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The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ



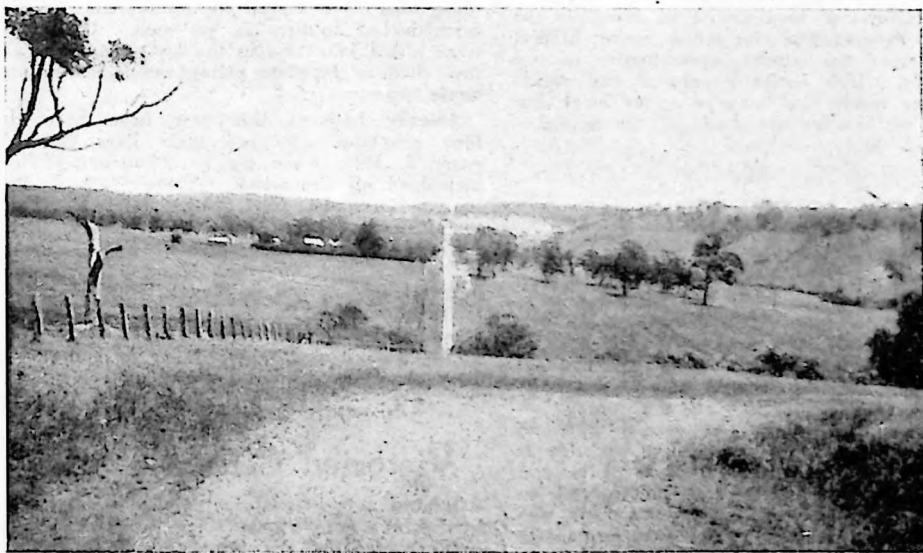
Stephen Cheek.

Jesus said unto him, "Follow me." And he left all, rose up, and followed him.

In the "seventies" of last century, Stephen Cheek said farewell to chalk and duster, and went forth to preach the gospel of Christ. The story of some of his work is told on page 400.

He died in Queensland, deeply lamented in 1883, at the age of 31.

The Country Church Lives On



A Lane in the "Cheek Country," Drummond, Victoria.

Interesting Features in Church's Programme

President James Garfield

FROM the "North Carolina Christian" (U.S.A.) we glean the following information about additions to a collection of historic documents being collected by C. C. Ware. We refer to only two additions to the collection because one has a reference to Australia, the other to President James A. Garfield.

"The Evening Star," Washington, D. C., issue (extra) Saturday, July 2, 1881, giving the first news appearing in the press of the assassination of James A. Garfield, only Disciple ever to occupy the White House. Also grouped with this rare paper are some pamphlets by Garfield and Guiteau, the assassin. One of the Guiteau pamphlets we have, is titled: "A Lecture on Christ's Second Coming." Some wag had pasted on the title page a newspaper paragraph stating that Guiteau's printer had been long awaiting Guiteau's "second coming" to pay the bill he owed before the account should finally have to be listed "deadbeats."

"Jubilee Pictorial History of Churches of Christ in Australasia," edited by A. B. Maston, 1903. This rare and valuable title we have long sought. It is a large, ambitious volume, and is of prime value to any Disciple historical collection.



Selecting Hymns For Services

The end to which all hymnbooks are a means is the uplifting of hearts to God in corporate praise and prayer. In the light of this consideration of the place and purpose of hymns and tunes and their necessary union, how is the praise list for public worship to be drawn up? There are some leaders of worship who try to present one idea throughout the service and hymns are chosen which will bear upon and illustrate that central idea. There is something to be said for this. Ideas penetrate the minds of people more slowly than we sometimes imagine. It would seem wise to prepare the congregation by the hymns and lessons that they may the more easily grasp the message which the minister has to give. But there is something to be said against this practice. There is the obvious danger of monotony. When we remember that all classes and conditions of men are to be found in the average congregation, it seems more helpful not to make the service representative of one idea only, which limits its appeal and means that some needy soul may go empty away, but to seek to broaden the basis of the appeal.—J. Bishop, M.A.



When We Retire

I received a letter from a friend last week which had this sentence: "It will be a special pleasure now to be able to write, really at leisure, to an invisible audience." At first sight this seems an excellent judgment; for presumably, when a man gives up constant work which has laid a heavy toll on his body and soul, he should find all the more time and opportunity to do the special kind of work he likes. Most men think that this is true, and I've heard them say it again and again. "When I retire and don't need to trudge morning and night to and from the office, or don't need to write two sermons a week willy-nilly, and attend endless meetings and do constant visiting, I'll have at last the chance to do some of the things I really want and like." But honestly, this is a kind of pious self-delusion, and it seldom or never works out as the dreamer planned.

To begin with, constant pressure enables a man to do not only more work but also better

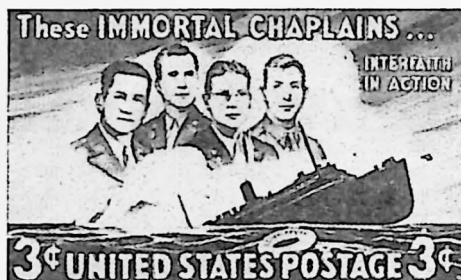
work. The wheels, as it were, are oiled, and the engine is running at its best power. The difficulty with most retired people is that they take so long to get the engine warm, and they fuss more about one short address than they once did about half-a-dozen. It is a very dangerous thing to have too much time to worry and brood about a job. I have a friend in Edinburgh who retired about five years ago, and I remember how he rubbed his hands and said: "Now, I'll get time and leisure to tackle my *magnum opus*." I believed him at the time, and no doubt he believed himself. But the *magnum opus* hasn't appeared, and I have a sneaking suspicion that it hasn't been even begun!—Dr. James Black.



Stamp Issue Honors Chaplains

Armed only with a GI Bible, faith in their God, and the zeal of patriots, eighteen men won the Distinguished Service Cross, and another 157 earned the Silver Star for gallantry in action in World War II.

These men were of the Corps of Chaplains, now dwindled from a high of 8171 during the



war to 1097, who, on Thursday, July 29, 1948, represent a corps 173 years old—within a few days of being as old as the United States Army itself.

Relatively unsung from the days of the Revolutionary War's John Hurt, who was the Army's first legal chaplain, and before him, Captain John Steel who lies buried in Carlisle, Pennsylvania (site of the present Chaplains' School), these men have shared in the ordeals and the casualties of soldiers in all wars. Sixty-three were killed in action in the last war, and nineteen died in Japanese prison camps and in no-battle status.

Already honored this year have been the four chaplains who lost their lives on February 3, 1943, when the s.s. "Dorchester" was torpedoed off Greenland. They—Clark V. Poling, Schenectady, New York; John P. Wash-ton, Newark, N. J.; Alexander D. Goode, Washington, D. C.; and George L. Fox, Chicopee Falls, Mass.—became the subject of a special postage stamp issued in May in commemoration of their heroism in handing their lifebelts to others, and dying together in icy waters in one of the bravest and most inspirational deeds of the war.—"The Christian Standard."



Victorian Census Figures

Greatest proportional increase in religious denominations in Victoria since the 1933 census was recorded by the Roman Catholic church.

This was stated on Aug. 23 by the acting Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. Carver).

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Increases were: Roman Catholic, 21.8 per cent.; Methodist, 21.5; Church of England, 16.6; and Presbyterian, 4.2.

Numerical strengths of the denominations were: Church of England, 729,902 (626,172 in 1933); Roman Catholic, 416,873 (342,135); Presbyterian, 288,383 (276,699); Methodist, 234,595 (193,096); Baptist, 32,020 (31,427); Church of Christ, 29,722 (26,274); Congregational, 11,374 (12,458); Lutheran, 10,002 (8759); Salvation Army, 10,984 (8711); Hebrew, 14,910 (9500).



Church and State of Denmark

The Conservative Party in Denmark has set up a committee which is to study the relationships between church and State. This committee will probably introduce a bill which will guarantee to the church a greater independence of the State, possibly in such a way that the church will decide for itself on all matters except financial ones, which will still be decided upon by Parliament and the Ministry for Church Affairs. The setting up of the committee is a direct result of the controversy caused by the passing of the bill which gave to women the right of access to ecclesiastical offices.



Women's Growing Influence in Indian Public Life

THE Hon. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur, Minister of Health for India, and representative of her government at the meetings of the World Health Organisation, who is a member of a well-known Christian family, spoke to a group of representatives of international organisations in Geneva at a meeting arranged by the World's Y.W.C.A. on July 5.

The achievement of independence for India had meant freedom, but also responsibility, said Rajkumari Amrit Kaur. She spoke of the tremendous needs of her country in the social, medical and educational fields. The partition of India had caused a refugee situation on a scale hardly realised in Europe, and the efforts to meet their needs had meant a diversion of effort that might have gone into the task of building up the country.

With a population of 98 per cent. village dwellers, 15 per cent. literacy among men and only 5 per cent. among women, the fundamental need was for basic education, and there was scope for an almost limitless number of teachers. "We could absorb at least four million," she said.

The new constitution of India recognises no distinction on the grounds of sex in social and political opportunity. She spoke of the increasingly responsible part which women are taking in all directions, and made reference to the new Social Training School which the Y.W.C.A. of India has established in New Delhi. Being only the second professional school in all India to provide trained social workers for a population of four hundred millions, it has very heavy responsibilities. The chairman for the school is Miss Sarah Chakko, Principal of the Isabella Thoburn College in Lucknow, and the chairman of the Advisory Council, Mrs. John Matthai, wife of the Minister of Transport—both active members of the National Y.W.C.A. of India. The number of students has risen from six to twenty in a year, and already some who have completed the course have taken part in relief work among the refugees. Those responsible for the school believe that the timeliness and urgency of the project in applied Christianity are equalled only by the desire of young India to prove its capacity for the responsibilities of freedom.—E.P.S., Geneva.

Methods to Suit the Day

AT the beginnings of the Restoration Movement in Australia the gospel of the New Testament was spread abroad by the personal endeavors of individual members. Among those pioneers were clerks, tradesmen, shopkeepers and farmers. By their own witness they made known the great facts of Christ's ministry. We learn that some went down to the wharves to "meet incoming ships." As opportunity offered they gave instruction to those who were ready to give heed. Others went to the seaside and preached on the beaches to holiday-makers. One able leader, Robert Service, published a paper called "The Melbourne Medley." By distributing this at the Melbourne market to farmers, market gardeners and to others, Mr. Service created considerable interest in New Testament Christianity. Workers on the land in the Brighton and Cheltenham area invited Mr. Service to visit them and to explain more fully the truths of the Bible.

It was by these personal endeavors of individual members that the churches of the New Testament order extended their influence in the first ten years or so of their existence.

II.

WHILE progress was made in those days, it was limited. The brethren recognised their limitations when Thomas H. Milner visited Melbourne in 1862. Mr. Milner was a leader among churches of Christ in Great Britain. During his four months' stay he conducted services in the Temperance Hall, in the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, and in the Town Hall, St. Kilda. So stimulating were the public addresses of this able leader that the local brethren perceived at once that the method needed to reach the masses in their day involved the securing of the use of public halls and the services of a gifted public speaker.

From that time the churches in Melbourne sought the help of a trained preacher. After some delay they were fortunate in securing the able assistance of H. S. Earl, an Englishman, who had been trained in America. Mr. Earl reached Melbourne in 1864. He found the brethren meeting in the Temperance Hall. This place was not suitable for his progressive plans. Guided by Alfred Shaw, Mr. Earl went to St. George's Hall, Bourke-st. The local brethren had been afraid of the heavy costs involved in the hire of a large hall, but the owner of St. George's Hall granted them free use of the place for Sunday evening services.

For the first meeting on July 31, 1864, about 800 persons were present. The next Sunday 1200 gathered. This new method for that day was successful. By the end of twelve months "297 were added to the Lord." The chapel at Lygon-st. was built in 1865 and a cause was commenced in the Manchester Unity Hall, which established the church at Swanston-st. By rising to the occasion and daring to use new methods, the brethren of those early years won great victories.

III.

FOR many years public services were conducted by trained men from America. Considerable advances were made. Then came the period when the efforts of preachers and churches failed to reach the "outsider." The ordinary gospel service of churches failed to interest large numbers. At the Victorian conference in 1901, a paper was read by R. G. Cameron urging the churches to change their evangelistic methods. He suggested that use be made of the large marquee. By setting up the tent in areas where people lived, the "non-churchgoer" might be reached. Conference was impressed. The new method was endorsed. H. G. Harward and E. W. Pittman went out into the home mission fields and became regular tent evan-

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gelists, gaining many converts for the Lord. The new method worked. It met the new conditions. Since that time many have made use of the tent and have gained many victories for Christ. To-day, when used by the specialist, it is still an effective method, especially in new areas where churches are not established. However it is clear that the ordinary preacher cannot gain great success by such a means.

IV.

FOR many years the ordinary gospel service has not attracted the "outsider." It has been difficult to maintain the evangelistic nature of the evening service. Over the years the churches have failed to gain new converts in the numbers of former days. The methods in use have not been able to meet the new conditions which have arisen in recent years.

After a series of committee meetings arranged by the Victorian Home Mission Committee, it was agreed that personal evangelism must be revived. We needed to go back to the New Testament method of going out after the people. We needed to go, two by two, into the homes of people. Having learned of the success of this method in America, the committee agreed to try it out. With the loyal support of the preachers plans were completed during this year to apply the method to Australian conditions. What have been the results? Scores of personal workers have been trained. Hundreds of homes have been visited. Many churches have gained a new sense of mission. Members who had grown indifferent have had their faith revived. Over 200 converts have been gained already by about 17 churches, carrying on their own normal witness (or the witness that ought to be normal) in the last four months. No church has failed to gain some numerical results by this method. All have gained new spiritual fervor. What has been gained by these churches may be achieved by most throughout the Commonwealth.



Religious Census, 1947

SINCE 1933, when the last census was taken, there has been the tragedy of a great war. During much of that period, progressive plans for church extension have been hindered. By maintaining the ordinary church life against the hardening of society toward religion, churches of Christ in Victoria have made some advance according to the 1947 census returns. In 1933 those who set themselves down as members of churches of Christ numbered 26,274. The total for the 1947 census has reached 29,722, a gain of 3448, this being a gain of 13.3 per cent. (See official statement on opposite page.) So far as churches of Christ are concerned, there is not the likelihood of natural increases being reflected in these figures, since gains are made usually by conversion. Baptism is the consequence of conviction. People have to go to church to be baptised; they are not taken. The method of infant baptism used by larger religious bodies could account for their large nominal membership. The Roman Catholic and Methodist churches have each increased by just over 21 per cent. The Baptists have added only 593, making their 1947 total 32,020.

There was a time when churches of Christ did have the largest proportional increase; that was when a vigorous programme of evangelism was maintained in all the churches. There is no reason why we cannot regain that vigorous leadership in evangelism.

The Story of a Country Lane

As Told by J. I. Mudford.

DID you notice, reader, the rural scene reproduced on the first page of this issue of the "Australian Christian"?

Allow me to ask the prophet's question: "What seest thou?"

A country lane? A hill which, for its steepness, might have been thought uncultivable? A brook winding its way around the foot of the hill? A ribbon of road leading to a primeval forest?

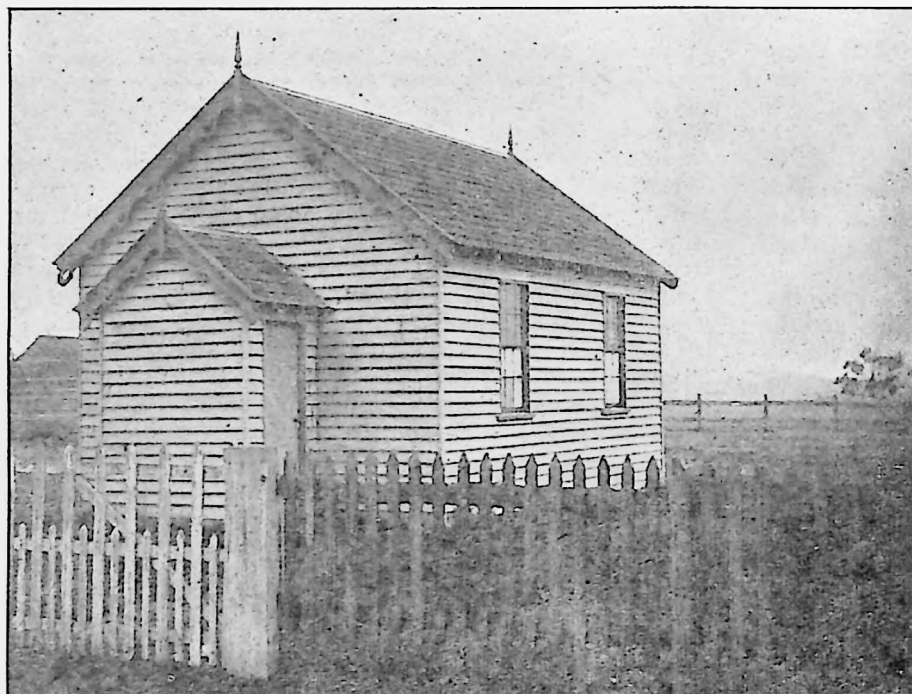
The country thoroughfare has the rather appetising name of Pudding Bag Lane; it runs off Jim Crow Road, in Drummond, Victoria. The hill is McKenzie's Hill, an outstanding landmark. The stream has been given the prosaic title of Back Creek. The ribbon of road leads out westward, towards the Loddon River, through the bush—home, in olden time,

near Drummond, in 1882, about 400 people were present. (To-day it would be a very large city in which that number could be gathered for the same purpose!)

The Lane is of interest for two special reasons. The original site of the church of Christ building was there, close to the spot from which this photograph was taken. Early baptisms (up to 34 at a time) were always performed out of doors, in the stream at the foot of the big hill.

In the home of Mr. Thomas Lewis, to the right of the picture (unfortunately not shown), the first meetings of the church were held. He was a merry-hearted man, who sang cheerfully as he trimmed his hedgerows.

The church prospered through its faithful witnessing. This was strikingly similar to that



The Original Chapel at Drummond, Victoria.

of the luscious blackberry, the dainty maiden-hair fern, the exquisite Drummond native heath, and the quaint little denizen of the ranges, the plaintive-voiced koala bear.

To those who lived there, this was no ordinary lane. It was to them the centre of terrestrial things. The earth's axis almost visibly protruded there. It was Home!

To this lane there came, about the year 1878, a young itinerant preacher named Stephen Cheek. He brought with him three priceless endowments: youth (he was only 26); intellectual power; and spiritual grace. He had resigned his work in Tasmania, left home and kindred, and gone forth to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ. And, in the providence of God, his footsteps had been led hither.

Some have thought that Mr. Cheek's talents would have counted for more in great centres of population; but, let it not be wrongly imagined that they were used among very few people. True, Elphinstone, Newstead, Tara-dale, Drummond, and Malmesbury are "down" in population now; but they certainly were not in the 1870's and 1880's. Much gold, both alluvial and "reef" was being mined. Many rich and cultivable farms were being opened up by settlers. Little wonder, then, that at Mr. Cheek's debate on baptism at Malmesbury,

of the "Conversational Evangelism" campaign now in progress.

Most of the leading men in the brotherhood seem to have come to speak at the Gospel Hall in the lane. Among them were Messrs. Lawson (senior), Harding, Day, Park, Blair, Maston, Cameron, Connor, Clow, Thomas Hagger, and many more.

The church has fallen on evil days. Only nine members are now in regular attendance, but it continues faithfully on its way.

Whither flow the waters of the brook with the prosaic name? To the Coliban River . . . the Campaspe . . . the mighty Murray . . . the boundless ocean! In which fact there lies a parable.

The influence of the small country church, of which this is a typical example, extends far and wide. Better still, it is deep. To such witnessing as is told of here, the Australasian churches of Christ owe an incalculable debt. To the meetings and the membership of this church came, in the early 1890's, a shy Scottish lad, who as Principal Alexander Russell Main and editor of this magazine, exercised a

wonderful influence in the service of our Lord.

The kingdom of God cometh not with outward pomp and show.

News from South Australia

THE passing of H. J. Horsell means that a very noteworthy brother has been promoted to higher service. He was a key man and a vital force for a lengthy period. His active service with and for the South Australian brotherhood earned for him many unique records. In the realm of home missions he had a remarkable status which was built up by long and unstinted service. He was a very observant man who saw and seized opportunities for the establishment of new causes. It was during his term of twenty-seven years as home mission secretary that many new fields were entered. He launched new causes and stood by until such were well founded. Our brother had an excellent memory, and was a fund of reliable information concerning every phase of our work. His evangelistic zeal and ability were used with marked success in tents, halls and chapels. Great numbers were led to Christ by his devoted ministry.

Christian Rest Home

The Rest Home Board has been busily engaged with preliminary matters. Rules and regulations have been drafted. The Taxation Department has now listed gifts to the fund as concessional deductions. Deputational work among the churches has been undertaken by board members with a view to increasing the bank balance to at least £8000 by the end of June next. Present plans are to make a modest beginning when funds are available by accommodating about ten guests under the care of an efficient staff. The aim is to have sufficient money to launch the above proposal, and hold in reserve a balance calculated to ensure the financial stability of the venture. Settlements from two estates are expected at an early date.

A number of prospective guests are awaiting the opening of the home.

Brotherhood Activities

Stocktaking has been inspired and guided by the findings and suggestions of the special commission which investigated the decline in church membership. Official boards and preachers were provided with very useful matter, and it is anticipated that good results will be forthcoming.

A special committee is busy with the Crusade for a Christian World programme. Every effort is being made to launch the campaign under circumstances calculated to promote success.

Loyalty Month efforts have been well under way. G. R. Stirling, of the Youth Department, was responsible for much of the preparation. The objective was to help our young people to develop a greater loyalty to Christ, to the message of New Testament Christianity, to the local church, and to the brotherhood. The booklet of studies for youth groups has been in great demand.

Among the Churches

Visitation evangelism has been in operation at Fullarton, and very encouraging results have been reported. B. W. Manning has built up a very large and vigorous congregation in the above pastorate.

F. Cornelius, preacher at Cheltenham, is resting because of ill-health. His untiring service has been greatly appreciated.

Eight candidates were baptised at Colonel Light Gardens on a recent Sunday evening. G. T. Fitzgerald's ministry is greatly valued. Seven were baptised at Fullarton recently. There have also been baptisms at Strathalbyn where Ira Durdin serves as preacher.—Charles Schwab.

Prayers for Hungry Nations

Call to Worship.—"Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy lovingkindness; according to the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions."

Silent Prayer.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal No. 49, "O worship the King."

Prayer.—"O God, almighty and merciful, let thy fatherly kindness, we pray thee, be upon all whom thou hast made. Hear the prayers of all who call upon thee; open the eyes of those who never pray; pity the sighs of such as are in misery; deal mercifully with all who are in darkness; increase the number of those who love and serve thee. Mercifully preserve the nations from the curse of war, and thy churches from faction and error. Give counsel to all rulers and legislators, that truth and justice, temperance and peace may prevail among us, and grant to all thy children grace to fulfil thy purpose, and to serve thee and their fellows with earnestness and goodwill: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Scripture Reading.—Matthew 21: 31-45.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal No. 148, "See how he loved."

Meditation.—One of the greatest scars left by the recent world war has been the millions of people who have become homeless and hungry through the wastage of life and property and the dissipation of earth's resources.

Appeals from the churches and the United Nations Organisation have not gone unheeded, yet not nearly enough has been received to give relief to even the 250 million children of the world who are desperately hungry. Thirty million in Europe and more than thirty million in Asia are approaching starvation. From Paris right across to Istanbul there is no milk for children over six.

It is a touching story of how the children of Coventry (blitzed by the luftwaffe) sent ten cases of chocolate which had been given to them, to be distributed to German children in Hanover and Brunswick.

One of our Endeavor societies sending food parcels to Germany received a reply from one of the recipients in which he said, "To-day it was shown to me that our heavenly Father fulfils his word in every way, and hears the prayers of his children, who ask him, 'Give us this day our daily bread.' Thus your gift has become to me a gift from heaven."

Jesus said, "I was hungry and ye fed me," and "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

It is difficult for many of us to realise the meagre rations that a large part of the world's population has to exist upon. If we did we could understand the reaction of a displaced person going from a famine-stricken land to one of plenty. When he was asked, after being shown some of the beauty spots of his new country, what impressed him the most, his reply was, "The full garbage cans." If there were more simplicity of living and less waste in many a household, there would be more to share with those who are hungry.

Can we say with Georgia Harkness:—

"I listen to the agony of God—
I who am fed,
Who never yet went hungry for a day.
I see the dead—
The children starved for lack of bread;
I see and try to pray.

"I listen to the agony of God,
But know full well
That until I share their bitter cry—
Earth's pain and hell—
Can God within my spirit dwell
To bring his kingdom nigh."

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal No. 236, "Bread of the world."

Prayer.—"Teach us to love our fellowmen as thou dost love, and to give help and hope to those who need our aid. Amen."

Business.

Home Mission Notes.

Overseas Letter.

Address.—"Hilfswerk," German Church Relief.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnal No. 24, "God moves in a mysterious way."

Benediction.

If some societies would like to have a greater part in sending aid to some of the stricken people of Europe, why not hold a sacrificial luncheon or tea? Suggestions for such a gathering can be had by writing to Mrs. P. D. McCallum, 45 Victoria-st., Epping. N.S.W.



Mrs. Nightingale, pioneer member of church at Emerald, Vic.

EXECUTIVE NOTES

Tasmania.—At June meeting, devotional session was led by Mrs. Burden, who gave a talk on "What will you make?" There was a smaller attendance than usual owing to much sickness. Reports from five auxiliaries were received. Attendance was much better at July meeting. President Mrs. Plummer led devotions, giving an address on "Happy is the woman who finds God at noontide, in the sunshine, or in the shadows." Reports from Hospital, Temperance, Overseas and Mission Bands all showed that much was being accomplished. In an endeavor to increase amount for home missions, "blessing" bags are to be brought in quarterly as part of the effort.

Victoria.—At August meeting Mrs. Ploog was in chair, and there were 113 ladies present. Devotional session was led by Mrs. Scambler. A special welcome was extended to Sister Ellis, of Bethesda Aborigines Mission, Fitzroy. She later addressed the meeting, and told of the work they are doing amongst aborigine people in that district. President reported one meeting of executive with representatives of eight young women's groups. A committee was formed to consider co-ordination of this work. Recommendation of W.A. sisters re "living link" to aborigines was endorsed. Mrs. Squires, of Temperance Committee, moved that a minute be placed on record of the excellent work done by Mrs. Morrall in planning and carrying out such a successful work in connection with the Helpers' Club. Mrs. Withers reported that contribution to date of Mission Bands was £199/15/-.

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Queensland.—Devotions for monthly meeting of Women's Auxiliary on August 6 were led by sisters from Ipswich, Mrs. Burgin in chair, assisted by Mrs. Machin and Mrs. Faudry. Mrs. Haworth presided over business session, and welcomed Mrs. Brigadier Garlick, of Salvation Army, who gave an address based on "Seek ye first the kingdom of heaven." There were twenty-six present from eight churches. Mrs. Leggett has been appointed superintendent of isolated members' correspondence. Treasurer's report showed credit balance of £104/3/11.

Western Australia.—Monthly meeting of Women's Auxiliary was held in Lake-st. at 11 a.m. on July 6. Bunbury sisters sent material for devotional session, conducted by Cottesloe ladies. President thanked leaders and Bunbury sisters for their co-operation. Sixty-five members answered roll-call. Mrs. Tubby, from Gutha, and Miss Elsie Roxburgh were welcomed. Miss Roxburgh responded. Mrs. Pollard reported on meeting Miss Helen Keller, and opening of new Royal Perth Hospital. Mrs. Althorpe was specially remembered in prayer, also Mrs. Mercer and family, who have suffered loss of a daughter. On July 21, Women's Auxiliary held a district rally at Shenton Park church. Morning session was devoted to our own work generally, and budget system. In afternoon Federal business and programme were discussed, and a forward move made towards finality. Sisters anticipate with pleasure their coming conference and fellowship with Eastern States sisters. A big forward move is planned. Remember: Oct. 19 for Women's Federal Conference. Day meetings in Lake-st.; evening meeting in Trinity church. Theme will be "Evangelism." Mrs. P. D. McCallum, from Epping, N.S.W., is expected as speaker for women's sessions. Music for evening meeting will be supplied by Subiaco girls' club choir (augmented).

New South Wales.—At meeting on August 6, members of Chatswood Mission Band led devotional session. Brigadier Bell, of Salvation Army, gave an interesting address on her work in Ceylon. A very good attendance of representatives from churches showed their appreciation of holding meetings in morning.

South Australia.—Monthly meeting of auxiliary was held at Grote-st. on August 5. Mrs. J. Graham led devotional session. Mrs. Green presided over business session, and expressed pleasure of having in meeting Mrs. A. L. Read, who had been seriously ill. Mrs. Green reported that Mrs. Fax and she had discussed with members of preachers' fraternal the work of deaconesses. Mrs. McCallum reported that four sisters had received the home-call—Mrs. Glastonbury (Croydon), Mrs. Lord, Miss Harris and Miss Williams (Unley). Mrs. Beiler offered prayer for bereaved. Mrs. Verco spoke of splendid services of late Mr. Horsell. Mrs. Read asked members to keep sending parcels to missionaries, and said that quilts may possibly be sent on same boat as missionaries in January. Mrs. Harding and her committee have held several prayer meetings, and Mrs. Thomas and her committee have paid 49 visits to hospitals and institutions. Mrs. Fax reported that the all-day conference of Women's Church Association was a most helpful day.



FEDERAL CONFERENCE

THE Women's Federal Conference meeting will be held on October 19. The Western Australian executive has worked hard to make this bi-annual conference a very successful one.

GOD'S LOVING KINDNESS

I have no comfort but thy love,
Without it, life is death to me;
Joyless through all its joys I move,
Hopeless through all its misery;
Yet, trusting thee, I daily prove
The blessed comfort of thy love.

—Melson Godfrey.

Australian Interest

At Home and Abroad

Why a Federal Conference?

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO DELEGATES

ONE way to answer this question is to analyse the motives that will bring delegates and visitors from all over Australia to Perth in October. We must face frankly and admit that one motive will be to have a good holiday. Far from being an unworthy one, it seems to me to be very commendable. How can a Christian spend a holiday better than among Christian brethren and sisters, and in an atmosphere of inspiration and worship? One of the greatest blessings of the Christian church is the fellowship that it provides.

Another reason why people go to Federal conferences is that they enjoy the inspiration of these large gatherings. This is of great value not only to the visitors from other States, but also to the churches in the city in which the conference is held. Surely this is one of the reasons why it is wise to vary the place of conference from State to State! The smaller States particularly look forward with keen anticipation to the inspiration that a Federal conference will bring. W.A. churches are eagerly awaiting the coming of October, and we believe that both interstate visitors and local members will receive an uplift to their spiritual lives as the result of the inspirational meetings planned.

A further reason delegates are coming to conference is that there is vital business of Australian-wide interest to be discussed. It is good to get the bigger outlook on the work of our Australian brotherhood. There are many things that, as States, we cannot do alone, and we need to get together to talk over the work, hear reports, and plan for the future.

And now a little word about the coming conference. Those who have registered to come can look forward to a very hearty Christian welcome, and we trust a time of rich spiritual blessing. This is not an appeal for more brethren and sisters to come to the conference,

will do all we can to make your stay in Perth a happy one. We cannot do all we should like, owing to restrictions, but we will make every endeavor to give you a time of real Christian fellowship.

We look forward to a conference that will inaugurate a period of evangelistic progress for our churches in Australia, as we plan our "Crusade for Christ."—Les. E. Peacock, Federal President.

Jubilee — Subiaco, W.A.

THE church at Subiaco celebrates its "Jubilee" during September and October. Special features in connection with the fiftieth anniversary include the production of a souvenir programme and history of church. Young people will present a jubilee pageant, picturing events in story of church at Subiaco.

In 1898 the cause began because of the vision of C. A. G. Payne, who was postmaster in district. He became the first secretary. Arthur Lucraft was the first preacher. In 1900 the first portion of the present imposing building in Bagot-rd. was erected. Then the faithful and fruitful ministries of A. E. Illingworth and H. J. Banks followed. The latter will be remembered for his helpful contribution to the Westralian brotherhood.

Other evangelists who have labored with the church are A. W. Connor, G. T. Fitzgerald, W. H. Clay, Allen Brooke, F. T. Carter, A. G. Saunders, A. E. Hurren, Roy Raymond, and A. G. Elliott. Only three foundation members are alive: Mrs. C. A. G. Payne (now of Lake-st., Perth), Dr. A. J. Saunders (of Melbourne) and Tom Hutchison (who has remained with the church in unbroken membership for fifty years).

Arthur Hurren, of Footscray, Victoria, and Roy Raymond, of Inglewood, W.A., both former preachers at Subiaco, will be sharing with the church in the "Jubilee" gatherings.

Programme for India

WITH India's tremendous need before us, we rejoice to hear of a "ten-year programme for evangelism." India is a land of 700,000 villages, with 225 distinct languages and 2300 castes and sub-castes. This ten-year programme is village-centred. The plan is to enlist one leader for every village, and to reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ. The aim is to have voluntary and self-supporting teams. Some essential subjects will have attention, such as social and educational work, literacy classes (Laubach system), agriculture and public health, and always the preaching of the gospel of Christ, with and without pictures. To win India for Christ is the great objective. This is a wonderful scheme, and where God leads he provides.

Pandit Nehru on His Task

THE stupendous task and responsibilities that confront him in his high office as Prime Minister of India were described by Pandit Nehru, replying to a civic address presented to him by the Bombay Municipal Corporation on his first visit to the city as Prime Minister of Free India.

"I remember the suffering of ten years of life that I had to spend in jail during the national movement, but when I compare them with twenty months I have been at the head of government, I feel these months were more

difficult due to the unprecedented situation created during the period than those ten years of jail life. The new life has almost made me a prisoner, and I do not find it always possible to go wherever I like and whenever I like. I feel as if I am in a bigger prison now both in body and spirit."—A. Anderson, secretary of Federal Overseas Committee, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A.



Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru.

N.S.W. Plans Campaigns

AT the invitation of the N.S.W. Ministers' Fraternal, A. W. Stephenson came to inform the brotherhood here about the methods and experiences of Home Visitation Evangelism. It was a lightning visit of five days packed full. Our brother was met at the aerodrome and driven to central station to continue by train to Newcastle. There Mr. Stephenson addressed Georgetown officers, and later a public meeting at Hamilton. Next day he returned to Sydney to be guest of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Patterson.

Mr. Stephenson addressed district rallies at North Sydney, Burwood and Marrickville. At both morning and afternoon sessions on the Friday lectures were given to preachers. On Sunday morning the church at Chatswood and in the afternoon the church at Paddington received a blessing from sermons given by this untiring visitor. At 5.30 p.m. the same evening Mr. Stephenson was aboard the "Skymaster" to wing his way back to Melbourne.

What will be the outcome of it all? To many to whom our brother spoke "Home Visitation Evangelism" meant nothing more than the name implied. For these the clear instruction he gave was of obvious help. There were many others who had read and heard of the method of organisation. For these there was still something new to be learnt, but the main value was the encouragement of hearing from one who had so much actual experience both in organisation and in visiting. Then there was the contagion of his personality. Especially is this true of the few churches where campaigns were already under way. Naturally the visitors are apprehensive, but faith has been strengthened and new hope given.

In considering the value of the visit, it is important that a committee has been formed to assure that the work may be co-ordinated and churches assisted in their campaigns. "Schools" will be conducted for those organising campaigns. The first cycle will be completed by Christmas, and a second by conference 1949.

On behalf of the brotherhood in N.S.W., I am anxious to express appreciation for the help given in this method of the church's doing the work of the church.—E. W. Roffey.



Les. E. Peacock, Federal Conference President.

as, unfortunately, the number able to travel by train has been limited by the Commonwealth Railways to 200, and already that number has registered. It is, however, an appeal to those who are coming, to come with the very keen desire in their hearts to make the conference one of real value to the whole Australian brotherhood. Come feeling that you have some contribution to make. Your fellowship, friendly Christian spirit, and enthusiasm for the Master's work can mean success for the conference. We, on our part,

The Australian Christian

Here and There

C. P. Hughes, secretary of the South Australian Temperance Alliance, was in Melbourne last week to present to the Commonwealth Tariff Board a protest against the wine industry's appeal for financial assistance to conduct a publicity campaign.

The students of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., have published the "Students' Annual, 1948." This magazine presents a wide range of articles and pictures. It is a well-prepared publication and gives the reader a good picture of the serious and light sides of college life.

H. Swain, who has served many churches throughout the years, has also taken an interest in civic affairs at Preston, Victoria. He has been a councillor for many years. At one period he was Mayor of Preston. Having passed, by several years, the 80 mark, he did not seek re-election last week. We congratulate our brother upon his years of service to church and community.

Demands on space make it needful for us to edit and reduce copy to make room for the widest range of news coming to us. We are anxious to have live news. If you have real news let us have it at once. Space allotted for "Open Forum" is not sufficient to meet all requests. We do our best to meet the desires of all, but find it impossible to satisfy all. Our space is limited and demands upon it are growing. This is a sign of the growing value of the journal in the community.

On Aug. 15, at Nailsworth, S.A., two young men made good confession and were baptised on 22nd. Youth department held a night on Aug. 16, when a good number attended and made an offering to department projector fund. Mr. Fisher addressed anniversary public meeting of Pulsford-rd. Baptist Church on Aug. 18. Ladies' Guild took charge of prayer meeting on Aug. 19, leader being Mrs. Smith and address being given by Mrs. McQueen. On Aug. 21 a church tea was well attended, all listening with interest to an address by Dr. Trevor Turner. Mr. Russell, representing conference, and Mrs. Fax, representing sisters' conference, were also present. Meetings continue to be well attended; average, 122 a.m. for month.

James Holloway writes: "I desire to say 'thank you' to our preaching brethren, both full and part-time, for the very generous way in which they have come to the assistance of the Malvern-Caulfield church (Victoria) during the long illness of our preacher, Mr. C. Cole. Their ready willingness to help us has taken a big load off the mind of our preacher, and will, I am sure, prove a great contribution towards his ultimate recovery and return to the ministry. This co-operation demonstrates the fine Christian spirit of those who have helped and are helping, and others who offered, as well as showing the high esteem in which Mr. Cole is held by them. We expect him to resume his work with us on the first Sunday in December."

At week-end of Aug. 1, church at Roma, Qld., had a visit from F. B. Stow, youth organiser. Special services included a hike and discussion, also a social. Services on Sunday conducted by Mr. Stow were an inspiration, and at gospel service young folk assisted and two young men, recently converted, gave a personal testimony. Services on Aug. 15 were conducted by Mr. Parker, gospel service being broadcast. On Aug. 13, Ladies' Guild conducted a social, proceeds for home missions, £3/10/- being submitted. Offering for United Nations appeal for children was £10. In preparation for mission commencing Sept. 12, bi-weekly prayer meetings are being held each Tuesday and Friday, also a midday prayer meeting on each Wednesday from 12 noon to 2 p.m. At scripture examinations seven scholars passed. A piano has been purchased for use at Bible school and other services.

On Aug. 10, a new venture originated with United Christian Women's Fellowship in the West Moreton Circuit, Qld. Meeting was held in Rosewood chapel, delegates being present from Congregational, Church of England, Methodist and Baptist churches. Mrs. David Kruger, president West Moreton Women's District Conference, presided over a splendid gathering. A feature was reference to an electric clock recently installed as memorial to late Mrs. Jackwitz. A helpful address was given by Mrs. Bird, Central Baptist Church, Ipswich. Circuit is in fine spiritual tone,

Visitation Evangelism

Campaigns at Frankston, Caulfield (Bambra-rd.) Balwyn and Bendigo.

ONCE again we are happy to report that Victorian churches have gained further successes in evangelistic efforts. We have space to give only a brief summary of results. Full reports will follow.

At Frankston, where Thos. Hagger is preacher, J. Cunningham assisted. Six teams contacted, 29 prospects. At the evening service of Aug. 29, over 100 filled the chapel. After the gospel address presented by J. C. Cunningham, eight adults responded to the appeal. Mr. Hagger, after years of mission experiences, said of this New Testament method: "It is well worth while." One visitor remarked: "This is what we ought to be doing continually."

At Caulfield (Bambra-rd.) E. J. Miles assisted W. W. Saunders. During the week 8 signed cards, when 8 teams visited 70 homes. At the evening service 220 were present. After Mr. Miles' gospel appeal 15 responded; 10 for primary confession, 4 reconsecrations, and one baptised believer. Two who signed cards will make the public confession later.

Balwyn church was assisted by A. Withers. D. Thomas organised 8 teams, contacting 40 homes. At the gospel service 130 were present. Many who do not attend church regularly were in the service. At close of gospel address one decided for Christ.

At Bendigo, C. J. Robinson, the preacher, organised the campaign. Stan. Neighbour addressed visitors. At the evening service Mr. Robinson preached. The following telegram sums up the results: "Thrilling climax; hundred present; eight decisions; good prospects of more later; also restorations."

and Mr. Caldicott has organised either a weekly or fortnightly meeting in each church apart from Sunday services. Youth throughout circuit are responding to responsibilities. Congratulations are expressed to Kevin, Vincent, Trevor and Laurel Christensen, Myra Hinrichsen, Ruth Bade and Juanita Pieper, for results in scripture examinations; 18 passed with honors, and five others passed. Paul Schumann is recovering from illness, and Miss Zahl has been restored, also Mrs. Ridgon's infant daughter. Mr. Augustine, Marburg, recently confessed Christ. Lorraine Schmidt has been baptised. Overseas mission offering reached £70. Visitors to circuit include Mr. and Mrs. Vic. Morris and Betty, Sydney. Congratulations are expressed to N. Berlin for his awards of championship in Exhibition. Open-air meetings are stirring town. Mr. Caldicott has maintained visitation, travelling over 200 miles each week.

Services on Aug. 22, at Geelong, Vic., were well attended. Mr. Stirling was speaker. On Aug. 21 Mr. and Mrs. Inman entertained tennis club to an evening at their home. On Aug. 26 an interesting and helpful lantern lecture was given by Mr. Duff Forbes. Mr. Stirling preached at both services on Aug. 29. Church continues to pray and prepare for visitation evangelistic campaign in September, under leadership of H. R. Coventry, of Carnegie.

R. Acland has agreed to assist J. Brookes in home visitation evangelism, to be held from September 5 to 12, at Georgetown, N.S.W. S. W. Vanham, of Lismore, is also to help. Seven teams are to visit seventy prospects, forty homes. Prayer forces are being marshalled. District Convention at Georgetown on August 21 proved helpful. Lloyd Jones, of Wollongong, was speaker.—Frazer.

Four who confessed Christ at final service of home evangelism campaign at Drumcondra, Vic., were baptised on Aug. 22. Jacqueline Dabb gained highest marks for Drumcondra in scripture examinations; she also gained a State second prize. Ladies' Aid celebrated anniversary with a musical afternoon and work stall. Mission Band has forwarded parcels to India, New Hebrides and A.I.M. Church is saddened to hear of serious illness of Mrs. Combridge, also that Mrs. Jack and Mr. Hore are in hospital. L. W. G. Duff-Forbes gave lantern lecture on Aug. 23 entitled "Palestine and the Jews." New church notice board and wayside pulpit have been erected in church grounds. Mr. and Mrs. Jervis were received into membership on Aug. 29.

HINRICHSEN-MACHIN MISSION.

SOUTH PERTH, W.A.

TWELVE months ago our people had not conducted a church service in South Perth. In November of last year a few faithful members decided to start a church. They met in a hall. The speaking was done by various visiting brethren until the commencement of the mission. Although the numbers were small amongst the members are some of the finest workers for the Lord that one could wish to meet. These stood by the mission most loyally. Many did not miss one service. There was no preacher to assist during the mission. The mission commenced in the middle of winter, the weather being wet and windy. For the first two or three weeks it was difficult to get non-members to come. Very few attended. However, our members from many parts came. Later a great impact was made on the community. Tent was crowded again and again.

Some remarkable experiences took place. On at least six nights people who tried to go home rejecting Christ were impelled by the Holy Spirit to return and make the confession. On one night four adults came back at different times from different directions.

One night a father, mother, two sons and daughter accepted Christ. The father told me he had not been inside a church for 15 years. Now he has set up the family altar in the home and has started scripture reading and prayer.

Space does not admit of recording the wonderful things which took place. On Sunday and Monday alone there were ten husbands and wives united in Christ. Briefly here are the results: (1) On Sunday in this new cause 115 broke bread, and since then another 20 have decided. (2) In the mission there were 106 confessions. (3) The thank-offering came to £628. (4) This baby church has engaged a full-time preacher, Mr. Ivan Nixon. It has become self-supporting from the start. The Home Missionary Committee has not had to spend one pound on the mission nor on the preacher's salary. Over and above the expenses of the mission there will be some hundreds of pounds toward new building.

The faith and works of the loyal few have been abundantly rewarded. Now many other places are saying, "May we have a mission?" —E. C. Hinrichsen.

News of the Churches

Tasmania

Nubeena.—Morning services are well attended. In evenings Mr. Street is giving appreciated sermons on "The Golden Chapters of the Bible," taken from John's gospel. At sisters' Sunshine Band monthly meeting Mrs. Street presided, and interest was centred on foreign mission work. Christian Endeavorers held a camp-fire meeting. Many attended, and competitions, quizzes and community singing were enjoyed.

South Australia

Hindmarsh.—Loyalty services for August are creating interest. Different auxiliaries lead Sunday evenings, address being given by J. E. Shipway. Loyalty social on Aug. 20 attracted a large gathering. G. Stirling, youth director, assisted. Items by auxiliaries were well received. F. Kersley reached 90 years of age on Aug. 15. He is able to be present at most Sunday morning services. Scholars in Bible examinations did well. Margaret Magor and Marlene Sykes gained first prizes.

Flinders Park.—On Aug. 14, an intermediate C.E. squash was held in home of G. Houston, 21 young people attending. Choruses, competitions and moving pictures of India were shown, and supper was enjoyed. Gifts of soap and toilet requisites were donated for aborigines mission. R. McLean has been on holiday at Mildura. On Aug. 22 G. Houston gave address in morning, and at night H. A. Lukehurst preached. Preparations are in hand for installing a baptistery in chapel.

Forestville.—Attendances have been affected by flu epidemic. Several who have been seriously ill are making slow recovery. Recent speakers have been Ross Graham, J. T. Train, A. W. Wilson. Dr. Trevor Turner brought before church plans for financing proposed Christian Rest Home. All addresses have been appreciated. One young lady from Bible class has been welcomed into church by faith and baptism. Improvements to kitchen included a crockery cupboard, terrazzo sink, and extra cupboard space below.

Prospect.—Annual business meeting was held on Aug. 18 with good attendance; R. Vincent presided. Deacons elected: Messrs. Spry, Jenkins, Meadows, Crosby, Purdie, Bunyon, Collins; deaconesses, Sisters Mackenzie, Dixon, Roberts; secretary, H. C. Meadows; treasurer, K. Crosby; assistant, W. Molsher; organists, Miss J. Mackenzie, K. Dix; auditors, S. Riches, M. Purdie; "Christian" agent, R. Fax; "Fellowship" agent, Miss R. Riches; "Christian" and "Fellowship" reporter, Miss D. Wood. All auxiliaries showed a year of good service. Plans are being made for further developments. Morning service on Aug. 22 was exhorted by R. Vincent. Evening service was well attended, and R. Vincent's address was on youth problems.

Strathalbyn.—Attendances at all services during month were affected by sickness. Girls' Club held a successful concert on July 30 under leadership of Mrs. G. Dugmore. At annual business meeting, which was preceded by a tea prepared by ladies, on Aug. 19, reports of church and auxiliaries all showed progress, and work in good heart. It was decided that church become self-supporting from September. T. Butler and L. Boxhall were elected to board of deacons. After four and a half years of efficient and capable service as superintendent of J.C.E. Society, Mrs. D. Cross is relinquishing, and will be missed by children. L. Boxhall has consented to fill position. Y.P.C.E. society, which has been reformed, is progressing slowly, and helpful meetings have been held. A presentation was made by church to Mr. and Mrs. D. Tester, who have gone to reside at Blackwood. V. White is an inmate of Strathalbyn S.M. Hospital, and is recovering from operation for

appendicitis. E. Caudle's health is improving, and he is able to attend services.

Kilburn.—Monthly prayer meeting was held at home of Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Peacock on Aug. 17. Three Bible school scholars won State prizes for scripture examinations—Morris Peacock, Div. I., 2nd prize; Rolffe Peacock, Div. III., 3rd prize; Airdrie Mann, Div. IV., 2nd prize. Alyce Marks and Catherine Kelly were awarded certificates. On Aug. 22 attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school was 63. Mrs. Mann is teaching again following operation. 11 a.m. service was conducted by J. Manning, when 22 adults and 28 young worshippers enjoyed splendid talks by Mr. Symes, preacher of Kilburn Methodist Church. G. Edwards, of Westbourne Park Baptist Church, was speaker at 7 p.m. gospel service, when 22 enjoyed the address and the story to children.

Western Australia

North Perth.—On July 25 Mr. Elliott, conference president, addressed church. S. Davey, youth director, addressed monthly teachers' meeting on Aug. 1. On Aug. 15 Mr. Hammer gave an address. Mr. Hoskin passed away on July 30. Church extends sympathy to wife and family. A kitchen tea was held in honor of Enid Roberts and G. Myles prior to their marriage on Aug. 14.

Kalgoorlie.—On July 29, boys' club entertained men of church at a social evening. Speaker on morning of Aug. 8 was R. Beard. Ladies' Mission Band held Wooroloo annual afternoon on Aug. 11, proceeds of which were for Christmas cheer. Bible school is practising for anniversary, O. Cannon leading singing. Special services are planned for Diamond Jubilee. Esther Styles, who is on sick leave, was here for some weeks, and left during month for Adelaide. Mrs. Williams was received in on Aug. 22.

Perth (Lake-st.).—During month there has been average attendance of 87 in morning and 59 in evening. Average offering, £17. Dorcas Society is making preparations for a sale. A revival of Y.P.S.C.E. has taken place, meetings being on Saturday evenings. Young Women's Fellowship is maintaining interest of members, particularly mothers with young children, in affairs of church. There has been increase in prayer meeting attendance. Sunday school has commenced practice for anniversary. Men's monthly dinner was a happy occasion with address on "Parliamentary Procedure" by A. Panton, M.L.A. Two "Literature Sundays" with appropriate addresses by Mr. Robinson stimulated interest. On Aug. 15 Mr. Hillier gave a helpful address. In September home visitation evangelism begins. Earnest prayer is preceding effort.

Wembley Park.—There was a record attendance at gospel meeting on July 25 (101) for C.E. anniversary. Allen Pyne led song service. Scripture lesson was read by Maxine Hogben. A brief address was given by Norman Gilbert. G. Whiting preached. Average attendances for month—50 for breaking of bread and 40 for gospel service. Average attending South Perth mission from Wembley Park on Thursday evenings has been 17. On morning of Aug. 8, I. Nixon (Bassendean) gave address. On morning of Aug. 15 two young people, a man and a woman, previously baptised, were received into fellowship, and at night one young girl from Bible school made good confession. There has been average of 100 at Bible school. All other auxiliaries keep a good average. Church met on Aug. 18 to hear a lantern lecture by Mr. Nunn, of African Missionary Society. About 30 were

present, and G. Whiting conducted. A retiring offering was taken and literature sold to help funds of society.

Harvey.—On Aug. 3, sisters spent day sewing for guild; they joined on Aug. 10 other organisations in an all-day sewing bee for children of Europe. Youth fellowship entertained C. of E. and Methodist young people at a social evening on July 22. Mrs. Rowley is laid aside by sickness. Mr. Roesner has returned from hospital after operation. Mrs. Thurrowgood is expected home next week from Bethesda Hospital. Mrs. Wooders was welcomed back after a trip to Eastern States. Eunice Livingstone is helping with organ in absence of Mrs. Thurrowgood. M. Livingstone is training children for anniversary.

New South Wales

Taree.—Bible school scholars secured excellent marks in examination, three gaining State prizes. Janice Saxby has secured a first prize and distinction as a prize-winner for three successive years. A. B. Clark, who continues to edify church with his addresses, plans first part of his holidays during school vacation.

Asquith.—Brethren who during past weeks have assisted in ministry of word are thanked. On Aug. 4 a young married couple were baptised. These were received into fellowship on Aug. 8. On Aug. 15, sisters arranged a tea to commemorate preacher's birthday. Sister D. Maher bedecked table with a beautiful birthday cake. Some 35 persons enjoyed the banquet, presided over by past president N. B. Morris. A helpful address was given by chairman, after which presentation of a fountain-pen and pencil was made to preacher from church. At evening service seating accommodation was taxed.

Seven Hills.—Church has appreciated addresses by local brethren N. Taylor, J. Hathaway, J. Tyler, H. James, and visiting brethren R. Saunders (Canley Vale) and A. Baker (Lidcombe), as well as by preacher, G. H. Eager. Attendances have suffered somewhat through sickness, especially that of G. Piper, who has been unable to bring distant and aged members to services in his car. Church is rejoicing in answered prayer in recovery of Mr. James after accident as well as Mr. Piper from pleurisy. While church manse is not completed yet, it is sufficiently advanced for Mr. Eager and family to occupy it. Bible school is gradually increasing. On Aug. 21 scholars enjoyed a party to celebrate end of competition in school. Junior K.S.P. (Order of Tarsus) is in formation stage, and has good prospects. Preparation is being made to renovate tennis court. Plans are in hand to hold a series of special evening services during warmer months, commencing in September, in order to create interest among folk not touched directly at present.

Merewether.—During July Sister Perkins and Sister Candy were received by faith and baptism. Most members have suffered sickness. T. Magner is recuperating with two broken heels after what could have been a far more serious accident. Church has been saddened by loss of elders T. Newburn, who passed away on July 29, and J. Fraser on Aug. 9. Memorial services were held in chapel, both being crowded with relatives and friends. Cottage prayer meetings maintain very good attendances. Mr. Andrews, of Sudan Mission, gave a lantern lecture at one meeting at home of invalid sister Mrs. Gordon. Sixteen scholars sat for S.S. examination. There have been four new scholars in last month. Mr. Retchford continues to give excellent exhortations and gospel addresses. He gives religious instruction at five schools each week. During preacher's absence at Kurri Kurri on Aug. 1, speakers were Mr. Oswald, from Georgetown, and K. Lynn, of Bush Missionary Society. Renovations to chapel are being carried on, and interior of building is being painted. Many members are practising for a concert in aid of building fund. Ladies' Guild is still working for this cause.

Beverley Hills.—On June 20 and 27 Messrs. Coxhead and Munro addressed church. Some young people attended camp re-union on July 3 at Burwood chapel. Mr. Munro continued with helpful addresses at all services during July. Youth Fellowship arranged a film night in church hall on July 10, proceeds towards cricket material for club. A representative of B. and F. Bible Society addressed Ladies' Aid on July 7. Mr. Craig, from Hurstville, and Mr. Goodyear, from Mortdale, spoke to church on July 25 and Aug. 1. Preparations are being made for special effort, students of Woolwich Bible College holding mission in large tent.

Kurri Kurri.—Church celebrated 21st anniversary in June. Visiting preachers during quarter were Messrs. Latimer, Bates, Retchford, Hillier and Wotherspogn. Mr. Retchford preached at both services on Aug. 1, when Ena Davidson confessed Christ. Following Sunday George Wotherspoon was speaker, and at evening service Mervyn Murphy made the good confession. Ena and Mervyn were both baptised same night. On Aug. 15 Bill Bates was visiting speaker, and Clare Allsop sang a beautiful solo. At same service church bade farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Oswald, of Georgetown. Mr. Oswald has been of invaluable assistance to church, and his removal to Sydney is regretted. A presentation of a silver pencil was made. A Sunday school scholar, Elaine Willets, gained first prize in her section.

Wollongong.—Preacher has conducted two series of addresses. In morning, postponed stewardship campaign has been held and appropriate addresses given. During August evenings, theme has been, "Can You Believe It?" Interest has been shown as different sections of the church (ladies, men, youth, etc.) have been guests on respective nights. Building has been filled for each service, and on Aug. 8 packed audiences morning and evening were largest for some time. Further decisions have been recorded, and a baptismal service conducted. A new venture has been launched by Mr. Jones—a Christian workers' training class—which meets weekly on Tuesday evenings. Hot tea is provided at 6 p.m., and class commences at 6.45 with half an hour of Bible study, then another equal period, during which Mr. Jones is delivering a series of lectures on child psychology. Response has been heartening, and attendance has reached 32 for class. On Aug. 15, monthly youth tea was held and 40 heard talk by Mr. Hartnell, of Christian Radio Missionary Fellowship. Men of church at fellowship meeting enjoyed an address by Mr. Webber on reminiscences of fifty years' church work. Mr. Jones leaves for a tent mission at Roma, Qld., early in September, and arrangements are being made for preaching during that time.

Victoria

Hampton.—Miss J. Buckley and Mr. Lunn were married in chapel on Aug. 28, C. L. Lang officiating. Prior to this a kitchen social had been held in their honor. At meeting of C.M.S. on evening of 28th, members of Brighton society provided portion of the programme and were entertained at supper. A "favorite hymns" night was conducted on Aug. 29.

Kyneton.—Overseas mission offering of £11 is a record. Bible school members are making picture books for hospital visitation. Parcels are coming in for social service European clothing appeal. On Aug. 21, in chapel, Connie Ross and R. R. Jacobs were united in marriage by W. Gale, of Melbourne. Presentations were made at an enjoyable social tendered them on Aug. 14.

Maryborough.—Several members have been absent in recent weeks through illness. Mr. Alcorn prepared several scholars for scripture examination. All passed, two obtaining honors. Ladies' Aid held social afternoon for furnishing funds; this proved very successful. Mission Band hold enjoyable fellowship evenings in members' homes once a month. Bible school

scholars are practising for anniversary under Mr. Alcorn.

Mt. Evelyn.—On June 20, first church anniversary was held. A. Pratt presided, W. Gale gave a fine address, and Misses Graham sang a beautiful trio, to a good congregation. Offerings for foreign missions, £2/2/-, and for starving children's appeal, £4/10/-. On Aug. 8 Shirley Graham was received by faith and baptism. Interest is keeping up well.

Footscray.—In absence of A. E. Hurren, who was visiting Swan Hill district, on Aug. 22 speakers were J. I. Mudford and Mr. Peitzsch. At evening service soloist was David Dunwoodie, of W.A., who is returning home after some months in Melbourne. His help has been appreciated. A successful fair was held on Aug. 13, every auxiliary having a part; £140 was raised. Doug. Nicholls visited Young Women's Guild on Aug. 25, and Phi Betas had a visit from Miss Gill. There has been record attendance at Sunday school recently, 104. Preparations are in hand for anniversary.

Prahran.—"Second-coming convention" held on Aug. 28 and 29 was an inspiration to all who attended. Speakers were J. K. Bond, D. R. Stirling, J. Wiltshire, F. E. Buckingham and Ridley Kitchen, of Kew Baptist Church. 106 broke bread. Mrs. Richardson, Pat Richardson and Percy Handby were baptised in evening, and a lady made the good confession. C.M.S. has been formed with C. Davey president, H. Lee secretary, A. McKenzie treasurer. These three, together with W. Berthelsen and N. Smith, form committee.

Hamilton.—Meetings during July and August were up to average. All auxiliaries are working smoothly under leadership of C. E. Curtis. Food for Britain parcels have been forwarded, also clothing for U.N.A.C. August 15-22 a Christian crusade consisting of 42 University students from Melbourne was held. Services were conducted by students in all Protestant churches, and many house parties arranged. Those who had fellowship with church included Miss Frances Cowper, whose singing was delightful. Church has felt a spiritual revival by visit of these young people.

Oakleigh.—E. L. Williams continues interim ministry with thought-provoking addresses. On Aug. 22 he discussed world movements leading up to meeting of World Council of Churches. On Aug. 29 he commenced outline of our plea under title, "A Vision that Made a People." One girl confessed Christ on Aug. 22. Offerings for social service and U.N. children's appeal have totalled £16 and £22/7/- respectively. On Aug. 9, kitchen tea was tendered to Win Triplett and Ron McCallum, who were married on Aug. 14 by S. Neighbour. On Aug. 18, 40 members of Young Women's Fellowship were interested in knitting demonstration by Paton and Baldwin's representative. Deacons have repainted portion of exterior of walls of school hall; other renovations are planned.

South Yarra.—On Aug. 1 Miss M. James and Miss P. Thompson were baptised. There was excellent attendance of young people at morning service on Aug. 8, when Miss Thompson was received into fellowship. On same day a youth tea was held, when close on forty sat to tea. R. J. Anderson, of Benteigh, showed films "Christ's Bequest" and "Door to Heaven" in period between tea and evening service, at which he was speaker. On Aug. 15 Mr. Brown was speaker morning and evening, Mr. Hargreaves not being well. Dr. Hinrichsen was speaker on morning of Aug. 22, and A. Searle in evening, as Mr. Hargreaves and Mrs. Hargreaves were spending a holiday in country. Bible school has commenced practice for anniversary with Mr. Reid conductor. Most scholars and teachers who entered examination gained passes. Mrs. Watson and Mrs. Reid have been ill. Mrs. Stafford is very ill in hospital after accident. Church Men's Society is making toys for kindergarten Christmas tree.

Ladies' Guild held a successful sale of gifts on Aug. 28 and raised £18 for new church building fund.

Benteigh.—On Aug. 12, Women's Mission Band, together with visitors, enjoyed a pleasant and profitable afternoon. Mrs. Manning spoke on work amongst and customs of natives of Belgian Congo. Presentations of bouquets were made to Mesdames Thomason and Gall, two oldest members, and a spray of flowers to speaker. 34 out of 37 passed in S.S. examinations; two gained State prizes. At midweek meeting on Aug. 11, Mr. Neighbour spoke on crusade for a Christian world. At worship service on Aug. 15, Mr. and Mrs. Wheams and Mr. and Mrs. C. Pelling were received into fellowship, coming from Dandenong and Brighton respectively. R. J. Anderson preached on morning of Aug. 22; 85 were present. R. Story preached at gospel service, after which films were shown of mission work in Papua and Brazil.

Doncaster.—At monthly meeting of Women's Mission Band opportunity was taken to express to Mrs. R. A. Banks appreciation of work accomplished during her term as secretary. W.C.T.U., of which Mrs. Banks was president, combined in making a presentation as a token of love and esteem. Young people of church at a social tea presented Mr. Banks with a Schofield Bible. 85th anniversary of church was celebrated on Aug. 22. W. F. Nankivell gave address in morning. Choir sang an anthem. Thankoffering amounted to £88. Evening service was conducted by Mr. Banks. Choir sang an anthem, and choir members gave musical items. There were splendid attendances at both services. Anniversary social in local hall on Aug. 24 was well attended. A good programme was presented. Opportunity was taken to express to Mr. and Mrs. Banks appreciation for valuable service rendered during their seven years' ministry. Presentation of wallet of notes was made. A beautiful basket of flowers was presented to Mrs. Banks, also a shoulder spray to Lorraine by Lauris Cousin. Other gifts from church auxiliaries, Eastern Officers' Association, local cricket and football clubs, were made. During previous week presentations were made to Mr. Banks by local Red Cross branch and Eastern Suburban Youth Group. Lorraine and Trevor Banks received tokens of friendship from Bible school. Mr. Banks thanked all who had helped to make his ministry a success. A pleasing feature of evening was presence of Anglican and Lutheran ministers, who brought greetings. A splendid supper was provided by ladies.

TASMANIAN 1948 EXAMINATION RESULTS

Div. 1.—1, Cyril Masters, Sandhill, 86; 2, Elizabeth Thompson, Sandhill, 79; 3, Robert Webster, Dover, 75; 4, Robin Burt, Mole Creek, 74; 5, Neil Tanks, Dover, 65.

Div. 2.—1, Maurice Harvey, Caveside, 95; 2, Shirley Horder, Sandhill, 94; 3, Lynette Wilmot, Margaret-st., 93; 4, Barry Ayers, Collins-st., 87; 5, Beverley Broxam, Invermay, 85.

Div. 3.—1, Yvonne Young, Sandhill, 81; 2, Laurie Masters, Sandhill, 80; 3, Pam Rushton, Dover, 79; 4, Shirley Sibfield, Caveside, 79; 5, Donald Byard, Caveside, 77.

Div. 4.—1, Shirley Bassett, Sandhill, 92; 2, Helen Plummer, Margaret-st., 83; 3, Neil Rowlands, Ulverstone, 75; 4, William Aitken, Margaret-st., 65.

Div. 5.—1, Shirley Martin, Sandhill, 96; 2, Harry Harvey, Caveside, 93; 3, Elsie Harman, Devonport, 90; 4, Shirley Gibson, Margaret-st., 82; 5, Gaylene Hobbs, Ulverstone, 81.

Div. 6.—1, Helen Stevens, Margaret-st., 87; 2, Rodney Bushby, Margaret-st., 86; 3, Ken Horder, Margaret-st., 85; 4, Jean Younger, Margaret-st., 76; 5, Trevor Smith, Caveside, 76.

Div. 7.—1, Betty Bradford, Margaret-st., 91; 2, Kevin Edwards, Margaret-st., 90; 3, Lissol Bye, Mole Creek, 89.

Div. 8.—1, Marie Ellis, Margaret-st., 81.

ADDRESS

G. H. Eager (preacher Seven Hills church, N.S.W.).—86 Seven Hills-rd., Seven Hills.

BIRTHS

PIGDON.—On August 25, Geelong, to Arthur and Connie—a son (Bernard William).

ROFFEY (nee Medhurst).—A son born on August 10, at War Memorial Hospital, Waverley, N.S.W., to Gwen and Eddie.

IN MEMORIAM

TAYLOR.—In loving memory of my beloved husband, and our dear father, Samuel Witts, who passed away Aug. 28, 1945.

Not just to-day, but every day,

In silence we remember.

—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

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WORKING BEE

The Social Service Committee invites workers to a Working Bee at Wahgoo-rd., Murrumbeena, Saturday, Sept. 11, 9.30 a.m. to 4 o'clock. Bring gardening and carpentering tools. Meals provided. Advise office of number coming—Tel. MU2104.

COLLINGWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST. SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Sept. 5—3 p.m., N. Gavros. (Cradle Roll.)
7 p.m., L. A. Trezise, B.A.
Sept. 12—3 p.m., T. A. Fitzgerald.
7 p.m., L. G. Cooke.

Also Tuesday, 7th, Tea Meeting and Social Evening. All welcome.

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11 a.m., "Sham Religion."

4.30 p.m., Study Group: "The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit."

5.15 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., Last of Special Series: "Preparing for Harvest."

Preacher: K. A. Macnaughtan.

SPRINGVALE CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL 7th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

SUNDAYS, SEPT. 5 and 12.

Sept. 5—3 p.m., Mr. Gordon Bennett.

7 p.m., Mr. Keith Jones.

Sept. 12—3 p.m., Mr. R. Outhred.

7 p.m., Mr. Bart Manning, of South Australia.

Bright singing at all services of hymns written by conductor, Mr. G. Thomson. Everybody welcome.

Mr. Bart Manning, of Fullarton, South Australia, will be the guest speaker at Springvale, Vic., for four weeks commencing Sept. 12. Our brother would be delighted to meet old friends at the services. Come and renew fellowship at Mechanics' Hall, Balmoral-ave., Springvale.

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GREAT FAREWELL GATHERINGS.

SEPT. 6, NOONDAY AND EVENING.

Dr. Appelman and Mr. Homer Britton will lead services at Collins-st. Baptist Church at 12.45-1.45, and at the Exhibition Building at 8 p.m.

Friends are asked to meet at 7.30 for singing. Bring your campaign hymnbooks.

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Sept. 19, 3 p.m., Don Thomas.

7 p.m., V. C. Stafford.

Sept. 26, 3 p.m., K. Drew.

7 p.m., W. G. Graham.

Wednesday, Sept. 29—Anniversary Concert and Distribution of Prizes.

A welcome awaits you.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, SPRINGVALE.

SEPTEMBER 26.

11 a.m., Breaking of Bread. Thanksgiving service and thankoffering. Aim, £100.

7 p.m., Gospel Service. Aim, 150 present. Come! Bart Manning speaker at both services.

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Sept. 12, 15 and 19.—Bible School "Jubilee" Anniversary.

Wed., Sept. 22.—Ladies' Aid "Jubilee At Home."

Tues., Sept. 28.—"Jubilee" Thanksgiving Service.

Thurs., Sept. 30.—"Jubilee" Cantata.

Sat., Oct. 2.—Girls' Club "Jubilee" Concert.

Sun., Oct. 3.—DAY OF "RE-DEDICATION."

Preachers:

11 a.m., Roy Raymond.

7.30 p.m., A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed.

Tues., Oct. 5.—"Jubilee" Youth Pageant.

Thurs., Oct. 7.—"Jubilee" Dinner.

Sun., Oct. 10.—"50th ANNIVERSARY" DAY.

Preacher (both services): A. E. Hurren.

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Obituary

Mrs. Mabel Rebekah Cowderoy.

AFTER a brief illness and many years of indifferent health, Mrs. M. R. Cowderoy on August 2 was called to higher service. Our sister was an esteemed member of the Malvern-Caulfield church, Vic., becoming identified with that congregation during the Chandler-Clay mission in 1918. Left with two young children in early marriage, this brave widow brought them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord and saw them baptised and married in the chapel which she loved and towards which she so generously contributed. It was very fitting that her funeral should leave this building in which she so faithfully worshipped when health permitted. All who knew her thank God upon every remembrance of this ideal mother, true friend and good and faithful servant of Jesus Christ and his church. Her children, Mrs. A. D. Leng, of Mildura, and Mrs. S. E. Keenan, of Coomealla, rise up and call her blessed. To them and all dear ones we express loving sympathy, and with them rejoice in the assurance that for her to depart to be with the Lord was "very far better."—W.G.G.

Mrs. Hector George Whatman

THE death occurred at Bowral, N.S.W., on July 11 of Mrs. Hector George Whatman, after a brief illness, at the age of 49 years. Mrs. Whatman was baptised forty years ago in the Erskineville church by the late Mr. G. H. Browne. Throughout her life she was actively engaged in Christian service, her warm personality and lovely soprano voice enabling

her to make a fine contribution to the work and witness of the church. Her gracious manner and gentle ways brightened her home and endeared her to all who knew her. She was well known for her ministry of music. The large funeral services were attended by folk from all walks of life, and by some who travelled long distances. Ministers from other Christian churches were there paying tribute to the extent of her influence and the esteem in which she was held. The church at Bowral has suffered a severe loss in her passing. To her sorrowing husband and their daughter Evelyn, sincerest Christian sympathy is extended.—C.H.J.W.

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