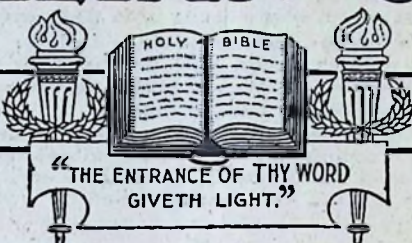


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne,
for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

Posted direct, 10/6 year. Foreign, 16/6 year.
Through church agent, 2d. week.

VOL. LI., No. 1

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 1948

Missions Need Christian Teachers

After a visit to the Mt. Margaret Mission Station, the writer of this article reports experiences and presents sincere hopes

EVERY Christian worker seeking native welfare desires to see Mt. Margaret Mission, W.A.

The fundamental success of Mt. Margaret and all other fully successful work among natives is spiritual foundation. But following closely is education—sufficient education to enable the people to transact their business, to visualise opportunities for their families, and to enter into social fellowship made possible by such education. A higher education for missionary service is also well within the grasp of many selected young men and women, and a move afoot may provide this in W.A.

Analysing our own two fields, one can unhesitatingly say, especially of Norseman, that the great need in 1948 is consecrated workers who, with purposeful effort, will address themselves to the task of building an educational system at each mission that will give these underprivileged young people the soundest but shortest routes to a reasonable knowledge of reading, writing, arithmetic and simple subjects.

Now is the time. 1949 would be too late for some of our promising youths. By 1950 many more would be lost. By 1955 a whole generation would be out into the world to live low standard lives, regretting they did not receive a better chance. After that, perhaps, native teachers may themselves be ready to serve their own people—a selected dozen of them could be placed now.

Correspondence courses are not a solution to the problem, because so many native children are as yet so far below the standard of the papers developed. These courses, too, are produced in particular detail for public school curriculum, much of which is not necessary to help natives live successfully. Even if specially prepared correspondence courses were available, a lot of personal teaching is required. Education Department trained teachers do not fully solve the problem. Unless greatly devoted to the task, and held by a strong call of God to re-learn their teacher training methods, they would find the work arduous and comparatively unproductive, except where children have been started very young. Again, there is much to be said for teachers on a mission field being a composite part of the mission team.

A cultured English lady, Mrs. M. M. Bennett, devoted twelve years of her life to a study of the problem at Mt. Margaret, and developed through years of work, with outstanding success, methods for quickly lifting these naturally quick sons and daughters of Australia to an accepted standard of education. Tables and arithmetic are taught with flash-cards and bull-boards. Words are memorised with pictures. Sentences are built with visual aids. These, with the spiritual atmosphere of Mt. Margaret, have unquestionably given the whole community a higher plane of living. Now the people of

their own volition want to leave their children to be mission trained. Young men and women, feeling the loss of education, urge brothers and sisters to stay on to school. Girls by their voluntary determinations are raising their marriage age. The whole community, from kindergarten to employed young men and women, produces concerted items of instruction and entertainment, facing their audiences with confidence in themselves. Families have established their own homes. Employers ask for mission trained natives.

Teachers are urgently needed. Upon the retirement of Mrs. Bennett to other duties and some workers not able to continue specialising in teaching, Miss Ethel Bentley was left the colossal and impossible task of teaching nearly 100 children. Only a Miss Bentley would face it. Mr. Sherlock, a Christian retired high school headmaster, again took up his books for three months to save the situation until Christmas. Mt. Margaret alone needs three consecrated teachers for 1948. Similar U.A.M. missions could absorb at least half a dozen.

Turning again to our own missions, Norseman and Carnarvon, the greatest relief that could come in 1948 to the already heavily burdened workers would be a teacher to each mission, lady or gentleman. Married couples, willing to specialise in this branch, could be placed usefully. In co-operation with Mr. Schenck and Mt. Margaret, a brief study of the system developed by Mrs. Bennett could be arranged. Then a determined and sustained effort with godly consecration would produce the thousands of flash-cards and sight-aids and would devise new groups. Once established, teaching, mission discipline, and effective life development would be simplified. Even immediately, all missionaries on our fields would be greatly relieved and our work provided a big step-up.

Here is a challenge to any who in the "hand of the Potter" would abandon themselves to such a ministry. Fruits of their labor and rich rewards in heavenly coinage may yet be immeasurably greater than many other avenues of Christian service offering to-day.

But let us note again, the need is first in 1948.



Miss Gladys Vincent,
who has emerged from tribal birth to successful
kindergarten teacher in twenty-three years.

Getting Our Feet on Solid Ground



Playground Shade House in Mission Compound, Norseman.

Conscience Awakened

Albany Bell, Federal Board Chairman.

REVIEWING our mission work among the aborigines in W.A. we have every reason to thank God and take courage. We can report considerable advance since the churches of Christ took up the Master's challenge to bring these most primitive of all the human race to the One who can lift them up to the highest civilisation known to man, and thus, with the weak things of the earth, confound the mighty.

In the first place, the attitude of the people of Australia is more favorable toward the aborigine. Contact with the white soldier citizens has shown that their capabilities are far higher than the previous estimate. What we have contended from the first, that they had the same human abilities as ourselves, is dawning on many of our advanced thinkers of the day, the only difference being a matter of education. We thank God there are signs of an awakening conscience moving our State authorities in this direction.

With change in personnel of W.A. Native Affairs Administration, we are experiencing the happiest of relations; and meeting a realisation that education is not sufficient, and that unless it can go hand in hand with stabilisation of character, the last stage of the colored people may be worse than the first.

The Acting Commissioner is a man who, from personal contact over many years with the natives in their primitive state, knowing their needs, would, I believe, welcome Christian churches co-operating with the department, especially in the educating and training of colored children.

We can also say now, perhaps for the first time, that we are in our two spheres of Norseman and Carnarvon getting our feet on to solid ground. With the Lord blessing and guiding, we can look forward to considerable expansion in the future years. From the very nature of the work, progress must necessarily be slow. As our Acting Commissioner remarked to me recently, "They have a long way to climb, but we can put their steps on the first rung of the ladder." We accept that as our bounden duty before God, and look to his gracious Spirit to bring forth fruit unto eternal life.

Financially, we are in the last stages of heavy capital expenditure; and with the Carnarvon drive for more accommodation and necessary facilities, we should be free to run each mission on stabilised expenditure. We could be prepared for a new station further north if the Lord called us into it, and touches the hearts of the brethren and sisters willing to serve for the natives.

We work in co-operation where possible with

other Protestant missions, and our two stations link up with Mt. Margaret (U.A.M.) and Jigalong (Apostolic) in forming buffer missions in strategic positions so that for a large area we lessen the impact of a destructive civilisation to the tribal natives and their descendants.

We have a hard taskmaster. He never lets up on us, but what a joy to be in God's service!

We express our gratitude to God for our staff on both stations, and for the steady and solid support of the brotherhood in this work, by their prayers and their gifts.

With all shoulders to the wheel, as Shakespeare reminds us, "Tis not with mortals to command success, but we'll do more—we'll deserve it," and leave results to God.



At Our Door

F. Enchelmaier, Queensland Committee Chairman.

THE words, "Work for the night cometh, when no man can work," are surely charged with meaning for the tense days in which we



Carnarvon Boys.

live. The news of our Master's great love must be shared with all mankind, and surely the best way to achieve this would be to take up the work nearest at hand—at our very door—and perform it with a will. In fact, it might even be said that until we have discharged our obligation to the natives of Australia, we have no right to seek adventure in his service further afield. Maybe we have our habitation in this land for that very purpose. Let us see to it that we grasp the opportunity that the offering brings to us individually to discharge at least a little of that obligation which must necessarily be ours as Christians. If this is our only opportunity to do something in a practical way for the Australian aborigines, then let us use it to its fullest extent so far as we each are concerned, so that it may be possible for others to actually perform our work. Only thus can we share his love and merit the great reward of life abundant both here and after, that indeed his kingdom may come and his will be done on earth as in heaven.

Trusted Ambassadors

F. J. Funston, Victorian Committee Chairman.

AS chairman of our Victorian committee, I write on aspects of the work with which I am most acquainted—points in our own State where native preachers are ministering to their own people. As a State committee, we have watched these efforts grow spontaneously, and at times we felt opportune, urged that they come "under the wing" of the Federal Board. We have abundant cause to believe this course has been justified.

Douglas Nicholls is undoubtedly the best-known member of his race in Melbourne, and few men are so widely known and honored. He made his decision for Christ at the height of a brilliant sporting career, notably as an interstate footballer, and his witness for Christ has been given added emphasis by his continued prominence in sporting circles. To-day he is coach for Northcote football team and also curator of Northcote ground. He was an obvious choice when the State Aborigines' Committee was formed, and has remained a valued member. His work at Fitzroy has involved him as preacher, pastor, deputationist, committee-man, welfare worker, and even as "bush lawyer." In all these he has been a trusted ambassador and a brother beloved.

Edwin Atkinson, of Mooroopna, is a man of even longer and richer experience. His regular monthly reports to the committee have been moving narratives of sturdy endeavor. To few ministers of the word is it given to have both the outlook of, and undoubted ability in, all three capacities, as preacher, pastor and gospel singer. But it is true of Edwin Atkinson—a gracious, dignified, thoughtful Christian gentleman.

We are not ashamed of the gospel of Christ—and we are not ashamed of these two brethren, his ambassadors and our ambassadors in it.



Mr. Park's Improvised Merry-Go-Round made from Cartwheel on Girls' Playground at Norseman.

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A Growing Work
Demands an Increased Offering on
FEBRUARY 1

A Worthwhile and Satisfying Work

A Very Likeable Lot

A Missionary Message by Edgar H. Park, Norseman.

I HAVE been asked to write a few words on the native work. I do so with pleasure, hoping that something I write will make you feel pleased you have helped, or will decide you to help, if you have not done so before.

Yes, money will be needed, but that won't be nearly so helpful as your prayers and sincerity behind the gifts.

Having been to Carnarvon first, it has given me great pleasure to see and know the children at both centres. They are, to say the least, a very likeable lot, as much so as any group of children. There are amongst them the gems, such as Violet at Carnarvon and Tommy here. Tom has not as yet confessed Christ, but I am sure he will; he is as bright as any lad at doing things. But there is not one, I am sure, that you would not be willing to give a lot of time to, if you knew them.

Without the missions, these children would be brought up in the bush, in vile little camps where dogs might take the best position, and with food that might be thrown out: no plate, spoons, fork, and hardly a utensil of any sort; sleeping in the dirt with a blanket full of lice; no shelter when it rains; unkempt; full of sores; no schooling. How different for them to sleep between mission sheets, bath regularly, eat well-cooked meals and learn mission family love.

The trouble on all missions is shortage of staff. It is so difficult to give all the time we would like to the children. For missionaries there can be no 40 hour week, but we are on call 24 hours daily, seven days a week. Nevertheless, we enjoy a godly contentment as we work for Christ and the natives.



Equipping Children for Life

Miss A. L. Ball.

"Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not, for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

THE life on a mission station is always full and never monotonous.

We try to give our children the same privileges that any white children would enjoy in their own home.



Leathercraft Class, Norseman.

They have a short devotional period after breakfast every morning. This is followed by the older girls doing the dishes and the boys chopping wood or doing other things to help. School follows at 9 a.m. This is grouped into standards, like the W.A. schools have. The children are taught lessons that will help to equip them for their life after they leave here.

Recently I was asked if our children spoke English. They all do, so we do not have this difficulty to overcome. Occasionally some of the bush natives who visit here speak very little English, but the average one can, and some read and write.

The older natives can also get medical supplies, and they also get what they need from the mission store.

There are many humorous sides to a missionary's life. Who would expect a white child to call a splinter a stick? The other day one little girl told me she had a bottle in her foot; this proved to be a piece of glass, which was soon removed.

Our aim at Norseman is to do our best to bring the children to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ. They attend services and Sunday school on Sundays, and an Endeavor meeting through the week. But we could do very little if it were not for the praying band of friends we have.



A Crying Need for Workers

Miss F. L. Schurmann.

HAVING nearly completed my first year's work amongst our native people, I am more than ever convinced of two things, viz., the need for this work to be done, and that it is "worthwhile" and satisfying work. There are difficulties, of course—lots of them—and at times they come "all in a heap"; but there are many compensations. The sense of being a needed, trusted part of a great missionary project helps to sustain us when we feel discouraged; while the fact that many are praying for us, to a God who hears and answers prayer, helps us to surmount the difficulties and gives great joy.

It is interesting to watch the development of the children day by day, and to feel we have a part in moulding their characters. When they first come to the mission they are shy, and it may take some time to gain their confidence; but after a time they respond to the happy atmosphere of the mission home. They are much like white children in most respects—play the same games, love impersonating each other (and us), love singing, are full of fun, and most affectionate.

They are quick to learn handicrafts such as leatherwork, which they have been doing for a couple of months. This phase of the work could be greatly developed if sufficient time were available. Not only amongst the mission children, but women at the old reserve could be taught as well, employing their time to advantage, financial and otherwise. There are many things we want to do both for the children and older natives—when we have time!

The crying need is for workers—and more workers! "Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he send forth laborers into his vineyard."

Native Capabilities

Miss E. Roxburgh.

DR. J. E. K. AGGREY writes, "You can play a tune of sorts in white keys, you can play a tune of sorts in black keys, but for harmony you must use both the black and the white."



The Norseman Family on Diningroom Verandah.

In many spheres the native people are slowly being recognised.

The outback stations would be in a pitiable way without the black tracker, stockman or general hand.

Albert Namatjira is an outstanding example of the native's natural gift in drawing. Many of the children express themselves in vivid colors, bold and true, similar to Chesterton's description of Eastern art—"It is like the vision of a sneering sage, who sees the whole universe as a pattern."

Antill has captured at last much of the mysterious depth, rhythm and beauty of the corroboree.

Native girls and lads are either in training or in action as missionaries to their own people. Little by little the black notes are being sounded, but the harmony lies dormant waiting for the Master touch.

May we be the instrument which, under the hand of the Master, will gather up those notes, both black and white, and in a mighty volume of music sound forth—

"Jesus shall reign where'er the sun,
Doth his successive journeys run.
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
Till moons shall wax and wane no more."

Awakening to Our Privileges

£3,000

FOR THE NATIVES

Sunday, February 1, 1948

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The Answer to a Great Need

David G. Hammer.

THE need for the Carnarvon mission has been so great that it outweighs such matters as expense, inconvenience, self-sacrifice, hardship, disappointment, and such things that tend to weight the scales against such enterprise.

Social Need

Mostly, need is considered in terms of physical necessity—relieving hunger, sickness and distress. Amongst the Carnarvon native people there was an urgent need for our mission for these purposes, apart from other considerations. Of course, generally speaking, the adult natives are working usefully on the stations. We did not consider it necessary to provide any community work for such people under present circumstances. But that does not apply to all the adults or to the children.

A woman in distress brought her children to us. Her husband had left her, and she was unable to provide for her children. She had been trying to send the oldest of the three to school, but was living in unsuitable circumstances, and now even lacked food for the children. She had no money to take her children to any other mission. Although we were not then ready to receive children, we had to accept them in order to save them.

Another family attracted our attention when they came in to camp on the reserve. The mother had seven children. Their father was dead. The mother had been working intermittently on stations, but was not very suitable. At the time of coming to the reserve she was not even drawing any Government relief. All of the children became very ill with whooping cough. When one died the mother began shifting camp from that spot, and we took the next child to hospital, where it died the same evening. The mother shifted camp again. The other natives on the reserve came to us very troubled, as the mother was going to desert her remaining children in their sickness. When we went to see her, she gladly gave us the responsibility. We were able to help them. One is now working on a station, and the remaining four boys are living at the mission and in good health. But for our mission their chances of living would have been slight.

Recently a man wrote to me, asking if we could accept some children for school. Investigation showed that he had a large family which

was economically crippling him. To give him a job a station would have to feed the large family. The keep for his family would have been so great that there would have been no wages for the father! The whole family was being kept by a friendly half-caste fencing contractor. This provided another opportunity of relieving actual distress, as well as giving the children an education and Christian teaching.



Whooping-cough Children, Carnarvon Reserve.

An old blind man was living on an inland station. All of his people had gone. Alone, he was unable to care for himself. Eventually he was brought to the mission, where he was able to spend his last days (which were not many) with Christian hands to attend his needs.

Educational Need

A school for native children in this district is one of the more obvious needs. Most children receive some attention. Their parents at least try to do their best for them. But even the brightest among them were condemned to grow up with no education at all. There just wasn't any place for them to be educated!

When it became known that we were going to provide school work as part of our mission activity, numbers of native parents, themselves without any education, brought their children, and were very anxious for us to receive them. In several cases they brought children in direct opposition to unfriendly station-owners' requests.

Moral Need

When the present development of the Carnarvon natives is considered, the moral need is of tremendous importance. The old tribal life and restrictions have long since gone. These children, their fathers, and often their grandfathers have been detribalised natives working on the stations, and economically dependent on white settlement for their livelihood. But in all that time no voice has been heard raised for moral teaching. The old taboos have broken down, the old standards of morality, which themselves seem too loose, have gone, and there seems nothing but an animal existence to replace them. The people are not now immoral, for that would suggest a known standard from which they have deviated. They are unmoral, having little or no ideals or standards, and consequently very little indications of shame or desire to live more decently.

Though not obvious to a casual observer, there is a great need for some help to overcome this plague spot in their lives. Our mission, with its Christian training, is the only move to help.

Spiritual Need

The foregoing will help to indicate the great spiritual need of the people, for the gospel is the only answer for these problems. But they have never had the gospel! Living in twos and threes, isolated on station outcamps, a preaching mission would not be possible. The town, in which there are several denominational churches, is closed to natives most of the time, including the time when church services are held.

Talking with the average native, it is easy to see that they have absolutely no knowledge of Christ, and being illiterate, cannot be reached by the scriptures or tracts. When one meets them, perhaps once in a year, preaching and talking seem rather futile.

The only means of contact spiritually is through the children. By God's grace the children can be taught in the mission. Some will become Christians, and return to their own people. Of these, some fewer will remain Christians, and by their witness will influence others. In years to come, it may well prove that there will be a harvest of souls from among these people for Christ.

But if God grant that there should be a harvest of souls, it is through the Carnarvon mission, which provides the only answer to this great need, that it will be possible.

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Stanley.



Rocky.



Hadley.

Of Such is the Kingdom of Heaven

Mrs. D. G. Hammer.

ABOUT eighteen months ago a girl of thirteen years of age was brought to us clad in a dress only which reached almost to her ankles. She was a real "bushy," and acted like one. Several months after she came to us she had a baby daughter, who died after just a few days. This was no disgrace to Florrie. It



Gordon.

was just part of the life she had lived, and she knew no better. To-day Florrie is a Christian, and one who is trying very hard to follow the Lord Jesus. She is so very different from the girl who was brought to us that you would not recognise her as the same. The white woman who brought her said, "She is not a bad looking gin, is she?" But Jesus said, "For of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Soon after Florrie came to live with us we were asked to take in a family of four boys, all sick with whooping cough. The second youngest, a lad of five, named Rocky, was so ill that he didn't have the strength to sit up. For weeks he didn't speak a word to anyone, even his own brothers. Now he is a fine happy laddie, full of mischief. Each day he goes into the State school, and is progressing

very well with his lessons. He is learning to love the Lord Jesus, and we believe that the time will come when he, too, will witness for his Master. His mother said that she was going to leave "them fellas." She couldn't be bothered with them. But Jesus said, "For of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Just a few weeks ago our youngest boy was brought to us. Gordon is a baby of just under two years, and so very fair that he would easily pass for one of my own children. Left to grow up in ignorance and sin, he would only become another "problem" about the town. Taken into our homes, he has every chance of growing into a Christian, ready to serve his Lord and Master. People who see him say, "Isn't it a shame," and it is in our eyes a real tragedy, but Jesus says, "For of such is the kingdom of heaven."

There are so many more of these "little ones" who need our help and our love. We are doing all we can for them, and have tried never to say "no" to one in need. It is only as the brethren and sisters of our Australian brotherhood help us that we are able to help them, in your name and in the name of him who said, "For of such is the kingdom of heaven."



Race Week

Miss B. Schurmann.

HOW many of us are interested in the races?

In the cities there are those who are regular racegoers, but in the country town where they have only a yearly race meeting the majority of the population consider it a grand picnic for adults and children alike. Carnarvon is no exception, and not only the white people, but the colored folk from the stations hundreds of miles inland, wend their way to the town. In many cases this is the only visit to Carnarvon for the year, so you may guess it is our opportunity to meet these folk and witness for Christ.

This year the children had been learning some special hymns and a dialogue for our evening meeting on "Race Sunday." As our truck was out of order, we were doubtful if any adults would turn up, as on the previous year we had transported them to the mission and back to the reserve. When the news spread that we could not go for them, the two taxis from town were hired, and after making six trips each and three truck loads, we had approximately 80 visitors. After tea the children

took part in the service, and our dining room, which is used for meetings, was crowded with over 120 people altogether. This was a big increase on last year, and we thank God that these folk are showing an interest, and pray that the witness here may influence them in their lives out on the stations.

"Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth." Let us all strive to help these boys and girls to know of him.



Don, Alf and Jim.

Mooroopna

Edwin A. Atkinson.

THE church is progressing favorably. Attendance is very good. Services are held every Sunday night in the supper room adjoining the Mechanics' Hall, which was granted by the good people of the town for the small sum of 5/- a week.

We have a fine band of Endeavorers who are very enthusiastic about their work. They are learning to read and pronounce their words correctly. Other work they do is very encouraging.

Then there is the Sunday school, which is a big job. I have to travel six miles to the orchards to gather the children for Sunday school. I also have a service with the adults, and then return to Mooroopna for the rest of the services. There are a lot of other tasks, such as running the sick folk to and from the hospital, taking the old pensioners to the post office, seeing to their pension and back another six miles. I conduct the burial service for our native people. Then many other little ministries which are too numerous to mention.

Nevertheless, I praise God that I am able to carry on the good work for him.

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Kathleen.



Peggy.



Sally.



Violet.

Here and There

In a message from Monbulk, Vic., 120 campers send their thanks to Victorian brotherhood for providing excellent camp equipment. The young people contributed £90 towards building costs.

Our Jubilee issue has prompted many to write letters of appreciation and good wishes. We thank all who expressed themselves so kindly. We shall continue to render the best service we are able in the coming years.

At a representative meeting of members held at Curdies, Vic., on Dec. 30, it was unanimously agreed to invite T. V. Weir to continue his ministry. Mr. Weir preached at a united service held at Marnsvalle on Jan. 4.

F. J. Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. N. Lee, of Thornbury, Vic., has secured two major scholarships at Wesley College—the Alexander Wawn Scholarship and the Blennerhassett Prize. Besides an active life at college we also learn he takes an interest in young people's organisations of church.

At the Hinrichsen-Morris mission at East Preston, Vic., there were 47 additions to local and surrounding churches. This number is made up of baptised believers, restorations and confessions. The thankoffering reached £320. The mission services covered the four weeks prior to Christmas.

Some brethren in America, associated in what are known as our more conservative churches, are sending preachers and other workers to continental Europe. They have already established a church in Frankfurt, Germany, and have baptised people in Belgium. Work is also being done in Holland. They are seeking to enter Switzerland, France and Italy as well.

Church at Surrey Hills, Vic., has been very active of late, and attendances have been consistent. Young people have also been active socially and in sporting field. Annual musical evening on Oct. 25 was enjoyable. On Nov. 23 Ron Hillier, of college, who has been assisting with meetings for some months, left to be married and to take up his new appointment. On Dec. 14, at a youth service, Christmas story was portrayed in picture, song and story.

Sixty-six campers, from three Murray Valley districts, united for their second youth camp at Mildura from Boxing Day to New Year's Day. Swan Hill district and Berri district joined with Sunraysia district for the camp which was held in Mildura. The preachers of Mildura, Red Cliffs and Berri were camp leaders, with Mrs. Chivell, of Red Cliffs, as camp mother. There were excellent discussions. L. E. Snow reports that it was a most successful camp, and campers were greatly indebted to many Sunraysia members for their help.

R. Enniss and W. Gale (Victorian churches of Christ representatives on the Churches' Standing Commission on Housing) have received word "that the Victorian Building Directorate has intimated that for the present no permits are being issued for the erection of new church buildings, church halls, additions or alterations thereto, the reason being that an endeavor is being made to conserve all available materials and labor to enable them to be used in the completion of the large number of houses now in course of erection."

On Lord's day afternoon 18 met around the table of the Lord at Mornington (Vic.). Some of those who usually attend were away on holiday, but their places were filled by holiday-makers, including two members from Lygon-st., and six young men from Gardiner church who were camped at Mt. Martha. One, formerly a member at Northcote, was received into membership. Weekly services, and a small chapel for meetings, are badly needed. At present the service is held only once a month, being conducted by brethren from Frankston.

During December, socials were held by various auxiliaries of church at Burwood, N.S.W., concluding with Christmas social and mail night on Dec. 17. On Dec. 12, Voice Production Class held a concert in aid of Food for Britain appeal, over £4 being raised. Services during Christmas week were well attended, particularly special service on Christmas morning. A watchnight service was held on New Year's Eve. During gospel service on Dec. 28, H. Douglas confessed Christ. Miss D. Morton and Miss M. Leach have been appointed organist and pianist respectively.

At Kalgoolie, W.A., on Nov. 30 a tea was arranged for teachers and staff of school, at which Mr. Fewster spoke. On Dec. 2, Ladies' Mission Band held an evening to raise funds for home missions. Young men's and boys' club held a social evening for men on Dec. 4. Mrs. Crutchett, Joan and Valerie left Kalgoolie on Dec. 5 to join Mr. Crutchett in Queenstown, Tas. Roy Beard was morning speaker on Dec. 14. Visitors have included Thornley Thomas, of Lake-st., returning from University in Adelaide, also George Smith, Bruce Burn and Jim Holiday, from Glen Iris College of the Bible. On Dec. 29 Mr. Berridge was speaker in morning, and Don Tonkin conducted gospel service. Mr. Tonkin is on vacation from Woolwich Bible College, N.S.W.

Christmas services at Balaklava, S.A., were highlights of December. Choir sang carols under leadership of Mr. Long. Mr. Hutson was preacher. Christmas tree was a feature of season. A kinder programme was presented under leadership of Mrs. Gibson, acting superintendent. At a social young people honored two young women—Miss J. Hutson on attaining her majority, and Miss T. Shrubsole on eve of her wedding. Tennis club held a church parade on a recent Sunday night. Miss J. May, one of their number, sang a solo. Home mission offering is up by £6. Dorcas Society and Young Ladies' Guild held a united gift afternoon, when nett receipts were about £10. Church took up a Christmas offering for old folks' guest home. Mr. and Mrs. C. Curtis, of Hamilton, Vic., and Mr. and Mrs. G. Whiting, of Wembley, W.A., were present at services on Dec. 28.

On Dec. 15 Christian Endeavor society at Nallsworth, S.A., had an exchange programme from a society in England. Choir concluded year's practices with a social evening. On Dec. 20, C.Y.F. Recreation Club concluded year's work with a Christmas party. Bible school held a carol session on Dec. 21, when H. Stewart gave an interesting address. At beginning of service one of the scholars who had made the good confession was baptised. A well-attended service was held at 9.30 a.m. on Christmas morning, when Mr. Fisher spoke. On Dec. 28 Master Gilby was welcomed in, having been baptised previous week. Mrs. A. Lambert, who has been suffering for some time, passed away on Dec. 24, and was laid to rest in Enfield Cemetery on Dec. 26. Church expresses sympathy to husband and young son. Good meetings were held on Jan. 4. A young man who had previously confessed Christ was baptised.

On Dec. 14 J. W. Brookes, blind preacher from The Entrance, spoke at all services at Georgetown, N.S.W. 32 were present at C.Y.F. on Saturday night. Two combined Christmas parties were held—one at Newcastle Beach, the other a week later in school hall when all auxiliaries contributed to programme. Presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Fraser by church. J. Moran took both services on Dec. 21. There were three confessions and three baptisms at evening service. Six are preparing for baptism. Two carol singing parties went out on lorries on Christmas eve. W. Turnell, of Woolwich, gave an excellent address at Christmas Day

services. Alb. Wright was speaker at gospel service on 28th, when a Bible class girl made the good confession. Fifteen young people from Georgetown attended C.Y.F. camp at Bolton Point. A number of them gave stirring testimonies at gospel service on 4th, when C. Latimer was speaker.

As previously announced, no paper was issued for two weeks. This was due to the printers' holidays. Reporters will note that we could not find space for all copy reaching us. Some reports and notices will be held over until next issue.

Regret is felt among British churches at the announcement made by the Free Church Federal Council that Wm. Robinson has been compelled, for health reasons, to relinquish the vice-moderatorship of the F.C.F.C., and will not therefore become moderator next March. Principal Robinson was due to return from U.S.A. at the beginning of January.

At Unley, S.A., £137/8/- has been received for home missions. Miss Hart has resigned as leader of junior department of Sunday school. Kevin Lambled will take her place. Phil Messent has been appointed secretary of school. Christian Youth Fellowship held Christmas social on Dec. 16. Church organist, Eddie Rowland, is leaving for Ballarat. He has rendered splendid service. At 8 a.m. on Christmas Day a united communion service was held.

S. Matthews conducted all services at Semaphore, S.A., for December, with exception of Dec. 21, when Mr. Clark, of Broken Hill, gave morning address. Mr. Burnell (Semaphore Park Baptist) was speaker at Men's Fellowship on Dec. 7. Kindergarten Christmas tree was held on Dec. 13. One young lady has been received into fellowship by faith and obedience. Work is in good heart, and Mr. Matthews' addresses are appreciated.

Ladies' Church Aid of church at Canley Vale, N.S.W., had Mrs. Acland, conference president, at final meeting. Miss Thomas entertained girls of church at Christmas party on Dec. 16. Youth club held a surprise 21st birthday party for secretary, Cec. Grieve. Visiting speakers have been Messrs. Clydesdale and Cavalier. Among recent visitors have been Mr. and Mrs. C. Hinrichsen, isolated members, Mrs. Hastie, from N.Z., and Miss Joyce Barton, Launceston, Tasmania.

It is impossible at present to erect new church buildings in Great Britain. Christian work suffers in many places by reason of the unsuitability of premises. Stockport church, near Manchester, is one of several which have tried to overcome the difficulty. A large house was secured. This was structurally altered, pulpit and baptistery being built in. Other rooms have been made suitable for Bible classes and youth meetings. A thanksgiving and re-opening service has been held. Already conversions have been reported.

Church attendances at Port Pirie, S.A., for December averaged 38 morning and 31 at gospel service. K. W. Barton conducted all services with exception of Dec. 14, when J. Donley spoke in morning and F. Thornton at night. Offerings for general and renovation fund have been excellent. Home mission offering on Nov. 30 was £8/12/6, and Food for Britain fund on Dec. 7, £1/17/6. F. Thornton and Mary Harris were received into fellowship through letters of transfer on evening of Dec. 7. Letter of transfer has been forwarded to Semaphore church for Bruce Hunter. Church has been saddened by death of R. O. Bottrell. Mr. Barton officiated at graveside. A Christmas tree was arranged on Dec. 20. A kitchen evening in honor of Miss E. Tucker, who is leaving to be married, was held on Dec. 23. Her future home will be at Mitcham.

News of the Churches

Western Australia

Maylands.—A watchnight service was held in chapel on Dec. 31. On Jan. 4 Mr. McRoberts' morning address inspired to greater effort. John Allen (S.S. scholar) was received into membership, having been immersed previous Sunday. At night Mr. McRoberts preached. Mrs. Hollett was soloist. Mrs. Cosh, Mrs. Harris and Radio S.S. choir sang. Mr. Sandells, of Box Hill, Vic., is a visitor. Women's Guild send a parcel and the church four parcels periodically to members of British churches.

Queensland

Wombo Creek.—Four people, baptised recently, have been welcomed into fellowship. The preacher (Mr. Horne) visited brethren at Wallan Creek, after which several new people attended meeting. Service on Dec. 21 was taken by preacher and six young people. Meetings in Chinchilla are maintained. A visit was made to home of Bob Jackson at Pelican; a meeting held, and several folk of district attended.

Charters Towers.—After nearly two years' ministry with church, Mr. and Mrs. Buckley have left to take up work in another sphere. On eve of their farewell church was shocked when news was received of sudden passing away of Harry Coward in Brisbane. He had been a member for many years, and during all that time was a member of officers' board, S.S. superintendent, church secretary, and to time of his call home was treasurer. To family deepest sympathy is extended. Mr. Richter has accepted call to take charge of work, commencing on Jan. 18.

Albion.—Boys' and girls' clubs' displays were held on Dec. 5, from which £10 was received for Caloundra youth camp. On Dec. 6 J.C.E. held breaking-up function. Mission Band had final meeting for year on Dec. 11. Kindergarten cradle roll Christmas tree and school function were held on Dec. 13. Representatives of auxiliaries took part in church service on Dec. 14. Boys' club arranged a father and son banquet for Dec. 16. Annual home mission offering amounted to £48/3/4. The preacher, P. C. D. Alcorn, has been on holidays. 7 a.m. service on Christmas morning was well attended.

South Australia

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Y.P. Glee Club gave a successful concert in lecture hall on Dec. 16. Good meetings were held on Dec. 14, with one confession at close of W. Beiler's address. Morning service on Dec. 21 was broadcast. Mr. Beiler gave a good Christmas address. In evening choir under leadership of F. Willing presented a choral service. A retiring offering was received in aid of Christian Nurses' Association. Sunday school concert and Christmas tree were postponed, and school closed for Christmas season on account of infantile paralysis.

Mt. Compass.—Endeavorers held rally on Nov. 29; Mr. Taylor gave an echo of national convention at afternoon service. After tea, attended by about 40 people, Mr. Riches preached. One young Endeavorer made her first confession and five Endeavorers dedicated lives to full-time service. Thanks are extended to Mr. Coin and Mr. Mercer who took services during Mr. Manning's holidays. Mr. Mercer and Bob Willcocks spoke helpfully on Sunday night. Two young women were baptised at gospel service on Dec. 14. About 40 children attended Christmas tree and party.

Forestville.—Letters of appreciation have been received from recipients of food parcels in Great Britain. Bible school held a Christmas social, but kinders' party was cancelled as precaution against spread of paralysis. Teachers visited all homes and distributed gifts. On Dec. 21 Keith Breahey, from Bible class, was welcomed into church following confession and baptism. 84 communed at worship service. Mr. Russell delivered Christmas addresses, and choir sang carols. Thank-offering, £139/11/-, will greatly reduce church building debt from £222. Work is harmonious, with willingness to co-operate by all auxiliaries.

Kilburn.—Church is praying for recovery of Blythe Mann, a kindergarten scholar, seriously ill at hospital after swallowing a large dose of sleeping tablets. 10 a.m. Bible school has been temporarily closed owing to prevalence of infantile paralysis. Great interest was aroused in district due to motor delivery of over 200 gifts to kinder scholars and cradle roll babies by Father Christmas and his brother (F. Collins and H. C. Meadows). Hindmarsh Bible school has donated £2/9/6 and E. A. Riches and A. Rudd each £1 for kinder chairs. 11 a.m. service was conducted by G. Manning and addressed by F. Collins on Dec. 21, attendance being 21.

Fullarton.—On morning of Dec. 21, B. W. Manning gave a helpful address and Mr. Derbyshire sang a solo. "Gifts to the Lord" resulted in £21/5/-. Officers recently considered installation of hearing aids; some of this contribution will be used to this end; an interested brother has made an offer of some equipment, an amplifier and microphone. Prior to gospel service Jean Foster, who confessed Christ at Hinrichsen mission, was immersed. B. W. Manning later welcomed her into the church. Mr. Manning preached a Christmas sermon and Mr. Derbyshire helped with a solo. Members were glad to have fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Jewell, of Rockhampton, Qld.

Queenstown.—On Dec. 7 Mr. Schwab exhorted church, and at night S. E. Riches gave a short address on work of Mission to Lepers. On Dec. 14 Mr. Ewers, after being at Berri for a week, gave addresses. After evening service words of farewell were expressed to Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Purdie and family. Messrs. Newcombe, Ewers, Broadbent, Hinde and Hall thanked the Purdie family. All auxiliaries held Christmas meetings. Girls' Wattle Club entertained older members. Christmas church services were held on Dec. 21, Mr. Ewers speaking. Mrs. H. Logan and T. Martin, after having had operations, have renewed fellowship with church. Miss Hastings entered hospital for surgical treatment.

Mile End.—Church was encouraged by Hinrichsen mission. Four more members have been welcomed as result of mission, and one restored. Kindergarten Christmas tree on Dec. 13 was a success. On 16th, Y.P.S.C.E. held a Christmas service. Elderly and sick members were delighted when young folk visited them on Christmas eve. A combined watchnight service was held on Dec. 31, when Mr. Glen Clarke was speaker. Members were pleased to renew fellowship with Arnold Caldwell after completing college course at Woolwich, N.S.W., and prior to commencing full-time ministry in Queensland. School has been closed owing to infantile paralysis epidemic.

Strathalbyn.—Members were saddened by home-call of Mrs. Irene Grosvenor on Nov. 26. At service of remembrance on Dec. 7, Ira Durdin spoke of high esteem in which our sister was held. On Dec. 14 Mr. and Mrs. Schultz were received by transfer from Berri. Bible school Christmas tree was held on Dec. 12. Boys' and girls' club gave a suc-

cessful concert on Dec. 19. During December church enjoyed fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Gale, from N.S.W., and Mr. and Mrs. M. Boxhall, Collins-st., Tasmania. Mrs. Gale sang a solo at evening service on Dec. 28. At close of prayer meeting on Jan. 6, church tendered a social to Miss B. Taylor on occasion of her 91st birthday. Miss Taylor has been a faithful witness for 73 years.

Croydon.—Bible school anniversary services were of high standard. At Men's Fellowship annual business meeting, 30 were present and officers elected for ensuing year. Quarterly early morning (7 o'clock) prayer service on Dec. 7 had 42 present. Christmas services were held on Dec. 14; 124 present in morning service and building filled at night. A Christmas tea was held at 4.45. Conference president and Mrs. Russell, president of Port Line group of churches, W. L. Ewers and Mrs. Ewers gave greetings. Ken Barton, of Port Pirie, was speaker for the special services, his addresses being appreciated. A Christmas tree was organised by kindergarten. Gordon S. Bartlett, who recently underwent an operation, is making progress. With regret the church heard of passing of Geo. Wilson.

Prospect.—Kindergarten held Christmas tree and party on Dec. 6. Services on Dec. 7 were conducted by R. Vincent. Girls' Club held an enjoyable break-up social. Members of Y.P.S.C.E. held a concert. Services on Dec. 14 were led by R. Vincent. Church is sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. R. Dunn, who have purchased property at Cherry Gardens. On Dec. 17, youth group held a social. Four foundation members were present—Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Thompson, Miss Whitfield and Mrs. Goodwin. Opportunity was taken to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Ray Dunn, and a presentation of a lamp was made. Christmas service was conducted on Dec. 21. A P.S.A. was given by school, exhibits of school work were displayed, and afterwards tea was enjoyed. At night choir under A. Roberts sang carols; R. Vincent showed films of birth of Christ. Helen Vincent, who underwent an operation, is progressing favorably.

Cowandilla.—At gospel service on Nov. 30, 90 were present; W. E. Fisher was speaker. A young man and a young woman were baptised. Church has been saddened by passing of Mrs. Guernesey; she was highly esteemed, and sympathy is extended to loved ones. On morning of Dec. 14, part of service was in memory of Mrs. Guernesey. W. E. Fisher gave the address. On Dec. 13, 70 kindergarten children attended a tea party. A presentation was made to Mrs. J. Grigg from kindergarten in recognition of services as superintendent for a number of years. On Dec. 14 a united youth service was held. R. Allison spoke, Gwen Beams sang a solo. On Dec. 18, kindergarten mothers' club held a Christmas afternoon. A presentation was made to Mrs. Arnold in appreciation of interest in club. Evening services in December were very satisfactory. On Dec. 21 W. E. Fisher's addresses were appreciated. In morning mention was made of the passing of George Wilson, who helped church for two years while it was without a permanent preacher. Sympathy is extended to loved ones.

New South Wales

Albury.—Services were well attended during holidays. Fine meetings were held on Dec. 4. At gospel service five decisions were made, including three from the camp. One made his decision at watchnight service at camp. Church sympathy is extended to Clifton family in home-call of their mother.

Lismore.—Mission Band sent £1 for Christmas cheer to mission station at Norseman, W.A. Choir has been re-formed, and is assisting at evening services. A weekly meeting has been commenced for young men of church. Mrs. Stocks has again been able to attend services after many months of illness. Mrs. Vanham is laid aside in hospital.

Victoria

Newmarket.—On Dec. 28 Mr. Burns, of Nth. Essendon, was speaker. Miss D. Squirrell, of Moreland, was soloist. On Jan. 4 Mr. Gardiner addressed both services.

Portland.—On Dec. 12 Christmas tree for school was held, when over 50 parents and children gathered. Offering for home missions was £2/7/-. Speakers for December were G. Champness, of Yearinga, T. Davey, and T. Rivett.

Oakleigh.—S. Neighbour has commenced seventh year of ministry. He gave challenging and thought-provoking addresses over Christmas and New Year period. Attendances at services and in Bible school have been good. One man made his confession on Jan. 4.

Stawell.—On Dec. 14 Mr. Mortyn spoke in morning and Mr. Jackson at night. Mr. Mudford was speaker on Dec. 21, and Mr. Jackson took services on Dec. 28. On Dec. 19 a Christmas tree was enjoyed by children. Gifts for tree were donated. Auxiliaries are in recess for holidays.

Prahran.—All youth auxiliaries combined in Christmas social, older folk of church being guests. On Dec. 14 and 21 Mrs. Johnson, Judith Wilmott and Valerie Samuels were immersed, and one young man took his stand for Christ. Mr. Buckingham gave gospel address, and Mrs. J. Lewis was soloist.

Swan Hill.—A Christmas tree and fair took place on Dec. 3, when all district Sunday schools combined. On Dec. 5 a social was held in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Walmsley who are giving up the ministry but remaining in district. On Dec. 12 young people of Berean Fellowship held annual banquet. During December there were two baptisms.

Springvale.—Splendid meetings have been held last four Sundays. On Dec. 21 four were baptised at evening service. At evening meeting on Dec. 28 Mr. Long gave a fine address. On Jan. 4 Mr. Fordham gave morning address. Three were received into fellowship. Mr. Bond continues with splendid addresses. Mr. Westwood preached on evening of Jan. 11.

Malvern-Caulfield.—A Christmas cantata was rendered by augmented choir on Dec. 21, followed by basket supper in Sunday school hall, when presentations were made to Mrs. Morgans (nee Miss Nancy Spry) and to G. W. Mitchell and family. They are leaving for New Zealand. A visiting singer on Dec. 28 was Lesley Box, 10-year-old boy soprano, who sang two songs. Mr. Cole preached.

Warrnambool.—On Nov. 28 a "shower tea" was given to Gwen Clowes and Colin LeCouteur in honor of their wedding, which took place in chapel on Dec. 6. Gifts were received from church, S.S. and J.C.E. Mrs. G. Jenkins was appointed deaconess at annual business meeting. Bible school treat and Christmas tree took place on Dec. 16. Ladies of Mission Band presented a gift to Mrs. Weir in recognition of her four years' presidency.

Geelong.—Services were well attended on Dec. 21. Many visitors were present. Mr. Margetts was preacher in morning and Mr. Stirling at night, when Mr. Kettle, who recently accepted Christ, was baptised. In addition to special Lord's day services at Christmas and new year, a service was held on Christmas morning. Church has appreciated attendance of visitors. A brother recently baptised has been received into fellowship.

Red Hill.—On Dec. 14 R. McKenzie (College of Bible) gave a splendid address and a talk to Y.W.L. Mr. Bell (Gardiner church) presided, and several visitors were present. At night R. McKenzie was speaker; V. Holmes led song service. On Dec. 17, several members paid a visit to Frankston church. R. McKenzie spoke on morning of Dec. 21. Sunday school scholars had a special meeting in afternoon. Teachers, parents and friends

provided tea and stayed for evening service, R. McKenzie giving a Christmas address. A duet by Betty and Phyllis Holmes, and singing by Sunday school scholars, were appreciated.

Thornbury.—Church members gave splendid support to Hinrichsen-Morris mission at East Preston. Two contacts were brought to decision at mission, and following baptism were received into membership on Jan. 4 (Francis Collins and Bruce Logan). Sympathy of church was extended to Mr. and Mrs. Findlay and family in news received from military authorities that Flight-Sgt. Maurice A. Graham (son of Mrs. Findlay), who had been reported missing for four years, was found to have been captured and then executed by the Japanese on Oct. 31, 1943.

North Williamstown.—Improved attendances have helped recent meetings. Three young women, Nell Fraser, Valda Coxhead and Bev. Shaw, were received into fellowship by faith and baptism on Dec. 14. A youth choir presented "Christmas in Carols" at evening meeting on Dec. 14. Senior girls' auxiliary visited East Preston mission. Hall was crowded on Dec. 15, when a combined gathering of cricket club, Good Companions, and boys' club was led by Ted Westaway. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson, of Lake-st., W.A., are holidaying in district; their fellowship is enjoyed by members.

North Richmond.—On Dec. 6 a social was held in honor of A. Alderson, who has completed 25 years as gymnasium leader with boys and young men of North Richmond. Many church members and past and present gymnasium class members enjoyed a time of re-union. Christmas choral service was held on Dec. 14 at 7 p.m., when singing by choir under C. Hall was appreciated. J. E. Searle terminated his ministry with church on Jan. 11 prior to taking up work with church at Preston. In recent days husbands of two members, Mrs. Harding and Mrs. Wilson, have passed away. Sympathy has been extended by church to bereaved.

Ballarat (York-st.).—Children of Bible school had a Christmas party to close year. Scholars brought gifts for distribution to local babies' home. Kindergarten children were entertained at a Christmas tree. Ladies' Guild concluded a talent scheme, when £29 was handed in by members. Carol party visited homes on Christmas eve. £11/10/- was received; proceeds are to be divided between appeal for X-ray plant for Dhond Hospital and Social Service hospital project. Mr. and Mrs. Methven concluded their ministry with church on Dec. 28. Church appreciates their help during year. H. M. Long commenced his ministry on Jan. 4. Attendances at all meetings keep up.

Kaniva.—Attendances have been much larger. On Jan. 4, 64 broke bread in morning, when H. L. Williams addressed church. In evening 56 were present, when Mr. Earle preached. Mr. Earle closed his ministry of six and a half years on Jan. 11, preaching at Serviceton at 11 a.m., Lillimur at 3 p.m., and Kaniva at 7.30. Following the evening service a farewell service was conducted in chapel and a wallet of notes presented to Mr. and Mrs. Earle and family ere they leave to take up ministry at Surrey Hills. On Dec. 20 a combined churches service of united witness was conducted in Shire Hall, when a choir of over 40 voices carolled the Christmas message to a congregation of 380 people. Mrs. D. R. Williams received high praise for conducting choir.

Essendon.—On Dec. 13, kinders' Christmas party was held. Father Christmas visited children in evening and presented each with a gift. On Dec. 14 Mr. Moncur (Ascot Vale) presided in morning. Hariba Waghmode spoke, and also visited Sunday school in afternoon and addressed children. Thirty men attended final meeting of C.M.S. Mr. George Daff spoke on his trip to Buffalo Convention. Sunday school scholars and teachers had Christ-

mas break-up social on Dec. 17. On Dec. 18 P.B.P. and K.S.P. clubs combined for final function of year. Choral service was held on evening of Dec. 21. Two items in song were given by Good Companions' Club and Explorers' Club. Choir sang carols. Margaret Pearce decided for Christ at conclusion of Mr. McIlhagger's address.

Doncaster.—Mr. Holloway, of Ringwood, who visited as representative of B. & F. Bible Society, was speaker at Men's Fellowship supper on afternoon of Dec. 7, and later spoke at evening meeting. Young people had tea in school hall on afternoon of Dec. 14. Mr. Funston at evening meeting spoke of work of Local Option League. There were large attendances on Christmas Sunday. Mr. Banks gave morning address. At night he gave an illustrated talk. Choir sang. Mr. Reckie, of Blackburn, assisted with musical items. Mrs. A. T. Tully, who has just resigned as superintendent of kindergarten class after 23 years of continuous service, was presented with an occasional table.

Parkdale.—Home-coming services were an inspiration. All enjoyed the day. Endeavor Society spent one night packing magazines for postage to missionaries, and on another occasion held a cottage meeting in home of Mrs. Clark. Home mission offering was nearly £40. Chapel was packed with kindergarten children and mothers when Father Christmas came to give gifts from tree. Miss Rita Cemm has found it necessary to resign as superintendent of kinder department after ten years' faithful service. Miss Norma Willis has been appointed. Miss Joan Blanche confessed Christ on Dec. 14, and was baptised following Sunday. Choir sang to old folk in M.B.A. on morning of Dec. 21. 80 attended evening service to hear choir sing Christmas carols and anthems. After a short address by Mr. Manning, three young people confessed Christ.

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.).—Church is delighted with purchase and renovations to manse situated at 28 Pyne-st., Caulfield. Mrs. Saunders and children have been welcomed from church at Ballarat. A splendid spiritual tone prevails in all departments. A young man was recently received in by faith and obedience. The four combined choirs under leadership of J. Machin reflected credit in fine rendition of "Bethlehem." Another feature of December services was youth service, when several young people assisted. Earnest addresses and ministry of W. W. Saunders are appreciated. Members regret resignation of G. Pearson as chaplain of K.S.P. His sterling service, leadership and influence will live on in lives of young men and future K.S.P. work. Church is deeply moved by serious illness of Mrs. Klease and Mrs. Treloar, who are in hospital. Mrs. C. Ferris has also been sick for several weeks.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—136 food parcels were sent by Church Welfare Committee to churches of Christ folk in Britain in 1947. Home mission offering was over £50. At final year's social afternoon of Women's Mission Band, the president (Mrs. John Rankin) presented a large crystal vase and box of flowers to Mrs. C. G. Taylor as a token of love and remembrance. At 1947 final meeting of Christian Endeavorers, C. G. Taylor was presented with a fountain pen to show society's appreciation of his help over past four years. On occasion of her 80th birthday, Mrs. Robinson was presented with a cake at luncheon table on Dec. 14. Cottage prayer meeting at home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Rankin on Dec. 20 was well attended. At election on Dec. 14, N. Haddow and H. Faull were added to diaconate. Kindergarten Christmas party was a great success. On Dec. 21 Max McColl and Gwen Lethbridge were received into fellowship after confession and baptism. Christian

Men's Society's social was held on Dec. 12. At Bible class on Dec. 21, chairman (H. Swain) presented Mr. and Mrs. Taylor with a silver tea service on behalf of class. At a farewell social tendered to Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Taylor and Wendy in lecture hall on Jan. 10, chairman, E. McClean, on behalf of church, expressed regret at having to say good-bye to them. Mrs. Taylor was presented with a large box of flowers, Mr. Taylor with a cheque, and Wendy a teddy bear.



Our Young People

V. C. Stafford.

Victorian Christmas-New Year Camp

ONE hundred and twenty young people, representing 36 urban and rural churches, attended summer vacation camp at Waterman Memorial camp site, Monbulk, Vic., Dec. 26-Jan. 2.

L. A. Trezise, State youth director, gave capable and inspiring leadership and was assisted by V. C. Stafford, F. T. Morgan, E. F. G. Mellhagger, S. Neighbour, Mrs. D. Kent, Miss D. Reynolds, Mrs. June Vogel. Mr. and Mrs. E. Trew and C. Waters served in kitchen. G. Daff helped in transport and Miss M. Deane as pianiste. Campers were divided into five groups named after the camp theme, "Christian Action," as Lamp-lighters, Bridgebuilders, Roadmakers, Gatekeepers, Loadlifters. Several campers were chosen to act for their groups as captains and programme conveners.

Morning studies followed the booklet, "The Difference Faith Makes," by J. K. Robinson, and were introduced by V. C. Stafford and F. T. Morgan.

On Sunday morning F. T. Morgan presided over pre-breakfast communion service at which the camp director gave the address. A large contingent of campers were conveyed to Emerald where they took part in evening service conducted by W. R. Hibburt and held in the open air. Another group assisted in service at Silvan.

One Hundred Campers! One Hundred Pounds!

An outstanding achievement during camp merits special mention. After a session giving details of work of Y.P. Department, an appeal was made for financial help to advance building programme of camp sites.

There was an immediate and gratifying response. Individual and house contributions increased until at close of camp an amount approaching £100 was received in cash and promises.

This camp goes down as one of the most successful in the history of the Victorian Y.P. Department, and indicates the confidence of the young people in their new director. Campers were hearty in their applause when it was announced that Mr. Trezise had qualified for his B.A. degree in recent examinations.

Hall's Gap Leadership Camp in February

Registrations for Hall's Gap camp close on Monday, Feb. 2. Camp will be held from Feb. 11-18.

ADDRESSES

Miss N. Blackman (secretary Mudgee church, N.S.W.).—"Menah," Mudgee.

Ethelbert Davis (preacher Burwood church, N.S.W.).—18 Clarence-st., Burwood. Phone, UJ4887.

V. J. Ferguson (secretary Cottesloe church, W.A.).—31 Salvado-st., Cottesloe.

BIRTHS

BRAID (nee Marjorie Geake).—On Dec. 26, at Windermere, Armadale, to Marge and Reg—a daughter (Irene Edna).

BURTT (nee McGregor).—On Jan. 8, at Queen Alexandra Hospital, Hobart, to Bart and Margaret—a daughter (Allison Margaret). Both well.

BYRNE (McMillan).—On Dec. 31, at "Moir," Sandringham, to Ruth and Jack, a brother for Alan (Ian Keith).

McDIARMID.—On Dec. 26, at "Moir," Sandringham, to Kitty and Allan—a daughter (Dianne Mary).

DEATHS

CLIFTON.—A tribute to the memory of our dear friend and sister, Mrs. Harold Clifton, who was called home on Dec. 28, 1947, at Albury, N.S.W.

—Inserted by the Women's Mission Band, Yarrowonga.

McCALLUM.—Dec. 18, at 36 Staughton-rd., Glen Iris, Edith Caroline, loved wife of the late Wilfred McCallum, and mother of Ian and Clifton.

IN MEMORIAM

BUCKINGHAM.—Cherished memories of our dearly loved eldest son, Edward Marcel (Ted), passed away, result of accident, Jan. 11, 1933, in his 23rd year. (Late of Malakoff-st., St. Kilda).

In our well-worn book of memories,

Your name in gold appears,

While happiest memories still remain,

Undimmed by passing years.

—Sadly missed by his parents, "Bangalore," Emma-st., Caulfield, Vic.

BURNARD.—In loving memory of our dear friend Elaine, who was called home on Jan. 1, 1944.

"Safe in the arms of Jesus,

Safe on his gentle breast!

There by his love o'ershaded,

Sweetly thy soul shall rest."

—Inserted by Valda and Victor Marr.

GOLDSWORTHY.—In loving memory of our dear husband and father, who departed this life on Jan. 12, 1941.

Life moves on but memories stay,

As near and dark as yesterday.

—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

PATERSON (nee Foster).—A tribute of love in memory of our dear and only daughter and sister Nessie, who was called to higher service Jan. 5, 1941.

Memories are the lamps

That light the darkest road

To the beautiful hope of reunion,

When we meet at the end of that road.

—Inserted by her loving mother, father, brother Jack, and sister-in-law Elva.

PAYNE.—Lovingly remembered is my dear mother, who passed away on Jan. 11, 1939. There's a picture bright still hanging on memory's wall;

To-day that picture changes, and my mother's face I see;

I see in her hand the Bible she read, but now well worn.

When I long for the voices hush'd and the touch of vanish'd hands,

In the darkness where Death's angel spreads his wings,

I turn to mother's Book, with its comforts and commands,

For the peace and hope its blessed pages bring. —Elsie and Fred (son-in-law).

WARMBRUN.—In loving memories of our darling Darren, called home on Jan. 15, 1947.

We are, O Lord, deprived of one

Who was to us most dear;

Teach us to say, "Thy will be done,"

Although we miss him here.

—Inserted by "Gar."

BEREAVEMENT NOTICE

Mrs. Beale wishes to thank all kind friends for letters, cards, telegrams, floral tributes and personal expressions of sympathy, especially thanking Mr. Withers and members of West Preston church of Christ, in her recent sad bereavement. Will all kindly accept this as a personal acknowledgment of my sincere and deepest gratitude?

—23 Charles-st., West Preston.

THANKS

We wish to thank all kind relatives and friends who sent wires, cards, floral tributes, and in many other ways sympathised with us in our recent sad bereavement. Please accept this as our own personal thanks.

—Mrs. Ethel Coward, Allan and Dellina (Charters Towers).

RUBY WEDDINGS

MACALLISTER-EDWARDS.—On Jan. 13, 1909, at church of Christ, Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic., by late H. G. Harward, Elsie May, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Macallister, to Theodore, second son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Edwards. Present address, Matilda-st., Port Lincoln, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hunt have pleasure in announcing the 40th anniversary of their marriage at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Mossop, Wolfram-st., Broken Hill, N.S.W., on Jan. 8, 1908, Mr. E. J. Tuck officiating. Present address, "Sailors' Rest," Fremantle, W.A.

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY 21 (Wednesday).—Victorian General Dorcas will hold annual picnic in Botanic Gardens. Meet near the kiosk any time after 11 a.m. All sisters welcome. Basket lunch.

BROADCAST SERVICES

January 18, 11 a.m., Bendigo church, Vic., 3BO.

January 25, Hartwell church, Vic., 11 a.m., 3LO. Preacher, D. Wakeley.

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HYMAN APPELMAN CHOIR OF 1000 VOICES, To Set Melbourne Singing the Gospel Again. Practice commences Monday, Jan. 19, 8 p.m., in Swanston-st. Church of Christ.

WANTED

Wanted, board in Christian home, for young girl student, from Jan. 19.—Church secretary, c/o "The Christian."

Wanted, house, half-house, or board for two adults, mother and son, southern suburb preferred. References. Answers to XYZ., c/o Austral Office.

Bed and breakfast offered refined gentleman, pleasant surroundings.—"Madam," 115 Orrong-rd., Elsternwick.

Married ex-Service couple, one infant child, urgently require house or S.C. flat, eastern suburb preferred. References.—H. A. Still, 2 Rangeview-gve., North Balwyn.

TO LET

Flat, Aspendale, accommodate five, January-February. For particulars 'phone JU1360.

Abundant Life

Hymn.—C. of C. Hymnal 828, "Bless, O Lord, the opening year."

Prayer.—Our God and father in heaven, we give thee thanks at the dawn of this new year for the light of the glorious gospel; for the calling to "life more abundant," to a new birth, to the "life hid with Christ in thee." "Risen with Christ" by the covenant we have made with thee, we seek thy strength to daily "walk in newness of life." Heavenly Father, mould us that we may be "vessels unto honor," and meet for the Master's use throughout this year of new opportunities in a world of such need, that all people of every nation may yet glorify thee by Jesus Christ our Redeemer and Lord. Amen.

Scripture.—John 3: 1-8.

Meditation.—"Except one be born anew."

During the latter months of last year our meditations were selected with this great truth in mind: "God hath made of one blood all nations," with topics covering the theme, "One world, one family." With this thought still in mind, how appropriate that our new year meditations begin with "life anew."

"Ye must be born anew." Here is implied a second birth. Firstly, there is the natural birth which introduces us to light; the commencement of life; it throws us amidst the works of God, and is the beginning of our existence. It also introduces us to a world of sin. We are conceived in sin and brought forth in iniquity, and there is none that doeth good; no, not one. The carnal mind is enmity against God, and by nature we are dead in trespasses and sin. Such is our inheritance by nature; we are all of the one family in sin and death. "As in Adam all die."

But, "in Christ shall all be made alive"—a rebirth into the family of God through the Mediator of the new covenant. A recognition of our need and our acceptance of Jesus Christ as Mediator of the new covenant brings harmony where hitherto there was discord. To experience this new birth a change in principles, in feelings and in manner of life becomes necessary—a new heart, with love ruling supremely.

This change, or the beginning of this new life, is being "born anew"—regeneration. This new life has a striking analogy to the natural birth; it is the beginning of spiritual life; introduction to the light of the gospel; it is the moment when we really begin to live to any purpose. It is the moment when God makes himself manifest to us as our Father, and when we are adopted into his family as children and heirs according to the promise.

Is this new birth ours? Do we claim to belong to the family of God? Is there growth towards maturity as results in the natural birth? We recognise, then, the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man; and so become more concerned that races of every color, class and tongue shall be introduced into this family of God through being "born anew"; that, "whether we be Jews or Greeks, bond or free," all shall be one in Jesus Christ.

New creatures in Christ! "Risen with Christ, seeking those things which are above!"

A new birth—"old things having passed away, all things having become new"; so a new song in our hearts, a new hope that no darkness can dim! Not life, but "life more abundant!"

Hymn.—C. of C. Hymnal 362, "In Christ there is no east or west."

Business.

Address.—"The Australian Aborigine in the World Family."

Hymn.—C. of C. Hymnal 579, "Christian, follow me."

Benediction.—O God, fill us with thy love. Lead us to experience more fully this new life. Strengthen and guide us to live and work as "ambassadors for Christ." Amen.

(This programme has been prepared by Miss I. V. Gill, Field Worker, Young People's Department, Victoria.)



EXECUTIVE NOTES

Tasmania

MRS. BOXHALL presided over the meeting at Collins-st., Hobart, on Dec. 2. Devotional session opened with hymn and prayer. Address was given by Mr. Archbold, city missionary, who gratefully received donations of groceries for City Mission Christmas cheer. Mrs. Sulzberger, superintendent overseas Christmas cheer gifts, reported £40 received. Minutes of Northern executive were received. A successful fellowship meeting was held in Margaret-st. chapel in November, Mr. S. Wilson giving address. A musical evening to raise funds for home missions was held at home of Mrs. Younger. Mrs. Watkins, secretary of Women's Conference, reminds all treasurers of Tasmanian societies that books close at end of January, and asks that all money should be sent to either treasurer or secretary by that date. Next meeting of Women's Conference will be on first Tuesday in February.

South Australia

At December meeting, devotional session was in charge of president-elect, Mrs. Fox. There were 76 present. Mrs. Green presided over business session. It was decided to hold an all-day conference in March to enable Mrs. Digwood, Federal women's president, to address morning session, and in afternoon there will be a special home mission meeting. Special missionary afternoon held on Nov. 27 was a great success; 408 garments and £24/0/9 were received for Carnarvon and Norseman missions. Mr. Ewers gave an address, and musical items were given by Mesdames Bustow, Saunders, McGrath, Owen and Rhode. 91 women attended, and afternoon tea was served at conclusion of meeting. A nominal charge of one shilling was made, and proceeds after expenses were paid were put into offering for aborigines work.

New South Wales

Mrs. Acland, president, led devotional session at meeting on Dec. 5, and four short addresses on theme, "The Meaning of Christmas," were given by Mesdames Corlett, Larcombe, Schofield and Miss Winks. The president on behalf of conference wished Mrs. Henderson, vice-president, God's blessing as she and her husband went to minister to church at Gisborne, N.Z. Superintendents were reminded that books closed on Dec. 31, and all reports should be sent to secretary no later than January 5. There will be no meeting in January, and next one will be on February 6.

Western Australia

Monthly meeting of Women's Auxillary was held in Lake-st. hall on Tuesday, Nov. 4. Home Mission Committee and Bunbury sisters had charge of devotions. Mrs. Tilbee led. Mr. Raymond addressed meeting on work of Home Mission Committee. A greeting was given by Mrs. Russack, of S.A.

Queensland

Devotional session for December meeting of Women's Auxillary was led by Mrs. Mills, who also presided over business session. Mr.

Campbell gave an interesting talk on his experiences in his capacity as hospital chaplain.

Letters of appreciation continue to come from recipients of food parcels sent to Britain. One person wrote, "I don't know if this interests you or not, but the parcel contained 80 points worth; that is, one person's ration for three months, so this will give you some idea of its value."



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

FEBRUARY 13, 1948

ON February 13, Christians of many lands will join in the day of prayer, following the theme of "The Lord's Prayer." The first group will be in the Tonga Islands, led by the Christian Queen Salote. For 44 hours the songs of prayer and praise will rise on continent and island. In 1068 languages and dialects Christians of the world will proclaim the reign of God.

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Secretarial Musings

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Printed and Published at

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Editor: **A. W. Stephenson**, M.A.
Manager: **D. E. Pittman**.

SUBSCRIPTION.—Through Church Agent, 2d.
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Printed and Published by The Austral Printing
and Publishing Company Ltd., 524-530 Elizabeth
St., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.