report of her work with the Bible-women at Baramati. She writes: "Ever since I took over the Bible-women and their work from Miss Blake, they have been working most faithfully, going out to the villages twice every day to tell out the good news. I very much enjoyed my fellowship with them. They are good lovable women, and they need our prayers and sympathy, for their work is not easy, as the caste prejudice of the people is so strong. We have a short prayer meeting together every morning at 7.30, and though they pray in Marathi and I in Hindi, it is a comfort to know God understands all languages. I have often wished the brethren at home could hear their earnest prayers for the work in Australia, and realise how grateful these dear ones are for all the help given them. I wish you could have seen their faces when I gave them each a warm coat from the boxes sent for Christmas. They found it so difficult to express themselves that one sister stretched out her arms to the full and said, "Membership, tell them we send them that much love and thanks." The gifts in the boxes were indeed

magnificent! We had a very happy Christmas. Miss Blake returns to-morrow, and we are all so very thankful for her splendid recovery. There has been continual prayer for her. I have done my best to carry on for her, and it is fortunate that the Bible-women understand Hindi, though they do not speak it much. On the other hand I have understood enough Marathi to catch their meaning, though unable to speak it.—Sincerely yours, Naomi Pittman."

From an Indian Evangelist.

The following is a letter from Bro. Tersingh Rao Papani, one of our evangelists at Baramati. Bro. Frank Petty, of Doncaster, Vic, has adopted Bro. Tersingh as his living link. All who know our brother speak very highly of his Christian character and earnestness in preaching the gospel. Baramati, March 2, 1926.

Dear Sir,—

I desire to inform you that I am still doing the work of a preacher of the gospel in Baramati district. The work of the gospel in the villages around Baramati is proceeding satisfactorily. The people of the villages are listening attentively to the preaching of the Word. Many people, when they hear us preach, say that what the preacher is telling us is right, and that the Christian religion is true. In several villages men who have heard our preaching have abandoned the worship of idols. By this we know that God is at work in their hearts. The day will surely come when the people will abandon their false ideas and become obedient to the Lord. We are always praying that their hearts will be changed and that they will believe on Jesus.

Recently I am helping in the orphanage, as they are without a house master. In the orphanage at present there are 54 boys. There were 64, but to have gone out to learn trades. The boys are attending school and learning nicely. They are getting on well, and will learn trades as they get older. We pray that they will learn of Jesus, and become true servants of his. Will you please pray to God that he will give his blessing to all our work, so that he may have the praise?

Your Christian brother,
Tersingh Rao Papani.

Miss Caldicott's Report.

"This month has flown along. One is too busy to take notice of that which might interest the home folks. The work in the dispensary has been carried on very faithfully by Dr. Kolhatkar and Janki-bai. The village people are very busy in their sugar-cane fields, so do not seek so much medical attention, thus the small numbers. Once only during the month was I able to relieve Dr. Kolhatkar and let him go to out-villages with the evangelist. Several severe cases were treated with great success, for which we praise God. Four or five cases were sent to the hospital in Poona. We are still anxiously waiting the building of our own hospital in Dhond.

"We are glad to say all the boys in the orphanage have been very well this last month. One or two had occasional attacks of fever, but they have all recovered. The boys' behaviour is improving, and Tersingh Rao, the preacher who has taken the house master's place, seems to be fitting into his place a little better. You will notice our numbers are decreasing. This is because three more big boys have been sent to learn trades. Two have gone to Poona in the printing press. The boarders who have left us are four boys of Christian parents. They have returned home; the other boy is Dusareth Divaker, the biggest boy of our orphanage. He is on full-time work in the Settlement office, so is living outside the boarding now."

Bible School and Young People's Dept. in South Australia.

Bible Schools' Day is to be observed in South Australia on the first Lord's day in May, and excellent preparations have been made by the sub-committee consisting of Bren. I. A. Paternoster (President), T. H. Brooker, J. Wiltshire, Will Beiler and H. Taylor (convener). Several letters have been sent to the churches and schools, and plans for a successful observance of the day have been laid before them. Special prayer meetings have been held in schools, and preparation classes to prepare scholars for an intelligent decision for Christ, their Saviour, have also been conducted. Wherever possible, members of the committee have visited the schools and presented the claims of Bible Schools' Day, and have met with a warm reception from superintendents, teachers and scholars; and we predict a wonderful day of blessing in many of the churches and schools.

The past year has been a splendid one in the history of the department. The brief summary



Will Beiler,

Newly-appointed Secretary and Organiser, Bible Schools and Young People's Department, S.A.

in the folder distributed amongst the members shows that the policy of the department is a progressive one. This progressive spirit we hope to continue and develop. These are days of great opportunity in our ever-increasing and developing suburbs and country districts. A worthy offering will enable us to further assist the establishing of new Bible Schools, and in helping existing ones. We trust the churches will rise to the occasion and respond most liberally on May 2. The future of Australia and of the church to be surely centres in the child of to-day; how great then is our God-given task to teach them the word of God, and to lead them to the Christ of that word in faith, obedience and life.

Our Bible Schools have grown considerably in their self-sacrificing spirit, as shown in the splendid offerings they have made for the sick and suffering. In addition to the £31/10/- which has been contributed now for many years towards the upkeep of the "cot" at Children's Hospital, last year £10 was also given to "Minda," £4/4/- to the Convalescent Home, and £10 to the Protestant Children's Home. This is a splendid record, and we hope the offerings at the afternoon sessions on May Day will be so liberal as to enable the department to repeat the above actions. The future is bright with promise. Will every member of the churches share the privilege, respond to the challenge, and help us to "go forward"?—Will Beiler.

Here and There.

Next Lord's day a tent mission, conducted by Bren. Ball, Elliot and Jackel, will begin at Garden Vale, Vic. Particulars are given under "Coming Events." The help of near-by churches would be greatly appreciated.

The Baker-Clay mission at Moreland, Vic., is being held in the new tent provided by the Victorian Home Missionary Committee. This tent, costing £105, is the one for which the Victorian sisters will raise money during the Conference year.

Bro. A. J. Fisher, with his wife and two boys, reached Melbourne safely on Monday, having motored all the way from Brisbane. He is going on to Adelaide, and after a short stay there will return to Victoria and begin his work with the church at Warrnambool.

Mr. and Mrs. Burns, of Unley, S.A., and Mrs. Hunter (nee Kingsbury), from New Zealand, were welcome visitors at Enmore on Sunday morning. The highest appreciation was expressed of the address of P. E. Thomas, B.A., of Belmore. At night Bro. Whately preached to a large congregation on "The Word of Reconciliation."

The Horsham church will be losing the services of Bro. A. J. Wilson as evangelist on May 3, the non-disposal of his Swan Hill business necessitating his return after nine months' happy and successful service at Horsham. The Horsham church would be pleased to hear from any eligible brother able to take up the work in this prosperous town.

The Sixth Annual State Conference of the Victorian Prohibition League is being held in Melbourne this week. The report presented to conference shows an income for the year of £9,588/10/4 and an expenditure of £9,896/15/2. Assets are valued at £5,190/1/4, and liabilities are £224/19/5. In the interests of the league 1,572 addresses were given (1,509 by the field staff and 63 by voluntary workers) at church services and other meetings.

Bro. Gale, preacher at Moreland, Vic., writes: "Moreland mission opened on Sunday, 18th, with crowded tent afternoon and evening. The missioner is Bro. Arthur Baker, and the song leader Bro. Les. Clay. The tent is situated in Sydney-rd., one block north of Moreland-rd., right at Brunswick cable tram terminus. Great things are expected; a great commencement has been made. 'Brethren, pray for us,' and 'come over and help us.'"

On next Lord's day throughout Australia special services will be held in memory of the Anzacs, their valor and sacrifice in the cause of liberty. In Australia their name will never perish. It is fitting that we recall the dark days of war from which we have been released, and think with gratitude of those who paid the great price. Members of Churches of Christ—for whom every first day of the week is Remembrance Day, kept in memory of him who made what in verity is "the supreme sacrifice"—will thankfully join with others in the fitting observances of next Lord's day.

The tent mission at Footscray, Vic., under leadership of Bren. P. R. Baker and I. Barber, is being well attended. Bro. Baker is preaching faithfully and powerfully, and the church is confident of a great victory for Christ. Bro. Baker's answers to questions are clear and forceful, and have aroused a good deal of interest. On Sunday night, April 18, after a powerful sermon on "Found in Him and Condemned to Die," nine confessed their faith in Christ, while on Monday night five others were added to the total. In all 31 confessions have been taken to date. Sunday morning saw the largest meeting of the church for some time. A number of visitors were present, and ten were welcomed into the fellowship of the church.

On Monday we received the following telegram from Western Australia:—"Amazing interest in Hinrichsen-Brooker mission Harvey; remarkable attendances, despite stormy weather; fourteen decisions to date.—Wakefield."

Will Beiter, who has been appointed Bible Schools and Young People's Organiser and Secretary for South Australia, has resigned from the work at Prospect after nearly 3½ years' successful ministry. He will take up work with another church later on.

It is with deep regret that we learn that one of the men who went down with the ill-fated "Dorrigo" was Bro. A. Smith, son of Bro. Joseph Smith, who is one of the teachers at Overdale College, Birmingham. Our sincere sympathy is extended to the sorrowing friends.

Helpful meetings were held at Geelong, Vic., last Lord's day, Bro. Stuart Stevens preaching. On the subject of "Conservatism," the evangelist, at the gospel service, dealt with the question, "Why not a religion wide enough to include all?" Under the auspices of the Bible Class, a lantern lecture depicting life in Palestine in pre-war days was delivered by Sister Urwood on Monday evening. Her experiences as a C.M.S. worker in that country place her in possession of some remarkable pictures and stories. Bro. Stevens has been invited to conduct special services at Swan Hill this week.

The following letter relating to the mission being conducted at Croydon, S.A., reached us too late for insertion in last issue:—"The great mission in the tent at Croydon commenced to-day (Apr. 11), when we had well-attended meetings. The commencement of our mission has been very encouraging and a huge success, there having been 16 confessions of faith. The meetings will be continued throughout the week with the exception of Saturday. Bro. Graham has received 107 chairs for the seating of the tent." On Tuesday of this week we received the following telegram: "Ninth day great mission, Croydon; 26 confessions.—Ross Graham."

At the Queensberry-st. mission hall on Tuesday night the Chinese church and school held a meeting to bid farewell to Bren. Aw Kwong Hon and H. L. Pang. Bro. Hon has been working with the Chinese churches in Australia for the past three years, and now hopes, on their behalf, to establish a mission in China. Bro. Pang will accompany him on the voyage, but expects to return in a few months. Bro. Daniel Gow presided over the meeting, which was addressed by representatives of the Victorian Foreign Mission Committee and others. Several members of the church spoke in their own tongue, and a presentation was made to Bro. Hon, who has done valuable work for his fellow-countrymen during his stay in Australia, and has their confidence and prayers in the new work with which he is entrusted.

Christians of all shades of belief will sympathise with the Presbyterian Church of Victoria in the great loss it has sustained in the death of Prof. J. L. Rentoul, who for the last forty or fifty years has been one of the most outstanding figures in the religious life of Australia. He received the call suddenly on Friday last, and passed away at Spencer-st. railway station. The very large attendance of citizens at the funeral services on Saturday bore testimony to the esteem in which he was held not only by members of his own church but by the community generally. Dr. Rentoul for a generation largely moulded the thought of the Presbyterian ministers of the State, most of whom passed through his classes in the Theological Hall, Ormond College. He was a great scholar and a brilliant speaker. He was ever ready to champion the cause he believed to be right—whether or not he was on the popular side. He was known as the most formidable

disputant in the Presbyterian Assembly. Largely due to his influence, the vote went against the recent proposed union of Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches. Older readers will remember the conspicuous ability and success with which he defended the cause of Protestantism in his discussion with the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Melbourne (Dr. Carr). Dr. Rentoul's polemical gifts and activities perhaps led to a popular misconception of his character. He said he did not love fighting, but he could not be silent when conscience bade him speak. Even those who differed most strongly from him could admire the zeal and enthusiasm which animated him, just as they benefited by the brilliant utterances with which they might not altogether agree. Those who knew Professor Rentoul best said that great as his influence was in church courts, his influence as a private individual was greater still; as Dr. Borland put it, he "was a great church leader, but, I think, an even greater man." His was a life of amazing energy and vitality, prolonged to the ripe age of four-score years. The State is the poorer for his passing.

In the Victorian Prohibition League report the following information is given relating to Field Day services:—

There are something like 2,700 Protestant churches in this State, and during the year our representatives conducted Field Day services in only 613. For purposes of comparison, the figures for 1924 and 1925 are supplied:—

	1924	1925
Methodist Churches	416	243
Presbyterian	225	215
Baptist	52	65
Congregational	40	34
Churches of Christ	30	27
Church of England	21	23
Salvation Army	9	2
Union Churches	4	4
Totals	797	613

In addition to these, our officers took part in 114 church services, thus making a gross total of 727 for the year.

A Field Day service is defined as conducting public worship, delivering a prohibition sermon, and, at the close of the service, making an appeal for financial support for inclusion of the previous cards. We tenaciously adhere to the ideal expressed in last year's report: "One Field Day service in every church per year, plus one or more visits for regular service of worship."

BIRTHS.

BENNETT.—On April 15, to Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Bennett, of Bankstown, N.S.W.—a son.

RULFER (nee Evelyn Barrett).—On April 13, at St. Helen's, Windsor, to Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Rulfer, of Canberra (Fed. Capital)—a son.

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4—C. L. Lang
5—J. E. Shipway
6—J. E. Thomas

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41st N.S.W. Conference.

(Continued from page 245.)

That the Executive be requested to endeavor to organise a brotherhood movement in connection with our metropolitan churches.

That it be a recommendation to the churches to give special attention to open-air work during this conference year. Wherever possible congregations group together under efficient leadership to carry on this work, and distribute suitable literature to advertise the meetings in the several centres.

The Constitution was amended to allow a member to sit on two conference committees instead of only one as previously.

Home Mission Addresses.—During the Home Mission session addresses were delivered by J. Whelan, "The Preacher Problem"; C. R. Hall, "The Weak Church and the Unoccupied Field"; R. E. Jeffrey, "Securing the Buildings." In his presidential address, "An Ideal and an Attitude," G. Fretwell said that the church's ideal was brotherhood, and its attitude toward all should be love. A. R. Main, M.A., spoke of "Our Two-fold Task"—evangelism and education. The offering for H.M. work was £1,004 in cash and promises.

Bible School and Young People's Dept.

The report includes, amongst as many more, the following items:—

Recruiting.—The vast army of religiously untaught children in our State is a continuous challenge to enlarge our borders. During the year all our schools were invited to engage in a three months' recruiting effort and were supplied with all literature needed for school rallies and district house-to-house canvassing. In some centres no great increase is sought owing to insufficient accommodation. We call the attention of churches (especially those about to build) to this fact. If the school must mark time for even a few years many young lives that should be enlisted will have passed the impressionable age.

Religion in the Home.—Knowing that the home influences young people to an extent which the church or school cannot hope to equal, and feeling that the Bible School and the home are the closest of allies, we have emphasised the importance of religion in the home. Preachers were asked to devote a Sunday's sermons to this subject, and at the same time an appeal was made by letter to all parents of the scholars to encourage Sunday observance, the family altar and spirituality in the home.

Religious Instruction in Public Schools.—The one hour a week which the Bible School has for its teaching is quite inadequate. Qualified brethren have opportunity of supplementing this in the public schools. We constantly urge larger numbers to do so, the aim being to have a teacher wherever there are scholars. Through the Council of Religious Education we are working for the introduction of graded classes and a systematic course of lessons. In August all those giving instruction were supplied with a course of five special lessons setting forth Christ as Lord, thus preparing the way for the Decision Month which followed.

Helping the Teacher.—Recognising that the teachers are the key to the Bible School position, every endeavor has been made to encourage and aid them. We have urged the need of preparation and training classes in each school. Some of the best books have been made available in a circulating library. District Conferences have been held with discussions of the kindergarten (led by Mrs. Hackshall), the junior department (G. Fretwell), and the teacher's task (A. L. Had-don). We recommend the continuation of these conferences and the grouping of schools into district associations for co-operative work. A special course of lecture-demonstrations on primary work was made available.

Unity Through the Child.—Some of the efforts mentioned above have been carried out in con-

junction with the other Protestant Sunday School Departments. All have co-operated on the Council of Religious Education in a most friendly way; denominational differences being forgotten in the interests of childhood. Consideration for the welfare of youth is an avenue along which Christian unity is being surely approached. "Children's Year" will remain a landmark. Its good results, though everywhere evident, cannot be tabulated. As a fitting climax there is to be held from April 12 to 19 the first united State Sunday School Convention. It is intended that following this gathering plans will be made for a "Children's Era" extending over a decade. In this united work each religious body reaps as it sows. We believe that if our brotherhood would earnestly and practically concentrate on the young for ten years we should reap a previously unequalled spiritual harvest.

Other work reported is (1) A three months' efficiency campaign, which resulted in a number of improvements in the schools. (2) Extensive visitation. (3) Help in a number of united "Children's Year" demonstrations usually preceded by a Sunday Schools' procession. They were held in country and suburban centres. Attendances ranged from 500 to 2,000. They succeeded to a marked degree in quickening the Sunday School conscience in the various communities. The organiser has, throughout the year, conducted the gospel services at Ashfield. (4) The provision of the central office, an increasing convenience. (5) Five united functions arranged. (6) A record examination with 776 entries and 509 competing. (7) A cot maintained in the Children's Hospital costing £40 a year. (8) Loans for equipment to Granville and Wingham schools. (9) Good results from the K.S.P. and P.B.P. clubs.

A discussion took place on the need of leaders for the clubs, and it was resolved:

That this conference of delegates, recognising the immediate need of clubs and societies in the churches for enlisting the interest and development of our young men between the age of 16 and 20 years, authorises:—

- i. The provision of a committee of three, under the chairmanship of the organiser of the Y.P. Department.
 - ii. That the committee be instructed to proceed with the establishment of a Leaders' Training Class, for the training of leaders for the work in the local churches.
 - iii. That the committee invite the churches to select two young men from each church co-operating, and send them to this class, on the condition that they shall be allowed to arrange for the formation of boys' clubs in their own church.
 - iv. That the general plan, as outlined herewith and as evidenced by the discussion of the matter in this conference, including features of all round development, i.e., spiritual, educational, social, physical, be highly recommended as the basic policy of the class.
- During the session A. H. Webber, chairman, delivered a special address in which he described the work as "Building the Church of the Future."

Foreign Missions.

During the Foreign Mission session there were two special addresses and musical items. P. C. Bennett, vice-president of the committee, spoke of the past of the work; and G. Fretwell of the present outlook. J. O. Holt delivered his address as chairman of the committee. The report was presented giving a detailed survey of the work in India, China and New Hebrides, and of the Chinese sources amounted to £2,913. The report concludes:—
Once again we urge upon the brotherhood the great need of prayer for the workers and the work, that good success may attend every effort. We are exceedingly sorry that our esteemed chairman, J. O. Holt, has resigned from the com-

mittee, as he finds his business cares pressing too heavily upon him.

We desire to place on record our high appreciation of his services to the cause of Foreign Missions, during the past eleven years, in which he acted as honorary treasurer for eight years and as chairman for three; and we tender to him our sincere and heartfelt thanks for all the time and labor so generously given, and pray God's richest blessing may rest upon him in his future life and service.

On behalf of the committee Geo. Morton presented the retiring chairman with a Bible as a mark of esteem and gratitude.

It was resolved, That our fraternal greetings be conveyed to the missionaries in the field. It was also decided that this conference express its appreciation of the work done by the Chinese church in Sydney.

Temperance and Social Questions Dept.

At the request of the committee, conference delegates and committeemen gathered for a brotherhood tea, about 120 being present. Afterwards Hon. D. R. Hall delivered a most informative address on "The Social Outlook." Musical and eloquentary items were given and deputations received from the N.S.W. Alliance and the Y.P. Temperance Council.

The report states that assistance had been given in the health and temperance examination in the public schools; that plans had been made for a central benevolent depot to distribute clothing and other suitable articles, and that the committee felt the need of establishing homes for children and for the aged.

Under "Future Work" it is stated: The prohibition referendum which was postponed from 1924 to 1928 is drawing near. In view of that fact, we recommend conference and the incoming committee, that special arrangements be made during the next two years, to prepare our churches, organise our workers, and accumulate funds for the coming referendum.

The following resolutions were carried:—

That this conference views with the gravest concern the silence of the crown by not testing with an appeal the recent magisterial interpretations and decisions regarding alleged breaches of the liquor act which all favored the liquor trader, and which materially nullify the good effects of 6 o'clock closing. We further deplore the official decision of the government "that there is no necessity for an amendment of the liquor act." And that we again herewith register our inflexible determination to persevere in the fight for the abolition of the liquor traffic.

That this conference records its most emphatic protest against the sinister attempts of the liquor traffic which are working to alter the no-licence ordinance which operates at Canberra, and that the strongest possible protest be forwarded to the Prime Minister and the Minister for Home Affairs, and that they be requested to use their influence to preserve this ordinance in its present form.

That this conference views with alarm the present day tendency towards a secularised Sunday by the introduction of sports and other indulgences which are creating a spirit of irreverence, and depriving the Lord's day of its rightful character as being a day of sacred rest, and that we recommend our members to dissociate themselves from and discountenance all practices which belong to the other six days.

That this conference recommends the Temperance and Social Questions Committee to proceed forthwith upon a vigorous campaign of total abstinence pledge signing.

Officers and Committees.

President, W. H. Hall; vice-president, S. J. Southgate; secretary, C. R. Hall; asst.-secretary, S. Morris; treasurer, H. M. Arrowsmith.
Home Mission: J. Whelan, J. Stimson, J. Chapple, T. E. Rofe, E. J. Hilder, G. Fretwell and L. Rossell.
Bible School and Young People's: Chairman, A. H. Webber, S. O. Gole, F. Steer, A. Graham, P.

E. Thomas, B.A., G. Fretwell, N. Matthews, W. Modral, W. Stow.
 Foreign Mission: Chairman, Dr. C. A. Verco, P. Bennett, Quan Mane, G. Morton, G. Corbett, J. Clydesdale, E. V. Saintry, H. W. Cust, G. Eger, E. Smee.
 Temperance and Social Questions: Chairman, E. Davis, T. P. Dale, E. Saunders, W. Lewis, A. Oldfield, G. Newman, L. Gilmour, W. R. Hunter, H. C. Stitt.
 Credentials: E. J. Hilder, T. E. Rofe, J. Whelan, S. J. Southgate, J. Stimson.
 Council of Churches: G. Fretwell, T. E. Rofe, J. Whelan, S. J. Southgate. Representative on International Questions, sub-committee of Council: G. Fretwell.

Western Australian Conference.
 (Continued from page 247.)

That conference sends greetings to the missionaries on active service in the words of Joshua 1: 9, and to Bro. Escott, complimenting him upon the splendid way he handled the recent difficult disturbing position.

That Conference reaffirms the desirability of the organic union of believers in Christ. It is convinced that this long expected event waits only upon Christ and his holy apostles being enthroned as the only authorities of the faith and order of the church.

That this conference of Churches of Christ in Western Australia, believing that war is inimical to the best interests of the people, urges all the members of our churches to think peace, talk peace, and pray for peace among the nations, and further that we urge the Commonwealth Government to reduce war preparations to the absolute minimum, and to do all possible to aid in the bringing about of a sympathetic understanding with all the nations of the earth with a view to complete disarmament. And that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Prime Minister, and the Minister for Defence.

That this conference of Churches of Christ send greetings to the Church Council of W.A. It encloses resolutions on matters of public interest which were carried at the conference, and invites the Council to take such representative action as it deems fit.

That this conference of Churches of Christ in W.A. is in principle for the prohibition of the liquor traffic. It supports, however, the movement for closing all hotels and shops for the sale of intoxicants at 6 p.m.

That this conference of Churches of Christ in W.A., understanding that Canberra has now been placed under the administration of a Commission, would welcome the assurance that this action will not imperil the hitherto declared policy of a dry district. That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Rt. Hon. the Prime Minister.

That this conference of Churches of Christ in W.A. draws attention to the growing opportunities for gambling which abound in our streets under the specious guise of charity. It is of opinion that these efforts to raise funds for benevolent purposes are calculated to foster the gambling evil, as much as the grace of charity. It believes in law, and urges the authorities to a more strict enforcement of the existing laws regarding gambling. It believes that the ease with which permission is obtained to hold raffles and drawings, will in the end, weaken the law itself, and holds that no authority should be able to allow that which the law forbids.

Officers and Committees.

Officers and committees were appointed as follows—
 President, Albany Bell.
 Vice-president, A. J. Ingham.
 Secretary, W. R. Hibbert.
 Assistant Secretary, R. W. Ewers.
 Treasurer, Hy. Wright.
 Home Missionary Committee.—E. R. Berry, Thos. Hagger, A. Brooke, A. Lucraft, S. H. Mudge, D. M. Wilson, D. R. Stirling.
 Foreign Missionary Committee.—President, E.

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 Church Building and Extension Committee.—J. P. Anderson, W. S. Brown, R. W. Ewers, Hy. Wright.
 Bible School and Young People's Committee.—President, J. Ewers; secretary, L. C. Peacock. H. Baynes, E. R. Berry, A. M. Bell, E. Jeffery, W. R. Hibbert, F. Mill, Mrs. E. R. Berry, Miss Jones, Miss M. Wilson, Miss R. Sharp.
 Social Questions Committee.—President, S. H. Mudge; secretary, W. J. Thompson. E. Bird, A. G. Brown, — Richards, Mrs. D. M. Wilson, Mrs. R. W. Ewers, Mrs. Rule.
 Church Council.—Hy. Wright, Thos. Hagger, E. R. Berry, A. G. Brown.
 Resolutions Committee.—A. Brooke, T. Hagger, A. J. Ingham, A. Lucraft, S. H. Mudge.

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News of the Churches.

New Zealand.

At Gisborne during March the meetings were well maintained, with a record attendance at worship services. The Bible School has increased to 158 scholars and 24 teachers, 27 new scholars having been enrolled during February and March. On March 4 the young people's triangle club met in friendly debate with the members of the Baptist Institute. On March 18 the young men's training class, under the leadership of Bro. Riches, held a successful demonstration. A vast improvement has been shown by the class. With regret the church will shortly lose the services of Bro. and Sister Riches, who have accepted a call to the New Zealand mission field in South Africa.

Queensland.

Conference services at Ann-st. (Brisbane) were greatly enjoyed. The chapel was packed on Easter Sunday, when Bro. Saunders, of Victoria, preached the conference sermon, which was broadcast. On morning of April 11, Bro. E. Aderman, B.A., exhorted most acceptably, and at night Bro. Alcorn preached to a good attendance. Visitors included Bro. and Sister Sharp and Bro. and Sister Wolf, all of Victoria; also Bro. Passe.

Tasmania.

Ulverstone church enjoyed greatly a splendid message of Bro. Jas E. Thomas on April 6; also the visit of Bro. and Sister Thomas and Miss Ruth Thomas. Bro. Nightingale spoke at Ulverstone and Sulphur Creek on April 11. The church has again been successful in winning the Home Mission challenge shield for giving the most money to the penny-per-week fund. The Y.P.S.C.E. also won the State C.E. challenge banner. On April 14 a big C.E. social was held, at which another big campaign was planned. One man, formerly immersed, signified his desire to unite with the church at the close.

Good meetings are reported at Collins-st., Hobart. On Mar. 14, after a splendid address by Bro. Johnston, a young man made the good confession. He was baptised on March 27. Miss Laurel Redman, missionary on furlough from India, gave an interesting address. On Mar. 30 Collins-st. and West Hobart combined to welcome Bro. and Sister J. E. Thomas and Miss Thomas to Hobart. Bro. Thomas gave an inspiring talk to a good audience. We are sorry to report the passing away of Mrs. Ross, an old and esteemed member, on Mar. 30, after a long illness. The sympathy of the church is extended to the bereaved. Mrs. Cooper, senr., is still laid aside. Bro. Golder is gradually gaining strength. Bro. Jarvis exhorted on April 4, and Bro. Hinds preached at night.

Western Australia.

On April 12 Claremont church held a meeting to consider the advisability of trying to become self-supporting, and great enthusiasm prevailed. Brief addresses were given by the Home Mission organiser, and by the officers and preacher of the church. It was unanimously decided that the church become self-supporting immediately.

Bassendean reports fine attendances at mid-week prayer meetings. The boys' club has re-opened under the leadership of Bro. Peacock. On Apr. 11 an inspiring address was given by Bro. Jeffries, of Fremantle. In the evening Bro. Peacock addressed a large congregation. Several brethren continue to visit Beechboro, and report good meetings there.

Bunbury enjoyed good meetings on April 11. The work is gradually being consolidated after the mission. Both new and old members are happy and united in the work. The Bible School

is rapidly growing, fifteen new scholars being enrolled in the last two Sundays. At the week-end night prayer meeting on April 8, 50 attended. A mutual improvement society has been formed, and promises to be a great help. There is a widespread desire to enlarge the church building.

South Australia.

Glennel special offering for advance work amounted to £30. Finance good. Endeavors preparing for Endeavor day. All auxiliaries in good heart.

Gawler had good meetings on April 11. The juniors sing a special piece at every gospel meeting. On April 14 the church adopted a recommendation from the officers to budget the finances. The young people's C.E. is in good heart. A tennis club is being formed.

A pretty wedding was celebrated at Strathalbyn on Mar. 31, when Miss A. V. Bartlett was married to Bro. L. H. Walters, of Cottonville church, Bren. Durdin and McKie officiating. Good meetings on April 4, Bro. W. Bartlett, of Unley, presiding in the morning. At night an elderly woman confessed Christ. Bro. Durdin spoke at both services. Good services on April 11, when Bro. Evans was the visiting speaker for the day. The sisters are making good progress in their auxiliary meetings.

Easter Sunday meetings at Balaklava were well attended. Many visitors were present. The Sunday School picnic on Easter Monday was a huge success; the attendance was considered a record. Some of the members with Bro. Manning, attended the second coming conference at Mile End on Good Friday. On Tuesday, April 6, the whole district as well as the church, received a sudden shock at the sad death of Bro. Stan. Curtis, son of the esteemed elder, Bro. H. Curtis. It is estimated that the funeral was the largest ever witnessed in the district. The church sorrows very deeply with all who sorrow.

At Mile End on Sunday the right hand of fellowship was given to a young man, immersed the previous Wednesday. Bro. Ewers is using the Sunday School lessons as the basis of his addresses on Wednesday evenings. By this means many of the S.S. teachers are receiving helpful instruction. The budget system having been adopted by the church, special collections will not be taken up. It is hoped to reach £20 each week, and this amount will enable the church to support liberally Home and Foreign Missions and other causes, and help to reduce indebtedness on chapel. This came into operation on April 4. Last Sunday the amount was £20/12/-. The meetings are well attended.

Attendances at Colonel Light Gardens are steadily increasing. Bro. Garratt's preaching is attracting the people. The half-yearly business meeting, held on Apr. 14, was well attended. Reports showed good progress. Increase, 10 immersed, 1 received by transfer; church membership 59, including 4 isolated. Since Aug. 29, when the chapel was opened, there have been only two Sundays on which there were no additions to Bible School. Many who attended, pending opening of other schools, have gone where their parents worship; despite this there are 200 on school roll. The C.E. Society of 30 members is doing good work. Church finances are well in hand. £50 will be paid off building debt in a week or two. On April 18 Bro. A. M. Ludbrook addressed the church, and in the afternoon gave a short address to Bible scholars which was much appreciated. Bro. H. Bond has been appointed as an elder, and Bro. G. Berry as a deacon.

Murray Bridge work progresses steadily. Home Mission offering amounts so far to £115/5/-. Special offerings towards bush fire relief fund and Port Adelaide Seamen's Mission amounted to £2/14/3 and 15/8½ respectively. Harvest thanksgiving ser-

vices on March 14 and 15 were very successful. Musical and elocutionary items, and addresses on "Unplucked Fruit" and "The Old and the New" were well received by good audiences. Bro. Arnold spoke words of farewell and appreciation to Bro. and Sister Coventry and family, who were about to leave the town. Some of the many fine gifts were sold for 16/4, and with an excellent collection of the remaining gifts donated to the local Soldiers' Memorial Hospital. The Endeavor Society has very good meetings, and has enjoyed a visit from Mr. Samuels, superintendent of Young People's Department of C.E. Union. Sister Dowling has been ill, following an operation for appendicitis, but is progressing satisfactorily.

Berri attendances are maintaining a good average. On Lord's day, Apr. 11, harvest thanksgiving services were splendidly attended. The building was attractively decorated. The special thank-offering may reach £20. Bro. Randall addressed both meetings and extended the right hand of fellowship to Bro. and Sister G. Karlake and son, Robert, at morning meeting. After the gospel address, another son and daughter made the good confession. Bro. E. Cotton's wife is laid aside in Berri hospital. On Tuesday, Apr. 13, a number of the young people met to bid farewell to Bro. Cliff Jones, a young and faithful worker in church and Bible School, who left the district for Tumbly Bay next day. Many expressions of appreciation of his services were made by evangelist and auxiliaries represented. Bro. Randall presented him with a safety razor, on behalf of the young people. Prayerful preparation is being made for the tent mission planned for Berri with Bren. Forbes and Warren in August.

Victoria.

Good meetings were held at Warragul on Apr. 18. Fine addresses by Bro. Martin. It is expected to begin work at Garfield in the near future, there being a few isolated members residing there.

South Melbourne meetings last Lord's day were fairly well attended. Bro. Waterman spoke in the morning on "The Holy Spirit," and in the evening on "The Carpenter." All auxiliaries are doing good work.

Fitzroy (Gore-st.) meetings are fairly well attended. At the conclusion of an address by Bro. Saunders on April 11, a young man made the good confession. Bro. Mildern has been elected superintendent of J.C.E.

Parkdale anniversary services concluded on Sunday, and were very successful. Bro. Wilkie, of Ballarat, was the visiting speaker. After a very fine sermon two young ladies of the Bible School made the great confession.

At Prahran Bro. Flatman addressed the morning service last Sunday. The churches at Prahran, South Yarra, Windsor and St. Kilda have planned a week of spiritual meetings to be held at St. Kilda, from May 3 to 6.

At Ormond ten were received into fellowship last Sunday morning. There were great meetings. Bro. G. T. Walden preached at the evening service. A young man confessed his Lord. The evening service now commences at 7 o'clock.

Meetings at Ringwood on April 18 were very fair. Hartley Gray spoke at the morning service on "Light, Cities and Men," while at night a good gathering listened to an interesting talk by Mr. W. Fletcher, from India, on his 23 years' work there.

Bro. Burdeu, of Ballarat, conducted services at Maryborough on Sunday, April 11 and 18. Attendance at worship was fair; at the gospel services there were good congregations. The messages proved a spiritual uplift. Bro. and Sister Baker are enjoying holidays.

Big, enthusiastic meetings at Echuca on Sunday, 18th. 45 present at worship. Building full at night, when Bro. Baker, of Maryborough, preached. Bible School attendance has almost doubled during the past two months. It is hoped to start the new building next week.

Pyramid Hill had good attendances on the 18th. One decision for Christ at the close of the gospel meeting, a young lad from the Bible School, Bro.

Methven preaching. Preparation is being made for the Bible School anniversary. The progress made during the year is highly encouraging.

Dandenong anniversary services were held on Sunday. In the afternoon Bro. McCallum spoke on "Giants." The children sang their songs well, under the conductorship of Bro. Williams. In the evening Bro. McCallum addressed a good meeting, and the children took part with the singing.

At Lygon-st. on Sunday, April 18, B. W. Huntsman, of Brighton, spoke in the morning and A. G. Saunders in the evening. A splendid address was given by each. One was received by obedience. Bro. James Spence left by the "Oronsay" on Tuesday last, on a holiday trip to England.

At Glenferrie Bro. T. H. Scambler spoke in the morning on "The Canon of the Bible," and at night his subject was "The Second Commandment." There were large attendances, and a young lady made the good confession. The Bible School attendance was the highest on record this year.

Warracknabeal services continue to be well attended. The evangelist, Bro. B. J. Combridge, who went to attend the State conference, has been unable to return owing to a severe attack of influenza. During his illness the work has been carried on by local brethren. The Bible School and Christian Endeavor are well attended.

At Shepparton, a special business meeting was held on April 13, when the first annual debenture draw took place. At this meeting, it was also decided to increase the salary of Bro. Stewart by 10/- per week. On the 15th, an installation service of K.S.P.'s and P.B.P.'s was held, Bren. Bray and Long, State Chaplain and Purser respectively, being present. Good meetings at Shepparton and Cosgrove on 18th.

The work at York st., Ballarat, is in a healthy state. Messages are faithfully delivered by brethren from Dawson st., assisted by local members. The gospel meetings attract good numbers, and interest is keen. The church enjoyed a message from Bro. Connor on the morning of the 18th. Bro. Feary spoke at night. Bible School is practising for anniversary. Young people's society continues to flourish.

A working bee at Hampton cleared up the chapel grounds on Saturday. The girls have started a gymnastic club. The Sunday School continues satisfactorily; new teachers are offering for service. The children's collections for Dhand hospital equipment are growing. Midweek services are helpful. Sunday evening meetings are still conducted by Bren. Tinkler, R. and D. Pittman. Special music is proving an attraction.

At Swanston-st. last Lord's day morning reference was made to the passing away of Sister Mrs. Yewdall, who had been in membership for the past two years, and formerly for a number of years previous was in fellowship at Lygon-st. Sympathetic reference was also made to the sudden call of Dr. Remoul, of the Presbyterian community, who had largely figured in the religious life of Melbourne. Bro. Shipway's sermons were excellent.

The services at Bambra-rd., Caulfield, were well attended on April 11. Bro. Schwab gave a delightful message at night, over 220 being present. 118 broke bread for day. On April 18 Bro. G. T. Walden spoke to the church on Foreign missions. His subject, "The First European Church," was helpful to all. Bro. Schwab spoke at night to a fine gathering. Visitors for the day included some from Geelong and South Australia. The work presents a very healthy appearance.

At Cheltenham on Sunday the meetings were especially good. F. W. Martin was the speaker at the morning service. Former members of Cheltenham were amongst the visitors. Good attendance at Bible School. After a splendid service in the evening, attended by many strangers, three young men made the good confession. Last Saturday week a successful kitchen tea, arranged by Mrs. Chapman, was tendered to Miss Marice Judd on the eve of her marriage to Mr. Eric Whitehead.

At Gardiner on April 17 the erection of the school hall 30 x 18 was almost completed in the

one day. Work continued from 6.30 a.m. till 7 p.m. The sisters served ample meals throughout the day. On Sunday Bro. Gebbie spoke morning and evening. The attendance at the Lord's table increases week by week; 135 partook on morning of 18th, and six were received to fellowship, two by obedience and four by letter. Bro. and Sister Vawser, of S.A., worshipped with the church.

Fairfield J.C.E. anniversary services were held on Sunday, Mar. 28. A good programme was rendered by the scholars at a social evening held the following Tuesday. Prizes were awarded to those who attended regularly during the year. Although the society has been going only two years, it ended third in the running for the J.C.E. shield. Much sickness prevails among members of the church. Bro. Fitzgerald, the preacher, is ill in a private hospital, having undergone three operations during the last week. Bro. Northeast is carrying on the work.

Carnegie had good meetings last Lord's day. Addresses from Bro. Reg. Sparks were good. In the evening two young women were baptised. The children's choir rendered a piece splendidly. In the afternoon Miss Redman, from India, spoke to the school concerning Indian children. Her address was much enjoyed. Through the medium of "Children's Day" collection boxes, £4/5/- was raised by the children. On Monday, April 12, Bro. Jack Gallely, an esteemed officer of the church and a Bible School worker, was united in marriage with Miss Violet Manning, who also was a teacher in the Bible School.

There was a crowded meeting at Moreland S.S. demonstration on the 14th inst., when the children rendered the cantata, "The Picnic Party," besides other items, which were thoroughly enjoyed. On Sunday, the morning meeting in the chapel was well attended, when Bro. A. Baker gave his first address of the mission. Several visitors were present. Afternoon and evening services were held in the tent, when the anniversary was concluded, many scholars gaining prizes. These anniversary services were a great draw for the mission. Bro. Clay led the singing well, and Bro. Baker gave a powerful address on "The Rock of Ages."

Horsham worship service on April 18 was an inspiring gathering; about 180 in attendance; extra seating requisitioned. Many visitors, including Bro. J. R. Combridge, of Bundaberg, a former preacher in Horsham circuit, and Miss D. Combridge, also brethren from Polkemmet, and others. On Wednesday, 14th, the chapel was daintily decorated for the celebration of a double wedding, the contracting parties being Sister Miss B. Grant and Mr. Lou. Rees, and Miss D. Rees and Mr. Jack S. Pinkerton. Bro. A. J. Wilson officiated. On Saturday, 17th, Bro. Cecil Houston and Bro. Errett Houston won the intermediate and junior championship cups at Horsham High School sports; both are members of Horsham church.

Preston reports good meetings and interest. Bro. Mortimer's messages are helpful. Bible School is doing satisfactorily. At a social on Saturday, Apr. 17, a large number of scholars and parents enjoyed the evening. It was the wind up of the recent successful rally, and some prizes were presented. At the recent election of officers the following were elected:—Deacons, Bren. Ferguson, Garth, J. D. Lang, F. J. Lang, Morffew, Quail and Rodgers; secretary, Bro. P. Crowley; treasurer, Bro. Greenway. Through the efforts of the sisters, carpet for the platform, matting for the chapel, and other furnishings were purchased, and the thanks and congratulations of the church were offered to them. The young people's clubs are in good working order, and a young ladies' gymnasium is largely attended.

New South Wales.

Dumbleton church on April 11 and 12 celebrated its sixth anniversary. Bro. Harward's three messages were very helpful. On Monday night Bro. Clydesdale spoke on Phillip. 1: 21. Excellent singing was rendered by the choir under the leadership of Bro. Dane.

COMING EVENTS.

APRIL 4 and continuing for 5 weeks.—Great Tent Mission at Footscray. P. R. Baker and Irwin Barber, every evening at 8. Take Russell-st. tram at Station and ask for stop at "The Tent." Alexander's No. 3 hymns. All invited.

APRIL 25.—A Ball-Elliott-Jackel tent mission will be held at Garden Vale, near North and Pt. Nepean-rds., commencing April 25, at 7.30 o'clock. "Joyful Praise" hymns used. Plan to be present the first week. Take train to Garden Vale.

APRIL 29 (Thursday).—Hampton Church, corner Hampton and Willis-sts. The Lygon-st. choir will render Maulder's sacred cantata, "Olivet to Calvary." Soloists, Miss E. Bagley, Messrs. R. Hayward and J. Y. Buckley. Conductor, Mr. E. Tippett. Friends from neighboring churches cordially invited.

MAY 2 and 5.—City Temple, Sydney, 75th Anniversary. Special meetings morning, afternoon and evening. Speakers, Bren. Harward, Haddon and Southgate. Thanksgiving service following Wednesday night, May 5. Addresses by Bren. Whelan, Bennet and Fretwell. While we are anxious for attendance of past members, everybody, whether past members or not, is welcome to all services. Further particulars obtainable from P. C. Williams, Box 1592, G.P.O., Sydney.

MAY 2 and 6.—Balmain-st., South Richmond, Church, 25th Anniversary. Sunday, Special Services. Thursday, Public Meeting at 7.45 p.m., followed by Coffee Supper. (Adults, 9d.; children, 6d.) Past members welcomed.

MAY 2 and 9.—Essendon Bible School Anniversary Services. Special speakers and singing. Held at new chapel, Buckley-st. Everybody welcome.

Moreland Tent Mission—Baker and Clay—right at the cable tram terminus, Brunswick—one block north from Moreland-rd. Visits from sister churches will be greatly appreciated—but not on Sundays, please. Meetings commence at 8 p.m. week days, and 7 p.m. on Sundays.

IN MEMORIAM.

JOHNSON.—A loving tribute to the memory of John Johnson, the devoted husband of Florence Johnson, and loving father of Olga and Gordon, who was suddenly called home on May Day at Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, 1922.

"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you."

McCOLL.—In fond and loving memory of our dear Alf. (Private Alfred McColl, 7th Batt.), killed in action on day of landing on Gallipoli, April 25, 1915.

—Inserted by his loving parents and brothers, "Lowan," St. Victoria-cres., Mont. Albert, Vic.

PATTERSON.—In sweet and sacred memory of our beloved wife and mother, who departed this life at Wasleys (late of Williamstown, S.A.), on April 7, 1919.

Cease thy weeping and thy sorrow,
Do not think of her as dead;
She has reached her home in heaven,
Cares and pain forever fled.
Though the grave looks dark and dreary,
'Tis but there her body rests;
For her spirit's gone to heaven,
And she lives among the blest.

—Inserted by her loving husband and daughter and son-in-law, Gertrude, Walter and grandson Clarrie.

WURFEL.—In loving memory of my dear mother, who died April 26, 1913.

There is someone who misses you sadly,
And finds the time long since you went;
There is someone who thinks of you always,
And tries hard to be brave and content.
My lips cannot speak how I loved her,
My heart cannot tell what to say,
God alone knows how I miss you, dear mother,
As I battle along life's rough way.
—Inserted by her loving son, David.

Church of Christ, Shepparton.—Result of Ballot of £5 Debentures, April 13, 1926.—Nos. 257, 265, 226, 253, 128, 250, 4, 141, 262, 160.—Frank J. Funtston, Secretary, 172 Knight-st., Shepparton.

Jubilee Hall, North Melbourne, Vic.

A fine addition to church life at North Melbourne in the shape of a new Bible School and young people's hall was officially opened on Saturday, April 10.

The new building is a roomy brick structure standing at the rear of the chapel. The interior is very pleasingly designed, and its red brick work, well placed artistic windows and novel ceiling at once give an impression of simple beauty united to utility.

A large gathering was led by Mr. G. B. Mosey, an evangelist of the church fifty years ago, in an opening prayer. The present preacher, C. C. Dawson, was then presented with a key, with which he opened the hall.

A gathering inside was presided over by Mr. J. E. Shipway, Conference President, in his first official function.

Mr. J. K. Robinson, preacher of the Presbyterian church, read the Scripture lesson, and was followed by words of congratulation from Messrs. D. Daley (Methodist minister), Robt. Lyall, L. C. McCallum, James Hatty, Hon. W. Morrow, and Mrs. W. J. Woodbridge (on behalf of the sisters of the church).

Mr. W. J. Woodbridge, organising secretary, explained the financial side of the work, whilst C. C. Dawson voiced the gratification of the young people of the church, paid tribute to the work of the organising secretary, and thanked others who had assisted that day.

A Bible School teachers' conference followed immediately, and addresses were delivered by

Messrs. T. H. Scambler, L. C. McCallum and C. C. Dawson.

Special young people's services were held on Sunday for the first time in the completely renovated chapel. Mr. J. H. McKean addressed the scholars in the afternoon, and C. C. Dawson spoke to a large congregation in the evening, taking as his subject "The Worth of a Man." A young lady made the confession at the close of the service.

The new hall and the chapel renovation and new seating accommodation involved an expenditure of about £1,400.—C. C. Dawson.

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FOUNDED 1895. INCORPORATED 1909.

Burwood Boys' Home

Contributions can be sent to the Treasurer, Members of the Committee, or Austral Co. Reference can be made to the Committee and Officers.
Of all the work in which Christians can engage, this is the most encouraging and reproductive. You sow to-day, and to-morrow you reap the harvest.
Readers everywhere are asked to assist the great work of saving the boys.

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All Correspondence to be addressed to the Secretary, **Burwood Boys' Home, Boundary Rd., Burwood, Victoria.**