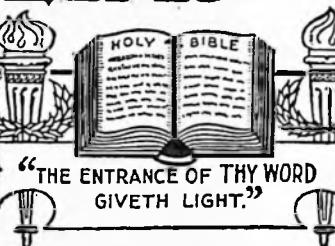


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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Overcoming the Darkness

DKNESS is banished by light, ignorance by knowledge, and vice by goodness. In the fight against evil and superstition, we can only succeed in the end if we present the truth in a clear light. Too often the methods used to overcome social evils are not positive enough to gain a victory.

We hear much criticism of hotels and breweries, but little constructive work is done to remove those ills within society that drive people to drink. Perhaps drunkenness is a symptom of a disease, rather than the disease. There may well be social and hereditary factors that need to be considered in efforts to save the community from the drink traffic.

If the demand for strong drink is removed, the drink trade will go out of business. This approach to the drink problem requires a vigorous spiritual campaign as well as social reformation. It is shown that those people who are afflicted by drink and then come to recognise their weakness, casting themselves upon God for help, are saved from themselves and from their evil habits.

II.

The gambling evil is due to man's feeling of insecurity and his desire to get money easily. Men are not ready to take upon themselves the responsibilities of life. For the most part life demands a steady and constant struggle. Courage and determination are needed to gain the victory.

Some people, trying to find an easy way out of their difficulties, fall to the temptation of gambling. These people need to be shown how God can give them grace to overcome the monotony of life and to enable them to bring their desire for material things under the control of temperance and of rational moderation. When people let ambition and covetousness govern their wills, then the gambling

evil readily enters the soul and wrecks the life.

To save men from gambling the full gospel is sufficient. This positive gospel saves men from ruin. The church must be more active in campaigns to save men for Christ.

III.

There are people who take a special delight in attacking this religious sect or that denomination. We have no love for false teaching, nor do we possess a weak tolerance for those who depart from God's word, but we do not think ignorance or superstition is overcome by bitter attack. Just as light will overcome the darkness, so truth will con-

ever, when we speak in love and with due sympathy what God has revealed, we can expect to gain the confidence of those we seek to save in the name of the Lord.

When people know the truth they are set free from the chains of superstition. It is a sad sight to see so many held in bondage by the false traditions of men, or by customs which the revelation in Christ has made of no account. For people to continue to practise in this Christian age ceremonies and beliefs which only applied to those living under the old covenant is foolish. To go back to the bondage from which Christ came to set us free is not the height of wisdom. Yet, as we study the customs and church practices of many who live in this twentieth century, we see many Jewish customs and religious ceremonies re-introduced into the church. Christ alone is our High Priest. All Christians are priests. Christ urged his followers to call none 'father' except the One who is the Father of all. Despite all this clear teaching in the scriptures the false teaching goes on. Why? We dare to say there is little attempt made by many people to search the scriptures to see if "these things be so"—to see whether they are following the traditions of men or the truths of God's final revelation.

The story of God's purpose and plan in history, the truth and simplicity of life as taught by Christ and the doctrines and ordinances of the church need to be taught in a winning way to men and women. By allowing the Light of the world to shine into men's minds and hearts, ignorant darkness and superstitious customs will be banished. By positive teaching in home, Bible school and church, the truths of the New Testament church will spread, and light will overcome darkness in the world.

Take heed, and keep yourselves from all covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Luke 12.15

quer ignorance. By presenting the facts of the gospel in a clear, positive style so that none can doubt what the Lord has said and revealed, we shall do more to undermine the foundations of false sectarianism than if we engage in bitter criticism. However, when we do present the truth, we must do all in our power to present it in love.

The truth hurts, we say. Well, it does come as a shock to most people. How-

CHRISTIAN LIGHT ENCIRCLING WORLD

★ DENMARK

Secret of Greatness

GREAT little Denmark. This title is well deserved, for although Denmark is only half the size of Scotland, with a population of only four million people, of which one million live in Copenhagen, yet her influence in Europe and her contribution to the world's welfare and her resistance to the overwhelming forces that invaded her beloved land give her the right to the title. But what is the secret of this greatness? It is merely that Denmark, like our country, is a country of the book. I have visited Denmark on more than one occasion, and this year I had the privilege of preaching and lecturing there every day for three weeks in different places and parishes. One thing that impressed me more than anything else was the central emphasis given in their worship and preaching to the Bible. The Reformation took a slightly different form in Denmark from that in our country. Instead of no longer continuing vestments, they sublimated them to bring emphasis and honor to the scriptures. The Bible was placed on the holy table. Pulpits were carved by the best artists that could be obtained and vestments were not discarded but worn for the reading of the gospel in order to emphasise that this was the central act of worship. The holy communion was not minimised and is held every Sunday morning, but the climax of the service is not the consecration prayer but the reading of the gospel. The only place in the service when the people kneel is to receive the bread and wine. The only place in the service when the congregation stand is for the reading of the gospel. Even when the text of the sermon is given out, they all stand, for on Sunday the text must be taken from the gospel of the day, and the sermon must be on some part of the gospel. So Denmark honors the word of the Lord.—C. C. Griffiths.

★ AMERICA

Moves Toward Union

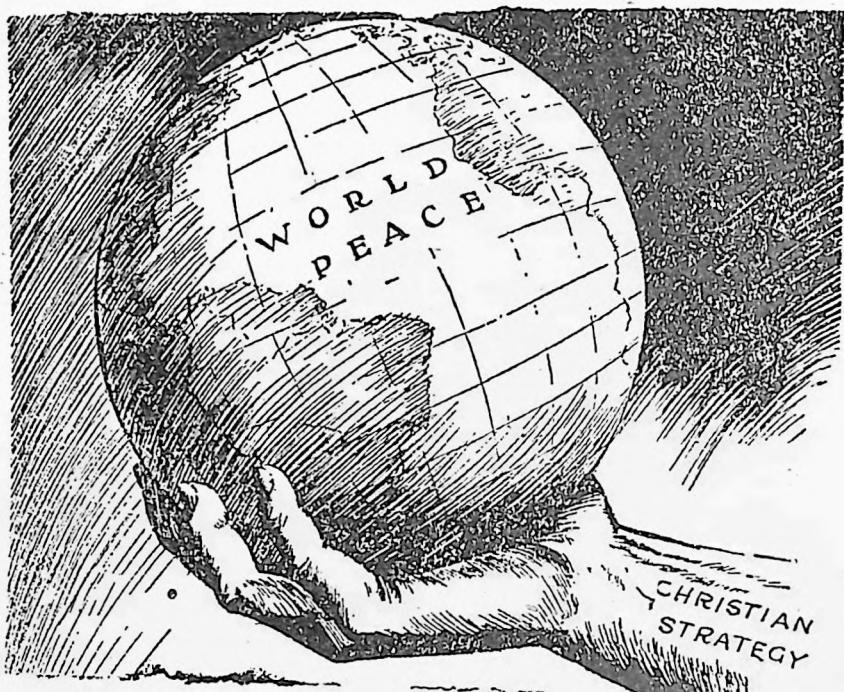
ANOTHER American church merger is moving toward consummation. When the Evangelical and Reformed Church with its 700,000 members is united with the Congregational Christian Church with its 1,150,000 members, the combined denomination will have a constituency of nearly 2,000,000. The American impetus to church mergers is felt also among Baptists. At the Northern Baptist Convention in Atlantic City last May, the Committee on Relations with the Disciples of Christ was raised to the status of a Convention Commission of Fifteen. Its new mandate reads, "To explore and examine the content of faith and polity of Baptists and Disciples in order to discuss the possibility of union."

★ THE DARK WORLD

Light for the Illiterate

WITH a realistic knowledge of the conditions of his own people, Pandit Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, has said, "If illiteracy is not removed, our people will remain blind men groping in the dark. Every reform will founder on the rock of illiteracy." The Chinese speak of an illiterate as a "blind" person.

In many lands a new spirit is about—not only a spirit of unrest, but a spirit of awakening. From Indonesia, India and the countries of the Arab League, extending even as far as the West Indies and Mexico, there is a ferment amongst the common people. China, for instance, claims to have taught something like forty million people to read since the war broke out. Russia, of course, has taught something like eighty million people to read in a generation.—W. J. Platt in "The Record."



★ GENEVA

Is the World Council a Super Church?

AT the meeting of the Reconstruction Department of the World Council of Churches at St. Cergue, Dr. Visser 't Hooft took the opportunity of explaining its general policy.

"It is important," said Dr. Visser 't Hooft, "to make it quite clear just what this new relationship between the churches means and does not mean. Precisely because it is a new and unprecedented relationship it is easily misunderstood. Unfortunately some groups in different countries make it their business to spread systematically erroneous and false statements about the council, and continue to do so in spite of the very full explanations and corrections published by World Council leaders.

"The constitution on the basis of which the assembly is convened states explicitly that the council is to serve the churches and not to control them. And it forbids the council's organs definitely to act for the churches unless it receives a specific mandate from them. To spread the idea that the council is really an attempt to establish a centralised super-church is therefore to present a caricature of the plan actually before us. The council is, of course, concerned with unity. But it leaves it wholly to the churches whether and in what manner they want to take steps toward union with each other. And the provisional committee has made it quite clear that it does not believe in a centralised type of church-unity in which the churches would lose their spiritual identity and their autonomy.

"It ought not to be necessary to say these rather obvious things. For anyone who knows the present ecumenical situation—very particularly the situation with regard to reconstruction—must realise that the attempt to force upon the churches some sort of external control is bound to fail miserably—not only now but also in the future. The whole *raison d'être* of the council is to provide for the churches a fellowship in which they remain wholly free in relation to each other, but in which they learn together how to render more perfect obedience to their common Lord."

★ ITALY

Centenary of Emancipation of Waldenses

ON February 17, 1948, the Waldenses celebrated the centenary of their civil and political emancipation. The authorities of the Waldensian church of Italy received touching messages of Christian brotherhood from Pastor Niemoller, the Council of the Evangelical Church of Germany, the Waldensian community of Germany, a Lutheran community in Hamburg, the Federal Council of Churches of America and the World Council of Churches.

The German messages expressed deep regret for the damage caused by German soldiers during the occupation of the Waldensian valleys during the war, and "humbly begged for the forgiveness which Jesus Christ alone can give to repentant souls."

The Roman Catholic priest of the parish of Luserna San Giovanni, in the Waldensian Valleys of Piedmont, sent the following letter to the pastor of the Protestant church of the same district:

"On the occasion of the solemn festival which our dear brethren in Christ are celebrating today with well-justified enthusiasm, I am very glad to renew the expression of cordial sympathy which has bound me to you all for many years in a healthy co-operation. . . . I am glad to seize this opportunity of paying homage to all those among the Waldenses who, in close collaboration with the Catholics, helped to liberate our valley and the whole of Italy from the yoke of the Nazi and Fascist oppressors. It is one of the best portents that we shall be united in the same fraternal way in the struggle against our mutual enemy: atheism, materialism and spiritual servitude in the chains of the totalitarian State."

—E.P.S., Geneva.

The Australian Christian

The Gospel and Industrial Peace

A. C. Caldicott, of Queensland, points to a field which needs urgently Christian service.

AS one relatively minor result of the ruinous strike in Queensland, the coastal steamer "Time" lay in the port of Townsville for about a fortnight with a cargo of potatoes and onions rotting in her holds. Despite an acute food shortage, and reports of threatened starvation in some isolated centres of population, the Townsville waterside workers would not do a "hand-strike." The waste and disruption resulting from the industrial revolt, and from a series of "sympathy" strikes elsewhere, must be disastrous, damaging the national economy and prejudicing the whole community.

Man's industrial life is but a projection of his inner self. If Christ is King within, his Lordship will be expressed in the workshop and the warehouse. There can be no gulf between individual and industrial regeneration. Confession of Christ's absolute authority commits us to the practice of his principles and the establishment of his way of life in the industrial order.

The abolition of slavery, factory reform, sanitary reform, and improved marine conditions are largely due to the stricken conscience of men like William Wilberforce, Lord Shaftesbury, Charles Kingsley and Samuel Plimsoll. As F. W. Robertson well remarked, "When the people of this country, especially the rich, shall have been touched with the spirit of the cross to a largeness and sacrifice of which they have not dreamed as yet, there will be an atonement between the rights of labor and the rights of property."

It is true that the present society is being white-washed with Leninism and the maxims of Marx. Of a lunch hour one can visit almost any factory and find a political meeting in progress, but never a gospel meeting. The

present industrial chaos affords a unique opportunity for the Christian church to regain her evangelistic fervor, to Christianise trade unions, and to establish the commonwealth of Christ on the social principles enunciated in scripture.

Evangelistic invasions should be carried out, as opportunity offers, calling factory workers to repentance. John the Baptist furnishes the outstanding example of a call to industrial repentance; and in like manner, before the kingdom of God can come in our day, the prophets of the Lord must preach Christ and him crucified, for the cross cuts deep.

"Was ever love so strong,
Was ever crime so wrong?"

It is gratifying to note that at Longview, Texas, the Le Tourneau Factory and Technical College is entirely Christian and the word strike entirely foreign. No need to ask why where Christ's social principles of fraternity, equality and production are voluntarily enforced.

Baptism is our pledge that we will walk in his new way of life, our declaration that we delight to do his will. This confession compels us to tread the path of constructive Christian revolution. It is our privilege in the days of panic to preserve a spirit of faith. Henry Ford wrote, "Every thing is possible. . . . faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." The call comes for a greater witness, and can be summed up in the words of one delegate returning from the World Youth Convention at Oslo: "I must entirely renounce self, . . . I have discovered I have no message, my church has no message, but God has a message of reconciliation through Jesus Christ, my Lord."

Wylie Park is where E. C. Hinrichsen held a successful mission during the latter part of 1947. The church is well established and is self-supporting.

Radio Evangelism

A new venture has been taken in connection with the newly-established church at Wentworth Falls. Every Sunday evening from 5.5.30 a service is broadcast from 2KA. This will continue for six months at least. All of what is known as the mountain area will be reached by the station.

A. Carter conducts the service each evening, and on each occasion the address will be a recording by E. C. Hinrichsen. The venture is costing £4 per Sunday, and the financial commitments are shared by the local church, private individuals and the Home Mission Committee. Already the venture has borne fruit. One Sunday a woman listened in to the broadcast; later she went to the evening service at the chapel, and when the invitation was given she stepped out to confess Christ.

New Appointment to Native Missions

THE Federal Aborigines Mission Board has pleasure in announcing the appointment of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Reeson, of Doonside church, New South Wales, to serve the brotherhood on the mission field at Carnarvon.

Unsolicited by the board, but through a definite spiritual experience of their own, and after answered prayer, Mr. and Mrs. Reeson offered their services.

The New South Wales State committee very readily recommended the appointment. Mr. Hammer, who ministered at Doonside before going to New Hebrides, with his knowledge of the work and these people, was able to assure the board that Mr. and Mrs. Reeson were very suited for Carnarvon.

Mr. Reeson has been, by occupation, a successful poultry farmer, and is acquainted with building and plumbing, having built his own house. He has worked in practically all phases of construction work with the New South Wales Railway Department. He has taken a very active part in local church and district work, especially among youth, having been superintendent of Doonside Sunday school for ten years. Mrs. Reeson is wholeheartedly in the work with her husband, a capable organist, a teacher in the Sunday school, and a leader in women's work. Their united life interest has been the work of the kingdom of God. Having four children, one girl and three boys, the board and Mr. and Mrs. Reeson on all that is involved, so that there is a complete understanding in this regard. At the present stage, and as the mission enters its next phase, Mr. Reeson's experience will be most valuable.

They plan to leave Sydney by train on Wednesday, June 9. The board has asked the State Shipping Service for berths by sea Fremantle to Carnarvon, at the end of June. When Mr. and Mrs. Reeson have had a few weeks to learn the requirements of the work, it will enable the board to bring Mr. Hammer to his new work of Federal organising and deputation secretary located in Perth.

The engagement is announced of Edgar Park, missionary superintendent of Norseman, to Miss Elsie Roxburgh, missionary at Carnarvon. Best wishes of the brotherhood have been expressed to our brother and sister, and it is expected that their wedding will take place when suitable relief is available at Carnarvon mission.—Maston Bell.

New Churches in N.S.W.

Ethelbert Davis reports on Bishop's call to Christian loyalty, on new churches admitted to conference and radio evangelism.

BISHOP G. H. CRANWICK, chairman of the Australian Board of Missions, preaching on a recent Sunday, on the "Lordship of Jesus," said some things worthy of being passed on to our readers. He reminded his hearers that there are four great eras of life in which Christ's Lordship is denied. First, it is denied in the world by half the people; that is, by those to whom the Christian message has never been effectively given. It is denied in society, not by opposition so much as by disregarding it. Then it is denied in the church through the animosities, rivalries and ambitions that sometimes spoil its witness because of their inconsistencies with the Spirit of Christ. Again, it is denied among Christians who so often think there are two standards of life—one for the saint and another for the "ordinary Christian." Concluding, the bishop insisted on the fact that men will win through to peace only when Christ's sovereignty is proclaimed throughout the world. That being so, the greatest service to be rendered by Christians in all nations is to enthronize Christ as King in their own hearts, that through them his Kingship might be acknowledged more and more in the church, in society and throughout the world.

New Churches

Six new churches were admitted to conference at Easter: Asquith, Belrose, Caringbah, Mudgee, Warners Bay and Wylie Park.

Asquith commenced during last year, and recently a new building was opened. At the time of writing E. C. Hinrichsen is holding a short mission in the chapel.

Belrose is a small centre on the north side of the harbor. It is a district that is likely to expand.

Caringbah church has been in existence for a couple of years. Land has been in the hands of the church since its inception, and now they are waiting for material to erect a church home. Caringbah is a rapidly developing centre.

Mudgee is a prosperous town of about 4300 people, 191 miles west of Sydney. The few members who constitute the church have purchased a central block of land for a church building. It is planned to hold a mission there as soon as possible.

Warners Bay is on Lake Macquarie, near Newcastle. A group of members there are working hard to establish a strong church, and are talking of holding an evangelistic mission.

The Australian Christian

Women's Conference, W.A.

PROMPTLY at 10 a.m. the 43rd annual conference assembled in Lake-st. chapel. The day was hot and humid. Mrs. J. Gordon conducted devotions, assisted by Mrs. Hunt and Mrs. Gracie. Mrs. Armstrong was soloist. Theme, "Life's Stopping Places."

Mrs. P. Jefferies took the remembrance service, and reported the passing of 17 sisters. Mrs. Cosh sang feelingly, "No night there."

Business.—The president (Mrs. J. K. Robinson) took the chair, and congratulated Mrs. Henderson, Mrs. York and Mrs. Lavery for the beautiful array of flowers. The platform was a mass of lovely Michaelmas daisies, Easter lilies, dahlias and roses. Mrs. Robinson welcomed all sisters to conference, and asked for the roll call of delegates. Sixty sisters responded. Secretary read minutes of the 1947 conference, followed by reports from the Dorcas, Prayer and Social Service Departments. As the programmes were printed, these were all taken as read.

Election of Officers.—President, Mrs. J. C. Humphrys; president-elect, Mrs. F. D. Pollard; vice-presidents, Mesdames A. Elliott, Tilbee, Digwood and Miss C. Taylor; secretary, Mrs. F. D. Pollard; assistant secretary, Mrs. P. Armstrong; treasurer, Mrs. W. Beck; pianist, Mrs. C. Reid.

Budget System.—Mrs. Robinson presented the suggested budget system to conference (as outlined in the programme). After a lengthy discussion, Mrs. Robinson moved its adoption; it was seconded by Mrs. Bridge and carried.

At 2 p.m. Matron Taylor opened with prayer and led devotions. Her remarks were based on the theme, "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength." Mrs. Harris sang "The Lord's Prayer." Mrs. A. E. Jefferies welcomed all sisters, including Miss Ball from Norseman, Mrs. Jones from Adelaide, Mrs. Hogben, Victoria, Mrs. Greenwood, Qld., and Mrs. Hillier, Victoria. Mrs. Hillier expressed the thanks of all visitors. Kindred organisations brought greetings from W.C.T.U., Baptists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, and the Salvation Army. Mrs. Rowlands spoke on behalf of the United Council of Christian Women. Roll-call of churches was followed by singing. "Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love."

Greetings.—From Queensland, New South Wales, Tasmania, South Australia, and from Sisters Thomson (Fremantle), M. Ewers (Kalgoorlie), Mrs. McCallum (N.S.W.), Mrs. Smillie (N.S.W.) and Mrs. Cugley (U.S.A.).

Beautiful bouquets were handed to aged Mesdames Sharp, Clay, Burrows, Westlake, Robinson and Miss Clark. These were donated by Mrs. Panton. Mrs. Cosh sang a sweet solo, and was also presented with a bouquet. Mrs. G. Elliott presented Mrs. J. W. B. Robinson with a leather writing compendium as a memento of her long years of faithful service. Miss G. Wells and Mrs. Maiden brought appropriate messages in song.

Federal Business.—Mrs. Digwood gave dates of Federal Conference, October 15-22. Sisters' Conference, October 19.

A number of resolutions were drafted by Mrs. Humphrys and her committee. These will be sent to the Premier of W.A., and our lady member of Parliament, Mrs. Cardell-Oliver.

Superintendents presented Home Mission, Foreign Mission and Aborigine reports, also Isolated, Youth and Temperance. The work of the country correspondent was praised.

Mr. E. R. Berry led a song service at 7.30 p.m., followed by the public rally. Lake-st. chapel was filled to capacity. Mrs. Robinson based her president's message on the words of her motto, "The joy of the Lord is your strength." Mrs. Ladner and Subiaco Girls' Club choir brought enjoyable musical items. Mr. Raymond (president of General Conference) received the annual cheques from Women's Auxiliary—£250 for home missions, £175 for overseas and £87/10/- for aborigines. The latter cheque was earmarked for the Carnarvon refrigerator.

Mr. H. E. Greenwood delighted conference with his presence, and address, based on the theme, "Co-operating in a Christian Crusade." New officers were finally introduced by Mrs. Robinson. The new president, Mrs. Humphrys, gave her motto for the next conference year, "Except the Lord build."

Mrs. Eaton and her helpers were sincerely thanked for their untiring work during the day with conference meals.

Our Young People

CHILDREN'S OVERSEAS DAY

FOR close on forty years a Children's Day exercise has been prepared for use in our Australian Sunday schools. For years there was a steady increase in the number of schools using the exercise and interest was maintained. Since the commencement of the war there has been a steady decline. School officials advise that it is not lack of interest but lack of time to plan adequately the programme arranged.

In consultation with the States, the F.M. board decided to dispense with the usual exercise, but to ask the schools to continue the use of the boxes. As usual, boxes will be supplied free to all schools. The money as usual will go to help educate the children in our schools, supply medical comforts and clothing for those in the homes.

Some schools have used the boxes for years without using the exercise. Boxes could be distributed to the children at any period of the year suitable to the particular school, allowing them to remain in the homes for a few months, and then feature a special day when the boxes could be returned. The matter as to whether a whole afternoon should be allocated for missions the day the boxes are returned or only part of the time is a matter for school officers.

IN Victoria on Saturday, May 22, there will be four united Baptist-churches of Christ youth rallies arranged by the joint recreational council. J. Sewell will be the speaker at Camberwell Baptist church, R. P. Morris at Essendon Baptist, L. G. Bond at Northcote church of Christ, and T. S. Keyte at Malvern-Caulfield church of Christ. The council is anxious to make these rallies inspirational to all who attend.

Eighty Christian Endeavor and Bible school leaders met at Lygon-st. (Carlton, Vic.) on April 27 to elect committees for year. The following were appointed to Christian Endeavor Committee: E. H. Randall (chairman), J. H. Barnden (vice-chairman), Miss W. Lee (secretary), A. L. Finger (treasurer), R. Banks, N. Gavros, S. Prentice, Miss R. Roberts, D. Thomas. Those elected to the Bible School Committee are L. Seath (chairman), D. Allen (vice-chairman), Miss B. Bates (secretary), R. Barnett, V. Longthorpe, C. Mott, R. Stephenson. E. H. Randall and L. Seath will join the committee of the Youth Department as representatives of these committees.

Good Companions from all over Victoria will go into camp at Monbulk from May 17 to 23.—B. F. Huntsman.

Concept of Man

P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., our *Queensland correspondent*, writes of concern over dangers of communism, drink traffic, and increase of neurosis.

"IN these days of totalitarian enslavement the Christian concept of man is one of the most fundamental questions for the Lambeth Conference to decide in London next July," said Archbishop Halse.

The official organ of Queensland Presbyterianism says that the communist issue is the gravest the church has faced in 400 years. "Besides this, the ancient contention between Rome and Geneva is bagatelle, and the Golden Casket fiddlesticks."

The editor of the "Queensland Methodist" expressed the hope that unions would choose more trustworthy leaders—men who had the interests of their own country at heart. "Although allegedly communism seeks the welfare of the common man, it has other principles which are implacably in opposition to Christianity."

Dr. C. J. Tinsley said that the conflict between communism and Christianity could not be avoided.

Neurosis Increasing

Several cases of people being admitted to hospital and dying through taking overdoses of sleeping tablets have been reported. We have also been informed that of fourteen patients admitted to a mental institution during one week of the recent railway strike, five were wives of railway men. The war, unsettled conditions throughout the world, loss of faith, and a breakdown in moral standards have affected many people's mental balance. The healing touch of Jesus is needed to-day.

Temperance Workers' Tour

Mr. W. H. Green (president, Australian Temperance Council) and Mr. W. H. Jack (general secretary) leave shortly for a tour of America and Europe to study hotel management with a view to improving the Canberra Hotels, and to make a close study of temperance in all parts of the world. They will attend a world convention of Lausanne.

In a farewell speech Mr. Jack told of a young married man with a family who went through the world war without touching liquor, who, on his return, joined a bowling club which secured a permit to serve liquor. The young man didn't touch liquor till they held a Christmas party. He soon acquired the taste for liquor, and recently lost his job for being under the influence of liquor while on duty. "Why can't we leave liquor out of our sporting activities?" asked Mr. Jack. He went on to say that 20,000 drunkards had been manufactured in Australia last year. "Temperance organisations are only skirmishing at present. Until we decide to fight to the depths we shall never succeed."

Church Publicity

A Brisbane newspaper published on the front page a picture of a baptismal service conducted by a Seventh Day Adventist pastor in the Brisbane City Hall, and on the fourth page a picture of a Congregational minister receiving tins of food at a harvest festival. The tins of food will be sent to England for distribution.

Two Seventh Day pastors baptised ninety candidates in forty-five minutes. They claimed this was the biggest baptismal ceremony ever held in Brisbane.

The press is giving much publicity to church work, and appears to be eager to get church news.

Our Indian Mail-bag

Gleanings from several missionary letters have produced this budget of news:-

Listing of Controls Causes Difficulties

THE Government have lifted controls of grain and clothing, with the result that those who can hold on are hoarding, and those with money are prepared to purchase heavily on the markets. The result is that grain is hard to get and prices are high. Those in charge of our homes, Baramati (Miss Vawser), Shrigonda (Miss Cameron), have a continual headache. "Railways and sugar companies are buying thousands of bags of jowari just now for their workers—they must expect a great shortage in the coming months. We are in a perfect quandary to know what to do. The impression is that rationing will not return to India. People who are able are buying in heavily, for a shortage of food is expected, and yet prices make it prohibitive for others to buy." At present we have over 400 and co-workers in our homes, and their dependants have to be kept in mind in these grim days.

School Development

The people of Shirsuphal, a village in the Baramati area, are showing more interest in the Christian message. First baptisms were reported about a year ago. Mr. Bairagi, who has charge of educational work, is also very much alive to seize every opportunity of reaching the people with the gospel. Two preacher-teachers are located here. Anxious for the future well-being of the work, Mr. Bairagi is eager to secure land on which a future school can be built. Commenting, Miss Vawser says, "Our school is now up to the 7th standard and is doing a fine work. Shirsuphal is also the centre of a good evangelistic area, and so we have to be on the alert to retain these opportunities. Our antagonist in the area is afraid of the progress of the work and is not remaining silent."

Influx of Refugees

Refugees in large numbers have come into our area in India. Early in the year there were over 5000 refugees from Pakistan in and around Dhond, and it was suggested that before long the number would increase to 20,000. This influx has added greatly to the medical work, and caused lots of complications in Dhond itself. Sister Walker, of the Dhond Hospital, wrote: "Christmas Day for us was one of record breaking. We had 46 patients in our little 20-bed hospital on that day—a record for all time. You can imagine that many were on the floors, in the verandahs, and in every spare corner that could be found. We were almost too busy to realise that we were celebrating the great festive season."

Concerning refugees, she says: "The coming of the Sindhi refugees has increased our work very much. These poor souls are in need of help, and we are glad to be able to do something for them. We feel helpless regarding evangelistic work amongst them, the language barrier being the problem here. We pray that Christ will use the service we are able to render in his name and cause them to think of him and his love for them."

An Old Man's Gratitude

From Miss Vawser: "Yesterday an old man who is almost blind, and who has a completely blind wife, came in and said that it was a very happy day; Miss Caldicott had given him a new white turban for his head-dress. Then and there he prayed a prayer of thanksgiving. This couple are given food from the boys' home; they are Christians and live in one of the smaller houses on the mission property, and for doing a little weeding he receives a very little pocket money. They have nothing, but you should see the gratitude for small blessings."

Indian Budget—Record High

The new Indian budget (July 1, 1948-June 30, 1949) has arrived, and will be considered by the home board. The amount asked for is high, considerably in advance of last year. The advances given to missionaries last year are continued and increases for co-workers added. No provision is made for new missionaries from Australia, though it is certain that some will be appointed during the coming year. The brotherhood have been generous, and yet we must ask them to be even more generous so the work can continue unhampered by lack of workers or finance.

Making Friends

Commenting on his camping experiences in the Indapur district, Colin Thomas says:

"We have many good friends in this district, and some of them are drawing a little nearer to Christ in spite of these troublesome times. We have many expressions of kindness from caste and outcaste groups, and find people still willing to listen and to reason about the things of Christ. This morning three of us walked out to a hamlet about one and a half miles and met some farmer people who listened to the message. Not a big crowd, but just a little family group who listened well, and then wanted to give us 'half' their farm to take away."



Missionary Group, India,
New Year, 1947.

Since picture was taken Dr. G. H. Oldfield and wife and H. R. Coventry have returned to Australia. Dr. Michael and family, and Sister L. Foreman have returned to India, and new missionary, Daryl Cartmel, is on field. Read news items from some in this group and remember them in prayer.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF VICTORIAN CRICKET ASSOCIATION

CRICKETERS, young and old, gathered for tea in Lygon-st. church lecture hall, on May 8. There were 162 men present to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the commencement of the Victorian Churches of Christ Cricket Association. Five who played in the first match were in the company (F. H. Kemp, J. E. Austin, L. Gole, W. J. Woodbridge and E. A. Lawson).

W. A. Fordham and Syd. Smith organised the function, and the Women's Conference catering committee arranged for the meal. Mr. Fordham (chairman) expressed pleasure that so many had responded to the invitation. He welcomed R. Enniss (World Conference president), A. E. Hurren and W. G. Graham (president and secretary of Victorian conference) and A. W. Stephenson. Brief responses were given by R. Enniss and A. E. Hurren.

L. Gole, on behalf of the original committee, referred to the great service the association had rendered the churches throughout the years. Syd. Smith reviewed briefly the history of the organisation. A. Hagger, one of those who had served as a secretary of the association, revived many happy memories. F. H. Kemp said that some who had played in the association's games had gained recognition in interstate cricket. Above all, fellowship with men in different churches had been made possible.

It was announced that the association will combine with the Baptist churches in the formation of a churches of Christ—Baptist cricket association.

The presentation of trophies for 1947-8 season

Distribution of New Testaments

The sum of about £10 has been granted Mr. John Bairagi to purchase New Testaments for use in connection with the Friendship Centre. Mr. Bairagi is doing a fine work in the centre, and many people are attracted there to discuss with him subjects found in the New Testament. It is aimed to place these New Testaments into many homes.

Pray for Us

Prayers are asked for all missionaries in these times of difficulty and anxiety. Particularly do we request prayers on behalf of some who have been sick. Dr. Michael and family have been having anxious times. Robert, the eldest, who was unwell before leaving Australia, has not yet made full recovery, and their baby girl is under medical treatment. Mrs. Oldfield, now in Australia, is recovering after a period in hospital. Island missionaries must endure hurricanes, humid weather, and few have escaped occasional attacks of malaria.

All missionaries thank the brotherhood for Christmas gifts, and especially for the comforts of food parcels.

"I cannot tell why there should come to me
A thought of someone miles and miles away
In swift insistence on the memory,
Unless a need there be that I should pray.
Friend, do the same for me, if I intrude
Unasked upon you, on some crowded day,
Give me a moment's prayer as interlude!
Be very sure I need it, therefore pray!"

was made. In A grade the challenge shield was won by East Kew, runners-up being South Yarra. The batting average was gained by H. Broderick, East Kew, and the bowling average by P. Foster, North Fitzroy. In B grade South Yarra won the challenge shield. Abbotsford being runners-up. J. Payne, of South Yarra, gained batting average, while K. Sadington and J. Tomkins were equal top in bowling average.

WORLD OF BOOKS

WE have received the following books from Marshall, Morgan and Scott, London:—

"The Life of Sir Robert Anderson," by A. P. Moore-Anderson, M.A., M.D. Price, 12/- (12/5).

"Saved to Serve," by J. V. McPherson. A story of war experiences in London, giving experiences of women who gave a Christian witness in dark days. Price, 3/2; posted, 3/4.

"Active Service With Christ," by Lieut-General Sir William Dobbie. The General gives spiritual instruction to men of the Forces in language familiar to them. An interesting and valuable book to give to young men in need of Christian training and help. Price, 7/9 (8/-).

"We Saw It Happen," by Ivor Powell. As an evangelist of varied experience Mr. Powell has seen many lives transformed by the power of the gospel. These experiences are vividly written in this book. Price, 5/6; posted, 5/9.

Here and There

Dr. W. A. Kemp visited Launceston, Tasmania, on May 9. He was invited to speak to brethren of Launceston church and to give a lecture on recent experiences abroad.

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Mitchell, after a visit to New Zealand, have now returned to Melbourne. Mr. Mitchell is the treasurer of the Victorian conference and of the Home Mission Committee.

W. Wigney, of East Kew, reports that as a result of visitation evangelism there were two further additions to church on May 9, one being by restoration and the other by faith and baptism.

Enthusiasm continues at Oakleigh, Vic., following visitation evangelism campaign. There were two more decisions on May 9. Average attendances have increased in mornings from 110 to 125, evenings from 75 to 127. 150 were present on evening of the 9th.

At East Preston, Vic., Bible school picnic, held at Eltham on Labor Day, a record number of children attended. The film, "Faith Triumphant," was shown at gospel service on May 2 and chapel was packed. Evening service on May 9 was conducted by the Friends of Youth (Ladies' Guild), who have presented church with a carpet runner which is much appreciated. Misses B. Adams and M. Waite and R. Williamson have been received into fellowship.

Month of April was celebrated by Belmore church, N.S.W., and youth auxiliaries as Youth Month. Special meetings held included combined clubs' installation service, combined youth auxiliaries' demonstration and Youth Sunday, when special services were held all day. Meetings concluded with a fellowship tea on 25th, when Mr. Small was speaker. On 28th annual business meeting of church was held, when officers were elected and reports given on activities of all auxiliaries. These revealed progress in all departments, and a healthy state in finances.

At West Preston, Vic., on May 5, C. Young, hospital chaplain, gave a helpful address at midweek service. A baptismal service followed, when Mr. Withers baptised Miss E. Bean. Splendid meetings were held on May 9, 122 assembled at communion service. Mr. and Mrs. Burman were welcomed into fellowship. Australian Christian Nurses' Association choir delighted with several anthems at gospel service; 148 present. Afterwards a song hour was conducted by young people. After long absence because of illness, Mrs. Mudford was able to attend both services.

A. Anderson, at Northcote, Vic., on April 4, gave an illustrated address on overseas work. Other visiting speakers have been K. A. Jones and M. Cragg, minister Coburg Baptist Church. Offering for European relief exceeded £10. Church Extension offering came to £17/0/5. During past ten months 114 food parcels have been sent to England, each costing approximately £1. Assistant minister is doing fine work as leader of Explorers' Club and superintendent of I.C.E. Choir under A. Brownrigg continues excellent service. For month of April average for breaking of bread was 156, and at evening service 119.

All departments of church at Townsville, Qld., are in good heart. Prayer meetings are being held for success of visit of Dr. Hyman Appelman to Townsville. Mr. Beale has been appointed president of campaign committee and Mr. Flint prayer convener. Ladies' Fellowship recently held a novel social evening entitled "Fun in the Kitchen." All games and prizes were connected with kitchen, and Mrs. Irwin and Mrs. Flint acted as hostesses. About 40 people enjoyed evening, and brought gifts for stocking church kitchen. As North Queensland Conference is to be held every second year at Townsville, this is very necessary. A recent working bee improved church building.

V. C. Stafford, director of the Federal Department of Religious Education, is visiting New South Wales this week to confer with the Youth Committee in that State.

F. T. Morgan, preacher of the Box Hill church, has been elected chairman of Victorian Youth Department, E. Lewis treasurer, and F. Broussard convener of Camp Sites Committee.

Past presidents of general conference, J. Holloway, and women's conference, Mrs. G. Washfold, visited church at Emerald, Vic., on May 2. The latter addressed morning congregation. Mother's Day had many happy features. One young man made a declaration of discipleship. Souvenirs made by young people were presented to mothers. Boys on cycles acted as despatch riders and distributed same to aged and shut-in mothers. Young people took part in service and offering was taken in recognition of Youth Week.

G. E. Burns, minister at Rockdale, N.S.W., has relinquished position of home mission secretary after ten years of service to brotherhood of N.S.W. During his absence whilst holidaying in Queensland, two morning services were taken by G. Maxwell and B. G. Corlett, and evening services by Women's Fellowship, when speaker was Mrs. G. E. Burns; C.E. speaker was Geoff Crossman. A beautiful communion table was presented by Mrs. Neilson in memory of her son, Flight Sergeant Norman Tonge, and dedicated at Anzac service. Church mourns passing of eighteen years old Keith Oldfield, who was killed in a car accident after a Sunday evening service recently. An electric two-manual reed organ has been purchased. Attendances at all meetings are well maintained.

Attendances at worship services at Rosevale, Qld., are excellent. On Easter Sunday, building was full; A. C. Caldicott was speaker. On April 18 F. Smith, from Mt. Walker church, was speaker, when 67 broke bread. Mr. Caldicott has organised Christian Endeavor Society. On April 13, C.E. held a social evening after meeting. On April 16, in honor of approaching marriage of Miss M. Rae and C. Christensen

sen, members and friends of district gathered, and an enjoyable evening was spent. A short programme was given, and Mr. Caldicott presented to guests of evening on behalf of members of church and friends of surrounding districts a roll of notes. Sympathy is extended to Zahnow family in passing of Mrs. M. Zahnow.

The second school of visitation evangelism commences on May 13. On this occasion, in addition to twelve Melbourne men, two or three preachers from provincial and country areas will be present. We have prepared for the Australian campaign two folders, one giving general instruction on the manner in which the preacher must prepare church for the effort; this is entitled, "Organisation for Week of Visitation," cost rates being 1/6 doz. The other pamphlet is entitled, "Instruction for Visitors." Each visitor will need to be supplied with this folder, cost rates of these folders being 1/6 doz. A card used to give visitor information about the prospect he is to visit may be secured for fourpence a doz. Decision cards, very necessary for success of the campaign, may be purchased for fourpence per doz. Postage is additional.

At Port Lincoln, S.A., youth had part in evening service on May 2. Stuart Lightfoot announced hymns; Graham Forrest read lesson; a junior choir of 17 voices rendered an item; Mrs. Winter sang a solo; Theo. Edwards preached. Work among young progresses. A building is badly needed. It is becoming exceedingly difficult to accommodate, at manse, the growing school, now numbering over 50. Kinders occupy lounge; two classes the kitchen, one the study. J.C.E. of 19 members meets at manse on Thursday night. A prayer service and social occupies manse on Tuesday nights. Ladies' Sunshine Circle which met at manse now meets by invitation fortnightly at Lincoln Hospital to effect sewing repairs; Mrs. Theo. Edwards is president. T. Edwards presided over united Anzac service; 500 attended. During tourist season many visitors have been welcomed. Church has since appreciated a parcel of Sankey's hymnbooks sent by a member at Glenelg.

All branches of work continue to show great interest at Reservoir, Vic. Attendance at Lord's day services, both morning and evening, are well attended. Recently two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Hannah confessed Christ. T. Fitzgerald was morning speaker on Apr. 18 and R. Bethune on May 2. Mr. Burns has spoken at all other meetings. Boys' and girls' clubs continue to grow numerically, and interest is keen. A shower tea was tendered to Miss Carol Plummer on April 28. She is to be married to Stan. Francis. Tennis club up to May 1 was only undefeated team in B Grade in competition. A basketball team has been formed among young people, and is playing in competition. Splendid meetings were held on May 9 in connection with Mother's Day and Youth Day. Appropriate addresses were given. At evening meeting, when chapel was crowded, mothers and daughters gave messages in song. One mother brought scripture reading. Cliff Johnson made the good confession.

ADDRESSES

C. M. Bailey (secretary Surrey Hills church, Vic.)—8 Stott-st., Box Hill, E.11.

T. Hallop (preacher Bexley North church, N.S.W.)—7 Allen-st., Bexley.

W. Johnston (secretary Castlemaine church, Vic.)—56 Hunter-st., Castlemaine.

C. H. Wright (preacher North Essendon church, Vic.)—58 William-st., Essendon, W.5. 'Phone, FU 4292.

The Australian Christian

News of the Churches

Western Australia

Perth (Lake-st).—Since introduction of Diamond Jubilee campaign, attendances at all meetings have increased. A young people's camp was held at Waterman's Bay from May 1 to 3, under leadership of Messrs. Robinson and Povey, about 19 young people being in camp. Deacons visited camp on Sunday afternoon to show interest in young people's work. Mr. Robinson's addresses are appreciated, and good reports are received of services which have been broadcast.

Queensland

Albion.—Church broadcast morning service on April 18. P. C. D. Alcorn gave the address. Mrs. C. Connell was soloist, and Miss H. Trudgian organist. Harry Dawson, from Melbourne, spoke at evening meeting on April 18. On April 21, Women's Mission Band and Girls' Club combined for a meeting, when speaker was a representative from Brisbane City Mission. Arthur Green (permanent American secretary, Dr. Hyman Appelman) spoke at 11 a.m. service on April 25. An Anzac Day service was held in evening, C. J. Williams speaking.

Bundaberg.—Meetings continue with good morning attendances. There were good meetings at Goodwood at last visit. At gospel meeting on April 18, Dorothy Attwell confessed Christ and was baptised on May 2. At youth services young men took part in morning and young people gave items at night. Speaker in morning was R. Voss. Mr. Dallinger gave a special challenge to youth in evening. Successful Bible school picnic was held on May 3 at Elliott Heads, approximately 140 being present. A happy time was spent with 80 young folk of school. Church building at Sims-rd. is nearly completed. Several members are still laid aside with illness.

Gympie.—Church has enjoyed fellowship again with Elsie Collins, who recently returned from S.A. Elsie, together with Olive Kehl, has now left, and both are working in Brisbane. A welcome home and presentation were given to Mr. and Mrs. Rod Plucknett on return from honeymoon. United District C.E. Union has recommenced monthly Saturday night meetings in Town Hall. A Bible quiz was part of programme on night of April 17, and the address by Mr. Shaw, visiting Baptist speaker, was enjoyed. Attendance at Bible class is increasing, and studies are full of interest. Regular monthly teas on Sunday evenings are planned, special speakers on topics of interest to be invited for each occasion.

South Australia

Kilburn.—At 10 a.m. on May 2, Bible school registered best attendance since paralysis epidemic, 128, including one new scholar. Newly-formed junior department under leadership of Mrs. Edwards had 30 present. H. C. Mendows, of Prospect, conducted 11 a.m. service, which was addressed by F. Collins, attendance being 25 adults and 50 young worshippers. Fellowship was enjoyed with Sister K. Morris, of City Temple, Sydney. F. Collins preached again at 7 p.m. service, when 16 adults and 8 children appreciated a splendid address. Bible school needs used Bibles and Sankey hymnbooks.

Edwardstown.—A farewell social was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Fitzgerald on April 29. About 60 were present. A presentation was made, and musical items, farewell messages, games and supper comprised programme. Church regrets that, under present circumstances, Mr. Fitzgerald was not able to continue, but he leaves with best wishes and highest regard of all. On May 2, P. R. Baker commenced

a ministry with church on part-time basis. Bright addresses were enjoyed by between 30 and 40 at each service. Introduction of a question box at evening service should prove a bright feature. One decision was made for Christ.

Croydon.—A feature of morning service on April 4 was number of visitors. Among these were Mr. and Mrs. Selwood, Colac, Vic., and Mrs. Henderson (late Baramati). Mrs. Baker and Miss Baker were received into fellowship from Whyalla. Mrs. Marriott, sen., was at service on morning of 18th after lengthy absence through illness. Murray Fletcher and Nancy Messenger were married on April 10. Croydon church was well represented at Port Line group meetings at Semaphore, and also at tent mission at Prospect during month. Average attendance for month, morning, 84; evening, 75. All auxiliaries are functioning well.

Kadina.—On Anzac Sunday a male quartette from church provided two numbers at Anzac service in local town hall. On April 29, Ladies' Guild celebrated anniversary by holding a drawingroom afternoon. Programme consisted of musical items, and an address by Mrs. A. V. Bawden. There were about 50 ladies present, including some visitors from other churches. Anniversary was continued at 6.30 p.m. service on May 2, when there was a splendid attendance. An address was given by Miss L. Robinson, M.A. An anthem by choir, an item by a male quartette, a duet, and a solo helped to make a bright and helpful service.

Long Plains.—Attendances for last month were encouraging. Mr. Baker gave appreciated addresses on alternate Sundays, and was speaker at both services on April 25, when harvest thanksgiving was theme. Gifts of food suitable for posting to missionaries were brought for harvest festival, and an offering was received to cover posting of parcels. A solo was sung by Mrs. Baker. Speakers assisting during April were M. Jenkin, M. Daniel, D. Daniel and H. Lawrie (Owen). Young people journeyed to Avon on April 16 for a social and devotional time with young people there under leadership of G. R. Stirling (youth director). Two carloads of Endeavorers also journeyed to Prospect on 22nd to assist in a mission being held by that church. Church expresses appreciation to all who have helped in plans for rebuilding.

Port Pirie.—Average attendances for April were: morning, 36; evening, 24. Average weekly offerings: general fund, £5/1/4; building fund, 15/6; brotherhood appeals, £1/7/8. Monthly church paper has proved popular. Church building and fences have been painted, including roof. Les Broadfoot and Thelma Samuels were married in Adelaide on April 17. Y.P.S.C.E. has had good meetings since night was changed to Friday. Weekly prayer and Bible study has been changed to Tuesday evening. Sisters' meeting is held fortnightly on Wednesday, but sickness and holidays have reduced attendances. Young people of church had a wonderful experience at C.E. camp at Crystal Brook, when C. P. Hughes was speaker. Youth Week services were arranged for May 2 and 9, C.E. mothers' night on May 7, and an evening on May 5. K. Barton addressed all services for April.

Cottonville.—Church has appreciated help of visiting speakers—Mr. Schwab, Brian Barrett, of Prospect, and Mr. Riches, of Mission to Lepers, during Mr. Brooke's participation in campaign at Prospect, and his indisposition which followed. Mr. Brooke has recovered and resumed work. A bus-load of members, with choir, continued to attend Prospect meetings each Tuesday night during month. Mrs. E. Stanton, who, as Joyce Berry, rendered faithful service as kindergarten superintendent, was honored at a Sun-

day school evening on April 16, and a presentation made. Ladies' Auxiliary has good meetings. Youth Sunday was observed on May 2 with a tea, after which Bible films were shown, and a youth gospel service in which John Ferris and Myra Jackson helped Mr. Brooke in a question and answer sermon on "The Life that Wins." Average offerings established a new April record of £9/9/9.

Adelaide (Grote-st).—May 2 was observed as Youth Sunday. Mr. Cain, of Stirling East, was speaker at morning service. Mr. Beiler visited Stirling and Aldgate Valley. A youth tea was held in lecture hall, followed by a youth service at night conducted by Mr. Beiler. Brief addresses were given by W. E. Blackheby, Rex Hollard and W. Beiler; others taking part were Max Roberts and Alf Field. All services were well attended and inspirational. At midweek prayer meeting intercession is made for Hyman Appelman mission. Mr. Beiler is conducting studies in Book of Acts.

Narracoorte.—There were good meetings for harvest thanksgiving. A kerosene box of tinned food for Britain was received and forwarded to Social Service Department to be forwarded to needy members in Britain. Perishable goods were taken to local hospital. A. Hutson preached at all services during month. There was one decision. At church quarterly meeting, it was decided to purchase a block of land for a preacher's residence. Value was more than raised at meeting, and further donations are being sought toward building fund. Encouraging reports were presented. Girls' Club has recommenced under leadership of Mrs. Huntley. Miss P. Wardle is now superintendent of kinder department and G. Wardle superintendent of general school, with P. Foster secretary. Christian Endeavor and Boys' Club are functioning well. Miss P. Wardle attended youth camp at Gawler at Easter. Upwey Extension Convention at Naracoorte had splendid spiritual results. John Ridley, of Sydney, was chief speaker. Four of these special meetings were held in chapel. A delegation of six members visited S.E. Conference at Kaniva. Aged Mr. Williams has been confined to his bed for last fortnight. Mrs. Huntley's letter of transfer has been received from North Richmond, Vic.

New South Wales

Bexley North.—J. McCallum, City Mission worker, gave an address on social service work to church on Apr. 4. On 25th L. Read gave a helpful address on stewardship, in which campaign church is co-operating. T. Hallop using theme at both services during month. Mrs. R. Greenhalgh has been elected president of Women's Conference Auxiliary and R. Greenhalgh and T. Hallop to Y.P. Department.

Tempe.—Under leadership of K. Birkhead (Woolwich Bible College), interest is growing. Bible school anniversary was means of contacting a large number of parents and friends. Services on May 2 were well attended. Demonstration on 4th revealed much talent amongst scholars, and was a credit to organisers. Members have adopted idea of saving spare copper coins to meet cost of repairing and repainting building.

Beverley Hills.—During March Messrs. Munro, Coxhead, MacLagan and Hallop, of Bexley North, gave appreciated addresses to church. Mr. Munro's addresses during March at gospel services were helpful. On 29th, young people spent an enjoyable day at National Park. Mr. Munro spoke at both services on April 4. Mr. Youngusband, from Auburn, and Mr. Munro addressed church on April 11. Visitors during month included Mr. and Mrs. Barrett, from W.A.

Gulgandra.—On April 11, D. H. Butler's addresses morning and evening were appreciated. Bible school and kindergarten held successful anniversary on April 18, when pupils brought gifts to be afterwards sent to local hospital. Theme for day, both in song and address, was "God's Good Gifts." Mr. Bartley, from Methodist Church, was speaker in afternoon and A. Burrell at night. A presentation on behalf of church was made to Mr. and Mrs. R. Morris. Kitchen tea has been arranged for Lorna Mudford prior to her marriage to Don Risson, of Ipswich, Qld. Will Quayle, sen., is ill in hospital. At Bible school meeting on May 1, W. Hodgekiss was elected superintendent and Mrs. Webster secretary.

Penshurst.—Ladies' Fellowship accepted invitations to local anniversaries, and an enjoyable afternoon was spent with Penshurst Presbyterian friends, and with Beverley Hills church of Christ ladies. At a recent meeting of Y.P.C.E., Mr. Thomas gave an excellent address. Parents and friends were entertained at an afternoon service at which kindergarten gave several items. Bible school's musical contribution was on theme of "A House," compered and accompanied by R. Wotherspoon, chairman being Geo. Miles. It was a pleasure to welcome new senior teacher Mr. Shirley. A happy afternoon concluded with distribution of prizes to Bible school scholars and kindergarten.

Marrickville.—References to Anzac Day were made on April 25, and it being Youth Sunday appropriate addresses were given by Colin Bowser (Belmore) in morning and P. E. Thomas at evening service, when there was a large attendance of all youth auxiliaries. A happy day was spent by youth of church at National Park on 26th, followed by an enjoyable evening of games and choruses at R. Rugendyke's home and closing with short devotional service led by N. Gavros, of Sunshine (Vic.). Y.P.S.C.E. entertained Enmore members at an "international" evening on 27th. G. L. Waldeck, of Bolivian Indian Mission, gave an interesting illustrated address of his work to Life Gift Fellowship on April 28.

Hamilton.—At church annual meeting on April 20, treasurer's report showed finances satisfactory. Secretary's report showed two additions, but several losses through transfer. A. Fraser, G. Ongley and D. Brown were re-elected to diaconate, which in addition to those brethren comprises A. Tregloan and W. Gillespie as deacons and N. Fraser and P. Talbot as elders. David Brown is church treasurer and school superintendent, with Miss Marie Hogan as kindergarten superintendent and N. Fraser church secretary. Building of church manse, by voluntary labor, continues. This will be situated at Adamstown. Good progress was made with building on a recent Saturday, when V. B. Morris came from Sydney to help. His interest and practical help were appreciated. Sunday school has been moved from 3 p.m. to 9.45 a.m. on Sundays, with beneficial results as regards number of scholars attending. Mrs. Talbot is unable to attend meetings owing to ill-health. Mr. Talbot, though far from well, is able to be present occasionally. Mrs. Watson is recovering after brief sojourn in hospital. Church has enjoyed fellowship with visitors, including Mrs. Paradine, from Brisbane. A. W. Morris continues to labor with church, and his addresses during April on stewardship were very helpful.

Victoria

Thornbury.—On April 25 there were good attendances at both services, speakers being F. N. Lee and Dr. Hinrichsen. Youth Sunday was observed on May 2. L. A. Trezise, youth director, was morning speaker. A youth service was held at night, when young people of auxiliaries were present in good numbers, some taking part. Speaker was E. L. Williams. 176 were present, and at close a girl of Bible school made her confession of faith.

Hampton.—Speaker on May 9 was A. B. McDiarmid. Mother's Day was observed. At night men's society formed choir and took part in service. J. Holloway was extended good wishes; he left for Hobart on Monday to take up a position there. Youth offering for day was £16.

Castlemaine.—At annual business meeting following officers were elected: H. Peeler, A. Read, K. Hall, N. Hall, O. Clipstone (treasurer), W. Johnston (secretary). Thankoffering taken on April 18 amounted to £22/4/-. Ladies continue to pack food parcels for Britain. Mr. Black spoke at Harcourt on May 2.

Maryborough.—Harvest festival services were held on April 4. Goods were sold following evening and proceeds used to buy parcels for English churches. A number travelled to Ballarat to attend Hyman Appelman campaign on 19th. Mission Band held "Sankey evening" in home of Mrs. Ley on April 29, an enjoyable time being spent. On May 1 Estelle Poole was married in chapel. Mr. Alcorn is giving a series of addresses on the Holy Spirit.

Kyneton.—At Y. Fellowship on April 3 Mr. Hinton, Baptist, showed interesting lantern pictures of archaeological discoveries of ancient Jericho. Two platform armchairs were recently appreciated gifts from Ladies' Aid. Record attendance at Bible school anniversary held on 18th, when L. A. Trezise was speaker. One girl from school confessed Christ. Later Mr. Trezise screened three movie films of Youth Department work in connection with youth camps. J. H. Vickery, of Lygon-st., was speaker at prayer meeting on April 29.

Wedderburn.—Meetings are well attended. On March 28, "Back to Wedderburn" celebrations were a great success. 50 met at morning service, and B. Jackel exhorted. Mr. Sandells came from Boort to take evening service, when over 70 people were present. On Apr. 14 V. Quayle commenced his work in middle district circuit. On April 23 church tendered him a welcome, when Mr. Denee (Church of England) spoke on behalf of Ministers' Fraternal, and Roy Hayes for Sunday school, Mr. Pyers for table tennis and A. B. Jackel on behalf of church and officers.

Geelong.—At morning service on May 2 Mr. Stirling held an induction service for newly-appointed deacons and elder. Mr. Smail (elder) led appointments in prayer. Following are official board for year: B. N. Rodda, J. Smail, elders; secretary, H. McGregor; treasurer, C. S. Ball; deacons, J. Barnes, A. Carr, T. Clark, D. Carr, P. Drayton, E. McGregor, R. Tippet (S.S. superintendent). At close of meeting many church members rededicated their lives. At evening service Mr. Jenner (Sudan United Mission) gave an illustrated talk. Miss L. Anderson sang a solo.

Ballarat (York-st.).—Co-operating with many local churches, a short mission was held. Commencing on April 25, Mr. Long gave a series of addresses on the second coming which were greatly enjoyed. Interest increased, and on last day, May 2, 68 attended worship service and 93 heard the gospel preached. Four boys responded to the invitation during the week, and two of them were baptised with a boy and young lady who had previously confessed. Work is in good heart, all meetings being well attended. There were 142 at school on May 2. C.E. members had charge of broadcast service on same date, Mr. Long providing the spoken word.

Kaniva.—On May 2, Mr. Combridge took anniversary services at Bordertown, while at Kaniva Walter Crouch addressed morning meeting and G. Miller took gospel service. Attendances have been higher lately than for some time. Mr. Combridge has impressed all with his sincere messages of Christian instruction and evangelism and with personal work of himself and his wife. Men of church have spent several days laying cement paths and making other improvements at manse. J.C.E.

continues with average attendance of 21 and a fine spirit. I.C.E. has average attendance of about seven and is progressing. Y.P.S.C.E. has had average attendance of about 17 and is in excellent spirit, with three new members welcomed in at last meeting. Y.W.C.F. had Dr. Shurgold lecture at April meeting, when attendance was very good.

Moreland.—At a special meeting of church members on April 21, L. H. Withers and H. Stokes were appointed church trustees. Following this meeting annual church business meeting was well attended. Reports were read and discussed, and following officers elected: secretary, G. R. Woodbridge; assistant, R. Burdeu; treasurer, L. H. Withers; deacons, J. Ratcliffe, H. Dickson and E. Clarke. On April 11 Mrs. R. Conning was baptised, and at morning service on April 18 welcomed into fellowship. At gospel service on April 18, Ron Harris made the good confession. At gospel service on April 25, Margaret and George McKinnon made the good confession. These three were immersed on May 2, and Ken Beckett made the good confession. Tress. Candish reconsecrated himself. Pre-gospel prayer meeting, with average attendance of 20, held under chairmanship of J. Holliday, is a great source of spiritual blessing and power. J. Holliday spoke on May 2. Junior cricket team won premiership pennant in competition in season just completed. Under auspices of Women's Mission Band ladies of church held a fete and exhibition of antiques on April 24 in church hall. Proceeds, £50, were in aid of churches of Christ Hospital at Murrumbeena.

Gardiner.—Half-yearly business meeting was held on April 28, and annual reports received from various auxiliaries. Church has asked Mr. Bolduan to accept a further three years as preacher when present term expires in December. Mr. Bolduan has been giving excellent exhortations at morning services, and faithfully proclaims the gospel. Regular church socials have been of great assistance towards Christian fellowship among members and friends. Recent visiting speakers have been Guy Playfair (Sudan United Mission), D. Hood (Mildmay, London), I. J. Chivell and E. L. Williams. Every member present Sunday was held on April 11, when 193 members broke bread for day and over 20 visitors were present. Some isolated members attended. Two elderly faithful members, Mrs. Brown and Mr. Cripps, have passed to their reward, and sympathy is extended to Miss Callanan in loss of her father in Queensland. Phi Betas and Mission Band combined on April 19 in a kitchen tea in honor of Joan Campbell, to be married to Ralph Hall on May 8. Tennis club has entered three teams in competition; each is doing well. Football team is undefeated after three matches. Sporting clubs had church parade on May 2. Lyle Williams assisted with solos.

Caulfield (Bramber-nd.).—An excellent spirit prevails in all departments under leadership and faithful ministry of W. W. Saunders. Seven young people have made the good confession, making a total of 17, with average attendance of over 150 communing each Lord's day for past two months; highest attendance communing, 171. Bible school anniversary services reflected credit upon all, especially A. G. Rutherford (superintendent) and J. Machin (conductor). Addresses and fellowship of speakers—V. C. Stafford (Youth Department), R. Muller (children's specialist) and J. K. Bond (Springvale)—were appreciated. Church has entered upon a progressive programme under leadership of W. W. Saunders. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Padey, wife of church treasurer, in loss of a brother, also to Mr. and Mrs. Frencham in loss of a nephew.

Church is saddened by home-call of A. Miles. A service was held in chapel, when W. W. Saunders and W. A. Brown (church secretary) referred to faithfulness and Christian traits of a brother beloved. Sympathy is also expressed to Miss Elsie Hoskin and loved ones in home-call of their mother, Mrs. Hoskin, who was much loved. A service was held in chapel on morning of May 7, W. W. Saunders officiating. The bereaved are commended to the God of all comfort.

Ballarat (Peel-st.).—Work continues in good spirit under leadership of Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie; good average attendances at all services. Bible school work is encouraging; 100 present on May 2. One young man who confessed Christ at camp at Hall's Gap was baptised and welcomed into fellowship. There has been one re-consecration. Over 90 broke bread at services on May 2. Mr. McKenzie gave heart-searching addresses. Youth Council held an enjoyable tea and variety evening. Ladies' Guild continues good work. Jumble sale on April 27 realised over £14. Over 100 were present at gospel service on May 2.

Middle Park.—Mr. Randall concluded his ministry with church on April 25, when he delivered a helpful farewell address. A combined farewell service with the South Melbourne members was held in chapel on April 30, when presentations from both churches and Bible schools were made to Mr. and Mrs. Randall and Lorraine. Members appreciated courtesy of Mr. Hurren, who presided over meeting. President of Preachers' Fraternal, Mr. Wigley, expressed appreciation of Mr. Randall's labor in district. Regret was expressed at departure of Mr. and Mrs. Randall and Lorraine, and best wishes were tendered for their future work. Supper was served at close. Mr. Manallack spoke at both services on May 2. Mrs. Spokes and Mrs. Hartvigsen were welcomed back after several weeks' holiday.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—Services are well attended, Reg Enniss being preacher at all meetings. Ladies' Mission Band held day of work and fellowship on May 5 from 10.30 a.m. until 4.30 p.m. In preparation for Youth Sunday, nine young men of church took place of the officers on May 2, and presided at morning service. At close of evening meeting Jack Derrick, of Norway, confessed Christ. A church party held on May 6 was a very happy function. H. Swain was chairman, and church members voiced appreciation to kitchen ladies and officers for good work they have done for many years. Kitchen ladies were each presented with a posy of flowers and a brooch, and Reg. Enniss, on behalf of members, presented church secretary, A. Johnson, with a wristlet watch.

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APPROACHING MARRIAGE

PLUMMER-FRANCIS.—The marriage of Constance Carol, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Plummer, 921 High-st., Reservoir, with Stanley Lynfield, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Francis, New Farm, Brisbane, will be celebrated at the church of Christ, Brighton, on Saturday, May 15, at 4 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

DICKENS.—Loving memories of my dear friend Mrs. W. Dickens, who was called home May 7, 1945.

Grief passes, but she who died must remain forever a splendid memory.

HANSEN.—In fond memory of my husband Carl, called home on May 12, 1945.

—Inserted by his fond wife.

NIGHTINGALE.—In loving memory of a beloved brother of May, Will, Ethel, Ivy, second son of Mrs. Nightingale and the late Mr. Nightingale, called home on May 11, 1946. Resting.

C.F.A.

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of C.F.A. in South Australia, to be held at Grote-st. church of Christ on May 24, at 7 p.m.

TO LET

Furn. cottage, very comf., scrup. clean, every convenience, gas, elec., sew., gar., available now for several months' tenancy.—Ellis, Ne-La., Frankston.

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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.

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COMING EVENTS

MAY 19 (Wednesday).—Victorian General Dorcas will meet in Swanston-st. lecture hall from 10.30 a.m. to 4 p.m. All sisters interested in this work are invited to attend.

MAY 30.—Newmarket church of Christ Bible school anniversary will be held on May 30. Special speakers 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Hospitality provided. All welcome.

BIG NEWS!

E. C. HINRICHSEN

Commences Prahran Town Hall,

MAY 16,

assisted by Choir and Orchestra.

Conductor, J. W. Machin.

Singers and players invited to assist.

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Sunday, May 16.—Christ for All Problems.

Speaker, Mr. W. Atkin.

Special Vocal Numbers at each Meeting.

Song-leader, R. W. Vautier.

BACK TO MURRAY BRIDGE CHURCH OF CHRIST.

HOME-COMING WEEK-END AND 36TH ANNIVERSARY.

Saturday, May 22.

2 p.m., River Cruise (two hours).

5.30 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7.30 p.m., Inspirational Rally. Speaker, N. Kingston.

SUNDAY, MAY 23.

11 a.m., Every member present. (Thank-offering.)

7 p.m., Thanksgiving Service. Guest speaker, W. A. Russell (conference president).

If hospitality is required, notify A. C. Page, secretary, 'phone, Murray Bridge 74.

Greetings invited from those unable to attend.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, CARNEGIE (Toorambool-rd.).

MAY 24 to MAY 30.

A WEEK OF WITNESS, A Crusade for Christ in Carnegie.

Each night at 8 o'clock.

24th (Mon.), speaker, W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D., Camberwell.

25th (Tues.), F. T. Morgan, Box Hill.

26th (Wed.), E. J. Miles, Moreland.

27th (Thurs.), D. Wakeley, Hartwell.

28th (Fri.), K. J. Patterson, B.Com., Ivanhoe Special musical items each night.

Friday night, Metropolitan Churches of Christ Choir.

Sat., 29th, Social evening for whole church. Come and bring your friends.

Sun., May 30th, 34th Church Anniversary.

7 a.m., Prayer Fellowship for men and boys. 9.45 a.m., Bible School.

11 a.m., Worship Service and Communion. Speaker, A. E. Hurren, conference president. Subject, "Every Member a Crusader."

3 p.m., P.S.A. Fellowship Service. Speaker, Dr. W. A. Kemp.

7 p.m., Great Evangelistic Service. Speaker, Dr. E. R. Killmier, "The Witness of the Churches of Christ to this Age."

All past members and friends cordially invited to these meetings.

MORELAND CHURCH ANNIVERSARY,

SUNDAY, MAY 30.

11 a.m., Family Worship. Speaker, A. W. Stephenson.

3 p.m., Pleasant Sunday Afternoon. Items by choir and assisting artists.

7 p.m., Gospel Festival. E. J. Miles will speak on "Faith of Our Fathers."

Anthems by choir.

NORTH RICHMOND BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY,

MAY 30:

11 a.m., H. Earle. 3 p.m., H. Earle.

7 p.m., C. Young.

JUNE 6:

11 a.m., E. McIlhagger. 3 p.m., L. Williams.

7 p.m., L. A. Tresize.

All former scholars and friends welcome.

MILE END, S.A.

40th ANNIVERSARY.

May 30.—Guest speaker, J. W. Wiltshire.

May 31.—Back to C.E.

June 2.—Tea and Public Meeting.

BROADCAST SERVICE

MAY 23.—Swan Hill, Vic., youth service, 11 a.m. Speaker, A. W. C. Candy. 3SH.

The Australian Christian

May 11, 1948

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Obituary

Mrs. J. J. Anderson

ON March 6 Mrs. J. J. Anderson completed a long life of service for Christ and passed to be with her Lord. Our sister was known for her punctual and regular attendance at the Lord's day services of the church at Buckley-st., Essendon, Vic., maintaining this record until a fortnight prior to her death. Born at Mt. Duneed, near Geelong, she later moved with her parents to the Shepparton district, where she became associated with the witness of the churches of Christ. She frequently spoke of those days, recalling in this connection the work of brethren T. Hagger, W. Gale and the late T. H. Scambler. When she married she moved with her husband to Melbourne, where they both became foundation members of Moreland church. When her husband became mayor of Coburg, she ably represented Christ to the community in her office as mayoress. Her life of 84 years was distinguished by a quiet and consistent witness to the saving power of Christ. The funeral moved from the home of Mrs. O. Anderson (daughter-in-law), Wilson-st., Essendon, where E. McIlhagger conducted the service. The service at Fawkner cemetery was conducted by E. J. Miles.—E.McL.

Mrs. R. Attwood

ON Wednesday, March 17, Mrs. Attwood, after a painful illness, fell asleep in Christ at the age of 28 years. It was during the recent mission conducted by E. C. Hinrichsen at Wiley Park that our sister, together with her husband, joined the church at Belmore. At the time of her home-call she was in fellowship with the church at Asquith, N.S.W. She was a woman of indomitable courage, thoughtful for others to the last, possessing a cheerful and uncomplaining spirit under her heavy load of suffering. Her mortal remains were taken to Brisbane to be interred beside her relatives. We commend husband, infant and relatives to the God of all comfort and consolation.—J.R.L.

Mrs. E. Beard

ON April 1, at the age of 70 years, Mrs. E. Beard entered into her eternal rest after being a patient sufferer for several years. As Miss Eliza Craig Carson, she was baptised at Cymelon, Vic., in 1894 by Mr. Dyben, and later on was received into fellowship with the disciples at Carew, being a member of one of the pioneer families which later formed the present flourishing church at Wampoony. Most of her church life, however, was spent in fellowship with the church at Bordertown, S.A., where her memory is honored as one who lived by faith, and cheerfully sought to give a helping hand wherever she could. Her memory is treasured by her husband and four daughters (Mrs. D. Rivett, Mrs. R. Dinning, Mrs. C. England and Miss Eileen). She is reunited with her son John, who predeceased her. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; for their works do follow them."—A.O.S.B.

Christina Easy

IN the early hours of April 19, the angel of the Lord breathed the name of Christina Easy; thus there slipped from our midst a gentle spirit whom we had learned to love. Our sister was in her 83rd year, and had been in poor health for some time. She was admitted to the Royal Melbourne Hospital on Friday the 16th, where she remained until her home-call. Christina Easy came to Christ under the influence of Mr. Masengarb, in the little Chetwynd-st. church, North Melbourne, some 55 years ago. Christina Easy has been in fellowship with the church at Ascot Vale

for the past 19 years, and was constant in her service for the Master she loved. Her gentle personality leaves a fragrant memory in the minds of all who knew her. Many friends and relatives gathered to pay their last tributes to our late sister; and after brief services at the funeral parlor and the graveside, our sister's last remains were laid to rest in the Fawkner cemetery by the writer. Many floral tributes bore eloquent testimony to the high esteem in which our sister was held. Thus she rests from her labors until the day dawn and the shadows flee away.—C.G.B.

Mrs. Amelia Marsh

ON Lord's day morning, March 28, after a long illness, Mrs. Amelia Marsh passed from this life to be for ever with the Lord, at the advanced age of 83 years. Born in South Australia, she was baptised by the late T. J. Gore, M.A. On coming to Western Australia she took membership with the church at Fremantle, in which fellowship she remained until the end, a faithful and honored member for over 50 years. A woman of deep faith, and a lovable disposition, she endeared herself to all. Always devoted to her Lord, her consistent and generous support of his work continued right to the end, although confined for nearly a year to her home through failing health. For some years she was church organist, and for many years was most active in the work of the Dorcas Society. Every interest of the church was her personal concern. Such a memory remains an encouragement to all. Her husband predeceased her by over twenty years. A son, Hubert, residing in Auckland, N.Z., mourns the passing of one of the best of mothers. To him the church extends sincere sympathy, as also to the aged sister of the deceased, Mrs. Kirk. The funeral took place on Tuesday, March 30, in the Fremantle cemetery. James Gordon officiated. "She, being dead, yet speaketh."—J.G.

Mrs. Elizabeth Pearl

ON March 22, after many weeks of weariness, our sister fell calmly and triumphantly asleep in Jesus. She was greatly loved and esteemed by relatives and all who were privileged to know her. She was born in Warrnambool, the eldest of 13 children of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. McConnell, of Warrnambool, Vic. On Dec. 23, 1884, she married Walter Pearl, and proved an ideal partner and mother to her family. After living in the following towns—Hamilton, Brisbane, Terang, Camperdown and Adelaide—they finally made their home with their youngest son Fred at Whitwarta, S.A. Owing to Mrs. Pearl's health, she and her husband went to Henley Beach. After three months of illness she terminated her earthly pilgrimage and went to meet her Lord. Mr. and Mrs. W. Pearl celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in December at Whitwarta. Mrs. Pearl is survived by her husband, Mrs. W. Pearl, of Whitwarta, two sons and two daughters—Mrs. Underwood, of Fullarton, S.A.; Mrs. J. Walls, of Camperdown, Vic.; Mrs. R. Pearl, of Geelong, Vic.; and Mr. F. Pearl, of Whitwarta, S.A. There are 15 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. Mrs. Pearl was baptised at the age of 13 in the Merri River, Warrnambool, Vic., 70 years ago. Throughout those years she has been a constant lover of her Lord, which bears splendid testimony to the spiritual significance of her experience.

An old friend of the family, H. Manning, of Mt. Compass, conducted the funeral service at West Terrace cemetery, where her body was laid to rest with a sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection. Praise God that these broken circles of earth one day will be complete by faith in Jesus Christ our Lord. The lonely lives remaining we commend to the care of our heavenly Father.—A.E.C.

Edward Trudgian

ON Feb. 26, Edward Trudgian, of Gympie, Qld., passed away at St. Martin's Hospital, Brisbane. Our late brother accepted Christ at an early age under the preaching of the late T. G. Mason, and served the church throughout his life as Sunday school teacher, leader of young people's organisations, Sunday school superintendent for ten years, church secretary and treasurer. For forty-one years he was associated with a legal firm in Gympie, and was highly respected in all sections of the community. His hospitality to preachers, both resident and itinerant, and his willingness to fill preaching appointments, will be gratefully remembered. Our late brother was 56 years of age when he passed away. He is survived by his wife, his aged mother (a pioneer member of the Gympie church), two brothers and two sisters. He was interred in Lutwyche cemetery, the funeral services being conducted by the writer.—P.C.D.A.

Mrs. M. Thompson

AFTER a few months' illness Mrs. Thompson, of the church at South Yarra, Vic., was called home on April 4. Taking her stand for Christ 25 years ago, during the Hinrichsen-Brooker mission and during the ministry of Geo. Tease, she was most regular in her attendance at the Lord's Table and gospel services. During the year she sought to humbly serve her Lord in the Ladies' Guild and Mission Band, and other church activities. Her death took place almost on her 80th birthday, and her earthly remains were laid to rest at Cheltenham cemetery on April 6. The church is the poorer for the passing of a faithful disciple, who has gone to join that heavenly company of whom the angel said, "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord." We commend to God's comfort those who have been bereaved.—H.H.

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Social Service Notes

DUPLEX COTTAGES, W.A.

STATE conference has made history this year in giving its sanction for the Social Service Department to proceed with the erection of the first duplex cottages for our aged folk in conjunction with the Properties Committee. Meetings are being arranged to finalise the plans, seek the necessary permits and commence the work.

Most of the work will be done by contract, but quite a saving will be effected by some voluntary effort. It will help us considerably if builders, plumbers, painters, path and drive makers will volunteer now to assist those who have responded already. Most men are free from their regular calling on Saturdays now. How about giving a couple of Saturdays to the Lord to help forward this worthy project in the interests of our aged folk?

The annual offering taken up in March is coming in with encouragement to the committee. Apart from this, four sisters and one brother have contributed £50 between them. Another sister has pledged £50 in her will. The church at Bassendean has £100 in readiness as a first instalment, and a band of workers to assist in the erection of the first cottage as a memorial one.

Our C.F.A. Committee assisted needy cases last conference year to the extent of over £150. Churches of Christ have the lead of all other churches in C.F.A. We could do great things for God and humanity if every church and every member were to co-operate in C.F.A. Write now to Will. H. Nightingale, hon. secy.

A Methodist Giant's Hymn

A HYMN FOR MAY—No. 225, MAY 16.

METHODIST history has few names towering above that of William Morley Punshon (1824-81), a powerful preacher and an organiser of statesmanlike breadth of outlook. From early intellectual and spiritual promise, and conversion at the age of 14, he passed rapidly to his first sermon (30 minutes of it!) at just over 16. While still under 18, he lectured on "Christian Evidences" and similar subjects, preaching in six churches in the following quarter. He began his ministerial career "where I should like all young men to begin," he writes, "—in one of the worst circuits." Unusual, if not unique, honors were associated with his presidencies of Methodist conferences—five successive years in Canada (1868-72) and then in Britain. He was a great force towards Methodist union in Canada. His work as a leader and an organiser is astounding in both quantity and quality. He preached, he lectured, he wrote, he travelled, he organised without mercy upon himself until, far too late, Methodism realised that heart and mind had been overstrained by the unremitting toil exacted of him for every good cause, his utter self-forgetfulness literally proving fatal when he should have been still in the prime of life.

Punshon was first and last a preacher, all his other work being subsidiary. Only rarely did he make brief excursions into poetry—in his teens with a small group of poems and over twenty years later, during a period of illness, with a volume called "Sabbath Chimes." He hoped this might be "a messenger of mercy to the wandering, a comforter to the troubled, and a memory of the writer to many friends." But it has been more.

A hymn beginning "We rose to-day with anthems sweet" and to-day's hymn, "Sweet is the sunlight after rain" have survived to many modern hymnals. They are not in the highest class of literary composition, nor have they become the most popular of our hymns, but there is real poetry, real devotion and real spirituality in them.—F.J.F.

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ave., Toorak Gardens.

Tas.—Mr. G. J. Foot, 48 Hill-st., Launces-
ton, Tas.

Vic.—Mr. C. L. Lang, Flat 2; 27 Gordon-
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(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 crossfire. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.).

EVANGELISM

In one's busy, varied city ministry it is not possible usually to do more than scan the pages of the "Australian Christian," so failing to secure the maximum of information and inspiration its splendid pages supply. But having to-day at home (through slight indisposition), I took to reading the last issue right through. As one deeply interested (and always have been) in evangelism, and feeling that it lies at the very heart of the church's existence and future power, I write. The place and emphasis the "Christian" gives to evangelism is refreshing. It was a thrill to read of the successes in evangelism reported in this one issue. This is what I discovered: of decisions and baptisms reported there were 6 in W.A., 4 in Qld., 6 in S.A., 24 in N.S.W. and in Vic., 31, a total of 71; these were from 38 centres. (There were probably many more not reported in this issue). There does seem to me to be a rebirth of passion to win souls to definite decision for Jesus Christ and obedience to him. But this passion needs to be intensified till every church, every preacher and every church member becomes again alive to this God-given responsibility and privilege. Let us encourage every sane and scriptural plan of evangelism, mass (the Pentecost way), tent (which always reaches some outsiders), visiting (two by two to the homes), youth (through Bible schools, C.E. and clubs), in real "gospel" services on Sundays, preaching to secure a verdict every time.

May I urge all reporters to more regularly report decisions for Christ, and if you rejoice at such conquests for the Lord Jesus we will rejoice with you.

I know of nothing that will help to deepen the spiritual life of the churches more than to be busy in the first rank task of soul winning. Let us all get to it more earnestly and, wholeheartedly than ever before.—Will Beiler, Grote-st., Adelaide.

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