

Woolly

# The Australian Christian

National Weekly Representing Churches of Christ



## YOUTH LOOKS OUT ON THE WORLD

*What kind of a world will the rising generation face in a few years? Will it be a world worth living for? Only as Christian ideals are taught and practised By this generation will the world be made worthwhile for children now coming into the world.*

# World Problems for the World Church

## The Purpose of God

THE purpose of God is to reconcile all men to himself and to one another in Jesus Christ his Son. That purpose was made manifest in Jesus Christ—his incarnation, his ministry of service, his death on the cross, his resurrection and ascension. It continues in the gift of the Holy Spirit, in the command to make disciples of all nations, and in the abiding presence of Christ with his church. It looks forward to its consummation in the gathering together of all things in Christ. Much in that purpose is still hidden from us. Three things are perfectly plain:

All that we need to know concerning God's purpose is already revealed in Christ.

It is God's will that the gospel should be proclaimed to all men everywhere.

God is pleased to use human obedience in the fulfilment of his purpose.

To the church, then, is given the privilege of so making Christ known to men that each is confronted with the necessity of a personal decision, Yes or No. The gospel is the expression both of God's love to man, and of his claim to man's obedience. In this lies the solemnity of the decision. Those who obey are delivered from the power of the world in which sin reigns, and already, in the fellowship of the children of God, have the experience of eternal life. Those who reject the love of God remain under his judgment and are in danger of sharing in the impending doom of the world that is passing away.

## The Present Situation

TWO world wars have shaken the structure of the world. Social and political convulsions rage everywhere. The mood of many swings between despair, frustration and blind indifference. The millions of Asia and Africa, filled with new hope, are determined to seize now the opportunity of shaping their own destiny. Mankind, so clearly called even by its own interests to live at peace, seems still rent by a fanaticism of mutual destruction.

The world faith has asquired a new content. For most men, it is now faith in the new society, now to be founded once for all, in which the "good life" will be realised. Even in the present-day confusion, there are still many who believe that man, by wise planning, can master his own situation. Such men are interested not in absolute truth, but in achievement. In face of many religions and philosophies, it is held that all truth is relative, and so the necessity of a costly personal decision is evaded.

A formidable obstacle to Christian faith is the conviction that it belongs definitely to a historical phase now past. To those who know little of it, it seems merely irrelevant. More thoughtful men, who hold that it enshrines some spiritual and cultural values, regard it as no longer honestly tenable as a system of belief. And yet there is an earnest desire for clearly formulated truth. The religions of Asia and Africa are being challenged and profoundly modified. In the period of transition the minds of millions are more than usual open to the gospel. But the tendency in these countries to press an ancient religion into service as one foundation for a politically homogeneous state already threatens the liberty of Christian action.

So the church sees the world. What does the world see, or think it sees, when it looks at the church?

It is a church divided, and in its separated parts are often found hesitancy, complacency, or the desire to domineer.

★ *Extracts from Reports of Committees presented to Assembly of World Council of Churches will give some idea of trend of thought revealed at Amsterdam.*

It is a church that has largely lost touch with the dominant realities of modern life and still tries to meet the modern world with language and a technique that may have been appropriate two hundred years ago.

It is a church that, by its failure to speak effectively on the subject of war, has appeared impotent to deal with the realities of the human situation.

It is a church accused by many of having been blind to the movement of God in history, of having sided with the vested interests of society and state, and of having failed to kindle the vision and to purify the wills of men in a changing world.

It is a church under suspicion in many quarters of having used its missionary enterprise to further the foreign policies of states and the imperialistic designs of the powers of the West.

Much in this indictment may be untrue; but the church is called to deep shame and penitence for its failure to manifest Jesus Christ to men as he really is. Yet the church is still the church of God, in which, and in which alone he is pleased to reveal himself and his redemptive purpose in Jesus Christ, in whom and in whom alone the renewal of man's life is possible.

It is a church to which, through the upheavals of the modern world, God cries aloud and says, "Come let us reason together" (Isaiah 1: 18).

It is a church that is, to millions of faithful people, the place where they receive the grace of Christ and are given strength to live by the power of his victory.

It is a church awaking to its great opportunity to enter as the minister of the redemption wrought by Christ into that world with which God has confronted us.

It is a church that to-day desires to treat evangelism as the common task of all the churches, and transcends the traditional distinction between the so-called Christian and non-Christian lands.

The present day is the beginning of a new epoch of missionary enterprise, calling for the pioneering spirit, and for the dedication of many lives to the service of the gospel of God.

## The Responsible Society

MAN is created and called to be a free being, responsible to God and his neighbor. Any tendencies in State and society depriving man of the possibility of acting responsibly are a denial of God's intention for man and his work of salvation. A responsible society is one where freedom is the freedom of men who acknowledge responsibility to justice and public order, and where those who hold political authority or economic power are responsible for its exercise to God and the people whose welfare is affected by it.

Man must never be made a mere means for political or economic ends. Man is not made for the State but the State for man. Man is not made for production, but production for

man. For a society to be responsible under modern conditions it is required that the people have freedom to control, to criticise and to change their governments, that power be made responsible by law and tradition, and be distributed as widely as possible through the whole community. It is required that economic justice and provision of equality of opportunity be established for all the members of society.

We therefore condemn:

1. Any attempt to limit the freedom of the church to witness to its Lord and his design for mankind and any attempt to impair the freedom of men to obey God and to act according to conscience, for those freedoms are implied in man's responsibility before God;

2. Any denial to man of an opportunity to participate in the shaping of society, for this is a duty implied in man's responsibility towards his neighbor;

3. Any attempt to prevent men from learning and spreading the truth.

## Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

THE church has always demanded freedom to obey God rather than men. We affirm that all men are equal in the sight of God and that the rights of men derive directly from their status as the children of God. It is presumptuous for the State to assume that it can grant or deny fundamental rights. It is for the State to embody these rights in its own legal system and to ensure their observance in practice. We believe, however, that there are no rights without duties. Man's freedom has its counterpart in man's responsibility, and each person has a responsibility towards his fellows.

We are profoundly concerned by evidence from many parts of the world of flagrant violations of human rights. Both individuals and groups are subjected to persecution and discrimination on grounds of race, color, religion, culture or political conviction. Against such actions, whether of governments, officials or the general public, the churches must take a firm and vigorous stand, through local action, in co-operation with churches in other lands, and through international institutions of legal order. They must work for an ever wider and deeper understanding of what are the essential human rights if men are to be free to do the will of God.

At the present time, churches should support every endeavor to secure within an international bill of rights adequate safeguards for freedom of religion and conscience, including rights of all men to hold and change their faith, to express it in worship and practice, to teach and persuade others, and to decide on the religious education of their children. They should press for freedom of speech and expression, of association and assembly, the rights of the family, of freedom from arbitrary arrest, as well as all those other rights which the true freedom of man requires. In the domestic and in the international sphere, they should support a fuller realisation of human freedom through social legislation. They should protest against the expulsion of minorities. With all the resources at their disposal they should oppose enforced segregation on grounds of race or color, working for the progressive recognition and application of this principle in every country. Above all, it is essential that the churches observe these fundamental rights in their own membership and life, thus giving to others an example of what freedom means in practice.

# DANGERS IN SUCCESS

THERE is greater danger in success than in failure. Of course it all depends on the manner in which people use their failures or successes whether that is so. Some individuals may become so discouraged by failure that they allow themselves to become downcast. Their melancholy attitude may rob them of every desire to strive to overcome their difficulties. Here is the danger of failure for the weak character. It seems that there is risk in failure only for the weak person. Such a man allows failure to discourage him.

To the heroic and venturesome, failure is an incentive to make a stronger bid to gain success. Even the experiences of failure are turned to good account. They may become stepping-stones to victory. Learning where failure and defeat lie in life's pathway, the determined man may avoid them, turning sad trials into valued guide-posts. It is said that had not Dante endured great disappointment in life there would have been no "Divine Comedy." How far did the tragedy of blindness in Milton's life contribute to the greatness of his masterly poetry? John Bunyan's imprisonment made it possible for "Pilgrim's Progress" to be written.

During the recent tragic events in Europe, when Christians were persecuted for their faith, the Bible became a new book for multitudes. During imprisonment in Norway, Bishop Berggrav came to learn that the Bible was "the hand of God." Throughout the European church there is a renewed love for God's word, awakened during those dreadful experiences of the war years. Days of failure and defeat have revealed to people the power of God as revealed in the Word. We are confident that strong Christians will gain immeasurable faith because of the sad experiences of recent years. There are signs that the blood of the martyrs will be the seed from which a virile and victorious church will rise. This church is rising even now in places like Japan, under the leadership of that oft-persecuted evangelist, T. Kagawa.

Failure tends to rid a man of self-confidence. He is then more ready to rely on God to aid him. This is the principle which the "Alcoholics Anonymous" society sets before the defeated drunkard. The man defeated by strong drink must learn to rely on the power of God and must not depend upon any inner human strength. This faith in God during a time of defeat will gain the victory. Often, then, failure has been turned to unqualified success.

## II.

WHAT can we say of success? There is a type of success which is dangerous to life. Jesus spoke of the man who had succeeded in gathering great wealth. When his store-house was full, and he had reached the pinnacle of material success, he was called into the presence of God and found to be wanting. He was set on the Eternal's balances. Instead of possessing a wealth of wisdom, he was found to be a poor "fool." The greatest danger a man of the business world faces is the risk of gathering earthly wealth at the expense of spiritual wisdom. At the close of a hard, busy life, he may find that his business touch which turned all before him into material wealth has deprived him of the blessings of those eternal values which resist rust and moth. Here we see how success brings failure.

What we now have in mind is something more subtle. How often the church has gained great successes and just then has fallen into disgrace! Many times in her history the church has given promise of achieving phenomenal success. It was Dr. John Mott who was confident that the church was capable of winning the

## EDITORIAL

world to Christ within one generation.

During those optimistic years prior to World War I, there was a mighty surge of evangelistic and missionary zeal which suggested the possibility of a worldwide victory for the church. But the weakness of the church was revealed at the time of her success. The world was made it clear that much in the so-called Christian communities was only a veneer of respectability with little spiritual faith behind it. The success of the church was outward. The wars showed that, unless the church can touch the heart of the masses, she will face defeat again and again. During those days of outward success, the strong faith in the Bible was lost. Even within the church encouragement was given to the criticism which robbed faith in the divine Lord. No wonder, then, the success of the church was swept aside in the tragic years of war. Now in her defeat her faith in God and in his Word is growing strong, laying the ground for greater hopes for future victories.

Within the local churches we see the risks involved in success. How often a church will enjoy the victories of a successful mission, and then slump into a period of trouble and failure! Unfortunately not enough attention has been given to the methods of conserving the results and of carrying on the successes of an evangelistic programme. The church is like a garden; it cannot be neglected. A garden needs constant care and planning if success is to be enjoyed. Weeds will soon overrun the beds unless checked, the plants will soon die if not watered. Each local church requires all the vigilant care members can give. During days of victory this attention is needed very particularly. It is not enough for finances to be good and meetings to be well attended. The church must grow. Plans must be developed to ensure such growth. While nothing succeeds like success, it is evident nothing can encourage failure so much as success. When all is well, we tend to relax and to rely on our victories. That is why so many churches advance so far and remain in that condition for years. Advances ought to be made stepping-stones to greater victories.

Many churches are now enjoying the successes of various types of missionary endeavor; these victories are encouraging. We urge churches not to remain content. There is danger in allowing a church to remain idle. There is the need of keeping a virile programme before members to avoid the failure that follows success. Beware lest success leads the church to failure and defeat!



## A Penitent Church

FROM statements giving an account of events and findings of the delegates of churches that met at Amsterdam, there is one sign which is pleasing. Dr. K. Barth, at the first meeting of the assembly, emphasised the need of a humble attitude on the part of the church. He urged the need of dependence upon God. There must be a return to God, if there is to be a united church, he pleaded. One of the declarations made at the assembly insisted upon the truth that Christian unity is not something men can achieve by conferences, but it is something that comes from God as a gift. Men must surrender all to him as Lord. He will then bring them together into one church. Again the assembly recognised that division between churches and within churches has been caused by sin and by a departure from God.



# Christian Ideals

## ... How they worked in non-Christian country

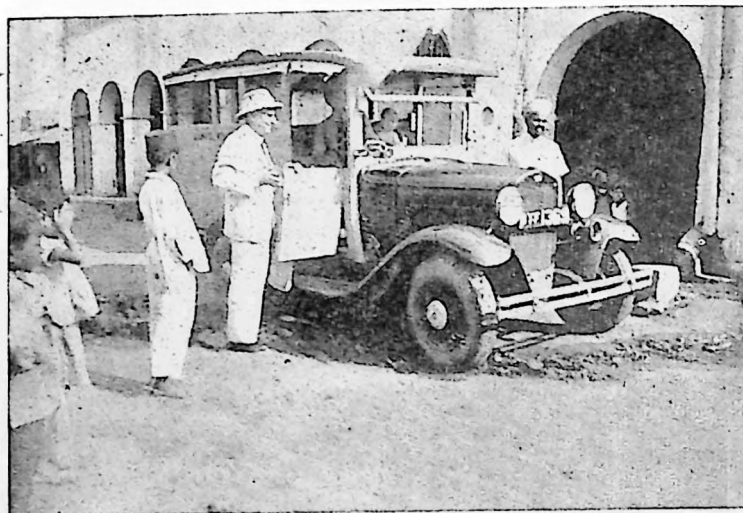
G. H. Oldfield, M.B., B.S., D.T.M., continues, in this concluding article, to relate the manner in which Christianity became established in India.

WHEN the missionaries got down to their work of reaching the village people, they very soon realised that they could not do much preaching unless at the same time they put into effect the teaching and example of Jesus in whose name they were working. This meant that when they saw diseased conditions for which they could give treatment, they "did what they could." They were not medically trained, and their first efforts were crude, but blessed of God. They were a start in the ministry of healing and compassion. They could at least wash painful ulcers with some antiseptic lotion, and could apply iodine to skin lesions, wash infected eyes, and advise in treatment of sick people. As they found the scope of this ministry increasing, they sent for medical missionaries and nurses, who established dispensaries and hospitals, not in the cities but away in the country towns and villages, where they considered there was the greatest need. Training schools for Christian doctors, men and women, have been established under immense difficulties, and this ministry of healing is now a recognised part of the presentation of the Christian message. Our own medical ministry was commenced by our non-medical missionaries who welcomed medical help when it became available. We commenced with small dispensaries in Baramati, Shrigonda and Diksal. Dhond is the geographic centre of our mission stations, and was therefore selected as the site for our hospital when the time came for building it. We have gradually built up a hospital at Dhond. We have plans prepared for a hospital of over one hundred beds, but have only part of this scheme actually in operation. We have a ward block designed to hold twenty inpatients, though the demand is so great that there are often up to forty patients being dealt with there. There is immediate need for a maternity ward block complete with theatres, for a children's ward block, for X-ray, and a laboratory, as well as nurses' quarters. Some of these buildings may be commenced right away, for it is calculated that building costs will not be likely to decrease in the near future, while the demand for treatment will enormously increase. Last year over 1000 inpatients were treated with our meagre accommodation. The number of outpatients is enormous for our small staff to deal with. Last year there were about 12,000 new outpatients treated, and retreatments numbered well over 50,000. The mission doctors throughout India have always been in the forefront on the treatment of special diseases. The world's greatest authority on leprosy today, Dr. Cochrane, is a missionary, and his precursor, Dr. Muir, was also a missionary, who was seized on by the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine, where he did much research work. The first sanatoria for the treatment of tuberculosis were mission institutions, and when the Indian Government recently wanted a man to organise the immense scheme they were wanting to inaugurate against tuberculosis, they sent for a missionary, Dr. Frimodt Muller. After his untimely death, they wanted Dr. Benjamin, an Indian mission doctor, but he has refused to give up his mission work, though he is a leader in the committee directing the scheme. The mission doctors have led in surgery, and the names of Sir William Wanless and Dr. Somerville are exceedingly well known in India. The

name of Sir Henry Holland will always be associated with the surgical treatment of ocular diseases as the man with the world's longest and widest experience, and he is a missionary. The first bit of radium to be imported into India was introduced by a mission hospital, Miraj, for the treatment of cancer. Recently a great forward move was made by the Christian Medical Association in the establishment of the medical college at Vellore, where men and women are able to receive instruction up to M.B., B.S. standard, under Christian environment.

If we contrast the attitude of the Hindus today, in connection with education, religion and medicine, with that of three hundred years ago, we shall find a great change. To-day the Indian Congress, a predominantly Hindu organisation (though it includes other communities) is all out for the education of the masses, and is even trying to introduce universal compulsory education. Hindu and Muslim colleges for education of the poorer members of the communities have been established, and in so doing, the inspiration received from the Christian mission work is frankly acknowledged. Orphanages have been established by Muslims and Hindus, in imitation of the Christian social services. Charities have been organised by Parsis, Hindus and Muslims based on the ideas of the charitable work of the missions, and in some cases they have actually employed Christian missionaries to organise them. To-day the injustice of the existence of depressed classes is acknowledged by millions of Hindus, and there are societies within the Hindu fold which advocate the abolition of caste inequalities. It was for his advocating of modification of caste and abolition of untouchability that Gandhi was assassinated by the orthodox Hindus. It is found to-day that the existence of "temple women" and the debauchery common in relation to many of the Hindu festivals, e.g., Holi, are deplored by many Hindus who would cleanse their worship, and they freely acknowledge that they have received their inspiration from the example of Christian missions. There is percolating through Hinduism the recognition that all who desire to worship should have the right to enter the temples of their gods, and that the people have a right to know the deep truths of their religion. Popular reprints of their holy books may now be obtained so that anyone who can read may know the esoteric truths of the religion. Reprints of their sacred gitas, in English, are now available, together with commentator's notes of explanation, in imitation of the commentaries of the Christian church. In this way it is recognised that all classes should have the right to worship. Societies are in existence with the object of purifying popular Hindu thought and practice.

To-day the scope of medicine in India is widened. It is being increasingly recognised



Dr. Oldfield and the Dhond Ambulance.

that possession of medical knowledge is a responsibility, and that the responsibility is not only to the city dwellers, but also to the villagers. The Indian Congress visualises a scheme wherein every village shall receive some medical help, and they frankly admit that their ideals are taken from the work which is done by Christian missions. Some years ago in Bombay the Congress tried to work a scheme in which Indian doctors were to be subsidised to encourage them to go into the villages and give cheap, if not free, treatments. The scheme broke down because the Indian doctors would not leave the amenities of the cities and go into the villages. Dr. Gilder, the Minister of Health in Bombay, made a public appeal to Hindu and Muslim doctors asking that they should show the "missionary spirit" and go into the villages. He could not quite realise that the "missionary spirit" was the product of religious conviction, and that nothing else will make men and women leave the comforts of the cities and go to live amid the discomforts of the villages. If "imitation is the sincerest form of flattery," then the missions have been greatly flattered by the latest moves of Indian organisations. To-day gigantic schemes for meeting the menace of tuberculosis are being commenced and the aid of the mission doctors is being especially asked for. The spirit of research has also been inspired in the Indian medical profession, and large institutions for research have been established, which will be productive of great blessing for the nation in the coming years.

While we cannot say that all moves for the betterment of the Indian people have come from the impact of Christianity, yet it is undoubted that many of them are directly inspired, not by the words, but by the actions of the Christian missionaries. Not long before I left India I was travelling in the train along with an Indian gentleman, and in the course of conversation I found that he was a Bombay doctor, a Hindu, who had been so touched by what he had seen in a Christian dispensary that he himself had actually commenced a charitable dispensary and eye hospital for the benefit of poor people. He said that he would never have thought of doing such a thing but for the example of a mission doctor. The impact of Christianity on the Roman civilisation led to the entire revision of the standards and practices of that nation, even though not all the Romans became Christian, and I am sure that by the impact of Christianity the non-Christian civilisation of India is also being definitely affected. You can rest assured that the influence of Christian missions is far greater than can be measured by the number of converts recorded. The present time is a tremendous opportunity for Christian missions to demonstrate that their source is not in the British

(Continued on page 562)

# When Life is More Than Bread

Scrooge had money, but his life was devoid of love as a desert is of water. Bob Cratchit, the poor, hard-working man, had meat to eat that old Scrooge knew nothing about. J. Chivell, of Red Cliffs, Vic., presents this theme in the following article.

MANY Victorian people experienced recently some breadless meals. They have realised now what an important part bread plays in the menu.

## I.

ONE day Jesus and his disciples were sailing over Galilee when the disciples realised they had forgotten to take bread with them. They were alarmed and apparently endeavored to hide their concern from the Master. He began to teach. He warned against the leaven of the Pharisees. They immediately thought he was referring to their lack of bread, warning them not to buy when they reached the other side lest it should be adulterated by their enemies. They failed to see Jesus meant the doctrine of the Pharisees. He quickly rebuked them for their concern over the lack of bread. Did they not remember that he fed five thousand with five loaves and two fishes, and twelve baskets full were left over? And did they not recall what happened later when four thousand were fed with seven loaves and a few fishes, and seven baskets full were to spare? In the boat with them was the One who thus provided for the multitudes in the wilderness. Surely they ought not to be alarmed because they had forgotten their lunch.

We need to learn the lesson of those miracles. It is not enough to know of the incidents. We must learn their lessons and apply them to life. As we sail the sea of life we are sometimes alarmed about bread. The future is uncertain.

We may not be any hungrier than were the disciples, but we get alarmed about what may be ahead. He who is our provider, who is in the boat with us, says, "Do ye yet not understand after two thousand years? Why are ye of such little faith?"

## II.

AS we read through the New Testament we are gripped with the conviction that too much emphasis has been placed upon bread. With Jesus it is secondary. He continually called on men to put first things first, to build life upon a spiritual foundation, so that other things may be added. Two brothers were squabbling over their father's estate. We suppose one was right and the other wrong. Both were covetous. They were both living for bread. Jesus said, "A man's life consisteth not of the abundance of the things which he possesseth." He proceeded to tell the story of the man who pulled down his barns to build bigger store rooms for his goods. He was a man who was going to

eat, drink and be merry. He forgot God. He didn't know how to live, so he was not prepared to die. Jesus labelled him a "fool."

"Man shall not live by bread alone," is a well-worn statement, but we do well to ponder it. It came from the lips of Moses. He was urging Israel to seek the higher values of life, and not allow the milk and honey of Canaan to nullify their faith in God. Jesus learnt that statement in his home. He heard it read in the synagogue. As a growing boy he heard the townspeople talking of how they were making money. As one of the town's business men he met other business men whose lives were obsessed with business for the sake of business. He saw the "clever deal" which was essentially dishonest. He met the "respectable" who were so satisfied with their attainments and accumulations that they had forsaken their place in the synagogue on the sabbath day. Again and again Jesus would say to himself, "Man shall not live by bread alone." When the devil suggested to him, in the wilderness, that he should put bread before God, immediately these words came to mind.

This statement made by Moses is not a warning or a prohibition. It is a considered

## The Australian Christian

November 30, 1948

Page 557



Jesus Feeds the Multitude.

judgment, an absolute fact. There can never be a departure from it. God made man with a body, mind and soul. To live, man needs to feed every part of his make-up. His body is fed with bread, but his mind and soul need spiritual realities for their life and development.

## III.

THERE is a difference between existing and living. Millions in India exist on a few handfuls of rice, while we live on a very high plane of physical well-being. There are some who revel in the luxury of pure and profound thought, and feast their souls in the rich fields of divine revelation, while many others have minds and souls as underfed as the unfortunate millions of India. For the most part, people are not satisfied with things as they are to-day. There is a tide of restlessness sweeping the world. Almost anyone who offers some sort of security and happiness will get a hearing. Most of the "isms" which are being eagerly accepted never get beyond the material. They begin and end with bread. Good houses, plenty of food and clothes, a just distribution of the wealth of the world will not make us happy if we remain selfish, covetous, lustful and Godless. Jesus said he came that we might have abundant life. Remember old Scrooge! He had money, a business, material prosperity. He had bread but he didn't know how to live. He never did a kindness in his life; he never spoke a helpful word; his life was as devoid of love as a desert is of water. On the other hand, his servant, poor, humble, hard-working man that he was, loved his family hearth, rejoiced in their simple indulgences, sought to help his fellows and serve his God. Bob Cratchit had meat to eat that Scrooge knew nothing about.

## IV.

PAUL had such a high conception of life that he declared, "For me to live is Christ." He was in a dingy prison cell. He was cold, almost afraid of the winter. Friends who could visit him were few. But he was not sad. Life was just beginning for Paul. He had riches Caesar never possessed. He had a wisdom Socrates had not attained. He had enriched thousands of lives which, in turn, enriched him. Paul said, "Think of the things which are pure, just, true, lovely, of good report. Set your affections on things above, not on things on the earth," he said. As for bread, he had learned in whatsoever state he was therein to be content.

Of course, in these modern days we cannot forget bread altogether. Admittedly, we must keep a true balance. Too often bread is considered too much, to the starving of the mind and soul. Jesus taught us to pray, "Give us this day our daily bread." Notice where that petition is in the model prayer. First there must be adoration of God, the remembrance of his kingdom, the surrender of our lives to his will . . . and then we can think of bread. Adoration, the church and her work in the world, my own individual obedience, and then bread for my sustenance so that I may live and work for the glory of God. Most people would suggest by their attitude that they would alter those petitions . . . bread first. Give us bread and then we will adore, and work and obey. As disciples of Jesus, we ought to show by our interests and attitudes, that we know higher values than material values, and have found something more satisfying than bread. We live by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. When Jesus was amongst us he said, "Whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak." He spoke the words of the living God. For us they are written and recorded in the New Testament. The closer we live to the teaching of our Lord, the less satisfying bread becomes, and new and wider horizons open before us.

(Continued on page 562)

# At Home and From Abroad

## British Centenary Celebrations

★ G. J. Hammond writes of church activities in England.

TWO events of outstanding importance have taken place within recent weeks. First is the Overdale College re-union, which drew over six hundred visitors from many churches, some from long distances. Dr. P. W. Evans, principal of Spurgeon's College, delivered the second Joseph Smith Memorial lecture, taking as his theme "Lessons from Marcion," a choice he justified by saying that no one had a right to call himself orthodox unless he had studied those who diverged from the true faith. Marcion's doctrine of two Gods, though recognised as heretical and repudiated by the church, nevertheless spread rapidly and continued for many centuries. This was largely due to Marcion's organising ability and personal devotion, qualities which orthodox Christians would do well to emulate.

In preparation for the re-union staff and students had organised a "bring and buy" sale which realised £145. The offering for the Silver Jubilee fund amounted to a further £250. The evening rally was addressed by Dr. A. T. de Groot and Dr. Robinson. Mrs. Robinson gave the charge to two outgoing home mission sisters.

The second event which calls for comment is the celebration of the centenary of the London Association. The meeting which brought the London churches into co-operative work was held on Christmas Day, 1848. David King was appointed evangelist. Most of the churches represented on that occasion are now but names in historical archives. Others have been established to carry on the work begun. The leadership of the London churches is now largely in the hands of younger men who, undaunted by the greatness of the task, are facing it with vision and courage. Many who do not live in London still think that the project, mooted a few years ago, of a church which should be a great preaching centre, should again be revived.

The centenary rally was addressed by J. F. Francis, president of conference; G. E. Barr and J. L. Colver, general secretary.

Among more personal things—A. H. Leavesley, Evington Road, Leicester, was guest of honor at a complimentary dinner to mark his fifty years of service with the Y.M.C.A. Princess Marie Louise presented him with the Gold Order of the Red Triangle.

The churches have lost two honored leaders in the persons of J. C. Drummond, of Glasgow, and Ernest Bell, of Gateshead, both of whom served the churches in many ways, each being a past chairman of conference.



## Half-Yearly Conference at Rockhampton

★ P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A., reports on Queensland churches.

EVERY year the Queensland Conference Executive arranges a half-yearly conference. The half-yearly conference this year the conference was held in Rockhampton. Being mainly of an inspirational nature, the conference is a great uplift to the church in which it is held, and is a tonic to the visiting delegates. The half-yearly conference this year impressed us once again with the great

possibilities for an effective witness in Rockhampton, the second largest city in the State, with a population of over 32,000 and the centre of one of the richest districts in Australia. The growth in the population of North Queensland is assured. Twenty-one delegates attended the conference, and the five preachers present delivered addresses on the theme, "Divine Certainties in these Days of Uncertainty." It was also the twentieth anniversary of the church, and we could not help recalling the great mission that started the cause for New Testament Christianity in that important centre.

On the way to and from Rockhampton we were impressed with the growth of Gladstone since we last saw it six years ago. Gladstone with its beautiful harbor and a population of about ten thousand presents a challenge to our people. It is a coming port for developing industries, and the Queensland brotherhood should be seized with the importance of being first in the field, and should immediately begin investigating the possibilities of establishing a church. What was done at Rockhampton twenty years ago, and at Mackay eleven years ago, can be done to-day in Gladstone.

## Annual Temperance Conference

In its thirtieth annual report the Queensland Temperance League pointed out that in Australia a road accident occurs every twenty-four minutes, with a fatality every seven and a half minutes. On Queensland roads ten persons are injured every day, and one is killed every second day. Of all accident cases before the courts, 58 per cent. were connected to some degree with liquor.

The conference passed a resolution recommending that those charged with being under the influence of liquor while in charge of a motor vehicle be compelled to appear before the court instead of being allowed simply to forfeit bail as at present.

It also recorded its concern at the number of young people under the influence of liquor while in charge of cars or trucks, and urged the State Government to cancel the licence of anyone supplying liquor to people under 21.

## Brisbane City Mission

The Brisbane City Mission, under the superintendency of Mr. C. S. Trudgian, has made great progress, and has extended the scope of its activities during the past ten years. It has within the past twelve months moved from restricted offices in city buildings to a spacious two-story building of its own with a distributing depot, youth centre, board room. Last year it spent £11,139 on relief meals, distribution of clothing and child welfare. Seaside holidays were given 267 children, 215 people were assisted financially, and employment was found for 217 unemployed.

It is pleasing to note the prominent part members of churches of Christ take in the mission's activities. Messrs. H. W. Hermann and W. A. C. Wendorf were elected vice-presidents at the annual meeting.

## Sex Instruction

The Baptist City Tabernacle is giving lectures on sex education to people over the age of 14. A doctor will deliver the lectures. Other churches are making similar arrangements for

instruction on this subject. Some church leaders feel that it should be the duty of parents. Organised lectures should not be the province of ordinary men and women, but of specially selected doctors.



## Visitation Evangelism at Lygon-st., Vic.

IT was in full recognition of the peculiar problems of a city church that plans were made for a Visitation Evangelistic Campaign at Lygon-st., Carlton, Vic. If, owing to the lack of homes in the vicinity of chapel, and the immense suburban areas to be covered, the effort had failed, such failure could not have been thought a fair criterion of the value of this type of evangelism. But the effort proved highly successful, showing that this old yet new type of approach can be used well in other than residential districts.

Lygon-st. was most fortunate in having Reg. Enniss with his organising ability at its disposal. At the request of church Mr. Enniss associated himself with Mr. Wilson for the campaign; the combination proved to be very happy.

These two, giving themselves unreservedly to the venture, stirred and encouraged all connected with campaign. Great care was taken in planning. The list of prospects totalled 177 in 105 homes.

Almost all who were selected as visitors responded cheerfully. Instruction classes were handled carefully, every opportunity being given for questions and exchange of views. In all, 36 visitors had a share in the work, and on four consecutive evenings, twelve to fourteen cars went out soon after 7 p.m. Prayer groups met in many homes and at chapel during days of preparation and visiting.

Sunday, Nov. 28, had been named as "Membership Day," and will go down as one of the impressive and memorable days in Lygon-st. church's history. Both at morning and evening services the name of Christ was publicly confessed, and many were restored to active church membership. The church has had a wonderful harvest, no less than 50 having either made primary public confession of Christ or given a written pledge for renewed interest in things of the kingdom. Those who visited homes have been wonderfully blessed. They now have a joy which, to many, is a new and precious experience.

A fresh upsurge of spiritual life has been experienced in Lygon-st. church. There is a new awareness that the gift of the Holy Spirit has never been withdrawn and miracles are happening to-day in hearts of men and women as wonderful as anything that has ever taken place in the history of the church.—L. R. E. McClean.

## WORLD OF BOOKS

"THE CANDLE OF THE LORD," by Myron T. Hopper.

THE churches in America have developed worship for youth groups, enriching the lives of many young men and women. Various aids to worship have been published for use of youth leaders. The Bethany Press has forwarded this latest book for review. While some of the ritualistic suggestions will find little favor in Australia, there is a great amount of information provided which will be of great assistance to youth workers. The book is priced two dollars in America. Since it is not possible to buy from U.S.A. owing to dollar shortage, we are willing to lend our copy for brief periods to youth leaders, provided cost of postage is covered.



# Here and There

Mrs. Waterman is now out of Melbourne Hospital, and is convalescing at the home of Dr. and Mrs. E. R. Killmier.

Intending students of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, for 1949 are urged to make immediate application to the secretary, K. A. Jones.

Luff-Dewberry-Gibb fortnight's mission (Lidcombe, N.S.W.) closed, five confessions, six reconsecrations, thankoffering cleared all expenses.—Baker.

"H. M. Long mission at Harlaxton (Qld.) began final week with crowded tent despite rain; 27 decisions, two restorations, one reconsecration.—Winter."

On Saturday, Dec. 11, Mr. Ron. McLean and wife are expected to pass through Melbourne en route to Aoba, New Hebrides, leaving Sydney by plane on Dec. 15.

In Hinrichsen-Machin mission at Subiaco, W.A., marquee was crowded out, Nov. 28; four adults decided, twenty-seven to date; 500 men attend lunch hour meetings Midland workshops.

Miss E. Caldicott, missionary on furlough from India, travelling to Queensland by the "Stratheden," arrived in Melbourne on Monday, Nov. 29, and was to be welcomed at the missionary meeting at Lygon-st. chapel that evening.

At Kaniva, Vic., Visitation Evangelism has been used in this country centre with encouraging success. B. J. Combridge and G. Mathieson were associated in this task. At gospel service, Nov. 21, three confessed Christ, and on 28th, five others, in addition three were restored. There was a confession also at Yearlinga. Detailed report will appear next week.

On evening of Nov. 14, at Norwood, S.A., a young man was baptised and a young girl made the confession. Albert Anderson was speaker at sisters' Mission Band meeting, when slides of Indian mission were shown. Food gifts were also received to be sent to workers in India. J. I. Mudford was speaker at all meetings on Nov. 21. Last Dorcas meeting of year was held on Nov. 24, when food parcels were prepared.

At Bentleigh, Vic., Ladies' Mission Band sale of works for church building fund on Nov. 6 realised £50. A successful concert arranged by Ladies' Mission Band raised £28/10/- for building fund. Mr. Edgar, from Mission to Lepers, was speaker at Ladies' Mission Band birthday afternoon. Many visitors from sister churches were in a large gathering. A collection of £4/8/- was presented to Mr. Edgar to assist in work among lepers. W. Clay was speaker at worship service on Nov. 21. Evening service was conducted by J. Shaw, exchanging with R. J. Anderson. Mr. Anderson gave a challenging address on crusading for Christ on Nov. 28.

Bible school anniversary of Frankston-Moorooduc circuit (Vic.) on Nov. 14 and 21 was successful; speakers were M. Williams, L. E. Brooker, R. V. Holmes, T. Fitzgerald and T. Hagger. All addresses were excellent. Singing of scholars under R. V. Holmes, conductor, and Miss O. Hugo, organist, was enjoyed by large congregations. Offerings over period for Bible school amounted to £20. On Nov. 24, anniversary concert was given by school, assisted by Miss Connolly, Mr. Hunt and H. Lee. There was a large audience. Proceeds are for school hall fund. Usual meetings have been held at Moorooduc and Mornington; speakers, F. G. Adams and T. Hagger. F. Manning spoke at a recent C.E. meeting. On Nov. 28, T. Hagger preached at both services at Frankston. Miss Streader and Jill Cuthbert are ill in hospital. Mr. Smethurst is home from hospital and improving.

Mr. and Mrs. Burtt (sen.), who have been with church at Ascot Vale, Vic., some weeks, returned to Tasmania on Nov. 29. Travelling with them, Mr. Burtt and family and Miss Beryl McCallum, left for three weeks' holiday in Tasmania. On his return to Ascot Vale Mr. Burtt will take up duties as full-time preacher, after serving in part-time capacity over past two and a half years, while he was a student at college. On Nov. 27 a highly successful gymnastic display was presented by Girls' Club.

At Oakleigh, Vic., K. J. Patterson has been appreciated speaker at all services; attendances continue good. In large Bible class, Y.P. Endeavor Society, and cricket club, Mr. Patterson is meeting with young people. Hospital Sunday offering totalled £21/12/-. Bible school has entered new year with enthusiasm and increased attendances. At prize distribution on Oct. 31, 48 scholars received awards, having obtained more than 80 per cent. of marks. Three of these gained maximum marks. Examination certificates and exhibition awards also were distributed. Building fund benefited by £20 from concert given on Nov. 7 by Metropolitan Choristers. Audience which filled chapel enjoyed excellent programme. On Nov. 17, Young Women's Fellowship was addressed by Mrs. Alison Morris on conditions of people in Europe.

With deep regret church at Dulwich, S.A., records passing of Mrs. W. Jolly, who was laid to rest in Payneham cemetery on Oct. 28. Dorcas society recently sent five 10/- parcels from bulk food supplies in England. An offering for United Nations appeal for children taken at repeat performance of anniversary on Nov. 7 amounted to £12. At fellowship hour on night of Nov. 14, Mrs. Pritchard and Messrs. Rudd, Kentish and Cave gave their impressions of visit to W.A. for Federal Conference. A successful afternoon in aid of Christian Rest Home and Church Hall Chair Fund was held at home of Mrs. Pritchard on Nov. 25. On Nov. 6, films on Boys' Brigade were shown; 50 attended, including Mr. McEwan, Australian representative of B.B. New activities in C.E. Club are model yacht building and a life-saving class. All indoor clubs have closed for year. An end of year social, conducted by Mr. Stirling, was held on Nov. 26 in aid of Youth Department.

Mr. Norris, preacher of church at Unley, S.A., visited Bordertown to assist local church and to speak at district conference. Speakers at Unley on the Sunday were Dr. Trevor Turner and G. R. Stirling. On following Sunday the preacher exchanged with J. E. Brooke. A young married woman from hills district rededicated her life in response to gospel appeal by Mr. Norris on Oct. 31. Following resignation of Mrs. G. A. Jessup as evening organist because of ill-health, Miss Ella Muir has filled vacancy. House-to-house visitation of a selected area in neighborhood of church has commenced and will eventually cover a considerable area. Girls' gymnasium and choral class held a splendid demonstration to mark completion of year's activities. Mission Band had an enjoyable musical afternoon before going into recess over holiday period. Proceeds for home and overseas missions from mite boxes, donations and trading table exceeded £10. Letters expressing appreciation for gifts of food parcels continue to come from church members in England and missionaries in India. Mrs. G. R. Young has succeeded Mrs. Rosser as convener of supervisory committee.

A list of migrants reaching Australia on the "Empire Brent" on Nov. 23 is available for inspection at the executive, youth and social service offices in Melbourne.

At Surrey Hills, Vic., on Nov. 14, Miss D. Reynolds gave an interesting talk at quarterly youth tea. On Nov. 21, Ian McMurray was baptised. Same evening Mr. and Mrs. McMurray and Judith Jones made good confession. Church is enjoying spiritual blessing under leadership of Mr. Earle. Break-up of Men's Club on Nov. 24 took form of a ladies' night, when Dr. W. A. Kemp showed interesting films taken during his travels through America, England and Scotland.

Church at Annerley, Qld., is progressing since arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Latimer, who, despite housing difficulty, are cheerful and devoted in service. A large gathering at gospel service on Nov. 21 witnessed baptism of Miss C. Tavener, who made her decision previous Sunday. Boys' Club under B. Scott and D. Cranston is holding annual championship to be concluded with display and social. Y.P.S.C.E., of which Miss E. Cumming is secretary, is increasing in numbers, and all are having splendid night of fellowship. Girls' Club, under leadership of Mrs. Cumming and Miss B. Boettcher, is a popular auxiliary, with a membership of over 30 girls. Hopes are held for increased Sunday school attendance as result of growing enthusiasm for the work. Women's Guild, with Mrs. Haines president, is attended regularly by a good number of ladies, whose work is appreciated. Preparations for Christmas functions for children are under way.

## EASTERN DISTRICT (VIC.) HALF-YEARLY CONFERENCE

A SUCCESSFUL half-yearly conference of the Eastern District was held in the Ringwood chapel on Saturday, Nov. 20, commencing with a fellowship tea to which approximately 40 members sat. Although a basket tea, necessary catering arrangements were ably carried out by the ladies' catering committee, who were thanked at the conclusion by E. Gill and A. Handasyde. Mrs. E. Rodgers suitably responded.

The president, W. Quirk, presided over the meeting which followed, and welcomed the speakers, A. W. Stephenson and S. Neighbour. Apologies were received from Messrs. R. Graham (Boronia), F. Langford (Bayswater) and Keatch (Montrose). K. Crouch, of Doncaster, read the scripture reading.

The first speaker, A. W. Stephenson, apologised for the absence of the Victorian conference representative, Geo. Mitchell, and brought a greeting from conference. He spoke on Visitation Evangelism, outlining the growth of the movement, its scriptural and apostolic precedent, and its application to present-day conditions.

S. Neighbour then spoke on a Crusade for a Christian World. He issued a challenge to the hearers to use their utmost efforts in preventing the drain on church membership, in bringing more souls to accept Christ, and in restoring to fellowship those on the fringe of membership. A congregation of about 70 listened attentively to these thought-provoking and stirring addresses. In moving a vote of thanks to the speakers, J. E. Allan stated, "We record our appreciation of the messages of Mr. Stephenson and Mr. Neighbour, and assure them of our wholehearted support in giving and working, in this great work." A. Cameron seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously. Solos by Miss W. Sandells, and an elocutionary item by Miss E. Quirk, were enjoyed, and added to the success of conference. After a hymn had been sung, Mr. Cameron closed the session with prayer and benediction.

# News of the Churches

## Tasmania

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—Attendances at Lord's day services have been consistently good. S. H. Wilson continues a helpful and consistent ministry, his addresses being of high order. Annual Bible school picnic was held at Longford on Nov. 1, a large number of church members and parents of scholars also attending. School had attendance of 102 on Nov. 14. Y.P.S.C.E. tennis club has resumed activities on Saturday afternoons. Recent interstate visitors have been Mrs. Carroll (Vic.), Mr. Smith (Sunshine, Vic.), Miss Alamy (Parkdale, Vic.), Mr. Allison (Thornbury, Vic.), Mrs. Howard (Swanston-st., Melb.), Mrs. Paterson (Wiley Park, N.S.W.), and Mr. and Mrs. Bennett (Grote-st., S.A.). Ladies' Auxiliary held a successful American tea on Nov. 10, efforts realising £52. Final amount for College of Bible annual offering is £30/10/-. Renewal of fellowship with Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Warmbrunn has been enjoyed. Mr. Warmbrunn exhorted at worship service on Oct. 17. J. R. Story, of Unevangelised Fields Mission, gave an informative address on morning of Oct. 31. Speaker at November meeting of Men's Fellowship was Professor Sutherland, City Librarian, who gave a fine address on "India." Church has recently placed Bibles in pews for use of members and visitors.

## Western Australia

Inglewood.—On Nov. 21, R. Raymond conducted a men's meeting in evening, men of church assisting in service and rendering a choral item. Morning service was well attended, and G. Ewers was speaker. On Nov. 7 F. Ewers, of North Perth, was speaker. Among visitors recently were Mr. and Mrs. Clydesdale and Miss Dudley, Shepparton, Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. Heath, Maylands, S.A.; Mr. Clarke, Camberwell, and Mr. Anderson, Essendon, Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. Magor and Mr. Coventry, S.A. An inspiring address was given by R. Greenhalgh, of N.S.W.

Kalgoorlie.—E. C. Smith was speaker on morning of Oct. 24. Girls' Club conducted successful sale of work combined with social evening on Oct. 26, proceeds in aid of new building fund. On Oct. 30 A. Anderson, Federal F.M. secretary, showed films of mission work. He also spoke on morning of 31st. K. Jones conducted gospel service, after which he gave an interesting talk on college work illustrated with lantern slides. Church had visit from C. H. Hunt on Nov. 3. He conducted prayer meeting, also gospel service on Nov. 6, after which he showed films of work in British Seamen's Mission. Ladies' Mission Band conducted sale of work on Nov. 9. In evening ladies enjoyed an address by Mrs. McCallum, of New South Wales. On Nov. 15 a meeting was arranged to hear an address by Mr. Bailey, of China Inland Mission. Ladies' Mission Band held afternoon on behalf of B. & F. Bible Society on Nov. 17.

Fremantle.—A. Anderson addressed church on morning of Oct. 24. Two of the young people, Joy Caple and Ron McCarthy, have made the good confession. C. Young, from Victoria, was welcomed on morning of Oct. 31, while on special duties as escort chaplain to immigrants arriving at Fremantle, and continuing journey to Eastern States. He challenged all with his address. Church has sympathised with C. Sagers and family in sickness of Mrs. Sagers, who underwent a further operation. She is now out of hospital and convalescing. Church celebrated 56th anniversary on Nov. 7 with record attendances. Mr. Hinrichsen spoke in morning, when order of service was altered slightly to enable him to

speak also at Subiaco. Speaker for gospel service was Frank Pollard, who inspired with his address. Among recent visitors have been Mr. and Mrs. Hunt, Berri, S.A.; Mr. and Mrs. Darcey, Bambra-rd., Caulfield, Vic.; Mrs. Jenkin and Mrs. Campbell, Sydney. A large gathering attended a kitchen tea on Nov. 17 in honor of Audrey Caddy and T. Marshall, to be married shortly.

## New South Wales

Wiley Park.—Since opening of chapel attendances at Junior C.E. meetings have increased considerably. Credit is due to Miss Val Sutherland and her helpers, who plan many interesting and unusual programmes. Often juniors present number 25, and all are learning to take part with confidence. A happy afternoon was spent on Nov. 20, when juniors and leaders met at a social at Mansell's Hall. Recently a social was held to honor John Budgen and to make a presentation to him for his splendid work as past Y.P.C.E. superintendent. A hearty welcome was given at same function to incoming superintendent Ray Smith. In absence of Mr. Dewberry, while he and Mr. Luff were conducting a fortnight's mission at Lidcombe, addresses by Messrs. Baker, Leask and Greenhalgh were enjoyed.

Marrickville.—Visitors for home visitation campaign have been chosen and will go out during week supported by prayers of church. A social evening was arranged by choir in honor of Yvonne Lewis and Bob Johnson prior to their marriage on Nov. 20. Presentation of a standard lamp was made by Mr. Thomas on behalf of choir and church members. Final meeting of year for Women's Fellowship was a happy function, with Mrs. Greenhalgh (Women's Conference president) as speaker. Treasurer's statement showed disbursement of £42/10/- to various funds, in addition to overseas parcels. Newington report by Mrs. Harrison, and display of gifts prepared for Christmas distribution, indicated many hours of service on behalf of inmates. Proceeds of Christmas gifts made by sisters (approximately £15) will go toward purchase of vacuum cleaner for church use.

Broken Hill.—At annual teachers' meeting A. Clarke resigned after 25 years as superintendent of Bible school. His work has been greatly appreciated, and he was much loved by children. R. Warmbrunn has been appointed to the position, Mr. Clarke accepting position of assistant; B. Moore, secretary. All teachers were re-elected. Railwaytown (Wills-st.) school staff was also re-elected. Y.P.C.E. met at manse on Nov. 18, a happy meeting being held. J.C.E. is doing well. R. Warmbrunn and A. Clark have given helpful addresses at morning services at Wolfram-st., J. Cremer and L. Warren at Wills-st. Messages in song were given by Mrs. Warmbrunn; duet, Mr. and Mrs. L. Warren. Addresses and work of R. Hilford are appreciated. Mrs. Hosking was welcomed after several weeks in hospital. Recently formed Young Worshipers' League is well attended. Young people assisted evening service on Nov. 21. Malcolm Rough was leader of first part; Isobel Evans offered prayer; Thelma Mudford presented children's story; Alan Hosking read lesson. Allan Hilford was in charge of Y.W.L., who gave a united item in song and sang choruses. Church was grieved to hear that Mrs. Hilford is to leave for Adelaide to undergo operation.

## South Australia

Fullarton.—On Nov. 21 attendances were best for some time, 102 breaking bread for day. In morning B. W. Manning spoke. Members enjoyed fellowship with Mrs. Atkinson, of Carnegie, Vic. At gospel service Peter Mau conducted song service at 6.45. B. W. Manning introduced J. Coombe, of Nepal Mission (Regions Beyond), who gave a brief talk on India and followed with a stirring gospel address. Ladies' Guild held final meeting for year with a successful afternoon on Nov. 17.

York.—At October meeting of church officers, a committee was formed to consider entry into crusade. Attendance of Sunday school and other auxiliaries is fairly good. Junior and Intermediate Endeavorers decided to hold separate annuals this year. Juniors provided a splendid programme on Oct. 27, with Miss Jones speaker. Owing to unforeseen difficulties, Intermediate Endeavorers postponed annual until Dec. 1. Church attendance has been fair, and sickness less. F. Weeks is still far from well.

Prospect.—At fellowship meeting on Nov. 16, following devotional service, Miss Irwin, of National Fitness Council, gave a demonstration of physical activities. Men of church are holding working bees in connection with alterations being made to church property. Young folk from Prospect took part in annual State C.E. mystery hike on Nov. 20. Nov. 21 was a youth day, commencing at C.E. meeting, when R. Hepner addressed Endeavorers. Bible school teachers entertained classes at tea either in homes or at chapel, and children formed choir for evening service, when S. Matthews, of Semaphore, was speaker.

Hindmarsh Place.—S. L. Patching has concluded his ministry here, not quite completing five years. Ill-health caused shortening of his stay. On Nov. 10 an enjoyable social was given Mr. Patching and his wife. The folk presented him with a comfortable armchair and Ladies' Guild a book to Mrs. Patching. Some officers spoke of the good work the preacher and his wife had accomplished. F. G. Banks, with his wife, was welcomed to the church as leader. When manse tenants vacate preacher will take over full-time service for three years, most probably at end of January. Mission offerings have been well looked after—Miss Edna Vawser, Malayan Evangelical, Bolivian and Lepers.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—On Nov. 17, quarterly church social was held. Work of sisters in church was featured. Reports of their work were encouraging, and were well received and commended. Supper was provided, and a pleasant half-hour spent in social intercourse. On Nov. 21, morning service was broadcast from 5KA. E. Barnes, church secretary, presided, and W. Beiler gave an excellent address. Choir led by Frank Willing rendered an anthem and Mrs. Crowe the solo. Evening meeting was good, when W. Beiler preached. Choir rendered an anthem, and Miss Batchelor was soloist. Mrs. Beiler, Mrs. Bessie Barnes and Mrs. Cleveland, who have been absent through sickness, were welcomed. Mrs. Hartell is still laid aside with a broken ankle, but recovering.

Kilburn.—133 was attendance at 10 a.m. Bible school on Nov. 21, including 67 in kindergarten and two new scholars. At 11.15 a.m. service 30 young worshippers enjoyed story by David Brooks, of Maylands, and F. Collins addressed 26 adults. Harold Steward, of Nailsworth, gave interesting talk to Bible school teachers at 5.30 p.m., and conducted youth service at 7 p.m., when 36 adults and 43 children were present, many of whom indicated desire to accept Christ. Those will be interviewed by Mr. Collins. Church appreciates gift of 50 new Sankey hymnals and a music book from an anonymous source. Kindergarten superintendent (Mrs. Peacock) has



made many baskets for Christmas tree, and Mrs. Mansell and Mrs. Conigrave, of Prospect, have again contributed cuddly toys. Other teachers have made cowboy suits and cradle roll toys, whilst secretary of school (F. Lawrence) has made a number of beach bats. Thanks are extended to these helpers, also to A. Mackenzie for a Christmas tree. Sister G. Verco is again responsible for a fruitful canvass of district.

**Naracoorte.**—A. Hutson represented brethren at State conference, and Mrs. Hutson and Mrs. Killmier represented sisters. On Sept. 28 Girls' Club, under leadership of Miss Dorothy Killmier, held first anniversary, when girls entertained parents and friends. Ladies' Guild held a successful social afternoon on Sept. 29, when ladies of Church of England, Presbyterian and Methodist churches were invited, and meeting was largely attended. In evening Boys' Club held second anniversary service, another successful gathering being held. Church mourns loss of another staunch brother; on Oct. 25 A. Farrow passed away. Bible school anniversary was held on Nov. 7. It was an exceptionally wet day, and scholars sang only at afternoon service, and this was very well attended. Prizes were distributed. Mr. Coombe, returned missionary from India, now residing in Naracoorte, was special speaker for afternoon. A successful and largely attended Bible school picnic was held on Nov. 12. On evening of Nov. 13, a service was held to memory of late Mr. Farrow. Six members of church attended South-eastern District Conference at Bordertown on Nov. 12. A. Hutson has been speaker at all meetings recently. Church regrets to announce Mr. Hutson's resignation; he leaves for a new field in January.

**Cowandilla.**—R. Burns conducted services on Oct. 17 in absence of preacher at Pt. Pirie. At church social on Oct. 20, Mrs. Quinn gave an interesting travel talk on trip to England and Ireland. W. E. Fisher accepted an invitation to continue his ministry for three years at increased stipend. Boys' Club competed against Mile End church of Christ club at electric light cricket on Oct. 29. Despite weather which marred Bible school picnic at National Park on Oct. 31, a happy time was experienced. Geo. Hossack has recovered from illness. A delegation attended Flinders Park tent mission on Oct. 25. Hilton Baptist C.E. Society recently visited intermediate society. Y.P. Society visited Mile End society on Nov. 15; Miss L. Trowbridge presided. A training class has been formed for helping members who take active part at morning services. First lecture by W. E. Fisher was held on Nov. 3. On Nov. 17, Band of Hope Society held a successful meeting. J. Dixon is president, Miss L. Trowbridge secretary; 80 were present; 10 signed pledge. H. P. Pad-dick (State youth director) presented two films. W. E. Fisher assisted with games. Miss B. Docking represented society at queen crowning demonstration. Church extended sympathy to R. Ellis and Mrs. Staples in loss of loved one. On Nov. 21 W. E. Fisher preached at both services. Miss G. Beames assisted with a solo.

## Victoria

**Carnegie.**—Men's Fellowship held third anniversary tea on Nov. 21, when representatives of district churches brought greetings. Ladies of church ably catered for tea. Bob Woff sang two solos. A men's service was held at 7 p.m., when C. Jack, of Mildmay Movement, gave a helpful address. W. Coleman sang a solo. At close a presentation was made to J. Austin as a token of esteem and good wishes upon his approaching marriage and as he leaves district. Best wishes of the church go with him. Church regrets continued serious illness of Mrs. Phillips. David Walker continues to improve after illness.

**Hampton.**—On Nov. 26, a sale of gifts conducted by Hospital Auxiliary realised £79. At Christian Men's Society on 27th, an informative address on investigation methods was given by Mr. Brown, of C.I.B. On Nov. 28, H.M. offering was £19/5/1.

**Boronia.**—Church paper, "The Messenger," is now a four-page monthly publication, thanks to generosity of advertisers who pay for cost. Sister D. Niven is seriously ill. Ladies' Auxiliary held final meeting for year, addressed by matron of City Mission. Cricket club has had three successes out of four matches. Visiting speakers have been L. A. Trezise and A. M. Dickie. Combined church service and Red Cross parade were held in chapel on Nov. 28.

**Horsham.**—Bible school prize distribution was held on Oct. 31. At gospel meeting a senior scholar confessed Christ. Three were baptised on Nov. 7. A successful Bible school picnic was held at Wonwondah on Nov. 6. On Nov. 7 J. A. Wilkie, of Ballarat, addressed church. An amateur hour was held in school hall on Nov. 4, and a concert in aid of Christian Guest Home on Nov. 17. Haven Bible school held anniversary in Horsham school hall on Nov. 14, and repeated some items at gospel service. On Nov. 20, the marriage of Rona Chequer to Royal Abernethy was celebrated. On Nov. 21 G. Mathieson was absent at Kaniva assisting with a visitation evangelism campaign.

**North Williamstown.**—Temple Day meetings were well attended. D. Thomas and J. S. Lechte, M.L.A., gave splendid addresses. Offering was £90. Miss Lesley Allen and a male quartette rendered items. At a family meeting on morning of Nov. 21, 95 broke bread. In evening five were baptised. Auxiliaries continue to make good reports. Mrs. Errey gave a floral demonstration to young ladies which was appreciated. Mrs. G. Brown, Mrs. B. Thompson and Cam. Milne are in hospital, recovering from operations. Church was happy to have Alf. Green present on morning of Nov. 21 after long sickness. Fellowship is enjoyed with Vernon and Douglas families, from Altona.

**Wangaratta.**—Church has suffered loss by death of an active member, Mrs. A. Hessey, after short illness. Sympathy is extended to Mr. Hessey and daughter Maud (Mrs. Lloyd Jackel). Neil Campbell has returned home, his operation having been postponed. Mrs. Trippett had an accident and is suffering with a broken wrist. South Wangaratta Bible school, prents and teachers held an evening to express appreciation to Mr. Wakefield before he leaves district. Each week he attends South Wangaratta State school, a distance of seven or eight miles, on his bicycle, to give religious instruction. A book was presented to him, also a small gift to Mrs. Wakefield. The evening was held in home of Mr. and Mrs. Walker, South Wangaratta.

**Warragul.**—On Oct. 31, Mr. Jackel being sick, services were ably conducted by J. White (Yarragon) in morning and Mr. Byard in evening. On Oct. 28, young people gave a social to which all other young people's clubs were invited. There was a good attendance, and a happy time was spent. Mr. Jackel spoke at morning meeting on Nov. 7. At evening meeting four young men of C.E. society conducted service, and after a stirring address by Mr. Jackel two young ladies and two young men dedicated their lives to the service of the Lord. Mr. Jackel presented all C.E. members with their badges at this service. On Nov. 10, Ladies' Guild held a social. All other church guilds were invited, and a successful and enjoyable afternoon was spent.

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## DEATHS

**HESSEY.**—On Nov. 22, at the Wangaratta Hospital, Matilda Jane, the dearly beloved wife of Albert Bernard, loving mother of Maude, Mary, and loved grandma of Murray, Lloyd, aged 65 years. At rest.

**TYLER.**—On Nov. 26, at his home, 8 St. Andries-st., Camberwell, Arthur Henry, beloved husband of Lilian Annie, loved father of Arthur (dec.), Gladys (Mrs. Moore) and Ernest (dec.), aged 64.

"Till he come."

## IN MEMORIAM

**COMBRIDGE.**—In loving memory of our dear one, who was suddenly called home on Dec. 3, 1934.

"He giveth his beloved sleep."

—Inserted by his loving wife and daughters, May and Doris.

**GIBBS.**—In loving memory of our loved father, Douglas, who fell asleep Dec. 5, 1947; also our loved mother Alice, who fell asleep Jan. 28, 1940. "Severed only till he come." —Inserted by their loving daughters, Florence (Mrs. J. T. Price) and Elsie, Kyneton.

**MORPHETT.**—In affectionate memory of my dear sister Annie, who passed away on Dec. 2, 1945.

A day to remember, so sad to recall;

A dearly loved sister missed by us all.

—Inserted by her loving sister May.

**THOMAS.**—In loving memory of our wonderful dad and grandpa, James E. Thomas, who passed to higher service on Nov. 27, 1944. —Sadly missed by daughter Ruth, son-in-law John, and grandsons James and Donald.

## MINISTERS' WIVES' ASSOCIATION

Please note date of meeting—Friday, Dec. 10, 2.30, Swanston-st. lecture hall.

SWANSTON ST. (opp. Public Library).

SUNDAY, DEC. 5.

11 a.m., "A Complete Christian Compliment."

4.30 p.m., Study Group—Studies on Daniel.

5.15 p.m., Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., "A Great Preacher's Testimony."

(Baptism service.)

Preacher, Mr. K. A. Macnaughtan.

Sunday, December 12, "The Messiah."

## ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY.

PRAHRAN CHURCH, HIGH ST.

Missioners E. C. Hinrichsen and J. Machin will conduct both morning and evening services on December 12.

Singing by mission choir.

Come early and secure a seat.

ASCOT VALE CHURCH OF CHRIST

will hold annual

TEMPLE DAY SERVICE

on SUNDAY, DEC. 12, at 11 a.m.

All past and present members are urged to be present.

# Greetings and Reports

AS very few meetings of the women's organisations are held during the month of January, no programme is arranged. But best wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy new year are extended to all readers of this page.



## FEDERAL CONFERENCE

THOSE of us who went to Perth to the Federal Conference felt that our Western Australian people were most hospitable to the visitors from the Eastern States. Reports will tell of the business transacted and the addresses given at conference, but the gracious hospitality and the many kindnesses received will live in the memories of those who were privileged to be there.



## STATE EXECUTIVE REPORTS

**New South Wales.**—On Nov. 5, the Earlwood sisters, under leadership of Mrs. Tabrett, took the devotional session at City Temple. A quartette entitled "Jesus Took My Burden and Left Me with a Song" was rendered, after which Mrs. Smith read John 3: 1-23. Mrs. Walker sang, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross." Mrs. Selby, vice-president of Earlwood work, read a story entitled "And Co.," and this session was closed with prayer. This being quarterly conference meeting, reports were given by superintendents of home missions, overseas missions, social service, isolated sisters, Ashwood House, Newington, and after each a sister was called upon to offer a prayer for that particular part of the work. Mrs. Maxwell pleaded for more workers for the home missions field, and Mrs. Hillhouse spoke about the wonderful response made when 59 quilts besides other articles were brought in for overseas missions. Mrs. Macarthur reported that £37/2/- was taken on the occasion of the Sunshine Fair, with which our Social Service Committee has been affiliated for years. The treasurer, Miss Verco, would be pleased to receive all "budget" money by Dec. 31, this being closing date of books.

**Queensland.**—November meeting of Women's Conference Auxiliary was held in Ann-st. chapel on Friday, 5th, at 11 a.m. Devotions were taken by Albion sisters, Mrs. P. C. D. Alcorn leading. Later Mrs. E. Potter (home mission superintendent) gave a helpful address, "Is it Nothing to You?" Her text was taken from Lam. 1: 12 and 18. Nineteen answered roll-call, including Mrs. C. Cole, of Malvern-Caulfield, Vic. Eight churches were represented. In absence of Mrs. Haworth, president, who with several others was attending half-yearly conference at Rockhampton, Mrs. Alcorn, vice-president, presided over the business sessions. Sisters were asked to take to their guilds the need for helping to raise the £165 necessary to liquidate debt on lighting plant at Carnarvon aborigine mission station. In connection with social service, Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Stout were appointed to study social and moral obligations of marriage. Members of guilds are needed who will be willing to undertake follow-up visitation of patients when discharged from hospital. A number of guilds plan to hold musical luncheons during the next few weeks before going into recess. All meetings at Rockhampton during conference were inspiring. It was good to visit the sisters in the northern centres. Both visitors and residents enjoyed rich fellowship.

**South Australia.**—Monthly meeting of Sisters' Auxiliary was held at Grote-st. on Thursday,

Nov. 4, at 2 p.m., when Mrs. Fax presided over business session. Fifty delegates answered roll-call. Home mission superintendent reported £5/3/1 had been collected during month of October, also overseas mission, £4/9/-. Missionary prayer was given by Mrs. Bartlett. Obituary report.—Mrs. Prior (Unley), Mrs. Jolly (Dulwich) had received the home-call. A prayer for bereaved was offered by Mrs. Butler. In hospital report, Miss Leedham said that 89 visits had been paid to sick and aged, and that committee visited Unley mission band, when gifts were given to the committee for the sick. Mile End sisters held a gift afternoon and handed some acceptable gifts and 7/- in cash to the hospital committee. Cottage prayer meetings had been held with the following shut-in sisters—Mrs. Newell (Grote-st.), Mrs. Wright (Henley Beach), Mrs. Cook (Hindmarsh). These meetings are enjoyed. Mrs. Verco (home mission superintendent) introduced the speaker Mr. Fitzgerald, whose subject was "World Crusade—Jesus in the Home of Martha and Mary."

**Tasmania.**—September meeting was well attended. Devotional session was led by Mrs. Allen, and a solo was sung by Mrs. Alderton. "Blessing" bags are being used for home missions, a special drive being made to increase annual gift to that work. Four sisters from north and one from south were appointed delegates to Federal Conference. October meeting was led by Mrs. Plummer (president of executive), with good attendance. Several sisters are having "afternoons" and "evenings" for home mission funds. All departments are working very well.

**Victoria.**—Mrs. Ploog, State president, was in the chair at November meeting, at which there were 85 ladies present. Devotional period was led by Miss Haines, of home mission office. A special welcome was extended to Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Colbeck, of Launceston, Tas., and Mrs. Evans, late of prayer committee. Mrs. Colbeck brought "echoes" of Federal Conference. President announced names of Federal Conference officers, and offered congratulations and best wishes from all present. They are as follow: President, Mrs. J. Turner; vice-president, Mrs. G. Mitchell; secretary, Mrs. W. F. Nankivell; assistant secretary, Mrs. C. Brough; treasurer, Mrs. Cartmel; committee members, Mrs. McCann and Mrs. E. L. Williams. Mrs. Nankivell made clear the object of the peace campaign, and urged all to support it by promising to speak and work for peace at all times. Mention was made of the passing of Miss Stephens, of Mitcham, and Mrs. Sargent, of Brunswick, who had reached the great age of 104 years. The loved ones of these two sisters were remembered in prayer led by Mrs. Cartmel, who also commended Mrs. Waterman to the care of our heavenly Father. Mrs. Oliver reported that £46 had been received for the sick Bible-woman in India.

## CHRISTIAN IDEALS

(Continued from page 556)

Government, but in the words of Jesus himself, and that efforts will be doubled rather than decreased, following the exit of the British control of India. The opportunities are vast indeed. Can we rise to them? The next five years will be critical ones for India, and especially for the Christian movement in India. Let us pray for the work and give so that it shall be done with greater zeal and zest than ever before. There is no limit to the power of the gospel of Christ. Let us redouble our efforts, then, to win this land, which once was considered to be the brightest jewel in the crown of England, so that it may be the brightest jewel in the diadem of Christ, the King of kings and Lord of lords. The Christian church should have no "craven fear of being great." Let us have faith in the words of Jesus when he said, "Ye are the salt of the earth." India needs the salt of Christian teaching and practice, and with it, even the decayed ideals and practices of Hinduism may be converted into Christian growth. We have the light of the world, and should not hide it under the bushel of mere business relations, but should make it shine upon the lampstand of Christian missions.

## LIFE MORE THAN BREAD

(Continued from page 557)

A boy left the village where he had grown up to go to Edinburgh for an examination. He had high anticipations of the city. His first impressions were disappointing. The city seemed to be roofed in and stuffy. There were trains wherever he went. The shops were not as big as he thought they would be. Then he saw a flight of stairs. He made his way up them, and what a surprise awaited him! Edinburgh stretched out before him. He had been poking around the station. That had discovered that Edinburgh was more than a station. When we climb the stair of faith we discover that life is more than bread.

## BOOKS FOR GIFTS.

"Radiant Freedom." Story of Emma Picczynska, a noble Swiss saint, 5/-.

"The Quest of Abraham," by Violet E. Turner (U.A.M.). A narrative of the life of "the man of faith," 4/6.

"Pocket Bible Handbook," by H. H. Halley. An abbreviated Bible Commentary; Archaeological Discoveries; How We Got the Bible; Epitome of Church History, 19/6.

"Daily Light." Morning and evening readings in the words of Scripture, 7/9.

"Children of the Burma Road," by Winifred Embery and Frances Flannigan. Text and accompanying illustrations appear on opposite pages, 9 in. x 7 in., 7/9.

"Child's Story Bible," by Catherine F. Vos, 584 pages, well illustrated, 25/-.

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November 30, 1948

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## 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.)

### CLERGY AND LAITY

IT is a pity, as there was such a great gathering at the conference at Amsterdam or Lambeth, that they should have dwelt upon the above as per reports in the press and by some who attended as per the columns of the "Christian." This distinction will hinder Christianity in the future as it has done for the past hundreds of years. To say that the ordinances, or the sacraments, as they are called, can only be administered by one in "holy orders," or by an ordained minister, is to say something Christ never taught. He said, "Call no man father (that is in a spiritual sense), for one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren."

The apostles gathered from Christ's ministry, and themselves also taught that the believers of Peter's day had this individual privilege, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ (1 Peter 2: 5), that is, say they, "Ye are a royal priesthood," or in other words, they taught the priesthood of believers.

The apostles' ministry was a divine calling, not a profession. It has to be admitted, however, that there have been noble men in the Christian ministry—such, for instance, as Bonar of Scotland, the Wesleys, Dr. Watts and scores of others; but their noble efforts came to the world not through sacerdotalism but in spite of, or apart from, it. A will cannot be proved and the property inherited until the testator is dead (Heb. 9: 16, 17). Just as Christ needs no successor to his throne because he is still alive and still occupies it, so none can succeed the apostles in their position of pre-eminence over the church, for the simple reason that these men are at this moment alive in the unseen world. The teaching therefore of apostolic succession or special privilege is without any warranty of scripture.—T. J. Johnston, Launceston, Tas.

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**"THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN"**

Printed and Published at  
524-530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne, C.I.  
FJ2524.

Editor: A. W. Stephenson, M.A.

Manager: D. E. Pittman.

Subscription.—Through Church Agent,  
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