

Woolley

The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

Evangelising Their Home Land



Japanese Christians Addressing an Open-Air Service.

THE only hope of the Christian church spreading through the nations is for churches to engage in vigorous home missions. By each church, in whatever nation, making sacrificial efforts to reach those in their homelands, much progress will be made. In Japan, T. Kagawa has inspired Japanese Christians to engage in home mission evangelism. Reports indicate that many thousands of converts are being added to the church. Do we not need to stress home missions in Australia?

World Disintegration or Reconstruction

B. J. COMBRIDGE

The Church as Constructive World Force

THE unrealised hopes of the immediate post-war period are in danger of leaving the world in a morass of pessimism and despair. The heart of humanity has been made sick by hope deferred, and in this condition may either fall prey to a counsel of despair on the one hand, or on the other grasp at any straw which offers even the faintest hope of recovery.

I.

MANY feel that we are in a disintegrating world. "More than ever," says Nicholas Berdyaev, "I feel that shadow and night are descending upon the world, as was the case at the beginning of the middle ages." A. M. Chirgwin thinks that there is the same kind of moral chaos, the same repudiation of standards of thought and conduct, the same letting loose of demonic forces, the same fatal dissidence in the structure of society. The Oxford Conference of 1937 declared that "Traditional loyalties and standards of conduct had lost their authority, that community was thrown into confusion and disintegration, and that when society goes to pieces the individual also tends to go to pieces."

The roots of this disintegration go back far into the past. There was a time when the background of European life was based upon the normal teaching of Christianity, but the Renaissance introduced a new type of secular thought and spirit of inquiry, which was followed by a new idealism and a new industrial economic life which had their inspiration from scientific knowledge rather than the Christian revelation. Industrialism was based upon a philosophy of selfishness, and unrestrained by the spirit of religion, the material world expanded while the spiritual world dwindled, and a period of material advance was also a period of spiritual failure.

One of the results of this development was that life was no longer a unity. Religion and life became separate kingdoms, each with its own standards. Lord Melbourne's remark was indicative of the spirit of the times when he said, "Things have come to a pretty pass when religion interferes with a man's private life."

II.

THIS disintegrating process has been obvious to all students of human affairs, and the philosophies of fascism and communism have been directed towards a re-integration of life. Too often there is failure to observe in these ideologies, at least in general principle, a correct diagnosis of the world's ills. They saw that life was in a process of disintegration, and effort was made—however ill-conceived and fundamentally inadequate—to recover life's unity. The democracies were slower to act, but faced with the Nazi orientation they perceived a process of destruction more ghastly than the one it was designed to obviate. In the war effort, therefore, they found a temporary re-integration of life, but they realised that more than this was needed, and the result was four freedoms of the Atlantic Charter. Here were bases for the new world—righteousness, equality, justice and freedom.

But something went wrong. The dream did not materialise. Instead the world situation has deteriorated, and final collapse is appreciably nearer than before 1939. Without discussing the merits of the case, there is a strong conviction that the world's danger lies in the Russian menace. It was recently said that the power of the Soviet Union, and particularly of the Soviet Communist Party, is due

to the fact that while in a sense the Soviet State has moved into a power vacuum in Europe and Asia, the Soviet Communist Party has moved into moral vacuum in the world. Communist activity can be successful only where there is moral vacuum, and it is this fact of moral vacuum which is the challenge in the present situation. It is worse than futile merely to try to meet the difficulty by being anti-communist, for there is nothing constructive in that. The one vital necessity is the capacity for constructive effort. Energy dissipated in deploring faulty political systems could be used for truly constructive ends. Given a better cause (and nothing else can justify effort) it should be possible to demonstrate greater industry, increased zeal and an ever-growing confidence that the certain way to outwit the communist is to out-work and out-live him in the task of reintegrating life around a truly constructive centre.

III.

IN this connection there is no fact so potent as the ecumenical movement of the Christian churches. This has aptly been called the great new fact of our time. The World Council of Churches has now been inaugurated at Amsterdam, and while the movement in this form is in its infancy, in other forms it has already disclosed both vision and virility. Here is offered a re-integration of life not according to the pattern of totalitarian philosophy in which the State in everything and the individual nothing, but one in which the State will serve the individual, and in which, in the immortal words of Lincoln, there will be government of the people, by the people, for the people. According to this pattern, life will be unity, for while there may be varieties of expression there will be but one spirit, for the indisputable centre of this movement is found in allegiance to the one Lord. The unity at which the ecumenical movement aims will be fuller and more final than that which existed before the 15th century, for it will be rooted in reverence for human personality which in turn finds its inspiration in the One who served humans while he lived, and finally died for them. In these particulars it is superior to anything that has preceded it. The world church envisages as incomplete any system which fails to provide for the total needs of man. It owes its existence to constructive capacity, to which also it is a universal challenge. The future of the world depends much upon human response to that challenge.



DR. ANGUS WATSON

When a Man is Old

ALL mental growth should be a deliberate, conscious process. It need never be accidental, but always the fruit of conscious effort. There are, of course, limits to its boundaries. As the sycamore can never become an oak, so the mind is patterned to its innate resources. What these limits are we do not know, but no man by taking thought can become a musician or a poet; the germ seed of creation must be there before he can begin to grow the fruit.

When this is said, however, it is well to remember that none of us is able to measure the possibilities of progressive growth. It is said that W. E. Gladstone began the study of Sanskrit when he was eighty years old; William

de Morgan wrote his first and best novel, "Joseph Vance," when he was sixty-five; and Tennyson penned one of his loveliest short poems, "Crossing the Bar," when he was eighty-three years old. A man is not old till he begins to close his mind to new thoughts and speculations; the danger is that he may gradually do that in the middle years. Certainly the art of wise living consists of keeping our thoughts always open to new aspirations. One wise man has said, "I count a day lost which has not brought to me some new experience or wider breadth of outlook, or some richer conception of living." With such an horizon age need never conquer us.—"Christian World."



KENYA

Christian Unity in Nairobi

ACCORDING to "The Record" (London, May 28, 1948), on Whitsunday evening, the Cathedral of Nairobi was the scene of what is believed to be the first service of an ecumenical character to be held in Kenya. "In a country in which there are nearly 30,000 Europeans, almost half of whom live in or near Nairobi, and in which there is consequently an unofficial color bar socially, and a Government recognised culture bar, the Cathedral Church Council felt that a lead should be given to the whole community by the Christians of the capital. The result was the decision to hold a united service on the anniversary of the birth of the church, in which the Anglican and Scottish churches and Salvation Army could take part.

"The Cathedral was full. It was a joy to see Africans and Indians in what is sometimes quite mistakenly regarded as a European Cathedral, and it was as great a joy to find how the regular congregation welcomed those from other denominations and races. It demonstrated that church differences are not an impassable barrier to those of goodwill, and that where social and racial divisions are deeply rooted, true Christianity rises above them, and is the only thing that can lift men above them."



YUGOSLAVIA

Inter-Religious Relations

THE Federative Popular Republic of Yugoslavia has published a legal statement "prohibiting incitement to hatred and discord between nationalities, races and religions."

This law stipulates that "all the citizens of the Republic are equal before the law, and possess equal rights, without distinction of nationality, race or confession."

Article 2 reads: "Any agitation, publication, printing and distribution of matter for the purpose of provoking or inciting people to international and inter-racial hatred.

"Provocation and incitement to inter-religious hatred consists in attacks by a person of one religion against someone professing another, or in provocation to a hostile attitude—on the confessional basis—by a person professing one religion against a person professing another.

"The scientific criticism of religion in general, and the criticism of irregular procedure on the part of ecclesiastical persons and ministers cannot be regarded as a provocation to inter-religious hatred.

"If the provocation and incitement to inter-religious hatred are the work of an ecclesiastical representative, this will be regarded as an aggravating circumstance."

—E.P.S., Geneva.

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When the Church is Like a Farm

THE church is like a farm. Although a man may prepare the soil, plant the seed, water the ground and give constant care to the farm, he is dependent upon the power of God in nature to give the increase. A successful farm requires the co-operation of man with God. The more men may do to prepare the conditions in which God can work, the greater the harvest is likely to be. God cannot make a lazy farmer's farm prosper. God is not able to help a foolish farmer. When a farmer co-operates wisely in his tasks with God there is likely to be a fruitful harvest.

I.

The church must grow, and there must be an increase in membership when workers within the church by co-operation with God are giving wise and diligent service. Through home missions the church is able to plant new causes in areas needing the ministry of Christ. Home missions are an effort to fulfil Christ's request to make disciples of every creature. If we are true to Christ, we shall be faithful in the task of extending the church in the homeland.

Those who are members of a large congregation may become self-satisfied and content with their own programme. By seeking to maintain their own local work and by giving little heed to the struggling churches in country centres or new suburban areas, these members may be failing in a very important duty. The results of their selfishness may turn against themselves.

Because of the movement of population, it is likely that many members of a large church may be compelled to move to new centres. Since new causes have not, perhaps, been established in such centres because of the ungenerous attitude of members of the stronger churches, many members of that congregation are cut off from the fellowship of their brethren. Some may drift from the church and be lost from the kingdom.

II.

The establishment of churches in country centres, particularly, may prove of great benefit to city and suburban churches. Because of the tendency of young people to move to the city to enter the business world, many capable members are transferred from country churches to the cities, strengthening thereby suburban churches.

Since churches are so related and bound up with the interests of the church in every centre, it is needful for members to be generous to the urgent requests of those brethren who are struggling in places where it is difficult to build up strong self-supporting churches.

III.

Maintaining a home mission church in a country town or in a new suburban area may not provide news and headlines for a paper. After the publicity associated with the establishment of the church, there may be little to report. For years there is the task of building up the work. This proves slow and difficult. While the first year of work may demand up to £300, that is not the end. Perhaps ten to twenty years may be needed to establish new causes. The finances needed for a new church are not to be calculated in a hundred pounds or so, but in thousands. Now the number of new fields a home mission committee can support must be limited by the amount of money churches contribute. There will always be many more churches appealing for help than home mission committees are able to support.

While there may be many appeals for funds to support this work or that good cause in the homeland or overseas, unless the appeal to advance the king-

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dom of God and establish new churches in the homeland is met adequately, the other tasks the church takes up will suffer sooner or later.

Vigorous home mission committees in the various States of the Commonwealth are giving a lead in evangelistic programmes of various types to suit different needs. Unless there is this live plan to keep the churches alive and growing, there will be little progress, perhaps death for many causes. Within the homeland the church must evangelise or perish.

During this month there is an Australian-wide effort being made to urge brethren make worthy contributions to an essential work. Since money is of value only as it expresses itself in good service, we urge brethren to give their gifts so that it may serve Christ in many needy home mission fields.



God's Blessings and Man's Harvest

HOW many thank God for the blessings of life? Our life depends upon the goodness of God. By the good gifts which come to us from Heaven, our body, mind and spirit are maintained in vigor and peace. Our response to this goodness ought to be a life of service and prayers of thankfulness.

Apart from God and the salvation revealed in Christ there is nothing worthwhile in life. God's love toward us makes life worthwhile. Apart from God there is no rational reason for living. God is our life. He is all we have. In him we live and move and have our being.

We are compelled to acknowledge this goodness of God by the reports of splendid rains throughout many parts of Australia. The bounteous falls have increased by four-fold prospects of the harvest. Instead of ruin there is prosperity for many. Many millions in need of food in Europe and Asia will benefit from the good rains in Australia.

"All good gifts around us

Are sent from heaven above;

Then thank the Lord, oh, thank the Lord,
For all his love."



President Truman

WHATEVER political views Christians may have, they will not disagree with the re-elected President of the United States of America, when he makes a plea for world peace. Among his first statements, after his election, he said, "All my efforts will be devoted to the cause of peace in the world and the happiness of our people here at home."

It is well known that Mr. Truman is a churchman who attends the services of Baptist churches. While he has been considered a weak leader by some who have been set on discrediting him, nevertheless he has taken a strong stand against corruption in high places. The people have appreciated that stand. Because of his position in such a powerful nation, Mr. Truman may be able to bring hope of better days to many desperate people throughout the world. The peoples of the United States of America have made a valuable contribution, under leadership of Mr. Truman, to the troubled nations of Europe. It can be expected that the Marshall plan will be continued, now that Mr. Truman has been elected president.

Crusading for the Faith

Summary of Conference Sermon by R. Raymond.

CONSIDERED objectively, "the faith" as used in Jude 3 (R.V.), "Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints," and in many places in the New Testament, stood for "the whole scheme of human redemption in Christ." Many passages in the New Testament use the words to indicate the gospel message or the Christian doctrine. We to-day understand from the study of such passages what we term "New Testament Christianity."

For upwards of 150 years throughout the English speaking world, and to-day in forty lands, people have been pleading, not for the reformation of the church, not for a reconstructed Christianity, not for a revision of the gospel, but for a return to, and a restoration of, this Christianity of the New Testament, and for the primitive gospel.

Christianity was perfect as propounded by its divine Founder. It could be no other since it came from him in whom was no sin. And because it was perfect it was final. It was "once for all delivered to the saints." We can add nothing to it. We dare not take anything from it. We cannot insist that anything more is essential or that anything less is enough. Theologians talk of "progressive Christianity." The New Testament does not make provision for such a thing. There is progress in Christianity; we grow in grace and the knowledge of Christ, and there is the progress of Christianity, but since the faith was "once for all (time) delivered," and was perfectly adapted to meet the needs of all mankind when delivered, we had better accept and obey that faith as it stands. The evils that now exist in Christendom, the errors that divide the church, the apostasy and false teaching that are abroad, whether in faith or practice, in doctrine or discipline, in deed or creed, are due to a departure from this perfect faith of the New Testament. If men had been content to keep to the New Testament and to the faith once for all delivered, we would not perhaps to-day have the sorry sight of a divided and broken church. The things that divide us to-day are not of the New Testament, and certainly not of the Spirit of Christ. When Jude urged men to contend for the faith once for all delivered to the saints, he knew nothing of many of the things for which men in the Christian church contend to-day. He knew nothing of holy orders and a stereotyped ministry. He had no question of ecclesiastics and credal statement in mind. Not for these things did the inspired writer urge men to contend. He knew only the perfect faith "delivered" to the saints at the beginning. Since it was complete and perfectly adapted to meet the needs of all mankind from the beginning (many of our evils are due to a departure from that perfect system), the most effectual remedy for these evils is to return, in all things, to the faith once for all delivered to the saints, and to the practices of the primitive church. Here is the safest way to unity. "Nothing, surely, would so conduce to the harmony and concord of Christ's church as the recognition that it is the simple indispensable faith of the New Testament that really matters."

A further reason why we should contend for the faith is because it is worth contending for. No religion, no philosophy, no ideology has to its credit the things that are written in history to the everlasting glory of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Paul, writing to the Romans, said, "I am proud of the gospel" (Moffatt). And well he might be, for it proved to be God's power unto salvation against man's power unto destruction.

We must also contend for the faith because it is sure to be contended against. It has always been so. Paul had to fight against a narrow and strangling Judaism. John and his

younger contemporaries found their faith attacked by a demoralising gnosticism that denied the substance of Christ's humanity. Then came the great Arian controversy. And so down through all the centuries. But "the faith" has survived because it was fittest to survive.

And we, too, have to contend for the faith against a materialistic force that seeks its destruction. Men to-day are placing their confidence in economic materialism. Marxian communism menaces the faith by reason of the fact that in it men substitute themselves for God and endeavor to do by their own hands what only God can do. Marx taught that Christ was a fanatical idiot, whose gospel was worse than foolishness. He taught the people to despise all religions in general and Christianity in particular. A large section of our race is under the influence of this destroying peace-disturbing power to-day. One cannot very well

be a disciple of Marx and of Jesus Christ. "Ye cannot serve two masters."

It is our conviction that "the faith" will triumph. Man is a two-world creature, and he cannot be satisfied with bread alone. He needs God.

The faith has been committed to the saints. The servants and friends of Jesus Christ are the saints wherever they are found. Of old they were slaves and servants in Caesar's household. They were among the poor of Judea. To-day they are found in factories and workshops, behind counters, in board-rooms and classrooms, on the farms and in mines. These are the people who must crusade for Christ to-day. We have come to the time, surely, when the church is no longer the clergyman's church. It never was intended to be such. The World Council at Amsterdam has made it clear in one of its findings that the laymen and not the "clergy" only must be responsible for the spread of the gospel and the winning of men. Let us, then, take the gospel with us into the common avenues of life. By word and deed let each contend earnestly amongst his fellows for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

Federal Conference

Amendments to Constitution.

Section 3: Constitution of Conference. Article (3) last clause (b). Add "excepting where this Constitution empowers State Conference Executives to do so."

Section 3: Constitution of Conference.—Amend sub-clauses (a) (b) and (c) of Clause 1 as follows:—The basis of representation shall be— (a) For the first 500 members six representatives. (b) For each succeeding 500 or portion thereof, two representatives. (c) The total number of representatives from any one State shall not exceed thirty.

Section 4: Officers of Conference.

Clauses 1 and 2 to be deleted, and the following substituted:—(1) The Officers of Conference shall be: 1. President, who shall be nominated from members resident in the State where the next Federal Conference will be held; 2. Vice-Presidents, one from members resident in each of the respective States affiliated with Federal Conference; 3. Secretary; 4. Assistant Secretary; 5. Treasurer; and two other members. These five officers to be nominated from members resident within the State where Executive Office is located. All the above officers shall constitute the Federal Conference Executive and shall be elected by ballot of representatives.

(2) State Representatives.—In order to link each State definitely with the activities of the Federal Conference, the Executive of each State Conference, the Federal President if resident within the State, and the Federal Vice-President, residing in the respective State, shall constitute a Federal Executive for its State.

(3) Executive Office.—Federal Conference may determine from time to time in which State the office of the Federal Executive shall be located.

(4) Executive Committee Meetings.—At least twice a year meetings of the full Executive Committee shall be called by the Secretary at a place mutually agreeable to the majority of the Executive Committee. If the elected vice-president of any State is unable to attend these meetings, he may be represented by a proxy elected by that State executive. Such proxy shall have full voting rights at these meetings.

(5) Arrangements for Federal Conference Meetings.—The programme shall be arranged by the full Executive Committee. Local arrangements for hospitality, halls, etc., shall be undertaken by the local State Executive Com-

mittee, co-operating with Federal President and local Federal Vice-President.

(6) Existing Clause (3) to be renumbered (6).

Section 6: Management.

Under (1) College of the Bible add the following clause: "The State Executive Committee of each State in consultation with the Federal College State Committee may also appoint one member to the Board, but the travelling expenses of such member shall not necessarily be a charge on the Federal Board."

Under (2) Australian Churches of Christ Foreign Mission Board, add the following to the first clause: "The State Executive Committee of each State in consultation with the State Foreign Mission Committee may also appoint one member to the Board, but the travelling expenses of such member shall not necessarily be a charge on the Federal Board."

Under (7) Federal Aborigines Mission Board add the following to the first clause: "The State Executive Committee of each State in consultation with the State Aborigines Committee may also appoint one member to the Board, but the travelling expenses of such member shall not necessarily be a charge on the Federal Board."

Section 6: Management.

Under (7) Federal Aborigines Mission Board. Fourth line substitute "six" for "three." Eleventh line substitute "six" for "four."

Section 6: Management.—Delete clause 5 and substitute Federal Board of Christian Education.—The Federal Conference shall appoint a Board of Christian Education for the purpose of—(1) Administering youth activities common to and agreed on by the State Youth Committees. (2) Unifying Federal youth work. (3) Preparation of materials for Christian Education.

The Board shall consist of ten members, five from the State where the Board is located and one from each of the remaining State committees, and shall meet annually. The five members in the State of location shall act as an executive committee, with power to co-opt advisory members. This executive shall meet regularly to transact business remitted to it by the Board and such other of the administrative affairs of the Board as shall demand attention between its annual meetings. It shall appoint Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as it may deem desirable. Unless otherwise determined by Federal Conference, the Board shall be located in Melbourne.

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Baramati Boys' Home

A. Anderson, secretary F.M. Board, gives facts concerning Indian boys' home.

THIS report, prepared and read by Miss Edna Vawser, is full of human interest. Latest advice is that many more requests have come to take boys, but already we are crowded, and the heavy drain on finances because of high costs and shortages is already embarrassing. There are still boys and girls in our homes in need of support, and any individual or group willing to help can gain full information from the Federal secretary.

Boys' Home Report 1/7/47 to 30/6/48

"Our heavenly Father has indeed been more than good to us all this year. He has protected the children from serious sickness, and provided for every need. When the rationing was lifted early this year the food position was very difficult and prices rose and rose. We wondered what to do, but before prices reached their limit we had the storeroom well filled, and are now benefiting in that we are not asked to take the red millet from America in our ration, and the highest price paid for the good grain in our store was not more than the cost of the rationed millet in the Government Godown. Institutions have been privileged, and are able to take whatever grains they are in need of without being forced to take the whole ration per unit. We are therefore able to buy the cheaper rice, wheat and maize since these shops opened and are using the good jewelry we were able to store earlier in the year. This is a cause for wholehearted gratitude. God is good.

"Until December, about the 18th, Mr. Thomas was in charge of the home, and he and Mr. Samuel Jadhav took very good care of the boys. I cannot report on all they did, but the boys tell with pleasure of the August 15 celebrations when several orange trees were planted, but sad to say the goats ate them. They tell of bhajan evenings and other entertainments. Certainly the boys were looking very well when I took over the care of the home.

"During the summer holidays the boys worked with Mr. Bairagi on the well at Baramati, and they all did a magnificent piece of work. We are proud of their achievement during those weeks. Some of the Shrigonda girls were here for the vacation, and the Christian community at Baramati gave the girls and the boys a special dinner one evening. Sweets were also

distributed on another occasion by one of the gentlemen; another time Rs. 10 were given to me for the children. I can think of still two other occasions when they enjoyed the gifts from generous friends. It was indeed a happy summer with work and play, and so much kindness and thoughtfulness to them from our Baramati friends.

"We still have four elderly people for whom we provide daily—they are very grateful for all that is done for them. On June 30 there were 98 boys in the home, and then we have three student girls for whom meals are cooked.

"Our Government fees amounted to Rs. 1163 last year and other receipts local to Rs. 1431.

"We are still hoping to have vegetables from the garden. The boys quite happily take turns in doing their share in this way. In fact there is fine co-operation, and the big boys take responsibility very well indeed.

"Mr. Choudhari, the children's special service missionary, visited the home last year, and it was grand to have him again recently. All the boys from the second class upwards have New Testaments and Bibles which are read daily. We are happy to report eight baptisms during last year.

"Padmakar Gaikwad stood first in the Baramati area in the primary school leaving certificate examination; three others passed in April. The high school boys from Puntamba are now in the H.S. hostel at Baramati. They did not return to Puntamba, for we felt that they would be better at home attending the local high school. We have eleven high school boys in the hostel, and already there is an improvement in their studies.

"Our cook women have served faithfully and well. They are a good team and it is a pleasure to tell of their fine co-operation.

"Mr. S. A. Jadhav was the house father until the end of May, when he was transferred to the evangelistic department. He served well, and it was a pleasure to work with him. We wish him every success in the work of spreading the gospel in this area.

"The boys are a fine group, and although mischievous at times, there is very good material among them; they are most helpful and co-operative, and show much promise for the future. May God bless them all."

The Deaconess

A. J. Fisher, of Nailsworth, S.A., presents suggested ways in which women may enrich the ministry of the church.

VERY little information is available regarding this important phase of the church ministries, and so we give the following outline, not in relation to any one church, but as suggestions which may be helpful to the loyal band of women in any church.

I. The Office of Deaconess

The title "deaconess" is not used in the New Testament, but it is evident that women rendered valuable assistance in the apostolic church. See Rom. 16: 1, 2; Acts 9: 31-42; Phil. 4: 2, 3; 1 Tim. 3: 11; 5: 1, 2; Titus 2: 3-5.

Some believe that the "widows" of Acts 6: 1 functioned as deaconesses, their complaint being that the funds at their disposal were not sufficient for their ministries. See also 1 Tim. 5: 5-15.

In the sub-apostolic age there were recognised deaconesses as an ordained "order," but this was discontinued in the fourth century.

From the above scriptures and other appropriate passages, it seems evident that any who desire to serve as ministering women in the church should be mature, of sound judgment, with gentleness and self-control, hospitable and gracious, being humble ornaments of character in the church, of a virtuous and kind disposition as servants of the church.

To-day women of suitable ability and character are often called to serve the church in various capacities and in appropriate ways, being generally known as deaconesses or visiting sisters. Sometimes they are paid and employed for specified duties, but usually they form a very helpful band of voluntary workers in the church.

II. Duties of Deaconesses

For the circumstances of to-day, the following ministries can well be part of the duties of consecrated women aptly known as "deaconesses."

Visitation of the sick, aged and infirm.

Welcoming newcomers into the district and visitors at the services.

Arranging hospitality for any visiting worshippers, either individually or according to a roster.

Show friendly interest in girls attending the services and uniting with the church.

Visit women members who absent themselves from the Lord's Table.

Supervising the preparation of women candidates for baptism and maintaining reverence in the vestry during the ordinance.

Attending to the requirements of the Lord's Table, both before and after communion.

Oversight and custody of the church towels, communion linen, baptismal gowns, etc.

Preparing a roster for communion preparations, flowers for the platform, etc.

Supervising the cleaning of the chapel, especially in a small church where no caretaker is employed.

Keeping contact by correspondence, etc., with isolated women members of the local church.

Active participation in and co-operation with all girls' and women's activities associated with the church, such as the cradle roll, clubs, guilds, Dorcas, etc.

Investigating cases of poverty or distress, and either seeing that the need is supplied or reporting same to the board of officers or the preacher.

Helping, when necessary, mothers with babies attending the services, giving the mothers the opportunity for quiet worship.

Encouraging the proper planning of the social functions of the church, especially in relation to the use and custody of all equipment for suppers, banquets, etc.

Giving friendly attention to newly married couples with a view to seeing that their interest in the church does not diminish.

Prayerfulness and readiness to fill any need which may arise in connection with any of the women's work of the church.

III. The Functioning of the Deaconesses

Deaconesses may be appointed by the elders or by the board of officers, or by the whole church. Sometimes the preacher selects or nominates suitable women. It is frequently planned that the preacher's wife, if able and willing, be regarded as a deaconess ex-officio.

When the official board of the church is recognised in any church service, it is appropriate that the deaconesses should be included in this also.

For the proper functioning of their work, the deaconesses should select one of their number as convener and another as secretary, and should meet as often as required or at least once each quarter. They should also present a report to the annual business meeting of the church.

Close co-operation should be maintained between the deaconesses and the board of officers, having also occasional joint meetings or conferences with the elders or the board. They should also frequently consult with the preacher.

They should participate as much as possible with the activities of the sisters' conference, and should receive reports of relative matters from the local church delegates to the conference.

Go; do your duty, giving to every task the sublimest motives which you know, and which you can bear to bring upon it. Get at the essence of goodness, which is not in its enthusiasms or delights, but in its heart of consecration.—Phillips Brooks.

AUSTRALIAN ROUND-UP

Conference of Northern Circuit, W.A.

SECOND annual conference of Northern Circuit, W.A., was held on Sept. 26. "It was a beautiful conference," was a comment passed at conclusion of day which lasted from 11 a.m. until 6.30 p.m. Every moment was packed with some activity, and although a little strenuous, was very inspiring. Mr. Clapp presided over opening service, at which Mr. McRoberts spoke. Lunchtime fellowship was rich and free. Children were enthralled with "Uncle Mac," who took the children's session. Ladies were greatly helped with a session of fellowship, at which Mrs. Humphrys outlined work and aims of various committees of Women's Conference. Conference session was led by president of circuit conference, R. Carslake, who outlined work of past year. Definite progress and consolidation had been made. At conclusion of session Mr. McRoberts welcomed new officers, and on behalf of circuit presented Mr. Carslake with a copy of the scriptures in appreciation of his leadership through year. Incoming president is H. Rowe and president-elect R. W. Barr. At invitation given after a forceful gospel message by Mr. McRoberts, Lila Harper, of Mingenew church, accepted Christ. There were 36 adults and 22 children present.



Southern Bayside District Conference, Vic.

NINTH half-yearly conference of Southern Bayside District churches was held at Frankston on Saturday, Oct. 30. Representatives were present from all the churches except Mornington. R. J. Hinde, of Frankston, was in the chair, and a welcome was extended to all present, including C. S. Tinius, from U.S.A.

The matter of securing land at Seaford for church purposes, and the preacher for French Island, were given consideration. It was decided to refer the matter of securing the land back to the executive, and to seek to make arrangements for R. E. Pritchard to continue his appreciated visits to French Island to preach.

R. M. Wilson, of Lygon-st., delivered a very fine address at the afternoon session, while A. T. Cuddy rendered a solo in his usual excellent manner.

Tea was served in the vestry, after which a ladies' session was held. The ladies appointed Miss Ellis, of Frankston, president. Mrs. Salmon, of Red Hill, vice-president, and Mrs. R. V. Holmes, of Frankston, secretary.

The reports from the churches showed that there had been 27 additions by faith and baptism, and a number by restoration, during the past six months.

The evening session was well attended, as was that in the afternoon. The young people of Cheltenham provided a vocal item, the scripture lesson was read by a young man from Parkdale, Neville Moore led in prayer, and an address was given by R. W. Vautier, of Brunswick.

It was decided to hold the next conference at Red Hill on Saturday, May 14, and W. Torney, of Red Hill, was appointed president. Frank Manning, of Parkdale, vice-president, and T. Hagger, of Frankston, secretary.

Saturday, Oct. 30, provided a very happy time of fellowship for the brethren of the district churches, and within them renewed the desire to spread abroad the New Testament gospel throughout the district.—Thos. Hagger.

Wheatbelt Circuit Conference Western Australia

WHEATBELT conference was held at Bruce Rock on Sunday, Oct. 24, under ideal conditions. A large interstate and metropolitan delegation was in attendance, adding much of interest and value to proceedings.

The sisters arranged a function on Saturday afternoon to meet visiting women. Visitors included Mrs. Ploog, president of Victorian Women's Conference; Mrs. R. McCallum, Mrs. Lambert and Miss Maiden, from N.S.W.; Mrs. Pollard, secretary W.A. Women's Conference; Matron Hill, of Bethesda Hospital; Mrs. Tilbee, home mission representative; Miss Stewart and Sister Taylor.

Conference day began with Lord's Supper at 10.30 a.m. Approximately sixty shared in this fellowship. H. E. Greenwood (home mission secretary and organiser) gave a helpful sermon on "The Lordship of Jesus." Youth session was conducted by F. Stephenson (young people's delegate). To this session K. A. Jones brought an excellent talk entitled "Guard Your Crown." Business session followed. Highlights of this were: splendid financial position of circuit; flourishing Bible school work; keen interest by churches in brotherhood activities, State and federal; a recommendation to go to Home Mission Committee that if E. C. Hinrichsen returns to W.A. next year a marquee mission be held in Merredin, all expenses guaranteed; a deputation to wait on Home Mission Committee and Preacher Placement Board to press importance of a second preacher in circuit; resignation of circuit preacher, T. D. Maiden, because of ill-health.

Gospel meeting was preceded by a song service led by F. Stephenson. The preacher, D. Hammer, organiser of aborigine missions, was listened to attentively. At conclusion three young men were baptised. Following this, K. A. Jones brought an informative talk on the College of the Bible, illustrated by colored slides.

During the day Anglican and Methodist ministers and local M.L.A., with their wives, were entertained at luncheon.

Officers of conference elected during day were: President, I. Smith; vice-president, H. Seaby; secretary-treasurer, A. Maloney; members of committee, M. Arnold, B. Lawrie, J. Lewis, J. Dayman, J. Hall, L. Smith, P. Sprigg and Mrs. Seaby.—T. D. Maiden.



German Corresponds With Australian

WRITING from Oberhesse, Germany, U.S. Zone, Dr. Otto Oppen says, in a letter of Aug. 10, 1948, to N. Burn, of the College of the Bible:

"Do we not all stand until our life's end within the school of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose school we never shall in fact finish our course.

"I serve the Evangelical Landeskirche of Hesse, one of the oldest evangelical churches of the Reformation, founded in 1526 by Count Phillip of Hesse—the famous champion of Protestantism—in whose town, Marburg, the religious controversy between Luther and Zwingli took place in 1529. . . .

"Our church is a member of the Evangelical Church of Germany, the largest evangelical

church in the world, which in these days has drawn up (literally 'given itself') a new order, and now is about to become part of the ecumenical movement—(literally 'to grow into the order of the Oecumene').

"The struggle of the church which lies behind us during the 3rd Reich has given us, in spite of all the faults of the time, the glad knowledge that our salvation lies only in relationship (confession) to Jesus Christ and the building up of our life according to his commands—a knowledge which in the future we shall never give up, come what may. Unless the people, all the people without exception, go back to the fundamental laws of Christianity, the future is going to be dark.

"Your copies of the 'Australian Christian,' I have also received with many thanks. I have seen therein that you are not unfamiliar with the actual problems of contemporary European theology, as of 'Karl Barth and Christian Baptism.' That we must think afresh through the problem of baptism in our time is clear to us all, also that the church here faces a great new task or mission.

"American Christianity does much to alleviate the German necessity, and that is for us very promising and heartening—that the confession or allegiance to Jesus Christ extends beyond races, frontiers and empires."

Dr. Oppen is a Licentiate of Theology and a Doctor of Philosophy.



West Moreton Circuit Queensland

ON Oct. 19, third meeting of United Christian Women's Fellowship was held in Rosewood chapel. Mrs. David Kruger, president of circuit, presided. A splendid gathering assembled for the meeting, and a resolution against Sunday sport was carried. Visitors from Brisbane, Ipswich and Sydney took part in the meeting. On Oct. 26 the religious film "Beyond Our Own," a talkie, thrilled an appreciative audience. At Marburg, Oct. 31, Mrs. Voss, after twenty years' absence, reconsecrated herself in response to invitation by Mr. Caldicott. The same afternoon a baptismal service was conducted in Brisbane River by preacher of circuit, and a great crowd of people gathered. Three Congregationalists decided for baptism right on the spot, and were immediately immersed, making five in all. Scotty Gibb conducted the singing, and the service was one never to be forgotten. Meetings are being held to say farewell to Scotty Gibb, whose visit has been an inspiration and a blessing. Open-air work is being maintained, and the five churches in circuit are presenting a definite witness and a positive message of salvation.—A. C. Caldicott.



W. Beiler Retires

AT half-yearly business meeting of the church at Grote-st., Adelaide, S.A., on Oct. 27, church officers submitted a recommendation that W. Beiler be re-engaged for an indefinite period. Mr. Beiler, in a statement to meeting, expressed regret that, owing to condition of his health and acting on doctor's advice, he would not be able to continue full-time ministry after end of January next. He expressed willingness to help church until a successor is appointed. Mr. and Mrs. Beiler have won respect and esteem of young and old, and it is the hope and prayer of all that a complete rest from duties of a city church will enable them to make good recovery and to continue in the work of the Master.

Here and There

Next issue will be the Home Mission Number.

This message, received Nov. 1, reached us too late for last issue: "Tent mission at Harlaxton, Qld., concluded first week with ten decisions.—Winter."

A. G. Elliott has sent the following message: "Hinrichsen-Machin mission, Subiaco, W.A., marquee crowded out, Nov. 7; scores standing; eleven decisions."

B. T. Mann has notified us that the fund opened to supply kindergarten chairs for the school at Kilburn, S.A., has been closed. Money is required, however, for other needs in the kindergarten.

A. L. Haddon, M.A., principal of the New Zealand Bible College at Dunedin, was to leave by plane for the U.S.A. on Nov. 5. He will deliver a series of lectures at Butler university and other centres of religious education.

The Executive Committee of the Australian section of the World Council of Churches has arranged for a welcome to delegates who attended the Amsterdam assembly. The meeting has been arranged for evening of Dec. 2, in Sydney Town Hall. The president, Dr. Mowll, is planned to speak.

The visible results for the tent mission at Roma, Qld., are, according to latest report from Lloyd Jones, the missionary, 18 decisions. We rejoice to see the renewed interest in evangelism throughout the Commonwealth. There is room for many evangelistic teams in Australia. We are glad to note the eagerness of some younger men to venture in this field of service.

Mrs. A. Sargent, who had been a faithful member at Brunswick, Vic., for 41 years, died on Oct. 30, at the age of 104 years. Mrs. Sargent was the oldest resident in Victoria and the oldest member of churches of Christ in Australia. Mrs. Sargent was baptised in the Coliban River in 1878 by Stephen Cheek, who was conducting at that time special services at Taradale. We offer deepest sympathy to all who mourn the loss of a loved one. An obituary notice will appear in next issue.

Bible school anniversary celebrations at West Hobart, Tas., continued on Oct. 24, proved a great success. Main feature of afternoon was singing by school under R. Lillye, who has conducted singing for over 12 years. Organist was Mrs. R. Lillye, and pianist Miss V. Golder, who has just celebrated her 14th birthday. G. Foot, Launceston, was speaker, afternoon and evening, his addresses being appreciated by all. Kindergarten scholars gave two items in afternoon, and prizes were presented to kinder and primary departments. Five scholars tied for first prize, and two for second. Sister N. Woolley was soloist at gospel service.

Prior to their return to Victoria from Fremantle, W.A., Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Taylor assisted morning meeting on Sept. 19, address and solos being appreciated. In connection with "Youth Week," a social evening was held on Sept. 24. Each department of youth activity in church shared in programme. There have been two decisions for Christ—husband of Mrs. Butler, down on holiday with family from Geraldton, and Fred Shaw. Both have been baptised. All were pleased to renew acquaintance with Keith Jones on evening of Oct. 3. The illustrated lecture on college was helpful and interesting. Junior and Intermediate C.E. Societies were encouraged by visit of A. Orr, of Launceston, Tas., on Oct. 12. Both services on Oct. 17 were well attended, many conference visitors being welcomed. Gordon Stirling, from S.A., delivered a fine address in morning, as did Cecil Robinson, of Bendigo, Vic., in evening. It was a joy to renew fellowship with those preachers, who as boys attended church at Fremantle.

Following successful church anniversary at Unley, S.A., Endeavorers were encouraged by splendid series of meetings for anniversary over Oct. 16-17 week-end. About 100 gathered on Saturday for tea, followed by tea-table conference, and juniors enjoyed a separate session with a Bible knowledge test. Evening rally was addressed by A. L. Wilkins, and a talkie film, "The Crown of Righteousness," splendidly portrayed Paul's last days. On Sunday, L. C. Carr addressed morning service and Allan Wilson evening gathering. In response to his appeal Janice Scown, an intermediate, made good confession. Another happy day was Sunday school picnic, held in hall because of inclement weather. All enjoyed indoor games and pictures, and afternoon sports programme, carried out on local school grounds. College of Bible offering totalled £28/10/6. A. J. Fisher was evening speaker on Oct. 10, Mr. Norris speaking at Nailsworth Sunday school anniversary. Another elderly member, Mrs. J. Prior, was called home on Oct. 16 at age of 85. C.Y.F. enjoyed visit to Alaska ice cream factory. Tennis and cricket clubs have opened season.

Church spent three very successful nights' campaign at Newmarket, Vic., visiting. Five teams and helpers gathered for tea at chapel on Oct. 26, 27, 28, and afterwards went out in prayer to call on 51 homes, making a total of 37 effective calls. The previous week visitors received advice from G. Woodbridge and Mrs. Tonkes (Moreland), and Mrs. Morrison (Hartwell) at prayer meetings, whilst encouragement was extended by J. Burns (Ascot Vale) and Mr. Wright (North Essendon) at Sunday morning meetings. Church appreciated this splendid help. Sunday morning 20 members met at an early prayer service. Well-attended meetings marked day. 45 broke bread at morning service and 55 heard gospel preached by R. Sack. Four responded for restoration, bringing campaign to a happy conclusion. Members are convinced that this method is effective in a small church. A bigger campaign is being planned for new year. Campaign was planned and led by the preacher, R. Sack. In formation now are an Explorer Club and a Good Companions' Club. The church is sure that this effort marks beginning of a brighter period in her life and witness.

At Camberwell, Vic., atmosphere of 32nd anniversary services on Nov. 7 was something church has not experienced for years. Many visitors and past members joined. Addresses and greetings brought by A. Hurren (conference president) and R. Bolduan, and special choir music (30 voices), under leadership of E. Peters, contributed largely to inspiration the services provided. Thanksgiving offering for new carpets and school hall amounted to £137. Fund is nearing £1100, and building operations are contemplated at earliest possible opportunity. Seven members visited Federal Conference, W.A., and W. F. Nankivell on Oct. 30 gave an interesting outline of activities of conference. Following recent successful visitation evangelism, church is conducting a restoration campaign. There have been some losses by transfer, but members are loyally supporting communion service; average exceeds 100, and attendances at gospel meeting have been encouraging—average 82. Young people are especially loyal. Leadership and devotion of W. F. Nankivell are appreciated by members, and church is indebted to J. M. Abercrombie and A. W. Stephenson for services during minister's absence at Federal Conference. Hospital Sunday offering amounted to £26/16/10. Ladies are still forwarding food parcels to British brethren.

During Mr. Brooke's absence from Cottonville, S.A., at Federal Conference, Messrs. Pike, Glasstonbury and Colin Butler assisted with addresses. General offerings have averaged £10/10/10 for past six months—a record. Rest Home appeal has reached £20/7/11. College offering was £13/18/6. At a social on Oct. 30, presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. Brooke on commencement of sixth year of ministry. It was also first anniversary of work of choir. A fine programme was given by visiting artists, and choir concluded with anthems. Choir made presentations to Mr. Gloyn (organist) and Mrs. Major (conductress), in appreciation of splendid leadership. Ladies' Auxiliary annual meeting was very successful, many visitors being present from other churches. Mrs. Hooper spoke on migration, and Mrs. Willing, of Grote-st., was soloist.

W. Gale writes: "Last week-end we had another of our early morning Home Mission and Advisory Board trips, this time up to the River Murray. One of our party (we will not say whether it was Mr. Stephenson, Mr. Abercrombie or the writer), whose alarm clock was out of order, asked the telephone exchange to ring him at 4.45 a.m., but he was up! These early morning starts mean a very broken sleep, for we wake half a dozen times to look at the clock lest we sleep in! Well, we reached Echuca in good time for morning service, despite heavy rain for much of the way and a stop for refreshment from our thermos flasks and sandwich parcels. We found a splendid gathering of members, and the church in good heart. In the afternoon we met the officers so as to talk over the preacher question, which had now become a real 'problem' owing to the probability that a house would not be available. This housing business has now become a major issue, and we have headaches whenever we hear that a preacher is on the move lest the owner decide to let it to others than the incoming preacher. We had one last look at the Murray, as we took our home mission chairman over to see the township of Moama on the N.S.W. side. Then we set out on our return journey, which was accomplished safely despite heavy rain as we approached the Dividing Range. The Home Missionary Committee and Advisory Board find that it has much need for this type of ministry to the churches, but petrol restrictions limit us severely. Churches must understand that we cannot do half that we even plan to do. We do not spare ourselves, but urgent and unexpected calls throw our plans out completely. We were fortunate on this journey to be on highway and so did not end up bogged for a night and day as on a previous trip. Our journey covered over 320 miles for the day. By the way, we hope all our brethren will do their utmost for home missions on Nov. 23—Oh, there is so much to be done and so little money with which to do it!"

FEDERAL CONFERENCE AMENDMENTS

(Continued from page 520)

All matters affecting policy and concerted State action shall be submitted to State departments for their endorsement. These matters will only be proceeded with when ratified by a majority of the States.

The Board shall be authorised to seek financial assistance for its work from the State Youth Departments.

The Board shall have power to appoint a director, who may act as editor of literature and attend to general matters of the Board's programme.

The Board shall send to State Youth Committees immediately after each meeting a full set of its minutes.

The Board shall be responsible to Federal Conference and submit a report of its proceedings thereto.

News of the Churches

Queensland

Albion.—Kindergarten demonstration was held on afternoon of Oct. 10. Mrs. Walters gave a splendid flannelgraph talk. Sunday school anniversary service held during evening was largely attended. £26/2/- was received for College of Bible offering. On Oct. 24 Mr. Alcorn conducted a studio broadcast over 4KQ. A concert for Boondall church was arranged by Albion youth council.

Tasmania

Nubeena.—Good attendances are maintained at Sunday morning services, and Mr. Street has commenced a series of gospel addresses, "History with a Purpose." Sisters' Sunshine Class meeting on Oct. 21 took form of a "Sing, Say or Pay" afternoon, to which each member contributed an item. During week-end of Oct. 30 and 31, Southern Districts Conference was held at Nubeena in conjunction with Highcroft church. Visitors and delegates were present from Launceston and most Southern District churches. Conference session continued throughout Saturday, and on Saturday evening a service conducted by Mr. O'Neill was well attended. He gave an interesting talk on Bethany Boys' Home. On Oct. 31, Highcroft combined with Nubeena, and between 120 and 140 attended morning service, with about 115 partaking of communion. F. B. Burti exhorted church. In afternoon a youth rally was held; items were rendered by Nubeena and Highcroft Sunday school scholars and Mr. Burti addressed children. Miss D. McQueeney was soloist. On Sunday night Mr. Street preached conference sermon, bringing to a close an inspirational and successful session. Mr. Burti was soloist. At each meeting excellent attendance was maintained.

South Australia

Prospect.—On evening of Oct. 26, choir assisted in Flinders Park mission. A number of church members and friends accompanied choir, afterwards returning to Prospect building for fellowship gathering. On 27th, Ladies' Guild held annual meeting, at which Miss Beatrice Tiernan was speaker. R. Vincent was speaker on morning of Oct. 31, when Philip Randell was baptised, and Margaret Brazel made the great decision. W. Bartlett, of Croydon church, was speaker in evening, when R. Vincent was assisting at Croydon anniversary.

Kilburn.—On Oct. 31, 73 attended 10 a.m. Bible school, including two new scholars. B. Lawrance conducted 11.15 a.m. service, when 18 adults and 28 young worshippers appreciated addresses by F. Collins, who also spoke at 7 p.m. gospel service. Church is now able to use organ for services instead of piano. Since receiving gift of second instrument from Woodlands Park, this is now used for Bible school, whilst original organ, which was donated by a brother from the country, is kept in hall for church services. Mrs. F. Lawrance is organist.

Croydon.—On morning of Oct. 2, J. E. Brooke exhorted. W. N. Bartlett preached at night. Male quartette party journeyed to Owen to assist anniversary services. Sister E. Fann is recovering after recent operation. Mrs. Waters is laid aside with illness. Miss Nola Nancarrow and Mr. Ivan Schmelzkopf were recipients of gifts from Bible school, choir, K.S.P. and Phi Beta Pi clubs and J.C.E. prior to their wedding on Oct. 23. Both have rendered loyal and valued service to church and auxiliaries. Sympathy of church is extended to esteemed elder, H. K. Brand, on departure from this life of his mother. Eleven members of J.C.E. visited Colebrook Home on Oct. 16. A C.E. meeting was held at the home, and games were played

with some of the inmates. Society has been working for some months sorting and counting over 20,000 stamps which will be sold and proceeds donated to missions. Work of this society is in good condition. Members of choir have been assisting at Flinders Park mission. Work generally is healthy. Average attendance for month: morning, 102; evening, 90.

Owen.—Anniversary services to mark 67th year of church were held successfully on Oct. 3. J. B. Baker gave appreciated addresses. A male quartette from Croydon comprising Messrs. Battle, Hoskins, Parker and Pearce provided special singing. Speaker on morning of Oct. 17 was Mr. Lawton, of Methodist Church. There was a combined meeting at night, when Mr. Derbyshire, of B. & F. B.S., gave a lantern lecture. Other speakers for month were M. Daniel and H. Lawrie. Church was represented at Federal Conference in Perth by W. J. Marshman, Annie Richards and Gladys Harkness.

Western Australia

North Perth.—Church enjoyed fellowship during Federal Conference. Addresses of Mr. Hurren, of Victoria, and Mr. Williams, of the college, were appreciated. During month Mr. Jones, secretary of college, presented an interesting lantern talk on work of college. Mr. Buckley is unable to attend services owing to ill-health. Mrs. Arthur and Mrs. Bawn are progressing after illness. Cottage prayer meetings have been held in home of J. Lavery and G. York. Newly-formed youth council held first meeting following prayer meeting at home of J. Lavery.

Maylands.—Sunday school anniversary took place on Oct. 10. Singing by children under John Brown was delightful. In afternoon kinders entertained under direction of Miss Dean; they also received prizes. Four babies were added to cradle roll and four birthday cards distributed. Mr. Hillier, of Victoria Park, interested with his talk. On evening of Oct. 14, Mr. Burdeu addressed children and presented prize-winners with fine books. On evening of Oct. 17, anniversary was repeated, when Mr. McRoberts addressed children and adults. At all meetings building was crowded. Church has been inspired and helped by presence of a large number of interstate visitors during Federal Conference. Visiting speakers were Mr. Burdeu, L. Williams, D. Hammer, G. Stirling and J. Park. All auxiliaries will function normally now that Federal Conference is over. Children moved up to their respective classes, and 14 went from kinder to larger school. Several interested visitors also inspected Sunday school.

New South Wales

Broken Hill.—Y.P.S.C.E. has had some helpful meetings, other members and friends having been specially invited. Topics from "loyalty" books are being discussed. On Oct. 24, Mr. Clark gave a helpful morning address; evening service was well attended. R. Hilford preaching, and Mr. and Mrs. L. Warren singing a duet. Mrs. A. Hosking is making progress after major operation in Broken Hill hospital.

Mosman.—G. Burns, the preacher, returned from a short visit to Federal Conference at Perth for meetings on Oct. 24. He gave some fine addresses and some highlights of conference. On Oct. 31, Mr. Burns gave fine

addresses morning and evening on the Reformation, it being Reformation Sunday. Midweek fellowship meetings are a great help; average attendance of 25 for month of October. Young men of church have all taken part in readings, and addresses have been given by some of the deacons, women, and young men.

Marrickville.—Bible school anniversary services commenced on Oct. 31, when Mr. Ladbrook (Kingsford) addressed teachers' consecration service, and Bruce Munro (Bible College) and P. E. Thomas gave illustrated talks at afternoon and evening sessions. The beautiful decorations, based on first verse of Isaiah 51, were work of secretary, Tom Benson. Singing, led by Laurie Thomas, with special items by Bethany Girls' Choir and Bob Rollings, also kindergarten items, were enjoyed by large audiences which filled chapel for each service.

Carramar.—Bible school attendance created a record on Oct. 24, when 162 were present. 70 children were also contacted at two open-air Bible schools, making total of 232 for day. Once a fortnight an after-school meeting is conducted at chapel by Mr. Anderson. Deposit has been paid on corner block of land next to chapel. Services on Lord's day are well attended. Attendance at prayer meeting averages 20. There was one reconsecration at gospel service on Oct. 24. Members of P.B.P. club entertained members of P.B.P. and K.S.P. clubs from Belmore and Lidcombe on Nov. 2.

Canley Vale.—Davis-Oswald mission proved a time of great blessing. Considerable interest has been aroused in community, and many non-Christians have attended. Unfortunately, tent was destroyed by storm, but services continued in chapel extending for a week longer than planned. Mr. Edwards (Social Service Department) assisted two nights each week with movie-talkie films. Mr. Davis's messages have been very helpful, including several chart addresses. On Nov. 2, a young lad who made confession earlier in year was baptised. Several have been restored to fellowship as a result of the mission and of the visiting done by Mr. Davis and R. W. Saunders, resident minister.

Victoria

Malvern-Caulfield.—On Oct. 31, A. B. McDiarmid concluded an interim ministry in absence of preacher, Chas. Cole. The 27th anniversary of Women's Mission Band was held on Oct. 13, a happy time being enjoyed. Address was given by Mrs. Williams, and solos by Mrs. McKenzie, accompanist Miss Sheehan.

Portland.—School concert and tea held on Oct. 15 were a success. Prizes and seals were presented to scholars. Two new scholars have been gained recently. Church attendance has been good during recent months, with average of 22 for last quarter. Ladies report increasing interest in meetings. Offering for hospitals was £5/14/-.

Footscray.—Mr. and Mrs. Hurren have returned home after trip to Federal Conference in Perth. Speaker at morning service on Nov. 7 was Mr. Peitzsch, and Mr. Hurren in evening. Speaker at C.M.S. meeting was T. Hampton. Young Women's Guild held second birthday on Nov. 3, when 60 attended, including representatives of officers' board. Birthday cake was donated by Mrs. G. Jackel, from Wangaratta. Mrs. Carter is in St. Vincent's Hospital.

Dunolly.—Offering for U.N.A.C. amounted to £2/9/9. On Oct. 9 a number of young people joined with young people from Bet Bet in a camp-fire evening. On Oct. 24 Mr. Kimber addressed church. Sunday school anniversary services were held on Oct. 31. E. McIlhagger was special speaker for day. Singing by children was good, and a happy day of fellowship and inspiration was enjoyed. A number stayed for tea, prepared by teachers and Ladies' Guild. Attendances, which included a number of visitors, were good.

Blackburn.—Worship service of Oct. 31 was addressed by Mr. Neighbour, on "Crusade for a Christian World." Two young men have been added to church by faith and baptism. Sunday school and auxiliaries are functioning well.

Hampton.—At meeting of men's society on Oct. 30, Mr. Jessup, chairman of Board of Works, gave an informative lecture on Melbourne's water supply. Annual display of physical culture classes was held in Brighton town hall on Nov. 4. During absence of C. L. Lang on holidays, speakers have been H. B. Robbins, C. Young and R. T. Pittman.

Doncaster.—Young Women's Fellowship had demonstration by Mrs. Bruce May on cooking at monthly meeting. Fete organised by ladies of church was opened by Mrs. C. Gill on afternoon of Oct. 30, and realised £62. Mrs. John Williamson passed away on Oct. 28 after short illness. Sympathy of church is extended to husband and grown-up family. Hospital Sunday collection amounted to £46.

Cheltenham.—Bible school anniversary services on Oct. 17 were an inspiration. Meetings were well attended, and children's singing under leadership of G. Daff was greatly appreciated. Morning Bible school, which commenced on Oct. 24, has made promising start. On Oct. 31, at gospel service, "Auxiliary Night" was observed, a representative of each auxiliary taking part. W. F. White gave an appropriate address.

Echuca.—An encouraging service was held on Oct. 30, when W. Gale, J. Abercrombie and A. Stephenson, of Home Mission Committee, took charge of meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Fowler were also among those present. A helpful talk on Visitation Evangelism and results of personal visitation was given by Mr. Stephenson. A Sunday school social and basketball wind-up was held on Oct. 18, when trophies were presented by association president. Mrs. Norris has again been admitted to hospital.

West Preston.—On Oct. 24 Margaret Weir, baptised previous Sunday by Mr. Withers, was welcomed into fellowship. S. Burman addressed morning meeting on Oct. 31, when 121 gathered for communion. Although far from well, Mr. Withers preached at gospel service. There was attendance of 90. Congratulations are extended to P.B.P. club for gaining highest points (128) in recent home-craft competitions. Cricket club commenced season by winning first two matches. Mrs. Box and Mrs. Ferguson have returned from W.A., where they attended Federal Conference.

Emerald.—A series of Sunday evening Protestant rallies, which accounted for increased congregations, has been completed. A four-days' exhibition displaying modern visual aids and ideas for teachers brought prestige on work of church. Exhibition also featured by posters, table displays and literature, parent responsibility in Christian education. Over 300 adults and children inspected exhibits. The gesture of unity has left its mark on the rural community by reason of the fact that Church of England and church of Christ schools were united in project.

Berwick.—On Sept. 26, church held a reunion and amongst visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Ern Paul, of Shepparton. It was 40 years since Mr. Paul left Berwick, and his address to church was much appreciated. Church welcomes back Mrs. Stan Hillbrich after long illness. A number of members are absent owing to ill-health. Tom Collis, an old member, is now residing in district and enjoying fellowship with church. On Oct. 30, annual business meeting was held, after which a social cup of tea was enjoyed. On Oct. 31 Mr. and Mrs. C. Cameron, of East Kew, were received by letter. Tennis club opened season on Oct. 23. K. Dixon was elected president and Mrs. J. Talent secretary. A tournament was held in which Miss J. Blucher won trophy for second year with her partner. All auxiliaries are functioning satisfactorily.

Bentleigh.—Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have been meeting regularly with church. Visiting speakers in recent weeks have been A. Thomas and H. A. Hunt, whose assistance is appreciated. R. J. Anderson continues to encourage with his addresses. Oct. 24 was a very full day—S.S., 9.45; worship service, 11 a.m.; 3 p.m., kindergarten demonstration organised by Mrs. A. Eldridge, when speaker, Mrs. F. Manning, of Parkdale, created a fine impression. At 4 p.m. Y.P.F. held meeting, speaker being Mr. Sandland, of Postal Sunday School Movement. Tea was held, and at gospel service Mr. Sandland was again speaker. Many visitors were present at worship service on Oct. 31.

Maryborough.—Sunday school anniversary on Oct. 10 was successful. Children sang well under leadership of Mr. Alcorn. Mr. Searle was speaker, his addresses being much enjoyed. A young lady who made the good confession a few months ago was baptised on Oct. 17, and received into fellowship following Sunday. Anniversary concert on Oct. 12 was well received by large audience. Mrs. F. Davies, Mrs. Walters and Mrs. Lancaster have all returned to homes after being in hospital. Mrs. B. Russell is now inmate of hospital awaiting operation. Sympathy of church is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Chiswell, of Betley, in their great loss.

Frankston-Moorooduc.—On Oct. 30, a happy time of fellowship was enjoyed when Southern Bayside District Conference was held at Frankston. On Oct. 31, C. F. Tinius, of America, gave excellent addresses at Frankston and Mornington. On Nov. 7, S. Neighbour spoke challengingly on crusade for a Christian world. T. Hagger preached powerfully at gospel services. R. V. Holmes conducted service at Moorooduc. At midweek meeting A. Sandland, of Postal Sunday School, gave lantern lecture. At Women's Mission Band Miss N. Ellis gave talk on home missions. Gifts were brought for hospital and Dorcas committees of conference. An offering was taken for missionary Christmas gifts. Recent visitors included Mr. Smetherham, of W.A.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—Two more have recently been added to church by baptism—Mrs. Denton and Miss Lois Hall. K. A. Macnaughtan has addressed all meetings, as well as conducting Central Christian Fellowship on Sunday afternoons. Present series at fellowship on book of Daniel have attracted much attention and there have been good attendances, including a number of students from Melbourne Bible Institute. At church annual meeting on Oct. 26, reports presented showed a year of progress. Retiring officers (F. H. Simpson, secretary; W. Fielding; H. N. Simpson) were re-elected, as also was the treasurer, E. A. Lawson; and other officers on board are R. Duncan, A. E. Kemp, E. M. Price, A. Wilson, S. Wilson. Many visitors from all States have been present at meetings.

Preston.—At evening service on Oct. 17, a married lady made her confession, and six who had previously confessed Christ were immersed. Attendances at gospel services are much improved. At church annual business meeting on Oct. 21, there was a good attendance. All retiring officers were re-elected. 46th anniversary was marked by special services on Oct. 24. W. G. Graham, of Northcote, delivered an appreciated address at morning service, and Mr. Searle presided and welcomed into fellowship six by faith and obedience. Pleasant Sunday Afternoon was held, at which Mr. Edmunds, M.L.A., delivered the address and a fine musical programme was contributed by Preston Musical Society. An offering for United Nations appeal for children amounting to £5/4/- was handed to Social Service Department. Evening service was conducted by Mr. Searle, when a good congrega-

tion was present, and choir rendered two specially selected anthems.

North Essendon.—Prof. W. A. Woodruff was speaker at Christian Men's Society tea on Oct. 24. At gospel service he delighted a splendid congregation with his address. Hospital Sunday offering of £21/11/3 from church and Sunday school was a record. Young Women's Fellowship held first birthday on Oct. 30 with a musical programme in chapel and afterwards a splendid supper in school-room, about 100 guests being catered for. A presentation was made to Mrs. S. Robottom from members of Y.W.F., in appreciation of her leadership. J. Manallack was speaker on morning of Oct. 31. Chapel was filled at gospel service, when members of Young Women's Fellowship had charge of meeting, leading and singing capably. Mr. Wright gave a thoughtful address. Members are undertaking further special visitation.

Surrey Hills.—Sunday school anniversary was celebrated on Sept. 26. A. McDiarmid was speaker in afternoon and H. Earle in evening. The talks were interesting and entertaining to scholars, parents and friends. Kindergarten prizes were given out during afternoon. Bible school sang well under leadership of Miss N. Frieze, whose service in training school is appreciated. On Sept. 29 a large gathering enjoyed Sunday school concert. Items were given by each class in turn. Bible school prizes were distributed during evening. A group from church conducted service at Oakleigh Guest Home on Oct. 3. "Friends of Youth" held "Spring Fair" which created wide interest. A good afternoon rewarded months of enthusiastic preparation. Cricket and tennis clubs have entered teams in summer competitions. Explorer Club has been awarded pennant for best suburban club.

South Yarra.—At kindergarten demonstration on Oct. 10, Mr. Bosanquet gave an illustrated talk to large gathering of parents and friends. Baptist Sunday school was also present. Each scholar and child on cradle roll received a prize. On Oct. 13 Bible school gave a successful concert, and prizes gained during year were presented. Margaret Kerrison gained prize given each year for highest number of marks in annual scripture examination. At concert opportunity was taken to present Mr. and Mrs. Walters with a reading lamp and flowers in appreciation of their work as superintendents of Bible school and kindergarten. A gift was made to Miss Roberts as a token of esteem for her work among the girls. On Oct. 17 about 40 sat to youth tea, when there were two visiting speakers—Mr. Bruce Townsend, Mr. Trevor Fist. Mrs. Landry, an active worker in connection with the tea, was recipient of a small gift. At annual business meeting on Oct. 20, reports were given by secretary and leaders of auxiliaries. Election of officers: Secretary, E. Wilson; treasurer, Mr. Walters; deacons, J. Brown, F. Lewis, A. Davis, A. Searle, H. Harrison, A. Muir, J. Sinclair. Temple Day was observed on Oct. 17, collection amounting to £97. Church regrets passing of aged Mrs. Stafford after long illness. Mrs. Lewis, sen., is unable to attend services owing to badly spraining her ankle.

WANTED

Church family, including four members, requires house in Melbourne to rent or buy, preferably six rooms with garage. Can offer tenancy of house in Geelong in exchange.—Tippett, MX1107.

In Brisbane, double room, no meals, for two weeks. Leaving Melbourne Christmas night. Or exchange double bedroom, lounge and kitchen.—Apply Mrs. Wells, 61 Kerferd-rd., Albert Park, Vic.

Wanted urgently by young couple, no children, furnished or unfurnished flat, Footscray or Sunshine district. Reply "Country Girl," c/o Austral.

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To let for one month from Dec. 25, suburban home, modern, all conveniences, garage, frig., etc.—M.S., c/o Austral Co.

Comfortably furnished house, beach suburb, for ten days, mid January. Accommodate family of five. Apply to "Bayside," c/o Austral.

Accommodation at beach, two adults, Dec. 29-Jan. 12, all conveniences. Ring XW 3249, or write "Beach," c/o Austral.

BIRTH

MEYER (formerly of Berwick).—On Oct. 4, at Ipswich (Qld.) Private Hospital, to Nina and Ken—a son (Kenneth James).

DEATH

SARGENT.—On Oct. 30, at her daughter's residence, 10 Audley-st., E. Brunswick, Anne, beloved wife of the late John Sargent, formerly of Taradale, and dearly loved mother of Tom (dec.), John (dec.) and Mabel (Mrs. L. Scott); loved mother-in-law of Levert; aged 104 years and 5 months. The long day closes.

IN MEMORIAM

BENN.—Treasured memories of my dear husband and our beloved father, Adam Rea, who was called home on Nov. 13, 1939.

We thank God upon every remembrance of him.

—Inserted by his loving wife and family at Kaniva and Murrumbidgee.

STURGES.—In loving and cherished memory of my dear wife Lyla, and our beloved mother, who was called home suddenly on Nov. 11, 1943.

"Her courage and her love sublime
You could depend on all the time."
—Inserted by her loving husband, W. H. Sturges, and daughters, Myrtle (Mrs. J. E. Searle), Constance (Mrs. C. Daniell) and Alice (Mrs. V. White).

WHELAN.—Treasured memories of Joseph, loved husband of Florence Whelan, who was called home Nov. 9, 1938, at Chatswood, N.S.W.
"Loved with everlasting love" (Rom. 8: 38, 39).

SCRIPTURE CALENDARS

"Daily Light"—Clear type block with daily tear-off text mounted on card with colored picture. 3/3.

"Scripture Meditation"—Text and devotional reading for each day. Full picture back. 5/3.

"Daily Text"—Monthly tear-off pad with short daily text. Tinted card with floral or landscape picture. 1/1. (Postage extra.)

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HIGHFIELD ROAD, HARTWELL, BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

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.

ORMOND CHURCH CALLS TO YOUTH, SATURDAY, NOV. 13, UNITED YOUTH RALLY, commencing 7.45 p.m.

Music and items arranged by Mr. C. Gadge.

Films presented by Mr. R. J. Anderson.

Guest speaker, Mr. J. K. Bond.

Supper provided. All welcome.

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.

Soloists, Mavis Scott, Betty Salisbury. Organists, Bessie 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.

Drama arranged by Youth Council—"The Youth of To-day the Man of To-morrow."

FRANKSTON SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY. Dandenong-rd. and Beach-st.

Sunday, Nov. 14.—11 a.m., M. D. Williams.
3 and 7.30, L. E. Brooker.

Sunday, Nov. 21.—11 a.m., R. V. Holmes.
3 p.m., A. T. Fitzgerald.
7.30, T. Hagger.

Wednesday, Nov. 24, in Mechanics' Institute—Concert.

CHURCH OF CHRIST, WANGARATTA. TWENTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY SERVICES. NOVEMBER 14 and 17.

Nov. 14.—Home-coming Day Services.

Nov. 17.—Banquet and Thankoffering.

Speaker, Mr. A. E. Hurren,
President of Conference.

Greetings from former members will be appreciated.

DANDENONG CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

Nov. 14—3 p.m., Mr. J. Cunningham.
7 p.m., Mr. J. Cunningham.

Nov. 21—3 p.m., Visitor.
7 p.m., Mr. F. A. Youens.

All welcome.

SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE. 83rd HOMECOMING SERVICES, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14.

11 a.m.—A Service of Thanksgiving and Worship.
Preacher, Mr. K. A. Macnaughtan.

Subject, "The Church which is His Body."

3 p.m.—"World Crisis and a World Church."
Speaker, Mr. H. M. Arrowsmith, Vicar St. John's, Toorak.

Soloist, Mr. Don White.

7 p.m.—Choral Service. Preacher, Mr. K. A. Macnaughtan. Subject, "Whom We Preach."

Special music by choir and soloists.
Former members and friends invited to spend a day of fellowship and reunion at the city church.

CRUSADE FOR A CHRISTIAN WORLD.

Come to the
GREAT VICTORY IN CHRIST CRUSADE
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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.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND

BACK TO EAST IPSWICH SERVICES.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOV. 20 and 21
(Saturday's tea, 5.30 p.m.; Sunday's services at 11 and 7.15.)

Past members cordially invited.

If hospitality required for week-end, please contact E. Neumann, 87 Brisbane-rd., Booval.

A BROTHERHOOD FIXTURE.

COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE CLOSING
EXERCISES,

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26.

3 p.m., Ordination Service, Swanston-st. chapel.
Speaker, J. E. Allan

8 p.m., Graduation Service, Swanston-st. chapel.
Presentation of Diplomas. Items and speeches by students.

N.B.—Place of Graduation Service.

BEDFORD ROAD, RINGWOOD.

BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

11 a.m., Mr. J. E. Allan.
3 p.m., Mr. E. B. Robertson.
7 p.m., Mr. L. E. Brooker.
Basket tea at 5 p.m.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

LYGON ST. CHAPEL,

MONDAY, NOV. 29, 8 p.m.

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

Representative speakers.

Excellent programme: Miss Winifred Lee, Soprano; Miss Clair Saunders, Elocutionist; Mr. J. Osborne, Baritone; Miss M. Pittman, Organist.

FILL LYGON-ST. CHAPEL, NOVEMBER 29.

HOMECOMING SERVICES, PARKDALE, VIC.
NOVEMBER 28.

11 a.m., C. G. Taylor, B.A.
7 p.m., A. W. Stephenson, M.A.

Hospitality provided for all visitors.

Home mission offering to be received from local members.

BLACK ROCK CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Officers of the church cordially invite all past members and helpers and friends to our
TEMPLE DAY AND HOMECOMING SERVICES,
DECEMBER 11 and 12.

Special speakers; special singing. Every member present. Hospitality for all visitors.
Sunday Night, Dec. 12, Mr. Sewell's farewell service.

Obituary

Miss I. R. Lyall

EARLY on the morning of September 17, Miss I. R. Lyall, one of the most respected and best loved members of the Swanston-st. church, Melbourne, was called to be with her Lord. Her interests had covered all aspects of the work of the church. In earlier years she had been active in Bible school work as a teacher of girls' classes, and had also been a member of the choir, the work of which she continued to follow with interest all her life. She also took a keen interest in all aspects of the work of the sisters, especially being active in the Women's Mission Band. For some time she had suffered from severe heart attacks, and these prevented her, in recent months, from attending the services of the church she loved so well and to which she had devoted so many years of faithful labor. She was present at a service of the church on the second Sunday preceding her death; it seemed that, happily, she was permitted thus to resume that active association which had been hers for so long, and which she was so soon to put aside for a higher service. When the great call came Miss Lyall passed peacefully away in her sleep. The services in the home and at the graveside were conducted by the preacher of the church, associated with whom was Mr. J. Wiltshire. The deep sympathy of the church goes to all the relatives, among whom are numbered some of the most active members of the Swanston-st. assembly. Our condolences are extended particularly to Mrs. C. H. Lawson, a sister of Miss Lyall and now the only surviving member of the immediate family. "Until the day break, and the shadows flee away."—K.A.M.

Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS.

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

COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

ONE is caused to wonder on what authority (divine or otherwise) churches of Christ have the right to affiliate with the World Council of Churches that takes in all denominations.

Their only doctrine or affiliation, open to all churches, is the acceptance of the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour, which all denominations accept, even to the Roman Catholic, and I note in your issue of Aug. 17 they regard the W.C.C. with friendly interest, and have not affiliated although observers will attend conference. So is it not time some drastic efforts should be made to stem the tide of churches of Christ being swallowed up and swamped in denominationalism and so lose our identity as the body of Christ and our plea for a return to New Testament Christianity?

I believe and know when I was baptised into Christ I was born again according to God's word. Why did I come out of that which was to me a great sacrifice—and I could still enjoy just as sweet a fellowship to-day as I enjoy fighting and contending for "the faith once and for all delivered unto the saints," which carries with it obedience to our Lord's commands, otherwise one must be a disobedient believer.

If the pioneers of our movement could see, after such sacrifice, so many of our leaders breaking down the fences, and leading them back to those who mutilate, destroy or deny our Lord's commands, I am sure they would, with a righteous indignation, command, "Come ye out from among them and be ye separate."

pointing them "back to the old path" as the early disciples continued steadfast in the apostles' doctrine, and as Jesus said, "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you," and "Ye are my disciples if ye do whatsoever I command you."—F. J. Daniel, Launceston, Tas.

THANK YOU

A LITTLE time ago I requested our friends to pray for the work at Marree. I would like to say now that God is working in our midst. He is speaking to some by very tragic happenings; those who would not be persuaded by the tender appeal of his love. One woman to whom I had been definitely led to speak of the love of God to her, at first seemed impressed as the divine presence was very near, but she refused to mend her ways and now she is in hospital with a broken leg caused through drink, and it is more than likely she will never walk again. How tragic it is when we turn to our own way! However, we have had the joy of seeing one soul who was bound by the powers of evil, Annie by name, who says with pride that she comes from County Clare, Ireland, made a child of God by taking the Lord into her heart. By making clear to her the meaning of Revelation 3: 20, she promptly asked the Lord in. When visiting her again she said, "Everything is different now." So please continue to pray, for God answers prayer, and we thank you for remembering us, as the powers of the devil here are very real. In no more real way can we be "workers together with God," I think, than in this great work of intercession.—E. G. Rose, Marree, S.A.

A SELECTION OF BRITISH CHURCHES OF CHRIST LITERATURE

WHAT CHURCHES OF CHRIST STAND FOR. William Robinson, M.A., Principal, Overdale College. 1/6.

THE SHATTERED CROSS: The many churches and the one Church. W. Robinson. 2/6.

DISCIPLESHIP IN THE CHURCH. Jas. Gray, M.A. 6d.

TRAINING FOR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP. A. Williamson and J. L. Colver. 1/-.

HOLY ORDINANCES—A manual of instruction on the Lord's Supper and Baptism. W. Robinson. 1/6.

FOLLOWING CHRIST. Wm. Mander, B.A. 3d.

TOWARDS TRUE BAPTISM. Jas. Gray. 1/-.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER. W. Robinson. 1/6.

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The Australian Christian

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The Australian Christian

November 9, 1948

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st., Hampton, S.7.
Or to Mr. D. G. Hammer, Federal Sec.,
140 Barrack-st., Perth, W.A.

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