

Woolley & H.

# The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

## Why Are Hospitals Being Starved of Funds?



*Florence Nightingale at Her Work.*

Last century Florence Nightingale began a new day for hospitals. Her example and leadership surrounded hospital service with a romantic appeal. Has such an appeal come to an end in this materialistic age? Why is it so difficult for funds to be raised for such work from a flourishing business world? Is the spirit of Christ leaving our modern society?

# What Was Said at the World Council

VISSERT HOOFT

## Churches Not Present

AT the Plenary Session on Monday morning, August 23, Dr. Visser't Hooft presented the report of the Provisional Committee from which we quote as follows:

"There are other churches which have declined the invitation to join in the setting up of this Council. We rejoice in the presence of official delegates of several historic holy Orthodox and Eastern churches. But we are keenly aware of the absence of several great Eastern Orthodox churches. The Provisional Committee had made it clear as possible to the Orthodox Church of Russia that its full participation would be welcome. And certain communications received from the church made us hopeful that a favorable decision would be taken. But the recent meeting in Moscow decided otherwise. A resolution was adopted which describes our movement as a body which is not really concerned with the unity of the church but rather with the gaining of political and social influence. The conference declared therefore that the Orthodox churches represented in it were not able to participate in the ecumenical movement in its present form. A communication from the Patriarchate of Moscow adds that this does not mean that the church is not interested in the activities of the ecumenical movement and expresses the hope that the Patriarchate will be kept informed about the work of the World Council.

"Special reference should also be made to the Roman Catholic Church. Since the Provisional Committee was fully aware of the reasons why that church would not participate in the ecumenical movement, it was not invited to send official delegates to the first Assembly. But in the very early stage of preparations, in 1939, it was decided to inform the Holy See of the plans which were being made. In view of the many inquiries received from the Roman Catholics, the Provisional Committee decided in 1947 to invite a limited number of unofficial R.C. observers to attend the Assembly. But although many of the persons invited expressed the strong desire to be at Amsterdam and that with the knowledge of their immediate superiors, the holy office decided in June that permission to go to Amsterdam would not be granted to anybody. This decision is all the more regrettable since in recent years many Roman Catholic priests and laymen have shown a very deep understanding of the purposes and character of our movement. In fact the interest which individual Roman Catholics have shown in this Assembly and which has expressed itself in requests for invitations, in articles and in personal visits, has been one of the most striking features of the period of preparation. It remains to be seen whether the 'veto' of the holy office means in fact that this new and more hopeful approach is implicitly condemned or whether there is a possibility for continued conversation. From the point of view of the World Council we must hope and pray that real opportunities for fruitful contact may remain in existence."

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KARL BARTH

## Not a Marshal Plan

IN a challenging and provocative address Professor Karl Barth of Basle (in the presence of Princess Juliana and Prince Bernard) on Monday, August 23, brought the Assembly face to face with deep issues. "Should we not come to the clear understanding," he asked, "that by 'God's design' is really meant his plan; that is his already come, victorious, already founded kingdom in all its majesty—our Lord Jesus Christ, who has already robbed sin and death,

the devil and hell of their power, and already vindicated divine and human justice in his own person? That by 'God's Design' is therefore not meant the existence of the church in the world, its task in relation to the world's disorder, its outward and inward activity as an instrument for the amelioration of human life, or finally the result of this activity in the Christianisation of all humanity and connected with this, the setting up of an order of justice and peace embracing our whole planet. That therefore by 'God's Design' is not meant something like a Christian Marshal Plan?"

### Man not an Atlas

"I do not wish to weaken the earnestness, the goodwill and the hopes that have brought us here, but only to base them on their proper foundation, when I now say: We ought to give up, even on this first day of our deliberations, every thought that the care of the church, the care of the world, is our care. Burdened with this thought, we should straighten out nothing, we should only increase disorder in church and world still more. For just this is the final root and ground of all human disorder; the dreadful, godless, ridiculous opinion that man is the *Atlas* who is destined to bear the dome of heaven on his shoulders."

### Proof of Freedom

"What we can and ought to do in these days is simply this: we must be a proof 'in spirit and in power' of how it is when a thousand Christians from all lands and peoples, of all tongues and confessions gathered together in one congregation under present prevailing conditions stand by what they have so often heard and preached, in their several positions and various styles, 'Commit thy way unto the Lord and trust him, and he will bring it to pass.' Must we not be willing to stand by it, thus giving the proof of the freedom which is bestowed upon us as a congregation of Jesus Christ?"

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C. H. DODD

## God's Word, Not Ours

"All over the world people are cherishing the hope that at this Assembly a word may be spoken to the desperate need of the nations. If so, it must be God's word, and not ours." THIS was the declaration of Professor C. H. Dodd, of Cambridge, England's renowned Biblical scholar, at the Plenary Session of the Assembly. "The word of God in the scriptures," he said, "does not come by way of dialogue. It is a conversation. We can best come to terms with it by joining in the conversation."

"Human nature in us is what it always was. We wrestle with the Word, in company with his people in the past, until the grace and truth of God break through. Always, all through that moving dialogue and drama, God is addressing us and asking for our response — a response which in the nature of things must be in action and not in words — the act of faith and obedience."

"In our time God addresses his people, as always, in events. He speaks especially, it would appear, in great historical crises which stir men out of complacency and inertia. It is no light or agreeable thing to hear the word of the Lord. It never was. It is a word of judgment. If we hear the word of God in this Assembly, we shall most certainly be judged by it. We are all implicated in a sinful situation.

The Australian Christian

November 2, 1948

As we cannot contract out its disagreeable and menacing consequences, so we cannot disassociate ourselves from the sinful causes that led up to it."

"One thing we as Christians can do for our distressed world is to accept our responsibility, and submit our whole way of life, realistically and intelligently, to the criticism of his word in the scriptures, which is explicit and pointed enough."

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MARTIN NIEMOLLER

## A Decaying World

Pastor Niemoller, after reviewing the disorder of the world and the "bankruptcy" which has overtaken the Christian church, declared that it "is beyond our power to restore order to this chaotic world. We Christians cannot, and must not, dissociate ourselves from this universal confusion and thus awaken false hopes. We are called to reflection, nay, to repentance. We have indeed a message for the world. But it is not our message. It is God's message which we are to speak, the witness of Christ, the message of the cross. This message com-



Pastor Niemoller.

prehends the dignity of human life, but not a dignity which we have and possess, which we claim as a right. The message entrusted to us says that God in his incomprehensible mercy, as revealed in Christ, has bestowed on us a dignity to which we are not in any way entitled — which enables us in the midst of a chaotic world that is clearly rushing to disaster, to live as men and women, yes, as children of God, wherever and whenever we rely in faith in his promise. While we do not have a programme of salvation for the world, this does not mean that Christians should not render, in so far as possible, deeds of mercy," Dr. Niemoller declared.

"It is true, we cannot realise the right order of society, because such a thing does not exist in this decaying world," Niemoller maintained; "neither can we establish permanent peace and abolish war, just as we cannot get rid of conflict and murder in individual human life. But it is still our duty to work for better social orders and conditions, and to work seriously for the abolition of war. For Christ's sake we have to bear witness that God is the God of justice and peace, that he does not want chaos and war, that the church therefore cannot tolerate the conditions of this world, especially because it looks for help to God alone, and not to itself." Dr. Niemoller closed with the words: "We are weary of our own ways; we all have reason to doubt our own powers and to despair. But for that very reason we are called afresh to proclaim the great deeds of God and to make the Christian message heard and seen in the world."

# A DIMINISHING COMPANY

THE movement to restore churches of Christ after the order of New Testament Christianity had its origin in Great Britain and America, mainly among those who were distressed at the growth of clericalism within the church. The tendency for a group of men to take to themselves the priestly functions of the whole church, excluding the majority of the membership from these rights, was considered to be a violation of teachings observed by New Testament Christians.

## EDITORIAL

### PIONEER PREACHERS

During the early days of the Restoration Movement, there were men like James Wallis in England, a business man who gave much time to the church. In America, Alexander Campbell provided for his own needs, by conducting a farm. There was a sense in which he was a farmer who gave much time to church affairs. Walter Scott was primarily a school teacher. Within the churches in Australia the initial work was begun by business men or tradesmen. Thos. Magarey was not a "minister" by profession. He maintained his business affairs in Adelaide and gave a lead in church work at the same time. In Melbourne, J. Ingram and H. G. Picton were busy at their work during the week, but found time to preach and guide the affairs of small churches. In New South Wales, Dr. Kingsbury was a professional man who found time to serve churches.

### STURDY STUDENTS

Throughout the years much of the strength of churches of Christ has been in the virile ministry of those men who were ready to minister in the churches. Many of them were able thinkers, capable teachers and scholars. They knew the Bible, and appreciated the viewpoint of the Restoration Movement. By their zeal and learning, they were able to witness to workmen and business men during their week-day activities. On Sundays, some would journey many miles to fulfil speaking appointments. They were sincere men and under strong conviction. They were earnest and courageous. No doubt they made mistakes, and some might have used crude methods, but they were men of God who influenced the society in which they lived.

### THE FULL-TIME MINISTRY

As the years passed these men recognised certain advantages in having men trained and set apart for the full-time ministry of the church. Some saw in the movement the dangers of encouraging the development of a ministerial class. However, those who sought the establishment of a full-time ministry urged that there was no danger of the development of a ministerial class. It was said the ministry belonged to the whole church and it could be fulfilled by those who were maintained financially by the church and those who gave their services freely. This was so for a long period. For years there were many young men encouraged to prepare themselves for the public work of the church. Training classes in most of the Australian States ensured the growth of bands of young men who could help acceptably in church services. It was part of the general policy of the church to share the full-time minister with smaller causes, and selected speaking brethren were given an opportunity to exhort their local church. No doubt there were some who abused the privilege, but many edified the church. Because speaking responsibilities were placed upon them, many of those men became able students of the Bible. They spent money on books, read of the latest trends in theology and gave a ready reply to those who sought guidance. Those men enriched the churches and gave stability to the brotherhood.

### PRESENT TRENDS

Why have we lost from our ranks these men? What is causing the disappearance of such groups of men from churches, men who were capable of discussing the basic reason for our existence as a people and of making a contribution to the work of the church? Are full-time preachers failing to encourage such men? Are there any efforts to train young men to take the place of the older men? Surely we are not drifting into the pit from whence we were dug? Are we determined to go back to the falsehood of clericalism, in some form or another? There are many who would like to know the answer to some of these questions. It may be that the blame can be placed on none other than the whole brotherhood. That there is a desire for the whole church to minister has been demonstrated in Visitation Evangelism campaigns. A trained church can be an effective church. Unless the church becomes a training centre, it will soon become a hospital, giving soothing syrups and next a graveyard. We need more planned efforts to train men and women in local church service. Then the ministry of the church will be the expression of the whole, and not of the few.

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## Better Fathers, Better Sons

SOME trends in modern society suggest a failure of many to live morally, honestly and justly. Perhaps we are all prone to make general deductions from few instances. Such errors in logic may cause us to be too hasty in our condemnation of modern society. However, the people's rising expenditure on alcoholic drinks and gambling and the increasing divorce rate are alarming.

One of the unexpected bright spots in Victorian social life is the steady fall in the number of children brought before the Victorian Children's Courts. In 1942, 6278 cases were dealt with. Since that year there has been such a steady decline in numbers that only half that number were brought before the court in 1947. In 1946, 3601 children were dealt with, while in 1947 the number fell to 3027. During a war, with the absence of so many fathers on military service, there is always a rise in child delinquency. This suggests the important influence the father has in the home. The majority of children who have fallen into crime because of home factors have failed because they have been without the moral guidance of fathers. No doubt the mother exercises a big influence in the family, but Victorian Children's Court statistics reveal that a father must play his part to maintain the high moral tone of the home.

While of the 3027 children before the courts last year, 484 went astray because of the lack of parental control, 562 children erred because of lack of parental control and bad company. Perhaps children would not fall into bad company if better home-life protected them. It is evident that a third of the children before the courts last year were there because parents, in some way, neglected them. Evidence also points to the need of the father giving a stronger lead to the boys in the home.

We also note that broken homes are a threat to the moral life of children.

The major problem in child delinquency is not the child but the parent. To make better children, there must be better homes, and to make better homes there must be better mothers and fathers. Better fathers will make better sons.

# Federal Conference, 1948

Report of an encouraging and successful conference in Western Australia.

DURING the last six months there have been so many conferences in Perth that it might almost be known as the "Convention City." W.A. has welcomed the constant and large delegations from the Eastern States, even though it has caused great congestion in transport and accommodation facilities. In spite of travel difficulties that were not completely satisfactory until almost the last moment, approximately 250 gathered in Perth for the first Federal Conference to be held in this city since 1926. The most distant States, Queensland and N.S.W., were very well represented, as was also Tasmania, but the majority were from South Australia and Victoria. Unfortunately I. Paternoster, of N.S.W., took ill shortly after arriving in Perth, and acting on medical advice, was forced to stay in bed over the conference period. He was sent a telegram of sympathy and appreciation.

## Enthusiastic Commencement—Thursday Afternoon

The first official gathering of delegates was the sectional conference given over to youth work. V. C. Stafford ably presented the case for the Board of Christian Education. State Advisory Boards also met during same afternoon. On Friday morning the Aborigines and Foreign Mission Boards met with their respective State committees, whilst in the afternoon the Social Services and College committees had large and interested attendances at their conferences.

## Lord Mayor Pleased

Apparently it is somewhat unusual for the Chief Citizen of Perth to provide refreshments that do not include liquor. The Lord Mayor granted a civic welcome to some 20 State representatives at noon on Thursday. The federal president, Les. Peacock, and the world president, Reg. Enniss, responded, as did also Dr. W. A. Kemp, who had conveyed greetings on behalf of the Box Hill City Council.

## Inaugural Dinner

Perth Town Hall was taxed to uttermost to accommodate 480 who sat to inaugural dinner on Oct. 15. The State Government was represented by Deputy Premier, and Perth City Council and representatives of the Baptist, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, and the Salvation Army, shared in the welcome to the visitors. Following replies of State leaders, moving pictures (technicolor), loaned by State Education Department, depicting W.A. wildflowers and the timber industry, were enjoyed. Musical items were rendered by N. Bourke and P. Armstrong (violin duet) and Miss G. Thomas (flute solo).

## Business

The business sessions of this 22nd Federal Conference were noteworthy for the spirit of goodwill and interest displayed. It was early evident that delegates were there to further the work of the kingdom of God, and there was no sign of friction. Some far-reaching decisions were made, perhaps the most important being the alteration to the constitution which enables the setting up of a Federal Executive whose term of office may be extended beyond the hitherto two years. Other matters were the endorsement of plans for establishing work at Canberra, and amendments to constitution to provide for State representation on the Aborigines, College of the Bible, and Foreign Mission Boards, and the establishment of the Board of Christian Education in lieu of Bible Schools and Young People's Committee.

## Outings

Because of petrol position it was not possible to provide outings that had been contemplated in early conference plans. On Saturday afternoon, by means of private cars and a regular bus service, interstate visitors were able to view Bethesda Hospital and youth camp, taking en route the river drive and nearer beaches. On following Wednesday morning they enjoyed fellowship on a round trip through hills on Railway Department's special train, morning tea being provided at Chidlow. On Thursday morning four motor launches conveyed them down river to Mosman's Bay, where morning tea was enjoyed. Conference picnic was held at National Park, where everybody enjoyed the wildflowers and waterfalls.

## World Convention

It was with the greatest regret that conference heard the announcement from the world president that advice had just been received that, because of anticipated shipping difficulties, it would not be possible to hold the 1950 convention in Australia. It was a severe blow, but nevertheless the position is fully realised, and it is the earnest hope of all that it will be possible to hold the 1955 convention here.

## Election of Officers

It was decided that the next Federal Conference be held in Melbourne in 1950, and following officers and members of committees were appointed:

### Federal Executive

President.—E. L. Williams.  
Vice-president.—W. F. Nankivell.  
Secretary.—D. Wakeley.  
Assistant secretary.—L. J. Butler.  
Treasurer.—R. Connell.  
Two Members.—F. N. Lee, J. McG. Abercrombie.

Vice-Presidents.—Queensland, W. E. Reeve; S.A., Dr. Trevor Turner; N.S.W., R. Greenhalgh; Tas., J. Park; W.A., R. Raymond.

*College of the Bible*.—Chairman, Dr. W. A. Kemp; secretary, K. A. Jones; treasurer, A. W. Cleland; seven members, W. T. Atkin, T. Hagger, F. N. Lee, R. P. Morris, M.C.E., G. L. Murray, E. M. Price, A. W. Stephenson, M.A., Principal-ex-officio, E. L. Williams, M.A.

*Preacher Provident Fund*.—H. E. Bell, C. M. Graham, R. Greenhalgh, K. Hunter, S. Laney, J. L. Stimson, C. A. Verco.

*Board of Christian Education*.—Victoria: B. F. Huntsman, W. R. Hibbert, E. A. Lewis, F. T. Morgan, L. A. Trezise, B.A.; N.S.W., R. Greenhalgh; Qld., F. B. Stow; S.A., G. R. Stirling, B.A.; Tas., M. T. Burt; W.A., S. F. Davey.

*Hymnbook Committee*.—F. J. Funston, W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D., D. E. Pittman, V. C. Stafford, Miss M. E. Pittman.

*World Convention Committee*.—A. W. Cleland, K. A. Jones, Dr. W. A. Kemp, F. N. Lee, Mrs. McCann, W. F. Nankivell, B.A., B.D., R. S. Ryall, A. W. Stephenson, M.A., Mrs. J. Turner, W. G. Graham, together with the president and secretary of the federal conference, the president of the Victorian conference, and R. Enniss, world president, as ex-officio member.

*Aborigines Board*.—Chairman, Albany Bell; vice-chairman, A. M. Bell; secretary, D. G. Hammer; treasurer, J. J. Collingwood; six

members, W. S. Bown, C. Hollett, A. B. Povey, L. K. Wilson, Mrs. I. Digwood, Mrs. T. Smillie.

*Foreign Mission Board*.—Chairman, Dr. P. S. Messent; secretary, A. Anderson; treasurer, O. V. Mann; four members, R. J. Finlayson, H. G. Norris, T. P. Richardson, C. Schwab.

*Canberra Committee*.—W. J. Crossman, E. Davis, A. C. MacLean, A. C. Morris, J. L. Stimson, E. C. Hinrichsen.

*Social Service Board*.—W. T. Atkin, W. A. Brown, F. E. Buckingham, F. Chipperfield, W. H. Clay, E. J. Collings, F. J. Funston, S. Neighbour, W. R. L. Rodgers-Wilson, R. A. Strongman, G. B. Woodbridge, Miss A. Davies, Mrs. C. Gill, Mrs. L. Lowrey, Mrs. J. L. Ward.

## Meetings

All meetings were well attended. Federal Executive is indebted to Salvation Army and officers of Trinity Congregational Church in making their buildings available. Action of manager of Grand Theatre Co. was appreciated in granting Theatre Royal at reduced rental for conference sermon meeting. Features of gathering were excellent addresses, and outstanding singing of conference choir, conducted by A. E. Saggers. This choir had rehearsed for many months past, and commendation both of choir and conductor was heard on all sides.

Theme of conference was "Crusading for Christ." On October 16, somewhere about 1000 gathered at opening public meeting, youth night in Salvation Army Fortress. The play, "God's New World," was presented by a number of young people, and following it a challenging address by G. R. Stirling.

On Oct. 17, a fine meeting was held in Theatre Royal, when some 1200 met to hear conference sermon preached by R. Raymond, vice-president of Federal Conference. His subject was "Crusading for the Faith," presented in speaker's usual forthright manner. Inspiring singing by conference choir, concluding with "Hallelujah Chorus," brought to a close a memorable meeting.

Through the courtesy of the manager of station 6PR, the programme was broadcast over three stations, thus enabling many to participate who would not otherwise have been able to do so.

At foreign mission meeting on Monday, October 18, Dr. G. H. Oldfield spoke on subject of "Christian Ideals in a Non-Christian Country." He traced early beginnings of religion and culture in India, and led up to impact that Christ has made upon that country. Following address, one of finest of conference, A. Anderson showed slides and pictures of Indian work.

Tuesday, October 19, was Women's Conference Day, and during afternoon men attended an open-air gathering in King's Park to discuss Visitation Evangelism. About 120 were present when discussion was opened by A. E. Hurren, Victorian conference president. A representative of press was impressed by contributions to discussion of "ordinary men of church." In evening women's rally was well attended, speakers being Mrs. McCallum (N.S.W.) and F. Fewster (Kalgoorlie, W.A.). The former spoke on necessity for "The Third Force" to be placed between forces represented to-day by U.S.A. and Russia. F. Fewster gave a powerful address on "This is the Witness."

At Social Service and Aborigines meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 20, C. R. Burdeau, of Qld., was at his best when speaking on subject, "The Church Answers the Challenge." Following this address came D. G. Hammer, who, in his subject, "A Birthright for Esau," put forward the claims of our Australian aborigines. All present were given a greater appreciation of these two phases of Christian work.

A crowded building greeted final night of conference, when speaker was E. C. Hinrichsen, of N.S.W., who concluded his message entitled "The Scoffer's Sneer" with a plea for greater support of tent mission evangelism. Dur-

(Continued on page 510)

# Crusading for Christ in India

**A**RISING out of plans formulated at the annual meetings, arrangements are already in operation for a crusade in "Our India." Present indications promise future success. Mr. Colin Thomas tells of early planning for the crusade:

## Christians at Prayer

"We are now starting on the 'Crusade for a Christian World' in 'Our India,' and beginning our first consignment on the Bible school work by October 1. I know that you in Australia will pray for us as we are for you, as we are both starting up on this venture. On Saturday night at Dhond, Sunday morning at Shrigonda and here (Baramati) on Wednesday evening, we formally started the campaign, and put the whole plan before the people. Before that time here we had a committee elected to guide the local church, and the people spent two weeks with prayer meetings every night in order to prepare themselves for the crusade."

## "Near to the Kingdom" Groups

"There seems to be great interest, and those who have put off the day of their baptism into Christ are eager to be prepared and take their part with the rest of the Christian group, so that there are about twelve people here and about twelve to fifteen, I believe, on the Shrigonda side, who are waiting for baptism. There are also two at the Walchandnagar sugar factory, so that there will be an immediate response in the way of additions.

"We have tried to continue our rounds of the places we have manned by workers, but even this programme has got ahead of us because of lack of petrol, time and also workers to achieve what we are physically unable to do."

## Publicity and Aims

"A set of pamphlets will go out to all our members. We are hoping that there will be a resurgence of Christian life and expansion of the horizon of service before the crusade is very old.

"We have fixed our aims at 300 new converts, and 100 per cent. restored. Two conference workers instead of one. Rs.8000 (£800) offerings for all purposes in two years. 1000 new Bible school scholars. 50 teachers trained.

"We also have some hand-printed posters of our aims. These have been done by the teachers of the school, and are not a bad effort. We have used in the first publication a *Disciples of Christ* compilation, which they are using in the Hindi language. This we have had translated into Marathi and used with their block, kindly lent by F. E. Livengood, of the Mission Press, Jubblepore.

"Our annual meetings with the help of Mr. and Mrs. Rice saw the real commencement of the crusade with us, and we have been planning ever since."



## AMPLIFIER AND PROJECTOR

**A**N offer has been made and gratefully accepted by the board for the supplying of an address amplifying unit and other necessary equipment, including projector. The sponsors of the scheme are prepared to work toward the aim of raising £100 for this worthy purpose. The equipment would be used in the evangelistic work at Baramati now under Mr. Colin Thomas.

Mr. Thomas, in referring to the scheme and publicity and promotional work in general, adds: "I think this equipment will be a great asset to our bazaar preaching work, on which we are seeking to lay more stress these days, rather than backing down because of opposition that may or may not come. We are also going to make a point of selling books and giving away tracts which are being given more freely than before from America and other sources."

## THE MINISTRY OF HEALING

**F**ROM a mission hospital manned by Australian doctors and nurses comes the following report:

"Cataract operations are fairly simple to perform, and the nursing of the patient is not difficult, but what a miracle it always is to the blind! By that operation the blind are truly made to see. Many people come to us who need this operation, and already Dr. Oakley has been able to give sight to seven people. One old man came from the village behind the hospital for this operation, and he was pleased enough when the bandages were first opened and he could dimly count fingers and tell colors. But when he came back a week later and had glasses fitted, his delight was inexpressible. He clapped his hands together with the strange pleasure of it all. He looked at the garden, picked up a newspaper, and touched my frock and my scarlet cape, telling the colors. Then with tears flowing down his old wrinkled face, he fell at the doctor's feet and touched his fore-

head to the ground. We lifted him up, telling him to give his worship and thanks to God."



*Village Groups.*

*With use of loud speaker and other aids, a large work awaits evangelistic workers. At present village people are responsive. The Indian Government uses the loud speaker to give out news and announcements. It aims to have such in every village and hamlet. Why not the Christian church?*

## Social Service Notes and Comments

*Will H. Clay.*

**H**EADED by the newly-appointed Lord Mayor of Melbourne, those people who have been clamoring for a State lottery are encouraged to press for it by every means in their power. Naturally the gambling public are for it. Some members of our State Parliament, notably those of the Roman faith, and the Labor Party have joined with them as a party to urge the Acting Premier to submit the question to a vote of the people.

Our City Council appears to elect to its chief seat almost without exception a man who is sold to liquor and racing. This suggests to us that the Christian church should take a more active interest in municipal affairs. At present, it is hardly possible for a man, other than one of money or a member of the Labor Party, to win a seat in the Melbourne City Council. Firstly, a candidate must be a property owner or a representative of one. Secondly, he must have money and friends, and thirdly, he must be a broadminded man of the world. While the City Council is at present constituted there is little hope of moral reform. Gambling is not only tolerated in the city streets, it is encouraged, and the publican gets more than "a fair go." Advantage is being taken of the tremendous increase of hospital maintenance costs, to urge that the lottery "so successful in other States," it is claimed, should be introduced here. Victoria, it is true, is being exploited by other States, and "for this reason," says our Lord Mayor, "we should provide a lottery of our own."

We are confident, however, that such a move would simply provide further means of gambling, advantage of which would be taken by all States. Victoria is the last bastion, which, if it falls, means that the whole nation has fallen irrevocably. On the other hand, if it can be proved that our hospitals can be financed by a tax borne by the whole of the people, other States may come back into line with Victoria. Christian people are definitely opposed to allowing the gambler to take the whole of the cost of the maintenance of our hospitals upon himself. To do so would place in his hands a weapon with which he could slay his opponent any time he might choose. This committee is responsible for convening a meeting of the

leaders of all the Protestant churches and Social Questions Committees to determine some form of united action to support the Acting Premier, and an early statement is promised.

### Food Parcels to Britain

It should be generally known that, under a new scheme by which parcels may be sent to Britain by the payment of the sum of 10/- into any trading bank, the sender is relieved of any further service. A form is provided by the bank upon which the sender gives his own name and address and the name and address of the person to whom the parcel is being sent.

The Social Service Department sent a test parcel to the secretary of our Social Service Committee in England which arrived on Oct. 7, and on the following day he addressed a letter in reply which reads as follows: ". . . here is the detailed account of parcel which arrived yesterday. One tin of hot pot, one tin of honey, two tins of dripping (tins the size of Nestle's milk tin), one tin of meat roll, one tin of blackberry and apple jam, one packet of sweets, one packet of pastry mix, making in all six tins of goods and two packets of goods. I have no hesitation in saying, that judging from the above contents, it will be a very fine opportunity for saving all the terrific cost on postage. You can be assured that anyone who receives such a parcel will be highly delighted with it. They are evidently packed here in the south of England judging by the label stamp, which is in red ink bearing the words 'Parcel Post' Paid—Trowbridge, Wilts. There is also enclosed a printed slip telling the name of the organisation, as follows: 'Australian Gift Food Parcels'—'This parcel comes to you through the Australian Food for Britain Organisation. The organisers wish to record their appreciation of the services rendered by British Overseas Airways Corporation and Nestle's Milk Products Ltd., whose splendid co-operation has made its speedy delivery possible. Acknowledgment of parcel—The donor of your parcel would like to know it has reached you. Will you, therefore, in your own interest, send an acknowledgment by airmail? The sender's name appears on the address label, and you can obtain a special airmail letter from any post office, price 6d. Thank you.'

We can now commend the new method to senders, and feel that it is not only more economical, but saves a tremendous amount of labor. It also makes more money available for food.

# From the Commonwealth's Four Corners

## A Service of Recognition

ON October 6, more than 100 relatives, friends and representatives of conference and conference committees met, on invitation of Social Service Committee, to honor Mrs. C. Gill for her 21 years' leadership of the Social Service Women's Auxiliary.

The Women's Conference Catering Committee, under the leadership of Mrs. Lowrey, a member of auxiliary, prepared dinner in Lygon-st. school hall. F. P. Chipperfield, president of the Social Service Committee, presided. Jas. Holloway, past president of conference, spoke on behalf of brotherhood. Mrs. Ploog, president of Women's Conference, spoke in affectionate terms of Mrs. Gill. Mrs. Ward, secretary of the auxiliary, spoke from



Mrs. C. Gill.

intimate knowledge of service Mrs. Gill had rendered. In paying a compliment to Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Ward said that, when in a crisis such as at times occurred, and mentioned the great Town Hall rallies, when others were inclined to panic, Mrs. Gill never lost her poise. Mr. Clay, on behalf of committee and the auxiliary, paid tribute to guest of evening. He said, "What Social Service in our churches is to-day is largely due to leadership Mrs. Gill has given and personal sacrifices she has made." He presented to Mrs. Gill a beautifully leather-bound letter of recognition and a wireless set.

Mr. Gill made a brief acknowledgment. Mrs. Gill spoke of the years of service she had been privileged to give, and expressed thanks for gifts.

A programme of musical items was provided by Miss E. Pittman, Miss Winnie Lee and Mrs. Gullidge, and elocutionary items by Miss Hazel Hutchins. The occasion was one long to be remembered. Apologies from near and far were received, and congratulations and good wishes were expressed by a wide circle of friends.



## It's Contagious

Stan. Neighbour.

SOME were very, very old. Many not so old and not so young. Few were very young. Few were big, very big. Some small, very small, many others in between. Some of stone and slate, some of wood and iron, others of brick with roofs of tiles.

They were gathered in conference. Never

mind how! Said one of wood, "Queer things are happening these days."

"Oh," said one of brick, "please explain."

"Quite a lot of talk, and not only talk," replied he of wood, "of Christians reading their Bibles out of church and praying too."

"Yes," spoke up one of stone and slate, "I heard the preacher say on Lord's day last that worshippers were more numerous than for years past."

"Some I hadn't seen for years," said one aged conferee. "It was good to hear them praise their God again. 'Restoration Visitation,' I think they said had brought them back."

"Chairs filled my aisles again as in days of old. While man and maid, age and youth confessed their Lord," cried one of the larger conferees, "Visitation Evangelism," they said had brought them here to own their Lord."

"My peeling walls have long cried out for paint. Lack of finance I think they said made me grow shabby," said one very, very old conferee, "but now a new coat I'll wear. The deacons' faces no longer gloomy look. I've heard sermons on 'Stewardship.' I've never seen money in such abundance. 'God loveth a cheerful giver,' so the good Book says. I've not seen worshippers happier for years."

"Children, too, happy voices and faces all aglow. They crowd my porch and aisles. My roof, my roof! When they together sing Jehovah's praise. 'Rallies and house-to-house visitation' I think they said brought them to my humble walls," said one of wood. "One young man I overheard vow to witness for his Lord in foreign parts. A young lass I heard declare, she would tend the sick and aged. 'A Crusade for a Christian World' they call it."

"The Properties Corporation, Home Missions, Youth Department, Aborigines and Overseas Missions, College of the Bible, Social Service, Literature, Christian Union, Women's Conference, Advisory Board, and the Conference Executive receive our congratulations and best wishes for a successful Crusade for a Christian World," so read the final resolution of the one and only conference of church buildings of the Victorian brotherhood.



## A Hymn Controversy

A HYMN FOR NOVEMBER—No. 173, NOV. 7.

CAREFUL examination of "The Rivulet," Thomas Toke Lynch's book of sacred poems, shows an alertness of mind and a very rare freshness and clarity in the portrayal of ideas. In practically every one of the 169 poems, the reader halts to ponder a phrase, an idea or a turn of words which delights and refreshes. Lynch often enforces his point by a stimulating question, and most of the poems include lines a preacher could well use to illustrate a text. A few examples suffice: In the sacred word, he finds "more amazing than the bloom . . . a hundred thousand buds" and he prays: "Breathe on us for the passing day the powers of ancient story." At Bethlehem, "angels on their starry way felt bliss unselt before, for news that men should be as they to darkened earth they bore." One of the multitude of reactions to nature is in the words: "Lord of the starry night, with awe and with delight, under thy temple dome we pray."

Lynch's sermons are similar in thought and power, with clear perception of essential truth in even the "difficult" passages of scripture. His gospel, tender and beautiful, was closely applied to bring the life of Christ into the

lives of his hearers. Few ministers, moreover, have carried on their work undaunted by such agonising illness as was his lot for at least a dozen years.

It seems incredible that "The Rivulet" was so greeted that Lynch wrote: "O hook! how soon against thee rose huge clamor from that worst of foes—the faith that works by hate"; yet such was the case! It was "without a particle of vital religion," "spiritually dead and dreary," "Christless" and "wanting alike in light, life, power and pathos" . . . or so the critics said. Yet it is from this collection that we draw to-day's lovely hymn of the Holy Spirit: "Gracious Spirit dwell with me." Surely, after almost a century, we now see Lynch and his critics in their proper relative positions. —F.J.F.

## GOD'S JUDGMENT. WORLD'S GUILT

FROM "The Christian Message" sent to Australian churches by the World Council of Churches, that met at Amsterdam, we present the following: When we look to Christ we see the world as it is—his world, to which he came and for which he died. It is filled both with great hopes, and also with disillusionment and despair. Some nations are rejoicing in new freedom and power, some are bitter because freedom is denied them, some are paralysed by division, and everywhere there is an undertone of fear. There are millions who are hungry, millions who have no home, no country and no hope. Over all mankind hangs the peril of total war. We have to accept God's judgment upon us for our share in the world's guilt. Often we have tried to serve God and mammon, put other loyalties before loyalty to Christ, confused the gospel with our own economic or national or racial interests, and feared war more than we have hated it. As we have talked with each other here, we have begun to understand how our separation has prevented us from receiving correction from one another in Christ. And because we lacked this correction, the world has often heard from us not the Word of God but the words of men.

But there is a Word of God for our world. It is that the world is in the hands of the living God, whose will for it is wholly good; that in Christ Jesus, his incarnate Word, who lived and died and rose from the dead, God has broken the power of evil once for all, and opened for everyone the gate into freedom and joy in the Holy Spirit; that the final judgment on all human history and on every human deed is the judgment of the merciful Christ; and that the end of history will be the triumph of his kingdom, where alone we shall understand how much God has loved the world. This is God's unchanging word to the world. Millions of our fellowmen have never heard it. As we are met here from many lands, we pray God to stir up his whole church to make this gospel known to the whole world, and to call on all men to believe in Christ, to live in his love and to hope for his coming.

## FEDERAL CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 508)

ing evening several presentations were made. Incoming president, E. L. Williams, after being introduced by Federal president, presented Mr. Peacock with a copy of scriptures as a token of appreciation from the Federal Executive. Reg Enniss, world president, made presentations, on behalf of the visiting delegates to hospitality conveners, A. M. Bell and H. E. Greenwood, and to conference secretary, A. D. Pyne, with whom speaker very graciously coupled his wife.

# Here and There

Home mission offering will be received in churches on November 28.

J. Wiltshire, honorary secretary of the United Aborigines Mission, left Melbourne on Nov. 1 to visit mission stations in various centres in Western Australia.

The Victorian hospital chaplain, C. Young, will be absent from Melbourne for a few days, as he is representing churches of Christ in welcoming immigrants arriving at Fremantle, W.A.

The death of Mr. F. Lade, M.A., in South Australia, has been a loss to the temperance forces of the Commonwealth. He was one of Australia's ablest writers on questions relating to the drink traffic.

Owing to a holiday in Victoria on Tuesday, Nov. 2, it has been necessary to go to press on Oct. 29. This will account for omission of news items reaching us after that date. We hope to provide extra news space in next issue.

According to figures published in "Japan for Christ" magazine (Tokyo), a total of 784,893 persons attended meetings held last year under the auspices of the Japan for Christ Movement. Of this number, 110,842 signed cards as inquirers. There were 40,246 applicants for baptism during 1947 and 9978 were actually baptised.

The Eastern Suburban Officers' Association, Melbourne, has planned a series of evangelistic services in the church of Christ chapel, Glenferrie-rd., Hawthorn, from Nov. 16-18. F. A. Youens, of Dandenong, has accepted the invitation to preach. A week prior to these services Visitation Evangelism will be undertaken by several churches in area.

Dr. A. R. Vidler, a prominent English scholar, after a visit to United States of America, says: "While our churches (in Britain) are metaphorically, if not literally, falling into ruin, the disturbing and restoring presence of the living God is becoming an experienced reality amid the ruins. In the U.S.A., it seems to me, the cushion of religious efficiency and prosperity is still doing its comfortable, but fatal work."

The Austral Printing and Publishing Co. Ltd. has prepared an almanac for 1949. In addition to the usual calendar, suggested hymns and Bible readings for worship services, there is an attractive colored picture. This features a young couple in a home where Christ is honored, the theme being: "Looking unto Jesus the author and perfecter of our faith." Copies for threepence each may be secured from church secretaries.

The American military government officials have requested the appointment of a parole board of Christian missionaries which would be responsible for the good conduct of Koreans sentenced by the American courts but recommended for parole. The parole board will be affiliated with the newly-organised Consultative Social Welfare Committee appointed by the interdenominational missionary body of Seoul. Committee members will correlate the welfare work of the missions and be available for consultation with either military government or Korean organisations interested in social welfare.

Dr. Forrest L. Knapp, general secretary for the United States on the World Council of Christian Education, has completed a three-month tour to the Far East. He reports that Christian education councils are being revived in the Philippines, China, Korea and Japan. In the Philippines the former Federation of Evangelical Churches and the Committee on Christian Education have been merged to form the Philippine Federation of Christian Churches. Dr. Knapp proposes that a regional conference for religious education be held in Asia before the 1950 meeting of the World Council of Christian Education.

A copy of the pictorial tract, "Mr. Bradford," designed by W. J. Thomson and published by the Victorian Literature Committee, was included in a food parcel which reached one of our British churches. The brethren there were so impressed with this presentation of the church doctrine, they ordered 500 copies.

First anniversary at Asquith, N.S.W., was celebrated on Oct. 17, at 5 p.m. A delightful time was spent around tea table, when old friends and members sat to tables beautifully set out and provided for by ladies of church. V. Morris at close gave church an encouraging word, concluding with thanks to ladies for helpful co-operation. Attendance at night service called for extra seating, speaker being B. Munro, of Bible College. Musical items were rendered by Muriel Clark, Vic. Morris, and young men's choir. Services continued each night until Oct. 22. These proved a source of helpful inspiration under ministry of Mr. Munro, who greatly endeared himself to folk. Several visitors were welcomed, including Geoff Gates, Vic.

On Oct. 9, at Balaklava, S.A., Sunday school held a successful picnic on R. Shepherd's property. T. Comer, of Dawson-st., Ballarat, Vic., gave an appreciated exhortation to church on Oct. 17. Church held a successful anniversary service on Oct. 24. 126 broke bread, and evening service was excellent. Offering for day was £20. Miss M. Sines and Miss M. Smith sang solos, and an appreciated quartette was rendered. A. Cremin spoke at services. On Oct. 25, a public tea preceded evening service, when J. Baker, of Long Plain, gave a splendid address. A. Shepherd, secretary of church, on behalf of members presented A. Cremin with a direct gift of £121 towards purchase of car. Preacher has also been promised a car allowance. Church has raised £32 for Ladies' Rest Home, £20 College of Bible offering, plus £50 for local work, making £100 in last five weeks, average of £20 per week. General spiritual tone of church is good. On Oct. 27, members honored Miss M. Sines with an surprise evening on her 21st birthday and presented her with a gift.

At Ivanhoe, Vic., on Oct. 3, farewell services were conducted by K. J. Patterson. In afternoon a presentation was made to him on behalf of Bible school. A. G. Thurgood exhorted church on Oct. 10. Bible school anniversary services were conducted afternoon and evening, and continued on 17th. Speakers were Ron Graham, Russell Baker, D. D. Stewart, and Miss Callinan. Valuable service was rendered by an orchestra consisting of Mr. Potts and family and A. G. Thurgood. Singing of scholars, under leadership of Miss Jean Milne, of Bible school staff, was appreciated. F. P. Chipperfield gave a helpful exhortation on Oct. 17. On Oct. 15 a social was held in home of F. P. Chipperfield to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Patterson and son. Mr. Hamilton and F. Chipperfield spoke words of appreciation of Mr. Patterson's ministries, after which he responded. Mr. Hamilton presented a sum of money on behalf of officers and church. Mrs. Patterson also responded. Anniversary tea and presentation of prizes and scripture examination awards took place on Oct. 22. On Oct. 24, C. Page was welcomed by church as he began an interim ministry with church, and his addresses were appreciated.

## ADDRESSES

Stan. Neighbour (Director Crusade for a Christian World).—51 Radnor-st., Camberwell, Vic. 'Phone, WF1289.

K. J. Patterson (preacher Oakleigh church, Vic.).—109 Willesden-rd., Oakleigh, S.E.12.

## Queensland Church Expansion

THERE is a general impression that the work in Queensland is responding better than it has for some time. The Appleman mission created an enthusiasm for the Lord's work. The tent mission at Roma has provided an interest, altogether apart from the valuable additions gained for the church. There is a desire to get things moving. Representatives of committees have met to discuss ways and means of expanding the work. Their suggestions will be considered by the Preachers' Fraternal.

It is helpful to recall what has been done during the past few years. The Chinchilla circuit has a full-time preacher, and as a manse is being built for him, it looks as though the circuit intends that a full-time preacher be a permanent feature in its set-up. Boondall and Hawthorne are responding well with part-time ministries. Bundaberg has established another cause at Thabeban, and G. T. Millar, of Rockhampton, is fostering a new cause at Theodore. New suburbs in Brisbane give scope for expansion.

## The Problems of Youth

The following thoughts were presented to us by leaders during youth week.

The chairman of the Associated Youth Committee of National Fitness said: "The first step in our crusade of youth should be the cultivation of tolerance. Our generation has failed badly to make a better world. The only compensation we can offer to youth is to direct our energies towards creating opportunities to help them meet and master future problems."

"Education for leisure was an empty slogan if it was not balanced by education for work," said Dr. Duras, Physical Director of Melbourne University. "The way for youth must not be made too smooth. It is dangerous for youth to give them ready-made blueprints. Real youth wants to conquer, but it is not conquering if all the doors are wide open. Youth should become more conscious of its own constructive powers, and adults should have more faith in the ability of youth."

To boys who are so fortunate as to be brought up in homes where they are encouraged and helped to occupy their leisure with hobbies or interests that give them a healthy companionship, the picture theatre or the radio serial is as innocuous as was the old "penny dreadful."

A society that still lets children leave school at 14 years because it wants to use their labor should concern itself much more with the welfare of these juveniles who have not yet been really educated for social living.

## The Problems of Old Age

Archbishop Duhig said: "Many parents became old age pensioners because youth to-day did not repay them for their kindness and care. Many modern youths made their homes into boarding houses and looked on their parents as hired helps. There is a rebellion of the children against the family. It comes about because children have not been properly disciplined."

"Sunsetholme," a home for aged people, conducted by a management committee of which members of the Council of Churches and our sister Mrs. Wendorf take a very active part, has completed twenty-five years' service.

## Migrants

A large number of Baltic migrants are settling in Northern Queensland. The suggestion has been made that the churches might do much to assimilate these peoples into our national life by conducting classes in which they could be taught to read and to speak English, by visiting and caring for them in times of sickness, and by organising sporting and social functions in which they can be made to feel "at home" with Australians.—P. C. D. Alcorn.

# News of the Churches

## Queensland

Toowoomba.—66th anniversary celebrations concluded with splendid meetings for fellowship, thanksgiving, communion and proclamation of gospel. After a time of intense preparation by local church, Harlxton mission, sponsored by Southern Queensland Conference, began on Oct. 24. For first meeting 200 people filled tent, and there were four decisions. Missioner is H. M. Long, of Ballarat, Vic. Church is appreciative of gift of a suitable chapel for removal from Tannymorel and re-erection at Harlxton early next year. Harlxton Bible school anniversary was shared by almost 60 scholars and 7 teachers. All were delighted when a young lady who had had early association with Bible school made her confession of faith at closing meeting. At local church the Junior Fellowship, recently inaugurated by Mr. Hart, shared conduct of one of the gospel meetings last month. Training class, combining teachers from central and Harlxton schools, is proving helpful. Recent additions to church have been Mr. and Mrs. Smith, the Pedler brothers, and members of Collins family, all by transfer.

## Western Australia

Northam.—Wonderful blessings continue to fall upon church following Hinrichsen-Machin mission. Keen, enthusiastic soul-winning characterises the major part of the membership, especially new converts. Oct. 24 saw special services for Bible school anniversary. Speaker in the afternoon was "Uncle Mac," of Radio Sunday School, who also preached gospel in evening. Children's singing, under leadership of school superintendent, R. Beavis, was excellent. Church plans to commence a men's Bible study class each Wednesday evening, and Y.P. Christian Endeavor is meeting now on Tuesday evenings. Mrs. McCallum, from N.S.W., visited on Oct. 25, and spoke to a well-attended meeting of ladies who appreciated her helpful address.

Kalgoorlie.—A youth tea was arranged on Sept. 19, and young people took part in gospel service, at close of which eight scholars confessed Christ. Another young lady decided after gospel service on Sept. 26. Among visitors on morning of Oct. 10 were 30 delegates to Federal Conference. Mr. Stafford, Victoria, was speaker. A baptismal service was conducted at gospel service on Oct. 3. V. Smythe was morning speaker on Oct. 17. Two young ladies were received into fellowship. Bible school anniversary was a great success. It was held on Oct. 10 and 17, demonstration on 19th, and tea on 20th. All services were bright and well attended. Singing was of high standard under leadership of Owen Cannon.

## South Australia

Nailsworth.—C.E. Society has had some interesting quiz nights; one on Oct. 18, in form of a Bible cricket match between intermediates and Y.P. Society, was followed by supper. On Oct. 22, a bus load of members visited Flinders Park mission, several vocal items being rendered. On Oct. 24, Bible school began another year, after a most successful anniversary, and was thrilled at welcoming several new scholars and reaching record attendance of 161. An offering for U.N.A.C. fund was contributed to amount of over £7 by school, and at gospel service a further £9/15/- was contributed. Single men and women of church presented an interesting and varied programme on Oct. 26 at a concert arranged to raise funds for kitchen equipment. A large number crowded the hall, and proceeds amounted to about £10.

Prospect.—On Oct. 18 members of choir combined with Nailsworth choir, under leadership of A. Roberts, to assist Grote-st. anniversary. At fellowship meeting on 19th, results of talent scheme were called in; to date over £23 has been received for local youth work. Junior girls' club, which meets on Thursdays under leadership of Miss P. Thompson, is doing good work. A junior boys' club was commenced on Oct. 22. On 23rd, tennis club arranged a programme of films presented by Slazengers Ltd., proceeds being in aid of tennis club, which has commenced season. R. Vincent was speaker at both services on Oct. 24.

Kilburn.—A visit from Dr. Trevor Turner (conference president) at 11.15 a.m. service on Oct. 24 was appreciated, and his address and story to 25 adults and 31 young worshippers were enjoyed. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school was 99. Gospel service at 7 p.m. was addressed by F. Collins. Keith Caldicott paid official visit to Boys' Life Brigade on Oct. 23 and saw them in action. Mrs. Royals, of Brooklyn Park, is now residing in district and has consented to teach in kindergarten. Mr. and Mrs. P. T. J. Roberts are holidaying at Christie's Beach and are missed from services. Sister J. Verco, of Ladies' H.M. Department, has been visiting homes in district seeking new church members and Bible school scholars. F. Collins is also regularly visiting newly occupied homes.

Glenelg.—Sunday school provided highlights of month in connection with activities of church. Picnic was held on Labor Day. In view of inclemency of weather, arrangements to visit Hazelwood Park were cancelled and an impromptu programme enjoyed in church hall. Morning's entertainment comprised indoor sports and games, and in afternoon an amateur hour was held, films were shown, and a short trip was made to a nearby playground. On Oct. 17, Sunday school anniversary was held. At morning service a teachers' dedication address was given by Mr. Webb. In afternoon a flannelboard expression talk was given by kindergarten leader, and evening address was given by D. Pike. Special singing by children was featured at afternoon and evening services. An interesting and varied programme was provided at prize-giving meeting. This included musical items, films and puppet show. A delegation of 14 attended Flinders Park mission, being led by J. Webb.

Fullarton.—Bible school anniversary services were held on Oct. 17. In morning Chas. Schwab was invited to introduce to church appeal for Christian Rest Home, his forthright address being well received. Afternoon session was well attended. School presented items under baton of Peter Mau. The address was given by B. W. Manning. At gospel service school presented a service of song which was enjoyed by all. B. W. Manning preached. Offerings for day amounted to £8/14/2 for church and over £9 for Bible school. In morning on Oct. 24, B. W. Manning commenced a study of Matthew's Gospel, his presentation being deeply appreciated. Jill Taylor was received by letter of transfer from Dulwich. There was a good attendance in evening, when B. W. Manning preached. Members were glad to have fellowship again with Joan Manning after a sojourn in Melbourne. Ladies of guild are preparing to pack further parcels for India. Mr. Manning read to church a letter of appreciation received from Miss Foreman, expressing thanks for parcels received.

## The Australian Christian

Semaphore.—Attendances at all services during month were affected by sickness and adverse weather. On Oct. 10, when Bible school held anniversary, attendance was below previous years. Mr. Matthews addressed school in morning, Mr. Wellington (Methodist) interested with his talk in afternoon, and in evening school presented "Youth Going Christ's Way." On Oct. 11, picnic planned for Kingston Park was postponed on account of heavy rain, but a number of older children spent an enjoyable time in church hall. School held a social evening on Oct. 13, when Mr. Matthews presented prizes and certificates won during year. A large number enjoyed games and social fellowship. Kindergarten held a demonstration on afternoon of Oct. 17; Miss R. Garth is in charge of that department. A number of mothers were presented with certificates for children joining cradle roll. All auxiliaries are working well.

Long Plain.—Anniversary services were held on Sept. 26 with large attendances. Choral items were supplied by Balaklava choir, and J. Baker was speaker at all services. Public tea was held following evening, followed by a public meeting at which school contributed items. Offering was received to aid Children's Hospital and Minda Home. On Oct. 3 M. Jenkin exhorted in morning, and M. Daniel preached at evening service. Mr. Baker led services on Oct. 10 and Mr. Goos, of Prospect, addressed church, representing Temperance Alliance, on Oct. 17. Mr. Baker continued lessons on Beatitudes on Oct. 24, when no meeting was held in evening owing to anniversary of neighboring church. Church has secured permit to rebuild chapel, and anticipates commencing early in new year. Mr. and Mrs. J. Barr journeyed to W.A. for conference and Mr. and Mrs. R. Jenkin have been on holidays near Loxton. C.E. concluded a successful year with a social on Oct. 20. Mr. Baker travelled to Kadina to assist church with anniversary services on Oct. 17 and 18.

## New South Wales

Lismore.—Sunday school held 65th anniversary on Oct. 17 and 18. Congregations were large on Sunday. Efforts of children were praiseworthy. Youth of church have launched a new venture in form of boys' "Crusader Club." Sixteen members attend each Friday night, and join in fellowship under directorship of two young church deacons. Women's Guild has been consistent in attendance at its meetings. Mr. Goode was a visitor to services on Oct. 17, and presented messages of exhortation. Sunday school teachers' study classes have been progressing favorably under guidance of Mr. Vanham.

Bexley North.—B. Munro, of Beverley Hills, spoke to church on Oct. 17 and T. Hallop preached at night. On Oct. 23, Bible school scholars competed at combined sports afternoon with boys and girls of Salvation Army Homes, Methodist and Anglican Sunday schools of district. Final results are not to hand, as novelty events are to be decided on Nov. 20, but scholars did well. T. Hallop spoke at both services on Oct. 24. Christian Endeavorers helped in evening by testimonies, solos and quartette, led by June Baker and Pauline Jones. T. Bagley is song-leader for Bible school anniversary. Laurel McKay, of Taree, was welcomed in by letter of transfer.

Kingsford.—At morning meeting on Oct. 17, A. W. Ladbrook was speaker, and members of Bible school staff consecrated themselves anew to their work. In afternoon and evening, Bible school celebrated anniversary with special choral items, and Bruce Murray gave talks to children. On Oct. 19 the concert was held, and a good crowd enjoyed items by children. Sunday meetings were also well attended. On Oct. 21, church regretfully farewelled Mrs. Eagleson, who is moving to Bexley North. Both meetings on Oct. 24 were addressed by A. W. Ladbrook. Church extends sympathy to, and is praying for, two

families in Bible school whose fathers were recently called home. Prayers are also going out for various members who are ill, especially elder of church and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Rodger.

**Earlwood.**—On Oct. 5, 76 members and visitors celebrated Women's Fellowship anniversary. Address by Mrs. John Ridley, Miss Jackson's solo, a recitation by Miss Smith (Belmore church), and sisters' quartette, contributed to afternoon's enjoyment. Mrs. Hinrichsen, the speaker, and artists, were presented with floral tributes, and tea was served. Sisters have commenced sewing for Indian box. Y.P.S.C.E. silver coin social gathering realised £3/5/- for Boys' Home. Fay Moroney and William Walker were married in chapel on Oct. 14. During month Mrs. Wymer and O. Turner were received into fellowship, also John and Geoff, sons of deacon H. Hudson. Church appreciates Hamilton's letter of thanks for preacher's help at anniversary.

## *Victoria*

**Castlemaine.**—R. A. Banks gave addresses afternoon and evening services at Sunday school anniversary on Oct. 24. Excellent singing of scholars was due to training of Mrs. Methven. At afternoon service chapel was filled almost to capacity. Church has had great uplift through partaking in visitation evangelism. Direct results to date have been four adults who owned their Lord as Saviour. A weekly meeting of Young People's Fellowship has been formed, to meet week about at Harcourt and Castlemaine. Mr. Banks recently took girls and boys who attend week day "Happy Hour" for enjoyable hike.

**Bendigo.**—During past three weeks Mr. Robinson has been on holidays. Meetings have been well attended. Mr. Duus and Mr. Streater, of local congregation, and Mr. Cummings, Mr. Jenkins and Mr. Sunderland, of Methodist Church, have given helpful addresses. Since last report one has been baptised and received into fellowship. Several new scholars have been enrolled in Sunday school. On Oct. 14, Ladies' Auxiliary entertained elderly sisters of church, a pleasant afternoon being spent. Mrs. Methven and Miss Verco rendered musical items, and each of the ladies was presented with a posy of flowers; there were 40 present.

**Red Hill.**—Ladies' Guild held 18th birthday party on Oct. 14. Mrs. B. Prossor and Miss B. Holmes sang a duet, Mrs. D. Holmes two solos. "Bring a gift and buy a gift" resulted in an amount of money which was sent to a worthy cause. N. Moore was speaker morning and evening on Oct. 17. Monthly food for Britain offering was taken. Hal Holmes has been in hospital, and is improving. Y.P.S.C.E. held a men's night on Oct. 21; ladies supplied supper. On Oct. 24 N. Moore was morning speaker. Many visitors were present. Hospital Sunday collection was taken. Gospel meeting was well attended. Miss H. Skuse gave a testimony. N. Moore preached. M. Wright has been sick.

## WANTED

Wanted by young business couple, no children, furnished or unfurnished flat, rooms or house, any suburb, Sydney.—Duncan, 'phone, M4388, or Box 274, G.P.O., Sydney.

**"ASHWOOD HOUSE,"**  
HOME FOR AGED WOMEN, PENDLE HILL,  
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Cook and Housemaid required. Electric range, good conditions. Positions would be suitable for a mother and daughter, or two sisters, to serve in a Christian home with every comfort and convenience.

Apply Secretary, Mrs. Lawther, 22 Oakura-rd., Rockdale, LX1379, or Matron, UW3385.

## NOTICE

Howard J. Lem, jeweller, wishes to notify his friends that he has dissolved partnership and is now trading on his own account, and will be pleased to meet old friends and new at Room 31, Cromwell Buildings, 366-368 Bourke-st., Melb. 'Phone, MU1185.

## BIRTH

**SKERMAN** (nee Saunders).—On Oct. 18, at Hopetoun, Elsternwick, to Doris and Colin—a son (Raymond Leslie); a brother for Glenice. Both well.

## IN MEMORIAM

**DARLOW.**—In loving memory of my dear wife, Amy Caroline, who passed to higher service Nov. 1, 1947.

There is no separation from those we love,  
No distance can divide,  
For to-day in memory's garden  
We still walk side by side.

—Inserted by her loving husband Tom.

**LEE.**—In loving memory of our dear nephew Aub. (late A.I.F., ret. M.E., N.G.), who passed away suddenly Oct. 29, 1945, aged 33 years.

Though his smile has gone for ever,  
His voice we cannot hear,  
We will always have sweet memories  
Of one we all loved so dear.

—Inserted by Aunty Beck and Sylvie, Uncle Tom and Eli.

**RUSSELL.**—Treasured memories of my darling mother Ellen, who received the home-call on Nov. 8, 1947; also my dear father William, who was called home on Nov. 10, 1932.

There is no separation from those we love,  
No distance can divide;  
For to-day in memory's garden  
We still walk side by side.

—Inserted by their loving daughter Ella, son-in-law Jack.

## PARENTS

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## The Australian Christian

## HIGHFIELD ROAD, HARTWELL, BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7:

11 a.m., Mr. S. R. Baker.  
3 p.m., Mr. D. Wakeley.  
7 p.m., Mr. D. Wakeley.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14:

11 a.m., Mr. L. A. Trezise.  
3 p.m., Mr. R. Edgar.  
7 p.m., Mr. D. Wakeley.

Prize Presentation Evening, Sat., Nov. 20, 7.45.

## ENMORE TABERNACLE,

Metropolitan-rd., Enmore, N.S.W.

## 96TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

Past and present members are invited to share in the Home-coming Celebrations to be held on SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

Services—

11 a.m., Re-union Communion. Speaker, Mr. F. H. Rayward (Central Methodist Mission, Sydney).

7 p.m., Service of Witness. Speaker, Mr. J. A. Luff (present pastor). (Broadcast by courtesy of station 2CH.)

Make this a day to be remembered for Re-union and Fellowship.

## BACK TO BLACKBURN, 44th HOMECOMING AND TEMPLE DAY, NOVEMBER 14.

11.15, Family Worship, S. Russell Baker. Soloist, Winnie Lee.

2.45, P.S.A., Community Singing. R. K. Whateley, M.L.A., "Human Nature and Politics." Soloists, Mrs. C. G. Taylor (Amelia Scarce), Angus McConchie. Elocutionist, Esma Quirk.

7 p.m., Dr. Hinrichsen. Soloist, Mavis Scott. Organists, Bebbie Lowan, Dave Patterson; piano, Rolf Redmond. Leader of song, Eric Gill.

Past members and friends, come and enjoy a happy day of fellowship. Hospitality provided. Notify D. V. McDowell, 6 Chapel-st., Blackburn. WX2641.

Wednesday, 17th, Youth Demonstration.  
Particulars next week.

## CRUSADE FOR A CHRISTIAN WORLD.

Come to the

## GREAT VICTORY IN CHRIST CRUSADE

to be held

in the HAWTHORN CHURCH OF CHRIST on NOV. 16, 17 and 18, each night at 7.45.

Preacher, F. A. Youens.

Large Crusade Choir assisting.

Start crusading now. Make up your delegations and join in the meetings.

Arranged by Eastern Suburbs Officers' Association.

## NORTH SUBURBAN CONFERENCE

will meet at PRESTON,

THURSDAY, NOV. 18.

Speaker, Mr. S. Neighbour.

Anthems by Preston choir. Election of officers and discussion re purchase of land for a future new cause.

## LYGON ST. CHURCH.

Keep SATURDAY, NOV. 20, free for concert in aid of Manse Fund by Salvation Army Band Octette Party. Tickets, 2/-.

## LYGON ST. CHAPEL.

MONDAY, NOV. 29, 1948, 8 p.m.

## BROTHERHOOD FAREWELL-WELCOME TO MISSIONARIES,

Misses D. Berry and H. Skuse and Mr. E. Heard, new workers for Indian field; Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, returning on first furlough from New Hebrides.

Representative speakers. Excellent programme.

## Obituary

### Milton Hore

THE church at Drumcondra, Geelong, Vic., feels a great sense of loss at the home-call of one of her esteemed deacons, Milton Hore. On Sunday evening, October 3, he passed peacefully to his reward. He was baptised by Lionel Dudley on Oct. 5, 1941, and with characteristic wholeheartedness entered into the life of the church. He was elected a deacon at beginning of 1943, and for nearly four years faithfully filled the office of church treasurer until illness made it necessary for him to resign the position. With his wife as partner he took part in the visitation evangelism campaign, the first week in August, with eminent success. It so happened that this was to form a beautiful climax to his service for Christ, for within two months he was called home. To Mrs. Hore, who has been a member of Drumcondra church since its commencement, and to Mavis (Mrs. F. Douglas), Lindsay, Grant and Allan, we extend deepest sympathy, and assure them of a joyous reunion in the presence of the Lord.—A.R.P.

### Mrs. W. Gracie

OAKLEIGH church, Vic., lost one of its faithful members in the death of Mrs. W. Gracie on July 21, at the age of 76 years. When a very young girl she became a Christian at Hindmarsh, S.A. Upon her marriage to Frank Holden she held membership at Unley, and after his death at Maylands. She came to Victoria 35 years ago, where she married W. Gracie. She and her family walked from Oakleigh to Carnegie twice each Sunday until the commencement of Oakleigh church, where she became a foundation member. She was kindergarten superintendent there for many years, and was always regular in attendance at the Lord's house. After services in her home and at the graveside, conducted by the writer, her body was laid to rest in Brighton Cemetery in the presence of a large group of friends and relatives.—S.N.

### Charles Henry Harding

ON Sept. 19, at his residence, King's Park, Charles Henry Harding was called home at the age of 83 years. Of a quiet, unassuming disposition, he was a brother dearly beloved in the church at Forestville, S.A. Until failing health confined him to his home, he bore a faithful witness for his Lord by his regular attendance at the Lord's Table. Mr. Harding was born at Alma, and baptised at Lochiel when 18 years of age, where he became a foundation member of the church. In 1905, with his wife and family, he removed to Inverell, N.S.W., where he attended the Baptist Church for two years. In 1907, with six other brethren, he became a foundation member of the church at Inverell, and remained in fellowship with the church until the chapel was built. Returning to South Australia, he spent his latter years with the church at Forestville, where his daughter Connie is still in membership. Almost three years ago his wife predeceased him. He leaves four sons and four daughters to mourn their loss. The sting is taken from the parting when we remember that we sorrow not as those who have no hope. His mortal remains were laid to rest at Centennial Park Cemetery amidst relatives and friends who rejoice in the resurrection of the just through Jesus Christ our Lord. "The Lord gave, the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord."—W.A.R.

### Robert J. House

ON October 16 we laid to rest at Cheltenham Cemetery, S.A., the mortal remains of our late R. J. House. He died at the age of 74. The writer first met him at Broken Hill in 1908. Mr. House was then an earnest member of the church. Later during the writer's ministry at Balaklava our brother came there

and proved a very valiant defender of the faith. He rendered very valuable and earnest service at York for many years, but during the past five years has had his association with Grote-st. Our brother was very dependable in any task he undertook, and could always be relied upon to bring thoroughness and sincerity to any task undertaken. He loved the church, and was interested in every phase of her ministry. He acted as agent for the "Fellowship News." We shall miss him, but feel that it can truly be said of him, "He being dead yet speaketh," for his example and influence will live on. For him to be absent from the body we feel sure will be to be present with the Lord. Our sympathies go out to all who sorrow at his translation from them.—W.B.

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### The Australian Christian

November 2, 1948

Page 514

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



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# Youths' Magazine

## RED INDIANS TO THE RESCUE!

IN northwest Canada smallpox had broken out among the Saskatchewan Red Indians. To stop the rapid spread of the disease, the governor forbade anyone to travel overland to or from Saskatchewan district until the plague was over. Away in the far north of Saskatchewan lived a number of white missionaries, traders and lonely settlers on the prairie. These people depended on the long trains of ox-carts from the Red River settlement to bring them their supplies once a year. Now they had to face possible starvation or death from cold, for the governor's proclamation had banned all traffic from Red River to Saskatchewan. What could be done to help the white settlers?

The Hudson Bay Company had plenty of stores, and could see only one way of getting them to the needy people. They came to the missionary in charge of the Christian Red Indians at the trading station. "Could we ask the Christian Indians to help?" "What could they do?" asked the missionary. "The rivers are open, all the ice is gone," said the Hudson Bay officials. "If they would go, we would lend boats and load them with supplies. One hundred and sixty men are wanted to man twenty boats." The missionary thought of the dangers: he remembered, too, how hardly some of the white settlers had treated their Red Indian brothers. "We must let them decide," he said.

When the Christians assembled, the missionary quietly told them of the white men, marooned by the smallpox outbreak, facing starvation for want of the yearly supplies. Only men of Saskatchewan travelling by boat could help them. Then he added, "I know the Red Indians have not always been fairly treated by the white men, yet are you willing to do this thing?" They soon made up their minds: "We have talked it over and have decided to carry the supplies to our suffering white brothers."

A few days later the boats and men were ready. By keeping to the river and never going ashore they might escape infection, so off they went, eight men in each boat — twenty boats in all. For miles

they rowed through deserted country where empty wigwams marked the burial of many.

At last they reached the white settlements and delivered the white people from want. Ten weeks passed before the boats returned. All the Good Samaritans, save one, had come back well and free from infection. But the leader of the expedition was worn out with the strain and anxiety, and had died at his post. The white settlers of Saskatchewan thought of him as one who had laid down his life for them. They felt humbled when they remembered how he and the one hundred and fifty-nine he led, had loved their white neighbors as themselves.—Selected. ★

## COURTESY AND THE CUP

ONE day Tommy rushed into the kitchen crying out, "Mother, mother, there is an old woman by the road sitting on a log; shall I set the dog on her?" "Set Pompey on her!" said his sister. "What for?"

"Oh! because," answered Tommy, looking a little ashamed, "because — perhaps woman wants anything. Perhaps she's tired with a hard day's walk in search of work," said the mother.

Esther ran down the front garden, and peeping through the gate, saw the old woman resting under the shade of an oak tree.

"Would you like anything?" asked Esther, bashfully.

"Thank you," said the old woman; "I should be very thankful for a drink of water."

Esther scampered back to the house for a cup of water, and hastened with it to the old tramp. "I thank you," the woman said, after drinking. "It tastes very good. Do you know what the Lord Jesus once said about a cup of cold water?" Esther was silent.

"I will tell you. He said, 'Whosoever give to one of his people a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, he shall in no way lose his reward!'"

## JOE, THE FIRST TEETOTALLER

ONE day a man named Joe Livesey hit upon the idea of getting people to take a pledge against all forms of alcohol, and seven men, including himself took the pledge. They became known as "The Seven Men of Preston."

The word "Teetotal" was first coined at one of Joe Livesey's meetings, when Dicky Turner, a working man who was a rough, humorous speaker, exclaimed with great force: "I'll be reet down out-and-out tee-total for ever and ever."

His audience cheered him to the echo, and Joe, clapping him on the back, cried: "This shall be the name of our new pledge." The name caught on, and has been used ever since.

After that Joe got to work in earnest. He and his friends went into the big Lancashire towns in a horse and cart, banging a big drum to attract attention, and giving away papers about temperance. They held meetings in chapels and in halls, and bit by bit the name of Joe Livesey became known right through Lancashire. He started a paper, and wrote all manner of tracts about the subject, and it was not long before the labors of this one man and his friends grew into the great movement for Temperance that is still going on to-day. ★

## THE GOSPEL IN THE CHURCHYARD

GEORGE WHITEFIELD was the first to introduce outdoor preaching in England, with remarkable results. As pulpits and churches were closed to him, he went out into the churchyards to preach.

At Bristol one day, Whitefield announced his intention of going to America for the purpose of converting the savages, when someone remarked: "What need of going abroad for this? If you have a mind to convert Indians there are colliers enough in Kingswood." At once Whitefield went to Kingswood, and thousands of colliers gathered round.

"All was hushed when I began," said Whitefield afterwards. "The sun shone brightly, and God enabled me to preach for an hour with great power, and so loudly that all could hear me." The deep silence of his rough audience was the first proof that he had impressed them; then he saw the white gutters made by the tears which plentifully rolled down their blackened cheeks — black as they came out of their coal pits. Thousands of lives were changed that day, and Whitefield began a movement that changed the face of England.

## A QUEER QUEST

IT sounds strange to us to read of a servant being sent on a journey of hundreds of miles to choose a wife for his young master, and bring her back with him! Yet it occurred, and the lucky girl was chosen because she was courteous.



The time came when Abraham was an old man, and knew that his son Isaac would soon inherit the promises made by God to the family. Before he died Abraham was anxious to see Isaac married to a young woman worthy of "the son of the promises." So one day he sent his chief steward and most trusted servant, on a long journey. After praying that God would guide Eliezer, the servant was sent to far-distant Haran, the home of Abraham's ancestors.

Anxious to make his important mission a success, Eliezer set out, praying for God's guidance. At long last, he reached the wells of Haran. The most important part of his journey was now at hand. With simple faith Eliezer prayed that God would show him who was the maiden worthy to become the wife of his master's son, Isaac. Even as he prayed a beautiful damsels came out of the city to draw water. Following out his plan, he asked the maiden for a drink of water, and with elaborate courtesy she not only drew water for him but for his camels also. With great joy Eliezer asked the girl who she was, for she seemed to be the girl he had set out to find.

Eliezer's mission was crowned with success. The girl was of the family of Abraham's kindred, she was beautiful, good and courteous, and willing to go back with Eliezer and become Isaac's wife.