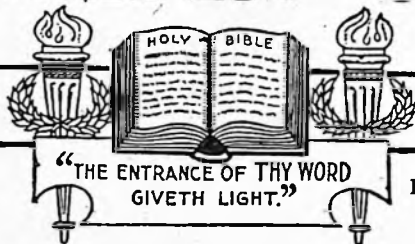


YOUTH NUMBER

The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



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TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 1948

"This I Pledge Myself to Do!"

YOU are my child.

Upon your face and form has been pencilled the likeness of those who bore you, and the soul shining in your eyes is part of them.

You are committed to fatherly and motherly care and the nurture of a home.



In you—in your body and soul, waiting their hour of release—are stored God-given powers.

In ways we know not, you, who are of us, are also of God who waits to direct the creative powers of life within you.

You belong to the race of men through a kinship of blood that binds you to the joy and pain of others.

In you humanity takes fresh heart. On you it rests its hopes of a generation fit to create where men have destroyed, fearless to destroy what the evil in men's hearts has created. The fate of nations and humanity is in your hands.

I pledge myself to your well being.

I will take care to see that you are fair and fine in body.

I want you to grow up firm as steel and beautiful as music.

I want you to pour out into this pagan world a Christlike integrity.

How can I help your spirit grow?

In that high charge I will lead you to the Lover of little children, who said, "Of such is the kingdom of heaven."

You will know what I can teach you from God's word.

Early will you have what the church and its ministry can give.

I am thankful for the church-school and its teachers, for through-the-week activities, for youth departments and youth workers who share my dreams of you.

I will uphold them and make possible a greater work for you and the children of every home.

I will help the church to be the kind of place where you will be at home, and the home to be the staunch ally of the church.

This, God helping me, I pledge myself to do!

"THIS I DESIRE TO GIVE!"



I AM a youth.

The years of childhood are behind me, but undergirding my manhood is the parental devotion by which my infant steps were led and all my childhood nourished.

Thankful am I for the affection and care of home, all the habits it has lovingly built into my life, the ideals it has planted in my heart.

When illness fell upon me, when I chafed under discipline and rebelliously went my selfish way, that love bore with me patiently.

My yesterdays are shaping my becoming and will go with me to the wider world.

When other helpers failed, my home and my church held me fast. Both were my mentors in eternal things. I have a sheet-anchor in the Bible, in its treasured wisdom of the ages, its unfolding of the Life of lives.

The inspiration of great lives has shed light for my own and the friendly ministry of church-school teachers, club leaders and fellow Christians has wrought far beyond their knowing, far beyond my measuring.

Bound to mankind, its weal and woe, the shadows of a distressed world are on my brow, but with me is the light that follows all my way.

This I desire to give—

To serve the church as a worker—a class to teach, a group of boys to befriend, a task where the going is toughest.

I desire to be a worthy citizen of the kingdom of God through loyal obedience to him in my personal living and in all my associations with others.

I would make my job a Christian responsibility.

I would live creatively with a mind untrammelled by prejudices, unhampered by custom and conventions that stifle advance.

Let me assist the causes of truth, international justice and friendship not simply with an abhorrence of war, but pursuing the things that make for peace.

Because to me has been given, I in turn would give in the might of him who worketh hitherto and will work.

—V. C. Stafford.

The Board of Christian Education

THE Victorian Y.P. Department, acting for many years as a Federal Committee for youth work, carried a large volume of work on behalf of all States, and for some time it was felt there should be a separate Federal department which would attend to these interests. Further, there was a need for giving more attention to lesson materials and activities implied in Christian education. The youth directors' conferences in 1945 and 1946, at which all States except Tasmania were represented, affirmed the necessity of such a board. The directors' conference in 1947, affirmed the necessity of such a board.

In May, 1947, the board was formed, the following being appointed with power to add: W. R. Hibburt, L. A. Trezise, F. T. Morgan (chairman), B. F. Huntsman and E. A. Lewis (treasurer). The board is in its initial stages, and permission will be sought at Federal Conference to amend the constitution and establish the board as a Federal department.

V. C. Stafford was invited to become director, and served in a part-time capacity until December, 1947, when his appointment became full-time.

The board has produced the "Christian Youth Fellowship" manual and assisted in other lesson material; "Youth's Own Diary," study booklets and other literary work. It has attended, inter alia, to youth week, Oslo conference, Federal scripture examination, directors' conferences. The directors' conference agreed for the time being to the principle of token pay-

F. T. Morgan (Chairman).



ments from States toward support of the board, this being regarded as a first step to an adequate provision.

Everyone who lives in the stream with the youthful section of the Christian community knows two things. He knows that without adequate Christian education, youth is in danger of being lost to lesser faiths that clamor for allegiance. He knows, too, that Christian education means fearless application of the principles of Christ to every life situation in such a way that truth will be accepted by young people as the living answer to their own needs and experience.

To make the Bible speak to growing children and young people is a task that makes demands on every teacher and leader. It demands a breadth of understanding and knowledge that is not achieved easily. All teachers who are awake to the task know the need for all the helps that can be given. They know, too, that the demands of this task are not fixed. They vary with life's change and development. The material available for the aid of teachers to-day will not remain so valuable as it is to-day. To-morrow's life will need new and fresh applications of the eternal truth to live by. The maintenance of this constant supply of resource material and teaching helps of an effective and useful kind is

one of the aims of the Board of Christian Education.

Not only is there development in the nature of the problems of youth with changing life. There has come, also, a growth of understanding of the task of education generally. New methods of presenting truth are being evolved and used to teach our children the affairs of daily life. Christian education must not lag behind in its effectiveness.

The provision of good Christian literature for youth is a matter of major importance in any comprehensive educational programme. This, therefore, is another item in the programme of aims of the Board of Christian Education.

The board's aims and hopes can only reach full fruition through enlightened sympathy, practical assistance, and the understanding that can appreciate the magnitude of the task without losing faith.



The Australian Christian

Page 170

April 20, 1948

INFINITE POSSIBILITIES OF YOUTH

"You Can't Afford to Give to Youth Work!"

G. R. Stirling, B.A., South Australia.

THAT seems a silly thing for a youth director to say when his own department is asking for more money than ever, and in an issue of the "Christian" whose purpose is to



G. R. Stirling, B.A.

gain brotherhood support for Christian youth work. But it's true! It's like this . . .

Up till now most people have been convinced that Christian youth work is a good thing. That Bible schools and societies and clubs are a good thing. That it's a good thing to have a Youth Department. So people have been prepared to give . . . what they can afford, to keep this work going. But so far, on the whole, we've only been giving what we can afford. We've given a two shilling piece from among the small change in our pockets, and we've always been happy to give a bit at other times too.

But the time has come when we must cease to be just smilingly benevolent towards youth work. If the youth of this generation are to be won for Christ we must give what we can't afford to give.

Peter and James and John and the others couldn't afford to give up their fishing and their homes . . . but they did it and handed on the good news of Jesus Christ. The churches in occupied Europe couldn't afford to risk their heads to keep Christianity alive . . . but they did it and ran the risk. Modern overseas missions are really more than the home churches can afford . . . but we keep them going because we believe in the great commission. There wouldn't be any overseas missions if people had only given what they could afford.

We need a new perspective. We need to see that Christian youth work is so important in our age . . . that we will start giving sacrificially, money and time and energy we can ill-afford to spare. If we don't learn this in a hurry, there won't be much hope for the church and the world of the future. You can't afford to give what is required for Christian youth work . . . that's why we are asking you to give what you can't afford . . . for Christ's sake.

It's In Us to Do It

L. A. Trezise, B.A., Victoria.

"IT isn't in us! We haven't got the will or the desire to do great things for God!" said a friend to me one day. That was pretty plain talking, and the man who said it wasn't merely an observer. He was a worker for Christ.

I wonder if what that man said is true? I have sometimes thought that about the whole of the church as it is to-day, but every now and then I get a glimpse of something that makes me believe we have in our own brotherhood the hidden qualities of a great people. The loose tie-up of our churches to the central conference has the appearance of weakness, and yet we hold to brotherhood ideals with a rocklike firmness. Every congregation



L. A. Trezise, B.A.

is free, and none dare trespass upon the local autonomy, and yet a bond of love holds us all in one great fellowship. The constraint upon churches of Christ is not legal and imposed from without; it is voluntary and springs from within.

It is in us to be brethren! It is in us to move together in the work of Christ. To give one example, the outstanding success of the Christian Fellowship Association is a witness to the world of a brotherhood in action.

The time has come to make a similar witness in creative youth work. It is, by the grace of God, within our power to bring into being a strong movement encircling thousands of young people from whom Christ may secure to-day a greater church for to-morrow. The offering we make on May 9 can be an evidence that we have both the will and the desire to spread the Christian evangel amongst youth.

It is in us to do it!

Wanted—A Sense of Direction

F. B. Stow, Queensland.

LIFE is a race! This picture of life given us by the Hebrew writer is a vigorous and enterprising one. Life is a race—and the aim, the goal, the ideal, Jesus!

While we may argue about the merits of the statement that "the race is to the swift and the strong," this is most certainly true—life, to be completely satisfying, needs the development of the total personality.

Life that is really life cannot be possessed by the shiftless drifter, but is the experience of those alone who have been fortunate enough to have had a good start in the race, who through coaching and encouragement have kept the pace, and who have been directed along the track that leads to Christ, the author and perfecter of faith. How important it is, then, to make that good start! How valuable that coaching and training! How tremendously vital that the thousands of more or less "aimless adolescents" who are running life's race, and many with determination, might find their direction and know what it is to live purposefully.

Youth committees and leaders of youth, realising these things, are disturbed by the increased efforts and activity that unchristian interests are making to sidetrack young people, and are equally disturbed by the complacency of so many Christian people as far as winning youth for Christ is concerned.



F. B. Stow.

Youth leaders, having sized up the situation, want to act—but their plans will never be implemented without the resolute and sympathetic backing of the churches. A reasonable gauge of the church's appreciation of her responsibility will be the support given to youth and leaders of youth during Youth Week, and the response to the offering on May 9.

(Further articles by youth directors on page 173)

The Australian Christian

April 20, 1948

Page 171

Vote For Youth With a Generous Offering
in YOUTH WEEK

MAKE YOUTH SPIRITUALLY FIT

Chairmen of Departments Urge

Forgotten Impulses

H. J. Wyeth, Queensland.

YOU have left them behind—the impulses you had in your youth. The urge to do, to go, to get, somewhere in your Christian service was real—was big.

Impulses came to you, in your enthusiasm for the work of the Master and the church, born of the inspiration of Bible study and fellowship meetings, to accomplish big things—to really live the Christ life or service.

You obeyed some—others you stifled. You gradually lost some of your enthusiasm, and amid the changing interest of the years you have forgotten your early impulses.

Ask yourself, "Would the church be bigger, the children I contacted be better trained for service, my own record be brighter, if I had not forgotten? Would I have done more if I had been better trained and fitted?"

We ask you to live again your youthful impulses to serve and do things for God in the youth of to-day. They have taken up the torch and are keen to serve, to work.

You can help them to translate their enthusiastic youthful impulses into useful, constructive service for the Master.

How? Give a worth while offering on May 9 that your Youth Committee may be able to continue to wisely direct young people in avenues of service.



Spiritual Foundations

C. L. Johnston, S.A.

CHRISTIAN education of the youth of our churches calls for varied activities covering the social, physical, mental and spiritual development of boys and girls. In all this, the great aim is the winning of them for the kingdom of God.

One of the disappointments in our work is that a large number of those in our youth auxiliaries do not reach the point of decision to accept Christ as their personal Saviour, and in church membership live the life as set by the Son of God.

Surely this is a matter for serious consideration. Young people may discuss what the church and Christians should do in this world, but it will avail little if they themselves are unwilling to follow the Master.

It is a good thing to create a happy band of like-minded youth, and to cater for their social, physical and mental needs, but how much more desirable to weld them together as children of the heavenly Father through a personal acceptance of his Son as their Saviour.

Teaching, training, friendship and example will greatly help to bring our young people to this point. It is the work of the Youth Department to promote this activity in the local churches.

We appeal to church members and members of the various auxiliaries to give financial help, enabling the necessary training and opportunities to be provided.

Let us emphasise the spiritual side of life and the need for a definite commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord.

To-morrow is Here

B. F. Huntsman, Victoria.

182,000 babies were born in Australia during 1947, nearly one every hour. Let us ask ourselves how many of these children will grow up under Christian influence, how many will come into contact with the Christian church, and how many will eventually accept Jesus Christ as Lord to live and serve in God's kingdom?

Youth evangelism commences when the baby is born. From this time until adult life the child needs to be surrounded by a vital Christian influence, so that maturity will be characterised by Christ-like standards of life and service.

The first Christian influence *should* be the home; the second *can be* the church. A planned youth programme in the local church will indicate we are interested in the future of at least some of these 182,000 children. Let us be creative, imaginative, and enthusiastic in evangelising every aspect of the life of youth.

The State Youth Department exists to back up the work of the local church. It exists, too, to co-ordinate and initiate youth work in the State. Let us see to it that our State Youth Department is what we want it to be. Let us see to it that the department gives the service we need. Let us see to it that prayer is offered for guidance on its policy. Let us see to it that we support it to enable it to carry forward its programme with adequate resources.

YOUTH WEEK—

MAY 2 TO 9, 1948



Behind a child's character there is the unseen influence of parents.

The Worth of A Whole Life

Stanton H. Wilson, Tasmania.

TO-DAY people are looking for a John the Baptist or an Elijah. Events drive them into a false attitude of expectancy in which their hopes are pinned on the advent of some great personality, a world leader who will rally the hosts of God.

Might it not be that their longings are not met because they are looking for such an one rather than girding themselves in the strength of the Lord? It is significant that to Timothy, a young man, Paul an elder of the church said, "Be thou an example of the believers." The danger of looking for one to come is that we fail to do our utmost with those who are here. Has not God brought us to the kingdom for such an hour as this?

The church must realise the inestimable worth of a whole life consecrated to the service of Christ, and support its youth programme in the light of its infinite possibilities.



The Challenge of The Rising Generation

R. V. Amos, N.S.W.

THERE are many people to-day who regard the rising generation as a band of happy, healthy young pagans, whose main occupation in life is to be found in grasping the many pleasures which the world offers to them. They feel that these young people are almost entirely beyond the reach of the gospel message, and that very few of them will ever be won to the cause of Christ. If that be so, then it is all the more incumbent upon the Christian church to rethink her method of approach to this great unchurched mass.

The challenge of this rising generation is for a better trained leadership, a more attractive youth programme, a fully developed plan of service, and the presentation of a standard of life worthy and able to demand the best that these young folk have to give.

Christ *can* challenge to-day's youth to climb to greater heights, but to do that the young people themselves must be brought within the sound of his message. Therefore every avenue available to us must be thoroughly explored, and out of the process of our thinking there must be evolved a programme adequate for the needs of our particular work. For instance, we must give some serious thought to the matter of Christian community centres, as a means of winning the rising generation for Christ. The church *must* give her best in meeting the demands made upon her by these young people, and remember that "for childhood and youth God made us trustees." And having won them, let us use them or we will lose them.

The Australian Christian

W.A. Fifty-First Conference

HIGHLIGHTS of conference this year were the coming of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Greenwood and the presence of E. C. Hinrichsen. Mr. Greenwood has come to take up the work of State organiser and secretary. Mr. Hinrichsen was preacher of the conference sermon to an audience of 900 in the town hall. His address, "The Book of the Church," was broadcast, so that the challenge of the plea was widely publicised.

Women's Conference.—As the climax of a year of very able leadership, Mrs. K. A. Robinson chaired the meetings of the Women's Conference when they met on Wednesday, Mar. 24. At evening session Mrs. Robinson introduced the new officers who will serve with Mrs. J. C. Humphrys, their president. Mr. Greenwood was introduced and spoke on "Co-operating in the Christian Crusade."

Preachers' Session.—The president of the preachers' fraternal welcomed three new preachers to the State—S. Ryles, R. Hillier and H. E. Greenwood. The latter was the speaker, and told of preaching conditions in Queensland.

Overseas Rally.—During the missionary rally on Thursday night the foreign mission report was adopted, a missionary play was presented, and Mr. Crozier, of the Indian Village Mission, in presenting his message spoke of the unusual opportunities since India had become independent.

Easter Devotional Session.—Friday morning was devoted entirely to an inspirational session. The conference choir, under leadership of A. E. Sagers, brought uplifting anthems, and a congregation of 260 was faced up to the challenge of the cross by Mr. Greenwood's address, "On the Road to the Cross." The helpfulness of this service must find its reflection in renewed consecration.

Committee Reports.—During Friday afternoon committees brought brief surveys of their work, and these were appreciated by a very large congregation which listened but did not discuss. The president-elect, A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed., gave a challenging address to an audience of over 300. He urged a practical application of our plea in every department of the work.

Brotherhood Hospital.—Bethesda Hospital, which has been largely financed and entirely controlled by members of the church, is now a brotherhood hospital by the decision of conference.

Cottages for the Aged.—Conference gave permission to the Social Service Committee to commence the first two cottages for aged people.

Building Material and Spiritual.—A. M. Bell reported on the great work done by two volunteer building teams at Carnarvon which have established five new buildings, the value of which would be approximately £4000 if they had been done by tender.

Thousands Hear Gospel Every Sunday.—Reports showed that there were over 2000 enrolled in the Radio Sunday School, and that the two other radio sessions had hundreds of regular listeners each Sunday. The children are well catered for, and the plea is faithfully presented, and quite a number had accepted Christ as Saviour.

The following conference appointments were made: President-elect, A. D. Pyne; treasurer, E. F. Black; committeeman, A. M. Bell; assistant secretary, L. H. Park. The remaining officers of conference already appointed are: President, A. G. Elliott; past-president, R. Raymond; secretary, H. E. Greenwood.

Home Mission Committee.—J. Gordon, J. W. Gordon, R. Richards, T. Smillie, S. G. Taylor, A. Ware, B. Wesley.

Foreign Mission Committee.—J. W. Althorpe,

T. Banks, R. McLaren, C. Nelson, P. Pittman, S. G. Taylor, H. Vawser.

Properties Committee.—J. J. Collingwood, A. C. Olds.

Social Service Committee.—Mrs. Beck and Mrs. Curtis; H. Coles, C. Crist, W. Nightingale, A. C. Olds, L. H. Park, C. R. Read.

Training Committee.—A. G. Elliott, A. A. McRoberts, S. Nelson, L. C. Peacock, G. A. Whiting.

Broadcasting Committee.—R. McLaren, S. Nelson, R. Hillier, J. Rhodes, S. G. Taylor, H. Vawser.

Thanks were expressed to the retiring conference secretary, L. H. Park, to the office staff, and a special word to the women who arranged the catering.

Undoubtedly the Western Australian brotherhood owes a debt of deep gratitude to R. Raymond for his able leadership and untiring service, as well as for his wise chairmanship. We have high hopes for the future, because of the plans for evangelism and the increased help through our State organiser. The West hopes to welcome many from the East at the Federal Conference this year.

THE LADDER OF PRAYER

THE mystical ladder of prayer

Is set for our use everywhere.

Our thoughts, weary angels, ascend,

To seek our omnipotent Friend;

While his messengers, radiant with light,

Bring heaven itself to our sight.

—Julia Ward Howe.

PREPARING YOUTH FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Fitness in Leadership

R. Greenhalgh, N.S.W.

THE N.S.W. Youth Department has centred its energies in evangelising the youth of the churches. The result has been that of the 255 additions through faith and obedience, over half, 131, were won from the ranks of youth. The emphasis of evangelism through all youth work is stimulating.

House parties and leadership training fit young people for presenting the gospel to the young.



R. Greenhalgh.

Happy hours are good for both direct and indirect evangelism.

The department runs an isolated Sunday school composed of 71 scholars, who take the self-teaching lessons, and an isolated cradle roll of 40. In these homes are the nuclei of future churches. Two other States are using the self-teaching method for their isolated scholars.

The present position of youth work in N.S.W. is most encouraging. There are 5124 scholars, 659 teachers, 531 J.C.E., 260 intermediate and 314 Y.P. members. Clubs' total membership is 1263. Young Worshipers' League totals 176.

The War Memorial Youth Centre is now in process of establishment. Ground has been secured from the Crown and work commenced. With the advent of a fully equipped youth centre a much more effective work is anticipated.

The great call is for efficient, consecrated leaders, who will not count their lives dear unto themselves. There is much to be countered in atheistic and denominational appeal, in so-called inter-denominational activity which gives a spurious spirituality without any real foundation and substance.

The only hindrance to the fulfilment of great plans is lack of finance, and it is hoped that the annual offering will make up this deficiency.

Fit For Everything

S. F. Davey, W.A.

CHRISTIAN fitness means young people prepared to equip themselves, to assume responsibility and work hard to forward the kingdom of God in all spheres of human living. Such young people we need in our brotherhood to-day.

The general tendency of young people is to avoid as much responsibility as possible. "We don't want to be tied by special duties to any community. There is more fun to be found in life at our age in the easy entertainments so abundantly supplied." It is very easy for Christian young people to be caught in the same drift.

Christian fitness demands the assuming of responsibilities as Christian citizens, as church members, as members of a home.

Youth is challenged to apply the principles of Jesus to society in matters of politics, industry, and social relationships; to express the Christian spirit in unselfish service and mutual concern in the home.

Young people are needed who will equip



S. F. Davey.

themselves for leadership in church, school and club.

The Youth Department aims to evangelise every young person and every relationship of life. Make it possible for this to be done by a worthy offering on Youth Sunday.

The Australian Christian

April 20, 1948

Page 173

Here and There

At Asquith, N.S.W., E. C. Hinrichsen conducted several services, when five men and two women decided for Christ.

The Explorer leaders' refresher course made a good beginning at North Richmond church (Vic.) on April 10. Forty enthusiasts attended. The course concludes on April 24.

The Federal Conference, to be held in Perth, W.A., is creating interest. Already 120 have registered to share in this event. Those interested are advised to contact the local church secretary for application forms.

Dr. R. Miller, editor of "The Christian-Evangelist," who intended to visit Australia in October as a fraternal delegate of brethren in the American churches, has notified the Federal Executive Committee he is not able to make the journey this year.

Miss Helen Roberts, general secretary of world's Y.W.C.A., at a meeting at Geneva, emphasised the great danger of identifying the church with the West, and the importance of close co-operation between Christians of East and West in common tasks they face.

The hike, picnic, sports and rally on May 1 reported in our young people's column last week refers to South Australia and not Victoria. The Victorian Youth Department is holding a combined youth rally in the Swanston-st. church on Tuesday, May 4, when the Oslo sound film will be screened.

In Hungary, because churches refuse to submit sermons for censorship by secular authorities, broadcasting of church services was suspended. This applies to all religious bodies. The Protestants were willing to submit sermons to Protestant bishops for censorship, but that proposal was rejected by radio directors.

The establishment of a Christian university in Japan has become a reality. Leading Christian scholars in Japan have been appointed to the faculty. In addition to regular courses in biology, chemistry, economics, law, philosophy, physics, and theology, special lectures will be given on the Bible, Christian ethics, and Christian doctrine.

The number of places of worship throughout the State of Victoria, as compiled by the Melbourne Sunday Christian Observance Council from figures obtained from church year books and other official records are as follows: Church of England, 800; Presbyterian, 968; Methodist, 1116; Baptist, 123; Churches of Christ, 120; Congregational, 80; Roman Catholic, 625; Lutheran, 57; Brethren, 49; Salvation Army, 107; Christian Science, 6. Grand total, 4051. We note that churches of Christ conduct church services in several centres where no regular chapel exists, bringing the total number of places where services are held to about 130.

Over 300,000 Victorian school children are combining during April in a drive to assist distressed children in the United Kingdom, and on the Continent of Europe. They are working through "The Save the Children Fund." This association, which is a large British organisation with headquarters in London, has teams working in Austria, Germany, Greece and Poland, and has representatives in France, Italy and Hungary, through whom relief is provided. In the United Kingdom the fund conducts children's clubs and hostels, makes distributions, and acts as foster-parent to thousands through sponsorships. The fund operates without regard to considerations of race, nationality or creed. It has the full support of all sections, all of whom are represented in its management. In conducting the drive during April, school children are extending a helping hand, through their schools, to the innocent victims of war. Donations may also be sent to the Victorian Branch of the Save the Children Fund, whose temporary headquarters are at 25 Smith-st., Fitzroy.

The church at Emerald (Vic.) has planned a brotherhood day on May 23, and invites all members now residing in the Dandenongs to share in this event. The church seeks these names and addresses to mail full information. Addresses of all who have been associated with the church in past years are particularly sought. Information should be addressed to W. R. Hibburt, the Manse, Main-rd., Emerald, Vic.

Visitation Evangelism

CHURCH AT OAKLEIGH, VIC.,
GAINS BLESSING.

"THIS is the beginning of a new epoch in brotherhood history," the visiting evangelist said in summing up the results of the campaign at Oakleigh, April 11-18.

After long and careful preparation of church by Stan Neighbour, the preacher, ten visitors were trained in their task by W. F. Nankivell, of Camberwell. Despite severe wintry conditions, five pairs of workers went out Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. At first they went out trembling as if to leap over a cliff, not knowing what was before them. That was how one visitor expressed himself. However, doors opened, and people received the word gladly. Sunday evening (April 18) was set apart as decision night. The chapel was filled. A baptismal service was conducted by Stan Neighbour. Helpful music and singing prepared the congregation for the gospel address. Mr. Nankivell made the essential truths of New Testament Christianity clear. Faith, repentance, confession and baptism were set out in an ordered and persuasive appeal. None could doubt what was expected of him. In response to the invitation sixteen persons made the good confession. Two others were added to church by letter as a result of the campaign, making a total of eighteen. Four persons who had signified their intention to accept Christ indicated they would make their public confession at a later date. Mr. Neighbour reports that definitely twenty-two will be added to the church, and others are seriously considering the claims of Christ.

Beside this numerical gain, the church at Oakleigh has received a great spiritual blessing. One visitor said, "Something has happened to us. We cannot be the same. We must see the church has a programme to hold these new members." Another said, "This is only the beginning." Those trained in visitation evangelism want to go on winning others. New Testament evangelism in the New Testament way works in Australia when a church is well prepared and visitors are filled with great faith.

The next effort will be at Footscray, when J. K. Martin will serve with A. E. Hurren. Let us pray for the workers in that field.

F. S. Steer's death on April 11 removes from our ranks a brother we have been proud to honor. His service as secretary of the Preachers' Provident Fund has brought much encouragement to preachers throughout the Commonwealth. His leadership in the local church at Chatswood and in New South Wales brotherhood has been most helpful. To those who mourn the loss of a father, relative and friend, we join in offering our sincere sympathy, praising God also for a life well spent in Christian service.

The Australian Student Christian Movement is sponsoring the visit of Dr. A. John Coleman. Dr. Coleman, a Canadian, is an outstanding figure in world university life. Although only thirty years of age, he is a Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics and Physics, and a Professor of Mathematics. He combines intellectual genius in the sphere of science with deep devotion in the Christian life. For five years, 1938-1943, he served the S.C.M. in Toronto, Canada, first as its student president, then as its general secretary. Since 1945 he has been on the staff of the W.S.C.F. Dr. Coleman will be in Victoria from May 6 until June 2. His itinerary will be mainly in his particular field, the university, but he will also be speaking in the city at a public meeting on Monday evening, May 24, when the public generally and the people of the churches will have the opportunity of hearing him.

ANNIVERSARY, WARRAGUL, VIC.

GIPPSLAND WORK ADVANCES

FROM April 9 to 11, "Back to Warragul" and 48th anniversary services were held. Opening session on Friday night was of an inspirational nature, when F. Youens, of Dandenong, gave a powerful address relating the church of to-day to the modern world. Young people sang two selections. A picnic was held on Saturday afternoon at Glen Cromie. Three services on Lord's day were outstanding, morning and evening meetings being packed. Attendances for day: 11 a.m., 154; 3 p.m., 111; 7 p.m., 140; and 136 broke bread. Mr. Buckingham, of Prahran, gave inspiring addresses morning and evening. Reg Hillbrick (a former preacher) presided over afternoon and evening services. A married man made his decision after gospel service. C. W. Jackel addressed young people's meeting, all being greatly interested, and at night he showed some slides in relation to beginning and progress of work at Warragul. C. W. Pedersen read history of past 48 years of church's experience. Young people rendered two selections. Special gift day objective of £150 was reached, and additional amounts are in sight. This constitutes a record in direct giving. Delegates were present from Morwell and Melbourne. Ladies in efficient manner catered for meals. In fellowship session after dinner, greetings were either received or visitors were present from following: H.M. Committee, four former preachers (W. W. Saunders, W. Wigney, J. K. Martin and L. E. Snow), W.A., Horsham, Ruypanyup, Hartwell, Balwyn, Mountain View, Parkdale, Black Rock, Williamstown, Wonthaggi, Moreland, North Essendon, Coburg, Drouen, Jindervick, Dandenong, Coalville, Trafalgar, Moe, Morwell, Oakleigh, Prahran, Traralgon, Nilma, Neerim, Ararat and Geelong; also Mr. and Mrs. Jacobi (Horsham) have had fellowship with church. The day will long be remembered as one of enthusiastic services and rich fellowship. It also marked beginning of an evangelistic campaign outlined by Mr. Jackel at an every member present Sunday previous week.—P. Byard.

ADDRESSES

G. J. Foot (secretary-treasurer Tasmanian State committee, Federal Aborigines Mission Board).—48 Hill-st., Launceston.

E. Hart (preacher Toowoomba church, Qld.).—99 Lindsay-st., Toowoomba.

K. A. Macnaughtan, c/o church of Christ, 333 Swanston-st., Melbourne, C.I. Mr. Macnaughtan may be contacted at church office each morning except Saturday.

A. R. Mudge (secretary Carnegie church, Vic.).—5 Beech-st., Malvern East, SE5.

W. W. Pearce (secretary Essendon church, Vic.).—295 Pascoe Vale-rd., Essendon, W5. Phone, FU4057.

The Australian Christian

News of the Churches

Western Australia

Cottesloe.—Annual business meeting of church was held on March 17. A youth council has been set up within church. Speakers lately have included Messrs. Bram Saunders, Holmes, Hunt, Elliott and Maston Bell. A surprise social was held on April 7 for Miss Joy Ineson on reaching her majority. A series of working bees organised by Mr. Ferguson has completed painting of church hall. Ladies' Aid is again meeting, with Mrs. Yeomans president, and has launched talent scheme again, aim again being £65. A drive is also being made by ladies for clothing for Carnarvon mission.

Maylands.—On March 28 Mr. McRoberts received in a married couple and a young girl who had been previously baptised, and at evening service he baptised a radio S.S. scholar. On April 3, Wilf Paget was speaker in morning; several visitors were present. At close of Mr. McRoberts' address in evening an elderly woman and a younger woman made the good confession. Women's Guild meets fortnightly. Mrs. Hollett, sen., was honored, and a small gift and bouquet of flowers were given her for her birthday. Previous meeting, late president, Mrs. Humphrys, was honored, and a nice book was accepted as a token of love and appreciation from sisters. Young women's club meets weekly at manse, and a happy time is enjoyed under leadership of Mrs. McRoberts. A girls' club under leadership of Mrs. Digwood has commenced activities weekly. S.S. is holding increase and attendance shield, and endeavoring to retain it this year.

Perth (Lake-st.).—On April 11 the Diamond Jubilee campaign was launched, after weeks of careful preparation. It is to come to a climax in the Diamond Jubilee in September, 1950. Ten major goals have been accepted by church, and the great majority of both resident and isolated members have signed "enlistment cards" pledging themselves to work for the goals. Morning service on April 11 was broadcast by special arrangement, so that isolated members could hear the goals explained. This broadcast was ninetyeth from Lake-st. church during present ministry, and both church and minister are greatly encouraged by the large volume of appreciation received from all over the State. At a special church business meeting held after service on April 4, resignation of J. J. Collingwood as church secretary, owing to his absence in the country for long periods, was accepted with regret, and R. W. Prince was elected to the position. On Easter Sunday night E. C. Hinrichsen preached to a packed building. Choir sang two anthems, and Mrs. G. Hunter a solo.

Subiaco.—Church had fellowship recently with Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Gillanders (Cheltenham, Vic.), Mr. and Mrs. Cooper (City Temple, Sydney), Mr. and Mrs. Read (Camberwell, Vic.), George Black (Croydon, S.A.), Sister G. Pearcey (Singapore). Peter Miller, recently transferred to Darwin, has opened a Sunday school. At March meeting of Men's Fellowship, J. E. Watson, secretary King's Park Board, gave an interesting account of Western Australia's forestry laws. Men's tea on April 4 was well attended. Men's choir rendered anthems to a large and appreciative audience. At gospel service on April 11, three older boys from Bible school were baptised and three girls and a boy confessed Christ. Monthly officers' meeting on April 12 discussed plans for Hinrichsen mission and church jubilee celebrations. C. Nelson was granted leave of absence till after Federal Conference. At Girls' Club on April 13, Miss Beryl Sweetman, Anglican delegate to Oslo Youth Conference, gave an illustrated (strip film) talk on conference activities. Stan Davies, W.A. youth director, also spoke. At meeting on April 14, mem-

bers of Ladies' Aid met Miss Anne Ball (Norwegian mission) at luncheon and discussed clothing needs of mission. Mrs. C. M. Nelson presided over a good attendance of members. Miss Ball led devotional service, and afterwards answered many questions on problems and wants of mission work. At midweek service on April 15, Mr. Elliott gave an interesting talk with lantern illustrations on Palestine. All departments of church are in good heart. C.E., Bible school and Lord's day services show increased attendance over previous month's.

Queensland

Charters Towers.—F. Hamond was speaker on morning of March 7; Mr. Richter preached at night. An enjoyable fancy-dress social was conducted by Y.P. Club on March 19. Church took part in a combined communion service held in Methodist chapel on Good Friday morning; Mr. Richter and Mr. Peres assisted. Many visitors were present at all services on Easter Sunday. Attendances are well maintained.

Mackay.—During power restrictions gospel service has been held in afternoon. There have been six additions to Bible school during recent weeks. Mr. Lambert, having been released from Army, has rejoined deacons' board. Church is actively interested in visit of Hyman Appelmann during July. Young people have accepted an invitation from Rockhampton people to have fellowship with them over Anzac week-end. Bill McCohn and Pauline Edmonds, both members at Mackay, were married at Nambour recently.

Toowoomba.—Working bees put manse and grounds at 99 Lindsay-st. in good order ready for coming of Mr. and Mrs. Hart, who are now comfortably settled in. Since their arrival, there have been four church additions through faith and obedience. At Harlaxton weekly gospel services have commenced with assistance of Y.P.F. Young people are saving for thanksgiving service in June. Thanksgiving, also one usual offering each month, will be given to Caloundra youth centre. Mrs. C. King, isolated member living at Goombungee, has returned home from hospital after a long and serious illness. Mrs. Draney, sen., is also home again and doing well. Church extends sympathy to H. Spieker and family in death of Mrs. Spieker, and to relatives of Mr. Poole, sen., of Ma Ma Creek, who passed away in Toowoomba hospital on April 5. Appreciated gifts of furniture for manse and chapel office have been received. Church rejoices in the appointment of Ray Draney as State conference president. He belongs to third generation of his family attached to Toowoomba church.

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—During morning service on April 4, C. J. Mackenzie baptised Howard Frost, who had previously made the good confession, and who later in service was welcomed into fellowship. At gospel meeting F. C. Hunting was preacher, and Endeavor choir sang. 174 met at Lord's Table during day. Visitors included Mrs. C. Walton, Marrickville, N.S.W. On April 11, at invitation of I.C.E., members of Men's Fellowship led meeting, enjoyable fellowship resulting. At services during day, F. C. Hunting continued his addresses on Hebrews and C. J. Mackenzie spoke at night, when Mrs. J. Smith was soloist. Aileen Deoberitz, of Bundaberg, was received in on transfer at morning service. 175 broke bread throughout day. Visitors included C. E. Simmons, Kurrajong, N.S.W.; Mrs. H. Earle, Box Hill, Vic.; and Mrs. W. Ingham, Camberwell, Vic. In accordance with plans to emphasise specially work of church in this jubilee year of its history, emphasis at all services this month is being laid on youth activity. After thirty years' service as sec-

retary of Women's Fellowship, Mrs. Berlin, sen., has resigned. At a surprise party at home of Miss Mills, members of Women's Fellowship entertained Mrs. Berlin and presented her with a brooch as a mark of appreciation for her many years of loyal service.

Tasmania

West Hobart.—Attendances during past few weeks have been good. Visiting speakers have been S. Cooper and J. Park, from Collins-st., and C. B. Smith, from Sydney. Church was well represented at conference, and congratulates Mr. Golder on his election as conference president for 1948. Visitors have included Mrs. V. Duncan, Sydney, and Miss Scott, of Northcote, Vic. Attendances at Bible school are encouraging. There were three new scholars on April 11. School is indebted to Mrs. B. Golder, who has offered to carry out visitation of scholars and parents.

Devonport.—On March 14, S. J. Bruton gave morning address, and at night F. T. Burt was preacher. On March 21 H. Byard was morning speaker and E. Stevens preached at night. On March 28 F. T. Burt spoke at both services. On April 4 A. Byard, from Mayberry, gave morning address and R. Pitt preached at night. Church expresses sympathy with Will Kenzie, who had to spend a few days in hospital with badly sprained ankle. On April 11, H. Byard gave an interesting talk on conference held in Launceston. Church was sorry that Rod Pitt was in hospital with a poisoned hand. F. T. Burt preached at night.

New South Wales

Inverell.—On Easter Sunday, visitors were present from Sydney, Newcastle, Lismore, Moree and Delungra, when good attendances were maintained at both services. On April 4 Mrs. Binks (China Inland Mission) was speaker at morning service. Mr. Binks spoke at prayer meeting during week.

Canley Vale.—Bible school anniversary on April 11 proved a wonderful success. Church building was crowded for afternoon and evening services with nearly 100 children attending. Kindergarten and primary prizes were distributed in afternoon, and those of junior department in evening. Children sang splendidly under leadership of Miss F. Thomas. Special speaker was R. Greenhalgh, who gave two interesting illustrated addresses. At evening service, in response to appeal, 16 Bible school scholars indicated their desire to accept Christ as Saviour. A young people's fellowship tea was held, after which Mr. Greenhalgh showed movies of Y.P. camps.

Wentworth Falls.—Splendid meetings were held on April 11. In morning Mr. Laney, from Burwood, gave an acceptable address. Many visiting members were present. At a good meeting at night, Mrs. Arthur Hook, who made the good confession previous Lord's day, was baptised. A broadcast service from 2KA is conducted on Sunday evenings at 5 o'clock. E. C. Hinrichsen gives the address. This service reaches many thousands of homes on the mountains, and is sponsored by H.M. Committee and church at Wentworth Falls. These broadcasts are helping the work greatly. Members are happy in their new church home, and look forward to completion of Bible school building.

Lidcombe.—"Boy Week" celebrations included a "father and son" banquet, at which Constable Hodges gave an interesting address. Sunday services were taken by members of Kappa Sigma Pi, and were conducted in a commendable manner. Harvest thanksgiving services were of very high order. Junior Endeavorers

The Australian Christian

have accepted a challenge from Bankstown for stamp collections to aid foreign missions. "Stewardship Month" is being emphasised in church and Bible school. Ladies' "Happy Hour" is doing fine work in sewing for Pendle Hill Boys' Home, and also in helping to defray cost of church improvements. Girls' "rhythmic" club has made a fine start. Mr. Baker continues to give scripture instruction in two public schools. Spiritual tone of church is on a high level, and work is in happy condition.

Georgetown.—J. W. Brookes (blind evangelist) and Mrs. Brookes were welcomed on March 20. Mr. Amos (Chatswood) and E. C. Hinrichsen delivered charge to church and preacher respectively. R. M. Wilson (Mayfield) was presented with a gold pencil in recognition of services to church while it was without a preacher. Newcastle newspaper published a photograph of Mr. and Mrs. Brookes together with a story of him finding a wallet containing £50 in a telephone booth. An average of 30 have been attending a series of open-air meetings. C.Y.F. visit Newcastle and Western Suburbs hospital as a singing party each month. Stewardship campaign was launched at a meeting on April 13. Y.P.S.C.E. has presented church with an electric clock. Women's Guild has raised almost £7 for food parcels for India and Britain, to be forwarded through brotherhood channels.

South Australia

Stirling East.—Services are well attended. On March 20, Sunday school combined with Aldgate Valley and held picnic enjoyably at Seaclyff. Most young people of church attended Easter camp at Gawler. On April 4, during evening service, Bob Russell was baptised. On April 10 and 11 a "Call to Youth" week-end was conducted by G. R. Stirling. Happy and helpful gatherings were enjoyed. Recent speakers to assist preacher, J. Cain, have been J. Hemer, C. Purdie and B. Baxter.

York.—There were 97 at baptismal service on March 21. The four candidates (three young ladies and one young man) have been welcomed into church. Easter services both morning and evening were well attended. On April 7, young people held a social, a happy time being spent. Owing to extremely boisterous weather on 11th, attendances were small. Apart from some water entering chapel, building fared reasonably well in gale. W. Heath was special speaker at Y.P. prayer meeting on April 13. Church visited Prospect mission on 14th.

Wampony.—S.S. anniversary services were held on March 21. Building was crowded, and addresses by B. W. Manning were appreciated. Items were given by school and visiting friends. Prizes won during year were presented during afternoon service. Instead of usual picnic school combined with Mundalla and Bordertown, and had a successful function on Easter Monday. Church extends sympathy to Mrs. R. Dinning in passing of her mother, Mrs. E. Beard, of Bordertown church. Three young members attended youth camp at Gawler, and Sunday school is engaging in efficiency campaign during coming months.

Prospect.—First week of tent mission was successful. One young girl confessed Christ. The tent was destroyed by a storm on morning of April 11. Mission is being conducted in chapel until another tent is secured. Monday and Tuesday (April 12 and 13) meetings were well attended. A delegation from Glenclg attended on Tuesday, and Cottonville choir assisted with singing. The mission is causing much interest in district. Addresses by J. E. Brooke and R. Vincent are well received and proving helpful. Average attendances have been about 100. Song services before meetings are proving helpful, with A. Roberts song-leader.

Victoria

Middle Park.—Regret is felt that Mr. Randall's ministry is drawing to a close. Mr. Manallack has consented to carry on work as student preacher. Bible school is encouraging, new scholars being gained. Addresses by Mr. Randall and Mr. Manallack are appreciated.

Newmarket.—On April 11 Mr. Alves, of Essendon, presided, and Mr. Sack addressed church. Harvest thanksgiving was held, when all gifts were for food for Britain. On April 18 Mr. Sack addressed both services. A Junior Christian Endeavor has commenced at 10 o'clock Sunday mornings.

Mt. Evelyn.—Five have been added by letter. Monthly song services have been held on Sunday evenings. Mr. Pratt continues his faithful ministry and gives helpful addresses. On April 11 Mr. Thurrowgood addressed church, as Mr. Pratt was speaking at harvest thanksgiving at Ringwood. Mrs. Pratt sang a solo on April 11.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—One baptism and one confession on evening of April 18, K. A. Macnaughtan speaking. On morning of April 11, Mr. David Hood, Mildmay evangelist from Britain, was speaker. Improving attendances at most services. Plans are in hand for resumption of Central Christian Fellowship, along fresh lines now being considered.

Doncaster.—Easter services were well attended. With aid of new projector Mr. Banks gave an illustrated address on meaning of Easter. Average attendances keep up in both church and Bible school. Young people retain interest in youth gatherings. Mrs. F. Smedley has been unable to attend meetings because of illness, but is improving.

Collingwood.—Attendances are improving. On morning of April 11, Mr. Conry took part in service with Mr. Bartholomew. On 18th Mr. Dunce took part of service, which church enjoyed. Annual business meeting was held on April 7 with good attendance. Church members started a working bee to improve chapel. Boys' Club has started, attendance being very good.

Prahran.—F. E. Buckingham has accepted an invitation to become full-time preacher, commencing on May 2. On March 28, a young girl confessed Christ, and following Sunday her brother took his stand. R. T. Roberts spoke at both meetings on April 11, this being his last day at Prahran. His preaching has been of high standard, and his help in Bible school has been much appreciated. Best wishes of church go with him as he begins his ministry at South Melbourne. School has also lost valued services of J. Clark. Vallence family have also removed to country, and will be missed from all services.

Geelong.—Services on April 11 were well attended. Several visitors were present in morning, when Mr. Gay gave a helpful exhortation. Mr. Stirling preached at night. On April 7, Ladies' Aid Society held a musical afternoon. Miss B. Pigdon was in charge of musical items. On April 9, Y.P.C.E. postponed meetings to join in gospel campaign preparation meetings for Appelman mission. Mr. Stirling gave the address, when one of the young ladies of church made the good confession. Meetings on April 18 were both well attended. Mr. Stirling being preacher. In morning Mr. Franklin, from Canada, and Dorothy Rankin were received into fellowship. On Saturday Mr. and Mrs. Stirling entertained Sunday school teachers at a social evening. All were pleased to learn that Mrs. Brownbill, M.L.A., was home from hospital. Mr. Kirwood is in hospital, also Mrs. Yeoman.

Essendon.—In absence of Mr. McIlhagger on holidays, L. A. Trezise conducted morning service on April 11. Dave Ploog, of North Essendon, presided. In afternoon, Men's Society held monthly tea, at which Mr. Thompson, of Department of Archaeology, gave an interesting talk. Mr. Thompson also occupied pulpit

at evening service. On April 8 Ladies' Guild met in evening with girls of P.B.P., when Mrs. Clarke gave a talk on her trip to World Convention. On April 13 K.S.P. and Explorers combined to sponsor screening of excellent films by Country Roads Board. Services on April 18 were conducted by Mr. Thompson, of North Essendon, and Dr. Kemp.

Emerald.—Church has been heartened by presence of brethren holidaying in district. T. R. Morris, Brighton, addressed church on April 11. A delegation of Easter campers attended evening service on March 28, and 29 campers on April 11, representing Southern District Youth Fellowship. A recent youth social attended by parents proved a purposeful evening.

Maryborough.—Bible school picnic on Mar. 20 was very successful. Special meetings on Easter Sunday included an "every member present" service in morning. In evening two young ladies, who had previously confessed Christ, were baptised. Mr. Alcorn gave inspiring addresses at both meetings. On April 7 annual business meeting was held. Auxiliaries have all commenced work for new year, and are working well.

West Preston.—Many grateful letters have been received from recipients of food parcels in Britain. W.M. Band plans to send more. On April 14 C. Watson and T. Batty were speakers, and discussed "Highlights of the Hinrichsen Mission" recently held at East Preston. Two young women, who confessed Christ at East Preston, were baptised by Mr. Watson. At worship service on April 18, 117 attended. At close of Mr. Withers' address a young woman confessed Christ.

Wangaratta.—During month there have been three additions to church. A young man confessed Christ and was baptised on April 11, and Mr. and Mrs. Franks were welcomed into fellowship on April 4. Mrs. Kershaw is still in hospital. Sympathy of church is expressed to Mrs. Trippett in loss of a sister. Several members were able to attend conference at Easter, also North-eastern Conference in Wagga. Bible school and Companions' Club have gained several new members.

Box Hill.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 7. Proceeds of sale of goods and all unsold goods were sent to Burwood Boys' Home. On March 20 an enjoyable cricket match was held between married and single men of church. Gospel service on March 21 was marked by use of projected pictures for presentation of story of crucifixion. At close of address two young people made the good confession. A fortnight later two more followed them. Several of the young people attended Easter camp at Monbulk. At Women's Mission Band annual business meeting, following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Morgan; vice-president, Mrs. Tilley; junior vice-president, Mrs. J. Gray; secretary, Mrs. Jeffery; assistant secretary and treasurer, Mrs. L. McCredden.

Bentleigh.—At annual business meeting on April 7, following were elected: Elders, A. Beddome, T. Keneley; deacons, C. Dahl, S. Ratten, H. Lee-Archer, R. Nugent, A. Pott, G. Lee; Sunday school superintendent, A. Beddome; kindergarten superintendent, Mrs. M. Eldridge; cradle roll superintendent, Mrs. J. Keneley; church secretary, C. Dahl; treasurer, A. Pott; building fund organiser, H. Neeson. Reports from all auxiliaries were encouraging, and erection of new chapel has begun. Ladies' Mission Band raised £77 during past year. C.F.A. membership stands at 61. Sunday school scholars enrolled number 230, and there are 40 children under three years on cradle roll. Meetings of late have been helpful and attendances good. R. J. Anderson exchanged with J. Shaw, of Gardenvale, on April 18. At

3.30 p.m. A. Rae submitted a plan to co-ordinate all youth work connected with church, outlining an objective and how to implement same. For his valuable assistance church is grateful. Tea at 5.30 p.m. included visitors from Gardenvale. Miss Button, from Marrickville (N.S.W.) was a visitor both morning and evening on April 18. On April 17 Mr. Deutcher showed some interesting films on Northern Queensland and Great Barrier Reef. Proceeds were in aid of building fund. This was a young people's effort.

Frankston-Moorooduc.—On April 11, Mr. Hagger preached a challenging sermon on the passion we need, urging all members to share in brotherhood crusade for a Christian world. At night a men's service was conducted, when Mr. Hagger again preached. A. Tate, of Gardiner, soloist, and R. Prince, of East Kew, organist, helped with musical programme. At midweek service F. Briggs, of U.F.M., gave an interesting lantern lecture on work of Fly River Mission. He also gave lecture at Moorooduc previous night. On April 18 Mr. Hagger preached at Frankston and R. V. Holmes at Moorooduc. Women's Mission Band celebrated eleventh birthday on April 8, when ladies from visiting mission bands and local churches were present. Mrs. Hagger presided. Mrs. R. Forbes gave a splendid address, and Mrs. Fowler sang two delightful solos. Flowers were presented to both ladies. Mrs. Daws, first president of W.M.B., cut birthday cake.

OUR NATIVE MISSIONS

THE Federal Aborigines Mission Board presents a progress report on moneys received through State committees from the annual offering of February 1. The figures are not yet complete, but indications are that although one or two States are ahead of last year, the final total may be a little less. South Australia, £410; Victoria, £500; New South Wales, £157/15/-; Queensland, £152/4/10; Tasmania, £53/2/9; Western Australia, £176/2/11. Total, £1449/5/6.

The board is pleased to advise receipt of £94/12/1 from Victorian Youth Societies towards the cost of installation of electric plant at Carnarvon. Installation accessories have been purchased and forwarded to Carnarvon, and a very suitable twin cylinder "Lister" Diesel engine, 10/12 h.p., and a very sturdily built 8 k.w D.C. electric generator have been purchased and are being forwarded to Carnarvon. The board has had the best expert advice available on the selection of this unit which will greatly increase efficiency in the supervision, facility and comfort of the missionaries and children at Carnarvon. Contributions to clear the balance of this capital outlay, £325, would be appreciated by the board. We shall be reporting later on the installation which is being done voluntarily by H. Klemm, of Maylands church.

On Wednesday, April 14, the telephone was connected at Carnarvon, and Mr. Hammer and the missionaries are already feeling the benefit in reducing their isolation and saving both time and expense.—A. M. Bell.

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12 in. Vernier Caliper Gauge x 001 in., in case, £15.—P. Kettner, 12 Lonsdale-st., Coburg.

BIRTH

DANIEL.—On March 14, to Gladys and Murray, of Long Plains, S.A.—a daughter (Lesley Anne).

DEATH

ROWLANDS.—On April 7, at his home, 35 Hemming-st., Dandenong, William Corris, beloved husband of Cecily and father of Will. Sleep on, beloved, sleep, and take thy rest; We love thee well, but Jesus loves thee best.

IN MEMORIAM

ABBEY.—In memory of our beloved son-in-law, Ft. Sgt. D. G. Abbey, R.A.A.F., killed in action Borneo, April 21, 1944.

He gave his to-morrow that we might have our to-day.

—K. and C. Young, 28 Edinburgh-st., Box Hill.

FORBES.—In treasured memory of my beloved husband Arthur, and our dearest daddy, who Parted only "Till he come." was called home April 19, 1946.

—Inserted by his loving wife Ruby, and daughters Edna, Iris and Gloria.

NOBLE.—In loving memory of my dear Norman, who was called home April 21, 1947. "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

—Inserted by his wife Letty.

SAUNDERS.—In loving memory of Frederick Thomas Saunders.

He "fell asleep" in Christ his Lord:

He gave to him to keep

The soul his great love had redeemed,

Then calmly went to sleep:

April 22, 1947.

—Inserted by his wife, Ethel H. Saunders.

STREADER.—In loving remembrance of Alfred E. Streader, called home April 25, 1939.

Until the day break and the shadows flee away.

—Inserted by his loving wife and children, Lois, Eunice and Jack.

SWANSTON STREET

(opp. Public Library).

ANZAC SUNDAY.

11 a.m., "On the Twenty-fifth of April."

7 p.m., commencing series of addresses on

Prophecy: "Jesus IS Coming!"

Preacher: K. A. Macnaughtan.

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Commencing Sunday, April 25, at 7 p.m.

By four special speakers.

Sunday, April 25.—Christ for all Mankind.

Speaker, Mr. B. F. Huntsman.

Sunday, May 2.—Christ for Youth.

Speaker, Mr. L. A. Trezise, B.A.

Sunday, May 9.—Christ for the Family.

Speaker, Mrs. M. Gilham.

Sunday, May 16.—Christ for All Problems.

Speaker, Mr. W. Atkins.

Special Vocal Numbers at each Meeting.

Song-leader, R. W. Vautier.

FOOTSCRAY CHURCH,

70th ANNIVERSARY,

SUNDAY, MAY 2.

11 a.m., Speaker, A. E. Hurren.

3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday Afternoon. Speaker,

Cr. A. E. Shepherd, M.L.A.

5 p.m., Anniversary Tea.

7 p.m., Speaker, J. K. Martin.

Visitors contact Mr. H. Easton, secretary,
MW9798.

SOUTH RICHMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST

48th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

MAY 2.

Morning, 11 a.m., Mr. Hargreaves.

Evening, 7 p.m., Mr. C. W. Hart.

All past members are cordially invited.

BLACKBURN CHURCH OF CHRIST.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL OF SONG.

Speakers—"Special." Singing—"With a Message."

You are welcome.

May 2—

3 p.m., Mr. F. Strickland.

7 p.m., Mr. K. Jones.

May 9—

3 p.m., Mr. Ron Graham.

6.45 p.m., Mr. W. Quirk.

100 happy voices.

Conductor: Claude Gadge.

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The Australian Christian

April 20, 1948

Page 177

North Eastern and Riverina Conference

ON April 7 churches in North Eastern (Vic.) and Riverina District held 1948 conference at Wagga (N.S.W.), the following Victorian churches being represented: Wangaratta, Shepparton, Yarrawonga and Mooropna native church, and also, Albury and Wagga, N.S.W. Wilkie Thomson (Wagga) presided.

Welcoming delegates the Mayor of Wagga (Ald. L. Barrand) said any group working to lead people back to the Christian life was a great influence for good.

A morning devotional session was in charge of W. J. Lewis (Albury).

In afternoon church reports presented depicted the drift of members to the cities, and indicated readiness to accept the present-day challenge of indifference and active opposition to things spiritual. Spiritual content of Edwin Atkinson's report re Mooropna native church was repeated to separate Women's Conference. Wangaratta reported splendid result for home mission fund by Mr. Patrick, through money box system. At annual banquet £293 was raised.

Reports proclaimed youth camp established by conference at Cheshunt (Vic.) a pronounced success. Conference thanked Bert Payne and Aubrey Jackel for their work, and Mr. Izzard for permission to enter property, and Victorian Youth Department for securing tent.

Committee appointed by 1947 conference reported that purchase of land for church site at Cobram (Vic.) now awaited Federal Treasurer's consent.

Each church represented decided to endeavor to hold a local mission prior to 1949 conference.

During day sessions solos were sung by D. H. Butler and Mrs. Aubrey Jackel. At night Wagga choir rendered two items.

A. W. Stephenson, M.A., spoke of need to confer on means of reaching the people. We faced, he said, a situation in society unfavorable to church life. He outlined the American plan of personal visitation by church members working in pairs. Churches represented in conference decided to use this method.

At night Mr. Stephenson held his audience in a talk on his American trip.—W. A. Snowden.



WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

FOURTY-FIVE women attended the women's session. Visitors from Wangaratta, Shepparton, Yarrawonga and Albury were welcomed by the president, Mrs. Wilkie Thomson.

Mrs. Aubrey Jackel sang a solo.

Greetings and good reports were received from churches represented. Mrs. Lewis, of Albury, spoke.

A retiring offering was received to defray the small expenses of the conference.—Mrs. J. Renison, hon. secretary.

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The Australian Christian

Obituary

Victor Norman Jame

SON of a Chinese Christian who came to minister to his compatriots in Australia, Norman Jame was surrounded by fine Christian influences. Secondary education at Essendon High School (Vic.) gave him a good intellectual foundation for life work that was truly creative. Business trips to the East broadened his vision in world affairs and international problems; he thought and read much on these, and spoke and acted unflinchingly towards their solution. He was a true "Christian commando" with his lightning sizing-up of a situation, and the quick, inspiring way in which he set about solving it. Those who saw him in the last weeks know the depth of his faith and the confidence with which he faced what he came to see as inevitable. He was profoundly sorry for the "unfinished task," but frequently proclaimed himself as "ready to go." The afternoon of March 2 was hallowed by a communion service with a small, intimate circle. It was as though, like Simeon of old, having seen great things, he could say: "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace," for after a quiet night, he passed at dawn to the day that knows no cloud nor close. The lonely loved ones remaining, we commend to the care and consolation of the eternal Father.—F.F.F.

Mrs. Agnes Martin

A VERY peaceful home-going on Feb. 19 terminated the delightful pilgrimage of Mrs. Agnes Martin, greatly loved and esteemed by relatives and all who were privileged to know her. Her strong faith, thoughtfulness, practical sympathy, and many ministries of mercy, endeared her to all. She was a most consistent and active church member. Although in recent years precluded from attendance at the Lord's house which she loved so well, by great infirmity and age, yet she maintained a zeal for all the Lord's work, and was unflinching in her practical support of all its phases. She entered fellowship with the Lygon-st. church, coming from Collingwood Baptists in the year 1909, and all down the years her beautiful Christian life and labors of love were appreciated. The choice spirit of this excellent woman was beautiful and serene throughout the years. May God bless to her loved ones and friends the sweet memories of a truly consecrated life, being assured she is with the Lord she loved, which is very far better.—A.W.J.

P. G. Pallot

THE church at Claremont, W.A., has been saddened by the tragic death of Phillip George Pallot, who was fatally injured in a diving accident at Claremont swimming baths on March 23. Our brother was the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Pallot, of Claremont, and was 18 years of age. He was an earnest Christian, baptised by T. Banks in 1943, and was actively engaged helping in the services, teaching in Bible school, and a keen Christian Endeavorer, and will be greatly missed. The large attendance at the graveside testified to the esteem in which our young brother was held. The service at Karrakatta cemetery was conducted by the writer, assisted by J. K. Robinson, preacher of Lake-st., Perth. We commend the sorrowing parents, brothers and sisters to God, who alone can comfort till the day breaks and shadows flee away.—S. G. Taylor.

William Corris Rowlands

ON the evening of April 6, William Corris Rowlands passed quietly to be with his Lord. Our brother confessed his faith in Christ about 30 years ago, during the Chandler-Clay mission in Dandenong, Vic. From that day till his home-call he remained a faithful member of that congregation. He served for

a period as deacon, and was agent for the "Australian Christian" for 16 years. He was a keen follower of sport, and in earlier years took a leading part in the work among the young people of the church. Our brother is survived by a faithful wife and son. For these we pray the comforting presence of Christ. After a simple service in his home, a number of brethren joined the relatives in the journey to Kew Cemetery, where his remains were reverently laid to await the glory of the coming of him whom he loved in sickness as in health.—F.A.Y.

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

(Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

VICTORIAN CONFERENCE

THE letter of W. W. Saunders. If we were "thoroughly carabashed" from the platform as Mr. Saunders alleges (and the term is a thoroughly unworthy description of what took place), at least we listened to considered contributions. As one who listened to most of them I did not feel "thoroughly carabashed."

Most who have followed the Easter meetings for the past 20 or 30 years will remember how frequently conference discussions have been dominated by considerably less than 28 speakers, not from the platform but from the floor of conference, many of whom expressed not well considered statements but merely the passing thoughts of the moment, and only too often wasted the time of conference by frequent repetition and utterances entirely irrelevant. Even this conference was not entirely free from that.

No one would suggest the elimination of discussion, but surely for thoughtful people who want conference to mean the maximum to those who attend, it is of infinitely greater value to listen to statements which at least possess the virtue of having been thought through.

None will suggest that the perfect conference has been evolved, and if it were it would not suit everyone; but honest effort has been made to increase its constructive value, and as many have testified such effort has not been entirely without success.

Perhaps Mr. Saunders is right, and the type of conference which has developed might more appropriately be called a convention. But then, who will guarantee that someone will not object that business ought not to be discussed at a convention? In the meantime, however inappropriate the term "conference" may be for our gatherings, it no more merits the charge of dishonesty than the word "convention" would.—B. J. Combridge, Kaniva, Vic.



AN APPRECIATION

THE "A.C." of 13/4/48 to hand makes splendid reading, being positive, creative and inspiring.

T. D. Maiden's article, "What Next?" gets to the heart of things. The report of N.S.W. conference makes good reading. It is good to note the effort of a group of Victorian brethren in "visitation evangelism," also the effort in South Australia.

The sentiments expressed in the "Open Forum" are timely, and express my own viewpoint, and I believe, of many others. Thanks, Mr. Saunders, for your candid word.—Chas. Young, Victoria.

RIVER BAPTISM, QUEENSLAND

SERVICES over Easter in West Moreton circuit, Qld., were very well attended. Visitors included Nurses Davies and Nicholson, from North Auburn, Sydney. Each church was well represented at State conference. On Easter Monday a large crowd gathered at Mt. Walker for annual picnic of that church. Visitors came from as far as Brisbane. In evening an inspirational rally proved very successful; chapel was too small for attendance. Congratulations are expressed to those who enacted "I have a Life to Give"; the performance was exceptional. Items were contributed by the five churches in the circuit. The manse has now been completed. Circuit car has been repaired and completely overhauled at cost of £146. Recent baptismal service in Brisbane River at Fernvale proved a great witness and inspiration to circuit. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher and Mr. and Mrs. Hosking were recently welcomed into Fernvale church.

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Our Young People

BALLARAT EASTER CAMP

DAWSON-ST., Peel-st. and York-st. young people reunited this year at Hall's Gap in what was agreed the best camp yet held by this group over the Easter season.

"Uncle Lal" Feary, as camp and song leader, gripped the imagination of campers with his wonderful organisation, while the discussions, capably led by "Uncle Hal" Long and "Uncle John" MacKenzie, were of such a high spiritual standard that campers were given a crystal-clear interpretation of the challenge of Christian living; so much so that Barbara Jones and Charlie Saunders decided for Christ. Another spiritual peak was reached Sunday evening, when campers witnessed in a great open-air meeting with "Uncle Hal" in the public camping area. The singing throughout camp was exceptional, due largely to the accompaniment of "Auntie Joyce" on the accordion and "Uncle John" on the banjo. Camp hostesses "Auntie Joyce" (Mrs. Long) and "Auntie Dulce" (Mrs. MacKenzie) were welcomed to camp for the first time.

"Auntie Meg" (Mrs. H. Feary) and "Auntie Chip" (Mrs. Quayle) performed grandly again this year to satisfy seventy-four appetites sharpened by the mountain air. To top off a four-square Christian experience, few will forget the hikes led by "Uncle John" among the rugged, natural beauty of the Grampians.—E. L. Carter.

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