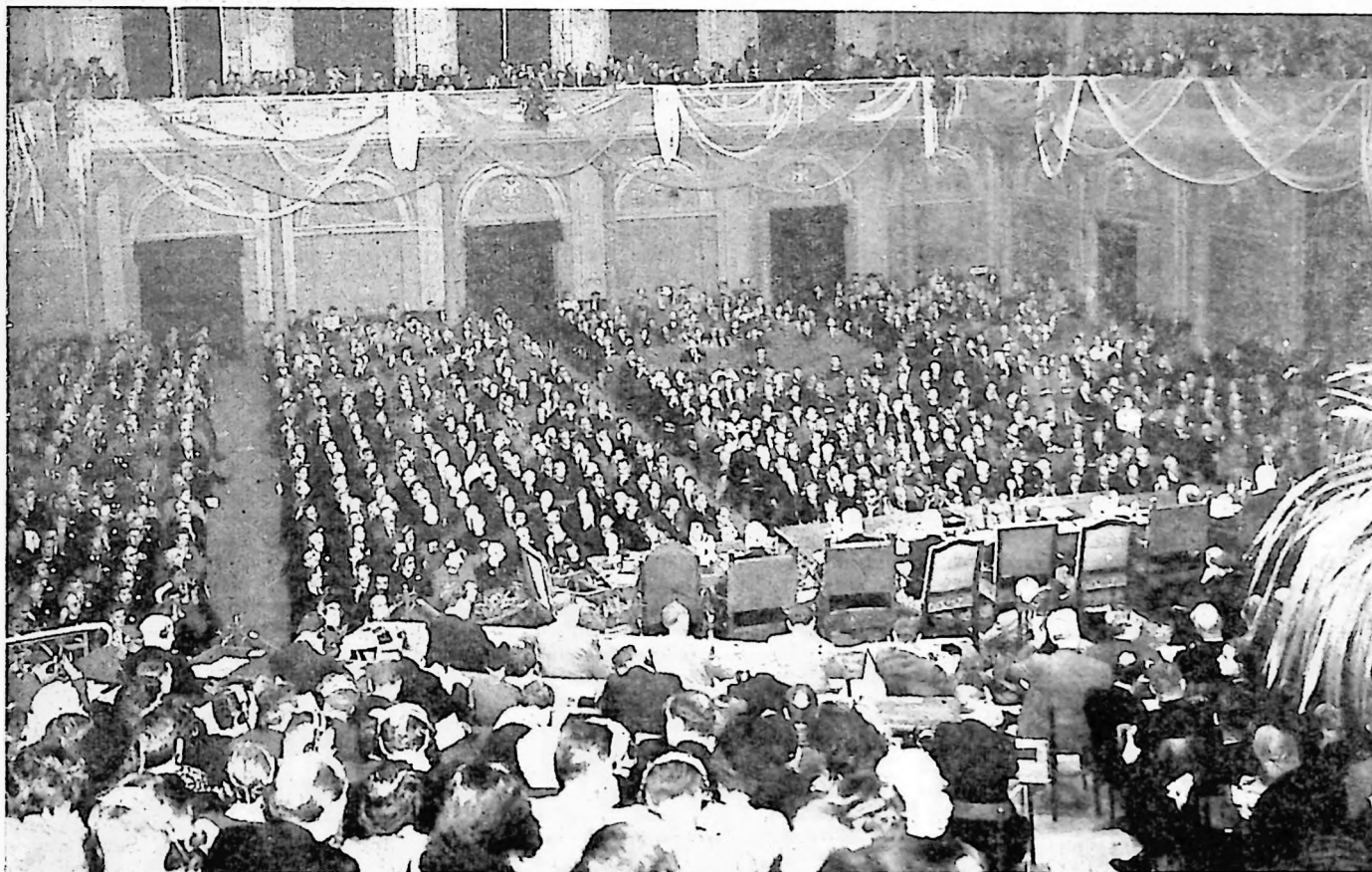


*weekly*

# The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

## Planning World Christian Fellowship



Picture of session of World Council of Churches taken Monday morning, Aug. 23, 1948, just after vote was taken to organise council. The council met in Amsterdam. Jesse Bader is located in second section from left and in fourth row of that section, about sixth person from front.

# Communion Service - World Council of Churches

Jesse M. Bader, a delegate of churches of Christ in Australia and New Zealand, writes of interesting happenings in this second article from Amsterdam.



## AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION.

This picture was taken at first meeting of World Council of churches at Amsterdam, Aug. 22, 1948, just before delegates marched in procession into service at Nieuwe Kerk. Those in the picture are: First couple left to right—Alan Walker, Methodist, Sydney; H. G. Secomb, Methodist, Melbourne; J. L. Moyes, Bishop of Armidale, N.S.W.; John Garrett, Congregationalist, N.S.W.; G. F. Cranswick, Bishop of Tasmania; Jesse M. Bader, representing churches of Christ in Australia and New Zealand; T. M. McDougall, Presbyterian, Rose Bay, N.S.W.; Alan Watson, Presbyterian, Toorak, Vic. Jesse Bader, not knowing photographer was taking picture, was discussing 1950 World Convention with group.

ONE of the most unforgettable experiences was the fellowship about the Lord's Table on Sunday morning, August 29. This service was held in the Nieuwe Kerk (New Church) across the street from the Queen's Palace. This old historic church prepared and conducted this memorable communion service to which it invited all those attending the World Council meeting. The World Council itself did not conduct or sponsor a communion service for the simple reason that there was opposition to it on the part of several large denominations. It was a most gracious thing for this old Dutch church to open its doors, spread the table with the emblems of our Lord's death and suffering, and say to all followers of Christ, "Come, for all things are ready." It was in 1939 that I attended a similar communion service in this same church at the Youth Conference.

The custom followed in the communion service, as conducted by the Reformed Churches in Holland, is to seat the communicants in chairs on both sides of the table. At the table on last Sunday 96 were seated and served at one time. The one who presided took his place in the centre, and after some appropriate words, passed the bread to those on his left and on his right. The plate was moved along the centre of the table from one to another. Then followed the cup. Four cups were used, and these were passed by the minis-

ter to those on both sides of him. There were ten groups seated. When one group was served it moved out from the table and back to the seats and another group moved in. It was all done orderly and reverently, as a corps of ushers directed. A different minister served each group. This communion service, which was preceded by a fifteen-minute sermon, began at 10 a.m. and concluded at 12.30. Those who came to the table represented 150 different Christian bodies; they were from 44 nations; they spoke different languages and they were of many races. As this impressive service moved along, I thought of the hymn—

"In Christ there is no East or West,  
In him no South or North;  
But one great fellowship of love,  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

"In him shall true hearts everywhere  
Their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord,  
Close binding all mankind.

"Join hands then, brothers of the faith  
Whate'er your race may be;  
Who serves my Father as a son  
Is surely kin to me.

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"In Christ now meet both East and West,  
In him meet South and North;  
All Christly souls are one in him  
Throughout the whole wide earth."

On the following morning (Monday) the Anglican Church held a communion service at 8 a.m., to which all denominations were invited to attend, but were not invited to commune. Many here have not appreciated this "fencing" of the Lord's Table. On the following morning (Tuesday), the Eastern Orthodox group conducted a separate service, and with the same understanding concerning those of other faiths, as the Anglicans. All this makes me appreciate more than ever before the attitude and interpretation of our own brotherhood concerning the Lord's Table. It is the Lord's table, not man's. But better days are ahead, and it will not be long before the World Council of Churches will be able to conduct its own communion service and invite all Christians to come to the Lord's Table.

## A World Brotherhood Meeting

On Wednesday evening, August 25, there were separate meetings conducted by "confessional groups." As general secretary of our World Convention, I brought our group together. There were 46 of the 54 present in Amsterdam who attended. In comparison to our numbers, I presume we have a larger group present than any other communion. Principal Wm. Robinson, of Overdale College, was elected chairman of the meeting. Each one present introduced himself. Four or five were called upon to give their impressions of the Assembly programme and meetings, and this they did to the profit of all. Principal Robinson closed the meeting with a brief message. Among other things he said this: "There are two ways which any Christian body can take—one is to decrease and finally die out and cease to exist. The other is for it to lose itself by giving itself to the universal church of Jesus Christ." At the close of this evening of acquaintance and fellowship a photograph was taken.

## World Council Officers Elected

On Monday, August 29, the World Council of Churches elected its officers to serve for the next five years. Also, at this same meeting, it elected the Central Committee of Ninety. Instead of one president the assembly elected six. John R. Mott, a layman of New York City, was elected honorary president. He is a man 83 years of age and greatly beloved by all. The presidents elected were: Pasteur Marc Boegner, France; The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, England; Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, United States of America; The Archbishop of Thyateira, Dr. S. Germanos-Thyateira; The Archbishop of Upsala, Dr. Erling Eidem, Sweden; Dean Tsu-Chen Chao-Peiping, China. On the Central Committee of Ninety, George Walker Buckner, jun., of Indianapolis, Indiana (U.S.A.) was elected to represent our world brotherhood. We are entitled to only member on the Central Committee.

## Amsterdam in Gala Array

This Dutch city is "all dressed up" for the assembly. This is due to the Jubilee celebration. Flags, lights along the canals, special decorations of flowers, electrical displays, add to the attractiveness of the city. The streets are crowded every evening with people in a joyful mood. This little country, occupied for five long years by the Germans, is grate-

(Continued on page 430)

# A Modern Interpretation of Campbell's Teachings

WHILE there may be no end to the writing of many books and while most attempts of authors are of little value, now and again an outstanding work appears. Such a book may change the course of history.

Paul's "Epistle to the Romans" influenced men like Martin Luther and John Wesley. Those men, by reason of their understanding of Paul's teaching, lifted affairs to a higher level, within and without their native lands.

## OPINIONS AND DIVISION

At present we are interested in Emil Brunner's book entitled "The Divine-Human Encounter." Although the language is different, nevertheless the thoughts expressed are very much like those expressed by Alexander Campbell in his book "The Christian System." Campbell wrote his work over one hundred years ago. He was so far advanced beyond his times, he was not appreciated fully then. Only now do we find scholars of the standing of Emil Brunner presenting to this generation many of the thoughts we have discovered in the writings of Campbell. It is also interesting to note that the Student Christian Movement Press has claimed Dr. Brunner to be "one of the greatest living theologians."

Both Campbell and Brunner have recognised the dangers in the conflict about statements of creeds and doctrines. The effort to secure every church member to believe the same opinion about this or that gospel fact has caused bitterness and division, and has driven love and good deeds from the church. Campbell in "The Christian System" wrote: "To establish what is called a system of orthodox opinions as the bond of union was, in fact, offering a premium for new diversities in opinions, and for increasing *ad infinitum*, opinions, sects and division. And, what is worse than all, it was establishing self-love and pride as religious principles, as fundamental to salvation; or a love regulated by similarity of opinion is only a love to one's own opinion, and all the zeal exhibited in the defence of it is but the workings of the pride of opinion." "Christianity consists infinitely more in good works than in sound opinions; and while it is a joyful truth, that he that believes and is baptised shall be saved, it is equally true that, he that says, 'I know him,' and keeps not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."

There is a striking likeness of thought in the above to the ideas in the following passage from Brunner's book (page 22): "Interest in doctrine more and more arrogates to itself every other interest; the urge for an ever nicer precision in the formulation of conceptions—the absence of which in the whole Bible is so characteristic—becomes dominant in church life, and leads to endless, even more subtle doctrinal controversies." Under such circumstances Christian love and "practical discipleship atrophies."

## FAITH IS PERSONAL

What must be the object of faith? Perhaps we ought to say, we are not concerned with an "object" in faith, but with a Person. Alexander Campbell wrote, "A Christian, as defined, not by Dr. Johnson, nor any creed-maker, but by one taught from heaven, is one that believes this *one fact*, and has submitted to *one institution*, and whose deportment accords with the morality and virtue of the great Prophet. The one fact is expressed in a single proposition—that Jesus the Nazarene is the Messiah." Christianity requires that we have faith in a

## EDITORIAL

Person—the Lord Jesus Christ. This is clear in the following from "The Christian System," "That faith in Christ, which is essential to salvation, is not the belief in any doctrine, testimony or truth abstractly, but belief in Christ; trust or confidence in him as a Person not a thing."

What does Emil Brunner say on this question? He writes: "In faith man possesses no truth except God's, and his possession is not of the kind whereby one ordinarily possesses a truth, but personal fellowship. . . . Faith, which appropriates God's self-revelation in his Word, is an event, an act, and that a two-sided act, an act of God and an act of man. *An encounter takes place between God and man.* While God is coming to meet man he also makes possible man's going to meet him."

What is involved in "faith"? Professor Brunner claims that the New Testament word translated "faith" contains the notions of *trust* and *obedience*. This faith must acknowledge the God who is revealed in his Word (Christ) not as "any" Lord, but *the* Lord. It involves not "any" obedience-in-trust, but *the* unconditional trust and *the* unconditional obedience. Where there is faith there is absolute obedience to the Lord's will.

Alexander Campbell, although he did not analyse "faith" into the two aspects—trust and obedience—made it clear that faith must be followed by obedience. He recognised baptism as man's faithful response to God's love. He saw the need of a new life in Christ.

## FAITH AND BAPTISM

Emil Brunner accepts the fact that the Christian ordinances are useless unless there is faith. He is not happy about infant baptism. He writes, "The contemporary practice of infant baptism can hardly be regarded as being anything short of scandalous." Dr. Brunner's statements on baptism are very like Alexander Campbell's treatment of the subject. Brunner writes: "In baptism it is God, first and sovereign, who acts, who forgives sin, who cleanses man and regenerates him. But man, too, acts in baptism. He allows this cleansing of himself to take place, he lets himself be drawn into the death of Christ, he confesses his faith and his attachment to Christ. Baptism is not merely a gift to man, but also an active receiving and confession on the part of man." In view of this clear statement, no wonder Emil Brunner finds infant baptism "scandalous."

These are days when we are witnessing many signs which make us rejoice that we are privileged to testify on behalf of New Testament Christianity. These books by Alexander Campbell and Emil Brunner are significant and might become the cause of new events in the Christian world, leading churches to a closer unity.

There are members of churches of Christ who have little appreciation of the important developments taking place in the religious world, which are fulfilling the hopes of the pioneers of the Restoration Movement. While there are still many sectarian divisions and practices within the church, there is a growing dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs, and a willingness to search for principles which may lead to Christian unity. For those who appreciate the witness of the Restoration Movement there must be great satisfaction that the independent enquiries and research of a scholar of Professor Emil Brunner's standing, endorses, in many respects, the more than century old contributions of Thomas and Alexander Campbell.



# IN BONDS FOR THE GOSPEL

£750 Wanted on October 10 for N.S.W. Bible College

## Students Sacrifice £3000

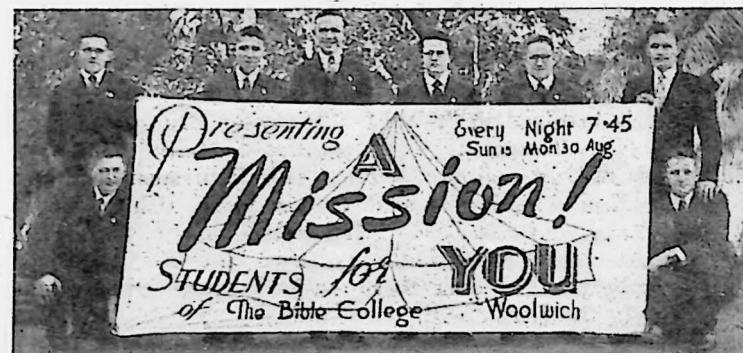
Principal H. J. Patterson, M.A.

THE great missionary apostle Paul, in his letter to the Philippians, constantly referred to his "bonds."

In a very real sense every student at the beginning of his ministry is in bonds. Other young men of their age are in receipt of steadily increasing incomes, but the student

the college offering on October 10.—Roy Acland (conference president).

The call for trained preachers is ever insistent. No church can do the best work or make the most progress without a capable leader. Home missions, therefore, are dependent upon the men available. Woolwich has done, and is doing, a splendid work in supplying the men we need in New South Wales.—P. E. Thomas, secretary Home Mission Committee.



Students held a good tent mission during second term vacation. (Mission at Beverly Hills.)

is in the bonds of financial stringency. We have fifteen students at Woolwich and, taking the average, one may estimate that each man is making a sacrifice of £5 per week. These fifteen young men are offering to the Lord their lives and at least £75 per week. Over the college year that reaches the sum of approximately £3000. Nor is this sacrifice made with the idea of getting it back later, for never at any time will they receive more than a bare living wage. These are in bonds for the gospel.

These are also bound in other matters. Studies at college and service with the churches allow little time for pleasure or recreation.

Nor are our lecturers in any better case. There is no forty-hour week of five days, but a seven-day week. Two separate tasks demand all the time there is.

Paul rejoiced in that the Philippians had aided him in his bondage. Their gift was "an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God." To what degree will our churches in N.S.W. help to bear the burden? A college needs money apart from the self-denial of students and lecturers. Buildings and furnishings need repair; books must be purchased; men who teach must live. If a student makes a sacrifice of £200 per year, what can we do for this fundamental and necessary work of training men who are desperately needed to-day? If fifteen students sacrifice £3000, how much may a brotherhood of over 6000 give? Surely we could raise £750 for this essential service to the churches of N.S.W.



## Brief Messages from Key Men

OUR Bible college at Woolwich commends itself to the brotherhood as one of the activities of which we can be justly proud. We have a consecrated faculty able, by the grace of God, to train the student for the work of the ministry. To accept the challenge of the present need and overcome it, we must give sacrificially of our substance. We commend to the whole of our brotherhood

A college education will not make a man a missionary, but for a missionary a college training is vital. Subtle minds are to be met, and one's powers of reasoning need to be developed to counter the arguments of heathen philosophy. This training is best obtained in the lecture-rooms of our colleges.—Ira A. Paternoster, secretary N.S.W. Foreign Mission Committee.

I have the greatest pleasure in commending the work of the college to the brotherhood, for its support prayerfully and financially, for two very good reasons.

First, we have a very splendid group of students. They have a passion for souls and for the word of God. They are making a grand contribution to the work of the kingdom in N.S.W.

Secondly, the curriculum is solidly based on 'the word of God, with all the lecturers standing firmly for the faith once delivered to the saints.'

The best endorsement of our college is in liberal support on October 3.—R. Greenhalgh, secretary N.S.W. Youth Department.



## College Through the Eyes of a New Lecturer

R. V. Amos.

I ONCE had the opportunity of seeing a jeweller cutting some precious stones. The unpolished jewel with which he started didn't look very attractive, and there was a private reservation that it was not worth as much as

the jeweller claimed. But after the cutting, and shaping, and polishing were done, and the stone lay upon a black velvet background, it was a different story. It was truly beautiful, and the transformation was truly wonderful.

That parable from life explains how the college appears in the eyes of a new lecturer. Young men come into the college from many walks of life. Their backgrounds are different, their training has been of varying kinds, and possibly even their outlooks are not quite identical. They come, however, with one thing in common. They all believe that Jesus Christ is their Saviour, and that he has called them to be ministers of his gospel. Some of them feel that their field of service is in the homeland, and others that work lies overseas. But they all feel that he wants them, and their talents, to use as he wills, to the glory of his name.

They come, like the unpolished stone with which the jeweller begins; they leave, shaped, and fashioned, and prepared, like the polished gem with which he ends. Yes, college is like that. It moulds men, it makes men, and it motivates men for the Master's service. That is the increasing impression of a new lecturer. Consecrated students, under the leadership of men who serve in a Spirit-controlled college, are being prepared as "vessels meet for the Master's use." A college like that is worthy of the best help—both practical and prayerful—that we can give it.



## Women Promise Support

DO you ever stop to think how the work in N.S.W. could be carried on without our Bible College? We should all feel very proud of the young men in the college who are studying and fitting themselves to be ministers of the gospel. We should thank our heavenly Father for consecrated young men ready and willing to give their lives to preaching the Word.

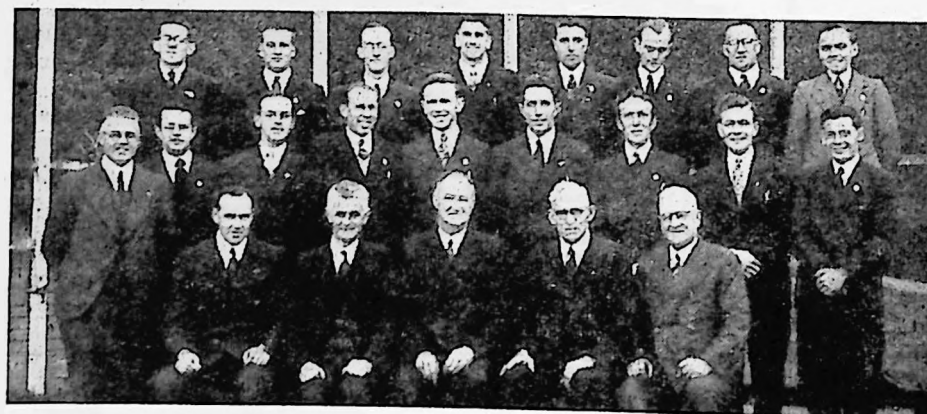
We shall have an opportunity of showing our appreciation to the college principal and staff, and our interest in the students, as we bring our gifts on October 10. Let our appreciation be generous.

The Sisters' Conference is happy in its support of the college, and commends the appeal to the brotherhood.—Mrs. R. Greenhalgh.

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Students and Faculty (except R. Amos).

# Dhond Hospital's Splendid Year

A. Anderson, Secretary of Foreign Mission Board,  
reports on many items of considerable interest.

**REPORTS** of annual meetings held at Bara-mati, India, in August, record splendid results and a forward looking into the year ahead. The Dhond Hospital report is full of interest revealing the faithfulness of doctors and staff.

## Patients Treated

The 1948 figures show:—

New Patients .. . . .	13,324
Retreatments .. . . .	49,999
Inpatients .. . . .	1,215
	<b>64,538</b>

Of this number, 5667 were treated free of cost. The growth of the work in recent years is shown from the 1938 figures, when 15,500 patients were treated, 305 of whom were in-patients and 5325 were treated free. The maternity cases (1948) numbered 292, whilst ten years ago such cases numbered only 44.

The presence in Dhond for some months of from ten to twelve thousand refugees from Pakistan made the year a particularly heavy one for us, in spite of the fact that there were other medical facilities in the refugee camp for a good deal of the time.

## Staff

During the year we have been fortunate in having two Australian sisters on the staff. Dr. Patil and the other Indian members of the staff have continued to serve faithfully in their particular departments. The staff is having to be increased continually in order to cope with the increased demands. We are looking forward to the time when Dr. Ratan Parkhe will be able to come and help us out. The latter has passed his M.B., B.S. examination, and is at present gaining post-graduate experience at the Sassoon hospital, Poona.

## Finances

With the funds supplied from Australia and fees and wireless station subsidy, the total working expenses of the hospital have been met. All the Indian staff expenses are met from hospital funds, but the salaries of Dr. and Mrs. Michael and Sisters Foreman and Walker are met from Australia.

## Expansion

The expansion of staff and the increasing number of inpatients are making more urgent the need for new buildings. Plans have been drawn up for a home for the nurses, and for a maternity block, and funds are being raised for these. Prices in India have soared, however, to about three times what they were a few years ago, and they continue to rise. In spite of this it is hoped that it will be possible to make a start on the nurses' quarters in the near future.—Lindsay J. Michael.



## Result of Appeals

**THE** final figures for the Dhond ambulance and X-Ray appeals are not to hand, but the position (31/8/48) warrants us to say that the amounts have been subscribed and authorised the closure of those appeals forthwith.

Would any churches holding amounts for either of these appeals please forward such monies immediately?

In his report to the annual meetings India, Dr. Michael said: "The wonderful response that has been made by the brethren and sisters in Australia to the X-Ray and ambulance appeals has been most heartening."



Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Kemp Visit Dhond Hospital.

On their return from World Convention, Buffalo, these missionary enthusiasts visited "Our India." Here they are seen with the hospital staff.

## X-Ray Appeal

The amount requested from Dhond Hospital Committee was £1600. When the first request for £1000 came, the trustees of the Campbell Edwards Trust promised pound for pound sub-

sidy up to £1000, and subsequently made a further offer of pound for pound up to £1600.

The total gifts from the brotherhood to date amount to £754, whilst the Campbell Edwards Trust has paid £500, to which must be added any outstanding amounts including balance of Victorian Mission Band Refrigerator Fund. Thus the total amount required, after the further subsidy of £300 from the Campbell Edwards Trust is received, is in sight.

## Dhond Ambulance

This appeal has now reached £834. Owing to the splendid gift of £600, this amount is above the amount aimed at, but the more sent from Australia will conserve Dhond balances in India for other hospital purposes. The total required approximates £1100.

Again, may we ask that all balances held be forwarded at once, as we expect a call on these funds immediately.

## NURSES WITNESS

**SEVERAL** of our nurses take opportunities of making known the claims of Christ to those who come and go. Tracts are distributed to them, and the message explained. The nurses each take their turn in leading prayers held in the dispensary every morning at eight o'clock. They are regular in their attendance at church services and the mid-week meetings of the church. The girls take an active part in the Christian women's class, and have given messages of help and real blessing from time to time.—W. M. Walker.

# Bethany Boys' Home, Tasmania

S. Wilson, of Launceston, writes of Spring in Island State, of tragic death of an outstanding woman, and of church activities.

**TASMANIA** has experienced a rather severe winter this year. Inclement weather has been accompanied by recurring epidemics of influenza, and church activities have suffered accordingly. However, there are now signs of Spring on every hand, one of which, in this State, is the regular influx of tourists to this island. Some Tasmanians, too, are turning their faces to other States. Others plan to attend Federal Conference. Those who have registered to date for Perth next month are Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Park and their daughter (Collins-st., Hobart), Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Stevens and Mrs. Colbeck (Invermay), and Mrs. A. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Wilmot and their daughter (Margaret-st., Launceston) and A. Orr (Sandhill).

## "Bethany" Boys' Home

The "Bethany" hostel at Dover is now firmly established. Eleven boys, varying in age from two to eleven years, are enrolled. The health of the boys has been generally good, and in some cases great improvement has been noted since admission to the home.

Following the resignation of the first matron, Mrs. J. Hindman, the committee made enquiries for a suitable couple to take over the management of the hostel. The committee is pleased to report that Mr. and Mrs. E. W. O'Neil, from the church at Prahman, Vic., have been engaged and commenced duties on August 2. A public welcome was extended to them on Saturday, August 14, at the Dover church. This day was also the anniversary of the entry of the first lad into the hostel.

A special fund has been inaugurated to provide pocket money and outings for the boys. School banking accounts, in the names of the boys, are maintained from this fund. Apart

from endowments and private maintenance moneys, the general fund of the hostel has been dependent upon gifts from the brotherhood. Heavy expenditure in this first financial year has included large capital costs which will not recur.

## Late Mrs. W. K. McIntyre, B.A., O.B.E., M.L.C.

Tasmanians express their deep sympathy with the relatives of those who lost their lives in the "Lutana" air fatality. The news of the death of Mrs. W. K. McIntyre, one of the victims, came as a great blow particularly to this State. We publish a paragraph from "The Examiner" editorial which pays a fitting tribute to a much beloved lady of this State. "The death of Mrs. McIntyre has brought sadness to many thousands of Tasmanians. She was particularly well known and esteemed in Launceston, the centre of so much of her admirable work for the betterment of the people, especially the young. Launceston had no finer citizen. She was completely unselfish, and gave to the community her time and talents to the limit of her strength."

## Brotherhood Work

With half of our conference year yet before us, there are indications of progressive reports being presented at conference. The Youth Committee is addressing itself very seriously to its tasks. Interest in foreign mission work is being further stimulated by the announcement that E. W. Heard, from Hobart and the College of the Bible, will make a second Tasmanian representative on the Indian field. The Home Mission Committee, which is composed of members from both Hobart and Launceston churches, is meeting each month in alternative cities. This system appears to be working smoothly and with good advantage to the brotherhood. The State committees of both the Federal College and Federal Aborigines Board are meeting regularly. They are experiencing consistent attendances and keen interest in their particular spheres.

# Dare We Refuse to Crusade?

By Stan. Neighbour, of Victorian Crusade Committee.

AUSTRALIAN Christians are thinking, talking and praying in terms of a crusade for a Christian world. "God wills man's salvation. It would almost seem that man wills man's destruction. "God sent . . . the Son into the world . . . that the world should be saved through him." Jesus taught man to pray to God. "Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven."

What is man doing? Mr. Hanson Baldwin, military editor of the "New York Times," published the results of a survey (11/5/47) in which he stated that almost 19,000,000 men were under arms throughout the world and about 40 nations were spending approximately £A9,000,000,000 per year on armaments. Dr. Gerald Wendt, addressing a meeting of scientists in 1946, revealed that the United States chemical warfare service had produced a new deadly super-poison, one ounce of which could wipe out 130,000,000 people, silently and swiftly. For the year 1945, in U.S.A. alone, one murder was committed every 20 minutes. One saloon was operating for every 71 homes; 11 saloons for every 5 churches. There were 1440 killed every 24 hours by drunken drivers, or one every minute of the day and night. One divorce takes place for every three marriages; 502,000 marriages ended in divorce courts in 1945.

What of Australian Conditions? There were 73,566 convictions for drunkenness in Australia in 1945. Convictions for serious crimes at Magistrates Courts numbered 28,750. There were 9116 divorce petitions and 7145 decrees were made absolute. In other words, one out of every 7.5 marriages had recourse to the Divorce Court, or 13.3 per cent. of the whole. Australians spent £60,000,000 on liquor in 1947. In the same year "Smith's Weekly" published their estimation for expenditure on gambling in Australia for the previous year as £200,000,000, or approximately ten shillings per week for every man, woman and child in Australia.

How are we Christians measuring up to the challenge of these facts? An examination of our own Victorian Conference statistics over the past twenty years reveals some disconcerting figures.

## ADDITIONS, 20 Years, 1929-48.

1. By Faith and Obedience.	2. By Restoration.	3. From Bible Schools (included in column 1).
Total Yearly average 697	1354 75	6983 349

## LOSSES BY REVISION OF ROLLS ONLY.

20 year period, 1929-48.	
Total . . . . .	16,129
Yearly average . . . . .	806

These figures are arresting. They reveal that, while we have been evangelistic in the past, it has taken on an average approximately 17 Christians a whole year to win one person for Christ. But worse still, we have lost more by revision of roll than we have added by faith and obedience and restoration combined. We had 13,008 members on our active roll in 1929; this has been reduced to 11,439 in 1943. Our largest numerical membership for the period was 13,370 in 1933. Similarly our Bible school figures show that we had 12,054 scholars and 1662 teachers in 1929. We reached our peak in 1932 with 13,492 scholars and 1923 teachers. Our numbers gradually declined, and even before the paralysis epidemic we had lost by 1937 conference returns, 3010 scholars and 145 teachers. There were slight increases in number for the years 1938, 1944, 1945 and 1948. We have 9402 scholars and 1539 teachers in our schools at the present time.

While these are Victorian figures, we believe Australian figures would show a similar tendency. Census figures notwithstanding, other Christian bodies report a somewhat similar experience in church attendances, and those who can be counted as active in Christian work.

The foregoing is not a cause for despair, but presents a challenge to every member of churches of Christ in Victoria, and indeed, throughout Australia. Let us pause to ask: What does God want man to do? God wants man to be Christian. "Thy kingdom come, thy will be done," Christ answers, "in earth as it is in heaven." We must recognise the need for a resurgence of Christian life. We need "the wealth of conviction that comes from insight," the insight that Paul had "that all things in heaven and earth alike should be gathered up in Christ." Christ is God's answer to man's need. God wants us to be co-workers with him. We need to strengthen our own devotional life, develop an evangelistic passion, recognise ourselves as our "brother's keeper," and seek to apply the Christian answer to our problems. This will be crusading. In a following article we will suggest methods by which crusade aims may be realised. Victorian aims include evangelism—3000 new converts by Fourth World Convention, August, 1950; restorations, 3000; education—3000 additional Bible school scholars, 500 training for definite leadership in the churches, the practice of stewardship by proportionate giving by all members.



## Crusade in South Australia

THE work of the crusade here is well under way. The guidance has been entrusted to a small committee: Dr. Trevor Turner, chairman; A. J. Fisher, secretary; W. E. Fisher, treasurer; J. Cain, director of evangelism; G. R. Stirling, publicity and visitation.

Already the departments of conference have agreed to co-operate, and plans are under way to ensure a full participation of our women's auxiliaries.

The aims of the crusade include an emphasis on personal Christian discipline, the study of the Bible and of New Testament Christianity in relation to every phase of life, the promotion of habits of devotion and worship, the stewardship of time, talents and money, Christian citizenship, and evangelism through preaching, visitation and youth work. Suggestions for the working of these aims are already being made: e.g., a prayer card has been issued, and a suggestion has been made to members to use 9 p.m. each day as a "dedicated moment" set apart for prayerful remembrance of the crusade. Members have been challenged to give at least ten hours a week of their time in Christian service. The brotherhood has been called on to increase its membership by 500 a year, with 750 new scholars, and 250 youth decisions for Christ.

S. Neighbour, of the Victorian Crusade Committee, has been invited to the S.A. conference to give some impetus to crusading here. From conference time churches will be making their own plans. In the new year Crusade Enrolment Cards will be sent out. Teams in churches will use them to enrol every member as a crusader, so that the great campaign of evangelism can commence on Pentecost Sunday with the whole membership consecrated to the task.

## The Australian Christian

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A poster bearing a large crusade insignia and the title "This Church is Crusading" has been prepared for every church by Colin McKelvie, one of our lads. A pamphlet entitled "The Crusade in the Local Church" is being distributed now. It contains detailed information and suggestions for the local work of the crusade. Every delegate to conference is receiving a crusade kit complete with crusade literature and instructions for its use. It is expected that this will be used by delegates giving their conference reports.—G. R. Stirling.

## Amsterdam

(Continued from page 434)

ful to the Allies for their liberation. To-day (August 30), as I write these lines, the Dutch people begin the regretful farewell salute to Wilhelmina as their beloved Queen. She will abdicate next Saturday after a week long celebration of her Golden Jubilee in this flower-festooned and brilliantly lighted capital, and will turn the throne over to the thirty-nine-year-old Princess Juliana. On next Monday—September 6—Princess Juliana will be formally inaugurated in the sixteenth century Nieuwe Kerk (New Church) opposite the Palace. Juliana as queen will rule 9,000,000 in the Netherlands Empire, including the East Indies, which now are in upheaval, through the Indonesian nationalist struggles. The city of Amsterdam is filled with visitors from many lands for this historic occasion.

## Reception at the Royal Palace

On Friday evening, August 27, a reception was given to the Assembly of the World Council by the municipal authorities of the City of Amsterdam at the Royal Palace. It was a great occasion. Those present were dressed in varied and colorful costumes. The clergy from many lands attracted attention because of the way they dressed for this special occasion. The huge room with its high ceiling was made of marble throughout. Most of the women present were dressed in evening dress. This occasion was one more expression of the friendliness of this city. People are so kind and hospitable, and in this lovely atmosphere the delegates are made to feel most welcome.

## The Jubilee Play

On Tuesday afternoon, August 31 (Mrs. Bader's and my wedding anniversary), the assembly dismissed its programme in order to attend the Jubilee play offered in connection with the Royal Jubilee celebrations. It was held in the stadium. One thousand sang in the chorus. It was my good fortune one evening to be present at one of the rehearsals. These Dutch people can sing. They love music.

## Great Addresses

This first World Council meeting is being characterised by great addresses. One of the best was given by Professor John Baillie, of Edinburgh. Among other things he said this: "In former times men listened more readily to the ordained clergy, supposing them to be better instructed in the faith; but in our time the lay witness gets a much readier hearing. This is true of both the written and spoken word. In a day when Christianity is widely regarded as intellectually untenable, nothing is more important than that those Christians whose high intelligence has given them the ear of their associates should come to be known among them as bearing equally intelligent testimony to their faith. For this purpose it is not enough that a man be both a Christian and an intellectual, unless he be also a Christian intellectual—that is, unless he can speak to his fellows about the gospel with something of the same acuteness of understanding that he brings to his own specialism."

(To be continued)



# Here and There

We have received an interesting souvenir booklet, giving an outline of the fifty years of history of the church at Subiaco, W.A.

J. I. Mudford, of Victoria, is returning to the full-time ministry. He is planned to commence a term as preacher of church at Norwood, S.A., on October 3.

G. Mathieson, of Horsham, Vic., attended the "school" for visitation evangelism at Balarat. B. J. Combridge, of Kaniva, and Mr. Mathieson will work together as a team, applying evangelistic methods suitable for provincial and country centres.

L. Jones, of Wollongong, N.S.W., is conducting a tent mission at Roma, Qld. A telegram, reaching us on Sept. 20, states: "Jones-Samuel mission Roma; torrential rain first week; interest aroused; Sunday night two baptisms and two further decisions.—Parker."

K. A. Jones, organising secretary of the College of the Bible, is busy visiting churches in South Australia on behalf of the college. He journeys next to Western Australia to contact churches there before Federal Conference. We are indebted to Mr. Jones for gathering articles and blocks for last week's college issue which has been so well received.

Lin D. Cartwright, who has been editorial secretary of the Christian Board of Education for seven years, has been appointed the new editor for "The Christian Evangelist." We wish for him a period of successful service in a task that demands much of a man. By our contacts with him we came to appreciate his interest in the world-wide activity of the brotherhood.

G. R. Stirling, publicity secretary of the South Australian committee for a "Crusade for a Christian World," reports on South Australian conference sermon session, Sept. 19, when the S.A. campaign was launched: "Crusade dedication rally, Adelaide Town Hall, Sunday; two hundred and fifty pledged to prayer; two hundred and three pounds offering, Stan Neighbour speaking."

On August 27, at Grote-st., Adelaide, the annual social of the S.A. Ministers' Wives' Association was attended by 65 members of preachers' families. Mr. Bartlett presided over evening. Elocutionary items were given by Marlene Bartlett and W. E. Fisher, and solos by Mrs. J. Cain and H. Cave. Jeanette, Beth and Heather Stirling added to the enjoyment of the evening by rendering items. S. E. M. Riches led thoughts in family worship; this was followed by supper. Thanks was expressed to ladies by A. H. Wilson.

D. G. Hammer has commenced his work of federal secretary and organiser of Federal Aborigines Mission Board. For week-end September 4, the Board authorised Mr. Hammer's first official visit to Norseman mission field. Consultation with missionaries and formulating of their plans made it a fruitful visit. To the present the Board has not been able to locate a house for Mr. and Mrs. Hammer in the Perth metropolitan area. This is a matter of great urgency to enable the work to be done efficiently, and the prayers of the brotherhood are invited.

Many letters have been received to say how broadcast service from Lygon-st., Carlton, Vic., on Aug. 29 was appreciated, one as far away as 190 miles north of Alice Springs; and Woorinen church members shared service. At close of gospel address on Sept. 12 Miss McCrabb and Ken Saunders made the good confession. Dr. Oldfield addressed church on morning of Sept. 19. Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. McKean are recovering after illnesses. Laurie McClean and Elaine Haddow were united in marriage in chapel on Sept. 18. At a kitchen tea social on Sept. 11 they received many useful gifts from friends at church.

Reporting on Visitation Evangelism at Bamberd., Caulfield, Vic., W. W. Saunders writes: "By Visitation Evangelism an effective answer has been given to a criticism often levelled against the church. This alleges that the church sits smugly and complacently within her four walls, unconcerned for and disinterested in folk outside, save that she distantly says to them, 'Come in to us if you want us to take an interest in you.' But the church has left her four walls, has gone to the people's homes and has shown thereby that she is interested and concerned. Far from saying, 'Come in to us,' the church has said, 'We come to you.' As a result the relationship between the church and the homes must be warmer, friendlier, and one that will be productive of mutual understanding, appreciation and good. One of the greatest

## VISITATION EVANGELISM GEELONG, VICTORIA.

H. R. Coventry, of Carnegie, assisted D. Stirling and brethren at Geelong in a visitation campaign from Sept. 12 to 19. Ten teams were trained and visited homes for three nights. Prayer meetings were well attended throughout the week. At morning service of the 19th, 160 were present and 3 decided for Christ and one responded for restoration. At the evening meeting 175 were present. In response to H. R. Coventry's gospel appeal there were 5 decisions. The brethren are much encouraged by these 9 additions and by the prospect of many others becoming associated with the church's life. Visitors are planning to continue their work this week.

results of the visitation campaign has been its unifying effect upon the church. The preparation for and conduct of the effort called forth the active, public co-operation of about 80 members of the church as visitors, card-drivers, caterers or prayer-partners. Add to this number those who, for justifiable reasons, could not serve in a public way, but did have an effective share in the task by means of personal prayer, and it is apparent that a majority of the membership was united in this effort. All were moved by a common motive and aim that made them one in heart and mind. It is many a day since a spirit of harmony, Christian love, enthusiasm, expectation and thanksgiving such as prevails at present, has permeated the church-life and service."

Special mission meetings were conducted by A. J. Fisher, of Nailsworth, from Aug. 29 to Sept. 12, at Dulwich, S.A. on "Changeless Truth for Changeful Times." A great deal of time, thought and prayer went into preparation of this forward move. Many churches supported the meetings, highlight being Sept. 1, when 93 were present. All children were presented with an illustrated Bible strip each night as well as a serial of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress." The addresses have been encouraging, instructive and challenging, and should strengthen the church. There was one confession and one reconsecration. At close of special meetings J. Maddern

relinquished office of organist and choir-leader after 25 years of excellent service. Loyalty Month commenced splendidly with 22 present at I.C.E. and 8 at J.C.E. Clubs were well represented at evening service, and fellowship hour was enjoyed. Loyalty study groups at I.C.E. have been well attended, and good discussions have resulted. On afternoon of Aug. 8, Mr. Stirling showed religious film, "No Greater Power." It was interesting and instructive. C. Schwab addressed church in interests of Christian Rest Home on Aug. 15. Amsterdam Sunday was recognised on 22nd, and special prayer was given for success of Council of Churches. Mr. Bridgman was appointed an elder at recent annual business meeting, and Mr. Cave was re-engaged for a further term. The preacher's addresses have been inspiring. Several letters have been received from Britain in appreciation for food parcels. Dorcas Society recently forwarded five more. In recent S.S. efficiency campaign conducted by Youth Department, Dulwich gained 276 marks, 24 short of an honor certificate. Credit must go to superintendent, Mr. Grover, and teachers who have been at a disadvantage through shortage of staff. The four candidates who sat for S.S. examination passed with honors. One, Jan Ludbrook, received first prize, and another, Marion Allison, received third for S.A. All auxiliaries are doing well. Dulwich won first place in B grade table tennis. Good Companions' Club and Young Worshipers' League recently had birthday parties. On Aug. 26, K.S.P. challenged girls to a debate on proposition, "That the Victorian Era was Better than the Modern Age." The girls, who spoke in favor of the modern age, were victors.

## WOOLWICH BIBLE COLLEGE, N.S.W.

### TERM II. EXAMINATIONS, 1948

THE students whose names appear below obtained 80 per cent. of marks or over in the subjects listed and thus obtained honors. Old Testament.—B. Cavill, W. Turnell, M. Leask. Three others passed.

New Testament.—R. Beadle, B. Cavill, W. Turnell, W. Howard. Seven others passed. Homiletics I.—R. Beadle, W. Howard, K. Fennell, P. Goodger, W. Rugendyke, G. Crossman, J. Ellerby.

Religious Education.—R. Beadle, W. Howard, D. Tonkin, B. Cavill, P. Goodger, K. Fennell, W. Rugendyke, M. Leask, J. Ellerby, W. Turnell. Two others passed.

Homiletics II.—B. Cavill, W. Turnell, M. Leask, D. Tonkin, R. Clymer.

Church History.—B. Cavill, E. Taylor, F. Craig, M. Leask, W. Turnell, B. Munro. Three others passed.

Missions.—E. Taylor, H. Burkhead, F. Craig, M. Leask, D. Tonkin, B. Cavill, W. Turnell, B. Munro, R. Clymer.

Restoration Movement.—D. Tonkin, E. Taylor, M. Leask, W. Turnell, F. Craig, B. Munro, B. Cavill, R. Clymer. One other passed.

Apologetics.—E. Taylor, F. Craig. Two others passed.

Logic.—F. Craig, H. Burkhead, E. Taylor, B. Munro.

Homiletics III.—F. Craig, E. Taylor. Two others passed.

Hermeneutics and Exegesis.—F. Craig, E. Taylor. Two others passed.

Leaving English.—Five passed.

Ancient History.—R. Beadle, W. Howard. Four others passed.

Greek I.—W. Turnell, W. Howard. Three others passed.

Greek II.—B. Cavill.

—H. J. Patterson (Principal).

### COMING EVENT

Next meeting of Women's Conference Executive Council will be held at Swanston-st. on Friday, Oct. 1, at 2 p.m. Miss Chappell, a student at the college, will lead devotions. Speaker will be Dr. W. A. Kemp, chairman of College Board.

# News of the Churches

## Tasmania

**West Hobart.**—S. Cooper (Collins-st.) and H. England, B. Golder, J. Woolley and M. Richardson, have given helpful and appreciated addresses. At gospel services Sister S. Cooper (Collins-st.) and Sister E. Ashlin have been soloists. At annual business meeting on Sept. 8, G. E. Ashlin was elected secretary and K. Woolley treasurer. There was a slight increase in attendances shown in secretary's report. Home and overseas penny-per-week collectors, W. Woolley and Miss F. Golder, reported amounts of £3/3/- and £3/5/- respectively for six months. Both collectors are Bible school scholars. There have been three new scholars in Bible school in past few weeks.

## Western Australia

**Bunbury.**—There has been marked increase in attendance both morning and evening since S. Ryles began his ministry. During last four months there have been ten decisions. Nineteen scholars sat for scripture examination, resulting in 17 certificates, including two prize-winners in Div. 5 (David Dean and Valma Richards). There are 189 scholars on Bible school roll and 20 on teaching staff. School gained second place in increase and attendance campaign (Div. 1). Three sisters passed away recently—Mrs. Hanson (one of the foundation members), Mrs. Brown and Mrs. J. Lewin (nee Betty Mercer), who was a victim of infantile paralysis. Love and sympathy go to all families concerned. All clubs and auxiliaries are in fine condition. Young people have formed a badminton club with membership of 25.

**Cottesloe.**—There have been average attendances in mornings; evening services have fluctuated owing to outside influences, chief of which was Hyman Appelmann mission. Gospel services have been conducted by Messrs. Elms, Saunders and Maskuray. Junior Endeavor Society started recently with attendance of 33. Soon to be arranged is combining of boys' and girls' senior clubs into one mixed club for young people. A Bible study and prayer meeting has been commenced on Wednesday night, of interdenominational nature. On Sept. 12 a young people's fellowship meeting was held. Fifty-four young people came from neighboring Anglican, Presbyterian and Baptist churches. Speaker was youth director, S. F. Davey. Tennis club is meeting at new court in Shenton-rd., Swanbourne. A variety concert was held on Sept. 18.

## Queensland

**Ma Ma Creek.**—Church is pleased to have fellowship of Chas. Cole and family home on holiday from Malvern, Vic. Mrs. Cole, sen., presented church with an electric clock, which is greatly appreciated. Sister Les Metcalf was received into church fellowship by letter from Roma church. Temperance Sunday and Father's Day Lars Larsen gave fitting addresses.

**East Ipswich.**—Services are well attended, and work as a whole is healthy. During past month there have been about nine confessions. Overseas offering amounted to over £24; annual offering for manse over £66. In scripture examinations all scholars except one passed and three scholars gained highest passes in their division. Mr. Burgin has resigned from work at East Ipswich to take up a new work in New Zealand in new year. Mr. Burgin's resignation takes effect at end of this year, when church will be open to engagement of a new preacher. During Mr. Burgin's two years and nine months' ministry an enjoyable and blessed time has been experienced with inspiring addresses.

**Annerley.**—A welcome social was given Mr. and Mrs. C. Latimer on Aug. 13. Speakers included leaders of church auxiliaries and representatives from Women's Conference Auxiliary, Home Mission Committee and Ministers' Fraternal. Opportunity was taken to farewell W. J. Campbell and voice appreciation of his services during past two years and three months. He was also presented with a roll of notes. Bouquets were presented to Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Latimer. Weekly prayer meetings recommenced Sept. 9.

**West Moreton Circuit.**—Visitors were present from Brisbane, Ipswich and Sydney for second meeting of United Christian Women's Fellowship. Mr. James (Scotty) Gibb, North Auburn, Sydney, was speaker, and thrilled the large audience. Mrs. David Kruger presided. Marburg recently held first harvest festival, when chapel was packed to capacity. Mr. Abrahams confessed Christ when Mr. Caldicott made appeal. A special campaign is being held at Marburg by Mr. Gibb, Sept. 20-25. Fernvale C.E. Society held last meeting in home of Mr. and Mrs. A. Pieper. On Sept. 12 visitors from Sydney included Mrs. Burling and Mrs. Henderson (Canley Vale). United Nations children's appeal amounted to £45. Rosevale maintains splendid witness at Lord's Table with crowded meetings. Mrs. John Christensen is in Brisbane Hospital. Paul Schumann has been restored. A special youth camp is being considered by West Moreton. Half-yearly conference of circuit is planned for Sept. 25. Open-air meetings are increasing, and many donors are thanked for recordings for amplifier. Forty-five were present at last meeting. An average of 220 break bread throughout circuit. Earnest visitation is maintained by Mr. Caldicott, average of 1000 miles per month. Religious instruction at Rosewood school includes 110 scholars.

## South Australia

**Prospect.**—Following Bible study at Tuesday night fellowship, indoor sports were played. Women's Guild held an afternoon in aid of Christian Rest Home, approximately £5 being realised. R. Vincent was speaker at both services on Sept. 12. Plans are in hand for Sunday school anniversary.

**Kilburn.**—Bible school attendance at 10 a.m. on Sept. 12 was 97, including three new scholars. 11 a.m. service was conducted by F. Stone, when 25 adults and 34 young worshippers enjoyed splendid addresses by F. Collins, who also addressed 7 p.m. gospel service. Continued help of D. McQueen and K. Henley, of Nailsworth church, as Bible school teachers is appreciated, especially as more new scholars are expected with near completion of many new homes close to present meeting-place, and promise of more visitation by conference H.M. sisters.

**Fullarton.**—On Sept. 9 a welcome was extended to Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Bond, of Springvale, Vic., who are on an exchange ministry for one month. B. W. Manning has taken his place at Springvale. Peter Mau, chairman, welcomed visitors on behalf of church; several others supported him. Mr. Bond responded for himself and Mrs. Bond, and also Reg Hinde, of Frankston, who had accompanied him on the trip. Mr. Bond gave a devotional talk, and at conclusion supper was served and a season of fellowship enjoyed. On Sept. 12, at morning service, presiding brother on behalf of church welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Bond and Reg. Hinde. Mr. Bond's thoughtful address was appreciated. Gospel service was well attended. Mrs.

Robt. Burns sang a solo, and Mr. Bond preached a powerful sermon.

**Long Plains.**—Attendances improved in last month at all services; many visiting brethren shared fellowship. Plans have been completed for rebuilding chapel; issue of permit is now awaited. Adelaide Plains District C.E. Union held a rally in hall on Aug. 13, which was a great blessing; Mr. Riches was speaker. He also conducted a picture evening on 14th dealing with work of Mission to Lepers, and was speaker at Sunday morning service. On Aug. 22 Mr. Derbyshire, of B. and F.B.S., was speaker morning and evening, showing lantern pictures in evening. Mr. Baker continued his series of expository addresses on the Beatitudes on mornings of Aug. 29 and Sept. 5; visiting brethren from Prospect delivered addresses on Sept. 12. C.E. Society continues to hold helpful meetings in homes of members and friends, and held a witness meeting around a camp fire in pines on property of M. Jenkin. On Sept. 11 Miss E. Daniel and Eric Hepburn were married, Mr. Baker officiating. The marriage of K. Jenkin to Miss M. Howell was conducted on Sept. 15 at Grace Plains.

## Victoria

**Ararat.**—On Aug. 28, Sunday school anniversary was held. W. R. Hibburt was speaker for day. Children sang well under leadership of Mr. Gason. On 27th children were given a tea, followed by games. Donation to United Nations appeal amounted to £10. A large parcel of clothing was also donated.

**Doncaster.**—On morning of Sept. 12 G. T. Black gave an instructive talk on the Bible. His word on temperance to young people was also appreciated. Recent improvements to chapel consist of interior decoration of main building and modern conveniences in kitchen, latter being made possible by efforts of ladies in holding a recent sale of gifts. On evening of Sept. 9, under auspices of Women's Mission Band, C. Lang gave a lantern lecture entitled "A Trip to the Grampians"; proceeds from admission amounted to £6, to be used as Christmas cheer for missionaries.

**Ballarat (York-st.).**—Successful anniversary services were held on Sept. 5. At an "every-member-present" service at 11 a.m., a thank-offering of £42 was received. £13/10/- was received, at a P.S.A. in afternoon, for "save the children" appeal. Visiting choir entertained at this meeting, which was crowded. Local choir assisted at evening meeting. Mr. Stirling, of Geelong, was special speaker at all services. His addresses were enjoyed. A well-attended business meeting listened to encouraging reports from all auxiliaries. Nett increase in membership for six months is 12. Church raised £500 from all sources. Bible school average, 123. Ladies' Guild has done excellent work with credit of £154 towards proposed new guild room. Mr. and Mrs. Long continue to serve the church well. Church has decided to launch "Christian Crusade Campaign." Commencement of a midweek meeting is proposed. Induction service was held on Sept. 12 for officers of church.

**Ivanhoe.**—S. Neighbour addressed evening meeting on Aug. 22. A young man confessed Christ. Aug. 29 was 31st church anniversary. Mr. Hurren spoke in morning. Over 100 were present at P.S.A., presided over by F. Chipperfield, and addressed by H. McCallum. Thanks are expressed to D. Clark and J. Sheehan, L. Miers and D. Scott, for excellent musical and elocutionary programme. Offering for U.N.A.C. was received. August averages: morning, 47 (including Y.W.L., 14); evening, 42. Mrs. Rol. Carnaby passed to her eternal reward on morning of Sept. 2. Kindergarten room was recently renovated by local members. Tennis club has improved court by voluntary labor. S.S. is practising for anniversary under Miss J. Milne. A team of men and Explorer Club visited Monbulk on Sept. 18 as working squad. September



visitors have included Mrs. Thrupp (Roma, Qld.), Miss Howorth (Ann-st., Brisbane), Miss Joynt (Annerley, Qld.). Church regrets continued enforced absence from services of elder E. Gibbons through sickness. Several other members have been ill.

Cheltenham.—On Sept. 19, at 11 a.m., Ron Holmes spoke on College of Bible. Members appreciated his informative address. Evening service was a united one held in Presbyterian Church. Mr. Cunningham spoke. Tennis club arranged a social evening on Sept. 15, when a presentation was made to Neville Soncum prior to his marriage; he has been captain of club for several years.

Collingwood.—Attendance is improving. On Sept. 5 and 12, Bible school anniversary took place. Speakers were Mr. Gavros and Mr. Trezise for afternoon and evening of first Sunday; second Sunday, Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Cook afternoon and evening respectively. On Sept. 7 tea meeting was enjoyed by scholars, after which there was a social and distribution of prizes, when school presented a book to Ken. Fitzgerald, resigning secretary. School appreciated services of T. Cuddy as conductor for anniversary. Church regrets to hear of illness of Miss M. Lord, superintendent of kindergarten.

Prahran.—Services on Sept. 5 and 12 were specially for young people. Addresses of L. A. Trezise, R. Muller and Mr. Giles were enjoyed. Sept. 12 was Bible school rally, and children sang special hymns under leadership of H. Lee. J. C. Mattheson has resigned as Bible school superintendent. F. E. Buckingham has been appointed to position. School has reverted to afternoon. On Sept. 19 Messrs. Olsen were received into fellowship by transfer. A. W. Stephenson was speaker in morning and F. E. Buckingham preached at gospel service. Mrs. Osborne was soloist. Cradle roll and kinder had prize-giving afternoon. A nice gathering of mothers attended.

Surrey Hills.—Temple Day on Sept. 11 was full day of prayer and thanksgiving. There was a continuance of prayer throughout day from 8 a.m. until united thanksgiving service at 7 p.m. Temple Day offering amounted to over £100. On Sept. 12 church celebrated 58th anniversary. Speaker in morning was Mr. Nankivell and in evening Mr. Earle. In evening former members of church were guests at a fellowship tea. Sunday school is being trained by Miss N. Friece and kindergarten by Miss E. Thornton for anniversary. Church social was held on Sept. 14, at which reports were received from auxiliaries and plans to achieve Diamond Jubilee aims outlined. Football and tennis clubs have completed a good season.

Drumcondra.—Church celebrated 23rd anniversary on Sept. 12. Conference president, A. E. Hurren, addressed both services. Working bees have been held by men to tidy church grounds. Ladies of church attended combined meeting at Terrace on Sept. 8. Monthly church paper, edited by Mr. Pigdon and duplicated by L. Cooke, is proving interesting and a great success. Church held half-yearly business meeting on Aug. 31. It has been decided to hold a mission in autumn, 1949, missionary to be G. T. Fitzgerald, of Adelaide. Mrs. Ponting was received into membership on Aug. 29 and Mr. and Mrs. Colin Dabb by transfer on Sept. 5. Endeavorers took part in second anniversary of Good News Transport Fleet. Church is sorry to learn of illness of the preacher, A. R. Pigdon.

Oakleigh.—E. L. Williams has been appreciated speaker at all services except morning of Sept. 19, when F. A. Youens, of Dandenong, presented College of Bible appeal. Good attendances are maintained. At gospel service on Sept. 5, a girl was baptised and received into fellowship. Also welcomed to membership on Sept. 19 were Mr. and Mrs. Mattheson. Bible school is preparing for anniversary. C. Ferguson, of Essendon, is

again conductor. Attendance of 172 on Sept. 19 is considerable improvement on recent months. An unusual social evening on Sept. 4, in aid of building fund, was greatly enjoyed. "Fines" imposed by mock court raised £12. Young Women's Fellowship celebrated first anniversary on Sept. 15. 60 were present, including visitors from Essendon, North Essendon, Moreland and Dandenong. Mrs. Nankivell gave a helpful talk on importance of a Christian home.

North Essendon.—22nd Bible school anniversary commenced on Sept. 12, when F. T. Morgan (Box Hill) was speaker in afternoon. At evening service A. R. Lloyd (Coburg) was speaker. On Sept. 19 L. A. Trezise spoke at afternoon service, and at evening service J. W. Burns brought the message. All four addresses were of high order and appreciated by scholars and adults. Singing of scholars reflected credit on conductor J. W. Burns. Orchestra was a delight at all services. R. Dobbs spoke at morning service on college, leaving a delightful impression of training for the ministry. A crusade committee has been formed, and plans have been prepared for a visitation campaign to past members who are still residing in district, to be followed by a special series of meetings covering three nights each week for three weeks. Appeal for children of Europe reached £26, and is expected to rise much higher. A working bee has erected a garage at manse. J.C.E. had a successful second birthday gathering on Sept. 18, when members gave superintendent Miss Skuse a floral tribute and a presentation of a cake dish.

## New South Wales

Earlwood.—Tenth anniversary celebrations commenced on Sept. 11 with fellowship tea provided by sisters. Several visitors were welcomed at meeting following, when Mr. Dewbury, from Wiley Park church, gave a stirring address and sacred musical items were rendered. At Lord's day worship meeting Mr. Corlett, from Belmore church, delivered a helpful exhortation. Thankoffering for building fund was £68. Chapel was packed for gospel meeting; A. Hinrichsen preached the gospel. Three young folk accepted the Saviour. A quartette from sisters, Kath Morrison's solo, and an item from junior choir, were all delightful.

Mosman.—An induction service was held at chapel at 8 p.m. on Sept. 4, when Mr. and Mrs. Burns were welcomed. Mr. Patterson gave charge to Mr. Burns and a helpful message to all. Mr. Thomas gave charge to church. After service a social cup of tea was enjoyed, and some fine welcome speeches were given—Mr. Modral from church at North Sydney; Mr. Prior, of Baptist Church, representing local ministers' fraternal. Sister Donaldson presented Mrs. Burns with a bouquet of flowers on behalf of Ladies' Church Aid. On Sept. 5 morning and evening services were taken by Mr. Burns, and fine addresses were given. A large congregation attended both meetings, including many young folk from Bible school and young people's club. Mr. Burns asked that 18 people might meet at midweek meeting, and all were gratified to see 28 present. It was decided to call the meeting in future the midweek fellowship meeting, and that everyone would take a part. On Sept. 12 Mr. Burns took both morning and evening meetings. It was good to see the young men of Young People's Club at table. Mr. Muir presided, with Mr. Donaldson and Mr. Hunter helpers. At evening meeting three young people of Young People's Club and Bible school obeyed the Lord in baptism. It was good to see Fay Allen, Norma Best and Rob Thorne give their lives into the Lord's keeping.

## WANTED

Good living business couple require S.C. or suitable flat, Toorak or neighboring districts. Write, call 287 Malvern-rd., South Yarra. Urgent.

House or bungalow wanted, to accommodate five adults, near sea or country, Dec. 26-Jan. 9. Reply "Five," c/o Austral.

## BIRTHS

COTTEE (Littlejohn).—At Moreland, Sept. 13, to Nancye and Nevill—the gift of a daughter (Susan Margaret).

VAUTIER (nee Lucy Browning).—To Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Vautier—a daughter (Rosalind Ruth).

## DIAMOND WEDDING

BODLE-HEDGEcock.—Mr. and Mrs. A. Bodle have pleasure in announcing the 60th anniversary of their marriage, celebrated at Wesley Church, Warrington, England, on Sept. 27, 1888, by Mr. Agar Beet. Present address, 117 Lemon-ave., Mildura.

SAUNDERS.—In ever loving memory of A. G. Saunders, B.A., who fell asleep Sept. 26, 1944. —Inserted by his wife and daughter St. Clair.

## IN MEMORIAM

CLARK.—In loving memory of my dear husband Charles, who fell asleep in Jesus at Port Fairy on Sept. 19, 1940.

"Loved with everlasting love."

—Inserted by his loving wife.

STANFORD, A. E.—In sad and loving memory of our darling husband, father and father-in-law, who passed away Sept. 27, 1947, at Wembley Park, W.A.

Silent thoughts bring many a tear,

For the one we miss and loved so dear.

—Inserted by his loving wife (Mill), daughter Myrtle, and son-in-law Phil.

## OUT SOON!

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for all who work among boys and girls and young people.

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## ASCOT VALE CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Oct. 3.—3 p.m., Mr. A. Newnham.

7 p.m., Mr. L. Brooker.

Oct. 10.—3 p.m., Mr. Wright.

7 p.m., Church Anniversary.

Presentation of scholars' awards.

All welcome.

## ORMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Special singing by scholars under the leadership of Mr. C. Gadge.

The speakers will be—

Oct. 3.—3 p.m., Mr. Hunter.

7 p.m., Mr. R. P. Clarke.

Oct. 10.—3 p.m., Mr. Poplington.

7 p.m., Mr. J. K. Martin.

All welcome.

## The Australian Christian

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## Obituary

### John Warren Cosh

**C**ALLED to higher service on August 24, a stalwart of our brotherhood. He spent an active life in the public service where he enjoyed the confidence and friendly respect of all citizens. But he will be best remembered as a stalwart of our churches. In his early twenties, as a member of Hindmarsh church, he became a very acceptable preacher, and a very ardent Sunday school worker. In 1891 he became assistant secretary to the first Sunday School Union of our churches, and continued his service among youth to the end. He was a warm friend of our missionaries. He was a member of the first Federal Foreign Mission Board, and remained in office for 28 years. His legal abilities were freely used in helping and advising our churches. In 1936 he was president of conference. Henley Beach church will cherish the memory of his membership, and many will recall the warmth of his hospitality. In later years, Unley church benefited much by his devoted help as an elder. In his passing we will miss his encouraging counsels, for he was a man whom to know was to esteem and love. We commend his loving sons and daughters to the God of all grace and comfort, and seek to cherish the memory of a real stalwart of the faith by giving ourselves to the task of extending the kingdom of God.—H.G.N.

### James Sneddon Fraser

**A**T his home in Merewether, N.S.W., on August 19, J. S. Fraser entered into rest at the age of 72 years. Mr. Fraser was recently in hospital with pneumonia, and was thought to have recovered, but passed away quietly in his sleep. Mr. Fraser joined the church in Armidale, Scotland, and came to Australia with his wife in 1903. He has served with the church at Merewether for the past 45 years, and as elder presided at the Lord's Table and exhorted the church up to July, when he was taken to hospital. No word we could say would express the deep sense of love and respect in which our brother was held by the church and all who knew him. He was truly a saint of God, and a father in the faith to the preacher and other officers of the church. On Saturday, Aug. 20, the mortal remains were laid to rest at Sandgate cemetery, after a service in the chapel and also at the graveside. To his dear wife and family the Merewether church extends deepest sympathy in their time of sorrow. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord."—P. Retchford.

### Thomas James Newburn

**M**EREWETHER church, N.S.W., lost one of its faithful members in the sudden home-call of T. J. Newburn on July 26. Mr. Newburn joined the church in 1908, and right down over the following 40 years has given faithful and loving service to our Lord. He served the church as trustee, and was an elder for many years. Our brother was a capable speaker, and delighted to exhort the church and proclaim the gospel message. On July 27, after a service in the chapel, his mortal remains were laid to rest beside those of his late wife, who passed to glory exactly three years ago. The writer conducted a Christian service at the graveside, and joins with the church in extending sympathy to all relatives and others who mourn the departing of our brother. "He giveth his beloved sleep."—P. Retchford.

### Alice Maud Packer

**T**HE church at Albion, Qld., has lost a very highly esteemed member in Mrs. Packer. A follower of Christ all her life, she joined the Albion church over 20 years ago, and

has been held in continual regard for her fine qualities. "Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her." Great sympathy is felt for her husband (Mr. Geo. Packer), her son (Mr. R. Packer), her daughters (Mrs. E. W. Enchelmaier and Mrs. H. Horne), and her grandchildren. Although she had been seriously ill for several weeks, the end came with brief notice on Sept. 9. The funeral was on Friday, 10th, with largely attended services at the Albion chapel and at Mt. Thompson Crematorium. The big attendance of mourners and the wealth of floral tributes fitted well with the respect and regard held for her.

"How well she fell asleep!  
Like some proud river, widening toward  
the sea:  
Calmly and grandly, silently and deep,  
Life joined eternity."

—H.G.P.

### Elizabeth Grace Winch

**O**N Sept. 2, at an advanced age, and after a long illness, Mrs. Winch, beloved mother of Mrs. A. W. Stephenson, of Melbourne; Mrs. C. Holt, of Hobart; and Stanley Winch, of Toowonga, entered into her eternal rest. Over forty years ago Mrs. Winch joined the church at South Richmond, and after years of faithful fellowship with the brethren there, came to Camberwell in 1921, where she was a regular and devoted worshipper until illness prevented her attendance. Like Dorcas of old Mrs. Winch plied a consecrated needle, and her assistance in the women's work was generously and unsparingly given. Over many years preachers and students were privileged to enjoy the blessings of Christian hospitality in her home, and because of this hold her in grateful remembrance. Her mortal body was laid to rest in the Brighton Cemetery on Sept. 3. To her loved ones and all who esteemed her there is the comfort of our blessed hope in Christ.—W.F.N.

## 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 cross-firing. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.)

### LOYALTY TO CHRIST

**I**N the article published in "The Australian Christian" of August 10 appears these words, "A warning has been given also that Christ will suddenly return, coming like a thief in the night, etc."

To be loyal to Christ it is not disputed that we must be loyal to his word, and it has ever been the plea of the Restoration Movement to go back to the Christianity of the early church, deploring the evil tendency of divisions. With your kind permission I would submit my contribution to assist in bringing about an answer to Christ's prayer for unity (John 17: 21). The most ancient faith of the Christian church associated the destruction of Jerusalem, the winding up of the Jewish dispensation, and the return of Christ to the earth, as events which were certain to happen at one and the same time. Jesus taught, and his apostles believed, that these events would take place in the lifetime of some who had been his earthly contemporaries.—T. J. Johnston, Launceston, Tasmania.

### WANTED

Office space in city wanted. Need is urgent, as present premises must be vacated by Sept. 30.—Young People's Department, 262 Flinders-lane, Melbourne.

### CROYDON CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, SUNDAY, SEPT. 26.

Speakers—11 a.m., Harold Steele.  
7 p.m., Ken Clinton.

Sunday School Anniversary, Sept. 26, 3 p.m.  
Singing by school. Speaker, Spencer Collier.

### LYGON STREET, CARLTON. BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, SEPTEMBER 26.

3 p.m., Mr. W. W. Saunders.  
7 p.m., Mr. R. M. Wilson.

Bright singing and hearty fellowship assured at these services.

Wed., Sept. 29, Prize-giving and Social Evening.  
A cordial invitation to all.

### CARNEGIE CHURCH OF CHRIST. SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY. SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26:

3 p.m., Mr. W. G. Organ.  
7 p.m., Mr. H. R. Coventry.

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3:

3 p.m., Mr. N. Gavros.  
7 p.m., Mr. F. Youens.

A hearty welcome extended to all.

### SURREY HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST.

### BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, SEPTEMBER 26, 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

3 p.m., Mr. A. McDiarmid. 7 p.m., Mr. H. Earle.  
Bright singing under leadership of Miss Nancy Friece. All old scholars and friends cordially invited.

Sept. 29, 8 p.m., concert programme and distribution of prizes.

Special night. All welcome.

### THORNBURY CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL

will hold their

### 27th ANNIVERSARY

on Sept. 26, Oct. 3, Oct. 10.

Sept. 26—11 a.m., Dr. E. R. Killmick.

3 p.m., Mr. G. Bosanquet.

7 p.m., Mr. D. D. Stewart.

Oct. 3—11 a.m., Mr. Mac Sandland.

3 p.m., Mr. W. W. Saunders.

7 p.m., Mr. Ron Muller.

Oct. 10—3 p.m., Kinder and Cradle Roll service.

Special singing by school.

All welcome. Come yourself, bring others.

### NORTH FITZROY CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL,

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Sundays, October 3, 10.

Re-union Tea, 5 p.m., October 3.

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## The Australian Christian

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# A Frail Poetess

A HYMN FOR OCTOBER—No. 205, OCT. 3.

A DELAIDE ANNE PROCTER followed a hard road as a poetess, partly from her upbringing and associations, partly by choice and partly by reason of bodily frailty. Her father being a well-known literary figure, she did not wish to rely on family reputations for her success and sent poems anonymously to "Household Words," then edited by Charles Dickens. Months later, Dickens's chance remark led Procter, senior, to realise that there was a second poet in the home—the unsuspected Adelaide Anne. Dickens's generous introduction to her volume of poems, "Legends and Lyrics," tells of her musical and artistic ability and (in spite of the gloomy suggestions of much of her poetry) her vivacious spirit and oftentimes keen humor. Her ministry in song was short indeed, for she did not reach her 39th birthday. Although her later years were spent in the Church of Rome, doctrine seldom appears in her verse.

Lines in "Life and Death" suggest her views of God's purposes. To the question, "What is life, Father?" come such hints of battle in life and rest in death that she says: "Then let me die, Father," but the divine word follows: "The crown must be won." Or, elsewhere, the question: "Who is the angel that cometh?" brings answers in turn from the angels of life, of joy, of pain and of death, but in each case the soul's reply is: "Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord." Her best-known work is "A Lost Chord" with its message of the peace of God that "lay on my fevered spirit with a touch of infinite calm; . . . it seemed the harmonious echo from our discordant life."

To-day's hymn (originally in the singular, "My God, I thank thee") catches up in inspiring fashion and with great felicity of language much of the author's philosophy of life—thankfulness for joys found in nature, in gentle deeds, in friendships, even in pain; but, beyond these, the promise of deeper peace and perfect rest. A hymnologist as competent as Bishop Bickersteth describes it as "this most beautiful hymn which touches the chord of thankfulness in trials as perhaps no other hymn does."—F.J.F.

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The Australian Christian

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—Will. H. Clay, Secretary

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