

The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

What Shall Be Youth's Answer?



Christ's Call for Loyalty

The desperate physical and spiritual plight of millions and the hope of a New World Ahead are both symbolised in this painting, "Whom Shall I Send?" by Manning deV Lee, which has led thousands of young people to make Christian decisions.

"THE ONLY LORD OF THE WORLD"

AMERICA

Tragic Soil Erosion

IT is estimated that 500,000 acres of farm land is lost annually to production due to over-cropping, wind, and water erosion. With no new frontiers of farm land to open, this presents a most serious situation in the face of an ever increasing population. It is necessary to remember that every pound of milk, beef, pork, bread, butter, wool, or cotton are God-given elements that come from the earth's storehouse of soil fertility.

The all-wise Creator made provision for protecting the soil by admonishing man in Genesis 1: 28, "To be fruitful and multiply, and re-



"The Earth is the Lord's."

plenish the earth. . . ." Webster defines replenish as meaning, "To fill up again; fill or stock up in abundance."

A fertile soil is essential to health, happy homes, good schools, and churches that man may reach his highest development in giving service and adoration to his Maker because of the bountiful blessings that are his to enjoy.

An impoverished soil breeds hunger, disease and man's inability to think above the bestial—all of which add up to degeneracy and eventual national decay. In every case of recorded history, national decline had its start in man's rebellious and disobedient attitude toward the divine will of God. Both the farmer who is directly in custody of the soil and the consumer of the earth's bounties are jointly responsible for replenishing the earth that future generations may be able to have and enjoy.—"World Call."

FRANCE

Declaration of the Synod of the Reformed Church

THE synod of the Reformed Church of France, which met at Grenoble on May 29-31, is faced by a number of facts and calls in which—says the declaration—it thinks it can discern the voice of God.

"We think that the church must speak to the world about the problems of war and peace which are torturing so many consciences to-day. We share the distress of many French Christians in face of the colonial conflicts of our time. We are moved by profound distress when we think of the war which has just broken out in Palestine, at a time when the Jewish people—after so many centuries of persecution—are endeavoring to find fresh ways of life. We believe that the world assembly at Amsterdam will offer the churches an opportunity of talking together, and that this will be a grace and a call from God.

"In this situation we feel called upon to remember that the church awaits the final establishment of the kingdom of peace and love only through God, through the glorious return of Christ. We are also forced to remember that the preaching of the sole word of reconciliation—that of the cross of Christ—the witness of the sole absolute sovereignty—that of the living Christ—and the prophetic witness of the kingdom to come, can only be proclaimed in this world by concrete engagements."

GERMANY

Return of Prisoners from Russia

REPORTS that Russia intends to speed up return of prisoners of war to Germany to a rate of 100,000 a month in the near future have prompted an urgent appeal in their behalf by the Hilfswerk, German Protestant relief agency.

The Hilfswerk appeal, received by the Department of Reconstruction and Inter-Church Aid of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, pleaded for contributions of men's clothing, shoes, beds and bedding and food for the former P.O.W.'s.

"Already we are unable to meet the most urgent demands for clothing," the appeal said. "With sadness in our hearts we have to send away from our camps and homes thousands and thousands of returnees who are ragged and tattered, and whom we would have liked so much to help."

Clothing collections have been taken in the German churches for the returnees, but these are inadequate. "Therefore, we now apply to our friends and brethren abroad with this special request, and hope that, in face of the love which unites us and which already helped us so much in our activity, our appeal will be heard."

NETHERLANDS

A Church Message on Communism

THE General Synod of the Netherlands Reformed Church has issued a message on communism, which was read from all pulpits on Sunday, May 23. We quote the following:

"In the midst of the terrors of the war years the church stated in several messages that national socialist ideology is diametrically opposed to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"With equal clarity it must now be proclaimed that communism, as it is nowadays forced from Moscow upon the peoples and as its unscrupulous methods are revealed, is also a direct contradiction of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Those who are tempted by communism because they long for social justice should know that it is rooted in an absolutely objectionable doctrine according to which the human will and human action are entirely determined by social forces. As it manifests itself now, it demands complete commitment to human powers, which are not subjected to God, but which usurp his place in demonic pride. Its doctrines teach unrestrained violence.

"The church of the Reformation regards the choice between 'Moscow and Rome' as a temptation of this world. . . . But if the church

is to speak thus in obedience to the holy scriptures it must be made clear that Christians themselves have not heard the word of God in the right way and have not rendered a faithful witness to Jesus Christ, the only Head of the church and the only Lord of the world. Those who would call themselves Christian have reason to be deeply disturbed by the realisation that in communism outstanding debts are being presented to them. How many un-Christian teachings and actions are covered up by Christian phraseology! How much actual injustice has been taken for granted! How blinded we are by bourgeois conservatism! How great is the opposition to necessary social reforms! How often is the basis of the kingdom of God trampled upon: 'Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind and with all thy strength, and thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.' How little is the name of Christ openly confessed as the only name by which the world is judged and saved!

"We Christians have sinned in allowing the Bible, of which God gave us fresh understanding at the Reformation, to be pushed out of public life. Therefore we are responsible that the way has been opened for pagan ideologies.

"The appeal of Jesus Christ should therefore be heard in the churches again: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.' 'Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you.'"

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Religion and Religious Education

ON May 9, the new Czechoslovak constitution was proclaimed guaranteeing legal equality to all religious groups and the right to practise their religion freely, subject only to public order and good morality. Freedom of conscience is guaranteed. Everyone has the right to subscribe privately or publicly to any religious creed or to no religion. Everyone is free to carry on functions related to his religion or non-religion, provided that this is not abused for anti-religious purposes.

A new education law provides compulsory religious instruction in state schools for children from 6 to 15, unless parents object to such instruction. Religious education and its supervision is in the hands of church bodies, without encroaching upon the rights of the highest administrative authority of the Ministry of Education. In accordance with the proposal of the churches, the curriculum of religious education has been drawn up by the Ministry of Education in accordance with standards of civil and religious tolerance.

JAPAN

National Christian Council Re-organised

THE National Christian Council of Japan, which ceased to function shortly before the war, has been reorganised under the chairmanship of M. Kozaki, Moderator of the United Church of Christ in Japan. The council will comprise both church bodies and non-ecclesiastical organisations which "believe in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God, as set forth in the holy Bible." Already affiliated with the council are the United Church of Christ, the Anglican, Lutheran, Baptist and Nazarene churches, the Christian Education Association, the Y.M.C.A., the Y.W.C.A., and the W.C.T.U.

LOYALTY TO CHRIST

WHEN we sum up the truths set out in the life and practice of the New Testament churches, we find they add up to the Truth—Christ Jesus. If we are, indeed, members of churches of Christ, we are face to face with Christ. By entering the church, we do not come to measure up to a list of rules and regulations, not to say amen to creeds devised and expressed by man, but we come to the Person, Jesus Christ, the Lord. This means we are asked to give more than mental acknowledgment to Christian teachings: it demands of us the surrender of life to this new Lord.

From this Commander we have orders to obey, teachings to observe and an example to follow. If we are loyal to Christ, we shall be faithful in all three phases.

I.

WHAT orders have we to observe? Since we are disciples, we must obey the Master's request to go into all the world and make new disciples. The follower of Christ must be an evangelist. We have been called to be witnesses. Our primary duty when we find Jesus is to go to others and to tell them of this Saviour. Like Andrew, we must go to our Peter, and bring him to the Messiah. So often, in the past, we have failed to make clear that the Christian's greatest duty is to be an evangelist. Just as the early Christians went everywhere preaching the word, we must undertake the same task to-day if we are to be loyal to Christ.

We are requested to baptise, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, those who believe on Jesus. This baptism must represent the great events which achieved man's salvation, namely, the death and resurrection of Jesus. It must also set out the death of the sinner and his rising into a new life with Christ. This baptism must be, as Karl Barth has so clearly stated in his recent book, "The Teaching of the Church Regarding Baptism," immersion of believers in water. Because the church has failed to carry out this correct order and mode of Christian baptism, it has suffered. To heal this wound in the church, we must be loyal to Christ's marching orders and baptise believers, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

To disciples, Jesus made the request that they remember him in the breaking of the bread and in the drinking of the cup. By observing this feast Christians are made aware of their dependence upon Christ for salvation. The more we rely on Christ and the less on self, the stronger we become in service. Regular and loyal attendance at the communion service are obligations which cannot be ignored without dire consequence to our faith and life. Let us be loyal in our attendance at the Lord's Table!

II.

WHILE Jesus was among men, he taught them truths which make an immediate appeal to a good conscience. He urged men to be sincere, and not to be hypocritical. He taught them to think pure thoughts about others so that good deeds may be produced. He warned about the dangers of covetousness and of putting trust in material things. He pointed out how needful it is to love one's neighbor and to do good to those who hate us. By serving God with heart, mind and soul, and by loving one's neighbor as one's self, we may fulfil what is required of us. However, the flesh is so weak, we must be on our guard. In story, parable and precept the Master told of the need for watchfulness. None knows when God will say, "This night thy soul is required of thee." A warning has been given also that Christ will return suddenly, coming like a thief in the night. Since none knows the day

nor the hour, each must be watchful every moment, lest the Lord come and find him off guard. Loyal disciples will heed this teaching, and seek God's grace for the power to live to God's glory.

III.

CHRIST has not only set before us teachings to be observed; he has given us a life by which to pattern our own. "I have given you an example," he urged on one occasion. We must not "glamorise" this life of Christ. He faced real hardships. While the foxes had holes and the birds had nests, he had nowhere to lay his head. His life was devoted to others. He was a servant, yet he ruled men's hearts, not by power, but by love and unselfish devotion. He made himself Master by the beauty of life which gathered men and women into his circle of influence. For him they lived, suffered and died. These were the men and women who turned the "world upside down." They were ready to avoid any appearance of evil, sacrificing their own pleasures lest they cause another to stumble. Such loyalty to Christ hurt, but it gained victory.

We plead for no formal return to New Testament Christianity, but for a return to the loyalty which gave pre-eminence to Christ's commands, teachings and example. When this loyalty is recaptured, we shall have no need for a "Crusade for a Christian World"; we shall have the dynamic that will make us victorious without the aid of special watchwords. We shall be crusaders because the love of Christ constrains us to yield all we have to him.



August Conferences Overseas

AUGUST is marked as a month of conferences. Each year our British brethren hold a conference of church delegates at this time. Because of the gathering of representatives for the World Conference at Amsterdam, there will be visitors from the United States of America and Canada in fellowship with the British brethren at Chester. During recent years churches of Christ in Great Britain have suffered like many religious communions. Little progressive evangelism has been undertaken, and there has been a falling away in membership.

Since Australian churches have been sending food parcels to their brethren of like faith in the "motherland," a closer bond of fellowship has been developed. We trust this will continue. We also hope that more favorable days will come to churches of Christ in Great Britain.

In Poland, at Warsaw, from August 13-15, there is to be a convention of churches of Christ. Jesse Bader is to be present with these brave and loyal people. During the war and immediately following, our brethren suffered great hardships because of the scarcity of food and clothing. We have asked Dr. Bader to convey the greetings of Australian churches of Christ to these brethren in conference. Dr. Bader is to send us a full report of this visit. This we hope to publish as soon as it comes to hand.

At the end of August the World Conference of churches will be meeting at Amsterdam. Since it will be a gathering without legislative authority and will become merely an advisory body, largely on social questions, it will leave much work to be achieved for the restoring of Christian unity. However, if goodwill can be developed around the world by this conference, it will help to ensure the establishment of better relationships among peoples and bring the day of universal peace nearer.

EVANGELISM — At Home and Abroad

The First Year on Pentecost

★ Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith, who have been on Pentecost for one year, report on year of steady progress.

ALL was virgin bush when Mr. and Mrs. Smith arrived, and their humble home was a native house which the people had built for them. During the winds or the rains, the roof either lifted or let the water through. Later an American Army hut was secured, and a more lasting home was the result. The bush was cleared and a medicine house, a small house built for maternity cases, a larger room for (general) inpatients and a small room for the



Pentecost Dispensary.

Three thousand treatments were given here during the past year by our resident missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith. Injections for yaws and other complaints now reach seventy per week.

isolation of infectious cases, native staff quarters were built.

As "necessity is the mother of invention" and water being a necessity, bamboos were split and used as conduit, and water from a spring half a mile back in the hills brought to the mission house. Such a water system needs careful watching, but it is easier to keep an eye on the flow than carry the water.

Evangelistic

Most of the churches have been visited at least once, and the enthusiasm of Christians can be judged from the fact that five new churches have been opened. A pleasing feature of these new buildings is the trouble and labor expended by the people to erect worthy houses in which to worship God.

Six people were baptised at Christmas time. Whilst some of the newly-opened villages are close to heathen villages, it is anticipated that these heathen villages will be influenced too. Already, in one of those heathen villages, an old man and his two sons have made enquiry about the way of life, and a grandson is attending one of our village schools. Two boys of heathen parents are attending school at Ramatwat—the mission school.

Medical Work

In the New Hebrides medical needs are great, and to the shame of the British Government, less than £5000 a year is spent on health, whilst British missions spend £20,000. In contrast again, the French Government spend nearly £33,000, whilst French Roman Catholic missions spend so little that it is not recorded.

The need for such work on Pentecost is shown by the following figures:

Various types outpatients	3000
Those admitted for longer or shorter periods	108
Maternity cases	11
Weekly injections now average 70, and the hospital hut has never been empty since its erection.	

Work Amongst Women

Weekly meetings for women are held and proving very popular. At first the women were shy, but now eager and enthusiastic. Five of the younger women are now capable of leading the meetings, and some of the older women lead in prayer.

This is a big move forward, for most of the island women are used to being in the background, the women on Pentecost perhaps more so than those of other groups.—A. Anderson, secretary, F.M. Board, S.A.



Cumeragunga

CUMERAGUNGA is the name of a settlement on the N.S.W. bank of the River Murray. The Victorian town of Barmah is opposite. It is nearly 500 miles from Sydney, from which city it is governed. It is a lonely sort of place, and its selection as a reserve for aborigines seems to indicate a desire on the part of the government, not only to segregate them, but to forget them. "Out of sight, out of mind" might well apply.

The work of W. B. Payne, of Echuca, who has given voluntary service to these people over many years, and who was primarily responsible for establishing the church among them, attracted the attention of the Social Service Committee. The conditions under which they were living were appalling, and there is still room for much improvement. As many as up to 300 were crowded together in huts, which provided but primitive accommodation. Some huts were without flooring boards, with hessian walls, which offered poor resistance to cold and rain. Dogs and poultry had easy access. No baths were provided, and scabies and eye troubles were prevalent. A school, which offered up to a third grade standard of education, was supervised by a man and his wife. Owing to lack of roads and footpaths, and the muddy character of the soil, the scholars went barefooted. It was impossible to keep the school clean, and conditions generally approximated those of a primitive mission station. The nearest doctor was 14 miles away.

A Hospital

The Social Service Committee had co-operated with Mr. Payne for some years, and feeling a sense of responsibility for the welfare of the people, sponsored the erection of a four-bed hospital and nursing quarters. Miss V. Bryant, a fully-trained nurse, and also a graduate of the College of the Bible, became the first matron. Miss N. Friece, of the Surrey Hills church, a trainee, became Miss Bryant's associate, and a new era began for the station. The Aborigines' Board of Sydney, however, began to assert its authority and controlled both the hospital and staff; we had no alternative but to withdraw. This was perhaps the first piece of social service of any importance done by our department. The Aborigines' Board continued its supervision for only a brief period, and the buildings have been unoccupied since.

A "Back to Cumeragunga" occasion, under

presidency of Pastor Eddie Atkinson, who was baptised by Mr. Payne, and under supervision of Doug. Nicholls, evangelist to Fitzroy mission, brings the station under our notice. Hundreds of aborigines gathered from city and many country towns.

The programme opened with a grand welcome extended by the manager of the station and Mr. Austin, the school teacher. Talks were given by early pioneers and a picnic was held with a social evening in the school. On Sunday, June 13, at 9 o'clock, the people assembled in the old churchyard. After a brief service they made a pilgrimage to the cemetery where a commemoration service was held. Messrs. Atkinson and Nicholls delivered addresses on the subject, "We Will Remember Them." W. B. Payne addressed a P.S.A. gathering in afternoon on "The Unchanging Christ for a Changing Cumeragunga," and Mr. Austin conducted the evening service. Doug. Nicholls showed selected films of "The Life of Christ" at close. On Monday a sports day was held, more than 60 athletes taking part. A grand concert, in the Barmah hall, concluded the festival, Mooroonpa and Echuca district hospitals sharing the proceeds.

The promoters of the occasion are to be congratulated on the success achieved, but more particularly upon their giving the church the precedence in the proceedings, and the prestige which undoubtedly resulted.—Will. H. Clay.



Adventuring With Youth

LAST Christmas holidays S. E. Matthews, minister of Semaphore church, S.A., and G. Stirling, of Youth Department of S.A., conducted "Happy Hours" on Semaphore beach. Hundreds of children from all parts of State attended. Bible puppetry, flannelboard talks, choruses and building the story in the sand was the usual programme. Newspapers gave it publicity, and the Mayor of Port Adelaide visited the sessions and said a word of recommendation.

So successful were the gatherings that it was decided to carry on the meetings in the church of Christ hall, Semaphore, every Wednesday



A "Happy Hour" Session.

after school, 4.15 to 5 p.m. Meetings have continued for seven months with no diminishing of interest. The average attendance in the hall has been 60, with a record of 80 on July 14, 1948. Children of all religious bodies (Continued on opposite page.)

The Master Calls For Loyalty

ANY plan which aims to create greater loyalty to Christ deserves our full co-operation. Our Lord stressed the necessity for loyalty to himself. One of the tragedies of our materialistic age is that men are permitting their loyalties to become loose, confused and lax. Even Christians are apt to receive the gifts Christ bestows whilst forgetting that "we are Christ's," and that our first loyalty is to Christ. Too often we demand the right to please ourselves, yet in our serious moments, we come to realise that looseness of living does not bring happiness, but that it is our fixed loyalties that make life worth living. Life is enriched by the loyalty we give to a person we love, and to whom we promise faithfulness "till death us do part." "The abundant life" becomes ours when we say to Christ, "Not my will but thine be done"; when we yield completely to him as Lord, and permit him to direct daily our lives. Loyalty to Christ saves us from aimless living; it gives direction and meaning to life. When we fix our first loyalty to Christ it is easier to sort out the tangled strands of confusing lesser loyalties so that our lives develop Christian poise and balance.

I.

Loyalty to the local church. This comes at the centre of every Christian's life. For faith and obedience to Christ make us members of the church which is the body of Christ. That church, in its relation to us, is first of all the local congregation in the place where we live.

There are folks who claim that in religion their only loyalty is to Christ. For various reasons they fail to meet their obligations in the local congregation. They do nothing themselves to kindle the fires of love, fellowship and service within the local church. But loyalty to Christ involves that we must also be loyal to the local church. There can be no possible excuse for failing in our obligations to the congregation where we live.

The New Testament abounds in references which show that Christians are called to steadfast faithfulness to the local church. It was this loyalty which welded the early Christians into such a brotherly fellowship that pagans were attracted into the church. Paul bade Christians to preserve the unity of the local church at all costs.

In the local congregation it will be discovered that all members have not the same

temperament, nor do all hold the same opinions; but this does not justify any member from leaving that congregation. We are set together for discipline and fellowship, and if our loyalty to Christ is real, it will keep us true to our duties in the church family where we live. True, all members do not sound the same note. But wouldn't it be monotonous music which consisted of only one note? The different notes each member sounds, according to tem-

★ *Loyalty to Christ saves us from aimless living; it gives direction and meaning to life. This is the theme developed by H. G. Norris, of Unley, S.A.*

perament and ability, will create the blended harmony of God's music, so long as we maintain the unity of the local church by steadfast faithfulness to her. If we love Christ we will prove it by loving the church, not leaving her. The most effective evangelism and practical service is done in the local church. Be loyal to her!

II.

Loyalty to our own brotherhood enters its place next in every balanced life. There are aspects of service which our local congregations cannot fulfil unless we unite with each other. As a "brotherhood" we unite in the work of evangelism on mission fields at home and abroad, in training preachers and leaders, and in other spheres of practical service. We unite to send out missionaries even as the early Christians did.

To-day many "outside" religious groups seek our support in evangelistic efforts at home and abroad. Many of these are very worthy causes. But our prior loyalty is to our own brotherhood work. There are new housing areas springing up to-day in which our home mission departments should be building churches. Wouldn't the time, talent and money some of us spend on "outside" efforts of evangelism be more wisely spent if we got into the work of our own brotherhood and enabled our home missions to build enduring work in new areas? Overseas, in India and in the New Hebrides, we are responsible for mission work. We have a duty to our brotherhood enterprises before we are free to give our service to groups outside our brotherhood, however worthy some may be. Loyalty to our brotherhood involves

III.

Loyalty to the great plea of our movement to restore to the church and to the world the faith and life of the New Testament. There is a danger that an ideal, once warm and vigorous, may be-

come hard and cold. If the ideal of our fathers (the motive of our movement) is to live, then there is a real need to-day for training, and understanding the meaning of our plea on the part of church members. The words of the editor in "Fellowship News" are to the point: "We are members of a brotherhood, known as 'churches of Christ,' who plead for the unity of Christ's church by a restoration of New Testament Christianity. Godly men and women labored and sacrificed to build up this movement. We must be true to their trust. We must not be daunted by the hardness of the task or the height of the ideal. We must not give away our truth by weak compromise, or think that the unity of Christ's church does not matter, so long as we support vaguely emotional movements which have no church-consciousness and preach a gospel of the 'lowest common denominator.'"

We are a movement within the church with a plan for unity. We are obligated by our beginnings, history and ideals to have the fullest possible share in the promotion of Christian unity. The Master calls for loyalty. The place of emphasis is—loyalty to the local congregation. By such we will best serve to strengthen the brotherhood and enable our plea to be more effective in the councils of the world church.

Adventuring with Youth

(Continued from opposite page.)

attend, and many who are not associated in any way with church or Sunday school. The puppets act the Bible story given the week previous. Children are the puppet-players, and come the day before to practice. Dramatisation of the story is another feature. The flannelboard plays a prominent part, and every story told is a Bible story. Quizzes are conducted every week on the lessons, and the correct answer is rewarded by a lolly. Each week there is a big quiz prize, and if not answered the prize is doubled each week. Chornses are popular, and a new one is learnt every month.

The behaviour of the children is excellent. A prayer is offered each week by a child, introduced by prayer chords played on the piano, and absolute silence reigns whilst the prayer is offered. A strip film projector was purchased, and a picture is shown at each session, religious and educational pictures being shown alternately. A series of pictures have been taken of the whole activity which are to be made into a strip film picture. It is hoped this film will be used to encourage other churches to adventure with "Happy Hours" work.

What are the results of seven months' work? Bible school, Christian Endeavor and Boys' Brigade have all received additions through "Happy Hours." Hundreds of children have heard the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus has been preached to them as their Lord and Saviour. Several members of "Happy Hours" have made the confession, been baptised, and added to the church.

After seven months of "Happy Hours" we have no hesitation in recommending "Happy Hours" as a worthwhile adventure in youth evangelism.—S. E. Matthews.

I know of a book, a marvellous book,
With a message for all who hear;
And the same dear name, his wonderful name
Illumines its pages clear.
The book is his word, its message I've heard.
I know of a book, a marvellous book—the Bible.

Afterwards

*Life has many disappointments,
Earth has many cares;
Of the thing we least expected
Meets us unawares;
But the bitter disappointments,
And the wounds and stings,
Ofttimes bring, did we but know it,
Blessings on their wings.
What we craved we thought a blessing,
Might have been a curse,
While the trouble so distressing
Saves from things much worse;
Could we see as God, all-seeing
Sees beneath the thorn
Just a rosebud in its beauty,
Waiting to be born.*

—Fairlie Thornton,
in "Light for Dark Days."

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Here and There

Demands on space have been so heavy we have been compelled to hold some copy over until next issue.

J. Machin writes: "Hinrichsen-Machin mission at South Perth, W.A., had wonderful meeting Aug. 8; fourteen confessions, thirteen being adults, including six men; sixty-two to date."

The Victorian Crusade for a Christian World is gathering momentum. Stan. Neighbour has visited churches at Hawthorn, Carnegie, Doncaster and Gardiner; fellowship groups at Box Hill, and combined officers of Richmond-Collingwood churches. Several country trips and an interstate trip are planned. Extra covenant cards and share application forms have been sought by many churches.



J. E. Austin, a member of church at Balwyn, Vic., chairman of the Victorian Properties Corporation, and a past chairman of the Social Service Department, died suddenly at his home on Aug. 7. Our brother has been a loyal and generous member of churches of Christ throughout the years. We know many will experience a sense of loss with his passing. However, the inspiration of his example ought to inspire younger members to carry on the fine services which our brother has been called upon to set aside. To Mrs. Austin and other relatives we offer our deepest sympathy.

The inaugural meeting of Bible school at Wattle Park (South Box Hill), Vic., took place on Aug. 1. Children of kindergarten and cradle roll ages were present, and venture has great possibilities. Parents and others were present, including representatives of Young People's Dept., making total 21. We draw attention to additional news under Camberwell church report.

At Murray Bridge, S.A., Mr. Kingston devoted gospel addresses during July to a special series on God. Attendances were good, and the powerful addresses were well received. During month three were received into church—Roy Harrold by faith and baptism and Mr. and Mrs. Haebich by transfer. Mr. Talbot shows a gain in strength, but is still not able to attend services. Doreen Thoman's sickness has necessitated her removal to Belair. Mr. Kingston visited Doreen during month, accompanied by Mrs. Thoman. Plans are in hand for Endeavor rally.

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Services at all churches in Swan Hill district, Vic., show increase. Six young people and two elderly ladies have made the great decision at Swan Hill, and visitors are attending gospel services. Bible school now meets in afternoon instead of morning, and already new scholars are coming. Attendance on Aug. 1 was largest for many years. Mrs. Thomas is new superintendent. J.C.E. meeting on Friday evenings has average attendance of 21 members. Young people's fellowship has increased to nearly 30. Temple Day services were conducted on Aug. 1, and with assistance of district, over £200 was offered. After 38 years of faithful service, whole church property, including manse, will be free of debt. A splendid gospel service was assisted by local band. Chapel was decorated and Mr. Candy spoke. Passing of W. Judd on July 27 brought sadness. Mr. Candy conducts Sunday school of the air on alternate Sundays, well supported by young people. Woorinen services are attended faithfully, younger men assisting in every capacity. Wallace Cock-

roft is spending a holiday in Queensland for health. Joyce Harrop and Hurtle Blake were married at Swan Hill on July 19. Church at Ultima still meets alternate Sunday afternoons. Mrs. Harrison is recovering from major operation. Monthly J.C.E. meeting after school is being considered. Mr. and Mrs. J. Leach conduct a union Sunday school of over 30 scholars.

"Commonwealth railways limiting Federal Conference transport strictly to 200. Already more than this number registered, also accommodation proving exceptionally difficult to find beyond this number. Will do all possible, but further registrations can only be accepted subject to own transport and accommodation being arranged.—Maston Bell."

At North Auburn, N.S.W., all services on Aug. 1 were well attended, and a fine spirit was evidenced. Subject of morning address was home visitation evangelism. It is planned to conduct this campaign during first week of December. A permit has been received from Council for erection of a new Sunday school hall. It is planned to purchase a ready-cut frame and erect hall with voluntary labor. Y.P.S.C.E. has been active over past few weeks, purchasing for use of Sunday school scholars ten Bibles and giving offering on day of overseas mission offering to that cause. Fellowship with Granville Endeavor on July 30 in Granville chapel was enjoyed. Members of church have been clearing chapel grounds over last few weeks, and thanks are extended to them. On July 28 a united prayer meeting was held in South Auburn chapel and a happy time was spent.

The Federal Committee for Promotion of Christian Union suggests that churches give some recognition, on Aug. 22, to the World Council of Churches assembly at Amsterdam. This is the inaugural meeting of the council, which, during war years, was "in process of formation." Churches of Christ in Australia and New Zealand will have a delegate at conference in person of Dr. Jesse Bader, of U.S.A. To help preachers with information, the Australian section of the World Council is forwarding to every minister in Australia, copies of two booklets: "The Promise of Amsterdam," by Alan Walker, and "The Great Church Emerges," by Bishop Cranswick. With these is also being sent a poster prepared by the Commonwealth Office of Education on World Christianity and the Amsterdam meeting. This is one in the series of discussion posters issued by this department. W. S. Lowe, M.A., B.Com., of Sydney, was largely instrumental in having this subject dealt with in this way.

Crusade campaign at Reservoir, Vic., opened with 14th church anniversary on July 25. R. E. Burns spoke at "every-member-present" meeting in morning. At gospel meeting A. E. Hurren gave a splendid address, at conclusion of which three young people confessed Christ. Meeting was ably assisted by choir, and soloist Harold Easton. On morning of Aug. 1, Mr. Burns gave first of a series of addresses concerning "Crusade for a Christian World." In evening, at conclusion of his sermon, three more young people from Bible school made the good confession. School attendances are well maintained. Scholars are practising for anniversary under leadership of Harold Plummer. 16 sat for examinations. Ladies' Guild continues to send parcels for Britain. Tennis club maintained undefeated record for season and won premiership from Northcote Baptists on July 31 by eight games. Church congratulates Mrs. Hannah and Marjorie Burns in gaining top marks in their respective divisions for Victoria in recent examinations.

and thanks Mrs. Russell for her work in this connection.

Federal Conference

PERTH, OCTOBER 15-22, 1948.

Theme—"Crusading for Christ."

TRAINS arrive at Perth on Monday, Oct. 11; Tuesday, Oct. 12 (special); and Thursday, Oct. 14.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15—

Sectional conferences at Lake-st. chapel: 9 a.m., Foreign Mission—Board and Committees only. 11 a.m., Aborigines—Board and Committees only. 2 p.m., Social Service—open conference. 4 p.m., College of the Bible—open conference. 6.30 p.m., Inaugural Dinner at Perth Town Hall.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16—

Sectional conferences at Lake-st. chapel, 10 a.m.-noon. Advisory Boards—State Boards only. Youth Committees—if required. Afternoon—Outing. Evening—Youth Night.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17—

Visiting brethren to be planned at metropolitan churches. 2.45 p.m., Conference Sermon in Theatre Royal.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 18—

Opening Business Session at Lake-st. 9.30 a.m., Opening Devotions. 9.45 a.m., Roll-call and Appointment of Returning Officer. 10 a.m., Amendments to Constitution. Nominations. 1.30 p.m., Devotional. 1.45 p.m., Executive Report. World Convention. Crusade for Christian World. 3.15 p.m., Location of Next Conference. 3.25 p.m., Canberra Committee Report. 4.5 p.m., Foreign Mission Report. 7.15 p.m., Foreign Mission Night—Trinity Church.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19—

Sisters' Conference Day. 10 a.m., Preachers' Session. 3 p.m., Open-air Men's Conference in King's Park. Subject, "Visitation Evangelism." 7.15 p.m., Sisters' Night—Trinity Church.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 20—

Morning, Outing. Afternoon, Business Session. 2 p.m., Devotional. 2.15 p.m., Preacher Provident Fund Report. 2.45 p.m., Aborigines Report. 4 p.m., Social Service Report. 7.15 p.m., Social Questions Night—Trinity Church (Social Service and Aborigines).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21—

Morning — Outing. Afternoon — Business Session. 2 p.m., Devotional. 2.15 p.m., College of the Bible Report. 3 p.m., Youth Report. 4 p.m., Hymnbook Committee Report. 4.15 p.m., Christian Union Committee Report. 4.30 p.m., Notices of Motion. Unfinished Business. 7.15 p.m., Evangelism—Trinity Church.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22—Conference Picnic.

Drumcondra Gains Blessing

EIGHT ADDITIONS DUE TO VISITATION EVANGELISM

The church at Drumcondra (a suburb of Geelong, Vic.) is served by A. R. Pigdon, and is associated with the Victorian Home Mission Committee. After Mr. Pigdon's experiences at Warrnambool, he was eager to have a campaign of Visitation Evangelism in his district. T. V. Weir, of Warrnambool, joined him on Sept. 30, and spent a week encouraging church and visitors. Eight visitors went out between Aug. 1 and 8. On Sunday evening, Aug. 8, at close of a fine gospel appeal by Mr. Weir, eight made their stand. A man who had signed decision card was not able to be present to make his confession that night. There were 100 present. Church is very encouraged and preacher has gained a great blessing.

News of the Churches

Queensland

Albion.—Annual day of fellowship was held on June 29. About 80 were present, and an offering in interests of overseas missions amounted to over £14. On July 4 offering for overseas missions amounted to £78/10/-. To assist United Nations appeal for children a collection was taken on July 25, and total of £36/9/4 included all amounts given for local work through duplex envelopes. Bible school also donated £1.

Tasmania

Invermay.—Speakers for July were, morning, E. A. Stevens, H. Stevens, J. J. Hodgson, A. Hill; evening, M. Alderton, D. Lee, R. Edmunds, W. Alderton. Church has suffered a great loss in passing of two respected and loved members—H. V. Clements and Mrs. T. Comer, and extends sympathy to relatives. Sisters' Auxiliary and Mission Band are continuing activities, and are working for mission boxes. Sunday school is preparing for broadcast over 7LA on Aug. 22, 5.30 p.m.

South Australia

Long Plains.—Young people have had busy, profitable month in C.E., including Bible cricket match with Avon Y.P. and visit from Balaklava Y.P. Gospel and devotional meetings are held regularly by church in local hall with assistance from K. Jenkin, R. Jenkin and M. Daniel in absence of Mr. Baker fortnightly. Sickness among members reduced attendances through month.

Prospect.—Services on Aug. 1 were led by R. Vincent with good attendances. Interest is shown in commencement of Loyalty Month; youth groups have planned special meetings. R. Vincent is preaching a series on churches of Christ. A social evening was tendered to Miss Joy Riches, who was to be married on Aug. 7, a suitable gift being made by members of church. Prayers of church are with Mrs. J. Bell, who has undergone an operation, and with E. Collins, who is also in Adelaide Hospital. J. Webb (Mile End) and S. Riches have assisted church with helpful addresses at morning services. R. Vincent assisted churches at Mile End and York.

Naracoorte.—Attendances at recent meetings have been fair. On morning of July 4 A. J. Wardle was speaker. In evening a memorial service was held in memory of late secretary, K. Foster. A. Hutson was speaker at this and all other services for July except on evening of July 25, when Mr. Oscar Lundberg, of Protestant Federation, was speaker. This year's offering for foreign missions amounted to £30. Ladies' Guild on July 14 packed a wheat-bag full of clothing for children in British occupied Germany. Annual general business meeting of church was held on July 14. Encouraging reports were received. A. J. Wardle was elected secretary, G. Wardle treasurer. Deacons, A. J. Wardle, C. Lloyd, W. McKenny, A. Farrow, W. Davie, L. Davie. Visitors with whom church has recently had fellowship included Mrs. Trezise and Mrs. Randall, Melbourne. Miss Ada Childs, missionary from Northern India, representing Regions Beyond Missionary Union, spoke at C.E. meeting on July 21. Recently in evening, at an after-church gathering, opportunity was taken to bid farewell to Miss Blanche, who was leaving district shortly to be married. Mr. Hutson, on behalf of church, presented her with a suitable gift.

Hindmarsh.—A communion service was held in sick room of F. Holden on afternoon of July 25. Prayer service was held in home of Mrs. Pierce on July 28. This, too, was followed by a communion service. These services were appreciated by the sick ones.

Church has recently increased weekly stipend of preacher by 11/-. This is second increase within last two years. Film service on Aug. 1 was well received. Chas. Trembath acceptably addressed Men's Class on afternoon of Aug. 1. A solo was rendered beautifully by Mrs. D. Russell at a recent evening service. All are entering energetically into services for Loyalty Month. Mr. Beiler addressed morning service recently in interests of rest home.

Nailsworth.—Annual church meeting on July 15 was well attended and interesting, and progressive reports were received from all auxiliaries. With exception of Messrs. Gardner, Lambert and Herring, no other change was made on board of officers. A committee was formed to raise funds to instal a stainless sink and drain board, also gas stove. A gift from an anonymous donor of £21 was received. Mr. Fisher has commenced a study group of young people after Bible school. Dedication of officers was held on morning of July 18. Attendances are maintained; average of 120 during July. Men's Fellowship meetings are helpful and interesting, much useful information being passed on to church.

Kilburn.—Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school on Aug. 1 was 91, including two new scholars. Practical interest of Nailsworth Bible class and leader Harold Steward is appreciated. Already David McQueen is assisting as Bible school teacher, and other help is expected, which will open way for expansion in this area. 11 a.m. service was conducted by A. Fax, of Prospect, who also addressed 30 young worshippers. F. Collins gave an excellent address to church, 26 adults being present. S. E. Riches, representing Mission to Lepers, interested a good attendance at 7 p.m. gospel service with film entitled "A Happy Village." An offering to help this work was taken up, and collecting boxes accepted by some families.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Women's bright hour meeting on July 25 was enjoyed, a good programme being submitted by members of J.C.E. On evening of July 28, 13 letters from recipients of food parcels in England and Ireland were read. All expressed thankfulness and appreciation of kindly thought behind gifts. At same meeting a Sunday school scholar, Pauline Orr, was baptised, and she was received into church on Aug. 1. Dr. Trevor Turner's address concerning the Christian Rest Home was ably given and well received. A good response was made to appeal for financial support. W. Beiler on Sunday night gave first of a series of addresses on Restoration Movement. Choir is rendering good service; there being 30 members present on Sunday night, besides conductor Frank Willing, organist Albert Glastonbury, and pianist Miss G. Mossop.

Port Pirie.—Attendances for July averaged: morning 34, evening 27. Mainly through sickness of members averages decreased by 8 in morning and 4 in evening on June attendances. Average weekly offerings: General fund, £5/14/1; brotherhood appeals, £1/9/11; renovation fund, 16/5. £1/2/- was earmarked for foreign missions, in addition to amounts through duplex envelopes. K. Barton assisted Whyalla brethren on July 4, services being taken by C. Lundberg and J. Donley. C. P. Hughes, of S.A. Alliance, spoke on morning of July 11. All other services were taken by J. Barton, whose addresses have been appreciated. Members are meeting in homes for weekly prayer meetings instead of chapel. These are called home fellowship meetings. Y.P.S.C.E. had good meetings for July. Several scholars

from Bible school sat for examination. Monthly "Friendly Word" is proving popular. August will be Loyalty Month. Church prays that Sister Harrison will soon be restored to normal health.

New South Wales

Marrickville.—W. H. Rainey, of B. & F. Bible Society, was speaker on morning of July 25. Teachers' conference on same date expressed concern at declining Bible school attendance in spite of much effort and prayer. It is hoped to commence shortly an open-air school in nearby park under leadership of Hazel Shepherd. I. A. Paternoster (overseas mission secretary) gave a lantern lecture to Life Gift Fellowship on July 28.

Hamilton.—Church has been saddened by news that Mr. and Mrs. Morris and little Robert will be leaving to take up duties with church in Albury. Many folk have been ill. Mrs. Lisle was welcomed back at morning service on Aug. 1. Fellowship has been enjoyed with visitors. Grahame Lawson was baptised on evening of Aug. 1. All scholars who sat for scripture examination passed, and Hamilton gained three State prizes.

Kingsford.—Mr. Birkhead, from Tempe, a student of Woolwich College, addressed church on morning of July 25. A. W. Ladbroke spoke at evening service and at both meetings on Aug. 1. Mr. Wotherspoon, from Penhurst, illustrated use of felt for kindergarten work to Bible school teachers at their tea on Aug. 1. Church is praying for recovery of one of the deacons, G. Porter, who is in hospital. Several other members have been absent in recent weeks through illness.

Canley Vale.—Attendances for past month averaged 30 (morning) and 37 (evening). Visiting speakers have been D. Tonkin, B. Eager, G. Crossman and Mr. Hansen. The latter, an astronomer, gave a lantern lecture entitled "The Heavens Declare." On Aug. 1 Mr. Saunders addressed gospel service at Hargreaves Park housing settlement, where one young married man made his decision for Christ. This brings total to seven adult decisions since H. Atkinson commenced services. Bible school children did well in scripture examination, 12 out of 13 passing (three with honors and seven merits). Frank Stimson won first prize in Div. 2.

Wagga.—Services have been continued each Sunday, W. Thomson being speaker. A. Dow spoke on morning of July 25. Foreign mission offering amounted to £25. Twelve scholars were successful in Sunday school examination, State prizes being received by two, gaining second place in their divisions. Men's fellowship meetings have been well attended and enjoyable evenings held. J.C.E. packed five food parcels for Britain, and meetings have been well attended. Y.P. club also packed food parcels for Britain, and plan to send Christmas parcels in October. A Temple Day was planned for Aug. 5, followed by thanksgiving service in evening. Another young sister has been baptised and received into church. Many members have been absent owing to sickness.

Broken Hill.—On July 25 R. Hilford gave helpful addresses. Mesdames E. Griffith and A. Thurgood sang a duet. Les. Warren gave morning address at Railwaytown. On Aug. 1 church appreciated Envoy Crocker's address at morning service at Wolfram-st., R. Hilford being speaker at Wills-st. Evening service was addressed by R. Hilford. L. Warren contributed a message in song. Attendances for last fortnight have been affected by influenza epidemic. Y.P.S.C.E. visited Old Folks' Home and presented a helpful message and enjoyable programme of music and singing. One aged inmate of home contributed a sacred solo. Ladies' Guild met at home of Mrs. H. Garner, a happy time being enjoyed. Mr. Moore, of Adelaide, was present. Bible school at Wolfram-st. has started practice for anniversary under baton of R. Warmbrunn.

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Mosman.—For month of July evening service was taken by Mr. Greenhalgh, who gave four helpful addresses on second coming of Christ. On evening of July 18, one young man made the good confession, and another young man rededicated his life. At morning meeting on Aug. 1, a fine address was given by Vic. Muir, leader of young people's club. Evening service was conducted by Stuart Stevens. He will continue with gospel meetings during August. Church thanks him for his offer to help pending arrival of Mr. Burns. Other brethren for help during interim period are thanked. Church looks forward to coming of Mr. Burns on first Lord's day in September.

Penshurst.—Members are pleased to have Wotherspoon family after return from holiday at Lismore during floods. At recent Bible school examinations, three scholars passed with honors—Dorothy Polley, Lois Wheeler, and John Marshall, aged 9 years, obtained third prize for State. On July 28, ladies' fellowship held monthly meeting. Speaker, Miss Una Thompson, of Sudan Interior Mission, presented lantern slides to illustrate her vivid description and years of experience in that mission field. Miss Murray, new missionary-elect, gave a splendid testimony. An added pleasure was presence of sisters from Rockdale, Hurstville and Beverley Hills churches. Mrs. Parkinson offered prayer for the missionaries, and meeting concluded with prayer by Mrs. Miles (president). Afternoon tea was served by Penshurst ladies.

Bexley North.—Speakers for July included G. Hardimon (Ashfield), G. Crossman (Woolwich Bible College), and T. Hallop, who also conducted gospel services with assistance of S. Craven. Prayer meetings were closed on several occasions due to Dr. Appelman campaign at Rockdale and meeting at Mortdale church. Junior Endeavorers held social afternoon for Aborigines Mission Board, raising £1/4/-. Representative of United Aborigines Mission spoke at Women's Fellowship and paid tribute to our workers among aborigines in W.A. A promotion service conducted by junior and intermediate Endeavorers was held during a morning service. Juniors to be promoted were introduced by J.C.E. superintendent to I.C.E. superintendent, who extended a welcome to them. Then all repeated pledge and State superintendent, R. Greenhalgh, led in a dedication prayer. Olive Maltby, a Bible school scholar, made the good confession on Aug. 1.

Victoria

Malvern-Caulfield.—K. Jones will preach at all services during month of August. Attendances at K.S.P. have been up to average, with usual all-round exercises. At last women's meeting a surprise afternoon was held, when musical items, competitions and a short skit were held, and collectors appointed for starving European children's appeal.

Geelong.—Meetings on Aug. 1 were inspiring. In morning Mr. Robertson McCue, of Victorian Local Option, was speaker. At evening service Dr. McGinlay, of America, preached to a very large congregation. All are pleased to know that families of both Mr. and Mrs. Tippet and Mr. and Mrs. Russen-berg are progressing favorably after their recent accident. Sisters Neville and Olive are both inmates of hospital.

Wedderburn.—Meetings have been fair. Mr. Quayle labors faithfully. On June 14, Midland District Conference proved a great day of fellowship with Maryborough, Bet Bet, Dunolly and St. Arnaud delegates. F. Lee was speaker afternoon and evening. Church had fellowship with A. Anderson, home from U.S.A. after 40 years, as preacher. He was a Sunday school scholar here, and a local preacher before leaving for America. He addressed church in morning, and next Sunday evening nearly 50 listened to him. On July 25 Mr. Duus, of Bendigo, spoke at St. Arnaud in morning and at Wedderburn at night, under plans arranged by Bendigo District Conference to help Mr. Quayle in his large circuit.

Blackburn.—Aug. 1 was a day for youth, arranged by Youth Council, commencing with a tea at 5.30, at which Mr. Burg was speaker and Miss Winnie Sandells soloist. Youth service began at 7 p.m., over which John Beattie presided. Misses Jones, from Box Hill, sang two delightful duets, and Mr. Quirk preached. Mrs. Freeman is back after an absence of some months. Men's Society has undertaken works and finance of church tennis courts.

Stawell.—A. Mudford and D. Hibburt continue to give good service. On July 18 Mr. Waghmode (of the college) visited Bible school and gave an excellent address at evening service. Bible school has started anniversary practice under Mr. Tromph. On July 29, young people's club held a social. Ladies' Guild is planning to send parcels of clothing overseas. Mrs. Tromph is out of hospital and well again. C.E. society is doing well. £1 was given to overseas offering from society.

Coburg.—Church had Reg. Enniss as morning speaker on Aug. 1, his address being appreciated. At night A. R. Lloyd spoke to good meeting. Miss Preston, of Moreland, was soloist. At close a lad from Bible school confessed Christ. Church expresses sympathy with Mr. Hammon in sudden death of his father, also to H. Barnett and Mr. Thiessen in loss of loved ones. Preston men's society paid a visit to Coburg men's society. S. Campbell gave an illustrated lecture on life of wild animals. Supper was served, and enjoyable evening spent.

Essendon.—On July 28, instead of midweek prayer meeting, 22 members went to Lygon-st. for special service. Owing to indisposition of Mr. McIlhagger on Aug. 1, morning service was taken by B. J. Kemp, when aims were launched for "Crusade for a Christian World." Mr. Gray (Coburg) was speaker at evening meeting; choir sang an anthem. At morning service on Aug. 8, Doug Anderson, who is going as a missionary to Syria, gave an inspiring address, at conclusion of which B. J. Kemp presented him with a token of esteem from church. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts were present at Bible school prior to commencement of children's mission which is being conducted after school each afternoon for seven days. 32 men attended C.M.S. monthly tea meeting. J. R. Story presented colored movies of Papua and Amazon. He also gave an interesting address at evening service, at conclusion of which more interesting movies were shown. A collection for "Food for Children of Europe" was taken in evening. Miss D. Dodds sang a solo. Of 15 children who sat for scripture examination, 14 gained passes.

Oakleigh.—On concluding Lord's day of Mr. Neighbour's ministry, July 25, 160 were present for worship and 140 at night. One man made confession in morning, was baptised at gospel service, and welcomed into fellowship on Aug. 1. E. L. Williams commenced interim ministry of two months on Aug. 1 with well-attended services. Over July 24, 25 and 26 excellent exhibition of Bible school and kindergarten scholars' and teachers' work attracted members, parents and visitors. Selection of exhibits is to be shown at next Youth Department meeting for superintendents and secretaries. Young people were greatly interested by address on bird life, illustrated with lantern slides, by C. L. Lang on July 15. Sympathy is felt for relatives of Mrs. Gracie and family of H. Ashley, who have passed to their rest. Mrs. Gracie was foundation member of church, and apart from other activities was superintendent of kindergarten for many years. She retained lively interest in church affairs to the end. Mr. Ashley made confession of faith early in his illness, and passed on with calm confidence to be with his Lord. His family are all stalwart workers in church activities.

Cheltenham.—On Aug. 8, at 11 a.m., five young people were baptised at commencement of service, and later in service were received into membership by J. C. Cunningham. Evening service was a united one with Methodist preacher, F. G. Lewis, president, and Presbyterian preacher, A. W. Ivory, preacher. Combined choirs assisted. Church has enjoyed several weeks' fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. Holmes, of Invercargill, N.Z. They have now continued their journey to England. Practice for Bible school anniversary has commenced under leadership of G. Daff.

Echuca.—Attendances were fair during past month; there has been a great deal of sickness amongst members. Mr. Beyer held a social evening in his home on July 8 which raised £4 approximately for Ladies' Auxiliary. A social evening was held at chapel on July 23 and £6/4/- raised. Ladies' Auxiliary assisted other church guilds on July 30 in holding an afternoon for hospital, at which £16 resulted. Eighteen scholars sat for Bible school examination, at which two girls gained a first and a second prize in their division. Mr. Dudley announced his resignation when his term of three years is completed, much to regret of church members.

Drumcondra.—House-to-house visitation evangelism campaign was launched on morning of Aug. 1 by T. V. Weir, of Warrnambool, who addressed service. Mr. Weir spoke at a visitors' instruction class held at manse preceding evening. Mr. Jamieson (B. & F. Bible Society) addressed morning meeting on July 25. R. Enniss spoke on crusade for a Christian world on July 18 in evening, and Mr. Rasmussen spoke at morning service. Recent soloists at evening services have been Miss Jacqueline Dabb and Mr. Ron Simmons. Mission Band is preparing parcels for India and New Hebrides. Sunday school has commenced practising for anniversary.

North Richmond.—Services are continuing under C. Young's interim ministry, with three baptisms on Aug. 1. Mission Band reports that another parcel to India is about ready, and details for next parcel under way. Ladies of Sunshine Circle have opened appeal for articles of apparel for children of Europe. On Aug. 7, a successful concert was held in school hall to help building fund. Many brethren from neighboring churches helped to swell audience, who had an enjoyable time. On Aug. 1 evening service was well attended. Mr. Pratt, of Mt. Evelyn, gave a delightful sermon. Tennis club has had an enjoyable season, with all honors won. Mrs. Nash is back from holiday in Tasmania.

Carnegie.—Inspiring services were held on Aug. 1. 91 were present in morning. Forty men attended a tea in school hall, representing the Oakleigh-Carnegie inter-churches men's societies. Speakers were W. Bell and Mr. Coghill, representing central council inter-churches men's societies. There was a splendid meeting at 7 p.m., when attendance was 138. S. Neighbour gave an interesting address on plans for crusade. Mr. Coventry conducted an impressive baptismal service, when 12 who confessed Christ during recent visitation evangelism campaign were baptised. Mrs. Phillips has been laid aside by illness. Bible school reports increased attendances; 139 present on Aug. 1.

Dandenong.—Setting apart of church officers was held during morning service on May 1. Same morning the Darch family (by transfer), also Ray Goodwin (faith and baptism) were welcomed into fellowship. New church secretary is C. Pitcher. C.E. annual business meeting took place on July 27. On behalf of Endeavorers, Margaret Flett presented Mr. Youens with a wristlet watch in appreciation of his help to all. Sunday school is leading in rally conducted by South-Eastern District Fellowship. Men's club held a successful working bee around chapel on afternoon of Aug. 7. First of a series of four special Sunday afternoon evangelical meetings on second coming of Christ was held in Town Hall on Aug. 8, approximately 160 being pres-

ent. This was an inspiring meeting, with three dedications and one reconsecration. Mr. Youens' addresses throughout day were outstanding.

French Island.—R. Pritchard continues to conduct services twice monthly. As a result of visitation among residents, fresh interest is shown. H. Waghmode spoke at gospel service on Aug. 1; 35 were present. His visit was greatly appreciated.

Emerald.—Hariba Waghmode spent a busy day with school and church on Aug. 8, also visiting East Emerald in afternoon. School raised £11/2/6 for current United Nations appeal for starving children, by setting an extra plate at each meal for one week, and encouraging others to join them, in placing self-denial gifts in plate.

Red Cliffs.—Work continues in a satisfactory condition. At annual meeting held recently, reports showed church work and all auxiliaries in healthy condition. Mr. Chivell continues to preach forceful sermons. Officers elected are: Elder, Mr. Cook; deacons, Messrs. Cameron, Martin, I. and M. Milne, Henshilwood, Sprigg, West, Chiswell, with M. Milne secretary. Plans were made in an effort to reduce building debt.

Camberwell.—On Aug. 1, a largely attended meeting was conducted by young people, preceded by a gathering of 40 at a youth tea. Ken Patterson, from Ivanhoe, addressed gathering round tea table. On Aug. 8, 118 communed. Stan Chipperfield reports largest morning meeting for over two years. Congratulations were extended to W. Dickens, who celebrates his 88th birthday. Evening meetings are exceeding attendance objective, and church is encouraged by continued response as result of visitation evangelism campaign and ministries of W. F. Nankivell. In response to invitation of Home Mission Committees, officers representing Camberwell, Surrey Hills and Box Hill met interested members in South Box Hill area and R. Ennis (Properties Corporation), and arrangements were made to secure four blocks of land to sponsor a new cause at earliest opportunity. A. W. Stephenson, chairman H.M. Committee, presided. Activity in Explorers' Clubs is an encouraging feature of week-day activities. Stan. Chipperfield and young helpers are leading thirty boys in their work. Three groups of Good Companions continue splendid work among girls. Ladies are forwarding further parcels to Britain this week.

ADDRESSES

C. Pitcher (secretary Dandenong church, Vic.).—Jones-rd., West Dandenong.

A. E. Heard (secretary Hobart—Collins-st.—church).—54 View-st., Dynnyrne, Hobart.

H. E. R. Steele (preacher Croydon church, Vic.).—Pembroke-rd., Mooroolbark. 'Phone, Kilsyth 9.

A. J. Wardle (secretary Naracoorte church, S.A.).—Box 141, Naracoorte.

WANTED

Can you help a church member marrying September to rent a self-contained flat or half house? Reply c/o the Manse, 1 Chesterville-rd., Cheltenham, S22, or 'phone Chelt. 511.

Christian home wanted to board elderly lady, semi-invalid, Preston or neighborhood.—Reply 138 Murray-rd., East Preston.

Church member, lady, requires board in quiet Christian home at Melbourne seaside resort for two weeks at Christmas.—Reply to "Holiday," c/o Austral Publishing Co.

Wanted to Buy, 16 m.m. Movie Projector (silent) for week-day extension of S.S. work.—W. R. Hibburt, Emerald, Vic.

WANTED TO BUY.

LAND

Suitable for Manse.

Vicinity Gilbert-rd. and May-st., West Preston. Particulars to F. V. Brown, secretary, Church of Christ, 29 Benambra-st., West Preston, N.18.

JU1990.

FOR SALE

Very limited number of 1 horse-power, 3-phase, English, electric motors.—Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale, S.E.3. U3029.

Electric Hot Water Systems, 50, 60, 80 gallons, complete with fittings, and copper pipe if necessary, prompt delivery.—Claude Gadge, 27 Northcote-rd., Armadale, S.E.3. U3029.

DEATH

AUSTIN.—On August 7, James Edwin (Ed.), a very highly and respected foundation member of the "Churches of Christ Cricket Association."

IN MEMORIAM

DELANEY.—In loving memory of our dear daughter and sister Millie, who passed away on Aug. 12, 1947. Faithful one at rest. —Inserted by mother, brother and sisters.

GOLLER (nee Blythman).—In treasured memory of our dear daughter Ida Ray, who was called home on August 11, 1944.

"Silent thoughts bring many a tear,
For the one we miss and loved so dear."
—Inserted by her loving mother and father.

GOLLER (nee Blythman).—In sad and loving memory of Ida Ray, who passed away on August 11, 1944; sister of Marjorie, sister-in-law of Keith. "So sadly missed."
—Inserted by Marjorie and Keith Hunt.

GOLLER (nee Blythman).—In loving memory of dear Ray, who passed away on August 11, 1944. "Sadly missed."
—Inserted by P. and J. Downs.

GOLLER (nee Blythman).—In loving memory of dear Ray, who went to be with Christ on August 11, 1944. "We will always remember."
—Inserted by L. and H. Lambert.

NIGHTINGALE.—In affectionate memory of John, who passed to his eternal rest Aug. 12, 1943.

A devoted husband, a loving father, a friend to all who loved their Lord. Our loved one at rest in the Lord.
—A. M. Hansen.

TAYLOR.—In loving memory of dear mother, who passed away Aug. 10, 1935.
Time will never dim treasured memories of mother.

Life is eternal, our love will remain;
In God's own time we shall meet again.
—Inserted by her loving daughter May.

WIMPNEY.—In fond remembrance of our dear nephew and brother, George Raymond, who passed away Aug. 9, 1943. In God's care.
—M.T. and sister Lorna.

COMING EVENTS

AUGUST 18 (Wednesday).—Victorian General Dorcas will meet in Swanston-st. lecture hall from 10.30 a.m. till 4 p.m. Any sister interested in this work is invited to attend.

MINISTERS' WIVES' ASSOCIATION.

Next meeting will be held in Swanston-st. lecture hall on Friday, August 20, at 2.30 p.m.

SWANSTON STREET

(opp. Public Library).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 15.

11 a.m., Mr. E. A. Collins, past-president A.I.M. Aboriginal College, will speak.

4.30 p.m., Study Circle.

5.15 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., "Has the Gospel Failed?" Preacher, K. A. Macnaughtan.

THE NORTH SUBURBAN CONFERENCE

will meet at 8 p.m. on

THURSDAY, AUGUST 26, at COBURG.

Speaker, F. L. Edmunds, M.L.A.

Anthems by Moreland Choir.

The Australian Christian

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DONCASTER CHURCH 85th ANNIVERSARY, SUNDAY, AUGUST 22.

Speakers:

11 a.m., Mr. W. F. Nankivell.

7 p.m., Mr. R. A. Banks.

Tuesday, Aug. 24, 8 p.m., Athenaeum Hall, Main Rd.

Combined Anniversary Social and Farewell to Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Banks and family. Past members and friends invited.

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T. Banks, 73 Holland-st., Wembley Park, W.A.

F. B. Burt, 28 Allison-st., W. Hobart, Tas.

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

Obituary

Alfred Courtney

AFTER an illness lasting more than five years, Mr. Alfred Courtney was called from this life on May 15, and was laid to rest in the Payneham cemetery on May 17, E. R. Sherman officiating. In the days before his illness, Mr. Courtney was an active member of the church at Maylands, S.A., and although he did not engage much in public work, he was always a man who worked behind the scenes, and his work at the Bible school picnics and such like was well known and much appreciated. The sympathy of the church was expressed to Mrs. Courtney, who was so faithful and loving in her nursing of her husband through his long illness.—E.R.S.

Mrs. Annie Macintosh

AT her home in Carnegie, Vic., on July 15, our sister Mrs. Macintosh entered into her eternal rest at the age of 78 years. She was baptised at Carnegie during a mission conducted by P. R. Baker in 1925. Her husband, who was also baptised at the same time, predeceased her by about twenty years, and left her to rear a young family. To this task she bent her will, and reared them in the fear and nurture of the Lord. One son, Gordon, is now living in Sydney, and the other, Allan, at Windsor, Victoria, and her daughter, Mrs. Blackway, has continued with her husband to live in the old home. Our sister loved her Lord and served him faithfully. It was her delight to have regular fellowship with the church. About ten years ago she had an accident which prevented her from ever again walking any distance. She was brought to church in a wheel chair or by car. Mrs. Bailey delighted to bring her every Sunday, and on week nights, too, whenever she was well enough. Her body was never really free from pain, but she always rejoiced in the Lord. She met with us for the last time on Sunday, July 4. She knew we were about to start on our visitation evangelism campaign, and made a donation to the expenses. She wanted to have a share in it. We were able to tell her on Wednesday that we had made a splendid start. The Lord called her home next day. A large gathering of relatives and friends met at the home on July 16, where the minister of the church, assisted by W. Quirk, conducted a brief service at which we sang at her request the hymn, "Abide with me." She was laid to rest in the old Cheltenham cemetery. The church and family have rich memories of one who was a devoted mother and a loyal servant of Jesus. To all relatives, and especially to her daughter who cared for her during all the years since the accident, we tender our heartfelt sympathy.—H.R.C.

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS.

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

LOYALTY TO THE CHURCH

THE editor, in seeking to diagnose the weaknesses in the churches of Christ movement, has brought to light some helpful suggestions, but at the same time fails to make specific mention of insidious forces at work within our ranks—namely, worldliness and modernism.

Both are under the cloak of the religion, refinement and culture of our day, and are undermining the real spiritual work of the Lord.

In many cases this is where the drift

begins, firstly on the part of those who desire the New Testament ideal of the Christian separation from the world, and who believe that the Bible IS the word of God, and secondly on the part of those who gradually but surely become worldly and indifferent.

History proves that most movements composed of humans tend to become disintegrated in time; churches are not excluded.

The question, therefore, arises, Can you expect Christians to be loyal to a movement when the system becomes faulty and weak through preaching which discredits the word of God, particularly the Old Testament, and where there is a lack of definite teaching (chiefly because of the fear of man and the loss of popularity) in relation to the Christian separation.

Because of the presence of these evils many do not know where they stand, nor what to believe.

It is both a surprising and grieving fact that many leading church people are today encouraging their children in the ways and life of the modern ballroom.

This is deterrent to spiritual work and an unhealthy atmosphere for many new converts.

The time has come for the church to take a stand and refuse to compromise with modernistic teaching and worldly enchantment.

It is reasonable to suggest that Satan is most active as an angel of light within Christendom.

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COURAGE



THE war developed qualities of courage, resourcefulness and the ability to inspire men to face hardships which tested the very fibre of their being.

But courage is not only a wartime attribute; to-day, when the rough road of national duty is beset with pitfalls—extravagance, unthrift, and selfishness—the situation calls for courageous people who voluntarily will restrict their purchases to the lowest possible requirements.



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Or to **Mr. A. M. Bell**, Fed. Hon. Sec.,
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THE INVISIBLE SHEPHERD

"Thou God seest me."—Gen. 16: 13.

THERE is an old, old story of an Eastern shepherd who found a wonderful golden ring containing a precious jewel. He put the ring on his finger and decided to wear it. As he was sitting with some other shepherds, he happened to turn the ring round till the bezel which held the jewel came to the inside of his hand. On his doing so he became invisible to his companions, and they began to speak of him as of an absent man. In his astonishment he touched his ring again and turned it so that the bezel came back to the outside of his hand. As he turned it, he became visible again. He realised that this was a magic ring, and that possession of it enabled him to become invisible whenever he liked. He decided to take advantage of this fact—to steal without anyone seeing him, and to get rich by dishonest means with impunity.

Before finding this ring he had been considered a very good and honest man. But when he obtained the ring and discovered that he could do things without anyone seeing him, he began to do "all sorts of wicked actions." Whenever he wanted to steal or do anything wrong, he just turned the ring and became invisible so that no one would know what he was doing. When he thus had the chance to do evil without anyone blaming him or punishing him he seized the opportunity. His character had not changed with the finding of the ring. That magic ring had simply shown what his real character had been all along. He had not loved goodness for its own sake, but had only done right to win the rewards of right action.

Now what would you do if you had that magic ring? Would you always do the right thing even if no one could see you? What sort of things do you in fact do when you think no one is watching you? That is the real test of character. A wise thinker has said that our real religion is what we do when we are alone. If we only do the good things when others are watching us, and do bad things when we think no one is watching us, then we do not love goodness for its own sake. We are merely pretending to be good. Jesus called such people "hypocrites," which means "actors."

Of course, Christians believe that we are never really alone. God is always with us and he can always see us. That belief helps Christians to do good and avoid evil, even when no human being is watching them. Christians know that God, who is always watching us, loves us so much that he gave his only Son to be

our Saviour; so that they would hate to do anything that would displease him, and they love to do the good thing that he loves. But some people have used this belief, that God is always watching us, in the wrong way, and have done right only because they wanted God to reward them or because they feared he would punish them if they did wrong. They were really no better than the shepherd in our story. Their characters were not really pure and good; their motive was love of self instead of love of God. True Christians do good for the love of God and his goodness, because it pleases God who loves us with all that wonderful love that we see in the Lord Jesus.

If we let Jesus cleanse our hearts, then he will give us pure motives and holy desires. "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me."—Selected.

WRITE BETTER

WHEN Thomas Carlyle had finished writing the first volume of his account of the French Revolution, he lent the precious manuscript to John Mill, one of his closest friends. While in Mill's charge the document was accidentally destroyed—all but a few fragments of leaves. Five months of hard and painful toil was lost. Carlyle had forgotten practically every word he had written in that first volume; he was already at work on the second, and his financial resources were being severely strained. Nobly did he endeavor to hide his grief and his plight from his friend, and uttering a cry to God for faith, he wrote in his log: "It is as if my invisible school-master had torn my copybook when I showed it and said: 'No, boy! Thou must write it better.' What can I do but obey? . . . On in his name!"

BONES

A BRIDE and groom were going abroad on their honeymoon. While leaning over the rail of the ship, the bride dropped one of her rings overboard. She was deeply grieved over the loss. Some days later, dining in a hotel in Naples, they ordered fish. What do you think they found in the fish? Bones.—"World Call."

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Youths' Magazine



King's Messengers

NEARLY three hundred years ago, when Charles II. was in exile, he wanted some means of sending secret messages to his supporters in England, and for this purpose he started a courier service which was operated by four of his most faithful followers. He had two men with him in exile and two in England. The great danger of this was that by some mishap the messages might fall into the hands of the enemy, so he devised a means of identification whereby the messengers might be certain that they were handing the message over to the right person. He had with him a silver dish on which were four ornamental greyhounds; he broke these off and sent one to each of his men, and this became their badge of office. This started a courier service which has existed ever since, and which is known to-day as the Corps of King's Messengers.

The duty of men who belong to this corps to-day is to carry diplomatic messages which are too secret to be sent by the normal means of communication and to deliver them personally to our accredited representatives in foreign capitals.

The Little Cripple

EDWARD WHYMPER, in "Scrambles Amongst the Alps," describes how in a certain Alpine village there lived a hunchback cripple, little Luc. He had seen the climbers start for the mountain tops, and heard them enthuse over their experiences, but the mountains were not for him. Then, one day, a party of climbers resolved to try to carry little Luc up one of the mountains, a stupendous effort. But one by one, in turns, they carried him, each lending all his strength and skill to the little cripple,

and at last the mountain top was reached. The strange thing was that each and all agreed that the view was more wonderful than it had ever been before. To spend one's strength, whatever kind of strength it be, freely and unselfishly in a world where so many are weak and handicapped and crippled in hope, and faith, and sense of purpose, is to find a new vision of his purpose, which each may serve with the best of the strength he has. That is, truly, to hold strength sacred.

Now you and I, as disciples of Jesus, are the King's messengers, and like the members of this ancient corps, we must fulfil the same conditions. We must live near our headquarters; that is, we must keep in touch with Jesus by saying our prayers, by reading the Bible, and by making the ideals of Jesus our own. We must always be ready for service by being prepared to demonstrate our Christian principles whenever and wherever our loyalty to Jesus demands it. And we must always wear our badge of discipleship by spreading abroad in our lives by our example the spirit of love, for, says Jesus, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."—"Expository Times."