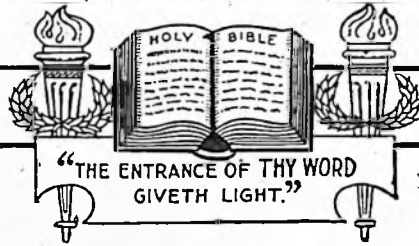


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



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Why the Church Will Conquer

A VICTORY will be won by the church over the world. Our optimism is not running away from reason when we make such a claim.

We see the church as a unique body. There are many man-made organisations in which men have fellowship. Such human associations may have great ideals, but they lack the divine nature of the church. The church is divine in origin. Jesus built the church. Upon the truth of his relationship with God Christ erected the church (Matt. 16: 18). This church is the body of Christ. To make this fact clear, some have gone so far as to say that in the church we have the reincarnation of Christ. While the church is human, it is also divine. We have in the church a fellowship of those who are redeemed human beings and also the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. This makes the church unique, for here human beings and the Divine meet as one body.

Because of the nature of the church, Jesus could say, "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." While fellowship in lodge, trade union or State may continue for a lifetime, and even up to death, the fellowship of the church continues beyond death into eternity.

II.

The strength of the church in the world does depend upon the response men are prepared to make to Christ's appeal for full surrender. Even if there is a good effort made by men, the church's power is not dependent wholly upon what men do. Within the church there is added to human endeavor the might and strength of God's will. The church is God's great instrument in the world. In the church and through it, God is at work to-day, making history. The mighty acts of God are being performed.

III.

At the present time God is working through the church to bring about a world-wide

fellowship. Despite all the conflict and turmoil, we see the world's population being brought into a closer unity. In addition to the contribution of science through transport and wireless, we have the church gathering different nations into one great fellowship. In world missionary conferences, in denominational church gatherings and in the various meetings of a World Council of Churches, the hand of God is at work.

Never has this world seen such human sorrow and devastation as in the last decade, but never before have men so felt the need of drawing together into a world fellowship as at this moment. The church, more than any other institution, is creating this human desire for world unity.

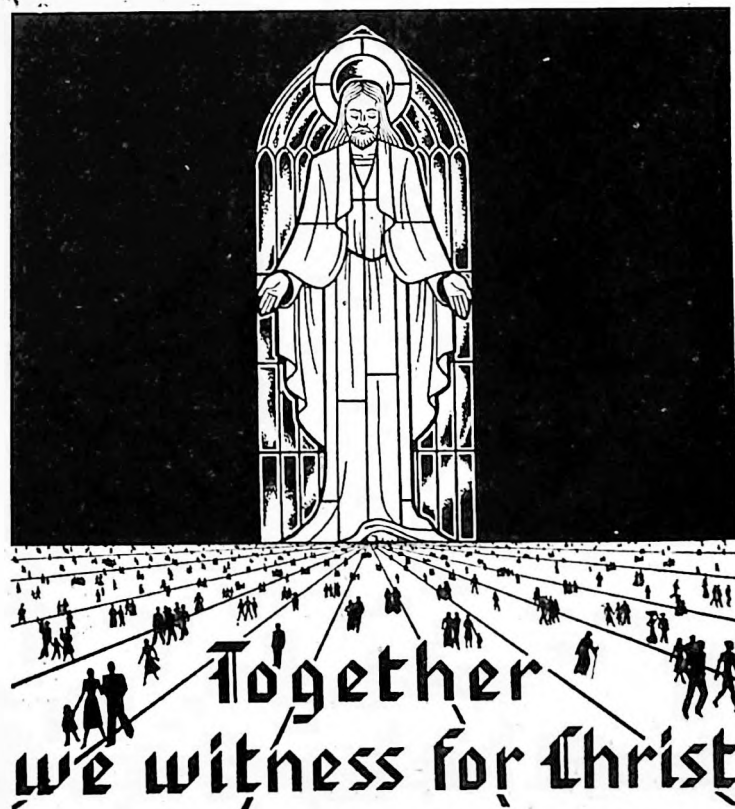
Despite all the setbacks, the movement toward one world is making progress. Before this great hope can be realised the church must give the example of unity. We believe

that every gathering of any international character by church groups or denominations will help to gain international understanding. Even if we do not agree with the teachings of some of the sects meeting in such gatherings, still the fact that through some of those international gatherings and conferences world unity can be encouraged and war be banished, we ought to be pleased with what good is being achieved by them.

IV.

The materialistic forces are strong in the world. Intolerance, prejudice and error within the ranks of those who claim Christ as Lord, only hinder the progress of the church toward world unity. So much of the human element is allowed to prevail within the church that the divine forces are hindered in fulfilling the desired end. Too often we want to do things in our own way, and will not allow God to work out his purposes through us. It is

(Continued on back page)



WORLD LINKED TOGETHER IN CHRIST

★ KOREA

A New Christian Daily Newspaper

A NEW daily newspaper, edited by Syn Yung-Chul, a Presbyterian, has begun publication in Seoul. Its initial circulation was 10,000 copies. The "Syn Min Ilbo" (Independent News) will "work for higher economic, cultural and educational levels for the common people," and for this aim "will need to be characterised by inner spiritual strength." The paper was started because existing dailies in Korea serve merely as organs of political parties.

★ UNITED STATES

Protestantism's Evangelistic Programme

DR. JESSE M. BADER, executive secretary of the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches, declared that plans are now under way for a 15-month programme of evangelism beginning in the autumn of 1949 with all denominations uniting in concentrated effort.

★ SAAR

New Order of the Evangelical Church

THE news service of the Evangelical church in Alsace-Lorraine published an article on February 26 on "The New Order of the Evangelical Church in the Saar" stating that this church stands on the threshold of a new beginning in the management of its affairs. "The church has been assured of complete freedom in choosing its leaders. Reconstruction will not be arranged from above by bishops or officials, but from below, by the church members."

For centuries the Christians in the Saar have belonged to the Lutheran form of confession, corresponding to the French branch of the church of the Augsburg confession, especially in Alsace; but owing to the church struggles, especially against national socialism, they have some very outstanding characteristics.

★ ARGENTINE

No Official Restrictions Against Protestants

DR. B. FOSTER STOCKWELL, President of the United Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires, during his stay in the United States denied the rumors that the Peron government was restricting the activities of the Protestant churches in the Argentine. "So far as official restrictions are concerned, Protestants have complete liberty in the Argentine for all their work." This does not mean that Protestants in general are in sympathy with the Peron government.

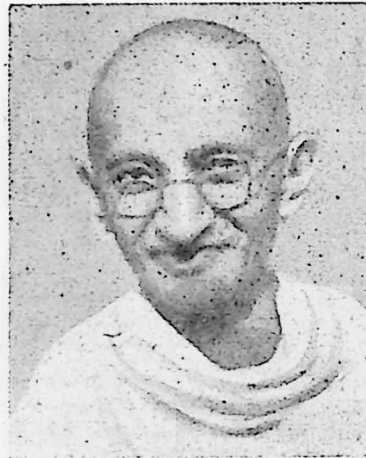
Dr. Stockwell emphasised that the prospects for the work of the evangelical churches in the Argentine, and in all the Latin American countries, were very favorable. "The increasing number of young men and women presenting themselves for Christian service is encouraging." Dr. Stockwell reported that there are about 250,000 Protestants in the Argentine, out of a total population of 16,000,000.

★ INDIA

Gandhi and the City Temple

MAHATMA GANDHI came to London in 1888 to study law. Although a devoted Hindu, his questing mind, seeking truth and a deep understanding of the Christian religion, took him early in his student days to the services of the City Temple where, under the powerful ministry of Dr. Joseph Parker, he attended regularly.

It needs little imagination to understand how deeply Gandhi's heart and mind were influenced by the characteristic and challenging nature of



Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Parker's sermons and the enthusiastic fellowship of the congregation of the City Temple where, under the mighty spell of the giant preacher, all racial nationalities were forgotten and all men were brought within the Fatherhood of God.

There Gandhi heard a reasoned exposition of the Christian religion and a fearless application of the Christian ethic to national and international affairs and problems. We do not wonder, therefore, that those who have been in conference with Gandhi on important occasions have been amazed at his depth of feeling for and his clear understanding of the Christian religion; he was taught it first-hand by one of the greatest Nonconformist exponents.

It has been remarked again and again that Gandhi was a true Christian in his heart. Whatever that may mean, we do know that his whole life was motivated by a supreme self-sacrifice, endeavoring at all times to work out the practical implications of a deep spiritual and interior loyalty.

There is little doubt that Gandhi's student days in London made a lasting impression upon his life, and may account for his growing passion to live and work for India's self-government. Whatever may have been his thoughts towards Englishmen before he came to London, it is clear that before he left he had a warm place in his heart for them.

Years afterwards he overheard some of his Hindu followers speaking unkindly of Englishmen, and he stopped them at once by saying, "I cannot allow anyone to speak against Englishmen in my presence, for when I was a student in London I had four friends especially. One of them was Dr. Parker, of the City Temple where I used to attend, another was a fellow-student who was an Englishman, and the others were two maiden ladies of Dr. Parker's congregation who threw open their home to myself

and friend. I can never forget the kindness of these people to me, who was not one of their own race."—William H. Blunt in "B.W."

★ CHINA

Missionaries in Civil War Areas

THE representatives of various missionary societies in Shanghai have denied the rumors that mission work in the central provinces of China has ceased, and that all the missionaries have been obliged to evacuate their posts owing to the civil war. They report that, for instance, the work of the China Inland Mission, the Baptist Mission, the Society of Friends, and others, is still carrying on. In certain cases women with small children and older people have been urged to leave for a place of greater safety.

B. J. Gauthen, of the Southern Baptist Mission, summed up the situation by saying that missions recognise a wide emergency exists, and that chaotic conditions can be expected for some time to come. So far, he said, the Baptists had suffered no losses either in personnel or property. Those who elect to stay in danger spots do so from "deep personal conviction." "We place the burden of proof on them," he said; "we warn them that they must be physically prepared for hardship, and, of course, that they must be spiritually prepared."

R. E. Thompson, of the China Inland Mission, said that some missionaries are completely isolated at Yencheng, in Honan. Yencheng has been cut by the communists. However, a letter written early in December reported that they are all carrying on their work within the compound in a limited way. The communists have not molested them, and allow the townspeople to come to the compound.

★ EGYPT

Joint Action by the Non-Muslim Communities

FOR nearly four years the Christian and Jewish communities in Egypt have been perturbed by repeated efforts of the Egyptian government to press forward legislation for the modification of the non-Muslim community courts. For centuries each of these courts has been competent to decide on all questions of personal status (e.g., marriage, divorce, separation, inheritance and matters dependent thereon) for members of its particular community, just as the Muslim (Sharia) court has similar competence for Muslims. The trend of recent legislation has been in the direction of reducing the powers of the non-Muslim courts, and of transferring their authority either to the Muslim or the civil courts, while leaving the powers of the Muslim courts in questions of personal status untouched. In particular the Christians and the Jews protest against the transfer of cases from their courts to the Muslim courts, in the event of one of the parties professing faith in Islam. They rightly maintain that the "law of contract" should be observed in this, as in other, spheres of jurisdiction.

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"COMING events cast their shadows before." This may be true sometimes to-day, but we generally have to wait for the events before we can be sure of the shadows. But it is certainly true of the Bible, which is full of the "shadows of good things to come," and the fulfilment of these foreshadowings of future events, taken in the main, forms a strong proof of the inspiration of the scriptures, and of the truth of the Christian religion.

Many predictions in the Bible must be taken quite literally. For instance, the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, his ministry in Galilee, his entry into Jerusalem seated on an ass, his betrayal for thirty pieces of silver, his buffeting, scourging, and the piercing of his hands and feet, his burial with the rich, his resurrection and ascension, and many others. These literal predictions were necessary in order that the Messiah might be identified when he appeared, and that men might have no excuse for rejecting him.

On the other hand, many predictions of the Christ were clearly figurative, as, for instance, where he is spoken of as the Branch, as King David, as Shiloh, as the Sun of righteousness, as the Star, the Shepherd, and so on. Care must always be taken to distinguish between the literal and the metaphorical. The literal interpretation is often easier, as it involves less thought. But the Bible-style is largely figurative, being adapted to the modes of expression of Oriental peoples even at the present day.

Much of the Old Testament is figurative and symbolic. The whole of the ceremonial and sacrificial system of the Jews was a foreshadowing of spiritual realities of the New Covenant. The Epistle to the Hebrews is full of this great theme. Those who to-day are going back to the Old Dispensation for their priesthood, vestments, ritual, sacrificial systems, infant baptism and membership, seventh-day sabbath, and other practices, are mistaking the emblematic for the literal, the symbolic for the thing symbolised, the shadow for the reality; and they would do well to give special attention to the teaching as to the Old and New Covenants in Hebrews and other parts of the New Testament.

An outstanding example of the need of care in distinguishing between the literal and the figurative is found in the prophecies of Ezekiel, especially chapters 37 to 48. The vision of the valley of dry bones in chapter 37 is clearly a figurative representation of the spiritual revival of the people of Israel, and their restoration to the favor of God. The bones are not literal bones, and their clothing with flesh and coming to life again is evidently not literal but metaphorical. As a nation they had rebelled against God, and were like a multitude of dead, dry bones, with no flesh on them. Ezekiel predicts that they will have a spiritual revival, and become once more the people of God. Their resurrection was not a literal but a spiritual one.

In the same chapter the prophecy of the two sticks with the name of Judah on one and that of Israel on the other, and the joining of both of them so that they became one stick in the hands of Ezekiel, is plainly stated to be a figurative representation of the re-union of the two divisions of the nation into one people. It is not a literal but a spiritual prediction. This is borne out by the statement that "my servant David shall be king over them, and shall be their prince for ever." David had been dead for centuries, and the reference to the coming Messiah is unmistakable.

In the two following chapters, 38 and 39, we have the remarkable prophecy concerning Gog and Magog, the invasion of the land of Palestine, and the destruction and burial of the enemy hordes on the mountains of Israel. In harmony with the inspired interpretation of the previous predictions, it is reasonable to assume that we have here not a literal but a symbolic representation of spiritual conflicts and judgments. This is confirmed by the materialistic and political nature of the judgments upon the enemies of God and those of his people, so different from all that we find in the teachings

★ Principles required for the interpretation of the Bible are indicated in this article by G. Percy Pittman, of W.A.

Shadows and Realities



of Christ and his apostles in the New Testament. A spiritual judgment on the spiritual enemies of God's people is far more in keeping with the mind of Christ and the genius of his religion. The fact also that the only mention of Gog and Magog in the New Testament is in Revelation 20: 7-10, where the details are quite different, and the scene is laid after the millennium or thousand years' reign, should lead to a metaphorical interpretation of the whole prophecy. In this connection it should be remembered that the New Testament is the key to the Old, and not the Old to the New.

In chapters 40-48 Ezekiel is shown "in the visions of God" a city and temple on a very high mountain in Palestine, with walls, gates, courts and buildings, described in detail with exact measurements. A prominent feature consists of the altars for burnt offerings, sin offerings and guilt offerings of bullocks, rams, goats and lambs on sabbaths and new moons. A whole system of ritual and ceremonial for priests and Levites is given, with rules and regulations similar to those of the Mosaic dispensation: A river flowed forth from under the threshold of the temple, with trees on each bank with fruit for food and leaves for healing. A large allotment of land was set apart for the "prince," and suburbs arranged for the people. All was done with the Divine approval, evidenced by his glory filling the temple.

If all this is understood to be literally fulfilled in days still to come, we are faced with an impossible situation. We have a state of retrogression from the New Covenant to the Old. We are taken back from the one all-sufficient sacrifice of Christ upon the cross for the sins of all the world to the sacrifices of bulls and goats which could never take away sin. If this prophecy is to be literally fulfilled there will be a step backward from grace to law, from the spiritual to the ceremonial, from the Spirit to the flesh, from the perfection of Christ to the beggarly elements of the system of Moses. We are to turn our backs on Calvary and retrace our steps to Sinai. This would be rebellion against Christ, and trampling his gospel underfoot. The difficulties of the literal interpretation are insuperable.

If the prophecy is understood in a figurative and spiritual sense these difficulties are avoided and much profitable instruction is derived.

Ezekiel the priest, familiar from childhood with the Jewish temple and its ceremonialism, was shown in symbols which he was able sympathetically to understand and appreciate, the glories of the future kingdom of the Messiah. By similarities and contrasts he was given a glimpse of the wonder and beauty of the coming kingdom of grace and of glory. These spiritual realities were long afterwards shown in vision and symbol to John in Patmos, who saw in similar figures the New Jerusalem in its glory and beauty, the river of life and the tree of life whose leaves are for the healing of the nations. All of these visions were pictures of spiritual and eternal realities which are beyond description in our inadequate human language.

The prophets were never used by God in a mechanical way, and revelations were made to them in harmony with their own modes of thought and religious experience, and their prophecies are parables of spiritual truth. Political, national and international events, physical happenings and outward and temporal things were figures of unseen, spiritual realities, setting forth the age-lasting conflict of truth and error, God and Satan, heaven and hell, and the final triumph of right.

The prophecies of Ezekiel are conspicuous examples of a large number of others in the Old Testament, to which the same principle of interpretation should be applied. They are "shadows of things to come, and not the very image of the things." A literal interpretation lands us in hopeless contradictions, but as figures of speech they are full of instruction and comfort. They foreshadow the prolonged conflict between right and wrong, between Christ and Antichrist, heaven and hell. But they predict also the ultimate triumph of the kingdom of God over all the forces of evil, and the eternal reign of righteousness, through Jesus Christ the Son of the living God.

In This Atomic Age

Churches of Christ believe that:

1. *The Church* which Christ established over 1900 years ago is still the church which has a task and a purpose in this modern world.
2. *The Bible* is still the inspired word of God, with a revelation of God's will which is able to make us wise unto salvation even in this scientific age.
3. *Christians* are members of a fellowship greater than any party, sect, lodge, society or other ancient or modern human organisation.
4. *The Gospel* still reveals the power of sin and the way of salvation even in this ultra-modern world where wealth, learning and influence vainly count for so much.
5. *The Worship and Witness* of the church, as expressed in communion and believer's baptism, are still of divine authority, sufficient for the expression of faith by this generation and required of all who love the Lord.
6. *The Objective* of Christians is still to demonstrate their loyalty to Christ by lives of sincere service, and to proclaim the good news of peace to a world full of hatred, fear and suffering.
7. *The Triumph of Christianity* over all ideologies and systems is assured by the declaration of Jesus who said, "I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," and by his promise, "I will come again and receive you unto myself."
8. *The Unity of All Believers* for which Christ prayed, can only be realised as a world movement when we are prepared to sink our human opinions and to accept the divine authority of scripture as we follow the example of the New Testament church.—A. J. Fisher, South Australia.

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The Gospel For To-day

Ira A. Paternoster, of North Sydney, N.S.W.,

calls for consecrated living in Christians.

MUCH criticism is being offered to-day concerning the church and its message. Often this criticism comes from within the church as well as from those who refuse membership within it.

The present denominational set-up known as the church is far from perfect because it is of man's devising, and whatever man is responsible for lays itself open to criticism, for man is after all only finite.

Somewhere within the framework of what is known as the church is to be found that spiritual body of Christ of which the New Testament speaks, and within which are found the children of God who, because of their faith in Christ as the Son of God, and their obedi-



Ira A. Paternoster.

ence to him, have become possessors of his divine Spirit and have become fellow-heirs with Christ of all that eternity holds.

This spiritual body of Christ is not the possession of any group or denomination, consequently cannot be identified by any denominational name. Yet its presence and influence are felt in operation throughout the world. No amount of criticism can hurt it and no amount of organisation, no matter how strong, can ever overthrow it. On the word of Christ himself "the gates of Hades cannot prevail against it."

To belong to this spiritual body of Christ is the greatest honor that can come to any person. But the way is not easy. It is not easy because of the demands it makes upon our fleshly natures. Possibly this is the reason for the criticism men offer to-day against the church. Much of the criticism is due to ignorance of what the church is. Too few professing Christians really know what the church is. Ask yourself the question and you will find yourself answering in terms of your denominational nomenclature. We have developed watertight ecclesiastical vocabularies and find it very hard to express ourselves outside of those vocabularies.

The foundation upon which the church is built is divinely given and "other foundation can no man lay." This spiritual assembly gathers around the Lord Jesus Christ, who is himself the Foundation and Head of his body the church. The acceptance of Christ by faith as the Son of God and our obedience to his commands unites us in this sacred fellowship, and commits us to a life and a task. Never was

there a greater need for this church in the world than at the present time. No United Nations Organisation will ever do for the world what the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is able to do. But men are saying to-day by their actions what they said in a former day with their lips, "We will not have this man to reign over us." And so, having turned their backs upon "the Way," they wander into the by-ways that lead to war and all manner of strife.

A feeling of hopelessness has taken possession of many to-day. As men look into the future there seems nothing but a blank. In the industrial world confidence in one another has gone and much of the business conducted is done on the black market. We are no longer shocked when trusted officials are caught breaking the law, nor are we disturbed when open gambling in the form of lotteries is introduced to raise money for charitable causes. We have become so used to the bludgeon being used to force wage increases or reduction of working hours that we just complain and shrug our shoulders, wondering in the meantime how much longer it can continue.

Surely the time is here for a rebirth of consecrated Christian living on the part of each one of us. The only hope of the world is in such a rebirth. The times call for another revival of Puritan living on the part of professed followers of Christ, a staunch refusal to be found doing what everybody else does for fear of being thought obsolete. Christianity at work will defeat the forces of evil quicker than anything, and there are enough professing Christians to demonstrate the truth of this statement. The unselfish desire to do unto others as we would ourselves be done by, and the doing of this because it is the will of God and not for the sake of "good policy," will bring the kingdom of God, the reign of Christ, nearer than anything else. By this means alone we shall see Christ's church in its true light—as the "salt of the earth," the "city set on a hill."

This is no dream, my friends. All that is needed is the right exercise of your willpower and mine. For in the moral world you and I can do just what we determine to do. We have the average intelligence, the average willpower, and the average person, mystical as he may seem, can get whatever he sets his mind to. It is just a matter of being willing. Jesus says, "If any man will, he shall know of the doctrine." There is no excuse whatever for a godless life but the excuse of "not willing to make the effort."

I can if I will, God giveth the power
To face any trial, approach every hour
With courage, conviction, determined to win
The battle 'gainst every appearance of sin.

Made in his image, with power to choose.
I will not despair if sometimes I lose,
But coming again in the strength thus supplied,
Believing his promise, "No one is denied."

He needs our witness in this evil day,
To call those who've wandered back to his way;

A word gently spoken, a deed kindly done,
'Tis thus that the battle 'gainst evil is won.

My brother's keeper? Yes, surely 'tis true.
Some day the Lord may be saying to you:
"As much as ye did it not, ye failed me.
Depart, there is never a blessing for thee."

So come, then, fresh courage in Jesus find,
The cords of his service the closer bind;
Let him dwell within you, his Spirit o'erflow,
'Till all who behold you his goodness shall know.

THE LORD'S TABLE

Sorrow and Joy

"They were exceeding sorrowful."—Matt. 26: 22.

AT the feast when Jesus first requested his disciples to remember him in the breaking of the loaf, there was deep sorrow. It was the sorrow which sin causes within a family group, when one member goes astray. The disciples had been like a family, living in happy companionship with Jesus. Now, in the upper room around the table, the sad news is announced by the Master that one of those who had gained all the blessings of Christ's friendship was about to betray Jesus to his enemies. How could one fall so low after he had been so long in the Master's presence? We cannot answer the question. The disciples could not understand how anyone would turn against the Lord. Each thought he might so fall, but none suspected Judas. All were so much alike, and were so linked in a common fellowship, it was not possible for any disciple to see the sin in Judas. The sin of Judas was covered by the outward appearance of a good formal life. His sin was secret, and well buried in the heart. Judas could even dip his hand into the family dish at the same time as the Master did. The same hand that outwardly shared in the same dish was to betray Jesus to his enemies.

The announcement that one of that company could be so sinful and disloyal naturally caused much sorrow.

Although the Lord's Supper is a feast of thanksgiving for what Christ has secured for us, at the same time it brings to mind the sin of the human family which sent Christ to the cross. There is, then, every reason why the feast ought to be a solemn occasion. The bread and the cup which we share are handled by the hands of sinful people. Our sin made the feast needful, because sin made the cross essential. At this feast of thanksgiving, with its rejoicing, we are reminded of our sins and we are overcome by our sorrows. Thus, even at this feast, as in life, joys are mingled with sorrows.

GRACIOUS, LOVELY THINGS

HOW fortunate are they who can remember
Their mothers by these gracious, lovely things:

Cool hands, and quiet eyes, and gentle laughter,
Light footsteps, and a voice that soothes and sings.

How fortunate are they who, in recalling
A childhood home, can see a mother there;
The thread of radiance that she created
By faith, and cheerful courage, and by prayer.

How fortunate are they who can envisage
An old loved room, a table whitely spread—
A clean sun-stippled floor, a curtain blowing,
Can breathe again the good warm scent of bread.

And mother there! Impossible to tell it—
The homely beauty words have never told:
A priceless picture! O, a fadeless imprint
For minds to treasure and for hearts to hold.

—Grace Noll Crowell.



Ministering to Refugees

THOUSANDS of refugees have come into "Our India" from the north. It has been estimated that there are not less than eight million displaced persons from North-east India.

Many missionaries, including doctors and nurses, have gone into those unsettled areas to help sufferers. Pandit Nehru made the statement that the Indian people had something to learn and copy from ministering Christians.

At one stage it was estimated that not less than 20,000 refugees were in and around Dhond. Since the influx of refugees Dhond Hospital has often had to carry double the number of in-patients that should be accommodated.

"About a month ago a committee was formed in Shrigonda with the object of raising funds to help the many thousands of refugees in this district. Many of these refugees lost all their worldly possessions when they fled from Pakistan following the communal outbreaks. Among others my name was placed on the committee. This we look upon as a privilege and an honor, not to myself personally, but to the witness of the Christian community throughout the years. I feel we have representation on the committee because of this. Many missions, in areas where there has been considerable trouble, have given missionary services full time for periods of three months and over to help refugees. The government have expressed appreciation in no small terms for the work done by missions and missionaries in helping these poor unfortunate victims of communal hatred.

"In the capacity of a committee member, I was called recently to take the other members to visit four villages in our area in our motor (at the committee's expense), in an endeavor to raise funds for this worthy cause. I took along two of our preachers so that if opportunity offered they would be able to do some personal work. During the day there were several opportunities for all of us to witness for Christ.

"The party consisted of Marawadis, Brahmans, Marathas and Christians. Several of the members are strong Congressmen, and among them the president and secretary of the local Congress Committee.

"When the trip commenced it was decided to be back at 1 p.m., but because of some delays the meeting had only just commenced at that hour. Dinner, however, had been ordered, and at 2.30 p.m. we adjourned. At first it was suggested that some should eat separately, but later some of our party, including our Congress friends, insisted that we all should eat together. They asked if I would have a table

or how I would eat. I informed them that it suited me just as well to sit with them on the floor. After sweeping the room, the attendants placed little stools on the floor—they are about two inches off the floor. Before sitting down to this meal, all shoes had to be removed. Then each member of the committee and our two preachers sat down on the stools, cross-legged. The dinner was served on a plate of leaves, the leaves being sewn together. The rice, chapatti, and bhaji section of the meal was served by hand and the fluids with a spoon. As no common 'grace' was offered, we had to say our own. The following foods comprised the meal: a good handful of rice over which oil and soup were poured, chappatis, chutney, bhajis and a sweet payday (the latter to help the eating of the rather hotly spiced foods). As soon as one food was eaten the host instructed the waiters to add more. The final serve was rice over which milk curds were poured.

"It was certainly an experience, especially considering that in this group there were some who, not long ago, would not have dined with the ordinary Indian Christian, even if they consented to eat with a European.

"In all of these experiences and opportunities we pray for strength, courage and wisdom, that we may give an effective witness for him who gave his all for us."—Bruce V. Coventry.



This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A. M.O's should be made payable at Adelaide.



With outstretched hands and pleading voice, they cry, "Come over and help us!"

Friendship

I'D like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me,
I'd like to be the help that you are always glad to be,
I'd like to mean as much to you each minute of the day.
As you have meant, dear friend of mine, to me along the way.

I'd like to do the big things, and the splendid things to you,
To brush the grey from out the skies, and leave them only blue.
I'd like to say the kind of things that I so oft have heard,
And feel that I could rouse your soul, the way that mine you stirred.

I'd like to give you back the joy that you have given to me,
Yet that were wishing you a need, I hope will never be.
I'd like to make you feel as rich, as I who travel on,
Undaunted in the darkest hours, with you to lean upon.

I'm wishing at this very time, that I could but repay,
A portion of the gladness that you have strewn along my way,
And could I have one wish this year, this only would it be,
I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me.

—Selected.

British Churches of Christ

★ G. J. Hammond gives summary of this month's news of the British brotherhood.

Teacher for Butler University

THE British churches are shortly to lose one of their leaders in the person of Dr. A. C. Watters, of Dunfermline, Scotland. Dr. Watters has been appointed Professor of Missions in the School of Religion, Butler University, Indianapolis, U.S.A. He will succeed Dr. Abe Corey. Dr. Watters and his wife spent some years on the Indian mission field, returning to take up scholastic appointments in Scotland. He has served the churches on several national committees, and is a keen student of churches of Christ history. His Doctorate of Philosophy was conferred for a thesis on "The History of Churches of Christ in Great Britain." Paper shortage prevented the publication of this by our own publishing house, and arrangements were made for it to be printed in U.S.A. Unfortunately we are facing new difficulties in securing the necessary permits to import the book, though we are hopeful that these will be surmounted.

Radio Service

Broadcasting in Great Britain is on a different basis from U.S.A. and Australia. We cannot buy "time on the air." Being numbered with the smaller religious communities, it is only on rare occasions that a radio preacher is chosen from churches of Christ. Four broadcasts are to be given during May from the Selly Oak colleges, Birmingham (Overdale belongs to the group). Wm. Robinson is to conduct the third of the series.

Appointments and Anniversaries

James Gray, Warden of Overdale, has been appointed chairman of the Central Council in succession to the late F. Hepworth. The appointment has given great satisfaction to the churches.

The London churches are holding special services of various kinds to mark the centenary year of the London Association. Wandsworth Bridge-rd. invited people who had been married in the church to a special service. A further meeting, at which Christian unity and the Free Churches was discussed, was supported by the local Free Church Federal Council. A united celebration of the centenary is planned for the autumn.

Swindon church recently joined with a nearby Methodist Church for Sunday evening worship, the service being conducted by the Methodist minister. The Methodists are to pay a return visit, when the service will be conducted by James W. Clague.

Heanor Diamond Jubilee services were conducted by Paul Smith, Birmingham. Burslem anniversary preacher was J. H. Nicholls, who had a successful ministry there thirty years ago. G. J. Hammond preached at Derby anniversary.

A missionary week-end at Saffron Lane, Leicester, raised £60. The speakers were W. George-son, ex-missionary, and R. Gates, missionary candidate from Saffron Lane. The Sunday school offering was a "ship" filled with "ship" half-pennies. Some of our coins bear a sailing ship in place of Britannia.—G. J. Hammond.

The Australian Christian

Here and There

On Sunday, May 9, after farewell address by R. M. Wilson at Mayfield, N.S.W., there were six decisions.

E. L. Williams and K. A. Jones are visiting several churches in Queensland on behalf of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic.

Visitation evangelism, being developed under guidance of the Victorian Home Mission Committee, is making good progress. Fourteen preachers in the second "school" teamed into seven pairs, are now making plans for their campaigns in June and July.

Members at North Essendon, Vic., are keyed up for visitation evangelistic campaign to be held May 18, 19, and 20, when six teams will visit selected homes. Morning prayer services at 6.30 a.m. were held throughout week, with average attendance of 12. W. F. Nankivell, from Camberwell church, was very helpful at a meeting of visitation campaigners on May 14. Mr. Wright has not spared himself in task of organising campaign. Cricket club held annual social on May 8, when trophies won during year were presented. A. Graham has honor of holding "Ron King Memorial Cup" for 12 months. This was presented by Mr. and Mrs. A. Mason to perpetuate memory of their brother and brother-in-law.

Youth Week services were conducted at Toowoomba, Qld., by E. T. Hart, L. Enchelmaier and Chaplain Crisp. The theme was "Towards a Better Discipleship," subjects dealt with being faith, repentance, confession and prayer. Y.P.F. mothers' night on May 8 attracted a large audience, and a programme by young people was enjoyed. Harlaxton also had a well-attended service, when scholars of school entertained mothers. Mother's Day services on May 10 were helpful. In afternoon at a fellowship tea sponsored and carried out entirely by men of church, tribute was paid to the women. Inmates of Brodribb Home were also guests. Attendances for the day were: morning, 170; fellowship tea, 144; evening, 124. At worship service eight were received into fellowship. Gospel service was conducted by members of Y.P.F. and their chaplain, Mr. Hart. On April 25 Ray Buhse made his confession of faith. George Burns, of Rockdale, N.S.W., gave exhortation at a morning service during his holiday in Toowoomba.

As result of home visitation evangelism at Oakleigh, Vic., 21 have made public confession in recent weeks, one restoration was made, and two received into membership as baptised believers. S. Neighbour rejoices with members in these initial fruits of consecrated work over long period. Church social on May 15 to welcome new members saw 80 present. Attendances have improved, particularly at gospel services, 150 being present on May 9. Church deeply regrets losing Mr. Neighbour's services to leadership of Victorian Crusade for Christian World. K. A. Jones was present on morning of May 9, to explain purpose of crusade. Mrs. Neighbour, although still in hospital, is progressing favorably. To lessen congestion in Bible school, intermediate classes now use hall nearby. School is competing in district attendance campaign, in addition to local efficiency house competition. Young Women's Fellowship combined with girls' clubs on May 5 in entertaining mothers. Many mothers and babies were present at kindergarten on Mother's Day. Y.P.S.C.E. had F. T. Morgan as speaker on May 13.

85th anniversary services of church at Taree, N.S.W., were held on May 8 and 9. Celebrations commenced with anniversary dinner held in Masonic Temple supper room on May 8. Over one hundred and fifty guests sat to tastefully spread tables, the function being presided over by the minister, A. B. Clark. Special speaker at this meeting was V. C. Stafford. Mr. and Mrs. Stafford arrived in Taree from Melbourne. They received a warm-hearted welcome from church where they

labored from 1928 to 1934. Greetings were sent from members in many parts of the State and Victoria. The anniversary cake, the work of Mrs. S. Clinch, was cut by Mrs. V. C. Stafford. Thanksgiving offering received at meeting amounted to £86/4/-, but increased to £102 over week-end, exclusive of general collections. Meetings were continued on May 9. Building was comfortably filled morning and evening. In afternoon the sound film of Oslo Conference was presented at men's meeting. Addresses were thoughtful and members were spiritually helped by Mr. Stafford.

Dr. A. J. Coleman will be in Victoria until June 2. He is a visitor from the World Student Christian Federation, and his purpose is to stir university life to an awareness of its task in the community, and church life to an awareness of the task of Christian witness in the university. Most of his time will be spent in the university, where he will address student audiences, hold conference with university staff, and lead the conference of the Student Christian Movement, May 25-28. However, all church people will have the opportunity of hearing him at his one public meeting, to be held in the Chapter House, St. Paul's Cathedral Buildings, on May 24, at 8 p.m. We commend him to all church people.

At Prahran, Vic., on May 9, Florence and David McKenzie were received into fellowship, and in evening the two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. A. Denton, of Canberra, and Trevor McKenzie were immersed. On May 16 these three, together with Mr. and Mrs. Berthelsen, Misses Dorothy and June Connelly and A. Hunt were extended the right hand of fellowship. E. C. Hinrichsen spoke at morning service, and at night began mission in town hall, which was comfortably full. South Yarra and St. Kilda churches both closed evening service to attend, and will co-operate with Prahran for week-nights as well. Much preparation has been made for the campaign, and interest is keen. Cottage prayer meetings were held every night last week, and 10,000 pamphlets have been distributed throughout district. Women had their meeting on May 13, Mrs. Lee, sen., being speaker.

THE GOSPEL IN PICTURES

THE church at Echuca, Vic., has featured in recent years Sunday services for month of May with encouraging results. This year a city preacher, C. L. Lang, of Hampton, was invited to conduct a week of special meetings from May 2 to May 9.

May 2 being "Youth Sunday," Mr. Lang addressed church, giving an appropriate message which was appreciated. Evening service was preceded by a song service conducted by Arthur Rosendale, who acted as song-leader throughout the mission. Approximately ninety people followed presentation of Mr. Lang's beautiful slides depicting "The Master Workman." On Tuesday evening Mr. Lang delighted younger ones with first instalment of serial, "Crinkle the Caterpillar." Mr. Lang then gave an impressive address on Wednesday evening; preacher's theme was "The Resurrection and the Life." The church building was comfortably filled on the Thursday evening, when the younger folk saw and listened to the final adventures of "Crinkle," and the older folk to a stirring address entitled "After the Resurrection."

May 9 was anniversary Sunday. Mr. Lang stressed necessity of service, goodness, sacrifice and sanctification. A well-filled building, inspirational singing and a challenging address marked closing service. Three young men and one young woman made their confession—a fitting climax to a week of happy fellowship and great inspiration to all.

The ladies excelled themselves in catering for the anniversary dinner on the Monday

evening, when an appeal was made for funds for the youth hall, and a further £60 was contributed in cash and promises. At 8 p.m. Mr. Lang gave an illustrated nature lecture. Mr. Dudley then thanked all concerned in the success of meetings, particularly Mr. Lang and Hampton church for releasing him. We feel that this effort has been of great benefit to the church.

TASMANIAN YOUTH ACTIVITIES

ON Sunday, May 2, a party of thirteen young people from the three Launceston churches of Christ journeyed to Caveside and Mole Creek to conduct church services. Morning service at Caveside was presided over by A. Orr, and D. Lee capably exhorted church, R. Spinks and G. Groves read scripture lessons. At gospel service in afternoon G. Groves gave a fine gospel address, P. Arnot sang a solo, and the meeting was led by A. Orr. Mole Creek gospel service in evening was led by G. Groves. Misses B. Gullidge and J. Pillsbury sang a duet. A. Orr gave the gospel address. There were good attendances at all meetings, and a fine spirit prevailed throughout. A great day of fellowship and inspiration was had by all. Thanks and appreciation of the young people from Launceston, who travelled over a hundred miles during the day, are extended to members of Caveside and Mole Creek churches for hospitality extended.—Allan T. Orr, convener.

S.A. YOUTH WORKERS' CONFERENCE

APRIL 24-26 were the dates of the annual S.A. churches of Christ Bible school and youth workers' conference. 189 delegates attended from 36 churches. 102 were Bible school workers; 24 were C.E. leaders; and 15 represented clubs. 16 preachers were present. Guest speaker was Mr. V. C. Stafford, Director of Federal Board of Christian Education.

Features of the conference included reports of various aspects of Youth Department work; demonstrations of worship for Bible schools, Bible puppetry, models, and project work; descriptions of work being done in schools and youth groups; sound films, including that of the Oslo World Christian Youth Conference; and discussions on future work and policy.

Lesson materials were discussed in full, and suggestions have been forwarded to the Austral Lesson Board and the Board of Christian Education. A strong recommendation was made to the Board of Christian Education to produce a quarterly leaders' kit consisting of leadership folders.

The major emphasis throughout the conference was for a greater consecration to Christ and greater efficiency in all our work. All forms of our youth work were discussed in the light of their place in extending Christ's kingdom amongst youth.

The conference concluded with a youth workers' dedication in the form of a candle-light service. The central candle on the Bible represented the light that shines forth from the word of God. Members of the Youth Department lit their tapers from this candle, symbolising the function of the department to bring the light of God's word into all our work. From their candles representative youth workers lit their tapers as an indication that the light of God's word must be taken out into our groups and into the lives of our young people. As the lights in the chapel went out, the candles were lifted and were seen to be in the form of a living cross. "O cross that liftest up my head" was sung as leaders, teachers and workers bowed in solemn rededication of their lives to taking up their own crosses to follow Christ.—G. R. Stirling.

News of the Churches

Queensland

Annerley.—Officers of church are still negotiating for services of a full-time preacher, so that Mr. Campbell, week-end preacher for over two years, can be released. Owing to heavy rains, Sunday school picnic was held in Junction Hall on May 3. Mr. Alcorn was speaker at a Mother's Day service on afternoon of May 9. There were 45 children present, and a large attendance of adults.

Rocklea.—There has been happy fellowship in services and school over past months. Explorers' Club enjoyed two trade talks on motor engineering by Mr. Martin. S.S. picnic was a great success, 100 being at tea. An uplifting spiritual youth rally was held on May 5, when Moorooka, Annerley and Rocklea youth attended. Testimonies were given, and a challenging address by C. J. Mackenzie, of Ann-st. Girls' Good Companions, under leadership of June Grant and Audrey Howarth, entertained mothers at a tea on Mother's Day, and also assisted in service. Harry Payne gave an excellent address to 29 residents.

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—At morning service on May 2, Mr. and Mrs. Crowe were received in on transfer from Rockhampton. C. J. Mackenzie was speaker, and visitors included Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Webber, Wollongong, N.S.W. Members of Y.P.C.E. and I.C.E. took active part in gospel meeting as a build-up for Youth Week. Edgar Kellow led a bright song service, Arthur Spiller read scripture lesson, and church was led in prayer by H. Wyeth, secretary of State Youth Committee. Attendance at Lord's Table was 158 for day. Members of I.C.E. honored mothers at a meeting held on afternoon of May 9. Bouquets of flowers were presented to oldest and youngest mothers present. This was followed on May 11 by a tea sponsored by Y.P.C.E., when many mothers attended. Speaker was Mrs. Major Kingston, of Salvation Army. Every mother present received a small book as a souvenir. Both meetings were well attended on May 9, when F. C. Hunting addressed morning service and C. J. Mackenzie spoke at night. Mrs. W. Keeble sang a solo, and a ladies' choir, formed in honor of Mother's Day, sang excellently under leadership of Mrs. Parkinson. 175 met at Lord's Table throughout day. Bible school has started practising for anniversary.

Tasmania

Highcroft.—Arranged by State Youth Committee for Youth Sunday on May 2, a visit was made by J. Heard and a team of young people from Hobart, R. Boxhall being speaker at morning service. In evening they conducted gospel service at Nubeena, when Mr. Boxhall was speaker and Miss McQuency soloist. In afternoon H. Street, minister of Peninsula churches, held a service at Taranna. New ground was broken in that locality, with possibility of a good Sunday school. On May 5, C.E. society commemorated first anniversary with a social evening. Good progress was made during year.

Devonport.—On April 18 Mr. Nunn, missionary from Anglo-Sudan Mission, gave morning talk on work in Africa. At night Ern Stevens preached, after which Mr. Nunn gave a lantern lecture in chapel on his work; many attended from various churches in town. On April 25 H. Crowden gave morning address and F. T. Burt preached at night. Youth Sunday was observed on May 2. A car-load came from Margaret-st., Launceston, and conducted services. Syd Riches gave morning address, Mr. Griffiths presiding. At night M. T. Burt preached and E. Stevens sang a solo. Afterwards ladies served a cup of tea, and all enjoyed a social time before visitors returned to Launceston. On May 9 Mother's Day was observed, B. Crowden speak-

ing in morning and Rod Pitt at night. Church was saddened by passing of a beloved aged sister, Mrs. Hudson, a faithful member for many years, and expresses sympathy to her daughter, Mrs. Plapp, who is in membership, and also to Mrs. Plapp's sister and brothers. On May 10 S. Wilson came from Launceston to conduct funeral services at chapel and graveside.

Hobart (Collins-st.).—Mr. Burt has accepted an invitation to minister with church for two years. Attendances are good. On Mother's Day he gave appropriate addresses. At evening service four mothers took part. Mrs. J. Boxhall conducted, Mrs. Burt and Mrs. Watkins read scriptures, and Mrs. S. Cooper sang a solo. Midweek prayer and Bible study meetings are helpful. Every alternate Wednesday evening a cottage meeting is held; first was held in Mrs. Clifford's home, next at Mrs. Cumming's. Church cricket team won premiership of Protestant Churches Cricket Association. L. A. Bowes' memorial shield was presented to team by president of association (E. McDonald) at a social held at Collins-st. J. King, of Collins-st., was recipient of a trophy, having won bowling honors of association during season. An indoor tennis club has commenced, to be held each Saturday evening during winter months. Grace Dixon has been forced to relinquish her work as a Sunday school teacher, after many years of faithful service because of ill-health of her mother. At close of school on May 2, Miss Dixon was presented with a token of esteem on behalf of scholars and staff of school. Mrs. Gladys Moore has undergone an operation for appendicitis, and is making good progress. On April 29 a successful social evening was held in Mr. and Mrs. L. Moore's home in aid of Bethany Boys' Home; over £7 was raised.

South Australia

Prospect.—Evening service on May 2 was conclusion of tent mission. A youth meeting was arranged, R. Vincent speaking to a large attendance. Misses M. Bertram and Joy Riches sang a duet. Great fellowship was experienced throughout mission, and on evening of May 5 a social evening was enjoyed. As a result of mission a fellowship meeting is being conducted every Tuesday evening. Mother's Day services were conducted with good attendances, and R. Vincent gave helpful addresses. At night Margaret Jenkins, Malcolm Jenkins, Mervyn Tuckfield and Graham Miller were baptised. Work in all departments is in good form.

Cowandilla.—Band of Hope held a successful meeting on April 21; 41 present. Mr. Pad-dick (State organiser) gave an instructive address. On April 25 Don Beiler gave morning address. Robert Lean was received into fellowship following his baptism. W. E. Fisher gave an inspiring address at gospel service. Both services were largely attended. H. G. Norris, of Unley church, exhorted on morning of May 2. At night W. E. Fisher gave an encouraging address. Both services were largely attended, evening service being followed by a baptism. Youth groups of church arranged special services and social evenings in connection with Youth Week from May 2-9. All were a success, and helpful. On May 9, Mother's Day services were held. W. E. Fisher gave morning address. Two members were received by transfer, and one by confession and baptism. 85 were present. Kindergarten department of Bible school held a mothers' service in afternoon; Mrs. W. E. Fisher is superintendent. At evening service three young men helped W. E. Fisher. Miss Gwen Beams sang a solo. One young lady made the good confession. 96 were present.

Fullarton.—On Mother's Day there was an excellent attendance in morning. B. W. Manning gave a suitable address. Right hand of welcome was given by preacher to Mrs. D. E. Bright as an immersed believer by statement. Annual offering for Youth Department is £3/11/6 to date. General financial position keeps up well, offering of May 9 being £9/14/7, with 15/- copper offering towards debt reduction and 6/8 in duplex funds. At gospel service B. W. Manning preached again on theme for day.

Hindmarsh.—The film, "The First Easter," was shown on April 25, and attracted an enlarged audience. Gordon Stirling acceptably addressed morning service of same day, and two men received the hand of fellowship. Mother's Day service was conducted on morning of May 9, and in evening a youth service was held. Eight young people representing K.O.C. society and Sunday school assisted J. E. Shipway in a helpful meeting. Kindergarten held a mothers' afternoon, a large number of mothers coming along. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Chas. Hallett, kinder superintendent, in sudden death of her father. Mr. Holden, sen., and Mrs. G. Russell are still in hospital.

Kilburn.—Boys' Life Brigade was commenced on May 8 under leadership of Keith Caldicott, assisted by Ivor Maguire, both of Youth Department. F. Collins was appointed chaplain. 23 boys attended, supported by F. Lawrance and A. Mackenzie, representing Kilburn Bible school. Mother's Day was featured, when 131 were present at 10 a.m. Bible school, including two new scholars. A. Mackenzie conducted 11 a.m. service, when 23 adults and 48 young worshippers enjoyed addresses by F. Collins. D. H. Pike, of Glenelg, was speaker at 3 p.m. Bible school anniversary repeat and his illustrated talk were enjoyed by good congregation of parents and friends as well as scholars. F. Mercer, of Hindmarsh, gave flannelgraph talk at 7 p.m. gospel service, when Betty and Joan Richmond sang a duet excellently, with Margaret Magor as accompaniste, all from Hindmarsh. 23 adults and 17 children were present. Mrs. P. T. J. Roberts is thanked for gift of table cloth.

Unley.—Visiting speakers have been V. C. Stafford (Federal youth director) and E. Fisher, both of whom presented claims of Youth Department. Mr. Norris visited Cowandilla on first Sunday of Youth Week. A large group of young people took part in combined youth hike and rally at Aldgate. On May 2 and 9 services were particularly in interests of youth, and an after-church song fellowship on May 9 was attended by about 70 members and friends. Quarterly church family night on May 5 was a happy gathering. Following a devotional service, educational films were screened, with social half hour and supper to conclude evening. An offering was taken for Youth Department projector. Sunday school is benefiting from recent anniversary services, 13 new scholars being enrolled in three weeks. Miss B. Hart, who has relinquished leadership of junior department, was recipient of a presentation at close of school on May 2. Junior Endeavorers report increase of four new members. On Mother's Day they presented white flowers to all attending morning service. Mr. Norris and family are holidaying at Christie's Beach.

Queenstown.—Bible school anniversary services, held during April, were very successful. Owing to severe storm on first day, anniversary meetings were extended an extra week. Children sang excellently under leadership of Mrs. Mildrum. Speakers were W. L. Ewers, A. J. Ingham, S. E. Matthews, A. J. Fisher, W. Bartlett and Mr. McLean. An Anzac Day service was held at 7 a.m., S. E. Matthews conducting. J. E. Webb exhorted church while

Mr. Ewers exchanged at Mile End. There was a youth service on May 9. A youth tea took place at 4.45, and then young people formed choir at gospel meeting, giving several items appropriate for Mother's Day. Two young men gave short addresses, followed by an address from Mr. Ewers. Attendances keep up to average. J.C.E. society held annual rally on May 1. Geo. Cox, a former leader, gave an address. Attendances of society are on up-grade; 40 present on May 9. Mr. Myall reports a successful year. Bible school scholars have gone up to their next classes; 12 new scholars are reported during recent weeks. Mr. Ewers spoke to whole school about mother on Mother's Day. Mrs. A. Bray and Miss D. Hastings are improving after serious illness.

New South Wales

Bankstown.—Mr. Moran delivered eloquent addresses morning and evening on Mother's Day to good gatherings. An interesting feature of evening service was items by children of Bible school in tribute to mother. Alma Stevenson was recipient of a beautiful personal gift from membership of church as a token of regard for her selfless devotion to the position of kinder superintendent for a number of years. Miss Stevenson, who for family reasons has resigned her position, is being succeeded by Mrs. Moran. Mothers of Bible school scholars were entertained on afternoon of Mother's Day by church, an annual event which has become of considerable value as a means of contact with parents of scholars.

Burwood.—At annual business meeting on April 28, following were elected officers: Elders, W. Avenell, P. H. Morton, W. Smith; deacons, T. A. Button, P. Chipperfield, E. Leach, E. Miller, J. W. Sawyers, N. Somerville, E. T. Vears, S. C. Woolley. Special services for 28th anniversary were held on May 2 and 5. Heavy rain prevented many former members attending Sunday services, but Wednesday night meeting was well attended. At this meeting conference president, Mr. Acland, brought a greeting from brotherhood. After the service a social evening was held in school hall. Services on Mother's Day were well attended, E. Davis giving helpful addresses morning and evening. Mrs. Price is still in hospital. Mrs. Cunningham is convalescing after her accident.

Mayfield.—On May 8, in presence of a large number of members and friends, a farewell and presentation were given to R. M. Wilson on eve of his departure for Lygon-st. Conference was represented by N. D. Morris. Preachers of sister churches and various members spoke highly of Mr. Wilson's worth to work in district and to church at Mayfield. Presentation of a wallet of notes was made on behalf of church by Mr. Westcott. Farewell sermons were preached to well-attended congregations on next day. N. D. Morris, past president of conference, presided at morning service. At gospel service there were five decisions and one reconsecration. Pending coming of R. Acland to church, C. Latimer commenced interim ministry on May 16.

Canley Vale.—At recent graduation service two scholars of school decided for Christ. Mother's Day services were well attended, 35 in morning and 51 in evening. At night choir sang a special item and Mrs. Saunders was speaker. Mrs. Clydesdale was present in morning after illness. Mr. Clydesdale is still confined to his home. At Bible school there was a record attendance of 101, including five new scholars. Kindergarten and beginners' departments combined in an afternoon to which parents of scholars and cradle roll children were invited. Misses E. Suters and B. Simmons have been added to staff. Miss B. Carre has been appointed secretary following resignation of Mrs. Parkes after considerable time of faithful service. Ladies raised nearly £20 at a Mother's Day gift stall on May 1 in aid of manse fund.

Victoria

Kaniva.—On May 9, Mother's Day and youth services were conducted. At a combined J.C.E. and I.C.E. meeting, to which mothers were invited, there was attendance of 72. Endeavorers gave items during meeting, and some mothers had a part. Morning service was addressed by C. M. Wheaton. About 55 broke bread. Mr. Combridge conducted gospel service with help of Kevin Baldock, who read scripture lesson, and Beth Jory, who sang a solo.

Yarrawonga.—A carload attended north-eastern conference at Wagga. On May 9 an "every-member-present" Sunday was held. There was a fine gathering, and H. Edwards gave a helpful address. Afterwards all remained for fellowship at a dinner at chapel. Opportunity was taken to make a presentation and to say farewell to Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith. For 23 years A. Smith has been an earnest worker, as church officer and amongst young people. Their departure is keenly felt.

Geelong.—May 9 morning service was in honor of mother. At evening service there was a youth parade. Youth of church formed choir under leadership of Mr. Tippet, with Mr. Smail at organ. An item was rendered by senior boys. Three who confessed their faith at Appelman mission were baptised. On May 7, combined Endeavor societies entertained mothers of church at a social evening. On Saturday members of Y.P.C.E. joined in combined Endeavor rally at Belmont Methodist Church.

Parkdale.—On May 9 there were very good meetings. In morning Mr. Manning gave an address appropriate to Mother's Day. In evening Barry Ward led meeting and Rita Cuddy and John Forest read scripture lessons. Mrs. Brodie sang a beautiful solo; Mr. Manning gave a fine address, and choir sang. On May 12, Women's Mission Band packed parcels for India before the meeting. On May 16 a picture afternoon of a Bible story was held, and Sunday school scholars received their prizes.

Red Hill.—On May 1 Norma Prossor and Les Bright were married in chapel by Murray Williams, of Chelsea church. N. Moore gave a talk to Y.W.L. on May 2, and then addressed congregation. He also preached at night, when F. Butler conducted song service. On May 8 Y.W.L. held a social in church hall and raised 33/- to send to mission in New Hebrides. B. Burn (college) was speaker at morning service of May 9. Youth offering amounted to £8. Several letters have been received by secretary (Wal Torney) from brethren in England who have received food parcels.

Carnegie.—Keith Phillips and Frank Wilson have been received into fellowship following baptism. Mrs. McIntosh has been laid aside for several weeks by illness, also Ern. Trenevan. Men's Society attended a fellowship tea on May 2 at Murrumbidgee Methodist Church arranged by newly-formed Inter-Churches Men's Fellowship Association. At evening service on May 2, H. R. Coventry was speaker, when a parade of tennis and cricket clubs took place, young men of both clubs assisting in service. Prayer meetings have re-commenced after Appelman mission. Attendances at all meetings lately have been encouraging.

Doncaster.—67th anniversary of Bible school was celebrated on afternoon of May 9. R. Muller gave an illustrated talk to scholars. Bible school choir rendered a number of musical items. Kinders also assisted with enjoyable pieces, and prizes for year were distributed. At evening meeting Mr. Banks spoke and scholars again assisted. Public meeting in local hall on May 11 in connection with celebrations proved very successful, with items by scholars and adults, and three talkie pictures, including picture, "Faith Triumphant," made up a splendid programme. All meetings were well attended. Admittance charge to

public meeting was handed to starving children of Europe fund. During Mr. Banks' absence at Frankston youth camp, church was helped by Mr. Stephenson and Dr. Kemp.

Ringwood.—Church welcomed in A. Cook from North Fitzroy church on May 2. Sunday school took part in local youth demonstration on May 9. Evening service was conducted by young people of church. J. E. Allan gave an inspiring address. Service was well attended.

Newmarket.—On May 9, Mother's Day was observed. At 7 p.m. a youth service was held, when young people rendered items, etc. This was preceded by a tea. On May 15, north-west group rally was held. A. W. Stephenson spoke on evangelistic campaign. On May 16 Mr. Sack addressed both meetings.

Portland.—At annual business meeting on April 25, treasurer's statement showed credit balance of £446. Officers were re-elected. T. Davey brought a report from conference on April 11, E. Wakerley, of U.A.M., was preacher on May 9, when Youth Day and Mother's Day were observed. Other speakers recently were T. Rivett and T. Davey. Church is thankful to all visiting speakers who rendered valuable service during holiday season from December to April.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—K. A. Jones addressed church on May 2. On May 4, at Mission Band meeting, Mrs. A. H. Hedley gave an interesting review of Russell Janny's book, "The Miracle of the Bells." There have been continued splendid congregations for K. A. Macnaughtan's addresses on prophecy, and on May 16, there was another confession. Central Christian Fellowship is planned to resume on Sunday afternoon, June 6, taking form of a study group, followed by tea, and leading on to evening gospel service.

Montrose.—Annual prize-giving and social in connection with Sunday school passed off successfully, over 70 being present. Programme of items by scholars, recitations, and a one-act play by senior scholars, was a credit to those taking part. On May 2, after an earnest address by Mr. Keatch, two young people came forward. On May 9 they were baptised before one of the largest gospel meetings held for some time. At close another young man made the good confession. These additions, with other members coming to live in district, have given church an uplift.

North Richmond.—During April Sunday morning speakers were L. Williams, J. Holloway, F. Buckingham and L. Trezise. All addresses were appreciated. Officers gave a complimentary tea to Bible school teachers and staff. S. Chipperfield spoke on behalf of officers, expressing value of Bible school work. Superintendent A. Alderson responded on behalf of teachers and staff. A Young Worshipers' League has been formed under instruction of E. Addicott. Mr. Young is continuing his interim ministry in conjunction with Mr. Atkin. Services of Joan Williams, of Gardiner, as church organist are appreciated. Offering for Y.P.F. this year is a big advance on previous year's. Y.P.F. conducted a happy after-church rally on May 9, and on following Monday paid homage to Mother's Day by tendering a social evening to mothers of church.

Frankston-Moorooduc.—On April 25 R. V. Holmes spoke in morning and J. I. Mudford at night, when young people from Eastern Suburban District assisted, including D. A. V. Thomas, minister of Balwyn church. On May 2, R. J. Hinde was morning speaker. At night F. Adams conducted service and R. V. Holmes preached to a large congregation including many returned servicemen of district (who attended at their own request). Other servicemen assisted. R. V. Holmes and W. F. White have preached at Moorooduc, and

J. Mann at Mornington. On May 9 Mr. and Mrs. Hagger were welcomed back after mission at Ballarat conducted by Mr. Hagger. At night a youth service was held. Mr. Hagger preached and young people assisted. Mr. and Mrs. Hagger have commenced fifth year of service with Frankston church. Fellowship has been enjoyed with many visitors.

North Williamstown.—A junior C.E. has been formed under leadership of Dot McKinnon and Shirley Lawson. Ron Whittington, by faith and baptism, and Mrs. Lancaster, from Collingwood, have been received into fellowship. Attendances have shown increase; 71 broke bread on each Sunday this month. Special gospel services are being held. Owen Griffith led a youth rally on May 2. D. McKinnon, Ron Jones, and Laurie Morgan gave addresses; Betty Griffith was soloist. Several mothers took part in service on May 9. All auxiliaries present favorable reports. Mrs. Kemp addressed a large gathering at Young Ladies' Fellowship, and Mrs. Small at Good Companions, on recent occasions. Joan Chadwick made her confession on May 2. Church officers are sharing in visitation work with preacher, accompanying him in turn.

Brighton.—Social evenings have been given and suitable presentations made to following members—Mr. and Mrs. E. Baker, who have since arrived safely in England on a combined business and pleasure trip; Jan Holloway, who has been transferred by his firm to Hobart, and Carol Plummer and Stan Francis who were married on May 15. Over £100 has been received to date for Youth Department's annual offering. Mr. Taylor assisted and members of the Sunday school attended meeting held in Brighton Town Hall on occasion of Empire Youth Sunday. Afterwards members of the South Suburban Fellowship met for tea. J. Shaw, from Gardenvale, was speaker. Attendances have been very well maintained, and helpful addresses have been given by Mr. Taylor. Visitors have been welcomed. On morning of May 16, Mrs. Ford and her daughter Lorna were received into fellowship (Mrs. Ford transferred from Oakleigh, and Lorna by faith and obedience).

Coburg.—There were good meetings on April 25. At evening service Miss Bayley, of West Coburg Baptist Church, was soloist. 28th anniversary of church was held on May 2. Mr. Macnaughtan gave a fine address to a large congregation. There were 151 communicants for day. Several members have been ill, but are improving. Ladies' Guild, in providing new carpets of "Tree of Life" design for platform and aisles, are congratulated. At annual business meeting on May 5 reports showed church and auxiliaries in excellent condition. Following officers were elected: Secretary, J. Elder; treasurer, H. Barn- den; deacons, E. Parker, R. Wright, C. Wright, T. Girvan, W. Gray, H. Hurren, H. Lofts, H. Hammon (superintendent). A. R. Lloyd has concluded another year of faithful and loyal service. S.S. anniversary services were held on May 9. Miss V. Callinan was afternoon speaker and Mr. Francis in evening. May 16 was cradle roll afternoon. A. R. Lloyd was evening speaker. Singing at both services under W. Gray was excellent.

ADDRESS

N. GAVRON (preacher Sunshine church, Vic.).
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DEATH

HUGHES.—On April 29, George Alfred, of Montrose, loved husband of Eliza and loving father of Alf., Alex. (dec.), Andy, Ina (Mrs. S. Hutton), Bill, Jess (Mrs. Le Archer), Margaret (dec.).

IN MEMORIAM

BODY.—In loving memory of my dear husband and father, Arthur Stanley, who passed away May 22, 1947.

Beautiful memories of one so dear
We cherish still with love sincere.

—Inserted by his loving wife, daughter and son-in-law Norma and Reg. and grandson Ian.

CROSSFIELD.—In loving memory of our little daughter Dorothy, passed away May 14, 1944.

"Suffer little children to come unto me."
Sweetly resting until he comes.

—Inserted by her loving mother, father, and sister Gwenyth.

FISHER.—In memory of my loving and dear daughter Florence Eccles, who passed away May 22, 1938.

"Loved and remembered always."

—Inserted by her loving mother, R. H. Thorp.

MORPHETT.—In loving memory of my dear nephew Arthur George, who died May 17, 1934, result of accident. "Gone, but not forgotten."
—Inserted by his loving Aunt May.

NIGHTINGALE.—In sacred and loving memory of Alfred George Nightingale, darling daddy of Joy and John, who died May 13, 1946. Our wonderful father.

Resting where no shadows fall,
There he awaits us all.

Our darling daddy at rest.

WANTED

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

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.

COMING EVENTS

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.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, CARNEGIE (Toolambool-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. E. 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.

BAMBRA RD., CAULFIELD.

28th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

Thurs., May 27, 6.15 p.m., Anniversary Dinner, followed by a "Different" Fellowship Function.

Sun., May 30, 11 a.m., E. C. Hinrichsen.

7 p.m., F. A. Youens.

A welcome for all.

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.

CHELTENHAM CHURCH OF CHRIST ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

JUNE 6.

11 a.m., speaker, D. Wakeley, past preacher.

3 p.m., Religious Film Service.

7 p.m., speaker, J. C. Cunningham.

Past members cordially invited to be present.

Meals in school hall.

Ring secretary, E. Brough, UM9295.

EASTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE,

AT BAYSWATER on JUNE 12, 13 and 14
(King's Birthday Week-end.)

President, F. Langford, Vice-president, W. Quirk.

Leader of Song, P. A. Jordan.

Theme: "One Master, One Message."

Saturday, June 12 (afternoon, 3).

Devotional session, F. Langford.

Duet, Misses Jones.

Business session.

Basket tea, 6 p.m.

Evening, 7.30—

Speaker, F. Morgan, Box Hill.

Subject, "The Church's One Message."

Musical items by Miss V. Barnden.

Sunday, June 13, 3 p.m.:

Conference Sermon.

Speaker, H. Earle, Surrey Hills.

Subject, "And Deliver Us from Tamelessness."

Musical items by Miss D. Ludbrook Clark.

Monday, June 14:

Youth Hike—arranged by Youth Club.

Women's Conference, 2 p.m.

President, Mrs. Jordan. Secretary, Mrs. McDowell.

Speaker, Mrs. Jeffrey, "The Buffalo Convention."

Business session.

Basket tea, 5.30.

Evening, 7.30, Youth Rally.

Speaker, H. McCallum, B.A.

Subject, "We are Already One."

Musical items, Miss J. Williams.

Transport to and from station provided.
All welcome.

Calling All Former Northcote Members to HOMECOMING SERVICES,

JUNE 27.

Please reserve date and watch for further particulars in these columns. For hospitality contact R. Anderson, JW4905.

NEW BOOKS.

The Gospel According to Paul, by Frederick P. Wood, five aspects, 7/9.

Christ is Alive! by G. R. Beasley-Murray. The fact and significance of the Resurrection. 12/-.

Change and Challenge in China, by Arthur Reynolds. Illustrated, 4/9.

Postage extra.

May Keswick Quarterly contains lists of books, periodicals, etc. Post free on application.

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The Australian Christian

May 18, 1948

Page 225

Unesco and the Christian

By a Correspondent.

"SINCE wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed . . .

"A peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of governments would not be a peace which could secure the unanimous, lasting and sincere support of the peoples of the world. . . . The peace must therefore be founded, if it is not to fail, upon the intellectual and moral solidarity of mankind."

These words, taken from the preamble to the constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, mark a revolutionary change in the official attitude of governments to the problem of world peace. For the first time it is openly admitted in an official document that governmental manipulations in the political and economic fields are not enough, that the key to peace lies in the minds and hearts of men. At long last the rulers of civilisation in its most materialistic phase have been forced to confess that man does not live by bread alone.

Thus UNESCO comes into being, as a specialised agency of the United Nations. Its purpose is not to compel any nation to do anything, not, in the words of the French Foreign Minister, M. Bidault, "to establish an empire over the minds of men—that worst of all tyrannies." But it is there to collect and dis-

seminate information, to advise, to stimulate, to co-ordinate, to help nations help themselves and each other in the educational, scientific and cultural fields.

The idea is a magnificent one. That will be conceded by all men of good will. But is it practicable? Can men and nations of widely differing viewpoints walk together successfully? Is there not a danger that the Christian, in supporting UNESCO, may be wasting his energies and compromising what he feels to be his unique message?

Furthermore, the fact that Russia and some of her satellites remain outside UNESCO cannot but raise grave doubts as to whether its activities can have any real influence on the most vital issue of our time, the preservation, or perhaps we should say, the restoration of peace. Is not UNESCO, then, a case of fiddling while Rome is burning, so to speak?

Such questions are bound to be asked by Christians when the claim of movements such as UNO and UNESCO on their time and energies is put before them. They are reasonable questions and they must be faced and answered. In a short article one can, of course, do no more than point to the direction in which the answer is to be found. For these doubts and misgivings raise some of the deepest issues both of theology and history.

There are two points of view that Christians can take on this matter.

1. All is lost and there is no hope left for man. The Christian can only keep himself unspotted from the world and urge his fellows to flee from the wrath to come. For such UNESCO will have no interest.

2. The Spirit of God is now wrestling mightily with all men, not only Christians, seeking to bring them to such a degree of harmony and co-operation that further disasters may be averted, or at least, if this is impossible, that oases of culture and spiritual life may be created and made so strong that they can survive any storm. On this view, which is that of the majority of Christians, the work of such an organisation as UNESCO is of deep significance.

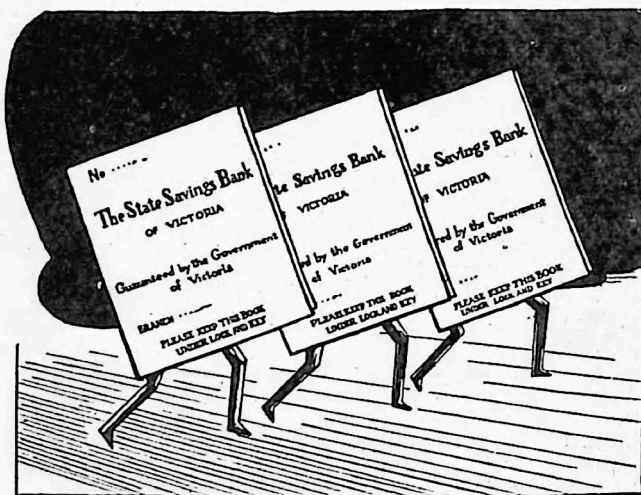
More and more men are coming to realise that Christianity cannot be confined within narrow channels, doctrinal or organisational. It is a spirit, a leaven that must leaven the whole lump of life. Possibly, one perhaps could say probably, we are on the verge of a spiritual revolution in which the containing vessels are shattered and the living water of the spirit flows forth to renew the face of the earth. In which case UNESCO may be regarded as a set of irrigation canals, planned and dug by the nations and waiting only to be filled.

Some water, however, has already started to flow. In the field of education for international understanding, to mention only one activity among many, UNESCO is doing valuable work. A summer school attended by representatives of thirty-one nations, including four Australians, was held last year near Paris, and active steps are being taken to revise text-books and to study the causes of tensions in international relationships.

To such work Christians can make a most valuable contribution, both by forming groups for the study of international relations in their churches and by influencing their secular environment. The Commonwealth Office of Education, which has been deputed by the Government to handle all matters relating to UNESCO in Australia, will gladly supply the fullest possible information to those interested. It is located on the 1st floor of Grace Building, York-st., Sydney. (Tel., MO424.)

"It is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed." May Christians be among the foremost in this great task, going forward hopefully in the spirit of Dr. Nansen's memorable saying, "The difficult we do immediately; the impossible merely takes a little longer."

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JULY 4, 1948.



A. Anderson, Federal Secretary, 261 Magill-
rd., Tranmere, S.A.

The Australian Christian

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

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

VICTORIAN EASTER CONFERENCE

I WRITE in support of all who denounce the recent trend of our conference to become a convention. I feel that a convention may be all right at the right time and in the right place, but it is my opinion that a conference, in the fullest meaning of the word, is the most desirable and needful thing of our churches to-day. While I agree that some of the matter presented for consideration by the speakers was excellent, yet there was such a superabundance of good things—and not so good—that one felt that one was almost literally "ear-bashed." As a matter of fact, the report in which I was most interested, that is the Young People's Dept. report, seemed to me to be almost a waste of time by conference, as discussion was literally guillotined, and any thought which may have been absorbed from it was lost in the fine address which followed immediately after. If a convention is necessary—and it may be—let it be removed from the conference of the churches of Christ in Victoria.—Frank A. Broussard, Balwyn, Victoria.



I BEG to endorse the views of W. W. Saunders re the recent "conference" at Lygon-st. Delegates have little opportunity of expressing anything save the usual affirmations. The time is overloaded and needs an extra day or a curtailment of the number of motions. The doleful moan of conference this year concentrated on the fact that the church is slipping. What can be done about it? I suggest that we look up that passage in Matt. 7: "He that heareth these sayings of mine and doeth them NOT." The storms and rain of false teaching and shallow profession have broken round the "sacred building" and it is slipping. The verdict of the Master is justified. Our preachers are not to blame. They are doing a good work. But while the church members are content to attend the place of worship and put a bit of silver in the plate and forget expressions of love and warm-hearted interest in visitors and strangers, such a body is surely committing suicide. The presence of the love spirit solves all problems, especially those two—finance and a full attendance—so encouraging to both preacher and officers.—Percy F. Stocks, Harrisfield, via Springvale, -Vic.



(This correspondence is closed except for any reply which the Victorian executive may desire to make.—Ed.)

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WHY THE CHURCH WILL CONQUER

(Continued from first page)

because God does work through the church
that we made the claim at the beginning
of the article that the church will be victorious.

We can fall into the error of thinking God
will work out his plans independently of our
action. On the other hand there are some
who act as if the whole future depends upon
human action. Paul has pointed out that we
are really co-workers with God. If we do our
part God will do his.

What great act can we expect God to per-
form in the future, which will ensure the final
victory of the church? We believe it is the
second coming of Christ. Belief in such a
coming is not a policy of despair; it is merely
a belief in God's co-operation within the church
and in history. Because such a teaching chal-
lenges the claims of the humanism of a social
gospel, there is some opposition to this Chris-
tian teaching even within the church. How-
ever, when we gather on the first day of the
week around the Lord's Table, we are re-
minded that such worship is to continue only
until Christ comes.

Ilco, in "The British Weekly," shows how
the challenge of the Lord's coming is not merely
a problem for the humanist within the church,
but also for the materialistic philosophers with-
out. He writes:

"One element in the traditional Christian faith
which most puzzles us in the West is the doc-
trine of the second coming of our Lord. Some,
it is true, claim to know exactly what it sig-
nifies, but their mathematics have often gone
awry. To most the doctrine is a puzzle, and
it is generally avoided.

"Who would have thought that it could be-
come pre-eminently the occasion of the church's
persecution? Yet so it has been in Korea
and in Japan. It was strictly forbidden by the
Japanese authorities. Why? Because it
would appear the doctrine was incompatible with
the dignity or divine mission of the Japanese
and their emperor. Does that throw light
upon the real and essential meaning of the
difficult traditional doctrine?

"Details may be obscure, but at least it is a
declaration that Jesus Christ, he and none other,
shall rule from sea to sea and from the river
to the ends of the earth. Neither the fanatics
of Shinto nor the enthusiasts of Karl Marx can
willingly contemplate the rule and reign of
Jesus Christ. Yes, I think I see how the
second coming might well be found the crucial
point of Christianity's offence."

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The Australian Christian

May 18, 1948

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