

# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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

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## The Witness of the Catacombs.

"He being dead yet speaketh."

Alan Price, B.A.

THE catacombs of Rome are an imperishable testimony to the truth of Christianity. These subterranean passages were the refuge of the Roman Christians for 250 years. Cut out of the soft rock, sometimes tier upon tier, they extended fifteen miles out of Rome, and were estimated to be about one hundred miles in length. These passages were lined with shelf-like graves covered with slabs carrying many interesting inscriptions.

### Heathen Rome.

When the gospel reached Rome about the middle of the first century she was a sink of iniquity. Her gladiatorial sports cost the lives of from twenty to thirty thousand men per month. Every known, imaginable and unimaginable sin held sway. Paul's opening chapters to his Roman letter are amply confirmed by history.

Into this quagmire of sin came the gospel of Jesus; the poorest of the people heard and believed. They forsook all and followed Jesus. The authorities persecuted them to death. They burrowed into the ground and hid. They took their dead with them and buried them in the caves of the earth. Hitherto the great ones burned their dead and placed the ashes in urns with tablets descriptive of the departed. The bodies of the poor, the criminals and the outlaws were cast in festering pell-mell heaps into the sand-pits outside Rome. There was not a ray of hope to be found in paganism for the sick or the poor.

### The resurrection hope.

The Christians laid their dead in cemeteries—sleeping places. Why the change? They believed in a resurrection. Without entering into a discussion on the merits of cremation from a sanitary point of view, we can admit and recognise the fact that the gospel had completely altered the outlook.

In the Lapidarian Gallery of the Vatican Museum in Rome, one side is covered with

3,000 Christian tablets, while the other carries a large number of pagan tablets. The contrast is striking.

Here is a pagan tablet: "I, Procope, lift up my hands against God, who snatched me away innocent. She lived twenty years. Proclus set up this."

Here is a Christian tablet (fragmentary): "Who gave and hath taken . . . blessed . . . of the Lord . . . who lived years. . . . In peace, in the consulate of . . ."

How like the old passage: "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away: blessed be the name of the Lord."

Here is another contrast: (Pagan): "Caius Julius Maximus, II. years, V. months. O relentless fortune, who delightest in cruel death, why is

Maximus so suddenly snatched from me? He who lately used to lie joyful on my bosom. This stone now marks his tomb. Behold his mother."

(Christian): "Petronia, a deacon's wife, the type of modesty. In this place I lay my bones. Spare your tears, dear husband and daughters, and believe that it is forbidden to weep for one who lives in God. Buried in peace on the third before the Nones of October, in the Consulate of Festus."

Three thousand of these Christian tablets have been brought to the surface. Altogether some seventy thousand are estimated to have been in the catacombs. They tell their tale of faithful adherence to the Lord Jesus, and of the power of the resurrection.

Many of these tablets are of the crudest design, scratched on by illiterate hands. Here is one written backwards, except for the letter n, to the wife of Virginius; the husband apparently being unable to read could not detect the mistake. Here is another with the letter L upside down. Many have illustrative figures cut upon them to do away with the necessity of reading at all. Here is "Navira," who died at sixteen years of age. As "navis" is the Latin for ship, and might be taken to represent Navira, a ship is engraved on the stone. Pontius Leo and his wife lie yonder—a lion adorns the stone.

### In Christ alone.

In addition to such descriptive devices, there is generally a monogram or combination of letters to show that the dead was a believer in Christ. A common device was Ch, the Greek X, the first letter of "Christ" combined with the second R, similar to our P. This appears to have been too easily detected by their enemies, and was afterwards further disguised into the Greek word for a "fish," that is I (our J), Ch, Th, U, S., meaning Jesus Christ of God, the Son, the Saviour. This again appears in the form of a fish on the slab.



A View in the Catacombs of Rome.

Added to this might be found the letters A W, the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet (see Revelation: "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end").

The earliest dated inscription was A.D. 98, as fixed by the consul of the time, but as thousands of stones are not thus dated, it is probable that many were buried as Christians before that date. We have here, therefore, strong evidence to the existence of practical primitive Christianity in Rome from the earliest possible date.

#### Side-lights on the faith.

These early inscriptions bear evidence to a simple unadulterated faith both by what they do and by what they do not say. On one grave may appear the words: "In Christ and in peace"; on another perhaps a child only—"In peace," showing apparently a distinction between the believer and the unbaptised child.

Interments were made right up to about the middle of the sixth century, by which time corruptions prevailed. In spite of this it may be stated that up to the year 400 A.D., there is no known mention of purgatory or of the Virgin Mary. In view of the fact that there are about 70,000 of these tablets, a universal statement would be difficult to prove.

This is a remarkable epitaph—"Here lies Gordianus, Deputy of Gaul, who was executed for the faith, with all his family; they rest in peace. Theophila a hand-maid set up this." This succinct statement is confirmed by an account elsewhere of the conversion of Gordianus under the preaching of Januarius the Presbyter. Gordianus and his wife Marina, together with a large part of his household of fifty-three persons, were baptised. Gordianus was afterwards martyred and his body exposed in a heathen temple. A member of the household rescued it, and buried it in the catacombs.

One or two further side-lights might be thrown on the subject by a reference to the Acts. All Jews (and Christians) had been expelled from Rome, among them Aquila and Priscilla. This coincides with the fact that the Christians sought refuge in the catacombs.

When Paul travelled towards Rome the disciples met him at Appii Forum, 56 miles out. Fifteen miles of that distance they could travel underground in the catacombs that stretched along the Appian way. Paul in writing to the Romans specifies a family here and a household there, showing that the church was meeting in scattered places and wherever possible. Such places of assembly may be found cut out in the rock among the hosts of the dead.

Light is thrown on the matter of the proper attitude in prayer. Paul says, "Let the men pray, lifting up holy hands," etc. The tablets show men standing with the hands raised from the elbow. On the matter of church government we read of presbyter and deacon—the constituted officials

## Peters—or Repeaters?

I heard an address recently in which the speaker powerfully urged: "We need more Peters." He had been reminding us of the sterling qualities of the disciple, and suggested that his spirit would enable us to go ahead and tackle the difficulties which faced us.

Now it would take a psychologist to analyse the train of thoughts that that sentence set up, and to explain the mental background which determined the character of them. First I was reminded of the absurd story of the man who, when twin sons appeared in his home, called one Peter and the other Repeater.

Then the word "Repeater" reminded me of the many difficulties and obstacles which in church life seemed to be caused by "Repeaters," the people who listen to and carry on petty gossip of one kind or another to the great harm of school, church, or other organisation.

So that if there is a shortage of Peters there is certainly a superfluity of Repeaters—of the type I have named, for even one is one too many.

There seem to be some people to whom stories, fault-finding, carpings, gravitate as surely as steel filings are drawn to a magnet. Whatever may be the latest tit-bit of news gets there by the quickest route, which makes even wireless telephony a back number. There is a type of mind which takes supreme delight in hearing and repeating the trivialities of life.

"Bear ye one another's burdens," becomes "Bare ye one another's faults." That is not original, but appeared in an American paper, and it is more true than many of such aphorisms. Another is closely allied. "Some minds are rose vases, others garbage pails."

Now the determining factor in the character of the receptacle is that which is inserted. Even the pail would be beautiful if filled with roses, and the vase may be nauseous if filled with decadent matter. The Repeaters are the outcome of listeners, and the sure way of stopping the habit of retailing gossip is to refrain from listening. "Repeaters" will soon lose their zest in telling if the hearers are cold or repellent.

Then my thoughts took another turn. Why should the word "Repeaters" have such an evil significance? It is evident that there is going on such a limitation of meaning as will in time cause quite a change in definition. For it is as possible to repeat a good thing as a bad one; to repeat a compliment or favorable testimony as a

of the New Testament church. No mention of celebrity, as may be seen from the following:—"My wife Laurentia made me this tomb: she was ever suited to my disposition, venerable and faithful; at length disappointed envy lies crushed: the bishop Leo survived his 80th year."

scandal or piece of gossip. Is it that the one happens so seldom and the other so often that this narrowing of the meaning of the word is taking place?

We need more Peters, and we need more Repeaters; but we need repeaters who will repeat Peter, as far as Peter repeated his Lord. Every repeater helps to make other repeaters, and what you and I repeat has an influence upon what others repeat.—H. in "Christian Advocate."

## The Sacred Battalion.

S. J. Southgate.

In the old Theban army was a "sacred battalion" who swore to stand by each other, and to follow their flag until the last drop of blood was shed! Where one was, all were; their phalanx was a solid head of steel! So doth the preacher rejoice in and rely upon his sacred battalion. They are weatherproof and fireproof; they consult conscience and not the clouds on Sunday morning. If the minister can turn out to preach, they can turn out to hear and to help him. Jesus will be there anyway. The eye that saw the recreant Peter and absent Thomas will scan the assembly and note the absentees. God's house and the prayer meeting are the home of the genuine disciple, for the home is where the heart is. Those who absent themselves from church unnecessarily miss many a glad or comforting message. It is often given as an excuse for absence that the body is so weary from labor that it requires rest upon the Sunday at home. But there is a better way to rest the tired body or brain than by sleeping or lounging away the hallowed hours at home. The body of the laborer can be rested from within by a great thought and a great love. Let the spirit lift its eyes to the hills from whence cometh its help; let the soul catch the inspiration of its intended destiny; let the heart join for an hour with the prayer and praise of the heavenly worshippers, and the body will feel a recreation from within that will send it forth with a song and a shout for the toils of the week. The weary worker cannot afford to lie down and forget God; the body is as dependent upon the within as on the without. The physical force needs God in the soul to keep it from a chronic weariness. "In him we live and move and have our being." All the functions and powers of our being are replenished with life-forces by the exercise of public praise. Cherish the church and it will cherish you; let it be your soul's home; do not allow any trivial excuse to keep you away from the house of God. The responsibility of keeping the Lord's day as a holy day, and not as a holiday, rests with the Christian.



# The Evangelisation of N.S. Wales.

Annual Offering for Home Missions on December 4.

## THE CALL OF THE COUNTRY.

S. J. Southgate, Conference President.

If I were to do my utmost to persuade you that Jesus Christ sought out what appeared to be a field specially suitable to missionary enterprise, and spent the whole of his earth life in concentrated effort in that particular field, turning a deaf ear to the appeal of those who,



S. J. Southgate,  
President of N.S.W. Conference.

hearing of his fame, were crying for life and healing, and then, without any wealth of argument, I should ask you to look at a map of New South Wales and count the gaps, the towns and villages where the Churches of Christ have never made any sustained effort, in many cases no effort at all, you would surely recognise the need of revising your views on the missionary spirit of our religion.

This is an appeal for the recognition of the rights of the country districts of our State. In framing our Home Missionary policy we should have a "pact" ministry, including "Country Party" members. Our great capital city, the third city in the Empire, has back of it the largest proportionate rural population in Australia, and yet, compared with other States, New South Wales is lamentably weak in country churches. This, in part, is the cause of our lack of progress. Centralisation has been a millstone about our necks. It is estimated that about 600 members of our churches in the State are isolated. Add to this number the unknown but certainly large number of young people lost to us because of our lack of country churches, and the seriousness of the position is realised.

We speak of our Home "Missionary" activities. The term means to spread the knowledge of religion. Perhaps we have lacked the Home Missionary conscience, the Home Missionary imagination. It may be true that in things spiritual as well as temporal "distance lends enchantment to the view." The magnificent and consecrated gifts to Foreign Missions (may we have more and more) might well serve as examples to us to give with the same largesse to the evangelisation of our homeland.

Soon the work will be opened up at Grafton. I welcome this decision as the beginning of an energetic and sustained effort in our country towns, a work which I have advocated in season and out of season. I would like to see a church established in some country centre every year, until at last we have proclaimed the evangel throughout the Mother-State. Newcastle, Albury and Orange are worthy of as much time

and money as Enmore, Chatswood and Kensington.

There never was a day when men and women needed the personal touch of the Saviour as they need it to-day. There never was a time when the Saviour sought to bind men to himself by the ligature of a personal loyalty as he seeks to-day. There never was a time when Christ made so much to depend upon the witness of his followers as he does to-day. We cannot fail to see the vision of a harvest field, a field where "vast reaches of waving corn shine before the face of the Lord," but where the laborers are few. Home Missions are imperative. The call of the country is louder to-day than ever it was before. Like Jesus we must go throughout every city and village preaching the good tidings.

When the time of the annual offering for Home Missions comes round, give us the money needed for this policy of expansion and progress, and we shall put New South Wales "on the map" as a State where a principle of balance runs through our Home Mission activities, where the State, and not merely a part of it, rejoices in the great harvest now ripening unto the reaping.

## THE BURDEN OF PROOF.

H. M. Arrowsmith, H.M. Treasurer.

Within a month the New South Wales churches will be faced by the annual Home Mission offering. The churches are asked to contribute not less than £777. Our confidence in the brotherhood leads us to anticipate that this objective will be reached.

The extent of our giving will be governed by the strength of the motive. And what is it that prompts us to give? Surely it is our gratitude to God, our love for Christ and his church.

What a profound inspiration is found in the assertion that "Christ loved the church, and gave himself for it." We, too, love the church—and the burden of proof rests upon us. The Apostle Paul wrote to the church at Corinth: ". . . prove the sincerity of your love." He emphasised the appeal by exhorting them to "shew ye to them, and before the churches, the proof of your love." Shall not we too, on

December 4, prove the sincerity of our love for him, and for the church which bears his name?

DOING—DECIDED TO DO—SHOULD DO,  
Thos. Hagger.

The work entrusted to the N.S.W. Home Missionary Committee is of tremendous importance, and of no mean dimensions. It is to help weak churches, to establish new ones, and to spread the gospel of the Christ and the plea which has been given us to urge all over this vast State.

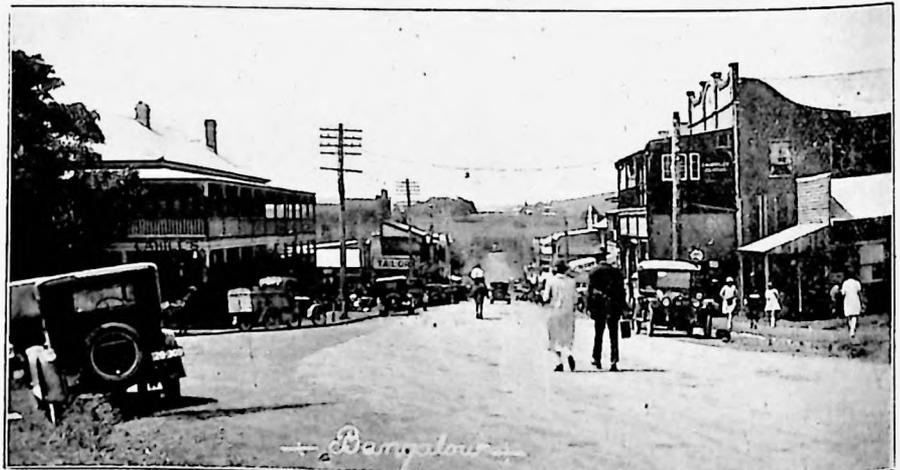


H. M. Arrowsmith,  
the efficient treasurer of N.S.W. Home Missions.

## 1. What We are Doing.

In trying to perform this task, what are we now doing?

1. Supporting 4 evangelists while they give their whole time to the work.
2. Helping 4 churches in the metropolitan area, and 5 in the country, to support their preachers, or in some other way to carry on their work.
3. Preaching the gospel through our agents in 20 places.
4. Getting into touch with the hundreds of scattered members in the State, and trying to encourage them to be true.
5. Arranging for special campaigns such as the Scripture Reading Campaign in January and February next.
6. Setting in motion efforts to fittingly celebrate the 1900th anniversary of the church in 1930.



There is a church of 21 members at Bangalow on the Richmond River. The N.S.W. Home Missionary Committee has decided to send a preacher to help that church and the one of 15 members at Tynngam on the Tweed River, and to visit the many scattered members in that part of the State, as soon as a suitable man can be found.

7. Inducing the churches being helped to gradually move towards the point of total self-support.

## 2. What We have Decided to Do.

1. Open up the work in the city and district of Grafton, where we have 11 enthusiastic members. Bro. R. Greenhalgh will become evangelist there in December.

2. Conduct a tent mission at Grafton early in the new year.

3. Arrange for the opening of another new field just as quickly as we can.

4. Appoint an evangelist to labor in the Richmond-Tweed Rivers district outside Lismore.

5. Subsidise the church at Burwood to enable her to secure Bro. J. R. Leach, B.A., as evangelist.

6. Arrange as far as possible for the smaller places to be worked in circuits.

7. Encourage brethren wherever there are two or more to set up the Lord's table.

## 3. What We should Do.

1. Take further new fields in hand. Which shall be next? Albury, or Goulburn, or Dubbo, or Orange, or Bathurst, or Tamworth, or some populous or progressive suburb?

2. Send out a motor-van to work among the many scattered members, and to carry the truth to the people out back.

3. Spread our literature, and in this and in other ways to make our churches and plea more widely known.

### But—

1. This cannot be done without prayer on the part of God's people.

2. Nor without their gifts.

### We Need—

Not less than £777 on December 4 as an annual offering, and could do with much more. Will every New South Wales member help? Our treasurer is H. M. Arrowsmith, and our office is at 242 Pitt-st., Sydney, on the first floor.

## THE CALL OF THE CITIES.

A. C. Crisp.

Cities, like the poor, are always with us. Men will congregate, and the city is the result of this instinct. The history of any land is largely the history of its cities, for in these congregations of humanity there is room for the full play of what is evil in life, and conversely for the most splendid displays of human nobility.

Jesus was not the sad weeping such as he is too frequently pictured; a man of sorrows weeping his way about Palestine. His sympathies were too deep, his thoughts too noble for him to wear them on his sleeve. He was a strong man, and the tears of a strong man are always significant. He wept seldom. Once he wept over a city—his city—his country's capital. The decision of that city to reject him carried with it the destruction of the whole country. The call of the city had come to Jesus, and this call dictated his strategy. He came to purify the city, for its purification would have involved the whole nation's falling into line with the capital. His ministrations were rejected, and he wept at the coming desolation. The Master was wept at by training and inclination a countryman. Some deep necessity made him thus enter into the woes of a city. Its call was crucial.

And so it must ever be. The country's religious needs must be met, but they can never be met by neglect of the cities. The life of the country ever moves citywards. It has been said of European countries that families go from country to city, and from city to extinction in five generations. Whether this be fully true or not, it serves to emphasise the fact that the city lives on the life of the country. Here the country youth and maiden often find their greatest temptations, and also their greatest opportunities. The call to the church is to see to it that the temptations are at a minimum

for such, and the opportunities are at a maximum. It is a call to make the cities safe for youth; to minimise their lure, and to see that there are places where youth can have a "good time" without that good time leaving a lifetime of degradation behind it. The cities do not call for parochial boundaries between creeds, but to united service of all who love Jesus. Service is more than creed—or is it the supreme creed?

We need the same balance of Christ, who toured the country and villages, preaching; who also saw the condition in which a wrong choice left a city, and with the city, a nation.

The Home Mission offering will be an indication as to whether we have heard the call of the cities as he heard it.

(An article by Bro. Godfrey Fretwell on "The Call of the Suburbs" will appear next week.)

# If Thou Shouldst Go Away.

A TALE OF THE WIMMERA PIONEERS.

(Continued.)

A. R. Benn.

## CHAPTER VIII.

About six months after the opening of the school, father had to go on business to our old Western District home town, and that visit was the beginning of new things for all of us. While he was away father met a lady whom he had known years before. Now she had been left a widow with a little girl. Of course the well-read reader will begin to suspect what might happen, especially in a book, and how unkind I would be to keep the reader in suspense! I am not clever enough, even if I were cruel enough, to keep the reader on the "qui vive." I admit it is a most un-novelish thing to do, but I didn't set out to write a novel, especially a love one. Briefly put, to save the reader's time and mine, the position was this: We boys were left without a mother, her little girl without a father; she had no brothers, we had no sister; this lady had no husband, father had no wife. Is there a reader so insufficiently cultured as not to see what might happen? What did happen seemed very reasonable, and what our own dear mother would have wished. When father came back he first of all told Fred about what might be happening. I daresay this was when they were in the paddock together; and then Fred began to give us hints. He was a true Christian lad, and sensible to boot, but he was human enough to let us have an inkling of things; and perhaps, after all, father had not bound him to secrecy. Later on father called us all together and told us all about it, and asked us for his sake and our own sake, and above all, for the sake of our darling mother who was in heaven, to be kind to the stepmother and her little girl.

In my little romance I have forgotten such a prosaic and trivial a matter as the harvest; for it had been gathered in before father went on that fateful journey to M—. I can remember that it was a pretty good crop, averaging, as Fred told us, about twelve bushels to the acre. If some quite-up-to-date farmer should find time to read my story, he may smile at that "pretty good crop" which averaged twelve bushels; but the time of which I write was "the day of small things." It was in the hot month of February, and after father had returned from M— that there began to be talk of building two new rooms to our house, and the talk soon turned to action, and father went off to H—, which was our nearest town, to bring the timber and all that was needed for the new house. Then followed the building, which had to be pushed on with, for the seed-time was drawing near. Well, those two rooms were built on the front of what had been our house since we came to K—, that is, of course, since we ceased to live in tents. Those two new rooms were our pride for many a day. First of all, they were constructed of real house timber, bought at a timber-yard; then there was a hoarded floor, and if that does not take away the reader's and all that is the climax—They were lined and breath, here is the climax—They were lined and papered! Am I making some reader envious, or am I simply showing how poor we must have

been to be proud of such simple, cheap little things? Father and Fred did most of the work, with just a little help and a good bit of advice from Mr. Brown, who had been a carpenter in his younger days. As soon as the house was finished father went off once more to M—, and when he returned it was to be with his new wife and our stepmother, and more interesting still, our new little sister.

Father's new wife could never be anything else but a stepmother to us, but the little girl, especially if she were nice, could be our sister; there was no "step" to be put in where she was concerned, for we had never had a sister of our own, and we would be proud to take her out and simply say she was our sister. Fred afterwards confessed to me that he had been very anxious about this new wife. "It would have been such a terrible thing, after having such an angel of a woman for the first wife, if she had spoiled the home," were the words which I remember he used when telling me about his anxiety in the matter. Father and Fred were always great mates after mother's death, and he had been able to gain some information from father regarding the new relations that were to come into our home. Mrs. Hall in her single days had been a school teacher, and when she married it was to a business man in a little town near our own town, M—. Mr. Hall died when his little girl was about two years old, and now for about five years she had been a widow. She had been a friend of our parents, and had been in our home in her single days, but that was before even I, the eldest, had begun to have a memory. Fred had also told us very confidentially that the new wife most likely had money; this he surmised, though father had said nothing about it.

(To be Continued.)

## GOLDEN BELLS HYMNAL.

The publishers announce a new edition of the "Golden Bells Hymnal"—a collection of revival hymns introduced into Australia by the popular choir-leader, Mr. Homer Rodeheaver.

For some time copies of this excellent hymnal were unobtainable, but so steady has been the demand for it, by missionaries and private people, that a new edition of the full words and music has been printed.

"Golden Bells" is obtainable for 1/6 per copy at leading booksellers; or 1/9 in stamps sent to the publishers, Fitchett Bros. Pty. Ltd., 379 Swanston-st., Melbourne, will bring a copy by return post.

## WASTE.

Waste of Music, waste of Brain.  
Waste of Patience, waste of Pain.  
Waste of Manhood, waste of Health.  
Waste of Beauty, waste of Wealth.  
Waste of Blood, waste of Years.  
Waste of Youth's most precious years.  
Waste of ways the Saints have trod.  
Waste of Glory, waste of God—War!

—G. A. Studdert Kennedy.

# The Home Circle.

Conducted by J. C. F. PITTMAN

## KELLEMS AND RICHARDS HAVE A THRILLING ADVENTURE IN AFRICA.

"Wake up, Doeko, the big fellow is here." This sentence, hissed into my ear, accompanied by a gentle shake from the hand of "Dad" de Meillon, caused me to start awake from the light doze which had momentarily overwhelmed me. I eased myself into a sitting posture, and eagerly peered through the thorny branches of the wacht-en-beetje tree, where, fifteen feet above the ground on our platform of saplings and long grass, we were ensconced for the night. A great, white, gibbous moon lorded the Rhodesian bushveldt, drenching the treeless land immediately in front of us with eerie brightness. Sixty feet away the waters of Ingwasia Pan shimmered in the flood of moonlight, while back of them, a hundred yards farther on, the long line of woodland rose dark-somely.

Sure enough, there he was, the great bull—the leader of the herd, who three nights before had raised his trunk and started forward angrily when the rays of the big flashlight surprised him drinking at the Pan. What a majestic monster he was as, sharply silhouetted against the glittering waters, he stalked indifferently past! His tusks gleamed now and then in the riot of moonshine; his long trunk described a perfect arc as, all-oblivious to our presence, he tramped along the shingle.

And how quiet he was! Earlier in the evening a herd of kudu—great, dun fellows as large as a fair-sized elk, with magnificent horns which sweep back from their heads in gorgeous spirals—had come soft-footedly through the jungle behind us, but the snapping of twigs had discovered them to us long before their cautious leader pranced his way before them down the gentle slope to the water's edge. An hour later a low, deep grunting bespoke the coming of the king of beasts, and, before its warning note, all night sounds in the forest ceased. The silence of death reigned as a great, black-maned lion glided out into the moonbeams for his nightly drink. The awe of it all cast its fearsome spell upon us, and we watched transfixed, nor moved a muscle until he was gone. A score of sable antelope—huge, black fellows with lovely horns which curve in a graceful half-circle straight back from their shapely heads—marched in a long line down to the end of the Pan at our right, but we heard them coming long before they were near. Not so with the big bull. Five tons of flesh and bone, and yet his advent had been so quiet that we never would have known he was there had not "Dad" been on guard.

Suddenly there was a slight rustle—so slight it might have been but a sigh of wind through the branches. Not fifteen feet away stood another mammoth bull—and he was watching—watching us. Richards' grip on the big Mauser tightened, and I reached quietly over to where my "Springfield" kept me company in our night vigils at Ingwasia. These were but defensive measures, however, for elephants are royal game in Rhodesia, and to kill one may involve the hunter in a heavy fine. How long the old fellow had been standing there spying on our citadel we did not know, so engrossed were we in all the wonders of the little, moon-swept world before us.

"Look out! He means fight!" This startled yell came from Richards' end of the platform as, all at once, the old boy raised his trunk, and, with distended ears—fourteen feet across—made for us. I grabbed a branch just over my head, ready to jump higher out of the way of that menacing trunk. One blow from it and our flimsy stand would collapse like a

house of cards, precipitating us under his great, charging feet, there to be trampled into a shapeless mass. If he failed in that blow, one lunge and our tree would have been uprooted like a puny garden weed. Suddenly a roar stabbed through the night. The big 9.3 had bellowed a warning shot about his head. But he minded it not a bit. Straight on he came, trumpeting with hot rage. The gun spoke again—this time straight at his hate-filled heart. As the bullet burned through his swaying body and into his vitals, he reared with a long, gurgling "Ooooooh!" then turned and roared into the forest.

When convinced that the old chap was really gone, we began to realize just how close had been our call. Another moment and that hurtling mass of flesh and bone had smashed into us and we would have been gone. "I would not go through that again for a thousand quid" (pounds), sighed "Dad," and just then, I am inclined to think, the silence which greeted this remark bespoke hearty approbation of the sentiment from the two other gentlemen most directly concerned. We were thankful we had taken the big Mauser with us that night, for the lighter and faster bullet of the Springfield

### WHICH?

Isn't it strange that princes and kings,  
And clowns that caper in sawdust rings,  
And common folks like you and me,  
Are builders of eternity?  
To each is given a bag of toils,  
A shapeless mass and a book of rules;  
And each must make, ere life is flown,  
A stumbling-block or a stepping-stone.

—Anon.

might not have had the desired effect. From the sobbing gurgle the old fellow had given as he raged his way through the bush, we had every reason to believe he was vitally hit—at least, he had quickly lost all desire to come to closer quarters.

"Dad" was so excited that he determined to stand guard the rest of the night, but his two comrades quickly succumbed to the seductive whispers of a forest night, and slept soundly until a sudden blush of red in the east proclaimed another day.

On descending at dawn it was discovered that the spoor (track) of our old visitor, where he reared on his hind feet at the second shot, was precisely fifteen feet from the "wait-a-bit" tree. Had he missed that slashing blow with his trunk, he could easily have torn off the branches which supported the platform, and the rest would have been simple. Again we were thankful for the big gun and the speed of Richards' trigger-finger.

Fifty yards away our suspicions of a good shot were confirmed when we ran into a broad trail of blood. It is no exaggeration to say that, as the poor old bull had charged through the bush, maddened by death-sickness, literally gallons of blood spurted from his trunk. Small trees were smashed down or torn up, and bush and grass sprayed with gore in that last desperate flight. Fully two hundred yards from where he had received his death-wound we found him. He was lying on his side in a little glade. Before we had started on his bloody trail, we had seen, far aloft, a circle of great avogles—huge, filthy birds reeking with the stench of carrion. Glimpses of them now

could be caught as they hungrily awaited their chance.

But they were to be cheated of their prey, for others were preferred before them. Fifty bushmen, members of the Familia of Yape (pronounced, in Dutch, Yape), had trekked into the camp in the morning, and when they learned of the end of Mr. Elephant their delight knew no bounds. When Yape, whose vocation takes the interesting, and at times somewhat exciting, turn of catching wild animals alive, for the various zoos of the world, is with them, they live and have plenty; when Yape leaves for his home down south of Buluwayo, they starve. Great was their rejoicing, therefore, for now they could have "yama" (meat) for months. In high glee and with much barbaric brandishing of knives and assegais they wended their way to the scene of operations. First they cut open the big carcass, so that the rapidly forming gas might escape; and escape it did with a stench which hung like an awful pall over the whole bushveldt for hours. We thought we should have to throw up the sponge and flee to more sweet-smelling climes, but somehow we managed to "stick it." The women and girls carried the meat away as the men cut it into long strips. Immense layers of fat were taken from between the thick hide and the flesh. It is very valuable, not only for cooking purposes, but also for soap and sundry other useful things. The meat, hanging in long strips in the shade, gradually dries into biltong, or, as we would call it in Western America, "jerky." This keeps for many months, and is the very staff of life to the bushmen. On this occasion every bush and tree for yards was heavily festooned with yama, while great clouds of smell ascended on high and were wafted by the breezes to the four corners of the earth. It was ghastly.

The tusks of our incautious victim weighed in the neighborhood of 120 pounds, and, could we have sold them, they would have realised about \$650. Since we had killed royal game, however, the ivory belonged to the Government. So long as we had manifestly shot in self-defense, we were free from guilt, if we reported what we had done to the authorities and held the tusks for their disposition.

One old hunter (or henter, as Yape called him) was a warrior bold, one of the brave men of Lohengula, mighty chief of the Matebeles. His weakened arms and legs, his leathery, wrinkled skin, proclaimed him to be a hundred or more. Disdaining the knife, he attacked the carcass with his trusty assegai, volubly lecturing on the ancient and approved method of dissecting an elephant, while the young men listened with great respect. Some of the choice portions of the old beast we claimed for our own—not the meat; that we gladly surrendered to our friends of the bush, loud stench and all—but the feet, the edge of the ears, and, prize part of all, the tail. Properly cured, the feet make unique umbrella-stands, and in the days to come, when I enter the door of my home in rainy Oregon, and my eye falls upon the great foot which almost "got" me, I shall bless the name of that man who made the Mauser 9.3—Jesse R. Kellems in American "Christian Standard."

The true environment of the moral life is God. Here conscience wakes. Here kindles love. Duty here becomes heroic, and that righteousness begins to live which alone is to live forever. But if this environment is not, the dwarfed soul must perish for mere want of its native air. The soul, in its highest sense, is a vast capacity for God. It is like a curious chamber added on to being, and somehow involving being—a chamber with elastic and contractile walls, which can be expanded, with God as its guest, illimitably; but which, without God, shrinks and shrivels until every vestige of the Divine is gone and God's image is left without God's spirit.—Henry Drummond.

# The Family Altar.

J.C.F.P.

Monday.

And all the trees of the field shall know that I, Jehovah, have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish.—Ezek. 17: 24.

Dr. A. Clarke comments thus: "Have raised up a rod out of the stem of Jesse, the family of David being then apparently dried up and extinct. This was the promised Messiah, of the increase and government of whose kingdom and peace there shall be no end; upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order and establish it with judgment and with justice, from henceforth, even for ever."  
Reading—Ezek. 17.

Tuesday.

And I said unto their children in the wilderness, Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers.—Ezek. 20: 18.

"If parents be careless, and do not give their children instructions as they ought, the children ought to make up the want by studying the word of God so much the more carefully and diligently themselves when they grow up; and the had examples of parents must be made use of by their children for admonition, and not for imitation."  
Reading—Ezek. 20: 1-20.

Wednesday.

This also shall be no more, until he come, whose right it is.—Ezek. 21: 27.

"Then let us adore, and give him his right, All glory and power, all wisdom and might, All honor and blessing, with angels above, And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love."  
Reading—Ezek. 21: 8-27.

Thursday.

I, Jehovah, have spoken it; it shall come to pass, and I will do it.—Ezek. 24: 14.

"The declarations of God's wrath against sinners are as inviolable as the assurances he has given of favor to his people; and the case of such is sad indeed, who have brought it to this issue, that either God must be false or they must be damned."  
Reading—Ezek. 24: 15-27.

Friday.

And I will execute judgments upon Moab; and they shall know that I am Jehovah.—Ezek. 25: 11.

"They shall feel the weight of God's displeasure, but perhaps not to that degree that the Amonites shall; however, so far as that they shall know that I am the Lord, that the God of Israel is a God of power, and that his covenant with his people is not broken."  
Reading—Ezek. 25.

Saturday.

Say unto the Prince of Tyre, Thus saith the Lord Jehovah; Because thy heart is lifted up, etc.—Ezek. 28: 2.

"When flowers are full of heaven-descended dews, they always hang their heads; but men hold theirs the higher the more they receive, getting proud as they get full."  
Reading—Ezek. 28: 1-19.

Sunday.

And I will scatter the Egyptians among the nations, and disperse them through the countries; and they shall know that I am Jehovah.—Ezek. 30: 26.

"Other nations had mingled with them (v. 5); now they shall be mingled with other nations, and seek shelter in them, and so be made to know that the Lord is righteous."  
Reading—Ezek. 30: 10-26.

## Our Young People.

Conducted by Leslie C. McCallum, M.A.

### NEWS AND NOTES.

#### New South Wales.

A forward movement in training class effort is in evidence in New South Wales. Enquiries are being received, names are being enrolled, and it is likely that in the near future many new classes will be formed.

As far back as 1914 the Bible School enrolment for Churches of Christ in New South Wales was given as over 3,000. Ever since then the enrolment has been in the 3,000 rut. Plans are being prepared for a concerted effort by the schools so that the enrolment may be lifted out of the rut by March of next year.

The New South Wales organiser, Bro. P. J. Pond, B.A., has recently visited Bible Schools and young people's organisations in twelve centres, and is laying definite plans for the consolidation of the work in fields already occupied, and is considering the advisability of opening schools in one or more new centres.

#### South Australia.

After occupying for nearly two years in an honorary capacity the position of organising secretary to the South Australian Bible School and Young People's Department, Bro. Will Beiler did not seek re-election this year. Since the holding of the annual conference in September he has accepted full-time service with the Semaphore church, and so feels that he would not be able to give the necessary time to the work of the Bible School Department. Bro. R. Raymond, of California-st., Nailsworth, South Australia, is the new organiser, and every one wishes him success in his work.

#### Victoria.

During the last few weeks a great many of our schools have commemorated their birthdays with special services and demonstrations. Anniversaries tend to break up very much the teaching part of the school over a period of several weeks, but on the other hand they often have the effect of leading people to attend the church services, who would not otherwise come. Recently the special anniversary services brought to one of our suburban churches the father and mother of some of our Bible School children. Father and mother had never been inside one of our churches before. After the anniversary they continued to come, with the result that mother is now a member of the church, and father is an interested listener at the gospel services.

The past seven years have seen a steady increase in the enrolment of our Victorian Bible Schools. Last year there was a net increase of 477, which brought the number of scholars up to 11,831. Our enrolment of teachers is 1,578. Thus the total enrolment of scholars and teachers is 13,368. For this progress we thank God and take courage. However, in view of the plans that are being made by the various States and departments for the observance of Pentecost, 1930, we feel that this department should also set before itself an aim. We therefore suggest to our Victorian Bible Schools that fore suggest to our Victorian Bible Schools that we take as our aim for Pentecost, 1930, an enrolment of 15,000 scholars and teachers in our schools, and a yearly addition of 750 to the church from the schools. This means that it will be necessary to maintain over the next two and one half years a net gain of over 750 per year. This may hardly seem possible set we believe that if we all take up the task with enthusiasm this aim can be more than reached. Forward Victoria!

### OPEN DOORS.

Now is zero hour for preaching the gospel in Japan. Only one generation ago it was a crime against the law to believe in Christ. All over the country were notice-boards announcing: "The evil sect called Christian is strictly prohibited. Suspicious persons should be reported to the proper officers, and rewards will be given." Thousands of Christians were executed. Today Christianity is welcomed. Many eminent leaders (themselves non-Christians) are advising the people to become Christians. The Government has formally recognised Christianity, and the Bible is read and Christianity taught in the public schools of Tokyo at Government expense.

Viscount Shibusawa is reported as saying to a body of Christians: "I am a Confucianist. Two things in your programme appeal to me: one is your Bible; I wish there were a copy in every home in Japan. The other thing is the Sunday School; I wish every person in Japan had the opportunity to attend a Sunday School."  
—"Tokyo Christian."

### JUNIOR ATHLETES, READ THIS.

Our present Victorian heavyweight wrestling champion, popularly known as Billy Meeske, is quite convinced upon this point. When asked if he had a message to pass on to ambitious young Australians upon this matter, he kindly wrote as follows:—

"Dear Sir,—I have been competing in all-round athletic contests, boxing and wrestling, since 1907.

"I have abstained both from drinking and smoking during my athletic career.

"To be a successful athlete, one must live a clean life. The majority of men who have attained to any prominence in athletics neither drink nor smoke, as the heart and lungs must be healthy and sound."

Here, again, you find one of the men at the top of his profession adding his testimony to that of other famous athletes, and saying quite plainly that alcohol hinders an aspirant for the highest honors in the wrestling arena.

—From "Clarion Call."

### OUR PICTURE.

An organisation that is proving very helpful among a number of our churches in securing the attendance of many young people at the morning service is the Young Worshipers' League. The church at Parkdale has had one of these societies for two years. The membership now stands at forty-seven. Four of the children have not missed a single Sunday for the two years. On Sunday, Nov. 6, the day on which our picture was taken, there were forty-three present.



Young Worshipers' League, Parkdale, Vic.

## Foreign Missions.

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

### IN THE NEW HEBRIDES.

(Continued.)

The amount of baggage we took with us when travelling in a boat was tremendous. When a sea-trip was projected our impedimenta made me think at times there would be no room for any person in our boat. Having been blessed with a wife and four daughters, it has often fallen to my lot to be a very severe critic of the amount of baggage that a woman needs for a journey; but after my New Hebrides trip my conscience will not allow me to criticise anybody in respect to baggage. We had to take all food supplies for the boat's crew of six strong men with good appetites, and some of the food supply for Bro. MacKie and myself, and we were both successes in our attacks on the food. But we had to carry stretchers and rugs for Bro. MacKie and myself, a mosquito-curtain for the new chum, tinned meats and bread, tea and coffee, kettle and frying-pan; young green coconuts supplied us with food and drink. By the way, the liquid from a young green coconut on a hot day is a nectar that surpasses anything of ancient and modern liquids. Several bunches of green bananas for the boat's crew, some ripe bananas for MacKie and Walden, and especially for Walden. The green bananas were sometimes roasted on the coals of the fire, and other times they were cut into junks, skin and all, and boiled like potatoes. A bag or two bags of rice, some yams (that are very much like our potatoes, only I think a little better), and on some trips some kind Christian sister sent along a young rooster for Bro. MacKie and myself. This rooster was fastened inside of the boat, and we fed him on ripe banana or cocoanut, a diet that he apparently appreciated very highly. In addition to this were the mats and in some cases sleeping-rugs for the crew, and each one of them had either a tin or a bag to hold their things in. But we got them packed in very well, and managed to leave room for the rowers, when we had to row the boat, and they were kind enough to leave a space between two of the seats which they spread with mats and a pillow, so that I might lie down and take a rest. I appreciated this part of it when we made our thirty hours' trip. Bro. MacKie and I were usually at opposite ends of the boat to try and keep the equilibrium satisfactory.

On the whole these were very pleasant trips, notwithstanding the unkind attitude of the sea and wind. At times we sang hymns, and chatted over the work. They tried to teach me some of their language, but I was an indifferent scholar. I learned to say "A rani earia umbool," which means, "Good day," and "Caria umbool," which means, "It is very beautiful, very pleasant." "Noo mule, "I am going home." "Langwa," "Thank you." "Langwa umbool," "Thank you very much." I learned the chorus of "Jesus Loves Me" which I hope many of our school children will learn. It is very simple:

Jesus Ion benni,  
Jesus Ion benni,  
Jesus Ion benni,  
Bible seeri perri.

The "i" is sounded like "e," "e" being sounded like "a," except of course in the English words such as "Jesus" and "Bible," when they are pronounced as usual.

I visited every church on Oba and Pentecost, and Bro. MacKie arranged for the members of the little missions surrounding these churches to come to the centre, and I was thus enabled to meet almost all of the members on both islands.

In my next I will tell you some of the results of these visits.

### NOTES AND NEWS.

The address of Mr. H. A. G. Clark, M.A., Dip.Ed., is 2137 E Yale Station, New Haven, Connecticut, U.S.A.

We are very glad to receive from Dr. Killmier, through Bro. Anderson, word that a new son was born at Yunnanfu on Sept. 5, 1927, and that both mother and baby were quite well. Our Australian brotherhood rejoices with Dr. and Mrs. Killmier in the advent of this new son.

Mr. and Mrs. Escott and their son, Edgar, left Western Australia by the "Narkunda" on Oct. 31. Bro. Escott writes: "We have had a delightful time in the West. They are a grand lot of folks on this side. We are looking forward to again taking up the work in India, praying that the coming years will be a time of reaping. Judging by the list of boxes and contents of same as received from the various States, we have a fine lot of presents for India at Christmas time. These gifts will be greatly appreciated by the recipients. We desire to express our sincere appreciation to the brotherhood of Australia for all their kindness and generous hospitality to us during our stay while home on furlough. We carry away with us many pleasant memories."

Dr. Oldfield writes: "In India cataract is a very common disease. It results in the complete loss of sight of those afflicted. We have had many men and women come to us at Wai Hospital who have utterly spoiled their eyes by rubbing into them Indian 'remedies' such as cayenne pepper or even cow-dung (for the cow is a sacred animal). By operation we can cure those who have not utterly spoiled their eyes, and if you could see the bewildered smile of joy that appears on the faces of those who are cured as they realise they can see again, it would be full reward for all the self-sacrifice that you are making in order that these and other operations may be performed. Our hope and prayer is that many of these people will not be satisfied with getting merely the physical sight but will come to our Saviour for the spiritual sight also.

Miss Blake reports the death of Joseph Dalawe on Sept. 23. He was one of our orphan boys. He was 10½ years old, but was blind and afflicted in other ways. It was impossible for him to be at the Boys' Children's Home as he was so helpless, so he was kept with the girls. He was supported by Golden Square Bible School. In the same letter Miss Blake writes: "I have taken in a little girl wife of Dr. Oldfield's cook. She is paying Rs. 2 per month fees and provides her own clothes. She is now 11 years, and will be here only three or four years at the most. The doctor's cook, a young Christian lad, had this marriage forced upon him by his dying father six months ago. We have saved the situation by taking the girl as a boarder until she is able to go to him. She will, during the time she is with us, receive a much-needed education, learning at least to read and write. She will also have a chance of becoming a Christian. She is a very nice child; her name is Malan Gaikwad."

Miss Blake continues: "Our latest arrival is a beautiful baby girl, 5½ months old. The mother is a widow with three boys; the father died of cholera just before the baby's birth. We have called her Premila. Her father's name was Limbaji, which means lemon. So her name will be Premila Limbaji. She is fat and pretty. The craving for opium, which she had, has just about gone, in a week I am glad to say. All opium babies are not wrecks. Some are exceedingly healthy little things. The girls were as delighted with her as if she had been a new, beautiful doll. All our other children are well and happy." The Board is assigning Premila

to Golden Square Bible School as the successor of little Joseph Dalawe.

### COMING EVENTS.

NOVEMBER 20.—Sunshine Bible School Anniversary and Distribution of Prizes. Speakers, Bro. Patterson in the afternoon, and Bro. Reg. P. Clark in the evening.

NOVEMBER 20 and 23.—Prahlan (High-st.) Church Anniversary Services. Sunday, 20th, 11, Every member present; F. J. Sivyer, B.A., preacher. Old friends welcome. 7, A. W. Connor. Special music. Wednesday, 23rd, Basket Social Reunion.

NOVEMBER 20 and 23.—Ringwood Church of Christ Church Anniversary. Nov. 20, Worship, 11 a.m., Every member present; Roll-call, Evening, 7 p.m., Speaker, Bro. English. Nov. 23, 8 p.m., Lantern Lecture by Bro. Gale, Home Mission Organiser.

NOVEMBER 20 and two following Sundays.—Special Revival Services each Sunday evening at Newmarket church, conducted by Bro. H. B. Robbins, Whittington and Melody. Old and new friends cordially invited.

NOVEMBER 24.—College of the Bible. The Annual Demonstration will be held in Lygon-st. Chapel, Carlton, on Thursday evening, Nov. 24. Presentation of diplomas. Students' programme. All are invited.

NOVEMBER 25 & 26.—Come over and help us. East Kew Church of Christ. Spring Fair to be opened Friday, Nov. 25, at 3 p.m., continues Nov. 26. Goods of all kinds at lowest prices.

NOVEMBER 26.—3 p.m., Box Hill, Church, Court-st., Laying of Foundation Stone of New Church Building by A. W. Connor, Conf. Pres. Representative speakers. Hearty welcome to all.

NOVEMBER 26.—South Yarra, Cliff-st. Women's Guild Sale of Work. Afternoon and evening. Opening ceremony, 3 p.m., by Mrs. Connor. Proceeds new school building fund.

NOVEMBER 26.—Wangaratta. Opening services new church building. Saturday afternoon, 3.30. Evening, 7.30. Illustrated lecture by Mr. W. Gale. Sunday services: Morning 11, afternoon 3, evening, 7.30. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings following, special addresses by Mr. Ralph Gebbie.

### WANTED.

The secretary of Mildura church, Vic., would like to get in touch with a suitable preacher willing and able to accept the position of preacher early in the New Year.

Tenders are invited, returnable to H. V. Barnett, Spring-rd., Moorabbin, on or before Nov. 30, for erection of marble and tile baptistry at Church of Christ, Cheltenham, Vic. Tenders may be submitted, labor and material, or labor only. Plans and specifications at Mr. D. Wakeley's, "Bethany," Chesterville-rd., Cheltenham. Lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

### TO LET.

Furnished cottage, seaside; three bedrooms; all conveniences; no vacancies Christmas.—Miss Nash, Beach-rd., Black Rock, Vic.

Furnished house to let Christmas, accommodate ten; beautiful scenery all round; views of mountains, fern gullies. Apply Miss Nightingale, Laurel Grove, Emerald, Vic.

### BIRTH.

TEASE.—On Nov. 9, at 181 Kambrook-rd., Caulfield, to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. O. Tease—a son.

### IN MEMORIAM.

McCONNELL.—In sad but loving memory of Robert McConnell, beloved husband and father, who passed away at Warrnambool on Nov. 20, 1923.

"Love lights the gloom of sorrow,  
Faith sees the dawn to be,  
Hope waits the glad to-morrow  
That brings us nearer thee."  
—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

## Here and There

Three confessions at Dumbleton, N.S.W., on Nov. 6, Bro. Roy Aeland preaching.

Every member in New South Wales is asked to make an offering on Dec. 4 for the progressive Home Missionary work in that State. Please send to Thos. Hagger, 212 Pitt-st., Sydney, if not present at the local church.

Members moving to Canberra are requested to forward their names and addresses to Ethelbert Davis, c/o Church of Christ Office, 242 Pitt-st., Sydney. Secretaries of churches are also asked to forward names of those moving to the capital, or who have already gone there.

Numerous expressions of appreciation of the 1928 Almanac have reached the Austral Co. C. J. Garland, secretary of Kalgoorlie church, W.A., writes to say that the church has decided to give and put one into every church home and into some other homes. The eighteen dozen Almanacs thus used should do much good. Copies should be ordered soon; price, 3d. each, or 2/9 per dozen, post free.

A very fine meeting was held at Ascot Vale, Vic., last Sunday morning. The church had planned for an offering of £100 toward a new Bible School hall, the erection of which it is hoped to commence early next year. The sum of £102/15/- was received. Bro. Patterson unveiled a memorial tablet to the late Bro. and Sister J. Y. Potts. At the conclusion of Bro. Patterson's address in the evening a young lady confessed Christ.

The new church building at Wangaratta, Vic., will be officially opened on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 26, at 3.30, when representatives of Home Missionary and Church Extension Committee from Melbourne will take part with local representatives. Bro. Gale will conduct a meeting on Saturday evening and use his lantern. On Sunday, Nov. 27, special services will be held, and on the three following nights Bro. Ralph Gebbie, of Gardiner, will conduct meetings. This should give the work a good start.

Members of churches in Melbourne and suburbs are invited to attend the Annual Demonstration of the College of the Bible to be held in Lygon-st. chapel on Thursday evening, Nov. 24. Diplomas will be presented, and a students' programme rendered. A collection will be taken up for the piano fund. The presence of church officers is especially desired. Any friends who can make it convenient to attend the closing session at the College at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 25, will receive a hearty welcome.

Our readers will be interested to learn that a debate on the subject, "Is Christianity True?" will be held on Wednesday, December 7, in the Temperance Hall, Melbourne, between Mr. L. Langley, Secretary of the Rationalist Association of Victoria, and Mr. T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed., preacher of Hawthorn Church of Christ. Mr. E. W. Greenwood, M.L.A., will be chairman. Admission will be sixpence, proceeds above expenses to go to the Children's Hospital. Doubtless members of churches in the metropolitan area will wish to attend in large numbers.

Letters from Bro. and Sister Horace Kingsbury, Kentucky, U.S.A., indicate they are having an enjoyable time with the church at Hopingville, and that the work is prospering. On the first Sunday in October a special offering was taken to liquidate debt on building, and 4,000 dollars (£800) were raised, and a social gathering was held on the following Wednesday to commemorate the event. Leslie and Mary are making progress in school. Leslie is active in Junior Endeavor Society, and at time of writing was preparing his "speech" for opening session.

At the last meeting of our preachers' association in Melbourne, Bro. A. E. Hurren, who has rendered excellent service as secretary for the past few years, was farewelled and was presented with a book as a token of appreciation. Bro. Hurren will shortly begin work with the church at Bendigo. Bro. H. J. Patterson, M.A., was appointed secretary in his place.

At Warracknabeal, Vic., the evening of Oct. 30 the services were conducted by evangelists E. C. Hinrichsen and Les. Brooker, who were conducting a mission at Brim. There was a crowded congregation, some having travelled a number of miles. A bright song service was led by Bro. Brooker. Bro. E. C. Hinrichsen gave a powerful gospel address. One took his stand for Christ. A duet by Bren. J. E. Searle and Les. Brooker was appreciated. On morning of Nov. 6 three were welcomed into the church, and after the gospel service one was baptised.

At Box Hill, Vic., since vacating the old chapel for the local Recreation Hall owing to building operations, good attendances and interest in all meetings continue. Nov. 6 marked the commencement of Bro. Allan's fifth year of ministry with the church. Bible School work is showing a marked advance, 208 being in attendance on Nov. 13. At the Bible School picnic at Wattle Park on Cup Day, an enjoyable time was spent; about 300 were in attendance in the afternoon. On Nov. 13 Bro. J. Tully, of Doncaster, gave an appreciated exhortation.

The tent mission at Balwyn, Vic., has aroused great interest in the community. Bro. Paternoster has answered many questions, and preached earnestly each night. The meetings in the week have been good, and on Sunday there were inspiring services. In the afternoon there were 120 at the men's rally, and at night the tent was full. There were three confessions on Sunday night, making 22 to date. Many new homes have been reached. Misses Irene Head, Jean Perry, Lily Chandler, Kitty Haywood and Messrs. F. Whittington and J. E. Austin have helped with solos. Brethren are asked to pray for the continued success of this effort.

Home-coming services at Moreland, Vic., were a great success. The mother church (Brunswick) and the daughter church (Coburg) were well represented; others came from many suburbs. Bro. Robbins addressed the church on Sunday morning on "Home." 260 broke bread, and three were received by letter. To a crowded meeting at night Miss Edna Bagley sang a solo, and with Miss Hayward a duet. Bro. Webb spoke on "The church Triumphant." Two young ladies confessed Christ. Bren. Robbins and Gale assisted in the service. The choir sang morning and evening. There was a very large meeting of Endeavorers at 10 a.m., when the J.C.E., I.C.E., and Y.P.S.C.E. combined.

Three were welcomed into membership at Mile End, S.A., last Lord's day—one by baptism and two by letter from England. Meetings are large, and interest in all phases of work is good. Bro. B. Whitwell has recently been appointed secretary of the school, and W. D. Evers asst. secretary. A great sorrow has filled the church in the tragic death by motor accident of Sister Mrs. Riches. On Sunday morning Bro. Evers made sympathetic reference, speaking of our sister's faithfulness to her Lord and willingness to help in every way the work of the church. Bro. Walden has brought an inspiring account of his visit to the New Hebrides. The church has paid £190 off building debt in last six months. Bro. Russell, of Prospect, brought a helpful message last Lord's day.

On Nov. 12 the sisters of Newmarket church, Vic., held a sale of work and gifts, opened by Mrs. Shipway. Returns are expected to realise

£50. On Nov. 13 Bro. A. W. Connor's exhortation was greatly appreciated. Bro. J. I. Mudford has commenced his sixth year of labors as evangelist, this being his second appointment. Altogether he has been connected with Newmarket church for the past fifteen years, during which time he has rendered heroic service. His evening address was of a retrospective nature, his subject "The Gospel I have Preached unto You" being particularly appropriate. Next Sunday (20th) Bro. H. B. Robbins, assisted by Bren. Whittington and Melody, will commence a series of revival meetings in the chapel.

At Footscray, Vic., three were received into fellowship last Sunday. Bro. H. Saunders was the speaker for the day. On Nov. 9 a farewell social was tendered to Bro. and Sister Hurren, with Bro. Aitken as chairman. A splendid programme was presented to a fine audience, largely contributed by members of Newmarket church (old members from Bendigo), who wished to cement friendship with Bro. Hurren before he left. On behalf of the church the chairman presented Bro. Hurren with a wallet of notes, and Sister Hurren with a handbag. Sister Cordy, on behalf of the sisters' class, presented Sister Hurren with a basket of flowers. Suitable responses were made, and refreshments served. On Saturday the Bible Class and teachers met to say farewell to Bro. and Sister Hurren.

The class for young men conducted by Messrs. R. T. Pittman, B.A., Dip.Ed.; A. G. Saunders, B.A.; and F. J. Sivyer, B.A., at Swanston-st., Melbourne, recently finished its work for the year. The class was most successful, closing with an attendance of 30. All expressed themselves in highly appreciative terms of the excellent work of the teachers, and a request for a continuance of the class has been made to the Board of Management of the College of the Bible, under whose auspices the arrangements were made. At the last meeting of the Board a special vote of appreciation of the services rendered by the three teachers was passed. It is hoped to continue the good work in 1928. In connection with the 1927 courses of lectures, an examination was held, and the following students passed:—L. F. Beyer (Ascot Vale); W. J. A. Smith, A. G. Watson (Carnegie); J. Lewis (Cheltenham); A. Baker (Essendon); J. Northeast, L. Roberts (Fairfield Park); Burns (Fitzroy, Gore-st.); L. E. Stevens (Gardiner); A. L. Finger (Glenferrie); D. Allen, G. H. Delaney, N. Higginson (Hampton); Bro. Paule (Lygon-st.); L. J. Sanders (Malvern-Caulfield); J. De Silva (Northcote); G. Argo, S. H. Chipperfield, H. Watkins (North Richmond); C. Boake (Ormond); F. Morgan (Preston); R. W. Wollmar (Port Melbourne Baptist).

### ADDRESSES.

Roy Anderson (secretary Collingwood church, Vic.)—69 Roseneath-st., Clifton Hill.  
A. E. Forbes (preacher Brighton church, Vic.)—12 Carpenter-st., Brighton. Phone, X 5555.  
Ross Graham (preacher North Croydon church, S.A.)—Franklin-ter., West Croydon, S.A.  
W. G. Graham (Federal Secretary and preacher Fullarton church, S.A.)—Milton-ave., Fullarton Estate, S.A.  
Miss Norman (Home Mission Superintendent, S.A. Sisters' Auxiliary)—2 Barkley-cres., Wayville, S.A.  
Dr. G. H. Oldfield.—Dhond, Poona Dist., Bombay Pres., India.  
Garfield Rootes (preacher St. Morris church, S.A.)—"Lexington," Gage-st., St. Morris.  
Miss R. Tonkin (Foreign Mission Superintendent, S.A. Sisters' Auxiliary)—13 Kent-st., Hawthorn, S.A.

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## DISTRICT CONFERENCE, W.A.

The annual conference of the South-west Churches of Christ in Western Australia was held this year in Bunbury and took place on Oct. 19. Delegates were present in large proportion from the three churches at Bunbury, Collie and Harvey, and representatives of the State Home Mission Committee, together with a large number of visitors who journeyed from Perth by car.

The opening meeting was of a devotional nature, and was led by Mr. MacMillan, preacher of Harvey church.

The afternoon business session was held in the Rechabite Hall, when the reports from the three churches were received. During the year the fields have been well maintained.

It was decided to hold the next conference at Collie in 1928. The election of officers and executive resulted as follows:—President, Mr. H. Whiteaker; Vice-president, Mr. Sherman; Secretary and treasurer, Mr. G. Mandry (all of Collie). Committee, Messrs. Hicks, C. Ware (Collie), Robinson, S. Hicks (Bunbury), MacMillan (Harvey).

Recommendations made by a special committee relating to the formation of a self-supporting circuit embracing the whole of the South-west, under the control of the South-west executive instead of the State Home Mission Committee were adopted, and were passed on to the church, the executive being empowered to carry them into effect.

The evening public meeting opened with a song service led by Mr. E. R. Berry. Inspiring addresses from Mr. Escott, a missionary on furlough from the Indian fields, Mr. A. J. Ingham, State Conference President, and Mr. A. Lucraft, acting general secretary, were enjoyed by all. The Bunbury ladies' guild provided luncheon and tea which were daintily and bountifully served in the chapel hall. At luncheon 92 people enjoyed the good things set before them, whilst 130 sat down to tea.

This was the first conference held in Bunbury for many years, and it was a great success.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

## THE COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE.

The Board of Management desires to acknowledge, with thanks, the receipt of the following amounts during October:—

Churches—Annual Offering.—Victoria: Benalla, £3/0/6; Black Rock, £1/6/-; Castlemaine, £8/1/3; Port Fairy, 10/-; Bambra-rd., £1/14/-; Doncaster East, £1/6/-; Kyneton, 14/-; Bayswater, £2 5/9; Emerald East, £2/10/-; Harcourt, £1/12/-; Red Cliffs, 14/6; Sutton Grange, £4; Brim, £15/5/-; Haven, £1/5/-; Lillimur, £1/17/-; South Yarra, £5/16/-; Sunshine, 5/-; Pyramid Hill, £1/6/6; Warragul, £2; Maryborough, £3 4/9; Rochester, £2; Essendon, £7/11/-; Fairfield, £1/7/6; Hamilton, £2/5/-; Swan Hill, £2/4/6; Werrinambool, £2/15/6; Blackburn, £2; Boort, £3 4/1; Garden Vale, £3/5/6; N. Williamstown, £1/4/6; N. Melbourne, £1/1/-; Windsor,

15/-; Kaniva, £11/9/6; Lygon-st., Carlton, £36/4/2; Meredith, £1/2/-; St. Arnaud, £1/18/-; Dunolly, £1/12/-; Hampton, £17/13/7; N. Fitzroy, £7/10/-; Ormond, £2/1/-; Ararat, £1/0/6; Emerald, £1/14/-; Boronia, £3/3/9; Box Hill, £7/7/3; Thornbury, £3; Ballarat, York-st., £2/11/9; N. Essendon, £1/17/-; Red Hill, £2/6/-; Cohurg, £3/0/6; Montrose, £2/12/6; Footscray, £6/7/11; Minyip, £4; Emerald (add.), 1/0; Merbein, £1 9/3; Glenferrie, £20/10/5; Drummond, £1/2/-; Colac, £3/1/-; Ringwood, £2/3/-; Preston, £2/5/6; Queensberry-st., Carlton, £8; Moreland, £14/5/-; Fairfield (add.), 4/-; Cheltenham, £11/6/-; Surrey Hills, £14/6/9; Ballarat, Dawson-st., £14/5/6; Bendigo, £3/14/10; Berwick, £7; Warracknabeal, £3/6/5. New South Wales: Bangalow, £4; Broken Hill, 11/-; Chatswood, £10; Gilgandra, £5/1/9; Granville, £1; Hurstville, £2/15/6; Lismore, £2/14/6; Loftus Park, 19/3; Rockdale, £2/16/-; Railway Town, £1/10/-; Seven Hills, 10/-; Sydney, City Temple, £38/3/3; Tyalgum, £2/10/-; Wingham, £1/3/6. South Australia: Adelaide, Grote-st., £17/8/5; Adelaide, Chinese, 16/6; Alma, £5/14/6; Blackwood, £7/15/-; Brooklyn Park, 15/-; Cheltenham, 8/3; Crystal Brook, £1/5/6; Dulwich, £4/10/-; Fullarton, £3; Goolwa, £6/14/-; Hindmarsh, £8/6/-; Kersbrook, £1/11/6; Long Plains, £12/10/-; Moonta, 10/-; Milang, £4/15/6; Murray Bridge, £6/13/6; Nailsworth, £2; Naracoorte, £1/11/-; N. Adelaide, £3/16/-; D/E., 4/9; Norwood, £9/15/6; D/E., £4/16/3; Prospect, £8/10/-; Semaphore, £5; St. Morris, £2/4/-; Tailm Bend, 10/-; Unley, £26/5/3; Wamponny, £3/14/4; Willunga, £1. Queensland: Boonah, £5/2/6; Bundaberg, £6/10/-; Bundamba, £1/15/-; Eel Creek, £2/17/-; Fernvale, £1/3/-; Maryborough, £3; Mt. Walker, £2/13/6; Rosevale, £2/14/3; Silverdale, £1/0/6; Sunnybank, 10/-; Wombi Creek, £10/12/-; Wynnum South, £1/16/6. Western Australia: Armadale, 15/-; Corrigin, Church, £2/7/6; Bible School, £1; Chinese, Perth, £2; Collie, £3; Fremantle, £7/6/7; Harvey, £3; Leonora, £1/10/-; York, £2/7/6. Tasmania: Cascades, 10/-; Tunnel Bay, 16/3; Ulverstone West, £2/2/6; West Hobart, 13/3.

Individual Contributions.—Victoria: Mrs. M. Pallot, 10/-; J. Gaudion, £1; H. A. Potts, 2/6; Vivash and Gracie, £1/1/-; Mrs. M. Brown, 10/-; J. Richardson, £1; A. E. Symes, £1; T. Murohy, £1; J. H. Stevens, £1; Mrs. Stephens, 5/-; Miss E. Irwin, 10/-; Mrs. J. Thomson, 2/6; A. J. Williams, £2/0/6; Mrs. A. J. Williams, £1; W. A. Fordham, 5/-; F. Russell Ryall, £1/1/6; Mrs. L. Cooper, 10/-; Miss E. Baker, 10/-; H. G. Finger, £1; Anonymous, Boronia, £1; Mrs. C. E. Knibb, 3/-; R. P. Clark, £5; Miss J. Syme, 2/6; Miss Mary Beaton, 5/-; New South Wales: W. C. J. Brydon, 10/-; A. Wallace, 5/-; W. K. Hunter, £1; Miss L. R. Tewksbury, 5/-; Mrs. Sidnev Butler, £5; T. Newman, 10/-; A. Winter, £50; J. H. Adams, 11/-; Miss C. F. Cheattle, 10/-; Miss G. Cheattle, 5/-; Mrs. G. Stockbridge, 5/-; Mrs. G. Stockbridge, 5/-; South Australia: D. P. Milne, £5/5/-; D. M. Goldsworthy, £1/1/3; A. Dolev, £1/10/-; W. Morrow, £3/0/6; Mrs. E. M. McPharlin, 2/6; Mrs. E. Caldicott, 10/-; Queensland: J. Chappell and family, £1/1/-;

Mrs. W. A. C. Wendorf, £1; Miss E. Bailey, £1/1/-; J. W. Clothier, £1/5/-; Sister, Kingaroy, £1; R. Risson, 10/-; L. Broad and Family, £2; Alfred E. Hinrichsen, 10/-; "Northerner," £5; Mrs. J. R. Harling, £1/1/6; Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Stubbin, £2. Western Australia: Mrs. F. Mill, £1; L. H. W. Thompson, 10/-; New Zealand: A. Roy, 9/6; The Elborn Trust, £12. South Australian Evangelistic Union, Trust Fund, £50. Radiator Fund: Parkdale P.B.P., 5/-; Footscray K.S.P. (add.), 10/-; Cheltenham P.B.P., K.S.P. and J.C.E., £1/5/-.

W. C. Craigie, Hon. Treas.  
Fred. T. Saunders, Org. Sec'y.

## CANBERRA FUND.

Received by A. G. Saunders from Victorian brethren. Bro. Saunders will be glad to have further gifts for the purpose. Address: 122 Mellwraith-st., North Carlton, Vic.

Wilson, M. (Q.), 10/-; Ludbrook Mrs. H. C., 10/-; Sutton Grange Church, £2/0/6; Anonymous, North Fitzroy (second gift), 5/-; North Essendon Bible School, 11/-; Bendigo Church, £1/10/6; Pryor, R., 10/6; Kaniva Church, £4/9/-; Castle-maine Friends, per Bro. A. Clarke, £8/9/6 and 10/-; McClean, F., £2/2/-; Swanston-st. Church, 5/-; Cust, Wm., £5/5/-; Cust, Mrs. S., £5/5/-.

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**S.A. WOMEN'S AUXILIARY.**

The monthly meeting was held in the Grote-st. school hall on Nov. 3, when about 90 sisters were present. Devotional exercises were led by Mrs. Ross Graham, who took for her topic "The Experience of Faith." The business session was conducted by the president, Mrs. Graham. The churches reported 26 additions from the Sunday Schools. The hospital committee has paid 181 visits to the sick during the month. Foreign Mission report was very encouraging, and the Home Mission Committee aim to raise £150 for the year. The obituary report shows the following sisters have received the home call during the month: Miss Wherry, Hindmarsh; Mrs. Archibald, North Adelaide; and Mrs. Arthur, from Nailsworth. We have entered another year of service and hope to accomplish great things for our Master.—M. Mauger, Asst. Sec.

**OBITUARY.**

**HIRST.**—The church at Erskineville, N.S.W., has sustained a loss in the death of Sister Emma Hirst, who had been ailing for some time. She has proved herself to be a faithful adherent to the New Testament church. Before coming to Australia she had been in membership with the church at Liversedge, England, for 37 years. Her husband, who was also a member at Liversedge, predeceased her by some years. Our sister was most consistent in attending the services. She died in the home of her sister, Mrs. J. Schofield, at Woonona, South Coast, on Oct. 30. A memorial service was held in the chapel at Erskineville, a goodly number being present.—A. L. Carter.

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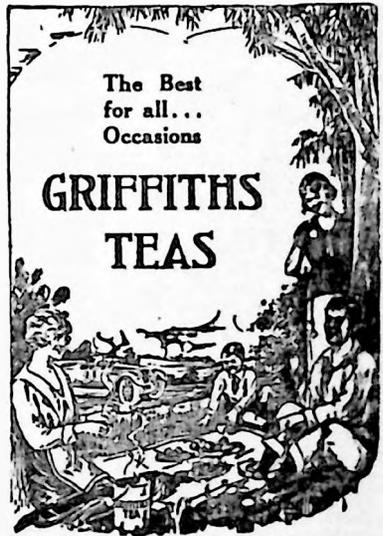
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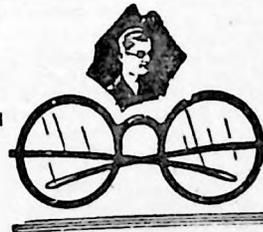
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## News of the Churches.

### Tasmania.

**Launceston.**—Bro. and Sister J. Tully, of Doncaster, Vic., recently had fellowship. A social concert was much enjoyed at Prospect on Nov. 5. Part of Home Mission offering was received on Nov. 6. Several members are ill. The Bible School, with Invermay school, and many friends, enjoyed a most successful picnic.

**Sulphur Creek.**—The first anniversary of the Bible School was held on Nov. 6. Bro. W. H. Nightingale delivered appropriate addresses and conducted the singing. The scholars sang some nice selections. Bro. N. J. Warmbrunn, President of the Union, presented prizes. The first picnic on Nov. 7 proved a delightful outing, in which a large party from Ulverstone joined.

### Western Australia.

**Northam.**—On Nov. 6 the gospel service was attended by members of Northam branch of the Loyal Orange Lodge, the attendance being the largest in the new tabernacle. Bro. Buckingham gave an impressive address on "Matters of Agreement." Work in the Bible School is progressing in a wonderful way, the attendance reaching 157 on this date.

**Maylands.**—The second week of special week-night services took the form of an evangelical effort conducted by Bro. Chas. Schwab for four nights ending Nov. 6. His original themes were much appreciated. The Lake-st. choir and the male quartette party helped by their presence. The church has had a great spiritual uplift.

### Queensland.

**New Veteran.**—A gospel meeting conducted by Bro. Combridge on Nov. 2 was well attended. Building was also filled on Nov. 6, Bro. C. Trudgian preaching on "Christ's Divinity."

**Maryborough.**—Bro. A. Price exhorted in the morning of Nov. 6, and at night Bro. V. R. Adcock spoke on "The True Aim of Preaching." A baptismal service was also held. Interest is still manifest in all meetings.

**Hawthorne.**—On Nov. 6 an in memoriam service to Bro. Chapman, sen., was conducted by Bro. C. Young, assisted by Bro. S. Trudgian (Conference President). After Bro. Young's address, eight persons confessed Christ.

**Zillmere.**—On morning of Oct. 30 Bro. Potter, from Brisbane, exhorted, and at night Bro. Collis gave a fine message. On Nov. 6, Bro. Hutter exhorted, and at night Bro. Willis preached, the service being well attended. Bro. Willis is doing a fine work in the circuit.

**Bundaberg.**—Bright meetings continue. On Oct. 30 149 broke bread. Bro. Bampton, B. & F.B. Socy. representative, gave a fine address. Bro. Trezise spoke in the evening. On Nov. 26 Bro. Combridge joined together in marriage Bro. W. G. Smith and Sister E. M. Williamson.

**Annerley.**—On Oct. 31 Mr. Toombes, of the Prohibition League, delivered an interesting lantern lecture. On Nov. 6 two members were received into fellowship. Bro. C. Young gave a stirring exhortation. New scholars were added to the school; 121 present. Bro. Bennett had charge of the gospel meeting.

**Ma Ma Creek.**—A basket picnic was held on Saturday, Oct. 29, when a very enjoyable time was spent. On the Sunday following there was a crowded meeting for worship. The secretary was the speaker, and his subject, "The Challenge of the Cross." On Sunday, Nov. 6, there was again a full house, and Bro. D. Dallinger spoke. A young people's meeting at night was a great success.

**Toowoomba.**—The church rejoiced in a week's visit from Bro. J. R. Combridge, State Evangelist. Meetings on Nov. 5 were well attended. One confession. A gospel meeting was held at Meringandan on Sunday afternoon, and another

in town on Tuesday night. The baptismal service on Thursday was the largest attended week-night meeting for many years. Two were immersed, and four confessions made. Local brethren were reinforced by those from Harlaxton and Meringandan. The reunion tea-meeting and concert organised by the Women's Mission Band proved a great success. Members from the country and several visitors were present at all meetings.

### South Australia.

**Queenstown.**—On Nov. 13 the church anniversary was held. Bro. G. T. Walden gave the morning address on "Twenty Years' Mission Work in the New Hebrides." In the evening Bro. Walden took for his address "The Man Who Wanted to See Jesus."

**Wampoony.**—The anniversary on Nov. 6 and 9 was a great success. Bro. F. Cornelius spoke at all meetings. A married woman made the good confession on 6th. On Nov. 9 Bro. L. E. Verco filled the choir for a good open-air meeting. Tea and supper were provided by the sisters.

**Crystal Brook.**—Meetings have been splendid. On Oct. 23 Bro. Horsell gave enjoyable addresses. Bro. Hughes was present for morning meeting on Nov. 6; also Bro. R. McNeil, from Pt. Pirie. In the evening Bro. G. J. Bridgman preached acceptably. Services held at Mrs. Clingner's home are well attended.

**St. Morris.**—The Bible School anniversary concluded with a nicely attended public meeting and prize distribution on Nov. 9. Meetings were well attended on Nov. 13. At the gospel service the choir rendered a splendid anthem. Bro. Rootes immersed a young man who confessed Christ the previous Lord's day.

**Semaphore.**—The C.E. Society visited Forestville society on the 7th, and held a joint consecration service, Bro. Beiler giving the address. A brother has presented a bicycle for the use of the preacher. There is much sickness in the district. Bro. Beiler spoke at all services on Sunday. A young lady confessed Christ in the morning, and another after the evening message on "A Notable Prime Minister's Action."

**Gawler.**—Good meetings on Nov. 6. Bren. C. Pickering and R. Bell gave addresses in the morning. Bible School attendance was a record for the year. Monthly young people's meeting was well attended, with Bren. W. Magor and N. Chivell in charge. A lad confessed Christ; he was baptised on the Thursday following. At Band of Hope on Nov. 2 Mr. E. A. Davies (president S.A. Union) gave a fine address. On Nov. 13 the church celebrated its anniversary. Bro. Hugh Gray, from North Adelaide, delivered fine messages. Bro. G. Doley led the singing. A lad confessed Christ.

### Victoria.

**Wangaratta.**—Bro. Arnold, preacher of Hampton church, delivered fine messages last Lord's day. As a result of the rally, new scholars are being enrolled in the Bible School.

**Pimpinto.**—One young man made the good confession on Oct. 30, after an address by Bro. Payne. On Nov. 6 he and his two sisters were baptised in Horsham chapel before a crowded congregation.

**Drumcondra.**—Splendid meetings last Sunday. Bro. Banks's messages were uplifting. 41 broke bread during the day. Practice for the anniversary has commenced under conductorship of Bro. W. Emery.

**Port Fairy.**—A special service for Children's Day was rendered by the scholars of the Bible School, to a record attendance, at the gospel service on Nov. 6. The scholars' offering amounted to £1/1/6.

**Collingwood.**—There have been two additions. The junior cricket club is doing well. A social was held recently in aid of the sale of work. Work is in fair condition. Bro. Hughes undergoes an operation this week.

**Drummond.**—The anniversary meeting was a great success, with over 100 present. Bro. Miles interested old and young with an illustrated address on "The Great Magnet." Excellent singing by the children.

**North Melbourne.**—Meetings are being well attended, and Bro. Hunt's messages are enjoyable. On morning of Nov. 6 Bro. Martin, of Fitzroy, gave a fine address. In the evening, after Bro. Hunt's address, two young ladies made the good confession.

**Warragul.**—A Hinrichsen-Brooker mission commenced on Sunday. The morning meeting was well attended, over 50 present. There was a most encouraging evening service and one confession. One family motored twenty miles to be present.

**St. Kilda.**—Within the past fortnight eight Bible School scholars have confessed Christ, five of them last Sunday. Two were baptised at the evening service. One was received by letter from South Yarra during the day. All meetings are greatly improved.

**Warrnambool.**—On Nov. 10, the ladies' church aid society held a successful cradle roll and mothers' "at home." At the services on Nov. 13 a special prayer period was observed in connection with Armistice remembrance. Sister M. Morse was welcomed into the church.

**Carnegie.**—Good meetings last Lord's day. Bro. Fitzgerald, of Fairfield, spoke in the morning, at which a section of the local scouts attended. Bro. Shipway conducted the gospel service, and three young people made decisions. In addition, one was baptised after the evening service.

**Ormond.**—Bro. Arthur Baker, from Middle Park, addressed the church last Sunday. In the evening Bro. R. Baker gave an inspiring address on "The Triumph of Faith." Two scholars from the Sunday School made the good confession, and two who recently made the confession were baptised.

**Yarrawonga.**—On Nov. 6 five Bible School scholars, recently immersed, were welcomed to fellowship. All meetings continue well. The Y.P.S.C.E. was pleased with address from Bro. F. Lee, of South Yarra, on Nov. 3. Much interest is shown in this branch of work. Bro. Pratt's addresses are very helpful.

**East Kew.**—Bro. Youens exhorted on Sunday. At night the building was full. Bro. Youens gave a powerful address. At the close six were baptised. Many of the Bible School teachers meet for prayer after school; this is proving a great power and inspiration for the gospel message. Mid-week meetings continue to grow.

**Fitzroy.**—Four young girls of the school have been received into fellowship. The cricket club is having a good season. Exhortations have been delivered by Bren. Hastings, Boucher and Hunt. The girls of senior S.S. classes have formed a club. The church sympathises with Sister Williams in the loss of her daughter.

**Berwick.**—The school held a successful anniversary on the morning of Nov. 3. Bro. Gale addressed the church. The afternoon talk on "Pencils" held the attention of all, and his evening messages were also much appreciated. On Monday evening the building was full, when Bro. Gebbie delivered an arresting address, and the children gave a concert. Prizes were distributed, and supper followed.

**Oakleigh.**—Bro. Mudge having been released to conduct a short mission at Geelong Bro. Ball and Bro. Stuart Stevens took the services acceptably. On Nov. 9 a farewell social evening was tendered to Bro. and Sister A. Anderson and Bro. Pearl. Bro. Pang gave greetings, and Bro. Mudge well voiced the feelings of the brethren. Bro. Anderson responded. Musical items, including Miss Pearl Anderson's solo in Chinese, filled up a pleasant evening. There was a splendid attendance.

Cheltenham.—Bro. Wallace Jackel, of Burnley, gave a fine address on Sunday morning. Good school, Bible Class and kindergarten. A junior cricket club is forming in the school. In the evening Bro. Wakeley preached on "Esau's Mistake." It was cricketers' parade night. Both clubs took part in meeting by singing a piece.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—Last Lord's day meetings were enjoyable, and Dr. Brandt's sermons were instructive and interesting. Bro. and Sister Leslie, from Cardiff, England, also Bro. and Sister Shelton, from Canberra, were present. The choir rendered an anthem, in which Mrs. Vernon Walker and Mrs. Henry Simpson took solo parts.

Gardiner.—The church rejoices over numerous additions. Last Sunday seven confessed Christ, including four adults, two young ladies, and a lad from the Bible School. Bro. R. Gebbie spoke at both services. Ten have responded to the invitation during the last three weeks, and fourteen have been added by transfer. The church greatly appreciated visits and messages from Bren. A. Baker and Wm. Graham recently.

Brighton.—On Sunday, Nov. 6, eleven were received into fellowship by faith and baptism. The Bible School attendance was a record for eight years. The gospel service was the best since the coming of Bro. Forbes. On Sunday last five more were received by faith and baptism. Week-night service has grown amazingly. All auxiliaries are in splendid condition.

Surrey Hills.—Led by the preacher, Bro. Combridge, in earnest prayer and thanksgiving, an impressive observance of Armistice Day remembrance preceded Bro. Wm. Wilson's address last Sunday morning. In the evening Bro. Combridge preached to a gathering which filled the chapel. At the close a baptismal service was held. Church auxiliaries report steady progress, and a fine spirit is manifest.

Ballarat (Dawson-st.).—The S.S. anniversary services were held on Oct. 30, with good attendances all day, and fine singing by the children under the leadership of Bro. J. Morrison, assisted by orchestra. Bro. Fitzgerald spoke in an interesting way. A tea and social evening were enjoyed, also distribution of prizes. On Nov. 6 Bro. Fitzgerald continued his addresses on "The Bible as a Divine Palace." Choir sang an anthem.

Prahran.—Splendid gospel meeting on Nov. 6; the young men and women of the clubs took most of the service. Bro. Connor preached on "Jeroboam and his Folly." On the 13th, Bro. Mudford gave an address that will be remembered for its point and pithiness. At night a splendid congregation heard the "Evangel Male Quartette" sing the gospel. Bro. Connor preached. During the day one young man was received into membership.

St. Annand.—Bro. T. H. Scambler visited the church on Sunday last. Special meetings were arranged in conjunction with the "Keep Moving" campaign of the Bible School. The coming petition closed with 22 new scholars. Miss Thelma Fordham was presented with a prize for bringing the most scholars. Miss Marion Fielding has charge of the new kindergarten class. Bro. Scambler's messages were much appreciated by large meetings.

Red Cliffs.—The church on Nov. 8 had a visit from the Home Mission organiser, Bro. Wm. Gale, and Bro. Alex. E. Cameron, of North Richmond. Bro. R. G. Cameron has forwarded his resignation as preacher, to take effect at end of year. At a meeting of the church on Sunday morning, a resolution was passed asking Bro. A. E. Cameron through the I.M. Committee to accept a call to Red Cliffs. (Of late there have been fair attendances at gospel services.)

Bambra-rd.—Bro. Tease's addresses are inspiring. The church has been greatly encouraged by large attendances at all meetings. Four confessants since last report. On Nov. 12 the ladies' aid held a successful social, £16 being realised for the building fund. 306 were present at Bible School on Nov. 13, and on same

day new scholars numbered 85, the aim being 100 for three months ending Nov. 25. A successful School picnic was held on Nov. 1 at Ashburton Forest.

Brunswick.—On Nov. 10 the Women's Mission Band held their third anniversary, Mrs. W. Jackson presiding. An appealing address was delivered by Mrs. T. H. Scambler. Dr. J. L. Brandt gave a speech dealing with his travels. At supper a presentation was made to the treasurer (Mrs. W. Jenkin). At worship on 13th Bro. S. Northeast exhorted. Bro. McNeilly preached at night, and there were three decisions. Sister Mrs. Mabel Andrew rendered a gospel solo.

Kaniva.—Splendid meetings on Nov. 13 and two decisions. At the evening service Bro. Benn delivered an appreciated message on "God's Call to Armistice." Bro. J. Methven, of Boort, has accepted the invitation of the church to labor at Kaniva as successor to the esteemed Bro. Benn. It has been decided to delay the mission effort, and the conference is planned for March 11 and 14. J.C.E. work is in good heart. Offerings of fruit and Christmas cheer have been made to Kaniva and Nhil hospitals.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Splendid meeting on Sunday morning, Nov. 13. W. Gale gave a fine address in the interests of Home Missions. In the evening A. G. Saunders, B.A., spoke upon "The Foundations of Freedom" to a good audience. The anthem was well rendered by the choir, Miss Florrie Haines taking the solo. Bro. Anderson, his wife and Pearl were present, the former assisting Bro. Saunders in the service. At a recent meeting of the church Bro. Saunders was re-engaged for an indefinite period. The annual picnic of the Bible School was held at Preston on Cup Day.

Drummond.—A social evening was held in the Drummond Hall last Saturday, when the Sunday School scholars received prizes in connection with the anniversary. There were nearly 200 present, four car-loads journeying from Kyneton and helping greatly. Every child received a prize, and suitable gifts were made to the teachers and organist. The S.S. presented Mr. Miles with McGarvey's Commentary on Acts, and a copy of Dummelow's Commentary of the Bible, as a token of love and esteem, and look forward to his return next year. Services on Sunday were well attended. The continued interest is encouraging.

Preston.—Attendances both morning and evening are good. Bro. Dawson's messages have been uplifting. Bro. A. Baker, Middle Park, preached on Nov. 6. Sister Phillips, of Moreland, sang a sweet solo. On morning of Nov. 13, Bro. Viney ably exhorted. A successful concert was held on Nov. 2, under the auspices of the local young people's committee. On Nov. 10, the local Women's Mission Band held their quarterly rally, the programme being arranged by the Home Mission Committee of the Women's Conference. A working bee was held on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 12. The Bible School reports good attendances and interest maintained. K.S.P. is doing a good work. The church is sorry to lose the services of Bro. and Sister A. Scaffe, who have left the district. Our brother's work in the school and among the young men was of great assistance and was appreciated.

### New South Wales.

Paddington.—A splendid day was spent on Nov. 6. Bro. Fretwell spoke in the morning, and Bro. Chapple delivered a fine gospel message to a good gathering.

Enmore.—During Bro. Paternoster's absence at Balwyn, the services have so far been carried on by Bro. Hagger, Pond and Southgate. Attendances have been good. One young man confessed Christ last Sunday night, Bro. Hagger preaching.

Bankstown.—On Oct. 30 the Bible School anniversary was celebrated. Special singing by the scholars was splendid, Bro. Bennett conducting. Attendances were disappointing. Bro.

Fretwell gave a very enjoyable talk on "The Postage Stamp." In the evening Bro. Bennett spoke on the "Pearl of Greatest Price." The resignation of Bro. Bennett has been received and accepted by the church.

Wagga.—On Nov. 6 Mrs. Snowden was welcomed into fellowship. Sunday School anniversary services were very successful. The children's choir, which had been trained by Bro. A. Midgely, sang very nicely. A collection of about £3 was taken up for Bible School work. The children supplied the choir for the gospel service. Bro. H. C. Stitt gave a suitable talk. Two scholars decided for Christ. On Nov. 8 the F.M. Children's Day exercises were presented. A collection of £4 12/- was received. Prizes were distributed by Mrs. Stitt, also 17 certificates secured at the State examination. The kinders also received suitable books. Mrs. Beattie, sen., confessed Christ, and was baptised the same evening with two others.

Ashfield.—The Bible School anniversary was held on Oct. 23. The scholars sang excellent choruses under the leadership of Bro. Stow, and addresses were given by Bro. P. J. Pond. Four scholars made the good confession. A splendid school concert was held on Oct. 27. An enjoyable picnic was held at Meadowbank on Oct. 29. There were good attendances at all three functions. Services on Nov. 6 were well attended. Bro. Gray, of Granville, spoke in the morning, and Bro. Stow at night. Three boys from the Bible School came forward. An improvement class is in full swing with Bro. Stow as leader.

North Sydney.—Bible School anniversary services on Oct. 29 were successfully carried out under the chairmanship of Bro. Larcombe. Bro. C. Lawrence trained the scholars in the singing. The morning addresses were given by Bro. A. H. Smedley. Prizes and certificates were distributed. On Nov. 13 a large number were present, when Bro. W. J. Stow gave an appreciated address. An in memoriam service of the late Bro. Vernon Way was largely attended. After Bro. Sutton's address, the good confession was made by one sister. Plans for the new building have been passed, and an early start on the work is expected.

Dumbleton.—On Oct. 30 Bro. McCarthy spoke both morning and evening. Good attendance all day. On Nov. 6 the chapel was crowded, it being the Bible School anniversary. Special singing was rendered by the children. Bro. Acland spoke morning and evening, Bro. Perry in the afternoon. At night two senior scholars and one young woman came out for Christ. On Monday Bro. Childs, from Hornsby, gave the address. Prizes were distributed. Five Bibles were given to those who had gained 100 per cent. marks. On Nov. 12 there was a large gathering at the annual picnic. On Nov. 13 Bro. C. Casperson gave a fine exhortation. At night the children's monthly service was well attended, Bro. Acland speaking. Record attendance at the Bible School.

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**VICTORIAN WOMEN'S EXECUTIVE.**

The monthly meeting was held on Friday, Nov. 4, Mrs. Shipway, president, presiding. The devotions were led by Mrs. A. G. Saunders, who spoke on the "Abiding Blessing." "Ourselves" was the subject of a very fine address by Mrs. Forbes, of Brighton. It was decided that calendars be sent as usual to our missionaries abroad.

Home Mission Committee paid a visit to Gardiner, Mrs. G. Mitchell presiding. There was a good attendance and interest.—F. Lee, Superintendent.

General Dorcas Committee has made a good start with work for summer and Christmas needs. We sincerely thank sympathiser for parcel of soiled footwear and several garments. Parcels sent to Social Service Department, to Sister Grace and private cases. The need for assistance is very heavy this year.—E. Hunter, Superintendent.

Hospital Visitation Committee has paid 39 visits to the various institutions, and distributed comforts and cheer. Thanks are given to all who have sent books and cards to the children.—S. Meyer, Supt.

Isolated sisters.—30 letters have been sent out. One reply was received.—P. Ellis, Supt.

Burnley Benevolent Dept.—20 families have received help. Two women have joined the church, and several children attend the Bible School. 21 parcels have been received from the depot.—F. Gill, Supt.

Women's Mission Band Committee visited the sisters of Thornbury. Early in the new year we hope to organise a Mission Band at Thornbury. A very helpful meeting was held at Parkdale. Mrs. H. Lyall invited superintendents and secretaries of Mission Bands to meet Miss Cameron, who gave a very interesting talk on the work among the children of our Indian orphanage.—B. Scambler, Supt.

Next Executive meeting will be held on Dec. 2. We shall be glad to receive gifts of cheer for inmates in our hospitals. "I was sick and ye came to me."—L.B.

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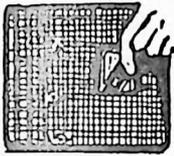
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