

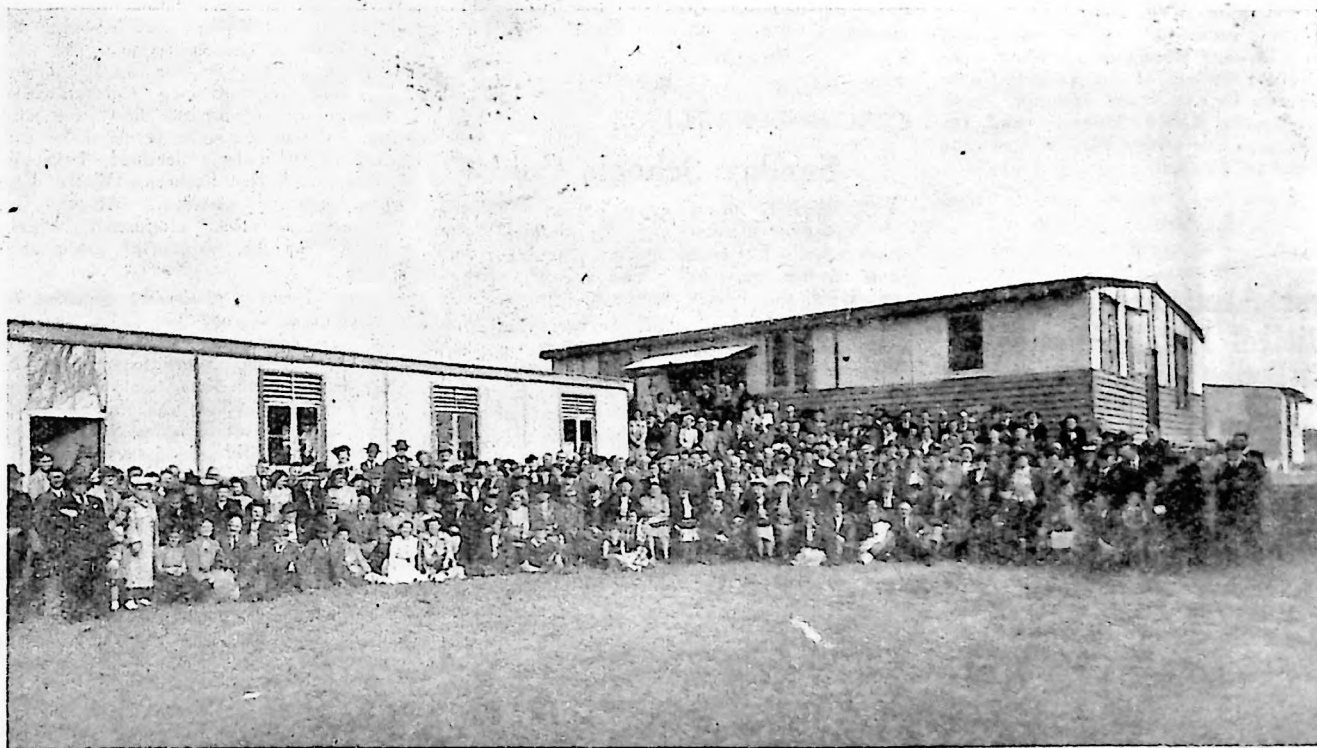
Woolley

The Australian Christian

6706/60

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ

YOUTH ACTIVITIES ENCOURAGED



Waterman's Bay Youth Camp Visited by Delegates at Federal Conference, Perth, W.A.

Church Encourages World Re-construction

RIO DE LA PLATA

Course of Study for Pastors

FOR the last sixteen years an annual course of study for pastors (Instituto de Pastores) has been held annually in the capital of the Argentine, for pastors from the Argentine and Uruguay, under the auspices of the Protestant Faculty of Theology in Buenos Aires. This summer about a hundred pastors met in July, representing some dozen denominations and some of the Protestant churches of the European colonies in Buenos Aires.

The subject for study this year was: "The Ministry in Face of the World To-day." It was introduced by pastors from the Methodist, Lutheran, Mennonite and Reformed churches and from the Disciples of Christ. After a lecture on "The Minister and His Relationship with the World Church," a discussion followed which showed that "the older pastors are strongly attached to their particular denominations, even while they approve of inter-confessionalism; but the younger pastors hope to see the day when the different denominations will be replaced by one single Protestant church of Argentine and Uruguay."



UNITED STATES

Stressing the Value of Church Papers

THREE leading Protestant churchmen have issued statements in connection with the observance of October as "Church Press Month," emphasising the value of church papers in the lives of Christian Americans. They were Charles P. Taft, President of the Federal Council of Churches; Dr. C. Oscar Johnson, President of the Baptist World Alliance; and Dr. Paul C. Empe, Executive Director of the National Lutheran Council.



INDIA

First Anniversary of Political Independence

ON August 15 India celebrated the first anniversary of its political independence. On this occasion Bishop A. Michael Hollis, Moderator of the United Church of South India, launched an appeal, which was published in "The Guardian" (Madras, August 19), in which he defines the responsibility of the church of South India and the responsibility of the people.

The bishop emphasised that this responsibility now rested on the shoulders of the people of India. He recalled the inauguration of the United Church of South India in September, 1947, after twenty-seven years of work and prayer. "Let no one exaggerate what happened. Christians form only a small minority of the people of India, and the Church of South India is only a minority within that minority. The Syrian Church—the oldest Christian group in this country here centuries before the rise of Islam—and the Roman Catholic Church, the largest Christian body, stand apart. There are many other forms of Christianity still separate." Nevertheless our united church has brought together many different groups, and as laid down in its constitution, "it is free from any control, legal or otherwise, of any church or

society external to itself." Christianity could no longer be suspected of being an alien influence—a suspicion which has hampered its work in the past.

"What is that work? . . . Christianity can never be content with social service alone. Mutual respect, mutual tolerance, a striving after mutual understanding: all these are vital in the India of the future. This demands that Hindus should realise that Christianity cannot admit that all religions are ultimately the same. By its very nature it must seek to win every man to its fellowship. The methods employed must be above criticism. Conversion, if there is conversion, must be the free choice of one of full age, a decision taken not for social or economic advantages, but in the inescapable conviction that this is the call of God.

"The Christian church must offer to all men Jesus Christ as the full and final self-revelation of God, the test of all philosophies and all religions. Christians believe that it is in him that the nations of the world must find peace and unity. Twenty-eight years ago a group of Christian leaders in South India began this movement for unity among Christians because they saw that a divided church is a very poor manifestation of a uniting Christ.

"The services which Christians have rendered and are rendering have won the recognition of many among the leaders and the people of India. God challenges the church today to commend in act and word his gospel of universal redemption, the redeeming love of God in Christ which is for the healing of the nations. Christians, whose home is in India, not seeking for what they as individuals or as a community can get but desiring to give all that they have, offer to India, their country, this fullest service."



CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Sunday Schools Gain

ACCORDING to a report from Dr. Adolf Novotny, secretary of the Sunday School Association of Czechoslovakia, Sunday schools show "a big increase." The greatest gain was shown by the Czech Brethren Church.

Over 500 Sunday school teachers and youth workers attended a teachers' training camp held at Comenius this summer. Meanwhile a special course for Sunday school workers attracted delegates from all Protestant denominations, as well as a number of teachers of religion in public schools.



EUROPE

Appeal for Action in Resettling Refugees

AN "Appeal for Action" to church congregations and agencies around the world, asking them to aid in resettling refugees from Europe and elsewhere, has been issued in Geneva on behalf of five religious organisations working among Protestant and Orthodox uprooted peoples.

The appeal is concerned with resettling refugees not only from among Europe's 800,000

displaced persons who come under the mandate of the International Refugee Organisation, but also from among the estimated 9,000,000 to 10,000,000 other uprooted peoples not eligible for I.R.O. care.

The appeal says:

"The Amsterdam Assembly of the World Council of Churches has underscored the urgency of resettling refugees, whose plight weighs upon the Christian conscience of the world. Even now the International Refugee Organisation is meeting to discuss this problem.

"In the final analysis the only way to enable these people to start a new life is to find homes and jobs for them. This can be done if every local congregation and Christian agency will take responsibility for securing work and housing for at least one family. Many of these uprooted people are fellow Christians from Protestant and Orthodox churches.



GERMANY

International Missionary Council and the German Mission

THE German Protestant Missionary Council held its annual conference from Sept. 19-24. It was attended by representatives of the International Missionary Council (including the general secretary from New York, Charles Ranson), of the Lutheran World Federation and of the London Missionary Society. Two representatives from the Batak Church of Sumatra—founded by the Rhineland Mission—also attended the end of the conference. It was the first time since the war that the I.M.C. sent so many representatives to the German Mission Conference. And for the first time since the war the German missions received "a complete picture of the unique brotherly help given by the I.M.C. and the Lutheran World Federation to the orphaned missions. All the German missionary societies eloquently expressed their thanks for this wonderful piece of ecumenical work."

The German missionary societies received the welcome news that "the I.M.C. and the Lutheran World Federation will make great efforts during the coming years to support the work of the German missions, the young churches which have grown up on the mission fields and the 444 German missionaries who are working today in the field."

The various reports and a large public meeting showed the non-German participants in the conference how the mission workers in Germany had loyally carried on their work during the last ten years. To-day a large number of young missionaries of excellent quality are being trained (about 200 men and 80 women, in addition to a number of theologians and doctors). The unity of the German missions was apparent, a real piece of ecumenism, for the missionary societies of all the German confessions collaborate closely in the German Missionary Conference. But the participants also realised more clearly the urgent needs of the German missions: the fact that up to the present it has been impossible to send out any new missionaries, and that owing to the currency reform 95 per cent. of the mission funds collected during the war has entirely lost its value. They discussed with the German missions new possibilities and ways of using the fresh contributions, which will come in in the new currency.—Items from E.P.S.

Christian Unity and Freedom

IN the current discussions about Christian union, there is much that may be associated with wishful thinking. There is nothing amiss in the mere desire to have a united church. It can be shown that the hope for a united church lies in the real spirit of Christ. Since he prayed for unity, then all who belong, in true essence, to him will have that same desire.

I.

THE desire for unity, however, must be more than a wish for unity. We may wish to have unity, but may have little desire to sacrifice or to encourage such Christian unity. Our wishes for church union must be brought down from a world of fancy to the realm of fact.

When we discuss the subject of Christian unity, we may lay down obligations which we ought to heed. But even if we fulfil those demands which we consider may lead to Christian unity, there is no guarantee that others will desire to unite with us. Despite the fact that we may show a real willingness to co-operate, there are religious groups who will refuse to be associated with us. What may be the ground of their refusal? It has been shown that there is no willingness to co-operate in united fellowship, unless we surrender our freedom to say what we consider to be the teachings of the New Testament church. It cannot be considered genuine church unity if qualified persons are denied the freedom to express and teach what is clearly taught as the practice of the New Testament church.

II.

PERHAPS it may be urged that private interpretations of the scriptures may lead to confusion. There is justice in such a claim. We do not, however, ask for the liberty to express a mere "private" interpretation of scripture. We do seek the right to set out clearly what are the recognised teachings and practices of New Testament Christianity. Scholarship points out clearly that New Testament Christians believed in the Person—Christ. Men were not asked to submit to written creeds, but all were requested to surrender life to that living person, Christ, the Lord. The New Testament makes it very evident that in the early church such a surrender of life to Christ was declared in a burial in water and in a resurrection from that water-grave. Scholars declare that the essential worship of New Testament Christians was centred in the Lord's Supper. Within the pages of the New Testament Christian scholars find no proof for the claim of dividing the church into "clergy" and "laity" or of the existence of a priestly class over and above the rank and file of church members. It is shown that all Christians are priests before God. The elaborate system of an hierarchy cannot be supported by any scholarly interpretation of the New Testament.

We only ask the right to speak what is explicitly revealed in the New Testament, and what was practised by the New Testament church.

III.

WE take up the position that the full truth of the Christian revelation is to be found in Christ. The apostles, since they were his pupils, would know how to apply their Master's teachings to practical affairs. Within the New Testament church, under the guidance of the apostles, we see the effectual outworking of Christ's teachings. Because such truths and practices are so related to the early church, we believe they ought to be the only essential truths observed in the modern church.

We do not ask, therefore, for the right to express publicly and provocatively private interpretations of scripture. We are aware such private interpreta-

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tions cause division. We claim only the liberty to stand by, and to teach, what Christian scholars of all ages have stated to be the essential teachings and practices of the church of the New Testament.

The consensus of such scholarly views is no mere weak private opinion; it is strong and authoritative, because it is founded in the truth.

To remove the present talk about Christian unity from the dangers associated with all wishful thinking, it must be grounded in the facts of New Testament teaching, as interpreted by qualified and rational scholarship down through the Christian ages. To deny anyone the right of co-operation and Christian fellowship because one stands by such a universal position is certainly not likely to assist the church realise Christian unity in this era.

We urge, then, that it is not enough for us to be willing to co-operate with others, if the cause of unity is to be advanced. There ought to be, on the part of all church groups, the willingness to grant to all the freedom to present those New Testament truths which have the support of genuine, spiritual and Christian scholarship of the church of all ages.



This Unprogressive Age

TO progress is to go forward. The term "progress" suggests improvement. Now this age is bringing in a new world order. However, everything new is not better. The brave new world to which we are moving is likely to be more disappointing to more people than this present world is.

That men have souls and that there are spiritual values in society are facts being ignored in this new world now developing. How can men be happy and enjoy peace in such a world? If we continue to move in this direction, and there is no repentance, we are certain to crash headlong into wars more dreadful than the last. "After analysing the more than 900 international wars and the more than 1600 domestic broils recorded during the last 25 centuries, Professor P. A. Sorokin came to the conclusion that our own age was by far the bloodiest in history."

It is evident, then, that the mechanical improvements to our civilisation have not brought progress. Aldous Huxley writes, "Thanks to applied science we can now live in skyscrapers, work at foolproof machines in hygienic factories, amuse ourselves effortlessly by turning on the radio—and so on. Moreover we have a longer expectation of life than did our ancestors, a lower rate of infantile mortality and infectious diseases. And how do we respond to these symptoms of 'progress'? By developing an unprecedented number of neuroses and psychoses; by exhibiting a rapidly mounting incidence of such incapacitating psychosomatic disorders as peptic ulcer, asthma, cardio-vascular complaints, rheumatism, diabetes. As Dr. Halliday has pointed out in his recent *Psychosocial Medicine*, these psychosomatic disorders have now reached the proportions of a rapidly spreading epidemic. The nations of the West are all 'sick societies.'" How long will modern man continue to ignore the words of the psalmist. "Be still and know that I am God"? The plea that Jesus made to his generation must be heeded by the people of this era. "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness," Jesus said. Let us reduce the pace of life and learn from Jesus the secrets of the good life.

Christian Ideals in a Non-Christian Country

THE mistaken attitude of the Europeans to the civilisation of India, may be gauged by the fact that when Columbus stumbled on the Americas while searching for India, he mistook the savage Americans for Indians, a mistake which has been perpetuated ever since. When traders of the East India Company 300 years ago and Protestant missionaries 150 years ago went to India, they also imagined that when they arrived in India they would find an uncivilised country, and would be intensely surprised to find that much of the culture which they fondly thought was European was in reality drawn from India itself. For instance, the actual signs used for numbers used by the traders came to Europe from India, although through the Arabs. The Indians had an elaborate system of mathematics when Europe had no knowledge of the science of mathematics. It was found that the Indians had a good system of astronomy, which enabled them to accurately predict the movements of the heavenly bodies. It was found that when the most ancient of European literature was still being written, the Indians had had literary compositions for scores of centuries. They found that while the European systems of government were still in a very early stage of development, a most remarkable system of government had been in operation in India for at least three thousand years, in the shape of the caste system, which, being based on theocracy, answered all the problems of suffering, and made people in all conditions of life satisfied with their conditions—a thing which our vaunted democratic systems have not yet accomplished! Thus they found when they came to know the country that a civilisation had been developed in India which had stood the shocks of existence for four or five thousand years.

On further acquaintance with the people and conditions of the country, however, they found that while this culture certainly existed, its benefits were entirely reserved for the Brahmins and the higher castes. The Brahmins prized their culture so much that they would not share it with others. The standard of education which was necessary for the production of, and understanding of, their literature was kept strictly for the Brahmins. In the villages there was absolute illiteracy, and the inhabitants were not even taught to make the simplest of calculations. They found that caste, that great system of government, made for the existence of a form of slavery which did not even meet the obligations of slavery, for the depressed classes were forced to work without even the certainty of sufficient food. It was found that while a civilisation did actually exist, it was an utterly selfish one, in which its benefits were seized exclusively by the higher castes.

They found that India three hundred years ago was an intensely religious country, and that great efforts had been made by great religious leaders to find God. The great religions of India are all evidences of that fact. The people who have evolved Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Sikhism, not to mention the more nebulous theosophy which appeals to so many people to-day, must have had a strong religious bias. It was found that India is a land where great devotion to their conception of God has been shown. Great temples have been erected, with distinctive types of architecture. Temples which stagger the imagination have been carved of the solid rock. They leave one with only a vague sense of the intensity of the sustained devotion of many generations of worshippers. It was found that many forms of worship were carried out, from the quiet contemplation characteristic of so many of the Hindu saints, to the noisy and excitable demonstrations such as the Jagannath processions, when the worshippers in an excess of frenzied devo-

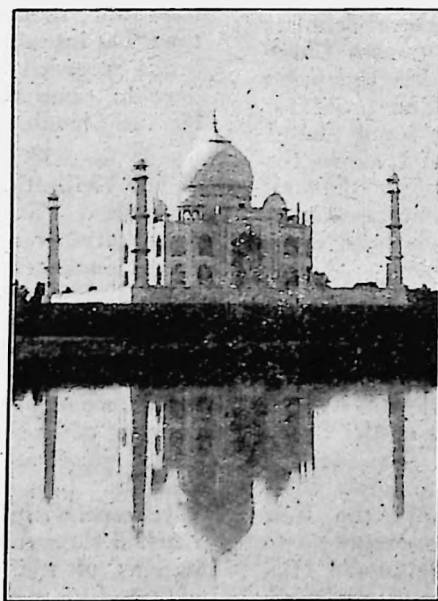
★ G. H. Oldfield, M.B., B.S., D.T.M., outlines the development of Christian missions in India. This is the first of two articles on this fascinating theme.

tion would actually throw themselves below the wheels of the chariot carrying the image of the god. They found that many thousands of worshippers were willing to torture themselves in amazing ways, in order to conquer their fleshly desires and make themselves more worthy of being "temples of the spirit of God." They found people going on long pilgrimages so that they might worship God in some specially holy place. They would see in those days, as we can see at the present day, people measuring their length upon the ground for hundreds of miles, in order to prove their devotion to God. Through the ages there have been many great Hindu saints such as Tukaram and Ramdas, whose teachings have great religious value, culminating in the production of a Gandhi. They found three hundred years ago that there was a great religious literature in existence. The Vedas, the Puranas, the epic poems such as the Mahabharata, and the beautiful hymns—the Gitas such as the famous Bhagwad Gita. They found, however, that all the benefits of religion were for the higher castes. The Brahmins dominated every phase of religion, and considered it a sin for one of their number to share the real beauties of the religion with others. It was found that only the Brahmins were allowed to read the sacred books. The very temples erected to show devotion to God would be defiled by the presence of an untouchable, and were therefore closed to the lower castes. Temple worship was allowed to degenerate until even prostitution was allowed as a means of raising money for the priests. In the course of time pilgrimages lost much of the sense of worship and became merely pleasure jaunts for the majority. The mag-

nificent rock temples were allowed to get into a state of decay, until protected by a foreign government! Whatever was real in their religion was used selfishly. The rank and file of the Hindus did not really know what good things their religion contained.

Those who contacted the Indians for the first time three hundred years ago were surprised to find that the Indians, whom they expected to find uncivilised, had a system of medicine which had existed for four thousand years, a system which knew and used many really good medicines, and which had a fair knowledge of surgery, beyond what was known in Europe at that time. It has been demonstrated that at the time when Jesus manifested himself in human form—in the days of his flesh—the Hindu doctors knew how to deal with fractured limbs, could operate on abscesses, could perform amputations and obstetric operations, and had schools for the study of the art of medicine and surgery. It was also found, however, that the benefit of all this skill was reserved for city dwellers. The doctors would not go into the villages where they would not have the amenities of their civilisation. Their ministrations were reserved for the rich, and it was the custom for the doctor to receive great fees before treatment was made. That meant that the benefit of their skill was entirely reserved for the rich—and the others could die for all that they cared about it. Medicine was entirely selfish in their civilisation.

What happened when Christian missions came to India? The early missionaries expected that they would have to win India through the higher castes. They tried to reach them—and failed. Later on they went to the depressed classes, the outcastes—and succeeded. When converts were made the missionaries realised the responsibilities of success, for they began a very simple type of social service. A man who became a Christian could not be allowed to starve, but was given work of some sort so that he could be kept. Teachers were needed to reach other Indians, and so it became a policy that all converts should be educated as far as was possible. William Carey, learned Sanscrit as well as Bengali so that he might appeal to India through its own culture. The responsibility for education of the children of Christians was realised and schools were established, which were to develop later on into large colleges under unified mission boards. When they saw the plight of orphans, especially in times of famine, they commenced orphanages, which have proved to be of immense value since, for they have been the source of many of our finest mission workers. With the aid of Indian co-workers, the missions have been enabled to reach great numbers of the poor and uneducated people of India with the gospel, and as the higher caste people are seeing what a wonderful change Christianity is making in the lower castes, many of them are investigating to see what it is that has raised these, whom they classed as "lower than dogs." It has been demonstrated to the Indian people that even the outcastes have a personality which is precious in the sight of God, and that worship and devotion are possible to even the very poorest. The result is that now the Christian population number about eight millions, and as a consequence of the farsighted policy of missions generally in educating the Christian converts and their children, they exercise an influence greater than is commensurate with their numbers. Individual Indian Christians have been so well educated that they can take positions of leadership, and they have weight in the community generally. It is an aim of the missions that the Indians, in being Christianised shall not be un-Indianised.



A Typical Indian Temple.

The Australian Christian

A CRUSADE FOR A CHRISTIAN WORLD

Aims for the Total Brotherhood

1. DAILY READING AND MEDITATION UPON GOD'S WORD BY EVERY CHURCH MEMBER.
2. INCREASED ATTENDANCE AT BOTH MORNING AND EVENING SERVICES OF THE CHURCH.
3. THREE THOUSAND CONVERSIONS.
4. THREE THOUSAND RESTORATIONS TO CHURCH MEMBERSHIP.
5. THREE THOUSAND ADDITIONS TO BIBLE SCHOOLS.
6. FIVE HUNDRED TRAINING FOR LEADERSHIP.
7. FIFTY RECRUITS FOR THE CHRISTIAN MINISTRY AND MISSION FIELD, AND THIRTY NURSES AND MAIDS FOR OUR HOMES.
8. ONE HUNDRED PER CENT OF MEMBERS PRACTISING STEWARDSHIP BY PROPORTIONATE GIVING.
9. EVERY MEMBER CONTRIBUTING TO BROTHERHOOD OFFERINGS, AND A MEMBER OF THE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION.

Aims for This Church

1. _____ PLEDGED FOR DAILY DEVOTIONS.
2. _____ ATTENDING MORNING AND EVENING SERVICES.
3. _____ CONVERSIONS.
4. _____ RESTORATIONS.
5. _____ ADDITIONS TO BIBLE SCHOOL.
6. _____ TRAINING FOR LEADERSHIP.
7. _____ RECRUIT FOR THE MINISTRY, MISSION FIELD, HOMES.
8. _____ PROPORTIONATE GIVERS.
9. _____ CONTRIBUTORS TO BROTHERHOOD OFFERINGS AND MEMBERS OF C.F.A.

ACHIEVEMENT CHART

	MEMBERS PLEDGED	CHURCH ATTENDANCE		CONVERSIONS	RESTORATIONS	ADDITIONS TO BIBLE SCHOOL	TRAINING FOR SERVICE	RECRUIT FOR MIN- ISTRY, THE MISSION FIELD, HOSPITALS	PROPORTIONATE GIVERS	BROTHERHOOD CONTRIBUTORS AND MEMBERS C.F.A.
		A.M.	P.M.							
Jan. 31, 1949										
July 31, 1949										
Jan. 31, 1950										
July 31, 1950										

ON EACH OF THE FOUR DATES THE PROGRESSIVE TOTAL IS TO BE SHOWN.

ON THE LAST DATE, JULY 31, 1950, THE TOTALS SHOULD BE AS HIGH AS THE AIMS IN THE RIGHT-HAND TOP CORNER.

Science has given us undreamt-of power. Scientists are appalled by man's irresponsibility. Man's inventions destroy him. The world is assailed by doubts and fears; Christians are challenged to daring, adventurous expression of their faith. A Christian approach to man's problems, in commerce, academic achievement, politics and statesmanship! Twelve thousand members of churches of Christ are being challenged to recruit six thousand additional members. The above chart is designed to give a graphic picture of achievement in 127 Victorian churches in the next two years.—S. Neighbour.

Crusade Dinner in Adelaide

THE president of the South Australian Conference, Dr. Trevor Turner, who is also chairman of the Crusade Committee, invited preachers, church secretaries and representatives of women's groups, to an invitation tea on Nov. 9. Ninety-one responded to the invitation to tea, and eight others came to the crusade discussion that followed. Every suburban church was represented with the exception of three, and several country churches sent representatives.

After tea there was an adjournment to the lounge for discussion. Time was spent first of all in working out local crusade plans covering the enlistment of members as crusaders, crusade fellowship dinners and dedication services, special prayer and Bible reading, and a variety of methods of evangelism. This was followed by the crusade secretary, A. J. Fisher, outlining crusade progress in our churches and also crusading being conducted by other communions and religious bodies. The last part of the evening was given over to practical suggestions for visitation evangelism from J. Cain, and general questions.

The response to the suggestions was enthusiastic, and these key workers have gone back to their churches to implement plans which we hope will effect, under the Spirit of God, a resurgence of Christian life, and the winning of many to acceptance of Christ.—G. R. Stirling.

Fellowship by Radio

THE value of the radio for religious purposes seems to be impressing the minds of God's people with increasing intensity. The early reluctance to broadcast a service containing the observance of the Lord's Supper is rapidly giving way to a willingness, yea, even an eagerness, to share this with other brethren who are not able to attend the chapel service, but who could enjoy personal fellowship by means of the radio.

The church at Swan Hill (Vic.) rejoices in the opportunity of sharing the morning service every four weeks with an ever increasing invisible congregation. The ready co-operation of the local station, and the willingness to assist in every way, is most satisfactory.

The character of the meeting is left entirely with the church, and freedom of procedure and utterance is afforded. The circuit church at Woorinen quickly realised the value of this broadcast, and installed a receiving set in the chapel. The Lord's Table is prepared, and the hymns to be used in the service placed on the board. Appointed brethren assist at the table,

and the whole procedure is conducted in accordance with the church at Swan Hill. Others are doing this in their homes. Isolated members link up in their homes or outback farms and in areas where there is no church meeting. One lady confined to her bed for some time shared the supper with her husband and participated in the listening fellowship. In the kitchen of a farmhouse a man, who is a member of the church, and his two sisters, who had not made a confession of their faith in the Lord Jesus, listened to the service and afterwards sent for the preacher. The two ladies later confessed their faith, whilst in the same kitchen, and were baptised soon afterwards.

News has come in that the church at War-racknabeal has installed a receiving set in the chapel, and whilst without the services of a preacher, will share in this radio link-up. Some members from Minyip have also indicated their intention of doing the same thing.

The realisation of this unseen but quite large fellowship has stimulated the church at Swan Hill. The meetings are not very large, but there has come the consciousness that God has much people sharing in the fellowship. The practice of setting up the Lord's Table and participating in the radio link-up is recommended to all brethren laboring under conditions as mentioned here, and a copy of the service could be posted to anyone desiring it. The next broadcast will take place on Dec. 5 at 11 a.m.—A. W. C. Candy.

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November 23, 1948

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AUSTRALIAN ROUND-UP

Jubilee of Church at Bayswater, Vic.

ON Nov. 7 golden jubilee of church was celebrated. A day of great fellowship was enjoyed. Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Combridge and daughter travelled from Kaniva. Morning service was presided over by first Sunday school superintendent, T. Clements. Mr. Combridge gave an excellent address. About eighty sat for dinner. In afternoon building was filled, 135 being present. Mr. Combridge presided and A. Hurren addressed meeting. A choir, under Mr. Gadge's leadership, helped in afternoon and evening services.

Evening service was a climax for day, chapel being filled. F. Langford was chairman and Mr. Combridge preached helpfully. The church has been blessed and stimulated by the meetings.



Service Among Aborigines

TO take advantage of the splendid offer of the Campbell Edwards Trust Fund pound for pound subsidy, the Aborigines Mission Board is inviting contributions from interested members of our churches. It is intended that £165 be raised for the Carnarvon plant, and the trust will donate the other half of the outstanding cost. Then the remainder will go to pay for the Norseman plant. Folders have been prepared, setting out the advantages of the electric lights to the missions, and these are being sent to C.E. societies and youth groups throughout Australia. It is hoped that from these groups, and other interested friends, the whole cost of these installations will be met before the Aborigines Mission Board offering in February. The board needs to have the total annual offering free for the provision of sufficient staff and efficient running of the missions.



Young People's Activities

VICTORIA

THREE hundred and sixty Good Companions broke all attendance records at the annual sports day held in Fawkner Park on Saturday, Nov. 13. North Fitzroy girls were first in both first and second degree competitions, while Balwyn and Moreland were runners-up respectively. Thanks is expressed to P. Foster and his team who took charge of the afternoon.

The Phi Beta fraternal and the Good Companion executive are together planning the annual week-end camp for leaders of girls' work to be held at Monbulk in January.

The conference of youth directors from all States held at Perth Oct. 12 to 14, proved helpful in co-ordinating all activity. Opportunity was taken to discuss Sunday school lesson material with the chairman of the Austral Graded Lesson Board, R. Enniss. A conference is being called for March, 1949, at Melbourne, of all State youth directors and the board controlling the Austral graded lessons.

Many Bible school superintendents have been exchanging visits to see how it is done in other schools. If any superintendent has not had a visit arranged, ring Miss Bates, Central 5100.

On Nov. 13, the Bible School Committee visited Cheltenham for a district Bible school workers' conference. Subjects taken were worship, junior and intermediate expression work, teaching, and general school problems. A number of schools are now doing expression work during the session in the junior and

intermediate departments. It is a definite aid to teaching and a sure interest creator. Ring Miss Bates again about this, or call at youth office and get the suggestions which will enable you to commence this work.

It is regretted that Miss J. Andrews has been away from the office for some time on account of illness. Miss Gill has also been ordered by her doctor to have a brief rest. We hope these workers will soon be restored to health.

V. Longthorpe, an active member of the Bible School Committee, has been accepted for entrance to the College of the Bible.

The "Leaders' Kit" is to assist all youth workers. There will be items of interest for all interested in youth activity. The subscription commences January 1, and you should send your order now to the youth office. Every teacher, leader, secretary, treasurer, executive member and church officer should be a subscriber.

On Saturday, November 27, C.E. Societies will make their annual visit to the Burwood Boys' Home.

Application forms for the Christmas camp are part of the November C.Y.F. newsreel. We hope some of our country young people will be able to come to Monbulk this Christmas.—B. F. Huntsman.



Christian Reconstruction Needed

(New South Wales News-Letter.)

THE need for the recognition of spiritual values was stressed by three speakers on Remembrance Day. Archbishop Mowll said: "The world as we have known it, is breaking up. Even if the world breaks up, there is still hope. Nobody talks to-day of society undergoing economic collapse, or moral collapse, for it is all too clear that the only kind of collapse is total collapse." Economic and moral collapse had come because of a collapse in the realm of the human spirit. The call of the hour is to witness to our faith, especially on the part of Christian laymen.

Horace Read, chairman of the Congregational Union, said that despite man's recuperative powers and will to survive, there could be no real ground for optimism apart from Christian principle and practice. Another speaker, Lieut.-General S. F. Rowell, speaking in St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, said that corruption in high places, lack of leadership, disrespect for law and order, and dangerous pressure groups mark the effect of two wars on Australia. This was an occasion when one might well be stirred to action. He warned that "unless we can make the sacrifices that leadership requires, we shall be at the mercy of a subversive minority that is already destroying our social life and our moral standards."

A report comes from Montreal that a Roman Catholic priest, Edward Sheridan, who recently visited Europe, announced that the Vatican had made plans to maintain papal authority in the event of an emergency. A young cardinal of the Western Hemisphere has been named to act as Vicar for the Holy Father if the Pope and the Vatican should suddenly find themselves isolated, whether by war, communist threat, or even an Italian Government which did not have the support of the people.

For some time now there has been uneasiness at the Vatican, and there have been fears that Rome may, in the near future, see the exodus of the Pope from Italy. Rome's political intrigues are again beginning to have serious reactions. Several countries, including Australia, have been mentioned as the possible home of the Vatican should things become too hot in the land that has been the "Holy See" for so many centuries. Anyhow, it is significant that such emergency measures should even be considered necessary. In 1870 Victor Emmanuel, King of Italy, entered Rome on Sept. 20 and overthrew and terminated the temporal power of the Pope, who became a "prisoner in the Vatican." Is the time at hand when Rome and Italy are to be freed from the dominance of Vatican influence, and some other country to fall under its blight?

Municipal elections are pending in Sydney, and serious consideration is being given to the possibility of electing aldermen who will oppose the use of parks for organised sport on Sundays. The proper observance of the Lord's day has always been held as sacred by most Christians. Organised sport in parks and recreation grounds, together with concerts, socials and dances, both in public halls and church halls, are a grave menace to the sanctity of the Lord's day. Most parks and recreation areas are under the control of municipal councils. It is, therefore, essential that aldermen be elected who are pledged to uphold such sanctity. Christian people are being urged to carry out their responsibility at the ballot box. While it is true that the church cannot enter into party politics, it is necessary that Christian men should nominate for positions of government, and equally necessary that Christians should support such candidates at the ballot box.

The writer was conducting a tent mission at Canley Vale, but only nine meetings had been held when a terrific wind storm destroyed the tent. It might be possible to repair the tent, but the cost would be too great to warrant repairs. New South Wales readers might note this, and contribute toward the purchase of a new tent.

The loss of the tent seriously affected the mission. Attendances in the chapel were much smaller. Speaking of missions, at the time of writing a mission is being conducted at Lidcombe by J. Luff and L. Dewberry. The mission is being held in the chapel.—E. Davis.



Is There a Piano For Carnarvon Mission?

MR. AND MRS. REESON have been making enquiries with a view to purchasing a piano, at their own expense, partly for purpose of music lessons for their children, and also for use of mission. Carnarvon mission has only an old organ as musical instrument for all purposes.

The Aborigines Mission Board feels that there may be someone in our brotherhood who has a piano in good order, who may be willing to dispose of it for such a useful purpose. Perhaps it may be offered as a gift or sold to mission at a reasonable figure. For climatic conditions at Carnarvon, expert advice is that a piano must have full iron frame and, preferably, be the older type of full-sized instrument. The board will gladly pay the necessary costs of transporting a suitable instrument to Carnarvon. If any reader can help, please write to organising secretary, David G. Hammer.

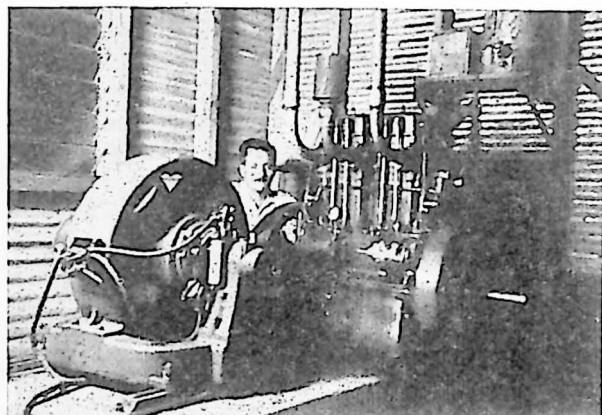
Here and There

At Hinrichsen-Machin mission, Subiaco, W.A., marquee was crowded on evening of 21st, when two men confessed Christ.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Smith, missionaries returning from Pentecost, New Hebrides, are not expected to reach Sydney until mid-December.

Mrs. G. Waterman, missionary from Aoba, New Hebrides, is making satisfactory progress after operation in the Royal Melbourne Hospital.

Our Foreign Mission Board has announced that Miss Caldicott and Mrs. Vawser are expected to sail from India on Nov. 13 by the "Stratheden." On Dec. 15, Mr. Ron McLean, accompanied by his wife (Miss Phyl Dyer and Mr. McLean are to be married on Dec. 4) is planned to leave Sydney for New Hebrides.



LIGHT FOR CARNARVON

Electric light at the Carnarvon mission is a great help to workers. Here is S. H. Reeson standing behind the E.L. plant. It consists of a 10 h.p. Lister diesel engine and a 7½ K.V.A. generator. This plant produces enough current to provide over 100 points. The voltage is 220 d.c., making it possible for most electric utensils of city homes to be used. The Campbell Edwards Trust Fund is providing a pound for pound subsidy. The board is seeking £165.

When it was learned that Sitabai, a Bible-woman, Shrigonda, India, was very ill, Mr. Anderson, secretary of F.M. Board, sent out an appeal to buy a goat to meet her needs. Mrs. R. Oliver, of Balwyn, Vic., in response to the call, took up the responsibility of collecting funds, and raised £47.

At the last meeting of the Victorian Home Mission Committee, the treasurer revealed a deficit in the general working account. To wipe out this debt and to maintain a progressive programme for 1949, a large offering is needed. "Double your usual contribution," the organising secretary has suggested in his appeal to church members.

Mrs. E. S. Darch, who took up membership with church at Dandenong, Vic., a few months ago, writes to express appreciation of the generous and practical help the church brethren gave on the farm after the death of her husband. Being without relatives in Australia, she has not been able to cope with the situation alone. Mrs. Darch says, "The willing help and sympathy of these fellow church members have made us feel very much part of a big Christian family."

R. Wilson Black, in "Joyful Tidings," writes: "Critics of the modern trend in British life found much to support them in the press reports. The 'Monthly Digest of Statistics' just published revealed that our national expenditure on tobacco in the first three months of this year was £185,000,000, and on alcoholic drinks £175,000,000. In 1938 the quarterly average was £44,000,000 (tobacco) and £71,000,000 (alcoholic drinks). Even allowing for the increase in prices, especially of tobacco, this means a marked increase in consumption. For a nation whose economic position is so perilous to be spending £360,000,000 a quarter on tobacco and drink is nothing less than appalling. Much of the increase, there can be little doubt, is attributable to young people who, in proportion to their contribution to the economic life of the country, have too much money and appear

to have little sense of responsibility in the use of it."

A. L. Haig, one of the British and Foreign Bible Society's two secretaries for Europe, has recently been to Hungary, his first visit there since 1940. "In spite of the unsettled political situation," he writes, "Hungarians are working hard to build up something of what was destroyed in the war. It was a great encouragement to find how much the Bible Society's work was appreciated in Hungary. The total circulation during the war years, 1940 to 1944, amounted to 503,188 copies, whereas the circulation in the previous five years of peace amounted to 422,822 copies. All the signs in Hungary point to the fact that the demand for the Bible is growing and will grow."

demonstration. Trophies were awarded for character and ability, best improved, and best all-round. Echoes of Federal Conference were given at midweek service and church was addressed by Mr. Anderson on conference doings. Three members of Bible school training class have accepted Christ. Another wishes to further follow his Master in baptism. School made annual cot offering and church contributed to B. & F. Bible Society. Fifty men gathered for tea on Nov. 14. Matters pertaining to reading, presiding, etc., were carefully studied under leadership of Mr. Sherman and Mr. Anderson. At night a men's service was conducted.

Church and Communism

★ S. H. Wilson, of Tasmania, reports on views of church leaders and youth activities.

BOTH Methodists and Anglicans, at their respective synods, have made pronouncements concerning communism.

The report of the Methodist Young People's Department said: "The principle of communism—'from each according to his ability; to each according to his need' is good, and must be endorsed by any Christian." But it went on to say that no Christian can accept the Marxist philosophy on which communism is based. It described Marxism as a materialist philosophy, which denies the efficacy of spiritual values. The report denounced what it called "unreasoning antipathy" to communism in the following words: "We deplore the fact that the term 'communism' arouses an unreasoning antipathy in the minds of otherwise sane citizens. Those who attack communism must first understand what it means."

The Bishop of Tasmania in his opening address to synod said: "Mankind finds itself threatened by the new menace of Marxian communism. Christians must repudiate this form of communism, and it must condemn the cruelties, injustice and lying propaganda which are inherent in it. But they cannot ignore certain lessons which are to be learnt from the unquestionable fact that communism has awakened a disciplined response in the minds of many, to whom it appears as a protest against social injustice. In a very real sense," the bishop added, "there is here a judgment on the church and on society."

Ministers and Motors

The connexional secretary for Methodist Home Missions in Tasmania has put a scheme before synod which involves the raising of £30,000 to establish a fund from which to assist ministers to buy or recondition their cars. The scheme provides for an advance of 80 per cent. of the cost on an interest-free loan, repayable by ten annual instalments. A levy of 1½ per cent. on circuit revenue is proposed, and it is suggested that every congregation gives one Sunday's offering annually to maintain the fund. The scheme will be considered by the Methodist conference in Melbourne next year.

Youth Activities

The State Youth Committee has conducted its second salvage drive in Launceston this year. As a result of the collection of newspapers, bottles, magazines and clothes, the funds of the Federal Aborigines' Board and the Federal College of the Bible will benefit by five guineas each. Bethany Boys' Home and the City Mission received gifts of clothing and the General Hospital medicine bottles and magazines.

Plans are advanced and applications are coming in for the Christmas youth camp to be held at Longford this year. F. T. Morgan, of Box Hill, Vic., is camp leader. The minimum age limit for campers has been lowered from 16 to 14 years, and the usual camp fee of three guineas has been reduced to thirty shillings. It is expected that a number of secondary school pupils will thus be able to take advantage of these alterations and attend camp.

News of the Churches

Queensland

Kedron.—A week's mission conducted by Scotty Gibb, elder of church of Christ, North Auburn, Sydney, resulted in a time of spiritual blessing. Five persons made their decision for Christ, including four Sunday school scholars and one adult, and there were three reconsecrations. A manse has been purchased for church. Sisters' Guild is very active, and much creative work is being done. Lord's day monthly youth service and tea have been stimulating and helpful. Recent life testimony was given at service by a medical doctor of Brisbane Military Hospital and by a student doctor at University, and at fellowship tea a talk was given by a B. & F. Bible Society representative.

Western Australia

South Perth.—Since Hinrichsen-Machin mission work has been well maintained. Two years ago, when meetings commenced, 15 attended, and at anniversary service on Nov. 16 attendance was 120. The second anniversary was held on Nov. 14. Aim of every member present was marred owing to heavy storm. On Tuesday, anniversary was continued, when a dinner was held and a film concluded evening. Mr. Scotland gave a review of youth work, and secretary, Mr. Wesley, spoke on building project. I. Nixon, the preacher, gave a short address. Church is planning visitation evangelism and during next twelve months to extend the work. The cause is self-supporting from start, and preacher is I. W. Nixon, who is doing a good work among young people and has endeared himself to all members.

South Australia

Queenstown.—Attendances have been good recently, and members are enjoying addresses of Mr. Graham. On Nov. 13, Girls' Wattle Club held annual fair, proceeds reaching over £50. The club distributes this money to different institutions.

Kilburn.—Church appreciated visit from members of Maylands church, who conducted 11.15 a.m. service on Nov. 14. Mr. Lomas presided and addressed 30 young worshippers. P. Magarey and D. Fopp read scriptures, and A. H. Wilson gave an appreciated address to 29 adults. Mr. and Mrs. P. Roberts and Mrs. Saunders were present, having returned from holiday. Attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school was 97, including a new scholar. 7 p.m. gospel service was addressed by F. Collins. At recent teachers' meeting F. Lawrance was appointed vice-superintendent of Bible school and Sister C. Kelly vice-superintendent of kindergarten. A. S. Mackenzie is thanked for making 12 wooden baskets for kindergarten Christmas tree.

Stirling East.—Work is progressing favorably. Morning services continue to average 40 present. Collection for United Nations appeal for children was well responded to and £19 was raised. Local crusade committee is active and making plans to help create enthusiasm. Mr. Cain has given helpful addresses on the subject. Other speakers have been J. Hemer, R. Knight and Mr. Lundberg, from Protestant Federation, gave a most appreciated address. Ladies held a successful "bright hour" meeting in October, when Mrs. L. J. Miller spoke on United Nations appeal for children, and Misses Elsie and Gladys Woolley provided entertainment. There were 32 present, and collection was £5/15/-. Bible school attendances are increasing again, and all efforts are being made to maintain present progress.

Fullarton.—Work continues to progress. Attendances are good, and contributions splendid. Since opening of new conference year there have been 16 additions—seven by faith and baptism and nine by transfer, with losses nil. At morning service on Nov. 14, B. W. Manning gave a good exposition. Two were received into fellowship by obedience to their Lord—Elva Philp and Margaret Hooper, from Bible school. Shirley Sanderson was received by transfer. At evening service E. H. Swann, of B. & F. Bible Society, gave an illustrated address with lantern. £3/15/6 was contributed to funds of society.

Nailsworth.—During A. J. Fisher's visit to Murray Bridge for S.S. anniversary, A. Farrow and W. Green conducted services. On Nov. 11 Mrs. Charlick, Mrs. Farrow and Mr. Dockett, returned from Federal Conference, gave "conference echoes" at a special session of mid-week service. On Nov. 12 a truck-load of Endeavorers went to Salisbury to participate in half-yearly district rally. On Nov. 16 Ladies' Guild held closing session for year, completing a lot of useful work for missions, hospitals and kindergarten. A regular supply of food parcels has been sent to England and India, and many appreciative replies have been received. At father and son banquet on Nov. 16 Dr. C. Duguid addressed meeting on "Peace if You Wish It." Questions followed. Meeting was well attended, and the address was most instructive. All auxiliaries are functioning satisfactorily.

New South Wales

Chatswood.—During absence of R. V. Amos in Melbourne through ill-health, church has missed his leadership, and many prayers have been offered on his behalf. Faithful and loyal men have stepped into the breach and kept the work going, speakers including L. G. Read, A. Surtees, F. Button, D. Verco, A. Cust, P. Verco, Dr. A. C. Crip and Dr. C. A. Verco. On Oct. 31, Sunday school anniversary was well attended. In evening an illustrated talk was enjoyed. Richard Pentelow is congratulated on fine performance of school and R. Hayward on the singing.

Dareton.—On Nov. 7 Mr. Snow, from Mildura, conducted gospel service. His address was appreciated by above average congregation. At close five Bible school scholars who had previously made the good confession were baptised by Mr. Snow. Mr. Whitmore (Merbein) was speaker at morning service on Nov. 14. During service he extended welcome into church to the five young people baptised previous Sunday. Mr. Whitmore is to come and help on first Sunday in each month. This assistance from Merbein church, with help given by Mildura church in supplying speakers from time to time, is appreciated.

North Sydney.—During the absence of I. A. Paternoster in W.A., speakers assisting church included J. C. Thompson, T. Spencer, R. Blackburn, A. Allen and H. Larcombe. Church is grateful for their help. Nov. 7 was Bible school anniversary and a most enjoyable day. R. Wotherspoon interested children in afternoon and Mr. Larcombe spoke at night as Mr. Paternoster was not well enough to do so. G. Brown, superintendent, presided at concert given on Monday night, and all through the anniversary singing was led by C. Lawrence, with Miss Larcombe at piano and Howard Pollard at organ. On 14th Mr. Paternoster spoke at both services.

Albury.—Fine addresses are given by Mr. Morris, and a good spirit prevails. On Nov. 7 there were two confessions and one restoration. On Nov. 14, morning service was broadcast, and a baptismal service was held with gospel service. Bible school has reverted to 2.30, and increased attendance is result.

Marrickville.—Bible school anniversary services were continued on Nov. 9, when illustrated talks were given by K. A. Rae and P. E. Thomas at afternoon and evening services. A. E. Adams addressed morning meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Adams, former Marrickville members, are on vacation from Honolulu. On Nov. 9 a variety concert was presented by scholars, concluding with a thought-provoking play, "What's Wrong with the World?"

Earlwood.—Young people enjoyed two outings this month. On 6th a car drive was arranged by N. Matthews, acting Bible school superintendent, when over 60 scholars were taken to National Park. On 13th, Seekers' Club and several Bible school boys paid a visit to Boys' Home at Pendle Hill, and entertained boys at afternoon tea. Two of the visitors brought wireless sets (crystal) and installed them, much to the boys' enjoyment. All meetings have been happy, and the preacher has given faithful addresses. Exhortations by Mr. Leisk and Mr. Roffey were appreciated. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Miss Ruth Lilburn, from Mitcham, who also served in Bible school while visiting here. All auxiliaries are working harmoniously. Women's Fellowship had a splendid time recently with Mr. Telfer, from aborigines mission.

Bexley North.—On Oct. 31 and Nov. 7 T. Hallop was speaker at both services, concluding his ministry at evening service, when three Bible school scholars confessed Christ. Anniversary meetings of church and school were well attended on Nov. 7. At breaking of bread four former school superintendents took part—W. Roffey (presiding), S. Creek and W. Evans (readers), and J. Saville (organist). Ern Pickford and R. Greenhalgh also took part in giving thanks. Fellowship was enjoyed throughout day with other pioneer members and visitors. J. Luff gave an illustrated address in afternoon. Building was overcrowded with 272 present. Singing of scholars and kinders was enjoyed by all. Mrs. Portch presented cradle roll gifts to mothers and Miss Toyer welcomed visitors. 160 were present at night. Una Hindman was welcomed by transfer from Dunolly, Vic. On Nov. 14 attendances were 241 in afternoon and 166 at night. Three scholars and a young woman made the confession. Presentations were made to T. Hallop from church and auxiliaries, also to John Blaxell on his departure to New Guinea.

Victoria

East Kew.—Much blessing was experienced in campaign meetings during week. A fine morning meeting was addressed by student Ray McDougall. Mr. Wigney's gospel services, using model of tabernacle, have been helpful and inspiring. At last evening service a young lady made the good confession.

Cheltenham.—On Nov. 14, F. N. Lee spoke at morning service on behalf of home missions. Geof. Barnett spoke at gospel service. On Nov. 21, at 11 a.m., V. C. Stafford gave a review of Federal Conference activities. During this month brethren have enjoyed fellowship with folk at Christian Guest Home in their evening services.

Middle Park.—Bible school anniversary services were held on Nov. 7 and 14 with excellent attendances. Addresses by A. Thomas, W. Jackel and J. Manallack were enjoyed. Scholars sang splendidly under leadership of Mr. Hall, of Gardiner. Services were concluded with a splendid concert by scholars on Nov. 17, when prizes were distributed. Mrs. T. Hobbs is making good progress in hospital after operation.

Hampton.—At Sunday school on Nov. 21, the year's contributions for Dhond Hospital, amounting to £22, were acknowledged by H. Waghmode in a brief talk. At church meeting, farewell was said to Mr. Carnaby as he leaves to reside in Adelaide.

Emerald.—Screening of film, "Faith Triumphant," accounted for a full building on evening of Nov. 7. Sunday school anniversary on Nov. 14 was an encouraging day. Mrs. A. Legge trained school choir. "Gateways" was anniversary theme, and made effective by rustic gateway decorations, pageantry and address. Selwyn Jackel has been added to teaching staff.

Dimboola.—At church anniversary on Nov. 7, J. Wilkie, of Ballarat, gave appreciated addresses at P.S.A. and at evening meeting. Enjoyable solos were given by Mrs. Janetski and Kevin Allen. Prizes, donated by church and S.S., were presented to all scholars who entered Bible school examination. A basket tea was held at chapel. At evening service Errol Holland made his decision and was baptised at Horsham on Nov. 14. Mrs. Young is regaining health after sickness.

Ormond.—Attendances during month increased despite sickness. Mrs. Johnston underwent an operation and Mr. Bradley is recovering after short illness. Bible school attendances are even better than expectations with record attendance of 142. Both senior and junior cricket clubs are doing well. On Nov. 17 they held a film night by courtesy of Shell Co. of Australia Ltd., which was very successful. Speakers during month have included Mr. Hunt and Mr. Gross, of the college. Church progresses well under budget system. Mr. Martin continues to give of his best.

Preston.—On Oct. 31 and Nov. 7, E. L. Williams and A. W. Stephenson were speakers at evening services, both giving excellent addresses. At morning service on Nov. 14, H. Barnden, Coburg, was speaker, Mr. Searle being at South Yarra on visitation evangelism. Mr. Barnden's address was appreciated. Mr. and Mrs. Salisbury and Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald have returned from Federal Conference. Mrs. Lang continues to make steady progress following operation. Quarterly rally of North Suburban churches conference was held at Preston on Nov. 18, at which there was a good attendance, S. Neighbour speaking on "Crusade for a Christian World."

Red Hill.—On Oct. 30, several members attended Southern Bayside District Conference at Frankston. On Oct. 31 N. Moore spoke to a large congregation. Visitors included Mr. and Mrs. Perkins (S.A.). N. Moore addressed evening service. Social service offering was taken. On Nov. 6, Y.P.S.C.E. held monthly consecration meeting. At conclusion of a well-attended service, men entertained with concert and supper. N. Moore was speaker morning and evening on Nov. 7. On 14th he gave a talk to Y.W.L. and then addressed congregation. He also spoke at gospel meeting, when Mrs. Torney and Mrs. Passmore (of Mildura) sang a duet.

Wangaratta.—South Wangaratta Bible school held an enjoyable anniversary and prize-giving on Nov. 7, several children taking part. Mr. Wakefield gave an interesting address. On Nov. 14 church anniversary took place, special speaker for occasion being Mr. Cockroft (Swan Hill). A duet was rendered at gospel service by E. Payne and B. Franks. Annual banquet and thanksgiving took place on Nov. 17, special speaker being Mr. Hurren (conference president). There were many visitors and representatives from town, including mayor and mayoress, Albury, Shepparton and Yarrawonga. Thankoffering to present is £312 in cash, and promises breaking all previous records. 162 sat to banquet. Neil Campbell is in Children's Hospital, Melbourne, undergoing an operation. Ladies' Guild brought talents toward new carpets for chapel.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—At Christian Endeavor meeting on Nov. 10 A. Johnson spoke on his trip to Federal Conference. Many friends gathered at home of Mr. and Mrs. McClean for prayer fellowship on Oct. 30. Mrs. McClean's mother, Mrs. Coleman, is very ill. Mrs. Millis is laid aside with an injured wrist. Girls' Club held social evening, when £18 was raised towards manse fund. Bible school picnic on Nov. 2, at Aspendale, was enjoyed. On homecoming day, Nov. 7, past members were guests of church, Swanston-st. officers and wives being welcomed at dinner table. R. M. Wilson was preacher at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m., and Hon. H. L. McBrien addressed afternoon meeting. Gordon Craig and Lygon-st. male quartette rendered items. Miss W. Lee was soloist at night. Sympathy is extended to loved one of A. McQueen, who died on Nov. 4. Ken Saunders was received into fellowship after confession and baptism, at morning service on Nov. 7. Officers and friends from Lygon-st. were guests to lunch at Swanston-st. on occasion of home-coming, Nov. 14. Many attended open-air service in Rathdown-st. at 5.30 p.m.

Northcote.—Reports presented at annual church meeting indicated all branches of work were in excellent condition. Following were elected for ensuing year: W. T. Atkin (elder), Messrs. Arnold, Anderson, Bangsund, Brownrigg, W. Hill, Long and McCallum. Bible school anniversary was a great success; two girls made their decision. Miss L. Morgan and Miss V. Williams have rejoined teaching staff. Jack Stephens and Gwen Scott are teaching for first time. L. Bangsund was elected superintendent, Don Scott assistant secretary. School picnic at Greensborough Park on Nov. 2 was a great success. Junior cricket club under coaching of Mr. Steer is winning most matches. Mrs. Bangsund, snr. (Preston) and Mr. Morris (Middle Park) have been received into fellowship. Two church members have made a promise to church of a pipe organ. Sale of gifts held on Nov. 20 realised £230. W. Gale addressed church on Nov. 21. Mr. Woodgate, sen., is very sick, and Messrs. McCallum and Robinson are far from well. U.N.A.C. appeal amounted to £68; college offering, £34; Hospital Sunday, £34; foreign missions, £43. For first quarter of crusade campaign average attendance for breaking of bread was 152 and evening service 154. Ten decisions were made and seven baptisms held during quarter. Young People's Fellowship under leadership of Les Stirling is functioning very well. Intermediate C.E. and Young Explorers, under guidance of G. Smith, assistant minister, are having splendid meetings.

DEATHS

MILLER.—On Oct. 27, at Narrandar Hospital, N.S.W., Al., dearly loved wife of Thomas, Matong, loved mother of Phil and Jack, loved daughter of Mary Cameron, Yarrawonga, also loved cousin of M. Downes, Elwood. A patient sufferer at rest.

TURNER.—On Nov. 14 Thomas R., loved father of Elsie and father-in-law of Bill Archer, grandpa of Fred. In his 93rd year. At rest.

WIESE.—On Nov. 4, at Royal Melbourne Hospital, Lindsay Norman, dearly beloved eldest son of Norman and Laura Wiese, of 26 Victoria-st. Box Hill; beloved brother of Graham, Noela, Shirley, Glenn, John and Peter (deceased); aged 28 years.

"Some time we'll understand,
Will know why clouds instead of sun
Were over many a cherished plan;
Up there, up there, we'll understand."

IN MEMORIAM

HAINES.—In loving memory of Edith, dearly loved mother of Myrtle (Mrs. F. Gross), Harry, Stella (Mrs. J. Atkinson), called to higher service Nov. 20, 1934; also our dear father, called home March 9, 1941.

Our God still reigns! His hand controls!
And nothing can his love outwear;
And we, who trust in him our souls,
Find unremitting care.

HARDING.—In loving memory of my dear husband, Wilfred, loved father of Don and Ken, passed away Nov. 25, 1921. In loving memory.

—Inserted by his loving wife Ruby.

McKINNON.—In fond memory of my loving husband, and our dear dad, who was called home Nov. 21, 1947.

Our family chain is broken,
One we love has gone;
But he left behind a memory,
A link that will never pass on.

—Inserted by his ever loving wife and family, George, Jean, Keith, Margaret.

ORAM.—In ever-loving memory of my dear husband William Glover, who was called to higher service on Nov. 30, 1944.

Until the day break and the shadows flee away.

—Inserted by his loving wife Jennie.

TO LET

Four-room bungalow, self-contained, electric stove, four minutes beach, seven minutes station, February onwards.—N. Brown, 20 Kalimna-st., Carrum.

In country (Selby), clean comfortable four-roomed cottage, five minutes from shops, £4/4/- per week. Not vacant Christmas. Apply 87 The Avenue, Coburg.

SWANSTON ST. (opp. Public Library).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28.

11 a.m., "Taking Pre-eminence."
4.30 p.m., Studies in Daniel.
5.15 p.m., Fellowship Tea.
7 p.m., "An Infallible Assurance."
(Baptism service.)
Preacher, K. A. Macnaughtan.

MISSIONARY MEETING.

LYGON ST. CHAPEL,

MONDAY, NOV. 29, 8 p.m.

Brotherhood farewell to Misses D. Berry and H. Skuse, and Mr. T. Heard, new workers for Indian field.

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.

FRANKSTON CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

(Dandenong-rd. and Beach-st.).

Lord's day, Dec. 12—11, K. A. Jones.

3.15, F. A. Youens.

7.30, J. K. Bond.

Soloists, E. D. Streader and Alan Tate.

Wednesday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m., Programme of music, song and elocution.

Speaker, R. C. Bolduan.

Supper at close.

A cordial invitation is extended to all.

"THE LEADERS' KIT," No. 1.

First edition sold out! A SECOND edition is being prepared!

Price: 10/- per annum, including postage. Note.—Price of first edition was below printing costs, and rising costs necessitate this new price to produce first-rate job.

The "KIT" is worth this and more!

Order from Board of Christian Education, Churches of Christ Office, 262 Flinders-lane, Melbourne, C.1, enclosing postal note, M.O. or cheque to cover amount of order.

Obituary

Arnold R. Farrow

THE church at Naracoorte, S.A., has lost by death another of its stalwarts. Mr. Farrow united with the church here on Nov. 13, 1910, during the ministry of Theo. Edwards, and throughout the years has been a very faithful worker in the church. His association with the church activities was broken during the three years he served his country during the first world war. He was wounded in France, and bore the scars of war throughout his life. During his lifetime he held most of the offices in the church at some time or other. He had been an elder, Sunday school superintendent, treasurer of the church for nine years; at the time of his homecall he was a trustee, deacon, presiding brother and agent for the "Australian Christian" for ten years. Being a carpenter, he was a very useful property deacon, and only recently he superintended the extension of the school hall. He was a man greatly respected in the community and loved by his brethren in the church. He was called home to rest after a brief illness at the age of 57 years. A service in memory of our brother, held on a recent Sunday evening, was largely attended, the writer preaching on this special occasion on Christian immortality. Words of comfort were received from the word of God, and we commend his dear ones to the God of all comfort. He leaves a widow, four sons and one daughter, also three sisters and one brother, to mourn his passing, yet rejoicing in the life filled with kindly service for God and man.—A. Hutson.

Henry Fisher

THE church at Cowandilla, S.A., felt a deep sense of loss when Henry Fisher was called to higher service on Aug. 6, at the age of 74 years. Mr. Fisher was baptised by J. Wiltshire at Mile End 35 years ago, when the church was commenced at Cowandilla. Mr. Fisher transferred his membership, seeking to help the young cause. He was an esteemed elder for some years, also serving as a deacon, a worker in the Bible school and Christian Endeavor. He was a most faithful attendant at all the services of the church right up till the last. His unobtrusive but encouraging ministry within and without the church will always be remembered and honored. His wife was called home three years previously and our brother longingly anticipated the great day of reunion. We commend to the three children—Frank, Gladys and Harry—the abiding presence and love of God.—W.E.F.

Miss M. M. Stephens

AFTER faithful service to her Lord for close on forty years, Miss Stephens received her home-call on the afternoon of Oct. 25. Our sister made her confession of faith in the Lord in January, 1909, during a tent mission conducted by H. G. Harward and J. Binney at Colac. She bore a faithful witness to her Lord, being present every Lord's day morning at the Lord's table until a month before her death. Coming to Mitcham twelve years ago, when meetings were held in local halls, Miss Stephens secured a piece of land, the site on which the chapel now stands. Her home was always open to give hospitality to all servants of God who came to minister. She also gave splendid service as a member of conference Ladies' Catering Committee. Services at the chapel and Springvale Crematorium were conducted by A. Cameron on Oct. 27. The large representative gathering and floral tributes showed the high esteem in which our sister was held in the community. The present building, and many other gifts to the church, will be lasting memorials to her work for the Master. Sincere sympathy is extended to those who sorrow. A memorial service was held on Nov. 7. We thank God for her life of service. She has laid down the cross

for the crown—until the glad day when we meet beyond the veil.—E.C.

WANTED

Couple marrying middle of December desperately require flat or rooms furnished or unfurnished. Reply Miss Tyrrell, c/o Miss Candy, G. J. Coles & Co., Bourke-st., Melbourne, C.I.

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Would anyone assist Gippsland work by giving or selling cheaply a car to help speaking brother conduct services at Morwell. The need is urgent. Also up-to-date duplicator is required.—C. W. Jackel, 28 Sutton-st., Warragul, 'phone 433.

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November 23, 1948

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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.

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(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.).

FAITH AND WORKS

I HAVE just ended an hour's meditative reading of the Epistle of James, with the aid of a wonderful book published in 1849, by B. E. Nicholls, M.A., "Help to Reading the Bible." For 60 years it has been a treasured aid. It occurs to me that a quotation therefrom would be acceptable to your readers and a blessing, and adorn your valued paper. To set aright misunderstanding of Paul's teachings on faith and works, Augustine, quoted by Macknight, and quoted by Nicholls in above book, says: "A wicked opinion having sprung up even in the apostles' days, by misunderstanding Paul's arguments, Peter, John, James and Jude aimed in their epistles, principally at this end, to vindicate the doctrine of Paul from the false consequences charged upon it, and to show that faith without works is nothing worth. But indeed Paul does not speak of faith at large, but only of that living, fruitful, evangelical faith, which he himself saith worketh by love. As for that faith void of good works, which these men thought sufficient for salvation, he declareth positively against it. Peter calls it wresting (2 Peter 3: 16), because Paul was in truth of the same opinion with the other apostles, and held eternal life impossible to be attained by any faith which had not the attestation of a holy life."—Lindsay Johnston, Unley, S.A.

A DIMINISHING COMPANY

YOUR editorial (2/11/48) raises some interesting questions, none more vital to the church at present than the one referring to the loss from among our ranks of those brethren, apart from those in the full-time ministry, willing and able to assist in the ministry of the word.

It would appear to me as though a prime element in the disappearance of this group from our churches is the lack of official support by the brotherhood of the Christian Endeavor movement.

Many of our younger church leaders, no doubt, would dismiss the Christian Endeavor movement as being outmoded, but most of the older brethren will readily affirm that they owe their call and training to C.E., and that properly organised, the movement has no equal for training men and women for active service within the local church.—J. H. Barneden, Coburg, Vic.

DEACONESSES

THOUGHTFUL women of the churches will be glad to see the article on deaconesses in the "A.C." of Nov. 9. It is a hopeful sign that this frequently neglected office should be brought under notice. We do not seem to realise what a benediction a well-selected body of deaconesses can be to a local church.

While agreeing, in the main, with Mr. Fisher's ideas, one or two points call for comment.

Though the revised and authorised translations of the New Testament do not use the title deaconess, yet the word used to describe Phœbe of Cenchrea is the same word elsewhere translated "minister" and "deacon," and some modern translators use, in this passage, the term deaconess.

Readers can only hope that the same high standard of character and ability set by Mr. Fisher for deaconesses is required of men elected to the office of deacon. His list of

duties is rather overwhelming, and it would hardly be possible for the number of deaconesses usually appointed in a church to fulfil all those functions. Also it is desirable that some work should be available for other women members, so that all may have an active part in some phase of church life. If we are to accomplish anything worth while in our crusade, it can only be by each and every member doing the thing of which he or she is capable so that ear, eye, hand and heart each fills its own function, and the whole body, fitly framed together, grows unto an holy temple in the Lord.—Adelaide C. Green, South Australia.

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