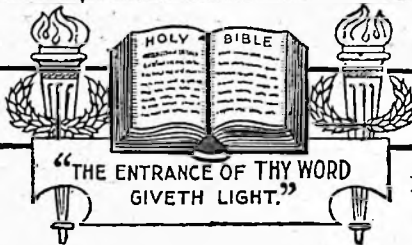


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The Freedom of the Local Church

THE church is a living organism. To put her into the straitjacket of organisation is to rob her of the driving force of Spirit-born initiative. There is nothing in the New Testament to support the modern craze to build up a system of control over local churches.

One observation of a keen student of church history is that ideas of church government are largely determined by the trends of the day in political outlook. If liberalism is strong in a community, then churches will be inclined toward liberty of action within the church; but if people in the State are prepared to submit to the despotism of a king, a party or a sectional minority of a community, then churches tend to permit themselves to be ruled by those who assume to have authority.

I.

At the present time the drift within the Australian nation is toward a controlled order of society. The events of war made it necessary that certain organisations be set up to co-ordinate the resources of the community. Under the threat of losing all freedom, the people were ready to yield, temporarily, to controls. Never, however, did they desire to have such rigid organisation made an essential feature of life.

Now that the organisations are in existence, they cannot be thrown off. Like the old man of the sea on the back of Sinbad the sailor, they resist all efforts toward freedom. Key individuals within the controlling organisation can justify their departments' existence by many claims. Nevertheless much of the people's freedom is lost, and initiative is discouraged.

II.

We are finding within the church a tendency to allow the machinery of organisation to take the place of the growth of the Spirit.

A local church, working in its area, is the essential unit through which Christ works to touch the lives of people in a district. That local group of Christians has the duty of witnessing and of reaching out to the surrounding community. If it is alive it will do that work well. If it is spiritually dead, organisation will not create life and growth in it.

Local churches of Christ come together in State and district conferences to plan how to establish new churches and to encourage brethren in weaker centres. The strength of the witness of Christians rests on the virility of local churches, not on any rigid organisation fastened on to local churches.

III.

The tendency now is to make departmental work more important than the local churches' witness. The organisa-

tion wants to become master, instead of local churches being in command.

We believe there is value in having a delegated conference. There is much strength in co-operative effort. However, there is the danger of losing time, energy and wealth in efforts to make the wheels of an organisation go around. Much effort and money can be spent in support of departments in a work that ought to be performed by local churches. To make departments function paid organisers are, sooner or later, secured. It is being said that men are being taken from local churches where leadership is urgently needed. Instead of giving strength to the whole brotherhood, the tendency is to weaken it.

IV.

We do not underestimate the need for co-operation. But we see dangers in the growth of an organisation likely to take from churches the rights and freedom they ought to enjoy. Co-operation by churches, in State and Commonwealth fellowship, is essential, but such co-operation must be inspired by the unity of the Spirit and by a love for New Testament truth, rather than by the compulsion of some overhead organisation. The unity of the Spirit is life, but the uniformity of organisation is death.

V.

The likely danger of an over-departmentalised brotherhood was foreshadowed in a recent State conference. The programme was so arranged that departments were given a certain period to present their reports to that conference which brought them into being. However, in many instances, the time was so taken up by prepared speeches that the delegates of conference were unable to express approval or disapproval of the policy of the committees. In that way the "gag" was applied effectively. Thus the departments give the impression they desire to plan their own way, becoming masters, instead of the conference of churches being the authority to determine this policy or that.

We believe this is a day when the church ought to encourage freedom and initiative, when the local church ought to be more dependent upon its own vigor and resources to meet the problems within the local area, not seeking, unnecessarily, the help of a central organisation.

There are occasions when advice and guidance can be, and it ought to be, gained from committees, which may prove of great value to the local congregation. However, no committee has the right to force its opinion upon a free and independent congregation.

We know there are dangers in the isolationist's attitude. The local church loses a great deal if it lacks a brotherhood

(Continued on page 231)

IDEAS AND WORLD CONFLICT

★ SPAIN

Protestantism Alive

ACCORDING to a recent visitor Protestantism has grown stronger since the beginning of the revolution. Through persecution it has been strengthened and won the respect of a great host in Spain. The church which is denied the privilege of disseminating literature has to witness in other ways.

It seems that 30 per cent. of the Protestants fled Spain at the time of the civil war. This was a heavy drain on a small minority, and it makes those who remained suspect in high places. Many of the Protestants have never known a country in which Protestantism has been a voice and a force. They worship in small, cramped quarters. Ministers earn most of their livelihood through secular employment. At present they are not allowed a public meeting, and their voice is never heard in the affairs of the nation. Protestantism has never been accepted in Spain.

The largest Protestant body is the Plymouth Brethren Communion, which numbers 4000 at a minimum. The Evangelical Church of Spain is a union of Congregationalists, Methodists, Dutch Reformed and Presbyterians linked by tradition to the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. At a minimum there are 2500 in this group. The main Baptist Church is related especially to the Southern Baptists in the U.S.A. They have an active roll of 1500 members. This is the only fellowship in Spain with adequate resources for a programme expansion.

There are nine churches in Spain affiliated with the Church of Ireland, but no bishop has visited Spain for twelve years, and so there has been no regular confirmation class and no pastors have been ordained. This fellowship numbers only 1000 members, with 3 rectors serving 9 parishes.



★ BATTLE OF IDEAS

Two Religions

THE Earl of Halifax, in an article entitled "The Fight Against Evil," appearing in "The Argus" (Melbourne), wrote:

"There are welcome signs that Christians begin to realise the meaning of the present crisis. The recent meeting in the Albert Hall, at which Christians were called to action in support of the union of Western Europe and of its direction along Christian lines, is intended to inaugurate a campaign that may make Christian action effective in national and international affairs, by spreading the conviction that only by such means can national and international life be rescued from insecurity and disorder.

"The present crisis is fundamentally spiritual. This is not to deny that economic and political problems must be tackled with practical knowledge of cause and cure; nor is it suggested that a recognition of the true nature of the crisis will allow us to avoid facing the material necessities of the situation.

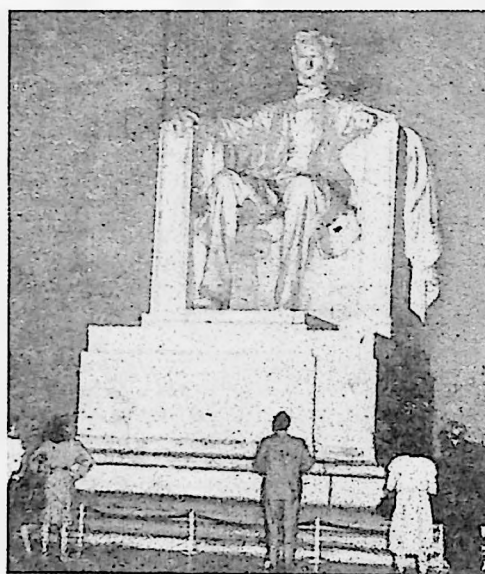
"Progressive democracy will not be able, against the force of dialectical materialism, to sustain an ordered and free civilisation on the basis of materialist opportunism or the threat of violence. Behind and within it there is required a vital force of spiritual and moral impulse.

"The dangers of totalitarian and other materialist forms of government do not consist so much in their effect upon particular issues, whether social or political, as in their common threat to liberal and Christian values, without which democracy as we have known it could

not survive. The battle must be fought on the level of ideas.

"And it is not so much a fight between two political philosophies as between two religious faiths. The one, in whose defence Christians must act, proclaims that man, made in the image of God, and endowed with the power and privilege of a free personality, is a child of two environments, the material and the spiritual; the brotherhood of man flowing from, and bound up with, the Fatherhood of God. To the other, man is a mechanical instrument of society, which decides for him his part in the inevitable movement of history towards its material end.

"The conflict in which we find ourselves is, then, at heart a strife between opposing faiths about the nature of man."



Abraham Lincoln Statue.

★ FRANCE

Death of Professor Nicolas A. Berdiaeff

ON March 23 Professor Nicolas A. Berdiaeff died in Paris, while working at his desk. This well-known Christian thinker—Berdiaeff was originally a Marxist and then became a Christian—was called away in the very midst of his incessant literary work; he died "in harness." He described himself as a Christian philosopher, though he was well versed in theology, and owing to his universal appeal, and his outspoken Christian conscience, a friend and promoter of the ecumenical movement. The reunion of the churches, which Berdiaeff approved as a true member of the Russian Orthodox Church, was to him a matter of great concern which corresponded with his deepest spiritual aims. Why? Because to Berdiaeff the world was not a completed whole, but was in a continual state of transformation and hence the churches as the bearers of Christian truth were also constantly moving on the way towards mutual encounter and ultimate union.

Berdiaeff expressed his support of the effort towards ecumenism—as an expression of this movement in the truth of Christ's church—in a paper which he recently sent to the World Council. His paper ends in the assurance that "the light of Christian truth will overcome the disorder and chaos of the world." This light of Christian faith, which hopes for a transfiguration of the world, "is a new descent of the Holy Spirit" (according to Berdiaeff).

It does not mean "a passive attitude on the part of men, but a growing spiritual activity, even a divine-human activity." This final sentence sums up his whole philosophy, expressed in numerous books, and articles in many languages, and also his belief in the world church.

In Professor Berdiaeff the ecumenical movement loses a co-operator of great understanding, whose strong personality always had a stimulating and creative influence.—E.P.S., Geneva.



★ UNITED STATES

Abraham Lincoln Friendship Train for Asia and Europe

CARGOES which filled 210 freight cars of the Abraham Lincoln Friendship Train are aboard ships bound for Europe and Asia as a gift from the rural church people of mid-west America.

Collection of the relief supplies, which include wheat, canned meat and milk, cereals, beans, flour, sugar and soya bean oil, was directed by the Christian Rural Overseas Programme of Church World Service and Lutheran World Relief.

The Community Club of Geneva, Nebraska, conceived the idea of this friendship train as a way of honoring the late President Lincoln, America's Civil War executive. The idea spread like a mushroom across the great farming areas.

About two-thirds of the supplies will be used for church-sponsored relief programmes in Finland, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Germany and Czechoslovakia. Distribution in Europe will be co-ordinated with the relief programme of the Department of Reconstruction of the World Council of Churches.



★ INDIA

Religious Groups

THE Hindus in India number 206 millions, being 53 per cent. of the total population. The lowest classes of Hindu society, called Scheduled Castes, are more than 48 millions, being 12½ per cent. of population. Muslims are 94 millions, 25½ per cent. Christians 6 millions, one and three-fifths per cent. of population. Sikhs 5 millions, one and a half per cent. "Others" reach the figure of 27 millions, being seven per cent.



★ GERMANY

War Damage to Evangelical Churches

THE Evangelical Press Service of Bethel-Bielefeld reports that out of 22,212 church buildings only 12,598 are still undamaged; 5 per cent. are slightly damaged (up to 5 per cent. of the value of the building), 333 are badly damaged and 1683 completely destroyed. The heaviest losses were sustained by the Landeskirchen in Hamburg and Bremen, and those of Westphalia and the Rhineland were also heavily damaged.

The figures given above do not include war damage to buildings belonging to the home and foreign mission nor to the Free Church Association.

AFTER listening to a good funeral sermon delivered by a good preacher about a good man, his good works and his good character, I find it profitable to orient myself to the Christian gospel again by reading Acts 10. Here is the conversion of a saint! Here is a practical, concrete illustration of or commentary on Paul's words. "By grace have ye been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: not of works, that no man should glory" (Eph. 2: 8, 9). Here is an amazing catalogue of those things that do not save a man.



I. WHAT DOES NOT SAVE

1. Our Morality or Good Character

A convincing proof of the inspiration of the scriptures is their ability to answer modern objections. The striking thing is that such an excellent citizen, loved by Jew and Gentile alike, should need conversion. But, had not Jesus said, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except any man be born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3: 3, 5)? Remission of sins is by the shedding of blood (Heb. 9: 22) and not by ethics. Cornelius was a devout or religious man, God-fearing and pious, habitually and generously practising charity, ever praying, tolerant, appreciative of the good in the religion of the people over whom he had control. And yet this splendid centurion testified that the angel told him of his lost condition, that he was in an unsaved state (Acts 11: 14). Luke takes special pains to pile up the virtues of this lovable soldier by repetition and by the testimony of several witnesses. All alike bear witness to his charming and gracious personality. But good citizenship, philanthropy, religiousness and fine fatherhood were futile and impotent in the matter of salvation. It reminds one of the rich young ruler, lacking the one vital, crucial thing, which proved to be everything. His servants spoke of his righteousness and reputation, for he was well reported of by all the nation of the Jews, oppressed and bigoted. This was no small honor, but human righteousness availeth nothing in the obtaining of forgiveness of sins. Nay, rather is it an insult and offence when made a substitute for God's remedy, the blood of Jesus Christ, God's holy Son. Kindness, honesty, loyalty to duty, benevolence, and parental faithfulness are splendid graces but not enough; but rather are they irrelevant, dangerous delusions and treacherous quicksands when viewed as meriting salvation, and taking the place of the necessity of the cross. Multitudes to-day are putting their faith in sportsmanship, temperance, patriotism, etc., but Cornelius had all these. The cloak of respectability, efforts of the flesh, works of the law, these are an abomination when they seek to eliminate Calvary (Titus 3: 4-8).

2. Limited Religious Knowledge

Cornelius was born a pagan, reared in idolatry and polytheism. Travel had brought his open mind into contact with Judaism, a monotheistic, and purer, more spiritual religion. Only a sincere seeker of the truth would have seen this in a slave or subject people, in whom was also much that was not admirable. His initial training would be biased against seeing any good in them. While not actually becoming a proselyte, he broke with the worship of his ancestors and advanced in his acceptance of the new light to the extent that he imbibed the good features of the Jewish faith and was favorable toward them. God blessed his progress in the truth, for he had availed himself of the new light. The Divine reward is always more light. His quest bore fruit as with Lydia, the Ethiopian eunuch, etc. Opportunity spelt responsibility and obligation. Sentimentalism did not deter him, for though he broke with ancestral faith, he realised that whereas his ancestors lacked his privileges, he would have been extremely culpable had he not appropriated this increased knowledge. Had he rejected truth, even though he saw it often

A Good Man Doing Better

A. N. Hinrichsen, M.A.,
preacher of First Christian
Church, San Marcos, Texas,
U.S.A.

mingled with narrowmindedness and fanaticism, he would inevitably have lost what he did have. Such a sympathetic adherent of Judaism was ready for the burst of noonday truth, the full Christian revelation. Let us wisely progress with our knowledge of the truth and not foolishly presume that the mercy of God will excuse our ignorance. God will surely judge us not only by what we do know, but by what we could know. Jesus taught plainly that judgment would be proportionate. As is our opportunity so is our responsibility (Luke 12: 47, 48). Let not our people of the Restoration Movement, nor Protestants in general, inconsistently stagnate, but continue to accept light wherever it may appear.

3. Spectacular, Miraculous Manifestations

On pp. 270, 283 of "The Day," Dr. E. Stanley Jones points out that Christ was not psychopathic. He was a Man of poise, sanity and self-control, and did not go off into dreams. He, says the queer have queered Pentecost for many, but that the fact and experience of Pentecost ought not to be interpreted as rampant emotionalism. New Testament evangelism was based on an appeal to scripture, the testimony of eye witnesses, and so, through human instrumentality, evidence was presented to the mind and reason for consideration. In the first century supernatural agents and means, visions, voices, and angels were used sparingly, and only under exceptional circumstances in order to bring mortals together. This was the uniform, usual, normal procedure in all cases of conversion in the book of Acts. God had designed this natural method (Rom. 10: 13-17; 1 Cor. 1: 21). Some still think the weird and uncanny are more convincing, credible, and assuring. The scriptures are final and sufficient, much to be preferred to ghosts (Luke 16: 29-31). The baptism into the Holy Spirit is all-important to many modern evangelists, while at the same time belittling the value and necessity of Christian baptism into water. The former is emphasised at the expense of the latter. This is strange reasoning in view of the facts in the story before us. It amounts to a distortion and perversion.

That this baptism was rare is obvious from the language of scripture itself (Acts 11: 15). There are only two indisputably certain cases, separated by perhaps ten years. It can be shown in each case that the baptism served a specific, practical purpose, and that the circumstances were extraordinary. No such reason

or conditions exist to-day to warrant our expecting a repetition. In Acts 2 it served as an apostolic credential, while at the same time overcoming linguistic barriers and thus permitting the laying hold of the greatest of opportunities, viz., reaching the ears and hearts of a cosmopolitan and representative crowd from the entire world of that day. In the second case it was designed primarily to rid Peter and the Jerusalem church of narrow nationalism and racial prejudice. Christianity was intended to be universal; it was in danger of degenerating into a Jewish sect. But far from this rare and exceptional baptism in the Spirit, a promise of the Father and not a command, always administered unconditionally by Christ himself, being a substitute for baptism in water, it was used as an argument or a reason for the administration of the latter! It is strange indeed how this has been ignored or overlooked (Acts 10: 44-48). Conclusively it is proved here that the baptism in the Spirit was subordinate and inferior to the baptism of the Great Commission, as universal and as permanent as preaching itself (Matt. 28: 18-20). One of the two baptisms in the story of Cornelius was temporary, for Paul says there is "one baptism" (Eph. 4: 3-6). There can be no room for doubt that the abiding baptism is that administered by human hands. Acts 10 is the best commentary on Paul's phrase in Eph. 4.

4. National Advantages or Accidentals

Here in the Deep South the supremacy of the white race is assumed, practised and defended, creating bitter tensions and strained relationships. Recent disgraceful lynchings, the failure and impossibility to have justice administered even to self-confessed and proven murderers, race riots, Jim Crow laws, etc., make all democratically minded and Christian people hang their head in humiliation and with shame. We are still a long way from accepting in our conduct Acts 10: 34, 35; 17: 26. The K.K.K. is still with us as a deadly virus in our social body. Communistic Russia makes capital of our hideous, monstrous inconsistencies in professed democracies. We had better set our own house in order before we begin to criticise Peter of two millenniums ago!



II. WHAT DOES SAVE US

Peter's interrupted sermon of ten verses was brief and simple. His theme was Jesus as Lord of all. While on earth he went about doing good amidst human need and misery, for God was with him. He was slain and on the third day raised from the dead, and is now ordained of God to be the Judge of the quick and the dead. Then as a climax, "Through his name everyone that believeth on him shall receive remission of sins" (verse 43). Look to him in loving trust, turn away from our sin, gratefully confess him as the Son of God before men, gladly and willingly be led down into and through the waters of baptism, and so put him on in his own appointed way, live a life of daily service and sacrifice, glorifying the Lord and well-pleasing to him, and one day this life of faith and obedience will lead us into his own blessed presence.

FREEDOM OF THE LOCAL CHURCH

(Continued from front page.)

outlook. However, the initiative of local churches must not be lost in the cold uniformity which outside organisations can impose upon them. Let there be a willing, spiritual co-operation among all churches to advance the kingdom of God, but let the local church also maintain initiative and freedom.

The Australian Christian

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PROGRAMME FOR JULY

Theme for July, 1948-June 1949. "Christian Witness in a Revolutionary World."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal. No. 333. "God of mercy. God of grace."

Prayer.—"O Father Almighty, we give thee thanks that thou hast called us unto godliness and to the remission of sins; that we have been named after the name of Christ; unite us with those who are hallowed to thee. Establish us in thy truth by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit. That which we know not, do thou reveal; that which is wanting in us, do thou fill up; in that which we know, do thou strengthen us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord and Master. Amen.

Bible Reading.—John 3: 16-21.

Prayers.—For home and overseas missions.

Meditation.—"Why Christ Came."

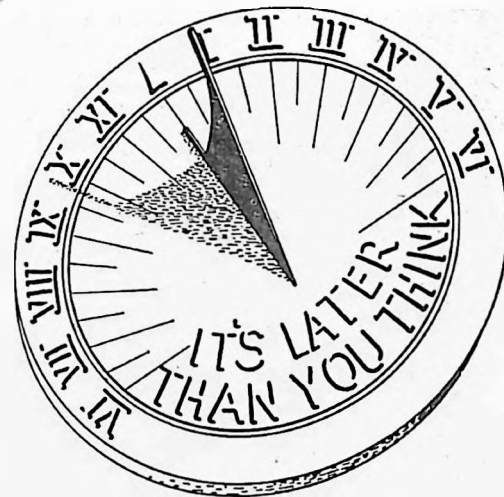
of salvation, and enrich us with his love. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



MISSIONARY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

THE executive of the Women's Federal Missionary Education Department is appreciative of the help given over the past year by Mrs. R. Saunders, B.A., Miss Esther Messent, B.A., and Miss I. Gill, in the preparation of the devotional programmes, and by Mrs. W. Nankivell in the writing of the topic papers on "One World—One Family."

The new syllabus for 1948-49 will be based on the theme of the International Missionary Council meeting held at Toronto, Canada, last year: "Christian Witness in a Revolutionary World." The syllabus has been printed, and will be distributed to the women's societies of our churches. If any do not receive copies, they may be obtained from Mrs. P. D. McCallum, 45 Victoria-st., Epping, N.S.W.



Christians in a Revolutionary World

Very early in its pages the Bible gives the account of man's first alienation from God. Throughout the succeeding pages the continued rejection of God's will is mirrored in the lives and history recorded there. In spite of such leaders as Moses, Samuel and Elijah—men raised up to call them back to God—men preferred their waywardness. But through it all God never lost this love for mankind. In fulness of time he sent into the world "his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life." This was true then, and it is as true now, for us in this generation.

Christ came to reveal God. God is not only just, he is love. A heavenly Father! Had we but hearkened to his word would our world have been in the ferment it is to-day?

Christ came to reconcile us to God. He revealed the Father to whom men are beckoned to return. He revealed in his own life and death the way back to God, overcoming temptation and evil by the power of God.

Christ came that we might have a more abundant life, here and hereafter. When faith and love stand in place of fear, and peace and joy stand against the confusion and stress of the world, there is abundant life. There is the promise that we understand of the life with God in the ages to come.

Christ came to be the Saviour of the world that whosoever believeth in him should have everlasting life.

"Christ took our nature on him, not he
Bove all things loved it, for the purity:
No, but he dressed him with our human trim,
Because our flesh stood most in need of him."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal No. 495, "O Jesus Christ, grow thou in me."

Prayer.—"O God, who hast so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us, give us grace that in everything we may yield ourselves, our wills and our works, a continual thankoffering unto thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Business Session—

Home Mission Notes.

Overseas Letter.

Address.—"World in Ferment."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal No. 428, "O gracious Father of mankind."

Benediction.—May God, the Lord, bless us with heavenly benediction and make us pure and holy in his sight. May the riches of his glory abound in us. May he instruct us with the word of truth, inform us with the gospel

EXECUTIVE NOTES

Victoria.—Our new president, Mrs. Ploog, presided over first meeting of conference year on May 7. There was an attendance of 132. Our new vice-president, Mrs. E. L. Williams, led devotional period. President welcomed Mrs. Mitchell and Mrs. Lewis, who had returned from New Zealand; also Mrs. Mountjoy from Geelong, and Mrs. Lightfoot from W.A. Mrs. Ploog spoke to superintendents and committees, urging them, together with all delegates, to take as their watchword for the year, "Service" for others and the Christ whom we all love. The conference president, Mr. A. E. Hurren, brought a greeting from general conference. A recommendation from Sunraysia District Conference that any balance of fund for refrigerator for our living link in India be handed to the X-ray appeal was accepted. Reports were received from the Overseas Committee, Missionary Department, and Social Service Committee, the latter announcing that clothing for relief in Europe would be received at Social Service Department at Bible House.

Queensland.—"Be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," is the motto adopted by the women's conference auxiliary for the year. Monthly meetings are now held on first Friday of each month, at 11 a.m., in Ann-st. social hall. Meetings are followed by a basket lunch. Devotions for May were led by sisters from Wynnum. Mrs. Dawes sang the solo, "Angels Guard Thee." The president, Mrs. Haworth, occupied the chair for business session and welcomed several visitors, including Mr. J. McKenzie, who gave a helpful address on "Prayer." Several sisters took part in prayer session. Mrs. Wiltshire has been appointed superintendent for isolated members, and Mrs. Dawes has agreed to visit contacts made by the hospital chaplain at Brisbane General Hospital.

South Australia.—There was an attendance of 70 at the meeting of sisters' auxiliary on May 6, when Mrs. H. B. Charlick led devotional session. Superintendents' reports: Home missions: five visits by committee during month, and £16/0/8 collected. Overseas: one meeting held. Prayers were asked for Dr. and Mrs. Michael, whose baby boy is sick, and whose elder son is still suffering from the results of an attack of rheumatic fever. Morialta Protestant Homes: £500 was received as the result of button day. Catering: £2/10/- to be handed to rest home, this being profits from youth tea held. Hospital

visitation: 50 visits to hospitals and institutions, and many comforts distributed. Prayer meeting: two meetings held. Temperance: 200 pledges signed in State schools. Mrs. P. C. Messent represented auxiliary at "Escourt House," when United Church Women's Association presented a cheque, proceeds of an "at home" held some time ago. The president, Mrs. Green, attended Methodist women's meeting in Pirie-st., when Mrs. Newton Flue, from England, was speaker. On April 13, executive invited young married women to a social evening. Games, competitions and musical and elocutionary items made up the programme.

New South Wales.—Mrs. Larcombe, president-elect, led devotional session at May meeting. Mr. Paternoster gave an address on overseas missions, making special mention of island work. The president, Mrs. Greenhalgh, thanked Mr. Paternoster for his informative address. Mrs. Thomson, from Leicester, England, brought a greeting from English sisters. In her talk she thanked women of Australian churches for gifts of food parcels to church people of Britain, and pointed out that one of the pleasures of receiving a parcel was to be able to share with others some of the good things which are unattainable in England. She also said that many people would be glad to send money to pay for these parcels, but they were unable to do so because it was a punishable offence to send money out of the country.

Western Australia.—Monthly meeting of women's auxiliary was held in Lake-st. on April 6. Devotions were led by new president, Mrs. J. C. Humphrys, who gave a talk on her motto, "Except the Lord build." Sixty-seven sisters answered roll-call. Several sisters commented about the changed hour, and it seemed to meet with general approval that auxiliary meetings commence at 11 a.m. instead of 2 p.m. Correspondence included a letter from Mr. Winton, secretary of Wooroloo Sanatorium, commending sisters for their work at the hospital. A special offering was taken for hospital account, which was overdrawn. Mrs. Scott, of Nedlands, compiled conference echoes, which were enjoyed by all. It was agreed to have 50 copies printed. Several visitors were welcomed, including Mrs. Don Manning, of Narrogin.

Easter Flowers in India

*In a land where people seek God in strange ways,
the truth of the living gospel is giving new life
to perishing people.*



Indian Girl About to Blossom into Beautiful Christian Womanhood.

IT is Easter Sunday. The weather is hot and dry. Easter lilies are absent because the ordinary thunderstorms have not yet come. Mostly, Easter mornings are helpful to thoughts of the resurrection; a freshness in the air; the sight of the fragile lilies that have pushed their way from parched bulbs and through the dry earth—themselves symbols of the new life in their freshness, beauty and serenity. To-day there are none to be seen.

Nature has seemed to take no part this Easter, though the Easter spirit was there, when five of our senior girls were baptised this morning. Four of these were girls from the home and one the daughter of a mission worker. It was good to see them as they prepared to enter the waters of baptism, and afterwards when they stood and were received into the fellowship of the church. These were Easter flowers in truth, and all are girls from whom we may expect definite witness for Christ. They were reminded this morning that in the future direct preaching of the gospel might be difficult; it would become the responsibility of individual Christians to witness, also because women who were so much in the background were mostly reached by women in an indirect way.

There were other evidences of Easter and the putting forth of new effort, for it so happened that both the Old and New Testament portions were read by young men of the mission who were visiting friends at Shrigonda; one of them is studying for his B.A. degree, and the other is a trained teacher on the Barnati school staff. The address, truly as fresh and inspiring as Easter blooms, was given by one of the younger men who has been teaching in the girls' school this year. His message was definite—ours was the resurrected Lord, our orders were to go and tell others. It was fitting that this young man should have given the message to-day, for the girls who were received into fellowship have been in his class.

So, lilies or no lilies, April showers or dry winds, it was Easter with a message of promise for the future, and there was the conviction

that there will be those of this land, who, knowing the risen Lord, will be faithful to proclaim him. Those who are conscious of the need of their land know how poor are the substitutes put forward to meet spiritual needs. They know that Christ alone can meet that need as he has met their own. To them idols are truly stone, the festivals merely tinsel, but Christ is "the resurrection and the life."—F. Cameron (Shrigonda).



A QUEST FOR GOD

TRAVELLING up and down India one is impressed with the fact that this land is engaged in a gigantic and earnest quest. It is a quest, not for power, not for knowledge, nor wealth, but a quest for God.

Every towering temple and mosque, every crude wayside image, every chanting holy man and weary pilgrim is a testimony to this fact.

Plants and trees become objects of worship, and because of the Hindu belief in transmigration, animal worship is popular. According to this doctrine, the soul passes from one body to another after death. Animals are therefore considered sacred. The cow is worshipped and revered above all.

The land is filled with countless sacred buildings—temples, intricately carved, that tower toward the skies. Some are very beautiful, others are hideous, grotesque, where rites immoral beyond description are performed. Some are small and some occupy a whole city block—one Hindu temple at Madura covers more than twenty-seven acres of land.

The condition of their women and children is beyond description. According to the requirements of Hinduism, forty per cent. of India's daughters must become priestesses, which means they must live in the temples and are forced to become prostitutes.

Hundreds of India's girl babies are still thrown into the Ganges as living sacrifices. In some places child girls are given in marriage, and widows are buried alive with their deceased husbands. These practices are still prevalent

in many sections, although they are now against the law.

All of this, because India is seeking, seeking for what? Seeking for God. But India can find no God in her religion.

Christ alone is the way unto God. The scriptures warn that "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." That is the picture of India's quest for God. Her many religious practices are leading her to eternal death without hope.



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.

Alcoholics Anonymous

A SOCIETY of people who were once under the power of strong drink has been formed, and is known as Alcoholics Anonymous. These changed people set out to save others under the grip of alcohol. This can be achieved if the following rules and principles are recognised by those in need. Those in the society have declared:—

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol—that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God as we understood him.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong, promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to improve our conscious contact with God as we understood him, praying only for knowledge of his will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual experience as the result of these steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics, and to practise these principles in all our affairs.

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The Sunday School at Maylands, W.A.

Here and There

E. H. Randall has accepted the invitation to serve as preacher of church at St. Kilda, Vic.

F. H. Buckingham reports that the town hall at Prahran, Vic., was crowded on Sunday evening, May 23. There were four decisions, E. C. Hinrichsen being preacher.

Mrs. Colin Ramm, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. D. Pollard, of Western Australia, has gained the honor of an associateship of the British Psychological Society. She is residing temporarily in Birmingham, England, where her husband is a lecturer in Physics at the University.

The second mission band rally of the Sunraysia District Women's Conference was held in the chapel at Mildura, Vic., on April 22. Very interesting and encouraging reports were given by four local mission bands. At morning session Mrs. I. J. Chivell, president of conference, spoke. The afternoon session was well attended. Greetings were received from the Victorian Women's Conference and Missionary Department. Mrs. E. Jeffery, of Melbourne, was guest speaker. Her challenging talk was appreciated.

Following close of visitation campaign at Footscray, Vic., attendances have been very good. 110 broke bread on May 23. Two further confessions of faith have been added to those already made. On above date six were received in following baptism and three by letter. These included Mr. and Mrs. Burns, of Prospect, S.A. A. W. Stephenson was speaker at morning service. On May 19 Mrs. Peard gave a cooking demonstration at meeting of young woman's guild; 20 attended. Girls' club entertained mothers on May 11. Sunday schools at Footscray and Maidstone are having good attendances.

At Ormond, Vic., A. E. Hurren, of Footscray, in conjunction with Mr. Martin, is leading an evangelistic campaign. On evening of May 19, Mr. Hurren addressed 17 workers. Seven pairs of workers will go out, commencing June 2, for three nights in home visitations seeking men and women to make their decision for Christ. Mr. Hurren spoke on morning of 23rd on personal evangelism. Church commences a budget scheme on June 1 to overcome financial difficulties. Mrs. Knee is home from hospital. Explorers' Club had anniversary at evening service on 23rd. Mr. Martin continues to give good service.

Keen interest was maintained in gospel meetings at Northam, W.A., during May by each church auxiliary assisting at one service. J.C.E. commenced on May 2, then Dorcas Society ladies on 9th. Bible school helped on 16th, Good Companions' Club was to have a part on 23rd, Badminton Club on 30th. Men of Protestant churches in town have formed an inter-church association to seek to win others back to Christ. Chairman of officers' board, G. H. Martin, is first president, and his spiritual leadership is keenly appreciated. P. R. Thickins is giving special Bible studies on Thursday nights, and his weekly addresses are always appreciated. Church is in good heart, and continues in consistent and loyal witness.

On May 2, at 4 p.m., in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hale, the Claremont church of Christ, Tasmania, met for the first time to break bread. In all, some twenty persons attended. S. Williams, of Collins-st. church, Hobart, presided. Greetings were received from Tasmanian Conference Executive and other brotherhood activities. Mesdames H. Kingston and Madel-Cole expressed good wishes. An address was delivered by the conference vice-president (Josiah Park). Amongst those present was Margaret McGregor, of Collins-st. church, the 13-year-old granddaughter of the late Wm. McGregor, one of our Victorian pioneer members. Local brethren expressed confidence that this cause will grow. A healthy Bible school is being conducted by Mr. Jacobson, of Claremont.

Good attendances at Geelong, Vic., at both services on May 23. Mr. Stirling spoke in morning, when Alan Carr was received into fellowship. At night Archie Dawkins, of s.s. "Time," preached. At conclusion two made the good confession.

At Dandenong, Vic., on May 5, Mission Band held annual meeting, when reports were read and treasurer's balance sheet showed £87 raised for different efforts. Officers were elected—Mrs. Youens, president; Mrs. Heggarty, secretary. P.B.P. entertained mothers at a social evening in honor of Mother's Day on May 6. Men's Social Committee held a successful musical evening on 15th. Church is blessed with exhortation of Mr. Youens at all meetings. One sister and one brother have made the good confession.

Visitation Evangelism

Victories Gained
at North Essendon, Vic.

AFTER a period of spiritual preparation, the church at North Essendon began a campaign of visitation evangelism on Sunday, May 18. Twelve visitors, making six teams, called at homes of prospects on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. On Sunday evening, May 23, there were 104 at gospel service. C. H. J. Wright conducted service and presented claims of gospel. Even before the invitation hymn was announced there was a response. People came from all parts of building to front seats. Thirteen confessed Christ and one indicated the desire to be restored. This victory has encouraged church and preacher. Mr. Wright carried through the plans and worked out details of effort. He is convinced that visitation evangelism is effective, because it is scriptural. By calling upon the whole congregation to witness and by sending out brethren two by two, the ministry of the church is strengthened. One visitor said, "I did not think I could win another for Christ, but now I have been successful, I want to win others." In addition to showing others the way to the Lord, visitation evangelism brings the church back to Christ and quickens the spiritual life of the brethren. In four efforts, just on 60 have been added to churches in Melbourne. By the end of July it is expected that 20-24 similar efforts will add many more to the Victorian churches. We ask that brethren pray for every effort now being made to revive churches and to win men to Christ.

Special services were held at Balaklava, S.A., on Mother's Day. Mr. Cremin spoke in morning, Mrs. Cremin at evening service, meeting being shared with young women of church. On May 9, three senior girls of S.S. confessed Christ. On May 21 Mrs. Harding was baptised, and received into fellowship following Sunday. Church organised a kitchen evening on May 25 in honor of Jessie May and Clarence Burford, who were married on May 29. Mrs. A. Webb has been called home suddenly, and church extends sympathy to family.

Geoff Whiting continues at Wembley Park, W.A., to lead with inspiring addresses, and with his untiring efforts with young people. Average attendances for April were: breaking of bread, 51; gospel service, 40. Sunday school attendance, 115. All other auxiliaries keep up to average attendances. Much good work is being done by members of each department. Church has been helped by addition of several families who have recently settled in district. These are: Mr. and Mrs.

Hogben with two sons and two daughters, latterly from Cottonville, S.A.; Mrs. Stanford and Mr. and Mrs. P. Marlow, from Harvey; Mr. and Mrs. Lou Park and four daughters, from Inglewood. These members have proved of great assistance to church. Church hall has been extended to accommodate a branch of kindergarten union. A small kitchen has been added and the walls re-calculated. All work has been carried out by efforts of a church voluntary busy bee. Visitors for month were J. J. Gordon, who gave morning address on May 2; Mr. Scott, from B. & F. Bible Society; A. Ellis, from church at Subiaco. Mrs. C. Grist, who recently underwent an operation at St. John's Hospital, is convalescing at home of her daughter, Mrs. R. W. Bennett. Archie Ware has been appointed secretary for B. & F. Bible Society for Wembley Park district. Allen Pyne was appointed secretary for interstate conference to be held in Western Australia on October next.

The new cause at South Perth, W.A., is now well established, having leased Collins-st. Community Hall. Lord's day meetings are held regularly. First meeting of church since admittance to conference was held recently, and initial board of officers elected. Deacons, P. Jefferies, B. Wesley, C. H. Coles, W. Cooper, K. Ballantyne, T. Scotland, F. Raymond, J. Hansen, Mr. Fryer, J. Pallott, W. Samuel; deaconesses, Sisters Jefferies and Wesley. Mr. Wesley was appointed secretary and C. H. Coles treasurer; Sunday school superintendent, J. Hansen. Church services are well maintained and members are grateful to speakers who have come from other districts to help. R. Richards has been gospel preacher for April and May and Gordon Evers will commence in June. Mr. Fryer was received into fellowship on May 16 on transfer from Maylands.

Bible school anniversary was held at Balarat (York-st.) on May 9. There was a splendid attendance at Lord's Table, when 22 teachers received a charge from Mr. Rowsell. Services were continued at 3 and 7 p.m. Scholars supported by an orchestra sang special hymns. Kinder children received prizes at afternoon session. At evening service Doris Hocking received Alexander memorial medal for ten years' continuous attendance at Bible school. Doris became sixth member of Hocking family to receive the medal. Mr. Long interested all with his addresses. Bible school concert was held on 19th. Senior scholars and teachers presented a drama, "A Thousand Years in Bethlehem," successfully. Individual scholars assisted in programme. Prizes were distributed. Average attendance for year was 115. Eight members of school joined church. Four teachers were added to staff. Work generally is in excellent heart.

At a packed meeting at Wollongong, N.S.W., on April 10, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Jones were welcomed to ministry of church after having served for four years at St. Andrew-st., Dunedin, N.Z. G. Burns, home mission secretary, gave charge to preacher, and E. C. Hinrichsen, director of evangelism, to church. Reference was made to splendid interim ministry of Glen Brown, and a presentation made. A quickening of interest has been evident in all departments, and there are crowded congregations morning and evening. There have been three confessions of faith and seven re-consecrations in recent weeks. A membership mobilisation campaign is in progress, and members are responding enthusiastically, resulting in increases in numbers, prayer, youth work and outside interest. Sunday school anniversary was held on April 18 and 25, and two appreciated addresses were delivered on 18th by youth director. Enjoyable vocal and choral programmes were rendered under leadership of Mrs. R. D. Main. Christian Endeavor societies are still conducted at Keiraville, Gwynneville and Marrawong with much interest and success.

News of the Churches

Victoria

Castlemaine.—Church rejoiced on evening of May 16 to witness two people owning their Lord and following him in baptism, one a married woman, the other an older scholar from Sunday school. An attempt is being made to revive weekly prayer meeting.

Geelong.—On May 12 Mission Band entertained mothers of church at a social afternoon. Mr. Stirling preached at both services on May 16. In morning Don Rodda was received into fellowship, transferred from S.A., and Robert Drayton and Mrs. Don Rodda after being baptised previous Sunday evening.

Springvale.—On May 2 Mr. Bond, back from holidays, gave inspiring addresses. On May 9 J.C.E. anniversary and Mother's Day were celebrated, juniors giving each mother a small gift. After address by Mr. Bond one decided for Christ. On May 16 and 23 there were good meetings. A senior Christian Endeavor has been started in Mr. Bond's home.

West Preston.—At midweek meeting on May 19, Mr. Withers outlined methods of visitation evangelism. Good meetings were held on May 23. 111 assembled for communion service, when Mrs. Weedon, Miss Bean and Nurse B. Creath, recently baptised, were welcomed into fellowship by Mr. Withers. Youth offering amounted to £17/13/-, more than £2 higher than last year.

Thornbury.—On evening of May 9, following presentation of film, "Man of Faith," a lad of Bible school, Lance Ross, made his confession. Helen Ashton, who made her decision on May 2, was baptised on May 16, and has since been received into membership. Last Sunday evening another young man made decision for Christ. A church membership visitation is in operation, seeking to build up fellowship and effectiveness of church witness, in preparation also for effort next month in visitation evangelism.

Echuca.—During April services were well attended, and many visitors met with church. On April 3 most men of church assisted others in cutting hundreds of tons of wood for hospital. On April 10 a tennis tournament was held at Hartvigsen's and £2 raised for church funds. On April 23 an enjoyable evening was held at Fleming's and over £3/10/- raised for Ladies' Auxiliary. Each Saturday for past five weeks working bees have been held at chapel. The workers have almost completed painting building, which now looks very attractive.

Bayswater.—Ladies' Mission Band held a social evening on May 8 in aid of food for Britain. Miss Galiver was speaker and told of conditions in England. Offering of £5/2/- was received. Ladies packed 13 parcels of food from proceedings. 12 men of church went to Monbulk camp site for a day's working bee on May 15. Mr. Quirk was morning speaker on 16th. At annual business meeting all officers were re-elected. Church and auxiliaries are in a good condition. Members of Y.P.S.C.E. visited Ringwood society and conducted meeting on May 19.

Sunshine.—On May 9, Mother's Day and youth services were conducted. Twenty parents attended kindergarten service during afternoon. A group of young people from "Campaigners for Christ" took charge of evening service, when clubs and Endeavor societies paraded. Attendances at all meetings lately have been encouraging. Mr. Gavros has commenced second year of ministry. Whilst he was on holidays Mr. Sheehan spoke both morning and evening on April 21, and Mr. Moroney was speaker at both meetings on April 28. Several letters of appreciation have been received by secretary (J. R. Petrie) from those in England who have received food parcels from church. Members are pleased to hear that Bob Morton is improving after recent accident.

Boronia.—Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, from Malvern-Caulfield; Mr. and Mrs. Smith and Ken Smith, from Balwyn, have been welcomed into membership. Activities amongst youth include 1st and 2nd degree Good Companions and 1st degree Explorers recently formed. Congratulations are extended to Harold Page and his bride. An offering of £14/10/- was made for youth. Mr. and Mrs. Cyril Finger were presented with dinner set on return from their honeymoon.

Preston.—Inspiring services were held on May 9. J.C.E. society distributed white flowers in remembrance of Mother's Day, and at morning service an appropriate address was given by Mr. Searle. At night a youth service was conducted, at which Mr. Searle was assisted by members of K.S.P. and P.B.P. clubs, who also formed a youth choir. Church choir also sang an anthem. On May 10, Mr. Wignall, representing Burwood Boys' Home, gave an interesting talk to Men's Society. Mrs. Grigg, an aged member, recently passed away after an illness of some months. Women's Fellowship had an enjoyable birthday afternoon on May 12.

Malvern-Caulfield.—Mr. Cole, the preacher, is slowly improving in health. Mr. Saunders, preacher at Bambra-rd., gave address on morning of May 23. Women's Mission Band has been well attended of late. Mrs. Gerrard and Mrs. Clark are both missed while in hospital. A "back to childhood" evening recently arranged by women's department was a great success. Phi Betas entertained mothers at a social evening. Sunday school, which has been held in morning for past six months, has proved a success. A Good Companions' Club, 2nd degree, has commenced. Church regrets recent passing of Mrs. Stevenson. Bible class has a total of 20 members, 15 being active members. Since Mr. Coles' illness, Bible class has been under leadership of Mr. Braden. Visiting speakers to Bible class have come from churches in other districts. Mr. Eames presided at midweek prayer meeting on May 18, and Mrs. Jefferies spoke. Dr. Hinrichsen preached on evening of May 23.

Wangaratta.—Church enjoyed the visit of Mr. Hindman (B. & F. Bible Society), who gave an interesting address on work of society. Mother's Day services were well attended, special addresses being given by Mr. Wakefield. In evening some youth of church took part, and girls' choir sang. Mrs. Aubrey Jackel sang a solo, Gloria Sinclair read a poem, and Gladys Ashmead recited 23rd Psalm. At early morning young folk delivered buttonholes throughout town and to patients in local hospital. Monday night mothers of church and school were entertained by Y.P.C.E., J.C.E. and Boys' Club, under leadership of Mrs. J. Macintosh. Bible school held a successful social during month as a climax to recent competition held in school. Mrs. E. Kershaw is an inmate at hospital again, and is very sick. Annual meeting and election of diocese was held on May 12. Those elected were: Elder, J. Campbell; deacons, Messrs. Ivan and Kevin Jackel, Eric Payne, B. Hessey, E. Kershaw; deaconesses, Mesdames J. Campbell, Lloyd Jackel, A. Franks; Bible school superintendent, A. Franks; J.C.E. superintendent, Miss Florence Green; organists, A. Franks and Mrs. Scott-Brown. A compact report was given by Mr. Wakefield during meeting. Over a thousand visits were paid to homes and hospital. He also cycles to South Wangaratta State school each week, a distance of eight miles. Mr. Wakefield is in charge of Explorers' Club along with other auxiliaries of church. Other reports of auxiliaries were interesting. All are successful and show advances in work among youth of church. A special meeting was called and passed a new constitution for church. Mrs. J. Macintosh has gone home again after operation in hospital.

Boort.—Mr. Quayle has commenced his ministry, and has given fine addresses. He is working Boort in circuit of Wedderburn, St. Arnaud, Pyramid Hill and Boort. Messrs. Streader, Lanyon and Dyer are giving much help in preaching on Sundays Mr. Quayle is at other churches of circuit. Kelvin Dyer and his bride, who are now living in Boort, have been welcomed. Midweek prayer Bible study meetings have been resumed. Bible school has had some appreciative letters from members of British churches for food parcels received.

Kaniva.—On May 18, Women's Mission Band celebrated 21st birthday in splendid manner. A service was conducted in afternoon, when 72 women attended, and a youth service in evening, when about 65 attended. Mrs. Nance-Kivell was speaker and thrilled with elocutionary items, with her interesting talks, and with her Christian witness. She addressed women on women in service, and youth gathering on our churches among the people of U.S.A. During afternoon a talk on starting of Kaniva Mission Band, and what it has been doing through the years, interested all. Cutting the cake made and decorated by Mrs. Wheaton was a great moment. They were more than successful in their aim to raise £25 in gifts on this birthday with which to purchase needy equipment for New Hebrides hospital.

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Western Australia

Maylands.—On morning of May 2, Mr. Hillier, from Victoria Park, was speaker; Mr. McRoberts preached at night. On May 9 Mr. McRoberts spoke morning and evening. In afternoon, Mother's Day was observed. Kinders and older scholars contributed items. Cradle roll cards were distributed and a buttonhole to each mother. Oldest mother and mother with youngest baby present received bouquets. Mr. Greenwood addressed children. S.S. increase and attendance campaign showed 89 per cent. that day. On May 11, mothers were entertained by Youth Council. Each auxiliary presented an item. Competition and supper followed. The hall was packed to capacity. Mr. McRoberts has accepted church's invitation for another three years of service. All auxiliaries are operating satisfactorily and increasing in attendance. On May 16 community night was observed after church service, and plans were discussed for building a new chapel.

Subiaco.—Dr. C. Fortune addressed Men's Fellowship on April 29. Ladies' Aid held special afternoon in manse on April 21, proceeds to help clothe "adopted" native mission child. Girls' Club presented splendid sacred concert on April 27. Youth service, May 2, was preceded by students' tea. S. F. Davey, youth director, spoke and afterwards assisted gospel service. There was a large gathering for Mother's Day, gospel and Bible school services. F. J. Stephenson spoke to the children. Three baptismal services were held in April; seven young people were received into fellowship; there were three more decisions at Anzac Day service. Young Worshipers' League commenced with over 30 members. Loyal Temperance Band of Hope has made good start. Tennis club has completed a good season and is now considering indoor sport. Visiting preachers during recent weeks have been H. E. Greenwood, W. Paget and R. H. Hillier. On May 20, family night, cottage gatherings devotional and social were held in nine homes in district. Members still unable to attend meetings are Mrs. Hugo, sen., Mrs. Etheridge, and Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson, sen. Mrs. Carpenter is making progress after operation. A. G. Elliot continues to preach earnest, thoughtful sermons. Gospel services in April averaged 133, an increase over those of March.

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Queensland

Wynnum.—Bible school held successful picnic at Lindum on Labor Day. Appropriate services were held on Mother's Day. Fellowship is being enjoyed with Mrs. Blair, of Wingham, N.S.W. Recent visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. Kath, of Rockdale, N.S.W. Arrangements have been made to allow W. Giezendanner to give one day each week in interests of Home Mission Committee.

Charters Towers.—Mr. Hawkins, of the Bible Society of Australia, gave a brief address at evening service on May 2. An enjoyable evening was spent when Bible school and club presented a concert for mothers on May 7. Appropriate addresses on Mother's Day were given by F. Hammond in morning and Mr. Richter at night. School hall and chapel were decorated for both occasions. Townsville and Charters Towers Bible schools have planned to combine this year for annual picnic to be held in June at Haughton Valley.

Rockhampton.—During Anzac week-end, fellowship was enjoyed with a band of young people from Mackay church, including the preacher, J. B. Grant, who spoke Sunday evening. A duet by Mr. Grant and Brice Nielsen, and an anthem by the group, were appreciated. The young people were entertained for three days by Christian Youth Fellowship. Youth Sunday was observed on May 9 in conjunction with Mother's Day. Christian Youth Fellowship conducted whole of morning service, with exhortation by F. C. Holmes, their leader, and young people participated in gospel service, G. T. Millar preaching. Attendances at Lord's day services keep up well. Monthly gospel meetings on a week night have been commenced at Moongan in addition to regular Sunday services for breaking of bread twice each month. Mr. Millar has also commenced monthly gospel meetings at Theodore. Bible school picnic, postponed from Labor Day on account of rain, was held successfully following Saturday. Bible school had three new scholars on May 16. Jean Watson and Harold Nelson were married on May 15, G. T. Millar officiating.

South Australia

Stirling East.—On May 2, Bible school held anniversary services, all meetings being well attended. W. Beiler spoke morning and afternoon, and Mr. Cain at night. It is hoped that efficiency campaign will increase attendance. Church services are well attended, those who have helped with preaching being C. P. Hughes (S.A. Temperance Alliance), J. Hemer, F. Halleday and R. Knight.

Edwardstown West.—P. R. Baker, who commenced his ministry with church on May 2, was tendered a welcome social on May 13. Welcomes to Mr. and Mrs. Baker, spoken by auxiliaries and church, were interspersed with games and musical items. Supper completed an enjoyable evening. Question box at night has proved a bright feature, and with a song service commencing at 6.50, services are attracting good attendances.

Kadina.—On May 9, in keeping with Youth Week, addresses were given by S. R. Trenwith and G. Rootes. Y.P.S.C.E. conducted a mothers' meeting on May 11, when a number of mothers were present and enjoyed an address by Adj. Krocnert, of Salvation Army, after which all were entertained to supper. A well-attended Bible school social was held on May 13. On May 16, church was pleased to have fellowship with three isolated members—Mr. and Mrs. A. Curnow and Mrs. Stenning.

York.—On morning of May 2 W. Heath gave an address in connection with work of Youth Department. On May 8 a mothers' tea was conducted by Intermediate Endeavorers, about 40 being present. This was followed by a social, and a large number enjoyed a happy time. Morning service on May 9 was well attended, and at kindergarten mothers' afternoon 26 mothers were present. Young people

took part in evening service and choir brought special singing. Mrs. R. Gates has broken a bone in her foot, and is greatly inconvenienced. S. Francis is still in hospital, but hopes soon to go to convalescent home.

Fullarton.—On May 16, J. G. Bridgman gave a helpful address to church. Evening service commenced at 6.30, and will continue during course of Hyman Appelmann mission in city. Speaker was Walter Michell, of C.I.M.; he gave an informative missionary address. Church was saddened by passing of J. Suttle, and loved ones are commended to the God of all comfort. Arrangements have been completed for exchange of preachers at S.A. conference time in September. J. K. Bond, of Springvale, Vic., will come to Fullarton, and B. W. Manning will fill his place at Springvale for a fortnight.

Kilburn.—A good number of children and adults combined with Methodist to form Band of Hope on May 10. F. Collins was elected president. Church officers appointed F. Lawrence secretary and A. Mackenzie assistant secretary of newly-formed Boys' Life Brigade to aid Keith Caldicott who is leader. Mr. Black, of Dulwich, is thanked for gift of a gramophone. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school on May 16 was 101, including a new scholar. J. Manning conducted 11 a.m. service, when 23 adults and 48 young worshippers enjoyed excellent addresses by F. Collins. At conclusion of 7 p.m. gospel service, those present travelled to Prospect and witnessed F. Collins baptize Airdrie Mann—a Bible school scholar. Church urgently needs a piano.

Murray Bridge.—On May 1 a 'bus load of young people from church travelled to Mount Lofty, met train bringing folk from Adelaide, and were joined also by small groups from other towns. With Gordon Stirling as leader, all hiked to Aldgate and had tea on Aldgate Oval. Afterwards an interesting time was spent watching talkie films, and a more serious note was introduced by two young men giving short impromptu addresses as to what Christ would say to to-day's youth. Mr. Stirling's earnest talk concluded a happy and profitable meeting. On evening of May 2, Mr. Kingston gave a youth address, and Youth Week was brought to a close by special services on Mother's Day. Mr. Kingston spoke in morning, and in afternoon kindergarten held a meeting with mothers of children. This was followed by a mother and daughter tea, in vestry, at which Mrs. Green, president of Women's Conference, gave an interesting talk. Mrs. Kingston sang a solo. Tea was followed by singing, and after a song service in chapel, the service was taken by church mothers. Mrs. Green gave an excellent address.

Berri-Winkie-Moorook Circuit.—Ministry of R. W. Marshall continues well. His addresses are challenging. Decision of one young lady for Christ during month was followed by that of a married woman at a recent gospel service at Berri. Youth Council is helping to direct activities of departments. A delegation (Mrs. J. Searle, representing C.E.; W. A. Hunt, church officers and Bible school; Alan Chapple, youth council) went to city to attend S.A. youth conference, much help and enthusiasm being gained. 34th anniversary of work at Berri is being celebrated this month. Present membership, while not so large, is facing commitments to Church Extension Building Fund and Home Mission Committee well. Greatest "debt" at present is one of gratitude to those departments for past help. No subsidy is now being received. Circuit is again self-supporting, and long-standing debt on church and manse has been reduced to less than half original debt. Youth Week was observed on May 2 and 9. Young ladies' choir assisted on May 9, and young men assisted Mr. Marshall in service. At a youth rally at Berri on May 4, over 80 young people were addressed by R. Ballard (Congregational), of Renmark. Despite inclement weather and failure of electricity, 20 young people, in company of Mr. Woods (Congregational) attended also from Barmera. Winkie youth group pre-

sented a drama. Among visitors to have fellowship at Berri and Winkie have been Mr. Phelps and son Des, of Dandenong, Vic. Ray Ewers' address at Winkie on May 9 was well received. Mr. Selly is at military hospital, Adelaide.

Nailsworth.—Mrs. Lennox, of Bolivian Indian Mission, recently addressed prayer meeting, and following week a film dealing with work of teachers was shown. After-church singing has recommenced for winter months with large attendance. Mother's Day was observed with special addresses, and in afternoon beginners' and kindergarten departments of school held a special session attended by mothers. The same afternoon a tea was held, Mrs. Mills, of Brisbane, being speaker. On May 10, C.E. paid a surprise visit to one of the church homes for a prayer meeting. On May 11, men of church held a successful Men's Fellowship, when several important matters were discussed by group conferences and men of church rendered an enjoyable programme. Evening concluded with a still film on community work and a coffee and biscuit supper. A Shipway, recently of Glenelg, has been welcomed into fellowship.

Forestville.—Special meetings during Youth Week were well attended. On Youth Sunday Keith Ewers addressed church in morning. A fellowship tea was held at 5 p.m., and a group of young men conducted evening service. Harold Steward spoke, and a male quartette party rendered musical items. Mother's Day brought excellent meetings all day, and choir provided special items in song. On May 16 J. Wiltshire gave the address at morning service. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. W. A. Russell and Ron Harper in sudden home-call of their fathers, also to E. J. Killmer, who is in Adelaide Hospital. A social was tendered to several esteemed members, and suitable presentations were made—to W. R. C. Bell for his untiring service as secretary for seven years, and to Jim Davis, who has been an officer for 17 years. Both have now retired from office. Mr. and Mrs. Tom McIntyre and Betty Lonnen were recipients of gifts on occasion of their recent marriages.

Flinders Park.—Church officers and some of the young people made a house-to-house visitation of district in April in connection with "second coming" meetings on April 4, 11 and 18, when one young lady confessed Christ. During April Mrs. Green spoke on behalf of aborigines department. G. Stirling visited Young People's Society on behalf of Youth Department. He outlined happy hours campaign to be held in June. During Anzac week-end a camp was held at Nairne for young people of church; an enjoyable time was spent by the 20 who attended. Mr. and Mrs. G. Houston worked hard to make the camp a great success. Basketball court has been completed, first match being played on May 8. Excellent work is being done by Sister W. Webb among junior Endeavorers. Bible school attendance is very good. On May 8 a social was given to mothers by young people of church; 31 attended. May 9 was combined Mother's Day and youth services. 41 attended breaking of bread, Mr. McLean giving a helpful address. In afternoon each auxiliary of church gave an item; 108 were present; Mr. Fisher, of Cowandilla, gave an interesting talk. At night a choir of ladies of church gave appropriate items; some girls and boys sang choruses; 39 attended; Mr. McLean gave a fine address.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Meetings on May 9 (Mother's Day) were well attended. At morning service W. Beiler gave the exhortation. In evening two young girls from Bible school were baptised. Mr. Beiler welcomed J. Wiltshire, who spoke briefly about the united campaign with Dr. H. Appelmann, and gave

gospel message. Choir rendered helpful music. On Monday night, young people of Bible school were entertained by school officers and teachers at a social concluding with pasty supper. On Tuesday night church officers and men of Y.P.S.C.E. entertained mothers and daughters of church. A helpful, pleasant evening was spent. The men provided supper. On Wednesday evening, prayer fellowship and Bible study was conducted by W. Beiler. J. Wiltshire gave a talk, seeking co-operation of members in the mission. On Thursday afternoon, ladies' Dorcas Society held annual meeting. There was a good attendance of members and visitors, who were delighted with the musical items and the address of Sister Clarkson. Annual report showed members had been very active in their ministry on behalf of others. On morning of May 16, Mr. Beiler was speaker. Evening meeting was shortened to allow congregation to attend united campaign in Tivoli Theatre. Mr. Beiler's address and the singing of choir were inspirational.

Tasmania

Nubeena.—Sunshine class has been reorganised. President, Mrs. Street, conducts meetings which are held monthly. Goods have been collected for boys at Bethany Home; literature and flowers sent to local hospital. It was decided to raise funds to help with manse which is being built for minister.

New South Wales

Mosman.—On Mother's Day chapel was decorated beautifully with white flowers. In morning A. Hinrichsen gave an appropriate address. Evening service was conducted by Mr. Acland, and Glen Brown, shortly to go to New Zealand, gave the address. During service a posy of flowers was given oldest and youngest mothers present. Choir gave appropriate messages in song. During afternoon, mothers of Bible school, and Young People's Club, were entertained at tea, and then stayed to evening service. On May 16 J. L. Stimson exhorted church; Mr. Acland preached at night.

Marrickville.—Local college students were guests of Bible class at monthly tea on May 2, messages in song being given by Hazel Shepherd and Audrey Dash, and short talks by Norman Martin and Ross Rugendyke. R. Greenhalgh was speaker at morning service and P. E. Thomas in evening. Kindergarten and cradle roll had good attendance of parents and friends at Mother's Day service on 9th. Mr. and Mrs. Goldstein (Melbourne), Mrs. G. Dash and Marcia Smith have recently been received into fellowship. During Mr. Thomas's absence on holidays, services have been taken by L. Reed (Kingsford), W. French (Hurstville), F. Button (Chatswood) and C. Rush (Lougheville). Visitors on 9th were Mr. and Mrs. Purnell, from Christchurch, N.Z.

Asquith.—During last month church enjoyed fellowship of Mrs. Blackburn and Sister Callagher, together with 17 boys from Dunmore House. Interesting musical items from the boys and informative and inspirational talk from the matron, Mrs. Blackburn, gave food for thought and subject for prayer in connection with this brotherhood enterprise. Addresses by F. Button, A. Surtess and J. C. Thompson have been appreciated. E. C. Hinrichsen was with church for a week's special services. During this effort five men and two ladies made the good confession. Of these six have been immersed and joined the fellowship. Mother's Day services were well attended and concluded on May 10. Senior Bible school girls rendered items and gave gifts to each mother. At fortnightly "Pleasant Hour Class" a visit from women's Prayer Meeting Committee was encouraging and helpful. Young Men's Fellowship are commended for gospel songs rendered in evening services. Preparation is being made for cricket season, concerts being held to augment funds for equipment.

Taree.—Special campaign following 85th anniversary services, held each night after fellowship evening on May 8, concluded on evening of May 16. Church was encouraged by addresses of V. C. Stafford, of Melbourne, and members were helped to a firmer belief in gospel. Meeting organised for young people on evening of May 14 was well supported, Oslo film and movie pictures of young people's camps in Victoria being instructive. Church is united in thanks to Board of Christian Education for releasing Mr. Stafford for a happy occasion. Anniversary offering was £104/10/-. Church regrets passing of S. W. Gardner, of Comboyne, on May 8. Although isolated, he was ever ready to advance the things of the kingdom. By word and deed he proclaimed to all his associates a living faith in God.

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GOLDEN WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Langley, of Montrose church, Vic., have pleasure in announcing the celebration of the Golden Jubilee of their marriage on Tuesday, May 25, 1948. They were married by Mr. G. H. Brown at Galaquil, Victoria, on May 25, 1898. Present address, Kilsyth P.O., Victoria.

THANKS

Mrs. E. Miles, son and daughters wish to express their deep appreciation and acknowledge with gratitude the comforting expressions of sympathy tendered to them at the time of their sad bereavement.

IN MEMORIAM

BELL.—In remembrance of Mr. E. Bell, who passed peacefully away on May 21, 1947.

"Asleep in Jesus, blessed sleep,
From which none ever wake to weep."

—Inserted by J. Jenkins.

SULLIVAN.—In loving memory Mrs. C. Sullivan, who passed away on May 31, 1947. Ever remembered.

—Inserted by Newmarket church of Christ.

WANTED

Copy of book, "Debate Between Campbell and Purcell." Reply to F. Braden, 283a Burnley-st., Burnley.

Young man requires board and lodging in Brunswick-Coburg district. Ring E. J. Miles, FW4082.

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.

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.

JUNE 4.—Women's Conference Executive will meet at Swanston-st. on Friday, June 4, 2 p.m. Leader of devotions, Mrs. Rowbottom, of North Essendon. Miss I. Gill will open discussion on "Young Married Women's Groups."

THORNBURY 27th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY,
JUNE 6.

11 a.m., Every-member-present Service.
Thankoffering.

Speakers, 11 a.m., Mr. A. W. Stephenson, M.A.
7 p.m., Mr. Keith Jones.

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.

ORMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST,
23rd ANNIVERSARY,
JUNE 6.

11 a.m., Mr. J. K. Martin.

3 p.m., Major Moore.

7 p.m., Mr. A. E. Hurren.

Past members cordially invited.

Meals provided.

Phone Mr. Martin, UL5727, or contact secretary,
72 Leila-rd., S.E.9.

BENTLEIGH CHURCH OF CHRIST
ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.
JUNE 6.

11 a.m., Worship Service. 7 p.m., Gospel Service.

Past members cordially invited to be present.

Hospitality provided.

Ring C. Dahl, secretary, XU2219.

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 Tameness."

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
HOME COMING SERVICES,
JUNE 27.

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

The Australian Christian

May 25, 1948

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Drumcondra.—Ladies of church held an American afternoon at home of Mrs. Meyers on May 12, raising £13. Men are painting chapel. Five lads from S.S. confessed Christ on Youth Sunday during Decision Day in Sunday school. Boys' and a girls' club are planning to commence on May 27 under leadership of Cliff Barker and Betty Russell.

Surrey Hills.—Stirring addresses by H. Earle and increasingly large congregations have marked recent services. On May 2, at quarterly youth tea, K. A. Jones gave a fine talk. Fund for proposed new organ to be donated by youth of church is growing. Newly-formed young women's Christian fellowship has started well. Football and tennis teams continue to do well.

Collingwood.—On April 25 there were good attendances at both services. Speakers were from College of Bible (H. Waghmode and J. Chivell). At evening service on May 9 a splendid address was given by Mr. Bartholomew for Mother's Day and Youth Day. Mothers and youth were both well represented in numbers. Working bees are improving chapel, etc. Girls' club and boys' club are still improving.

Warragul.—C. Jackel is endeavoring to arouse interest in evangelism, and at night is dealing with prophetic messages. For this purpose a large chart has been put up in chapel and the addresses are proving helpful and inspiring. 1300 folders have been distributed, and special advertising is being done to create interest in district. C.E. Society is doing good work. Young people are being greatly helped in their spiritual life by Mr. Jackel. On May 9 and 16 young people led evening services in fine manner. F. Robertson has been baptised and received into church. A pleasant social evening was held in honor of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Pedersen on occasion of their silver wedding. E. J. Waters, who was officiating minister at their marriage, made a presentation on behalf of church.

Horsham.—At gospel meeting on April 11, a married woman confessed Christ, and was baptised same hour. A married man also came forward for re consecration. Annual meeting was held on April 15, and all reports presented showed progress. On April 6 Mary Smith was married to Reg. Hoffmann, G. M. Mathieson officiating. On May 2 C. E. Curtis, of Hamilton, was speaker at both services, and gave appropriate and helpful addresses. On May 9, youth of church conducted whole of morning service. At night a number took part; Miss M. Smith conducted service, and G. M. Mathieson gave an appropriate address. On May 16 F. J. Sheriff addressed church in morning. G. M. Mathieson made reference to vital Protestantism at evening service.

Essendon.—On May 2 Bible school anniversary services commenced. Children sang well under C. Ferguson. Kinders were presented with prizes, after interesting talk by Mr. Flemming. Mr. McIlhagger gave children's talk in evening. On May 6, P.B.P. and K.S.P. clubs gave mothers a social evening. Cricketers held a banquet in school hall on May 8. Over 110 sat to beautifully prepared tables. Presentation of trophies took place. On May 9 anniversary services continued afternoon and evening. Speakers were W. Northey and L. Brooker. Bible school scholars were presented with prizes and certificates in afternoon. Mrs. Pettigrove was speaker at Ladies' Mission Band on May 13; she gave an interesting talk on hospital visitation. On May 15, 17 men journeyed to Monbulk to assist in a working bee around camp. At morning service on May 16, Y.W.L. members were presented with prizes for attendance, this marking close of two years since forming. Mr. McIlhagger delivered evening address. A collection for food appeal was taken. Fred Strack is home from hospital, having undergone operation for appendicitis. Mrs. Glover, sen., is absent from meetings through illness.

How Can We Serve God Best?

(A STUDY ON THE EPISTLE OF JAMES.)

By L. C. Yelds, Bexley North, N.S.W.

"Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matt. 7: 21).

IS there one of us who has not thought at some time or other that we are not getting the best out of our Christian service? Is it possible for us to improve our service? Can we make it worthy of our stewardship? How best can we serve God?

Such questions that arise in our minds and perplex us at various intervals are answered by a brief study of James' Epistle which reveals four ways of Christian service.

WE CAN SERVE HIM BEST

1. **Through Our Trials.** (a) Temptations and trials beset every church member. Some have greater tests than others (Jas. 1: 14). Remember Job's afflictions and Paul's thorn in the flesh—the messenger of Satan to buffet him. (b) Count it all joy to be tempted (Jas. 1: 2). Moffatt translates it this way, "Greet it as pure joy, my brothers, when you encounter any sort of trial." Inside a soldier's heart there is some sort of exultation when he enters into battle; should we not "count it as joy" to fight the influences of evil. We fight not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers . . . even Satan himself. (c) Blessed is the man that endureth temptations (Jas. 1: 12) "for when he has stood the test he will gain the crown of life" (Moffatt).

2. **Through Our Prayers.** (a) Ye ask and receive not because ye ask amiss (Jas. 4: 3). Let our prayers be the requests of an obedient son to a loving Father; not selfish ones! (b) Ask in faith nothing wavering (Jas. 1: 6). Recall the incident of the widow and the unjust judge. (c) The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much (Jas. 5: 16). If we expect to serve God more fully we should expect answers to all our prayers if they are from the heart, and our lives are consistent with the requests.

3. **Through Our Witness.** (a) Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only (Jas. 1: 22, 23). The faith that serves is the faith that saves. (b) "Him that knoweth to do good and doeth it not, to him it is sin (Jas.

4: 17). He that seeth his brother in need and helps him not, has not the love of God in his heart for (c) Faith without works is dead (Jas. 2: 14-17). The Lord Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye did it not to them, ye did it not unto me."

4. **Through Our Lives.** (a) Humble yourselves in the sight of God and he shall lift you up (Jas. 4: 10). Let us, too, be meek and lowly of heart, not seeking praise of men, but only to serve him. (b) Draw nigh to God (Jas. 4: 8). Meditation on his word is the only way in which we can really draw nigh to the Saviour. (c) Submit yourselves to God (Jas. 4: 7). Present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is a reasonable service.

Yes, we can serve him best through the trials we endure, by constant prayer, in faithful witness and through a surrendered life.



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The Australian Christian

Obituary

Annie Watson Holland

MRS. HOLLAND made her decision for Christ under the preaching of Fred. M. Ludbrook, and remained in fellowship with the church at Brighton, Vic., for fifty years. Our sister passed to her reward on Sunday, Mar. 14, at the age of 88 years. Her cottage home and possessions she left in trust with the church at Brighton to be used as a home for members of the church, and will be known as "The Holland Cottage." In her younger days Mrs. Holland was very active in the work of the church, and for a time conducted a kindergarten school in her own home.—T. R. Morris.

Mrs. E. J. Hosking

AT the advanced age of 81 years, Mrs. E. J. Hosking passed to be with Christ on May 6, 1948. Her association with churches of Christ began 40 years ago when she entered into the fellowship of the Brunswick (Vic.) congregation. In 1925 she transferred to Northcote church, where it was the privilege of the writer to minister to her from 1931 to 1936, and come to know and appreciate her as a true servant and saint of God—a Christian gentlewoman indeed. Removing to Elsternwick in 1936 Mrs. Hosking transferred her membership to Bambra-rd., Caulfield, and it was a further privilege and joy to the writer to renew fellowship with her on entering into a ministry with that church in September, 1947. Mrs. Hosking loved dearly the Lord, his table and his house, and was present on every possible occasion, despite a physical disability which made travel most difficult. Her life was not without its shadows. She suffered the loss of her life's partner in 1916 and in 1935 was bereft of her youngest son, Ernest, following a tragic and most painful accident. Through all, however, her faith shone undimmed. Some few months ago Mrs. Hosking entered hospital for specialised treatment. This proved protracted, exhausting and, at times, painful, but was borne with Christian patience, fortitude and resignation, which witnessed to the all-sufficiency of Christ for her every time of need. Following her entrance into eternal rest her mortal remains were interred in Fawkner cemetery after a service in the Bambra-rd. chapel. To her daughter Elsie, who unselfishly gave herself to the care of her mother, her sons, Aubrey, Sidney and Herbert, and all other relatives, Christian consolation is tendered. They will joy for the victory into which their loved one has entered, and will wait with confident hope until "the day dawns and the shadows flee away."—W.W.S.

A. E. Miles

ALBERT EDWARD MILES accepted Christ as his personal Saviour at South Yarra in December, 1917. He was immersed in February, 1918, and was received into the fellowship of the South Yarra (Vic.) church. The following year residence was taken up at Hampton, and Mr. and Mrs. Miles and family fellowshiped with the church then meeting in Hampton Hall. In due course Mr. Miles became a deacon, and was serving in that capacity when the present building was opened 25 years ago. The family moved to Brighton for a short period and then to Caulfield in 1926, when their association with Bambra-rd., Caulfield, began. Throughout the years Mr. Miles proved a loyal, devoted and consistent church member. He long served as a deacon at Bambra-rd. In addition, his keen interest in the work was shown by his regular attendance at the Lord's Table, his ready fulfillment of Christian responsibilities and duties, and his willingness to serve in any sphere. He was ever one of the first to respond to calls for working bees. The sincerity and effectiveness of his life and witness for Christ at home, as well as in the church, are evidenced by the fact that all Mr. Miles' children are

active members of the church—one a minister's wife and another a deacon. As a result of heart trouble, Mr. Miles' health had not been good for some years. On April 29, 1948, he suffered a severe heart attack from which he died on Sunday, May 2, at the age of 74 years. He was present on Sunday, April 25, in the Lord's house, and the next Sunday was "present with the Lord." The brotherhood has suffered the loss of a staunch "disciple," and the cause at Bambra-rd. will be the poorer as a result of his home-call. Funeral services were conducted in the chapel and at Kew cemetery on May 3, when fitting tribute was paid to the life and work of one whose discipleship was characterised by strength of conviction and faithfulness. His wife and children and other dear ones are commended to the God of all comfort.—W.W.S.

FREMANTLE'S CHALLENGE TO BROTHERHOOD

EARLY in 1945 a young woman, Miss Kathleen Taylor, a member of the local church serving as a teacher in the Government Education Department, said farewell to the church at Fremantle, W.A., to go to the Indian mission field under the auspices of the Federal Overseas Mission Board of the churches of Christ in Australia.

The church at Fremantle, stirred by this sacrifice of one of its young and capable members, accepted the responsibility of having Miss Taylor as its "living link" with the overseas mission work, and promised to contribute £100 a year towards the cost of her upkeep.

In the three years that have passed since taking up the challenge, the church at Fremantle, by either annual gifts or through a simple system of monthly envelopes, has raised £409, thus exceeding its promise by £109, making the effort equal to an average of £136 per year.

This has been done, almost in its entirety, by direct giving on the part of the membership. The official board of the church gave the "living link" committee the right to appeal for an offering on Easter Sunday of each year to complete its quota, if needed, but no exercise of this privilege has yet been made.

With such a creditable chapter in its history, the church at Fremantle should, surely, like Paul of old, "thank God and take courage."—O. Fieldus.

A GREEK WORD

THE study of the Greek words of the New Testament is both fascinating and enriching. What light God makes to shine forth in a single term! Writing to the Galatians, Paul says, "O foolish Galatians, who did bewitch you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was openly set forth crucified (prographē)" (Gal. 3: 1). We know from a study of the papyri that this Greek word was used in reference to the custom of posting up a public announcement. For instance, a father announced that a public proclamation be set up regarding his son's debt.

What is the significance of this luminous word? Paul was sorely troubled because his converts had relapsed into Jewish legalism. He cannot understand how they had been bewitched, seeing that he had placarded Jesus Christ the crucified before their very eyes? If he were speaking to-day he would say: "Before whose very eyes I made the scenes of the cross as realistic as anything on a cinema film."

The point is this—here is a servant of God who has no confession to make about his neglect of the cross. His whole life, his general attitude and point of view, were such that people who saw him were bound to remark: "There goes a man who looks as if he had come straight from Calvary." How suffused his teaching was with the spirit of the cross!

Calvary was the lodestone of his life and the dynamic of his service. It was the secret spring of his unwearying devotion. The cross was brought into everything. Even talking about domestic relationships he says: "Husbands ought to love their wives, even as Christ loved the church and gave himself for it."

It is worth asking ourselves two questions: (1) Do we make the significance of Calvary real to those around us? (2) Are we seeking to apply the principles of the cross to the major problems of our time?—R. M. L. Waugh, "The Christian World."

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