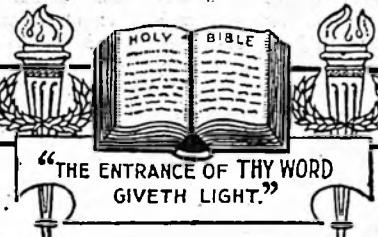


Easter Number

The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing  Churches of Christ

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"THE ENTRANCE OF THY WORD
GIVETH LIGHT."

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TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 1948



*"Blest morning! whose first dawning
rays
Beheld the Son of God
Arise triumphant from the grave,
And leave his dark abode."*

*"Salvation and immortal praise
To our victorious King!
Let heaven and earth and rocks
and seas
With glad hosannas ring."*

Sacrifice is Life's Theme

WE may live to please ourselves. Without thought of others we may gather a fortune, not caring whether it be won honestly or otherwise. We may set out to win high honors and places of authority, so as to gain advantages for self alone. To gain some worldly prize we may attempt to crush those who stand between us and our goal. Ruthless self-interest can create nationalism, build up racial pride and drop iron curtains between nations. It can also encourage sectarianism and cause division within the church. When a man of self-interest has won wealth and filled his new barns with nature's gifts, he may strive selfishly to use all for his own benefit. We cannot say he will enjoy such wealth. The person who gains anything by selfish motives and seeks to use it for his own advantage will be a prisoner in his own little world. Nevertheless, it is one way of life that is set before us, and it makes a strong appeal to the natural man.

I.

WHY do we not find it easy to go that way of self-interest? We doubt whether many want to go that road. Many go that way and make excuses for their decision. They are not very happy about their behaviour. The prizes that looked so dazzling afar off do not provide their promised pleasure. Popularity, world honors and great wealth cannot nurture a starved soul and bring peace. To those who have gained worldly prizes by selfish ends, there comes the haunting fear that life is made up of more than glittering gold and worldly crowns. Only if there be no God and no eternal moral principles guiding life could self-interest be justified. If there is no God, then let us all be selfish and let us all enjoy each fleeting second, for to-morrow we shall die. The moment we feel dissatisfied, it is then we become aware of God. We see how foolish we have been. We become aware of eternal laws of behaviour that call us beyond self, and judge our selfishness. We then see that the way of life is not to satisfy self, but to sacrifice for others. We know that selfishness is wrong. We feel intuitively that it is foolish to live without regard for others and for the life beyond death. We see in the midst of life God and moral righteousness. Without respect for these, life is reckless and sad. Recent events in world history have made this clear. Men have had their eyes open to future dangers. This may prepare for the revival so essential if the world is to be made sane for righteousness and freedom.

II.

When we see God and the moral truths which condemn selfishness, we are compelled to believe that the only right way to live requires of us sacrifice.

Within the home parents cannot be selfish if they are to build a strong family life. By yielding to children what they might enjoy themselves, seeking not their own interests, the father and mother contribute to the welfare of a well-ordered family. The essence of successful home-life is the spirit of sacrifice.

National life cannot develop unless members within society are ready to make great sacrifices for the unfortunate. When every man

is out for himself and has no thought for others, strife, confusion and disorder wreck the peace of the nation. Only sacrifice can make life in family and nation successful.

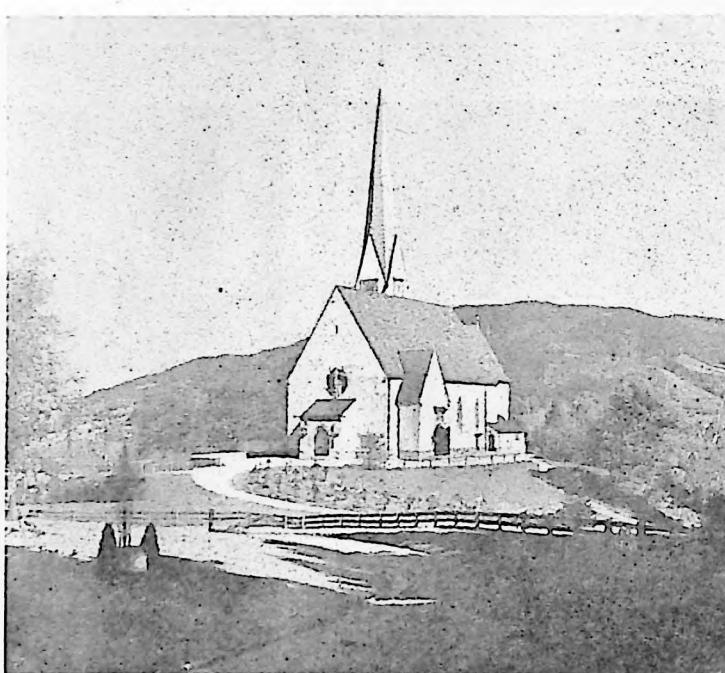
Can a nation live to itself and escape judgment? Can we raise walls around our Australia to maintain the highest standard of living any people may enjoy and ignore the starving millions of Europe and Asia? Can we be superior and build up racial pride and avoid a world's condemnation of a white Australia policy? Australia, with other nations, can ensure world peace only by sacrifice. There are some who seem to suggest wars can end if the military machine were destroyed. That is

the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve." Where there is no God, there self-interest is permitted; but where God is, there can only be sacrifice. Christ chose to walk the road to Calvary, because there was a God and it was God's will for him to endure the sufferings of the cross. His enemies judged correctly when they cried, "He saved others; himself he cannot save." To save others Christ had to sacrifice himself. Christ's purpose was to seek and to save that which was lost and to give his life a ransom for many. God and life demanded that Jesus make a sacrifice of life on Calvary. God also makes sacrifice an essential requirement of our lives.

With modern knowledge opening vast new resources of power we have reason to be afraid if men of self-interest gain control of atomic might. However, if men who are guided by the spirit of Calvary use such power for the good of all, what freedom from want the nations could enjoy! How many people could be redeemed from the chains of economic slavery! The world, now it has grown so full of knowledge, needs Christ and the spirit of Calvary more than ever before. Only by sacrifice can we help to save the world. Christ has shown the way; we must follow.

IV.

Sacrifice must be expressed in deeds. Christ has called us to present our bodies a living sacrifice. He does not want what is of no value. He requires precious life. Living feet and hands must run and work in his kingdom, not growing weary in well-doing. He also asks for our lips so that he may speak through them to those in unbelief. Christ needs some of the best hours of the week. We often crowd our days with so much toil to gain material wealth that we have little or no time to give to the Lord's service. We ought to take from our week some of our best hours so that we may use them for Christian work. This may involve sacrifice, but what is lost in material wealth is more than balanced in spiritual blessings. Christ wants our minds when they are active and fresh so they can plan for the spread of his kingdom. Not many church members give a thought



He is Risen

*He is risen! Heart, rejoice,
Hear you not the angel's voice?
Though you wait beside the tomb,
There is light within its gloom:
Grave, where is thy victory?
He hath set thy captives free,
He hath robbed thee of thy prey,
They with him shall live away,
He is risen, he is risen,
Christ the Lord is risen to-day.*

*He is risen! Earth awakes
And her prison house forsakes.
Hear the glad bird-voices sing:
"Where, O death, is now thy sting?"
Winds their silver trumpets blow:
"He hath conquered every foe."
Soft the murmuring waters say:
"Lo, the stone is rolled away."
He is risen, he is risen,
Christ the Lord is risen to-day.*

not true. Only when the causes of war and when justice is enjoyed and practised by nations will we establish world peace. Now is the time to avoid another world war. This can be done only by sacrifice. The price of peace is ceaseless sacrifice; not the sacrifice of a few people but of all nations.

III.

Easter is the season when we consider the debt we owe to divine sacrifice. Christ was shown by Satan, when in the wilderness, an easy way to world power. The road to popularity on which the immediate desires and lusts of people are met was made attractive. What tempts us on a small scale was thrust before Jesus as a grand world vision. But just as self-interest on a family scale is dangerous, so in the wider field of world affairs, it becomes tragic. Christ was not deceived. He saw God in life and turned from this appeal to self-interest by saying, "Thou shalt worship

during the week to create ways and means to advance the local church. If business men gave as little thought to their private, material affairs as they give to spiritual and church activities, they would soon be in the bankrupts' court. No wonder the church is so weak in some centres! Instead of members complaining about this or that weakness in the church let them give more serious and sacrificial time to thinking out how to put right what is criticised as being at fault.

Easter will have little meaning for those who run away from life, making merry. It will have no significance for those who seek only to please themselves. Easter brings us to the cross. The crucified Lord speaks of sacrifice. He calls us to take up the cross.

The Victory of the Cross

THE Jews were jubilant, and the Romans were contemptuous, when Jesus was nailed to the cross. In the eyes of those who beheld Jesus on the cross he was discredited. Whatever influence he may have had was lost; he was no longer a challenge to cowardice and hypocrisy. The Jews had intended to shame him in the eyes of the populace, and they seemed to have been successful. The passers-by scoffed at him, "Save yourself, if you are God's Son! Come down from the cross." The leaders of the people cried in derision, "He the 'King of Israel'! Let him come down now from the cross; then we'll believe in him!"

Let us examine

The Victory of a Changed Attitude

"Christ crucified," said Paul, "is unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto Gentiles foolishness." But even thus early the cross of Jesus was something in which the Christians gloried. Paul, who had been numbered amongst the greatest critics and persecutors of the church, boasted to the Corinthians, "I determined not to know anything among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."

Since that day the cross has become something about which Christians feel a justifiable pride. We sing—

"In the cross of Christ I glory,
Towering o'er the wrecks of time;
All the light of sacred story
Gathers round its head sublime."

The cross finds an honored place in ecclesiastical architecture. The ground plans of great cathedrals are laid out in the form of a cross; it adorns the church steeple; it is even worn as a piece of jewellery.

This changed attitude towards the cross of Christ may, in the experience of many, go no deeper than a symbolic gesture. We may be prepared to incorporate it in our architecture, singing and adornment, but baulk at incorporating it into life itself. If in our experience the cross is no more than a gesture, then it has failed to win the victory in our lives.

We may profitably examine

The Reasons for a Changed Attitude to the Cross

The cross became in the experience of early Christians the measure of God's love for men: "God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son." It was at once the measure of God's love for the fallen man, and God's evaluation of man.

The cross focussed a searching light upon the conviction, confidence, and courage of Jesus.

By Stan Neighbour, Oakleigh,
Victoria.

The disciples knew Jesus could have avoided the cross. The resurrection of Jesus served to strengthen their conviction to such an extent that they, too, were prepared to take up a cross and follow him.

The cross and the resurrection demonstrated that there is a limit to the power of evil. With all the means at its disposal—and they include ridicule, torture, and death—evil cannot destroy the work of God or the servants of God. There is always the resurrection.

The Victory of Creative Living

Before there could be a changed attitude to the cross there had to be a real victory, and that victory had to be demonstrated. Jesus undertook to demonstrate it. The Jews, amongst others, coveted what Rome seemed to be demonstrating as the greatest thing in the world. Political power backed by the legions seemed to have placed Rome in an unassailable position. Her soldiers, trained in many a campaign, showed contempt for the subject peoples of the empire. They showed great courage while they were clothed with armor and armed with shield and spear. The cross demonstrated a superior courage. Here was a Galilean who was still courageous when, unarmed, lonely and naked, he faced his jeering tormentors! "This man was certainly a Son of God," exclaimed the Roman centurion. Jesus was demonstrating that the strongest thing in the world is love. He was so sure of this that he was quite prepared to go to the cross and die to vindicate his faith.

Our modern world has placed its confidence in atomic bombs, air fleets and the exploitation of warfare by means of superior scientific methods, including bacteriological and chemical warfare. But the scientists are uneasy about it all. Besides the stirrings of conscience that it is not quite right, there is the fear of the inadequacy of it to stave off defeat. The very existence of such things produces fear; fear gives place to hatred; hatred wreaks destruction.

In a world depressed by fear there remains the fact of the cross. The cross met an emergency. It triumphed in the emergency. "If," said Jesus, "anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me . . . whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." When Jesus spoke of taking up our cross, he wasn't referring to some minor inconvenience. To Jesus the cross

meant death. It has meant death to many of his followers. The cross is designed to meet an emergency. If such an emergency should face the follower of Christ, then he should be prepared to face death rather than compromise. The existence of disciples prepared to face death for love of the Master they follow, is in itself evidence of the victory of the cross in our modern world.

Jesus was to experience death on the cross, but he said, "Have no fear of those who kill the body." Evil may seem to triumph in the lifetime of the individual, but God has more time at his disposal than that compassed by the lifetime of any individual follower of Christ. Jesus could later exclaim, "I was dead, and behold, I am alive for evermore." Evil cannot destroy God, nor can it destroy any of his children who trust him.

Easter speaks to us not of the triumph of the flesh, but of the spirit; not of the triumph of hatred, but of love; not of the triumph of death, but of life; not of the triumph of evil, but of God.

The Seven Cries of Christ from the Cross

1. The first of these cries from the cross is, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23: 34).

2. Then comes the "word" indicating his saving love for men: "This day shalt thou be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23: 43).

3. "Mother, behold thy son"; and, "Son, behold thy mother" (John 19: 26, 27).

4. Now we pass from his tender thought of others to the realisation of his own poignant suffering. It is voiced in Matt. 27: 46 and Mark 15: 34. Jesus cried, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

5. Just before being nailed to the cross, he had been offered a stupefying potion but he had refused it. Then allowing his human feeling to have sway at the last, he cries, "I thirst."

6 and 7. After receiving the drink, he says, "It is finished" (John 19: 30). This is his last message to earth. Now he turns heavenward, saying, "Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit" (Luke 23: 46). And then he yielded up his spirit to God.

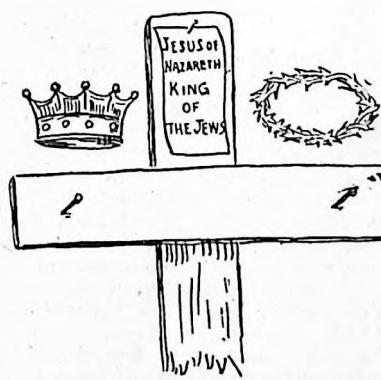
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Christ the Crucified

"*H*AST thou ever seen the Lord, Christ the crucified?
Hast thou seen those wounded hands?
Hast thou seen his side?
Hast thou seen the cruel thorns woven for his crown?
Hast thou, hast thou seen his blood, dropping, dropping, down?
Hast thou ever, ever seen love that was like this?
Hast thou given up thy life, wholly to be his?



A Prayer

"*D*EAR heavenly Father, who gave us Jesus that we might be saved from eternal doom, please accept our heartfelt thanks this Easter as we again remember his suffering and death for us on the cross. Help us, please, to be daily more like him in thought, word and deed toward thee and our fellow-creatures, seeking to not only love others but to be loved as we strive to bring the unenlightened to know the story of the cross of Jesus through the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Amen!"

A Living Reality

Christ has triumphed over death and now makes religion a living force in daily life. Allen G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed., makes this the theme of an Easter meditation.

"Christ liveth in me."—Gal. 2: 20.

JESUS Christ is a living person. This is the greatest mystery and yet the profoundest reality of all time. Then why is it that his followers so often go about their daily tasks as though he were dead? To so many it seems that the Christ is only a faded memory instead of a "living, bright reality."

"He lives! He lives!
Christ Jesus lives to-day;
He walks with me,
He talks with me,
Along life's narrow way.
He lives! He lives!
Salvation to impart.
You ask me how
I know he lives—
He lives—within my heart!"

This should be the daily testimony of every Christian. We are in constant need of the reminder that Jesus lives. In this strangely materialistic age, when the mundane things, the earthly things, the transient, commonplace things seem to crowd out the values that are spiritual, heavenly and enduring, it is essential that we be arrested from our complacent contemplation of the merely worldly by those wonderful, questioning, challenging words:

"Why seek ye the living among the dead?"

The Christian religion is above all else a religion of

Life and Action

Paul was able to say, "Christ liveth in me," and again, "For me to live is Christ." The great apostle's religion was translated into the experience of his daily life.

Whatever sceptical critics may say to the contrary, it is common knowledge that man is, above all else, a supremely religious creature. The impulse to seek after and to find God is inherent in the human soul. From this standpoint there is considerable significance in the opinion of William Blake, the 18th Century poet and mystic, that, "Man must and will have some religion; if he has not the religion of Jesus he will have the religion of Satan." All about us we are conscious of manifestations of man's pseudo-religious zeal for the "mammon of unrighteousness." Though he does not bow himself before the Son of God, how pitiful is his prostration before the hideous grinning idols of his own worldly folly. Alas! man is only too prone to ignore the Fountain of life in a



"Behold I am alive for ever more."

blind maddening race after the moribund and decaying cult of paganism.

Such a state of affairs is, or should be,

A Mighty Challenge

to every professing disciple of Christ. It is our supreme task to point the way to him who is the only Way, and by our directive influence, to encourage our fellows to enter into the only living, pulsating, energising way of life—the religion of the living Christ.

It is our duty, by our daily practice of our spiritual ideals, to enlighten misguided wayfarers along life's pathway, so that, by contrasting their "way" with our "way," they may come to see that any experience which is not centred in the divine Redeemer is worthless and dead. Only as we demonstrate the power of the new and vital life in Christ shall we be able to show forth his spirit to those who grope in "darkness and in the shadow of death." For among all the varied agencies at work in the world, there is but one—and that, the Spirit of the living God—which has power to revitalise the dry bones of unbelief and indifference into a mighty army of living witnesses for righteousness.

The only way in which we can make any appreciable impact upon "the man in the street," to influence him for good and for God, is through a "living" religion. Consequently the nearer we are to Christ the more pronounced will be the reality of his impress upon our lives and the greater will be our witness for him. To achieve this, however, we must be prepared to follow fearlessly the Spirit of God. We must go

Backward—to the Christ of History

We must recall again the manner in which he founded his church. We will then see the tragedy of Calvary consummated in the triumph of the resurrection morn. Yet we shall see much more than that. We shall see the demonstration of the power of the risen Lord in the work of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. We shall see in its right perspective the wonder-working power of the Spirit upon the lives of the members of the little community of disciples at Jerusalem. In the face of all obstacles, the hatred of the Judaisers, the sneers of the philosophers, the persecution of Hebrew and Gentile oppressors alike, the new faith went from strength to strength.

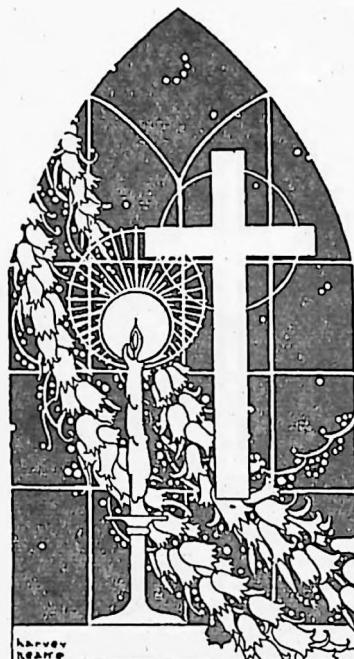
Passing out of the Book of Acts, we explore the writings of the early fathers, as well as the verified historical accounts of profane writers, and are amazed at the rapid growth of the church. By the 4th Century A.D. the paganism of Greece and Rome has given place, in a large measure, to the religion of Jesus. The dead forms of ancient superstition had been superseded by a living faith.

Then, too, we must go

Forward—with the Christ of To-day

Christ is the only Reality. He is the risen Lord—our living Redeemer. In him, love, the love of the Father, overflowed in divine grace. And by him men of all nations and climes down the ages have been given power to "become the sons of God." We have seen it ourselves. The outcast, the reprobate, the derelict and the waster, have been transformed and made "new creatures in Christ." This is the experience we understand; this is the Christianity we know; this is the religion of Christ. It is alive because he is alive. We live because he lives in us. This is the faith that makes "living epistles."

Christian realism places Christ in the centre. This is our blessed experience. Let us rise to the task as we pass it on to others, so that, to all who honor his name, the Christ of history may become, in reality, the Christ of today, and the Saviour whom we have learned to know by faith will become increasingly real to us as the Saviour whom we have known and proved by experience.



Easter

A CROSS the brow of Calvary's hill
We glimpse an Easter morn.
A lifted life upon the cross
Transcends its crown of thorn.

The scars that thoughtless hands inflict
Drive doubt from human hearts.
The Life that Is a radiance wears
And heaven itself imparts.

So joy from grief and life from death
Can unto us be born
If in our lives the Presence lives
That graced that Easter morn.

—Hope Stroud.

How to Save and be Saved

*W*ELL might the church ask the question of the Philippian jailor when he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" The same answer would not be given to the church that Paul gave to the keeper of the prison on that eventful night. Perhaps the answer to the church would be something like this, "Oh, church of Christ, if you would save yourself, be busy in the salvation of others." Two men were lost one day in a blinding snowstorm. They became numb with the cold. One of them lay down in the snow to die. His companion began to rub and jerk and slap him to put warmth into his body. After awhile he was restored. As they continued on their journey the man suddenly realised that by putting warmth into his friend's body he had put warmth in his own body. In other words, by saving another, he had thereby saved himself.

—J. M. Bader.

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Cross Respected in India

A. ANDERSON REPORTS ON EXPERIENCES OF CHRISTIANS.

CHRISTIAN families in the Punjab, according to most recent reports, have been almost miraculously preserved from the wholesale slaughter of the riots.

Moslems have not only given notice to Christians to move away before burning Hindu and Sikh villages, but have even helped to carry Christian belongings out of the houses. In villages where Hindu and Sikh predominate, they, too, have generally warned Christians living in Moslem houses to evacuate their families. There have been some casualties among Christians, but these have generally been due to a stab in the dark, where the identity of the victim was not realised.

In one Hindu and Sikh village, missionaries found only rows of burnt-out houses—except for two left standing. These houses had been built by Christians. The Moslems had spared them from fire, and all neighboring Christians, with their household goods, were sheltered there.

In Amritsar the safety of Christians in the riots between Hindus, Sikhs and Moslems has been assured in the same way as in Western Punjab. There has been some anxiety in Amritsar over the easy identification of Christian households. As soon as the disturbances reached the danger point, Christians began wearing cardboard badges on which a red cross was drawn.

Now metal badges with a red cross on a white background have been struck. The wearing of the badges has revived a deep bond of fellowship among Christians, and forms an introduction between men who have never spoken to one another before.

The cross is respected by the rioters of both camps. Recently an old man complained to the Archdeacon of Lahore that a house-breaking gang attempted to loot his home. The archdeacon cut out a large cardboard cross, painted it red, and gave it to the man to pin on his door. Since then he has obtained absolute protection from marauders.



"NO ILL-WILL TOWARDS CHRISTIANS"

At his prayer meeting on Wednesday, Dec. 24, the late Mahatma Gandhi referred to Christmas Day, and said it was a festival for Christians as Deepavali was for Hindus. He did not think either festival was meant for indulgence in drinking, dancing or merry-making. These were holy days, making one examine oneself and do better next year.

He offered greetings to all Christian friends in India and outside, and hoped that they would enforce in their own lives the teachings of Jesus Christ.

He warned Hindus, Muslims and Sikhs against entertaining any ill-will towards Christians who were a minority in India. Nor should they entertain any wish about converting them to Hinduism, Islam or Sikhism. He did not believe in such conversions. He wanted Christians to be good Christians, Muslims to be good Muslims, Sikhs to be good Sikhs, and Hindus to be good Hindus under all circumstances. That to him was real conversion.



CHRISTMAS AT DHOND

In a letter recently received from Dr. L. J. Michael, he writes:

"The Christmas season went off quite happily. A children's session, at which suitable items were rendered and gifts were distributed, was followed by a "bhajan" on Christmas eve. As usual, the chapel was crowded to overflowing on Christmas morning, and the same afternoon,

in the B.C.H. mission chapel, a united Christmas meeting for all Christians in Dhond was held. The sisters accompanied by the Bible-women and a few others conducted little services with the village classes and left them some little reminder of the meaning of Christmas. Hospital patients likewise came in for their share.

"A watchnight service was conducted on New Year's Eve, and the Sunday school picnic on the dry bed of the river, near the railway bridge, followed a New Year's service on January 1.

"Although Satan's activities are ever manifest, there is much room for encouragement in the work of the church here. Great in-



New Preachers for the West

J. K. Robinson announces names of new workers and reports on revived interest in religious education in schools.

OUR forces in this State have been encouragingly strengthened by the addition of three new ministers, all graduates of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris. They all arrived within the space of a few weeks, and each has made an excellent impression in the opening weeks of his ministry.

R. Hillier and Mrs. Hillier are at Victoria Park, one of our smaller churches in a thickly populated suburb, assisted by the Home Missions Committee. It is a difficult field, but we hear good reports of the new ministry.

S. Ryles and Mrs. Ryles are at Bunbury. The church is keen and enthusiastic, and glad to have these new workers after a long period without a minister.

S. Davey has undertaken the directorship of our State youth work. He commenced duty at the Christmas youth camp, and won his way with the young people. Since then from all quarters have come expressions of appreciation of his approach to his task.

We are further cheered by the announcement that H. Greenwood will be with us before Easter conference to fill the position of organising secretary.

Joint Council of Christian Education

After eighteen months of inactivity, the Joint Council of Christian Education has been re-formed under a new constitution. All churches (except Roman Catholic), the Y.W.C.A., Y.M.C.A., and Student Christian Movement are represented on the council by two members each. Provision is made for up to ten co-opted members should persons of special ability in any field be required at any time. An annual meeting in May will elect an executive, and the whole council is to be called together not less than three times a year. The objects of the council are to foster Christian education in State schools, assisting where possible, with suggestions as to the curriculum, and with assistance as to the teaching of scripture both to teachers and to trainee-teachers, to assist church organisations, Sunday schools and church schools, and to exercise vigilance and take action concerning the religious welfare of youth, and do all possible to safeguard Christian principles and practices in the community.

Aborigines

A. O. Neville, for 25 years Commissioner of Native Affairs in Western Australia, has written a book entitled "Australia's Colored Minority." He discusses at length the relationships of abo-

rigines and whites, particularly in regard to our half-caste population. In an introduction to the book, Professor A. P. Elkin, president of the Association for the Protection of Native Races, says that Australia has nearly 30,000 people of mixed white and aboriginal descent.

The State Executive of the Returned Servicemen's League has decided to ask the Premier (Mr. McLarty) to introduce legislation to provide for the granting of full citizenship rights to all persons of aboriginal blood in Western Australia who served with the forces in the recent war and were honorably discharged, the rights to be made retrospective to the date of discharge. The R.S.L. also took the view that the Government should create a progressive system to promote the social and economic betterment of the natives with the object of ultimately integrating them into the community. With this end in view the league decided to urge the Government to abolish the present act governing native affairs, and to establish a "charter of liberties" for natives on the lines of the Atlantic Charter.

Shorter Working Week

Shops in Perth and suburbs now open at 9.5 a.m. and close at 5.30 p.m. (12 noon on Saturdays). In many industries there is no work on Saturdays, and in all branches of work there have been adjustments to provide for the 40-hour week. It is all very good in its way, but there is a general upward trend in prices of commodities, and there is the very serious problem of hosts of people with more time on their hands than they know what to do with. The great majority of people need to be educated in the use of leisure time, and for this reason the incidence of the 40-hour week for most workers means longer hours and more headaches for those who have the moral and spiritual welfare of people at heart, such as church, Sunday school and youth workers.

Federal Conference

The tempo is gradually quickening in preparation for Federal conference in October. Committees and sub-committees appointed to give special attention to various phases of conference arrangements are getting things into shape, and prospects are bright that all will be in readiness when the date arrives.

Here and There

It is reported that the Hinrichsen mission at Carramar, N.S.W., finished with forty-five decisions.

At various centres in Melbourne large congregations have gathered to take part in the opening sessions of the Hyman Appelman evangelistic campaign.

L. A. Trezise, B.A., Victorian youth director, will be the special speaker at the annual parents' and scholars' service at Wesley College, Melbourne, on Sunday, March 21, at 7 p.m.

At Dunolly, Vic., during past two months, seven young people have confessed Christ and been baptised. Miss W. Kerr was received by transfer. On March 8, Dunolly and Bet Bet Sunday schools held a picnic enjoyably at Dunolly. Gerald de Kusel, who had recently made his confession and been baptised, was called home on Feb. 9. Church extends sympathy to Mrs. de Kusel in her bereavement.

Four young people recently baptised were received into fellowship at Marrickville, N.S.W., on March 7. L. Wylie (Inverell) gave a helpful address in morning. A. Anderson (overseas missions) spoke in evening, when Doreen Knight was soloist. Reports presented at annual church business meeting on 10th showed healthy activity in all auxiliaries. Happy Hour sessions once a month have been introduced by Bible school in an effort to increase attendance and gain new scholars. Treasurer's report disclosed liberal offerings through duplex envelopes to brotherhood undertakings.

Following the completion on Feb. 29 of G. T. Black's ministry at Dimboola, Vic., a Wimmera circuit, comprised of the churches at Horsham, Haven and Dimboola, has been formed with G. M. Mathieson as minister and J. E. Smith secretary. Although each church retains its autonomy, the circuit board has accepted responsibility for all preaching appointments, for which it will have the assistance of six local brethren. The board consists of F. Oliver and F. Mackley representing Haven, G. Swalwell and A. Young representing Dimboola, and G. Miller, R. Hovey, F. Sherriff and the secretary representing Horsham, with the minister as an ex officio member.

As a result of an earlier paragraph, the Federal Hymn-book Committee has received and considered some valuable letters commenting on the present hymnal. One writer carefully assessed as "very good," "fair," "adequate," etc., every sub-section in the book, adding appreciated notes on some individual hymns, together with suggestions for revised classifications, additional hymns and a number of other features. As yet, the work can be exploratory only, no mandate having been received for any revision of the current book, but the committee is anxious to ascertain the brotherhood's assessment of the present book, and through the secretary (F. J. Funston, 49 Hedderwick-st., Essendon, W.5, Vic.) cordially invites further comments and suggestions.

Mr. Wilson (Gympie, Q.) conducted services for Palmwoods brethren on Feb. 15. United district C.E. rally was held in Crescent-rd. chapel on Feb. 21. Tea was followed by session of debates, enthusiastically entered into by all Endeavorers. F. C. Hunting, of Ann-st. church, gave challenging address at evening service. Churches at Gympie and Monkland enjoyed fellowship with Mr. Hunting during Sunday, including service at Rossmount in afternoon. Morning service on Feb. 29 was broadcast. C.E. Society now takes form of senior Bible class for meetings. Church extends sympathy to relatives and friends of Ted Trudgian, recently called home. Passing of Mr. Trudgian is a big loss to Gympie church, where he has been a faithful and valued member for the whole of his life. Sympathy is also extended to J. McLellan and family in loss of his mother.

J. Wiltshire, organiser for the Hyman Appelman mission, was speaker on March 14 at Swanston-st. church, Melbourne. Other recent services have been addressed by K. A. Macnaughtan. It has been decided to revive after Easter activities of the Central Christian Fellowship.

Sunday, March 21, is the day appointed in Victorian churches for the annual Church Extension offering. This very necessary part of our brotherhood work should receive warm support. The Church Extension Committee has helped most of the Victorian churches in its work over the past thirty-eight years.



HE MUST BE FIRST

*H*e must be first within your heart's affections,
No other Friend has earned such place as this,
For he has died upon the cross to save you,
That you might live with him in endless bliss.
He must be first, this precious, matchless Saviour.
"Behold your King!" Cast all before his feet,
He'll take your all, 'twill be but to enrich you,
To make your life far happier and complete.
He must be first, let not the world enslave you,
For all its joys are but a passing show;
Only in Jesus can the heart find freedom,
Only in him can we true pleasures know.

—Selected.



In these days of restrictions on imports from America, students are finding it difficult to procure books. It has occurred to us that some preachers and others may have volumes in good condition that they would be prepared to sell—books such as "The Christian System," and works on the plea of the churches of Christ. We should be pleased to hear from any who can help in this way. Titles of books should be given, together with prices which would be accepted. If the volumes were such as desired the Austral Co. are prepared to purchase them for reselling.

On March 1, Northern District Conference, Tasmania, was held at Devonport. At 11 a.m. a communion service was held, and roll-call, when greetings were given, churches at Hobart, Launceston, Invermay, Sandhill, Mole Creek, Mayberry, Ulverstone, Caveside all being represented. J. D. Williams brought a greeting from Baptists, also a splendid address. In afternoon, business session was followed by consideration of the theme, "What has the Church to Offer the Man on the Street?" This provoked an interesting and profitable discussion. At evening meeting Sister Richards sang a solo. Mr. Orr showed moving pictures of previous conference gatherings, and H. Crowden gave a splendid gospel address. A time of fellowship was enjoyed. There were over 100 at both morning and evening meetings. J. Park, State conference president, and Mrs. Park were present from Hobart.

Feb. 15 was youth night at Maylands, W.A., all clubs participating. On 19th, youth council met, and a report of year's activities was submitted. Greetings were brought from Women's Guild, Y.P.S.C.E., boys' clubs, Young Worshippers' League and tennis and badminton clubs. Betty Sherman was farewelled prior to departure for Glen Iris. On Feb. 22 Mr. McRoberts preached in morning, and at conclusion of evening service the parents of some S.S. scholars and a young girl made the good confession. Feb. 25 was church business meeting. Reports from all auxiliaries were encouraging. Eulogistic reference was made to Mr. McRoberts' ministry and to all leaders of auxiliaries. Stan Davey, youth director, conducted both services on Feb. 29 in absence of Mr. McRoberts, who with his family was on holidays. Esteemed Mrs. Longbottom passed away at the age of 90 years.

A. C. Killmier concluded a seven years' ministry with church at Naracoorte, S.A., in January. He has taken up a secular position in town. A. Hutson commenced his ministry with church on Feb. 8. A welcome social was held, and representative brethren and local ministers— together with a delegation from the church at Kaniva—spoke words of welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Hutson. Vocal and musical items were presented to an appreciative audience. Sunday school has commenced after recess. Boys' Club is functioning well under leadership of Mr. Lloyd and Mr. McKenny. C.E. Society meets on Tuesday evenings. Mrs. Huntley has consented to take over leadership of girls' club, and will re-commence soon. Church services have been encouraging during recent months. Church is finding difficulty in securing a house for the minister.

The church at Wentworth Falls, Blue Mountains, N.S.W., had a delightful meeting on Saturday, March 6, at the opening of the new chapel. The building is of brick with a very fine appearance, front porch and gothic windows, in a splendid position in the main street, opposite the railway station, and can be seen for miles around. The front is neatly planted with memorial trees, and is to have a nice lawn and flowering shrubs. Inside it is beautifully furnished; splendidly lighted with cream and chrome electric shades; piano and organ; upholstered individual seats. A Sunday school building is also in course of erection at the rear. A day school is being contemplated. At 3 p.m. Mr. Corlett, chairman of Home Mission Committee, led the meeting outside, and then Mrs. Wilson, a member for 46 years, with a few well-chosen remarks, turned the key and opened the building. The chapel was filled to overflowing, some standing outside. N. D. Morris, conference president, presided and congratulated the church on the very fine building, which, he said, was a credit and an asset to the town, and prayed that it may be the birthplace of many precious souls. He also referred to the work, and the members, and the untiring efforts of the preacher, A. L. Carter. E. C. Hinrichsen gave an inspiring address.

SWANSTON STREET

(opp Public Library),

SUNDAY, MARCH 21.

11 a.m., K. A. Macnaughtan will preach on "Doing Nothing When There's Something Doing!"
7 p.m., Gospel Service. Preacher, Mr. R. F. Geyer.

At the evening service the choir will render "The Crucifixion" (Stainer).

NOTICE EXTRAORDINARY!

Dr. Hyman J. Appelman will preach at Swanston-st. Church at 11 a.m. on Easter Sunday.

News of the Churches

Tasmania

Mole Creek.—State conference president, J. Park, of Hobart, visited Caveside and Mole Creek and conducted services. Mrs. Park and mainland visitors accompanied him. T. Orr kindly gave use of his car for visit. P. R. Baker has commenced meetings in district.

West Hobart.—Speakers have included R. Boxhall and S. Cooper, from Collins-st., W. Cooper, B. Golder, H. England, J. Woolley, M. Richardson. Misses S. and M. Wheaton, Kaniva, Vic., were among visitors on March 7. On March 6 an enjoyable day was spent at Sandy Bay beach, when Bible schools from West Hobart and Claremont held a combined picnic.

Devonport.—On Feb. 29, morning meeting was well attended. Visitors included W. Northrop, Yarrawonga, Vic. Mrs. Thorne was present after weeks of illness. Rod Pitt gave a helpful address. Northern District Conference was held at Devonport on Mar. 1. On March 7 S. Bruton gave a helpful address in morning. At night F. T. Burtt was speaker. Church sympathises with Mrs. Harold Byard, brothers and sisters, in the passing of their father.

Hobart.—Mr. Burtt's ministry is appreciated, and attendances are gratifying. A successful cricket social was held in school hall on March 2, and at evening service on 7th a parade of church cricket club took place. R. Boxhall, captain, read scripture; Mr. Burtt gave an appropriate address. Speaker in morning was Hayden McCallum, Australian representative to World Conference at Oslo. Dorcas sisters held a successful fair on afternoon of Feb. 28; proceeds of £32 for "time and talent" fund.

Victoria

South Richmond.—During past three weeks meetings have been good. On Feb. 22 J. Wiltshire spoke in morning. Mr. Edgar at evening service spoke, and afterwards screened a film on "Healing of a Leper." A good number were present on Feb. 29, when three who recently confessed Christ were baptised by S. Rose. On March 7 five were received into fellowship—three by confession and baptism, and two by transfer.

East Doncaster.—Harvest festival was held on March 7. Mr. Baird spoke at morning service. At afternoon service, W. T. Atkin, of Social Service Department, gave an interesting address, and musical items were rendered. After the meeting a number of members and friends had tea and a discussion together. Gifts of fruit and produce were sent to Oakleigh Guest Home. As result of a special offering, church building is now free of debt.

Carnegie.—On morning of Feb. 29, W. G. Organ was speaker. Evening service was conducted by ladies of church. Mrs. A. E. Forbes was visiting speaker. Men's Fellowship conducted a variety entertainment in school hall on March 5. Mr. Coventry, returned from holidays, was speaker on morning of March 7. A youth tea and service was held, V. C. Stafford being special speaker at 7 p.m. Bible school teachers and helpers conducted a canvass for new scholars in district on afternoon of March 7.

Portland.—Thanksgiving day was held on Feb. 22, when 54 met to break bread. C. Young's addresses were an inspiration. Rex Pitts was soloist and song-leader. Church appreciates services of these brethren. Visitors from a number of country churches were present, as was also Mrs. Young, wife of preacher. At close of gospel service with 53 present, an enjoyable time of fellowship followed supper provided. Thankoffering was £59/15/-. Other speakers for month were Miss M. A. Langley, of Gnowangerup Aboriginal Mission, T. Davey and Mr. Curtis.

Springvale.—On Feb. 29 there were splendid meetings. Eight were baptised at evening service. After Mr. Bond's address two decided for Christ, and there were two reconsecrations. On March 7, eight were received into fellowship at morning service. Over 100 were present in evening, and there was one decision. 100 were present at Bible school. On March 14 one received the right hand of fellowship at a well attended worship service. There was a fine meeting at night.

Cheltenham.—On March 7, at gospel service, Mr. and Mrs. Barnett made the good confession. They are the parents of G. Barnett, preacher at Warracknabeal, and are now residing in district. At church annual meeting good reports were presented. V. D. Wallington has been added to official board. Attendances and offerings are on up-grade. J. C. Cunningham's addresses and visitation are appreciated. Further word has been received from Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, of New Hebrides.

Dandenong.—Mr. Youens gave inspiring addresses at all meetings on March 7 and 14. Harvest festival services were held on the 7th with good display of products, which were sold on Monday night in aid of building fund. One young sister was baptised at gospel service on March 14, having made the good confession previous week. Newly-formed P.B.P. (girls) and Men's Social Club are progressing favorably. 117 broke bread on March 14. One young man confessed Christ at night service.

St. Arnaud.—Services are fairly well attended. Church sympathises with Mrs. Jenner in death of her mother. Church held annual business meeting on March 5. Secretary-treasurer A. Chiswell was re-elected. Officers: Messrs. Baldwin, Jenner, Chiswell, Cooper, Shepherd; S.S. superintendent, W. Shepherd. Debt on building is gradually being decreased; all that is owing is £100. After 5½ years without a preacher, Home Mission Committee has decided to commence a circuit including St. Arnaud. Other churches included are Boort, Wedderburn and Pyramid Hill. Preacher is V. Quayle. Church has enjoyed fellowship with several visitors during past few weeks.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Attendances at all services are increasing; addresses by Reg. Enniss are greatly appreciated. Una Beauchamp and J. Hodgson were married at chapel on Mar. 1, C. G. Taylor officiating. Dr. W. A. Kemp addressed church on March 14, and spoke of church progress abroad. Reg. Enniss preached at gospel meeting. Mr. Clarke, of Tempe, N.S.W., Misses J. Mead and E. Benton, of Tuggerah, N.S.W., had fellowship with church on March 14. On that day J. Vickery was welcomed back at fellowship after long illness. Mrs. Oldfield is safely through her operation, and Mrs. Phillips is much better. Church's sympathy goes out to Mrs. N. Jame in passing of her husband, and also to H. H. McKean in loss of his brother-in-law.

Red Hill.—On Feb. 28, a social evening was held. On behalf of members a presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Ron Holmes; a presentation was also made from Y.P.S.C.E. W. Torney for church and R. Salmon for Y.P.S.C.E. wished Mr. and Mrs. Holmes happiness in their married life. On Feb. 29 N. Moore spoke morning and evening. Sunday school anniversary concert was held on March 6 with large attendance. On March 7 N. Moore spoke in morning. Sunday school held anniversary in afternoon; Mr. Gale was speaker; prizes were given to scholars. Mr. Butler led children in their songs. Service was continued at night, scholars and congregation taking part. Mr. Gale gave an address to young and old. Mrs. A. Andrew did excellent work in preparing scholars for concert, and was presented with a gift of flowers.

Wangaratta.—Among recent visitors have been Mrs. Lambert, S.A.; Mrs. Maulsby and Mr. and Miss Maulsby, Wagga, N.S.W. Sympathy of church goes to Mrs. George Jackel, Stan Cordy and Mrs. Dalton in loss of their sister, Mrs. Lord, an isolated member. Mrs. Scott-Brown has returned home after operation, and Marie Blandford is home convalescing. Mrs. Pressley has been laid aside for several weeks, but is recovering. J.C.E. enjoyed a bike hike and swim at Willow Bend on March 6. Final total of home mission offering is £45/10/-. Mrs. Hunt (S.A.) has been transferred to Wangaratta, and was welcomed in recently.

North Richmond.—On March 7, harvest thanksgiving services were held, C. Young being speaker morning and night. Evening service was well attended, and singing by choir under C. Hall was a feature. Since resignation of J. E. Searle, church has been seeking to obtain services of a full-time minister. Church is grateful to C. Young and W. T. Atkin, of Social Service Department, who have agreed for time being to be responsible for conducting services each Sunday. Despite difficulties, and due largely to efforts of these brethren, work continues in good heart. Pleasing features are improved attendance at Bible school and evidence of renewed interest in gospel service.

Thornbury.—During past weeks attendances at all services have been on up-grade, and at morning service D. D. Stewart has given expository addresses on Hebrews. Members of Ladies' Guild held an enjoyable picnic on March 3 at Botanic Gardens. Explorer Club, with A. Doolin leader, held a tenth birthday social on March 5. Past leaders were invited, and brought greetings. Church is participating in united prayer meetings for Hyman Appelman campaign, and Thornbury church was selected as a centre for local group mission. On March 7 H. Hince, school superintendent, presented claims of school for church co-operation in a drive for new scholars. D. D. Stewart preached at night.

North Essendon.—On evening of Feb. 29, a remembrance service was held to remember services given by late Mrs. A. Mason, who for many years had been church organist. An inscribed plate was attached to organ, and this was unveiled at service. A further loss to church has been that of Norman Jame, who gave of his best for his Master's work. His ability will be remembered by many. To his family Christian sympathy has been extended. R. Dobbs, who has come from Queensland to attend College of Bible, has been appointed church organist. During Mr. Wright's absence at Coburg for a mission, K. Jones and W. Atkin conducted gospel services last two Sunday nights. At morning service on March 14, V. Marr (Essendon) presided at monthly exchange of presidents.

Ballarat (Peel-st.).—A. J. Mackenzie continues to give inspiring addresses, and has already increased spiritual tone of church, creating a spirit of co-operation and helpfulness. An early morning prayer meeting on Lord's days has commenced with encouraging attendances. J. Russell spoke on Feb. 29. Mrs. MacKenzie is commencing order of Good Companions for young girls. Young people look forward to Easter camp at Hall's Gap. Officers played boys' cricket club, and were defeated. Sunday school attendance reached 102 recently, and kinders are building up numbers after graduation day. Explorers' Club recommenced with enthusiasm. Ladies' Guild held a successful afternoon on Feb. 26, when visitors were present from other churches, occasion being a welcome to Mr. and Mrs. MacKenzie. Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Jenkin have been in hospital, and Mr. Vincent and Mrs. Eastwood are still indisposed.

East Malvern.—On March 13, a welcome was extended to Mr. Heard and Miss Berry, from College of Bible. Mr. Heard has accepted an invitation as preacher and Miss Berry will assist in Bible school and lead girls' club. There was a large attendance, including visitors from sister churches, some of whom expressed good wishes. Mr. Ryall extended a welcome on behalf of church and Mr. Heard responded. During evening L. Williams sang two solos, accompanied by Miss Wilson, who also contributed a pianoforte solo. Refreshments were served by ladies of Sunshine Circle, who also presented Miss Berry with a bouquet and a shoulder spray. Opportunity was taken to thank two lady students of college for help given to girls' club during latter part of last year.

Camberwell.—Attendances at morning meetings during February and March have been very encouraging, and a fine spirit of fellowship prevails. W. F. Nankivell has just completed three years of fruitful and inspiring ministry, and has been invited to continue his labors for a further three years. The church expressed appreciation for his visitation, kindly and untiring leadership. On March 14 "every-member-present" services brought a loyal response (110 present), and commenced a campaign for extending and deepening spiritual life of church. In conjunction with Oakleigh, church is engaging in a programme of personal evangelism as suggested by H.M. Committee. Messrs. Neighbour and Nankivell are planning the work. Bible school work is proceeding soundly. Good Companions and Explorers' clubs are extending activities. Second degree has been formed, and S. Chipperfield reports addition of junior section Explorers; 28 boys are now being served. Church has pledged support to proposed new church at South Box Hill. Ladies are still providing many food parcels for British brethren. Wallace Jarmyn, student at Glen Iris, from S.A., is in fellowship and will render assistance to auxiliaries.

Queensland

Rockhampton.—At annual business meeting on Feb. 18, all auxiliaries reported progress. Deacons elected were J. Stabe, A. Johnson, G. Nelson, S. Dobbs, J. Steele, J. H. Cooper, T. Jones (treasurer) and N. Watson (secretary). N. Watson was elected Bible school superintendent. Attendances at all meetings are improving after holiday periods. At evening meeting on Feb. 29, there were six public reconsecrations. One of these, F. C. Holmes, a baptised believer, was received into fellowship of church on morning of March 7. On Feb. 22 there were four new scholars added to isolated Bible school at Moongan, where regular services are conducted twice each month for breaking of bread. There was another new scholar at Rockhampton school on March 7. Ladies' Guild resumed fortnightly meetings on March 1.

West Moreton Circuit.—Rosevale recently held annual business meeting, and J. Hinrichsen, J. Christensen, and E. Christensen were re-elected delegates for West Moreton Conference Executive. L. Lobegeiger was also re-elected secretary and F. Hinrichsen treasurer. Officers elected were L. Lobegeiger, F. Hinrichsen, J. Hinrichsen, J. Christensen, H. Christensen, A. Jensen, J. Jensen. Reports were excellent, showing much spiritual progress as well as financial. It has been decided to carpet interior of chapel. Manse fund was over-subscribed by £40. Mt. Walker experienced loss of one of its members, Mrs. Alan Kruger. Sympathy is extended to the bereaved. A memorial service was held on March 7. Rosewood regrets losing Mr. and Mrs. Collins, who have been transferred to Toowoomba after many years of fellowship. Manse is nearing completion. Permission has been granted for open-air work in main streets of town. Marburg reports three candidates baptised by A. C. Caldicott; Fernvale, one adult decision.

Annerley.—During absence of Mr. Campbell, holidaying in South, services of local and visiting brethren have been appreciated. Ladies' Guild has commenced a new year's work with an additional four new members. Owing to removal from district, Mrs. Bates and Keith have had to relinquish work with church and auxiliaries. Both will be greatly missed. Mrs. Bates has given years of faithful service. R. Williams, who recently underwent a very serious operation, is making satisfactory progress.

East Ipswich.—Morning meetings are well attended. There have been four confessions recently, Ross McCormack and John Ferguson, and on March 7 Joan Neumann and S. Neumann were baptised. Mr. Burgin has entered his third year of ministry with church. Arrangements have been made with local broadcasting station (4IP) to have morning services broadcast in turn with other churches. Mrs. Lohley has returned home after being in hospital, as have Mrs. Neibling and Mrs. C. Coward. Mrs. C. Neumann underwent an operation on March 8. Mrs. Pratt, of Albury, N.S.W., is spending a holiday here and is very helpful in singing of solos for gospel meetings. At annual church business meeting, L. G. Burgin, L. G. Crisp and E. Reeve were elected elders, and A. E. Boettcher, L. G. Martin, S. Waldron, L. Steele, E. Neumann, Cyril Coward and R. Coward officers. Church extends congratulations to L. G. Martin and Selwyn Newmann, recently married.

Bundaberg.—Morning service was broadcast on March 7. Mrs. Grace Pohle was soloist and Mr. Dallinger gave the address. Sylvia Jones and H. Adams were married recently, and Joan Cedargreen and Eric Landry (of Melbourne) were married in chapel on March 6, Mr. Dallinger officiating. Both parties were given pre-wedding socials and suitable gifts presented. Isobel Phillips is home from hospital and Beryl Neilsen is also improving in health. Mr. Cullen is still very ill. Sister P. Proudley has relinquished her position as teacher in Bible school after many years of faithful service. Youth club recently held a camp-fire night several miles from town. A good number were present. A new member has been enrolled in girls' club and new scholars to school. Elder W. Deoberitz is recovering in St. Vincent's Hospital from recent truck accident. Matron Cole is on a visit to Taree, N.S.W.

Western Australia

Cottesloe.—In absence of a minister church has to rely on visiting brethren, who have included C. Hunt, Capt. Gates and A. E. Olds. A working bee was held recently for preparing hall for repainting exterior. An evening has been held in honor of Beth Tunbridge, shortly to be married to Noel Bell. Visitors have been welcomed. Sunday school, in spite of teacher shortage, is preparing to enter increase and attendance campaign planned by State Youth Department. It has in past years gained much by such campaigns.

Subiaco.—Bert Taylor died on Feb. 23. Sympathy of church is with Matron and Sister Taylor and with late brother's family. Mrs. C. M. Nelson presided at Ladies' Aid first 1948 meeting on Feb. 25. Sisters Chandler and Elliott led in prayer and scripture reading. Mrs. Elliott and Mrs. Elliss were elected delegates to Easter conference. Mr. Elliott's addresses are of a high order, and much appreciated. Office-bearers for current year are: Elders, E. F. Black (chairman), H. G. Lake, A. C. Olds (treasurer); deacons, P. Armstrong, S. Constable (assistant secretary), J. H. Edwards (assistant treasurer), J. W. Gordon (secretary), C. M. Nelson (deputy chairman), F. J. Stephenson, P. T. Wyllie; conference delegates: E. F. Black, S. Constable, J. H. Edwards, H. G. Lake, F. Pollard, F. J. Stephenson. Superintendent H. Vawser reported successful Bible school picnic on March 6. Penny collection unit was not able to meet increased

cost of books. A. C. Olds and F. J. Stephen son will confer with Bible school superintendent and treasurer with regard to school finance. Church enjoyed fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Read (Camberwell, Vic.) on March 7.

New South Wales

Inverell.—During Mr. Wylio's absence on holidays, speakers were H. J. Brooks (Mayor of Inverell), T. Young, C. Stone, G. Burgess, Angus Mackie and young people. A kitchen tea was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Young in honor of June Partridge, whose marriage to Athol Croft was celebrated on Mar. 4. Sister L. Barry is out of hospital and doing well. J. Jackson (church secretary) has returned from holidays.

Georgetown.—Open-air meetings before gospel service during last six weeks went off very well. Graduation day in school has been held. Forty prizes were presented in upper department, and all kinders received books. At a recent broadcast service Egerton C. Long, of A.I.M., was speaker, and aborigine girls from training college formed choir. Visits by Mr. Binks, of C.I.M., and Miss Tompson, of S.I.M., were appreciated. Mid-week worship services are conducted by senior C.E. society. The new preacher, J. W. Brookes, and Mrs. Brookes are expected.

Broken Hill.—During three weeks Christmas holidays, it was necessary to close Wolfram st. chapel, as members with exception of four were away from city. Since then, preaching has been carried on in both centres, speaking brethren being J. Cremer, A. Clark, L. Warren, who have carried on without any outside help. In February members were delighted to have Mr. Hilford give an appreciated address at both services and he visited Wills-st. Bible school in afternoon. Church has been cheered and encouraged by coming of Mr. and Mrs. R. Warmbrunn and their two little children, Mr. Warmbrunn having been transferred to Commonwealth Bank. Two aged sisters have received the home-call—Mrs. R. Preston and Mrs. Caple. Sympathy of church is extended to those who sorrow. There are prospects of a full-time preacher coming.

South Australia

Nailsworth.—Meetings keep up with splendid attendances and helpful addresses from A. J. Fisher. Bible school has gained new scholars in all departments, and with further teachers this phase of work is most encouraging. Successful picnic was held by guild at Morialta, with large attendance on March 2. T. Tregloan, of Whyalla, was welcomed into fellowship on Feb. 29.

Murray Bridge.—Visitors have included Miss Annear (Middle Park, Vic.) and Miss Winnie Waterman. On March 4 Mrs. Kingston was welcomed into Girls' Club. A Sunday school picnic was planned for March 6. Sunday school resumed on Feb. 29, and attendance was promising. On Feb. 28 wedding of Gwen Page to Eric Weidenbach was conducted in chapel. Arthur Coote, who has had pneumonia, is recovering.

York.—Church has resumed full activities again, all auxiliaries functioning well. Bible school re-opened on Feb. 29; 50 scholars present. On March 7, 100 were present, average attendance being only slighter higher. At last meeting of officers Mr. Wallage was elected a deacon to fill vacancy on board. Harvest festival was held on March 7, services being well attended. Those gifts suitable for packing are to be sent to Britain, balance to Morialta Protestant Children's Home. There have been three confessions—Joyce Kemp, Rae Jeffries and Nancy Solly.

Kilburn.—First evening gospel service was held on March 7, when 23 adults and 9 children attended. A. Lovell, of Edwardstown, was song-leader; Sisters Lawrence sang a duet, Sister Kelly a solo, and F. Collins gave an excellent address. 11 a.m. service was conducted by A. Roberts, of Prospect, and addressed by F. Collins, attendance being 23 adults and 30 young worshippers. 78 were present at 10 a.m. Bible school. £1 donation from a Prospect sister and 5/- from a Kilburn brother will be used to buy kindergarten prizes. Sisters Lawrence are now making kettle-holders to sell for kinder prizes, having paid for twelve kinder chairs by that means.

Cowandilla.—At morning service on Feb. 15, Ken Dixon was speaker. Bible school reopened on Feb. 22 after closing due to paralysis epidemic. E. Mason and Geo. Hossack have recovered from illness, and able to meet again at Lord's Table. March 7 was harvest thanksgiving service. A great number of assorted gifts were displayed, all of which were sent to aborigine children's homes at Eden. W. E. Fisher gave an appropriate address; 90 were present. At evening service Mr. Fisher gave the address, assisted by a special choir under leadership of H. Hemer; 80 were present. On March 9, Y.P.C.E. arranged with S. Riches to show moving colored pictures in connection with Mission to Lepers. A mid-week prayer meeting has been arranged to be held at members' homes. First was held on Mar. 3, at home of church secretary J. Grigg. The second was held on March 10 at home of J. Dixon. Dorcas society met for first time this year on March 10. A working bee recently arranged to level front of church yard and fence off manse.

Kadina.—A girl from Bible school has been baptised and received into church. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 29 and March 1. S. E. Matthews, of Semaphore, was speaker at all services, and gave splendid addresses. Anthem by choir; a male quartette by C. E. Larcombe, N. Bartle, A. P. Russack and P. Oakley; a duet by Mr. and Mrs. Larcombe, and a solo by Miss V. Wilton, were enjoyed by good audiences. On March 4 a kitchen evening was tendered to Lois Trenwith, when a large number of useful kitchen utensils were presented to her, together with a tea set, a gift from church. In addition to being evening organist, Miss Trenwith was also organist for Bible school, a Bible school teacher, and pianist for Y.P.S.C.E. Her marriage to Col. L. Smith took place in chapel on March 6, Mr. Rootes officiating. Mrs. Roy Paterson will now fill position of organist for gospel services. During Mr. Rootes' absence on holidays in February, services were taken by A. H. and A. P. Russack, S. R. Trenwith and N. Bartle.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Meeting on March 3 was arranged by Ladies' Mission Band. Miss Esther Messent gave an interesting and instructive address. A social time was enjoyed, and supper appreciated. £2/10/- was received for F.M. work. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 7. Choir under Frank Willing sang anthems at both services; soloists were J. Henley, W. Schmidt, Mrs. F. Willing and Mrs. R. Cotton; organist, Mr. Glastonbury. W. Beiler gave helpful addresses, and a young woman made the good confession. J. Smith, who was immersed during mission, was received into church. Offering for Church Extension Fund amounted to £7/6/9. Harvest gifts were goods suitable for gifts for Britain, and these were nicely arranged in front of platform. £5 was also contributed towards cost of postage of parcels. It is expected that 20 parcels will be forwarded. Sympathy of church has been extended to Miss Leedham in death of her uncle, to whom she ministered during his illness. Bible school has reopened, but attendances have not so far reached previous figures. Preparations are being made for anniversary.

Fullarton.—On March 2 Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Manning held an "at home" at manse—a token of three happy and fruitful years of service. A number availed themselves of the opportunity of greeting preacher and his wife in their own home. In evening, others who could not come in day gathered for prayer and Bible study and song-service; sitting-room was crowded out. Mrs. Manning served a delightful supper. On March 7 Mr. Manning commenced his fourth year with church. Thanksgiving was keynote. In morning his address was on morning lesson. A thank-offering of £79 was received towards debt reduction. Annual offering for Church Extension Building Fund was received, amounting to £2/6/-, and a further £5/15/4 was made during year through duplex envelopes. At evening service B. W. Manning preached his monthly prophecy address. A male choir assisted with two items. Building was almost crowded out.

WANTED

House or shop and dwelling, of not less than four rooms, wanted most urgently.—Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale. U3029, after 5.30 p.m.

Lady, alone, would like business person to share small, comfortable home near Camberwell station.—"Appointment," 25 Auburn-pde, E.3.

Mrs. Trabinger, sen., from Bendigo, is coming for churches of Christ conference for March 24, and also for picnic, and wishes to meet all her friends there if all well.

Motor mechanic, able to take charge if necessary. Boy to learn petrol station, store work and office. Good wages and congenial workers. Suit father and son.—Travencore Motors, 32 Mount Alexander-rd., Flemington, near Flemington Bridge Railway Station. FU6339.

Two ladies require unfurnished house or rooms, outer suburb of Melbourne; garage.—Genuine, care Austral Co., 524 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne.

COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE OLD BOYS' CLUB.

The annual outing of the above association will be held on Tuesday, March 30. Cars will leave the Y.M.C.A. corner, South Melbourne, at 10 a.m. for a country destination. Members are asked to bring a basket lunch, tea and sugar, and a cup. The re-union tea will be held in the Lygon-st. school hall at 5.30 p.m. Advise the hon. secretary, Charles Cole, immediately if intending to be at one or both functions. 'Phone, UM1248.

HYMAN APPELMAN GOSPEL CAMPAIGN. YOU JUST MUST HEAR THIS PROPHET OF GOD.

The Melbourne Town Hall was crowded to capacity on Sunday afternoon, March 14. At night the Hawthorn Town Hall was quite inadequate, and scores of people made decision for Christ.

DR. APPELMAN WILL SPEAK—

Lord's day, March 21:

11 a.m., Moonee Ponds Methodist Church.
3 p.m., Port Melbourne Town Hall.
8.15 p.m., Malvern Town Hall.

Monday, March 22, 8 p.m., Malvern Town Hall.
Tuesday, March 23, Federal Hall, Footscray, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, March 24, 12 noon, Newport Workshops.
8 p.m., Federal Hall, Footscray.

Thursday, March 25, 8 p.m., St. Kilda Town Hall.

GOOD FRIDAY:

2.30 p.m., Churches of Christ Conference.
3 p.m., Alma-rd. Presbyterian Church.
Basket tea.

7.30 p.m., Alma-rd. Presbyterian Church.

Note the Alteration.—Wirth's Olympia services will commence on Saturday, March 27.

BIRTH

FISHER (nee Smith).—At West Ryde, N.S.W., on Feb. 9, 1948, to Enid, wife of Lance M. Fisher—a son (Ian Howard).

DEATH

SEMKEN.—On March 6, at 16 Royal-cres., Caulfield, Therisa, beloved wife of Leslie and loving niece of Mrs. and the late Mr. Whittington, of 36 Elphin-gve., Hawthorn. A silent sufferer at rest.

IN MEMORIAM

BENZIE.—In loving memory of our dear Jim. 413526 Flt-Sgt. J. M. Benzie, who gave his life, March 15, 1944, dearly loved son and brother of Mr. and Mrs. R. Benzie and family, Longueville, N.S.W. Lovingly remembered.

COCKROFT.—Tender memories of our beloved daughter Joy, who fell asleep on Mar. 9, 1942.

"Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken, or the pitcher be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern; then shall the dust return unto the earth as it was, and the spirit return unto God who gave it."

—Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Cockcroft.

HERON.—In loving memory of my dear husband Alfred John, who passed away Mar. 24, 1942; father of Douglas, Ernest, Keith.

Time changes many things,
But one thing changes never,
The memory of those happy days
When we were all together.

AN APPRECIATION

One of the oldest and most loved of the General Dorcas, Mrs. J. J. Anderson, passed away on Saturday, March 6, 1948. Faithful in all the services of the church; gentle and Christlike in all her dealings; always considerate of the needy ones; we shall miss her gracious presence.

"Until the shadows flee and the day dawns,"
Good-night!
—E.M.W.

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Regional Centres:

Monday, April 5, 8 p.m., Footscray Chapel.
Tuesday, April 6, 8 p.m., Box Hill Chapel.
Wednesday, April 7, 8 p.m., Oakleigh Chapel.
Thursday, April 8, 8 p.m., Brighton Chapel.
Neighboring churches invited to co-operate.

EASTER READING

"Why the Cross?" By Archdeacon H. E. Guillebaud, M.A. A reasoned understanding of God's plan for man's salvation. 7/9.

"The Prince of Life." By Marcus L. Loane, M.A. Studies on the Resurrection and Ascension. 8/6.

"Worthy the Lamb," and other Convention addresses. By John G. Ridley. 5/9.

"The Cross: Profession or Power?" By Capt. J. C. Metcalfe, M.C. 2/5.

"Bible Studies on God's Plan of Redemption." By Ruth Paxson. 1/8.

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BACK TO WARRAGUL CHURCH OF CHRIST WEEKEND SERVICES

April 9—Inspirational Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
10—Fellowship Picnic.
11—11 a.m., Worship (Special Gift Day).
12.30 p.m., Fellowship Dinner.
2.30 p.m., Young People's Rally.
7 p.m., Evangelistic Service.

Former ministers and members cordially invited. If unable to attend send a greeting. For catering purposes please write Secretary if attending. Secretary's address, C. W. Pedersen, 50 Smith-st., Warragul.

Transport from Melbourne arranged for April 11. Contact R. Rowbottom, 112 Roberts-st., Essendon. Return fare, 5/-.

THIRD ANNIVERSARY MOOROOGA (VIC.) CHURCH.

Sunday, March 21, 7 p.m., K. A. Jones.
Tuesday, March 23, 8 p.m., programme, with address by J. C. Cunningham.
All invited.

HAMPTON

25th ANNIVERSARY OPENING OF CHAPEL, SUNDAY, MARCH 21.

11 a.m., K. A. Jones.
3 p.m., A. W. Stephenson.
7 p.m., C. G. Taylor.

Monday, March 22, 8 p.m., Church Social.
D. Wakeley, Guest Speaker.

Former members are invited to "Come Back to Hampton" for this occasion.
Hospitality provided.

'BACK TO MARYBOROUGH,' EASTER, 1948.

Visiting members and friends of Maryborough church of Christ are invited to attend Easter services in chapel.

83rd ANNUAL CONFERENCE of CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN VICTORIA, MARCH 24 to 31,

Synopsis of Programme.

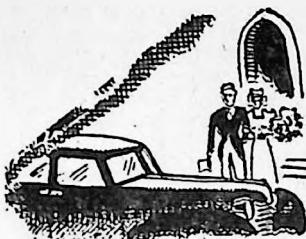
Wed., March 24—Women's Conference, at Lygon-st., all day from 10.30.
7.45, Swanston-st., C.M.S. Annual Meeting.
Thurs., March 25—2.30, Swanston-st., Reception by President, Women's Conference.
3, Lygon-st., Preachers' Session.
5.45, Lygon-st., Pre-Conference Tea and Discussion.
7.45, Lygon-st., Opening Session General Conference. President's Welcome. Reports. Address.
Fri., March 26—Lygon-st., 9.30, Conference continued. Address by Incoming President.
2, Vital Departmental Discussions.
7.15, Home Mission Demonstration.
Sat., March 27—Lygon-st., Conference continued. 9.30, Discussion. Reports.
2, Further Vital Discussions.
7.30, Overseas Missions Demonstration.
Sun., March 28—Independent Church, Collins-st., Conference Sermon Session.
Mon., March 29—All Day, Picnic at Wattle Park.
7.15, Lygon-st., Christian Endeavor Rally.
Tues., March 30—5.45, Lygon-st., College Old Boys' Club Reunion.
7.45, Lygon-st., Social Service Demonstration.
Wed., March 31—8, Melbourne Town Hall, Great Youth Demonstration.

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Tas.—Mr. Lynden Smith, St. Morle, Tas. Pen., Tasmania.
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Or to Mr. A. M. Bell, Fed. Hon. Sec., 140 Barrack-st., Perth, W.A.

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W. J. Crossman, 69 Campbell-st., Surry Hills, N.S.W.
A. E. Heard, 54 View-st., Dallynne, Tas.
W. Nightingale, 31 Robert-st., Como, W.A.

The Australian Christian

Obituary

Wm. Harris

WITH the home-call of William Harris, another link with those who served faithfully in the past has been broken. Mr. Harris joined the church at Dawson-st., Ballarat, Vic., more than 50 years ago, where he took a very active interest in the life of the church. Later he transferred to Peel-st., Ballarat, where with characteristic devotion he served as deacon for many years. When his work took him to Daylesford, where there was no church of Christ, he with others gathered together children in a Sunday school—a work always dear to his heart. Late in life he came to Melbourne and took up membership with Brunswick church, where he endeared himself to all. He was always strong in faith and a staunch believer in the infallible word of God. He leaves behind him a splendid record of faithful Christian living and service; and now that he has gone to be with the Lord, "we sorrow not even as those who have no hope." We commend his family and grandchildren to the blessing of our God.—E.H.R.

Louisa Howard

ON Jan. 8, at the home of her daughter (Mrs Rob. Langley), Mrs. Howard, relict of the late Robert Howard, passed to her eternal reward at the ripe old age of 90 years. Our sister, who was of a quiet and gentle disposition, was an inspiration to all who were privileged to meet and talk with her of things eternal. Early in life our sister united with the church at Alma Plains, S.A. Some years later she, with her husband and family, moved to Victoria and settled in the Mallee district,

where with a few other disciples they were pioneers of the work in Brim and Galagail districts. While in that district their family of four children—Emily, Charley, Henry and Arthur—all became members of the church. Later the family moved into Bayswater and Croydon districts, and the three sons went to U.S.A. colleges and became preachers of the gospel. During the past 20 years Mrs. Howard lived with her daughter, and has been associated with the church at Montrose. In addition to her daughter and sons, there were 14 grandchildren, 30 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild, to mourn the loss of "little grandma," as she was affectionately called, only "till the day dawns, and the shadows flee away."—R.L.

Ellen Russell

THE church at Maryborough, Vic., suffered a great loss through the passing of our late sister on Nov. 8, 1947. Mrs. Russell was born at Bet Bet 74 years ago. Her father was a pioneer member of the Bet Bet church, whose place of worship he helped to erect. Our late sister was an active member of the church since her baptism at twelve years of age. She was a foundation member of the Maryborough Ladies' Aid, of which she remained a member until her death. Although an invalid for many years, our sister was a loyal follower of Christ, delighting to be present at his table, and carrying with her a spirit and disposition which was helpful to all. A family of five left to mourn her passing rise up and call her blessed. We know that our sister has entered into the presence of her Lord, who says to all such valiant souls, "Well done, good and faithful servant."—F.B.A.



JANUS—A Roman deity whose temple remained open only in days of war. The temple gates have closed. In the after-time of war, the world looks for a secure and solid peace that will bring happiness, prosperity, and opportunity for all. In this land of ours, which offers more of the good things of life to the average citizen than any other country in the world, opportunities for advancement abound.

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An Easter Hymn

COME, let us stand beneath the cross;
The fountain opened in his side
Shall purge our deepest stains away;
Jesus, our Lord, is crucified.

O love of God! O sin of man!
In this dread act your strength is tried,
And victory remains with love,
For he, our Lord, is crucified.

—F. W. Faber.

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March 16, 1948