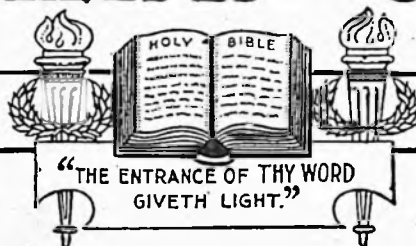


Woolley.

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## The Religion of Slaves

WHY has Christianity been attacked? Many are the answers. Some used to say, "It is a religion of slaves." That was enough to turn many from it. Slaves did find a refuge in Christ. In his service they found how to make the best of their lot. Slavery was surrounded with glamor. To slave for others was made the highest task in life.

Terms making clear what Christians ought to do were well known to ancient Greek and Roman slaves. Christianity did not set men free from duty; it only lifted service to a higher level. Christianity gave a higher motive to the routine tasks of life. In this way many slaves lost the weight of their chains and found joy in a world once full of sadness.



### JESUS A SLAVE

There is truth in the charge that Christianity is the religion of slaves. Jesus made himself a slave. He had no need to do it, but he chose to do so. His life was full of service for others. When he once sought rest the demands of service were so pressing that he forgot what he wanted to do and began to serve the needy people about him. The Son of man came not to be waited upon by slaves, but to serve as a slave. That was the manner in which he summed up his life. Jesus came to minister. He came to serve as a deacon. While the Greek word changed as the years passed, the root meaning gives a picture of a slave at work. A traditional view of the word (diakonos) shows us a man who is covered in dust caused by running in the service of his master. Later it marked out the man who ran to and fro, waiting on tables at the feast. The man who would follow Jesus must give up the thought of being in a position of worldly honor. He who would serve like Christ as a "deacon" must be will-

ing to do humble duties. He must serve his fellows as a slave would a master. As Christ became the slave of all, even to the limit of giving his life, so we must make all men our masters and serve them for God's glory. However, our service must be for their good, and always with the view to making them better. We are not called to be their fellow-slaves in sin, but to be their helpers in righteousness.



### PAUL A BOND SLAVE

Paul, whose manner suggests he was far from being servile and meek, in his letter to the church at Rome calls himself a slave (doulos). He takes to himself a word full of reproach. The word differs from that Jesus used of himself. Here we have pictured a person who is in chains. A man, once savage and untamed by nature, has now been made quiet by bonds. Paul, the re-



Paul, the Bond Servant, in Chains.

bellious and cruel opponent of the infant church, was captured by Christ. He gave up obeying his own inclinations. Christ became his new Master. Life for Paul was now to do the will of his new Lord. No slave suffered so much at the hands of a master as Paul did for his Lord. He was flogged, stoned, starved and humiliated. On service for Christ, he endured the hardship of travel and the perils of shipwreck and robbers. For Christ he toiled to maintain the life of the churches. Although it would have been easier for him to die, he desired rather to live and to continue in the flesh to serve his Master. This is the type of self-sacrificing service that has marked the life of reformers, missionaries, preachers and social workers throughout the 2000 years of Christian witness. Such devout slavery has saved millions, changed intolerable social conditions and given comfort to multitudes. Christ demands this slavery from his followers. He gets this service freely as none other can get by force. Christ's love enslaves, and wins unreserved toil for the kingdom of God.



### MARK THE GALLEY WORKER

Another term used in the New Testament of those who labor for Christ gives a glimpse of men toiling and sweating at the oars of an ancient ship. John Mark was called to join Paul's mission party as a minister (hyperetes). The English word "minister" sounds soft. It does not suggest unrelenting toil. However, the Greek word it translates speaks of rowers; men committed to the task of pulling a ship against wind and tide. The work was so heavy free men refused it. Slaves were eventually given the task. What more hateful work could be undertaken than that of the galley slave? The early workers of the Christian church were called to minister, to slave like men at the oar.

(Please turn to page 76)

# New Relationship in the Changing World

## Prison Reforms

THE Criminal Justice Bill before the British Parliament seeks to get rid of those savage decrees that blot human history. Once "criminals were crucified and Christians were thrown to the lions." For minor misdeeds many were banished from Britain to Australia as convicts. By gradual reforms better methods of punishment have been introduced into British law. In accordance with the recommendations of the Departmental Committee on Corporal Punishment, this new bill aims to remove once and for all the powers of courts to pass sentences of whipping, and only retains the power to order corporal punishment for grave offences against prison discipline. It abolishes hard labor and penal servitude, leaving only one form of prison sentence, which will be imprisonment. Henceforward no court will be able to impose imprisonment on a person under 21 unless it is of opinion that there is no other appropriate method of dealing with him. No Court of Summary Jurisdiction will have the power to order imprisonment for a person under 17, and even a Court of Assize or Quarter Sessions will not be able to imprison a person under 15. In regard to capital punishment, the Government's intentions are not yet known, but it is decided in the Bill that no sentence of death may be pronounced if it appears to the court that the convicted person is under 18.

"Much evil has been done by sending young persons to prison in the period during which they are remanded or committed for trial. At present remand homes exist to which persons between 14 and 17 may be sent during periods of waiting; henceforward they are to be made available for persons up to the age of 21. Other institutions, named detention centres, are to be provided in which persons between 14 and 21 may be sentenced to be detained for a period of three months, and in some cases for six months. For them the basis of treatment will be discipline and hard work, and the punishment (which is an alternative to imprisonment) is intended to be primarily deterrent."

"Criminal law, here or in any country, gives, of course, only one half of the war waged by a State against crime," the editor of "Britain To-day" writes. "Most important of all is that side of the national effort which goes to removing the conditions of crime, of checking it before it is committed. Prevention is better than cure—prevention which takes the form of right education, the removal of slums and bad housing, the abolition of poverty. When all has been done that can be in that sphere, in the provision of healthy environment and social opportunity, crime will decrease."

## Communists and the Gospel

AROUND the town of La Spezia, Italy, the centre of great evangelical work, there are several daughter towns, in which tens of thousands of people live, many of whom have been strongly influenced by Communist, and even anarchist, ideas. H. H. Pullen, the evangelist, reports. These have taken root more easily because of terrible conditions—under-nourishment, unemployment, short supplies and the prevailing discontent.

Now in the midst of all these people, and in the face of obvious difficulties, the Spezia Mission is carrying on its work. Beside the regular services in mission centres, services

have also been held in homes; and through their witness and influence, the younger Christians have brought many of their contemporaries under the sound of the gospel. They are beginning to discern between evangelical faith and the repression of Roman Catholicism, and long dormant influences are stirring in men and women who were children in the mission's Bible schools, and were thus well taught in the scriptures.



Christ Ministers to Needy.

## Baptism A New Relationship

MANY current church journals give articles setting out the New Testament teaching on baptism. A new understanding of this ordinance is being shown by Christian scholars. S. J. Voke, B.D., in "The Life of Faith," writes the following: "If any man be in Christ, there is a new creation; the old things are passed away; behold, they are become new" (2 Cor. 5: 17, R.V.). These words indicate that conversion is a passing from one world into another; from an old creation into a new. An illustration may be of assistance here. Peter in his first epistle refers to the ark and the saving of eight souls through water. He then says, "Baptism also now saves you in an antitype—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" (1 Peter 3: 21). Here he connects the flood with baptism.

The pre-flood world was one of sin and corruption, upon which divine judgment was pronounced and poured forth. Salvation was possible only by a baptism into the flood, involving a passing through it to the dry land of a new order. Noah and his family entering the ark, saw the torrents of judgment close their former world for ever; old things passed away. The ark passed through into a resurrection world in which all things were made new. Noah's salvation was dependent upon his passing through the waters of judgment, out of the old life into a new.

This is the type of which the Christian experience is the antitype. Sin is not merely a question of individual action; it is also

the condition of society, the evil consequence of which has polluted the whole nature of the human race. We live in an evil world, a sinful humanity, which is organically one. And we are part of it, cells in the body of the race. We belong to the old man, which exists in us all.

Such a world is involved in divine judgment. Now, Christ in his death passed through that divine judgment on our behalf. Like the ark, he moved through the waters of death into a resurrection life, and in so doing represented mankind. He incorporated the race within himself, in the view of God, so that when he died all died. In the judgment of the cross, the One included the all (2 Cor. 5: 14).

That is one aspect in which the work of the cross is viewed as summing-up human nature and sin in judgment. But there is another. The believer, in coming to Christ in faith and surrender, becomes identified with the work of the cross. In his very coming, his penitence and faith, he accepts the ringing down of the curtain upon his former life of self and sin, for he realises it as having passed under judgment in the cross of Christ. Not only have his sins been borne by the Redeemer; representatively, his nature, his self-life, was involved. Therefore in his entrance into Christian life, expressed by faith and in baptism, he is cut off in Christ from his former world—not merely from his past life as a sequence of experience, but from all that is meant by the old man—the common body of sinful humanity and the self-life which still exists within his own personality. He is crucified to the world; dead to sin and self. He has now been incorporated into the new man, which is Christ and the church. And in baptism he passes symbolically through a dividing stream, even as Christ passed from his incarnation to his resurrection through the waters of the cross. It is baptism which declares in a dramatic action this profound experience.

## Formosan Headhunters Believe

FOR fifty-one years Japan occupied Formosa, and during that time the Bible was a forbidden book, James Dickson has reported in British papers. No missionaries were allowed to visit the people, among whom was a mountain tribe of 200,000 who have been known as headhunters. In spite of these restrictions a young man and a middle-aged woman became believers through contact with Chinese Christians, and after training went back to witness to their own people. They were forbidden to hold services, but visited their relatives and friends and preached the gospel to them. Later a few Japanese Bibles were smuggled in, but the police found them and imprisoned the young man they considered responsible.

When the missionaries left Formosa in 1941 there were only two baptised Christians in the mountains: when they first returned in 1946 he found over 4000, and churches being built in many villages. The Chinese churches on the coastal plain were doing their best to instruct the new believers, and often more than a hundred of these "headhunters" would be present at their communion service, receiving baptism, after many weeks of teaching. James Dickson says that he has preached to congregations numbering over a thousand of these people.

## The Australian Christian

# Behind Closed Doors

*G. Percy Pittman calls upon the church to open doors and to advance to victory, relying on the power of the risen Lord.*

THE doors were shut for fear of the Jews, and yet Jesus had risen from the dead. He had broken the imperial seal from the stone, burst open the gates of death, and made the guard quake and become as dead men. He had opened the door of the everlasting kingdom to all believers. He was alive, but his disciples covered behind closed doors, afraid lest the Jews should break in upon them and kill them, and nip their new religion in the bud. Jesus had risen, but they could not bring themselves to believe the clear testimony of the women, and Peter and John and others of their number. They felt that such news was too good to be true, whereas in fact it was too good to be false, for it was in line with all that Jesus had revealed to them of the power and love of the Father, and in full harmony with his plans for them and the world. But they could not believe, and they shut the doors and bolted them for fear of their enemies. And these were the men on whom alone Jesus was relying to carry the news of his eternal kingdom, at the risk of their lives, to all the nations of the earth.

When once these same disciples plucked up courage to come out from behind their shut doors into the open, they began to do things they had never imagined possible. They advanced upon hostile Jerusalem, alien Samaria, and the pagan nations in the uttermost parts of the earth. The world-power of Rome tried to prevent her subjects from adoring the Man she had crucified, but the bruised heel crushed the head of the serpent, and the "decline and fall of the Roman Empire" coincided with the rise and triumph of the empire of the Nazarene.

Not long after the passing of Rome, Mohammedanism arose, claiming a divine commission to supersede Christianity, and at first threatened to overwhelm the church in all parts of the known world, but in 732, at Tours, Charles Martel smote the invading Saracens so mightily that Islam has ever since been a receding tide, while Christianity has never ceased to advance.

Japan, in the sixteenth century, expelled the Jesuit missionaries because they saw they were becoming a menace to the State, and four hundred years later she made a bold bid to destroy the leading Christian nations, but to-day MacArthur the Christian is telling the Japanese people what to do to save themselves from extinction as an Asiatic power, and Kagawa tells us that Christianity is spreading among the people of Japan to-day more rapidly than ever before.

Russia, disgusted with the infamous monk Rasputin, who had been teaching the people to sin deeply in order to attain repentance and salvation, had him assassinated, and then proceeded to attempt to annihilate Christianity in favor of materialistic communism; but to-day the teachings of Tolstoy, based on the Sermon on the Mount, are being read more widely in Russia than ever before, and there are millions of Baptists among the villages in all parts of the Soviet Union, and these are acting as leaven in all the land.

The powers of our corrupt human nature and the leaders of spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places have been doing their worst all along to prevent the advance of Christianity, with a most notable attempt in our days through Hitler and Mussolini, but to-day there are more Christians in the world than ever before, and a larger number of converts were won during the past century than during all the preceding centuries; and all this has come as a result of the abandonment

by the church of the policy of the shut door, and coming out into the open under the banner of the Crucified.

There is a tendency to-day for the church to crouch behind closed doors instead of advancing everywhere to fulfil her world-wide task. There is, for instance, the closed door of sectarian exclusiveness which is hindering the progress of the kingdom even in places where the gospel is only beginning to be proclaimed. I know a large district where certain influential missionaries are forbidding their converts to have anything to do with the converts of the only other mission in the place because they have not been confirmed by their own particular brand of bishops. They have not sufficient staff to follow up their own converts and work among them themselves, and they forbid them to have fellowship with those who could help them, and whom they could help in the work of the kingdom. The advance of the gospel in many parts of the foreign field is being hindered by narrow-minded tactics such as these.

The church is sometimes found to-day crouching behind the closed doors of the opinions of men. Christians are afraid of being thought peculiar and puritanical, and the fear of man bringeth a snare. Many sit for hours imbibing the obscenity of a certain class of films, or secretly gloating over indecent literature, while the worship and service of the church have no attraction for them. Some are afraid of being laughed at as prudish if they do not follow the immodest fashions of the day. The public dance, thriving on sex appeal and illicit drinking, draws our young people into the net of the world and robs them of all taste for spiritual things.

The church is often seen hiding behind the closed doors of selfishness. We are afraid of spending too much of our money on the work of the Lord, forgetting that he will repay even in this life a hundredfold, at his own time and in his own way. We are afraid of spending too much of our leisure in his service, ignorant of the fact that spiritual activity recharges the soul with power for all kinds of effective work.

The church is sometimes found hiding to-day behind the closed doors of Mammon. Breweries still receive support from some members of churches. Gambling is spread-



*Jesus Seeks to Open Closed Doors.*

ing everywhere, and in the form of lotteries, raffles and guessing competitions is popular among promoters of church sales and garden parties.

When the church comes out into the open, and claims the power of Christ's resurrection and the grace of his Spirit for every phase of life, she will advance once more in the successful prosecution of her world-wide mission. The resurrection has opened a source of spiritual power which only needs to be relied upon and brought to bear on the problems of all the peoples in our troubled world to-day to bring peace and a new hope to them all. Only doubt and fear can limit the universal extension of the faith once delivered. Christ is risen, and has become the firstfruits of a multitude that no man can number, of all tribes and tongues, and of forces of moral and spiritual advancement which Christianity always involves. Faith goes ever forward in the open, fighting the good fight, subduing kingdoms, working righteousness, realising the promises, stopping the mouths of lions, quenching the violence of fire, escaping the edge of the sword, out of weakness being made strong, waxing valiant in fight, turning to flight the armies of aliens. And all because she follows a risen Christ wherever he may lead, and refuses to hide behind closed doors.

## Aborigines Mission Advance

THE Federal Aborigines Mission Board has pleasure in announcing the next major advance in our native mission work.

Within three years our missionary staff has increased from three to seven at Norseman and Carnarvon. Subsidy is paid at Mooroonpa, and from time to time there are other helpers.

Norseman has over 30 native children. The mission is growing in favor with both native people and white. Its size is steadily increasing. Carnarvon's needs constantly press our equipment to capacity. Two large dormitories and mission school just completed bring the capacity of the mission to at least 50 children. Larger numbers of children enable many more contacts with the older people. The rapid establishment of this mission, within no more than two years since we secured the land, has been a worthy achievement in the history of native missions in Australia.

The Board has carefully surveyed future requirements as our brotherhood enters its second-

ary stage in native missions. Including Child Endowment and Native Affairs subsidy, the income for twelve months ended Dec. 31, 1947, was £4571. Such an annual figure demands wise administration and a constant barometer on the pulse of details on mission fields. This figure will not only need to be maintained, but as the missions expand in size and in usefulness will be improved. Hitherto our efforts attending to the multitude of almost daily requirements in secretarial and organising matters have been voluntary. The work during some months of the year has demanded practically the exclusive use of a secretary's time, together with facilities of a business office with competent stenographers. While this service has been gladly given, some of the important features of administrative work could

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not be attempted, such as deputations to the States, publicity enabling churches and individuals to be kept well informed, and other things of useful contribution to our mission enterprise. The time has now arrived for this work to be undertaken. We must maintain and consolidate our present missionary success. We must keep the brotherhood aborigines mission work in a healthy condition, worthy of our Australian brotherhood.

The Board, therefore, set out the whole situation for consideration by State committees. It proposed the appointment of an organiser-secretary to work under the direction of the Federal Aborigines Mission Board. All the States have endorsed the proposal.

Surveying the requirements of ability and experience demanded by such an appointment, the Board nominated D. G. Hammer as the one suited in every way. The States have readily endorsed this appointment. Mr. Hammer has had experience in missionary work, both overseas and with aborigines. He, together with Mrs. Hammer, met the almost insurmountable problems of the Carnarvon field, establishing it in the face of strong opposition without causing permanent resentment in the community, which could not have been possible with less firm and diplomatic handling.

The commissioner and officers of the West Australian Native Affairs Department have frequently referred to Mr. Hammer's acceptable administration as far as their department is concerned. We have much for which to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hammer that our Carnarvon mission has been successfully established.

He has constantly kept before the Board a progressive, business-like and forceful outlook on the problems as they came. With each succeeding obstacle he has shown particularly, loyalty to the brotherhood, and loyalty to the native cause in the eyes of the brotherhood, when personal desires might easily have made him and Mrs. Hammer give up. Our brother's qualifications as a public speaker and Christian leader are well known.

The strain of the pioneering conditions has taken serious toll of the energies of both our brother and sister, and it is fitting at this time, when their growing children need consideration for education and family life, that Mr. Hammer should be appointed to this responsible position of Federal organiser-secretary for our aborigines mission work.

It is desirable that they should be relieved of their duties at Carnarvon as early as possible to commence this larger important work. The Board is seeking a married couple who will devote themselves to this grand adventure for Christ and the natives.—Maston Bell.

## THE RELIGION OF SLAVES

(Continued from front page)

A recent suggestion advanced is that Mark's task was teaching new converts the truths of the gospel. After converts had been won, there was need for instruction to be given. What a difficult task it is to ground new converts in the faith! Are we neglecting this difficult work? The numerous names struck off the rolls of churches suggest we are failing here. We are in need of more Christians who are prepared to toil like ancient rowers so that men and women may be instructed more perfectly in the Christian life.

Christianity is the religion of slaves. Christ does make slaves of all faithful disciples. The creative power of the church is due to the willingness of so many members who are prepared to serve Christ and their fellows sacrificially.

When we begin to count the things we ought to have, we begin to be miserable; but when we begin to be thankful for the things we really possess, we begin to be happy.—C. H. Hepworth.

# Indian Co-Workers' Messages

DR. K. KOLHATKAR, one of our leaders at Baramati, writes thanking the board and brotherhood for Christmas greetings. The doctor was president of a large C.E. convention gathering held at Baramati at the end of December. Representatives came from all parts of the Marathi-speaking area, and the convention was a big success. The doctor adds, "We are doing good work in village preaching,



Dr. Patil is a capable preacher, a good singer both in the Indian language and English, and is an excellent interpreter for an English-speaking visitor.

and are having full co-operation with the local church."

It is interesting to add that Dr. Kolhatkar has a clinic in Baramati town which he calls "Emmanuel Charitable Dispensary." Here he does a splendid work and gives a worthy Christian witness. He takes with one hand from his paying patients, and gives it out with the other to the poor of the district in medical aid.

Dr. S. S. Patil was thanked by the board for his faithfulness and attention to duty after the departure of Dr. G. H. Oldfield till the return of Dr. L. J. Michael. Acknowledging the board's letter, Dr. Patil writes:—

"I am glad to note that my work has been appreciated. It is a wonderful experience for me to have carried on the work from the time of Dr. Oldfield's departure to Dr. Michael's arrival. The Lord has been all along my great help, and he blessed me so wonderfully with health and strength and guidance that I was able to do my best for him; it is such a great experience that I cannot forget easily. I feel happy at the thought of his constantly blessing me in his service, and I have great joy in my heart that he will use me for his service as he thinks best.

"The hospital work is going on well. We need to have more buildings for indoor patients and a new good ambulance for hospital work. The present ambulance car has had its day, I think, for it needs repairs off and on. I have had a good month's holidays, and feel very much refreshed. It has been a great pleasure to me to hear from Dr. Oldfield from time to time, and this fact makes me to feel the tie not separated."

## SALARY INCREASES FOR CO-WORKERS

A COMMITTEE appointed in India to review the salaries of co-workers completed their task and reported their findings to the Committee of Management. Their findings were

approved by the committee, and allow for co-workers' salaries to be increased as from Jan. 1, 1948. Commenting on this resolution the field secretary says:

"This work has been completed thoroughly, and should be to the satisfaction of all our workers. Some workers have been put up into higher grades, for efficient and faithful service, and this will mean higher basic salaries for them. Some have had general increases in other ways, and teachers have been brought in line with the Government rates of pay. The overall increases involve a sum of between Rs. 160 and Rs. 180 per month, but the actual mission liability will only be in the vicinity of about Rs. 100 per month, as the other will be made up by Government grants. The changes were not made retrospective, but will come into force immediately."

These findings are yet to be ratified by board, but the board are likely to endorse fully these findings since the field were encouraged to go into the question of co-workers' salaries. With the recent increases in allowances to missionaries added to that of co-workers, the addition to the home budget will be not less than £450 for the current year.



## REFRIGERATOR FOR LIVING LINK

THE Victorian Women's Mission Band, with second-mile giving, have provided £127 for the purchase of a refrigerator for Sister L. Foreman, their living link missionary. These sisters are liberal in their giving, providing each year funds for home missions, foreign missions and College of the Bible, accompanied each year by some form of "special" or "specials." Through the F.M. allocation, two living link missionaries are supported, the one mentioned above and Mrs. W. Waterman, New Hebrides. Mrs. Waterman has already been provided with a refrigerator by these good sisters. Congratulations, sisters! We appreciate your enthusiasm and your generosity.



## INDIA'S VILLAGES

SHOWING the importance of rural India, the late Mahatma Gandhi said, "The future of India will be settled not by her cities but by her villages." So also the future of the church in India will be settled not by the city churches but by the rural churches. If we want to see the church in India grow spiritually, socially, educationally and economically, we have to help first the rural church to grow spiritually, socially, economically and educationally, and become worthy to give Christ's measure in a free India.

In order to accomplish this great cause the rural church ought to be a living church. Only a living church will be able to give the message to religious, social, educational, physical and economic life of new India.



This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-rd., Tranmere, S.A. M.O's should be made payable at Adelaide.

To give alms is nothing unless you give thought also; and therefore it is written: "Blessed is he that considereth the poor," not "Blessed is he that feedeth the poor."—Ruskin.

# "All One in Jesus Christ"

**PRAYER.**—O Almighty and most merciful God, Father of us all, who in thy holy word hast taught us that all kingdoms of the world are to become the kingdom of thy Son, send thy blessing, we beseech thee, upon the United Nations and all its members, committees and officers, who are seeking to kindle the desire for righteousness and peace among the nations of the world. Guide their counsels with the light of thy Holy Spirit of wisdom and truth, so that in all their endeavors begun, continued, and ended in thee, they may glorify thy holy Name, and hasten the coming of the day when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnbook No. 328, "Eternal God, whose power upholds."

Scripture Reading.—Gal. 3: 23-29.

**Prayer.**—Hear us, our Father, as we thy children come to thee. In all the distress and fear of this life, thou art our Father to whom we turn for comfort and for help. May we seek, too, thy encouragement in our work, and thy stimulating power in all that we do. O God, stab our hearts awake, if need be, that we may see the heartache and the misery and the evil which lie about us. Keep us from self-satisfaction and from selfishness, and make us ready to do and dare, to give and to suffer, until "all the earth find peace." Forgive us for all that is lacking in our lives and in our service, and give us grace to deny ourselves and follow him in whose name we pray. Amen.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnbook No. 579, "Jesus calls us o'er the tumult."

"Ye are all one in Jesus Christ." Paul's words, spoken so many years ago, echo down the arches of the years. All around us, in our own country, and in the nations of the world, we hear of division and difficulty, of bitterness and hatred. We hope and pray for the success of the United Nations; we think with gratitude of the unity achieved within the British Empire; but only one factor can ever make us feel that all of us, black or white, Jew or Gentile, are children of one Father; and that is faith in Jesus Christ, who came to gather in all men to his fold.

There is the simple stipulation—faith in Jesus Christ. And our work is to strengthen that faith within ourselves, so that we shall be compelled by the very force of our creed to go out and win others to his side.

Someone once described Christ as an optimist, because he saw the kingdom of heaven in a little child, and gave his stupendous command to a little group of most imperfect men—"Go ye into all the world." He trusted that little group to carry out his commands; can he trust us to-day to carry on the work? Or will some woman in a foreign land die in ignorance of his love because we have not cared enough? Will some little child grow up in fear and poverty because our hearts were not big enough to give generously to his work?

His lamps are we,  
To shine where he shall say;  
And lamps are not for sunny rooms,  
Nor for the light of day;  
But for dark places of the earth,  
Where shame and wrong and crime have birth;  
Or for the murky twilight grey,  
Where wandering sheep have gone astray;  
Or where the light of faith grows dim  
And souls are groping after him.  
And as sometimes a flame we find  
Clear shining through the night—  
So bright we do not see the lamp  
But only see the light—  
So may we shine, his light the flame,  
That men may glorify his name.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnbook No. 365, "Our Father, thy dear name doth show."

Business.

Address.—The United Nations.

Hymn.—Churches of Christ Hymnbook No. 311, "Lord, at this closing hour."

**Prayer.**—Let us remember the names of those in every land who are known to us, and ask for God's protection and strength for them. Let us remember that larger company unknown to us, who are fighting a good fight, and who, in spite of persecution, are remaining loyal to the faith. Amen.

Benediction.

(Miss Esther Messent, B.A., of South Australia, has written the devotional meditation for this month, and will lead us again through the devotional programmes of May and June.)



## EXECUTIVE NOTES

**Western Australia.**—This year promises to be a busy one, for State conference will be held in March, and Federal conference in October. The co-operation of all sisters is urgently asked for. Mrs. McCallum (organiser for Women's Conference in N.S.W.) will be with us as speaker, and it is anticipated that an itinerary will be planned for her to visit each district. A travelling fund is in operation, and each sister is asked to have a share so that the executive will in no way be limited in using our speaker to the best advantage. During the vacation the secretary had fellowship with Bunbury church and met many of South-west sisters who are in great heart owing to the coming amongst them of Mr. and Mrs. Ryles. Sympathy of executive and auxiliary members is extended to the family of late Mrs. Henry Wright, of South Perth. For several years we have honored Mrs. Wright at the remembrance ceremony for aged sisters at annual conference. Mrs. Wright was a foundation member of the Women's Conference, and was known and loved for her grace and dignity of character.

**Tasmania.**—The president, Mrs. Boxhall, presided over February meeting, when plans for conference were finalised. Reports were received from Mrs. Cole, prayer meeting superintendent; Mrs. Ashlin, superintendent for isolated sisters; and the treasurer, Mrs. Woolley.

**Queensland.**—Monthly meeting of Women's Auxiliary opened with a short devotional session led by Mrs. Haine. Mrs. Tavern sang a solo. Mrs. Mills presided over business session, when the programme for conference was presented and endorsed. There were 22 present, representing seven churches. As this was the last meeting before Mrs. Greenwood leaves for W.A., Mrs. Mills, on behalf of auxiliary, spoke words of farewell and voiced appreciation of all for the work Mrs. Greenwood has done in association with the Women's Conference.

**South Australia.**—At monthly meeting at Grote-st. on Feb. 5, Mrs. Russell (vice-president) gave the devotional message. There were 75 present, 64 being delegates. Mrs. Green, president, presided over business session. Mrs. P. R. Verco, who has been visiting in N.S.W., gave a short report about "Ashwood House," the home for aged women run by N.S.W. Women's Conference. Superintendents' reports showed that 150 visits were paid to public and private hospitals and institutions, when cakes, sweets and gifts were distributed. There were 110 books sent by Literature Committee to hospitals and institutions. Kadina sisters sent a chest of clothing, books and toys to Carnarvon and Norseman. The auxiliary has now sent 508 articles to these mission fields. Letters were received from Miss Cameron, India, thanking those who sent rugs and blankets,

and from Mr. Schwab, thanking sisters for their help towards guest home. Auxiliary has given £822/4/- towards establishing a home.

**New South Wales.**—The president, Mrs. Acland, presided over a well-attended meeting on Feb. 6, and led a short devotional session. Mr. Acland, vice-president of conference, gave a much-appreciated address. Business relating to the forthcoming Women's Conference was discussed. All nominations for officers and superintendents are asked to be sent to the secretary by March 5. First meeting for year of Parramatta District Conference was held at Granville on Feb. 12. Mrs. A. Baker, president, was in the chair, and Mrs. McCallum was speaker. This district conference does much for the boys' home at Pendle Hill, and at Christmas-time gave a party for guests at "Ashwood House."



## FEDERAL ITEMS

**REGRET** will be felt by members of our women's conferences throughout the Commonwealth that Mrs. Digwood, women's Federal president, will be unable to carry out her plan to visit women of our churches in the various States. She was expected to be speaker at N.S.W. and Tasmanian women's conferences.

We wish for Mr. and Mrs. H. Greenwood, as they go to make their home in Perth, W.A., good health and happiness. Mrs. Greenwood, as a member of executive of Women's Federal Missionary Education Department for Queensland, has seen to distribution of topic papers for that State. She has also been Mission Band superintendent for Queensland for a number of years.

Those who will be responsible at April meeting for presenting the topic, "The United Nations," will find additional material in a recent book, "Power for Peace" (The Way of the United Nations and the Will of Christian People), by O. Frederick Nolde.



## LOVE THE TEST OF DISCIPLESHIP

**OUR** God is love; and all his saints  
His image bear below;  
The heart with love to God inspired,  
With love to man will glow.

None who are truly born of God  
Can live in enmity;  
Then may we love each other, Lord,  
As we are loved by thee.

Heirs of the same immortal bliss,  
Our hopes and fears the same,  
With bonds of love our hearts unite,  
With mutual love inflame.

So may the unbelieving world  
See how true Christians love;  
And glorify our Saviour's grace,  
And seek that grace to prove.

—Selected.

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# Here and There

Victorian churches are reminded that the annual Church Extension offering will be taken this year on March 21.

Hinrichsen mission at Carramar, N.S.W., is having helpful meetings. Up to Feb. 16 there had been nine decisions.

We regret several items of news had to be held over until next issue. Demands on space make it difficult to meet all needs.

P. R. Baker, after spending a few weeks in Adelaide, has returned to Tasmania to resume his work as State organising evangelist for the Home Missionary Committee.

Don Chipp, of Ivanhoe, Vic., who serves as one of the auditors for the Victorian Bible School and Young People's Department, has qualified for the Bachelor of Commerce degree.

Norman Goodall, M.A., secretary of the International Missionary Council, will visit Melbourne during the first week in March. He has just visited India, Burma and Ceylon. He has considerable knowledge of the world missionary situation and will be able to help all interested in world evangelism.

To raise funds for home missions, P. Patrick has distributed among members of church at Wangaratta, Vic., money boxes. His faithful work during 1947 has made it possible for £42/16/- to be contributed to the Victorian Home Mission Committee. We congratulate Mr. Patrick on such a service for the Master.

About 200 young people enjoyed "Miss Fellow's Party," the opening meeting of Melbourne Eastern Districts' Youth Fellowship held at Whitehorse-rd., Balwyn, on February 14. Miss Betty Salisbury, Syd Stewart, and boys of Balwyn church, under direction of Miss Esme Quirk, provided programme. At supper time, opening of fifth year in the fellowship was celebrated with a birthday cake.

At Echuca, Vic., all clubs and auxiliaries are preparing to resume after summer holidays. Four young folk returned with glowing reports of Monbulk camp and are planning to attend Easter one. Many have been on holidays, including the minister, Mr. Dudley, and his wife, during which time addresses were given by Mr. Payne, sen. and jnr., Mr. Curtis and Mr. Rosendale. Church suffered a sad loss in death of Mrs. Beyer after long illness. Mrs. Norris is again very ill in hospital.

On Feb. 8 there were splendid meetings at Springvale, Vic. Bible school had 91 present. Mr. Bond has been giving addresses to church from Hebrews. On Feb. 15, after Mr. Bond's gospel address, one man decided for Christ and there were two reconsecrations. Over 30 young people have fellowship at Mr. Bond's home on Saturday evenings. They held an open-air service at Mordialloc on Feb. 21. At a splendid morning service on Feb. 22 one young man was received into fellowship. 100 were at Sunday school. At night there were four decisions and three reconsecrations. 85 broke bread for day.

In preparation for the Melbourne evangelistic campaign to be held by Hyman J. Appelman and Homer Britton in March and April, missions have been planned in seventy metropolitan centres. It is estimated that three hundred Melbourne churches are taking part in these missions. Evangelists have been drawn from all the evangelical churches. Six suburban town halls have been selected in which Dr. Appelman will speak, giving two evenings to each centre. Dr. Appelman and Mr. Britton are timed to leave San Francisco on the evening of March 7, and are expected to arrive in Sydney on March 11. The welcome will be held in Collins-st. Baptist church on March 12, and on March 14, Sunday afternoon at 3, the inaugural meeting of the Australia campaign will be held in the Melbourne Town Hall. In the evening of that day Dr. Appelman will preach in the Hawthorn town hall at 8.15.

Theo Fisher, at Swanston-st. church of Christ lecture hall, Feb. 19, outlined methods of visitation evangelism to a group of preachers preparing to conduct, within the next few months, visitation campaigns in twelve suburban churches. The address stimulated attention and interest.

E. J. Miles has accepted a three years' extension to his appointment at Moreland, Vic. All auxiliaries have commenced, and work is progressing favorably. New scholars are being added weekly to Bible school, and attendances are regularly increasing. Bible school on Feb. 22 had 165 present. Average attendances over past four weeks, breaking of bread, 120; gospel service, 120.

Joint ministry of F. E. Buckingham and R. T. Roberts at Prahran, Vic., has been very satisfactory over past year, report at annual business meeting showing 23 members added during latter half of year, 18 by faith and baptism, one by restoration and four by letter. Extensive improvements and renovations to chapel are being carried out. On Feb. 15 W. Betts gave address at gospel service, in preparation for Hyman Appelman mission. A. Tate was soloist. Mr. and Mrs. Blakeley were received into fellowship, and, on Feb. 22, at close of Mr. Buckingham's gospel address a young lady made good confession.

At Malvern-Caulfield, Vic., during absence of Mr. Cole at boys' camp at Hall's Gap, Mr. Wiltshire preached on morning of Feb. 15 and Mr. Rasmussen at night. Feb. 22 began "Church on the Increase" campaign. About 60 sat to tea, at close of which A. W. Stephenson spoke on experiences in America. Others who spoke were J. Holloway, R. Clark and Mrs. Jeffries. Evening service was largely attended, when E. L. Williams gave the address and Miss Frances Cowper was soloist. At close of service, an informal gathering met in Sunday school hall to honor Allan Tillotson on recent marriage to Mrs. Barbara Webb.

Maston Bell, hon. secretary of Federal Aborigines Mission Board, reports splendid progress in building drive at Carnarvon, W.A., announced in last issue. This message was received on Feb. 19: "Building team made excellent trip from Perth to Carnarvon, arriving according to plan. Joined mission Sunday evening service. About sixty present. Work commenced on Monday morning. First day all ground stumps and bearers down for two eighty-foot dormitories. Second day all wall sections erected and commencement made with roof rafters. Third day roof framework completed and window joinery commenced. Already ahead of schedule. Despite trying weather, men are keen, and are appreciating splendid commissariat organisation of lady missionaries and Mrs. Thornhill."

During Mr. Bolduan's absence on holiday, R. Pittman, H. Rasmussen and Mr. Hilford assisted at Gardiner, Vic. Mr. and Mrs. K. Jones have been received into fellowship from Maylands, S.A. T. Fisher (U.S.A.) and family were present on morning of Feb. 8 and Mr. Fisher exhorted church. At conclusion of Mr. Bolduan's address in evening Marjorie Brown confessed Christ; she has since been baptised and welcomed into membership. Mr. Fisher was speaker at Second Degree K.S.P. on Feb. 10 and at Men's Fellowship tea on 15th. On Feb. 21 a church social was held and welcome extended to Mr. and Mrs. Fisher and family and Mr. and Mrs. K. Jones and family. R. Brough has resigned as secretary of Bible school on account of his marriage to Miss M. Anderson and living at Balwyn. Brian Squires has been appointed secretary of Bible school. Miss C. Fisher has entered Melbourne Bible Institute and resigned as superintendent of Intermediate C.E., and Miss Callanan has replaced her temporarily. First grade cricket team is playing off in semi-final.

## Our Young People

SIXTY-FOUR young people attended training for service camp held at Hall's Gap in the Gramplains from Feb. 11-18, under direction of Victorian Young People's Department. They came from 14 metropolitan and 11 rural churches. Camp staff were chief, L. A. Trezise; chaplain, V. C. Stafford; co-leaders, C. Cole, G. W. Barnett, G. M. Mathieson, Miss I. V. Gill and Mrs. C. Cole; cooks, Mr. and Mrs. E. Trew; transport officer and tent supervisor, S. Featherston.

Morning study sessions were based on the booklet "Abundant Life," and proved valuable for practical questions.

On Sunday delegations of campers visited Stawell and Ararat churches to conduct evening services, giving assistance in music, singing and addresses. At the camp communion service C. Cole presided and V. C. Stafford gave the address. Visitors were present from Horsham and Hamilton churches.

Evening sessions were conducted by campers who provided social programmes, and educational film strips were presented by leaders. Outdoor recreational activities included hikes, a motor tour to McKenzie Falls and tennis tournament.

### A Wonderful Response

L. A. Trezise, assisted by leaders, presented claims of the Y.P. Department during one morning session, and appealed to young people to support camp site projects. The amount of £84 was donated by the 64 campers in cash and promises.

### Camping Pays Big Dividends

Camps conducted with the high purpose of training youth for Christian living, church work and advancement of the brotherhood, pay dividends. There was apparent in Hall's Gap, 1948, a splendid sense of the Christian fellowship and the need for a clear, courageous Christian witness.

### Camp Equipment Costs

During 1947 the Victorian Youth Department spent £409 on equipment and improvements to the camp properties at Monbulk and Hall's Gap. Donations during the same period amounted to £253. The department urgently needs further gifts to meet its commitments and to provide for further additions.

### Baptist Camp

The Wimmera Baptist Association sponsored a camp for its young people, using our camp site for this from Feb. 20-27.

### Camps in Western Australia

Four camps were held for churches of Christ young people in Western Australia from December 25 to January 17. The first was attended by 117 senior young people, the second by 89 girls between the ages of 10 and 15 years, the third by 61 boys, and the fourth by 45 girls of the Radio Sunday School.

S. F. Davey has taken over the duties of State youth director in Western Australia.

### Monbulk Easter Camp

Young people desirous of attending the Easter camp at Monbulk are asked to send in their registration forms as soon as possible to the youth office. Application forms are listed in the youth "newsreel" just out.

### Explorers' Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Explorer movement in Victoria was held on January 28. Reports revealed a strong, virile movement functioning through 48 clubs. W. Newham was again elected Chief Explorer and G. Seal secretary. Other members of the executive elected were J. K. Martin, N. McCann, R. Winstone and F. Burbridge.



# News of the Churches

## Tasmania

**West Hobart.**—Attendances over past few weeks have been good. Speakers have included Mrs. A. Madel-Cole, who spoke on World Conference, and M. Richardson, J. Woolley and J. Farnilo. F. B. Burt's ministry with church closed on Feb. 1, and at gospel service Mr. and Mrs. Burt were farewelled. On this date a presentation was also made to Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Vogel, who were married recently. Visitors have been welcomed. Bible school attendances are very small, but slowly improving. E. Ashlin has taken over as superintendent following Mr. Burt's departure.

**Hobart (Collins-st.).**—E. Heard occupied pulpit during his vacation in Hobart, and was greatly appreciated. A social hour was spent at close of service on Feb. 1, before he returned to Bible college. On Feb. 8, morning speaker was S. Cooper; evening, A. E. Heard. Annual business meeting was held on Feb. 11. Mr. Burt commenced ministry with church on Feb. 22. First meeting of year of Mission Band Fellowship was held on Feb. 15, and of Women's Mission Band on 19th, Mrs. Nunn, of Sudan Interior Mission, being speaker on both occasions. Sunday school picnic was held at Cornelian Bay on Feb. 14. Mrs. Freeman, a very faithful member, passed away suddenly on Feb. 10. Mrs. Dale and Mrs. Dixon have been very ill in hospital, but are improving.

## Western Australia

**Northam.**—Excellent attendance and spiritual interest were maintained over past month. On Feb. 8, church welcomed C. Littleton and family at morning service. Mr. Littleton comes from Essendon, Vic., and is taking up professional duties in town. At annual church business meeting on Feb. 12, following were elected:—Elder, C. G. Spicer; deacons, R. H. Beavis, W. Duke, C. Hollett, G. Martin, A. W. Mutter, C. Roediger. A constitution, prepared by officers, was adopted by church. Ulverstone, England, has received 50 food parcels from Northam church over past year. There have been 25 additions by faith and obedience during year.

**Subiaco.**—On Jan. 18, at a students' tea and gospel service, representatives of College of Bible, Adelaide University, University of W.A., Western Bible College, and Perth Bible Institute, some 50 students, were present. Mr. Whiting (Wembley) exchanged with Mr. Elliott on morning of Feb. 8. At church officers' meeting on Feb. 9, A. D. Pyne gave a lucid account of Wembley budgeting system of meeting contributions to brotherhood funds. On Feb. 11, Ladies' Aid held a picnic at Peppermint Grove. To mark anniversary of C.E., Endeavorers assisted A. G. Elliott in gospel service on Feb. 1. Under direction of S. Constable and H. Vawser, Youth Council and Intermediate Endeavor arranged an attractive display of food parcel goods and field and garden produce for harvest thanksgiving on Feb. 15. Mr. Elliott's themes were appropriate to the occasion. A feature in evening was singing of choir under C. M. Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Stephenson were received by transfer from Kalgoorlie. On Feb. 21, friends of Roma Black, church organist, celebrated her coming-of-age at a gathering in church hall. Mr. Darby left by car on Feb. 16 for extended tour of S.A. Mr. and Mrs. Stephenson, sen., Sisters Etheridge, and Hutchinson, also P. Armstrong and Vic. Pallott, are improving in health. Sister Hugo is not well enough to attend meetings. Gordon Moignard has returned from vacation spent assisting at Carnarvon native mission. Mr. Elliott is delivering helpful addresses. Attendances are good.

**Fremantle.**—Meetings have shown encouraging improvement. Bible school reports increased attendances, but is lacking in teaching staff. Church and Bible schools (Fremantle and North Fremantle) farewelled Miss Ruth Edgell on evening of Feb. 8. Presentation, on behalf of church and schools, of a leather case was made by H. Cole, and of a Schofield Bible by O. Fieldus on behalf of W.A. Training Committee. Miss Edgell left on Feb. 9 for College of Bible, Glen Iris. At annual business meeting on Feb. 11, church unanimously agreed to re-engagement of James Gordon as minister for further period of two years. At recent election of officers, all retiring deacons were re-elected. H. Cole resigned from eldership and C. H. Hunt was elected to vacancy. H. Cole resigned also as church secretary. His position is being filled by O. Fieldus. Mrs. Gardner, returning to Unley, S.A., was farewelled on Feb. 15. Living link fund to end of January is £91.

## Queensland

**Charters Towers.**—Mr. Greenwood (youth organiser) was visitor for week-end Jan. 24 and 25. On Jan. 25 an induction service for Mr. Richter was conducted by Mr. Greenwood. Mr. and Mrs. Beale (Townsville) were visitors on Feb. 8, when Mr. Beale conducted services for day. Mrs. Richter was received into fellowship. A club for young people has been re-started and shows good promise. Attendances at all meetings are well maintained.

**Brisbane (Ann-st.).**—Members of Y.P.C.E. and Men's Fellowship combined on Feb. 10 to give a send-off to John Ellerby, who is leaving for Woolwich College to study for ministry. Following a tea the farewell took form of a social evening, during which a suitable presentation was made to Mr. Ellerby. There were excellent attendances on Feb. 15, when 170 met at Lord's Table throughout day. In morning F. C. Hunting continued his series of addresses on Hebrews. During afternoon about 50 parents and children met at tea for first anniversary of I.C.E. F. C. Hunting gave helpful talk. Members of I.C.E. took an active part in gospel meeting. Roy Burnham conducted. Joan Howard read scripture, and a quartette of boys and a girls' duet brought messages in song. Miss Dfana Evans also sang. At conclusion of C. J. Mackenzie's address, an I.C.E. member, Lorraine Weymer, confessed Christ. Prior to usual after-service, Miss C. Templeman and Mrs. Dunn, both recently baptised, were welcomed into fellowship by C. J. Mackenzie. Recent visitors included Mr. and Mrs. L. Hodsdon, from Victoria Park, W.A.

## New South Wales

**Inverell.**—On Feb. 13, annual business meeting of church was held with good attendance. Following were elected:—Elders, A. Winder, G. Brighty; deacons, T. Young, G. Bulmer, L. Barry, G. and C. Stone, J. Jackson, A. Newman, L. Lowrey. Church accepted, with regret, decision of esteemed T. G. Cosh not to stand for re-election, after having served as an officer for well over 60 years. S.S. picnic was held enjoyably at Elsmore on Feb. 14. The preacher, L. Wylie, left on holidays on Feb. 16.

**Asquith.**—On morning of Feb. 1 two ladies were received into membership, having been immersed at Chatswood previous Wednesday. At night two senior Bible school scholars made the good confession. These, having since followed the Lord in baptism, have been united to the fellowship. A happy musicale was held on Feb. 6, over 50 being present. Bible school is still growing; 28 enrolled to date. During recent weeks members have much enjoyed helpful ministry of F. Button (Chatswood) and C. Thompson, of Lane Cove.

## South Australia

**Prospect.**—Mr. and Mrs. Vincent have returned from vacation. Mr. Vincent exhorted church on Feb. 8. Preparations are being made for a tent mission in April, when E. Brooke and R. Vincent will conduct a month's evangelistic effort. A dedication service was held on Feb. 11, G. R. Stirling conducting and all youth departments taking part. Inspiring addresses were given on Feb. 18 by R. Vincent. At close a service of song was enjoyed. Work has commenced on new school hall to be built by voluntary labor.

**Fullarton.**—Morning attendances keep up. B. W. Manning's splendid addresses on morning lessons are very helpful. At gospel service on Feb. 1, Hariha Wahgmode, from College of Bible, gave story of his life. On Feb. 8, B. W. Manning addressed church and preached at night. Fellowship with Mrs. Freeman, N.S.W., Sister Motly, Launceston, and P. R. Baker, Hobart, Tas., and with other visitors, has been enjoyed. B. W. Manning concludes three years' ministry with church at end of this month. Officers brought a recommendation to church that his term be extended for an indefinite period, to which members agreed unanimously. On Feb. 15, Mr. Manning was speaker in morning. At night he conducted service and presented a message in song. P. R. Baker, of Hobart, preached a powerful sermon. A senior scholar of school, Elva Philp, accepted Christ.

**Hindmarsh.**—A married lady was baptised on Feb. 15. At church annual business meeting on Feb. 18, reports revealed work to be in healthy condition. J. Holden was again elected secretary and G. Trevaskis treasurer. All other offices for deacons and elders were filled. Trustees were appointed to fill vacancies, newly elected men being J. F. Allan, T. P. Richardson, J. Holden, E. Williams. Chapel has been re-roofed at cost of £80. Towards renovation of kinder room £10 was given. A stainless steel sink has been supplied for kitchen. £273 was given for special offerings. Thirteen were added by faith and baptism and one by letter. Beryl Todd, Joan Richmond, Ruth Richardson and Vera Alder have been appointed teachers in kindergarten. Mrs. Shipway and Jean Aird have taken classes in senior school. At close of annual meeting a period of social fellowship was enjoyed; ladies of church provided supper.

**Murray Bridge.**—On Jan. 2 a social was held to farewell Mr. and Mrs. Cremin, who were leaving for eastern States prior to taking up the work at Balaklava. Greetings were conveyed by auxiliaries of church. F. Mitchell, elder, on behalf of church and auxiliaries, presented a handsome mantel-clock. Farewell addresses were given by Mr. Cremin on following Sunday. Church is indebted to A. Harper, L. Fitzgerald, Mr. Cornelius and Mr. Bridgeman for assistance with addresses pending arrival of Mr. and Mrs. Kingston. A welcome social for the new preacher and his wife was held on Feb. 6. The Mayor extended welcome on behalf of town, and ministers of fraternal conveyed greetings. These were in addition to greetings from church. Before Mr. Kingston's response, little Beryl Harper presented a posy to Mrs. Kingston. Members were delighted to see Agars Talbot sufficiently recovered from illness to fill position of chairman. Induction ceremony was conducted on morning of Feb. 8 by Dr. Trevor Turner, who presented charge to church. Mr. Talbot assisted him by presenting charge to Mr. Kingston. Ladies' Guild opened meetings for year by annual business meeting with good attendance on Feb. 11. Five new members were enrolled. Church was well represented at 44th Southern District Annual Conference at Strathalbyn on Feb. 10, 17 members being able to attend. Women's World Day of Prayer meeting, held in church on

Feb. 13, was well attended. Men of church held a working bee on Feb. 21 to put church premises in order. Church regrets passing of Mrs. W. A. Orchard, who for many years has been one of the staunchest and most faithful members. Sympathy is extended to her family.

## Victoria

**South Richmond.**—Women's Sunshine Circle has commenced meetings after holidays, and helpful addresses are being given. Weekly prayer meetings are small but encouraging. On Feb. 8, after a gospel address by F. Rose, two ladies made the good confession.

**Emerald.**—Several members gave splendid community service in combating recent bush fires in district. Despite gallant effort of fire-fighters, North Fitzroy camp buildings, marquee and equipment were completely destroyed. A donation of £5 has been made to replacement fund. Mrs. A. Legge is now leading kindergarten, and the preacher junior and intermediate departments. W. R. Hibburt addressed Dandenong Ranges Prayer Fellowship on Feb. 14.

**Gardenvale.**—During absence of Mr. Shaw on vacation, T. R. Morris, H. Hood and E. Tippet assisted. All auxiliaries have resumed, Joy Club opening year with a social evening, enjoyed by 25 young people. Church extends sympathy to Sisters Lunn and Macauley in loss of loved ones. M. Keatch spoke at morning service on Feb. 8. Mr. Shaw continues to give helpful addresses, and services are well maintained. Tennis club won first match of semi-finals.

**Shepparton.**—Annual business meeting and election of officers took place on Feb. 4, when reports of auxiliaries showed work to be in good heart. Service on evening of Feb. 1 was conducted by Mr. Atkinson, of Mooropna aborigines church, and items were rendered by native choir. After-church fellowship was enjoyed by the large crowd. All other services recently have been conducted by Mr. Butler. Church tennis club continues to provide social fellowship for a number of members.

**Morwell.**—Meetings over holiday period were fairly well attended; average attendance, 12. Reg. Hillbrick has been speaker, and has given interesting addresses. Visitors have been welcomed. On Feb. 15 a splendid meeting was held with 26 present, 19 breaking bread. Mr. Wellington, from Traralgon, presided, and an inspiring address was given by Mr. Jackel, of Warragul. Visitors included members from Traralgon, Yallourn and Moe. Mr. Jackel has been doing visitation work in Morwell and district after an enjoyable vacation.

**Bendigo.**—All auxiliaries went into recess over holidays; most have recommenced. Annual meeting was held Feb. 11, when retiring deacons Brewer, Kenley and Langley were re-elected. Only 29 were present. To try to gain more interest it was resolved to make half-yearly meeting a tea meeting, with reports duplicated so that time would be allowed for general discussion of work. Active membership stands at 121, with 15 isolated members. Average attendance at Lord's Table, 75. It is expected that manse will be commenced immediately. In response to appeal for interest-free loans, amounts totalling £550 have been received.

**Warragul.**—All auxiliaries of church have resumed after recess. In absence of Mr. and Mrs. Jackel, holidaying at Lakes Entrance, Mr. Byard conducted meetings. Attendances have been affected through many members being on holiday. On Feb. 8 two young ladies, recently baptised, were received into fellowship in morning. After gospel meeting Mr. Kramer, representative of B. and F. Bible Society, gave an interesting lantern lecture. On Feb. 15 Mr. Jackel conducted morning service. In evening I.O.R. Lodge attended, and Mr. Nicholson (representative Local Option Alliance) conducted service and showed splendid lantern slides.

Mrs. Keatly, who has been seriously ill, has returned home from hospital.

**Croydon.**—V. Quayle was farewelled by a large gathering of members and visitors after Sunday evening service on Jan. 25. He has been minister of Ringwood-Croydon-Yarra-rd. circuit for three years, and is to spend a short time at his home in N.S.W. before taking up a Victorian country church appointment. Croydon secretary, F. Burden, in making a presentation on behalf of members, expressed sincere appreciation of Mr. Quayle's personal qualities and his untiring devotion to work of circuit. Mr. Quayle's last official duty was baptism of Mrs. Draper, who has now been welcomed into membership. H. Steele, who is well known to members, commenced ministry at Croydon-Yarra-rd. on Feb. 1.

**Essendon.**—Services have been well maintained. Fellowship has been enjoyed with many visitors. Visiting presidents have included Mr. Funston and Mr. Blackburn. Soloists at various evening services have included Mrs. Lynch, Mrs. Hutton, Mrs. Marr, Mrs. Buttress and two students from College of Bible. On Feb. 8 thirty men attended C.M.S. monthly tea meeting. Hayden McCallum, a delegate from World Conference of Christian Youth at Oslo, gave a very interesting talk. Mr. McIlhagger has welcomed into church Margaret Pearce by faith and obedience, Mrs. Unsworth and daughter by transfer. All auxiliaries are again functioning. Miss Beryl Hainsworth is doing marvellous work as Good Companion leader. Both cricket teams are having successful season, "A" grade being undefeated. Mrs. Bone, sen., and Mrs. B. Bone have been absent from meetings through illness.

**Caulfield (Bambra-rd.).**—Fellowship has been enjoyed with many visitors. On Feb. 1, at youth tea and evening service, addresses by Doug Nicholls were appreciated. Aborigine church members at Fitzroy were present for service. Over 200 attended, and afterwards fellowship and musical items by members of Fitzroy church were enjoyed by over 160 who remained. Offering for work amongst aborigines amounted to £23/10/-. Addresses by F. E. Buckingham (Social Service) and R. Story (Unevangelised Fields Mission) were well received. Prayer meetings are well attended. On Feb. 15 Coral Machin made the good confession. Church is impressed by earnest addresses of W. W. Saunders, whose ministry is most encouraging. Meetings are well attended, although over 25 members have transferred to sister churches as a result of housing problems. Sympathy is extended to Mr. Klease, and Mr. and Mrs. Nash and family in home-call of Mrs. Klease (nee Jean Nash). Fragrant memories linger because of her Christian character and gifted life spent in Bible school and choir work.

**Frankston-Moorooduc.**—On Jan. 26 a happy day was spent at Baxter for Bible school picnic. W.M.B. catered without any cost to school; over 100 attended. At church annual business meeting all reports were encouraging. On Feb. 8 a recognition service was conducted by Mr. Hagger for newly-elected deacons and deaconesses. D. Streader was soloist at gospel service. At Women's Mission Band members welcomed Mrs. Hagger after her illness. Miss Bentley told of her work at Mt. Margaret Mission school. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Miss Bentley, who has been spending several weeks' vacation with her parents. Women's World Day of Prayer was held at Presbyterian Church. Miss Ellis, president, conducted meeting; ladies from all Protestant churches assisted with programme. Mrs. Humphrey (wife of Presbyterian minister) gave the address. On Feb. 15 Mr. Hagger preached at both services. R. V. Holmes and Mrs. Holmes were welcomed at Frankston. R. V. Holmes preached at Moorooduc at night. Many visitors have attended services at Frankston. Miss Streader was recently received into membership.

## ADDRESSES

R. Addicott (secretary North Richmond church, Vic.)—234 Tooronga-rd., Glen Iris, S.E.6.  
A. W. C. Candy (preacher Swan Hill church, Vic.)—60 Beveridge-st., Swan Hill.  
A. Cremin (preacher Balaklava church, S.A.)—20 Humphrey-st., Balaklava.  
H. Earle (preacher Surrey Hills church, Vic.)—Boronia. 'Phone, Bayswater 24.  
O. Fieldus (secretary Fremantle church, W.A.)—5 View-terr., Bicton, W.A.  
D. A. V. Thomas (preacher Balwyn church, Vic.)—9 Cherry-rd., Balwyn, E.8. 'Phone, WF 4074.

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Vacancies have also occurred in Christian Guest Homes at Oakleigh and Murrumbidgee for cooks and maids, to live in or out. Please apply secretary.

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ENROL NOW with the Secretary,  
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## The Australian Christian



## BIRTHS

**McDONALD (Seater).**—On Feb. 20, at Carbe-  
thon, East Malvern, to Eileen and Jock — a  
son (Malcolm Bruce). Both well.

**OWERS (nee Betty Waters).**—On Jan. 29, at  
Carlingford, Sydney, to Bett and Bruce — a  
son, Geoffrey Bruce.

## DEATHS

**HIDER.**—On Feb. 15, at Hamilton, Vic., Eliza-  
beth, beloved wife of Ern. Hider, loving mother  
of Alice (Mrs. H. L. Jenner, St. Arnaud), Eric  
(West Preston), Leo. (dec.), Doris (Mrs. Hur-  
ley), aged 77 years.

Severed only till he come.

**KLEASE (nee Jean Nash).**—On Feb. 15, 1948,  
at 44 Almond-st., Caulfield, Jean A., beloved  
wife of Herbert and dearly loved daughter of  
F. H. and E. D. Nash, sister of Dulcie (Mrs.  
C. G. King), Eileen (Mrs. E. Grenfell), Fred  
and George.

"Until the day dawns and shadows pass away."  
—Inserted by her dear ones.

## IN MEMORIAM

**COSH, MARGARET.**—In cherished memory of  
a dearly loved wife and mother Margaret, who  
was called home on March 1, 1945.

Sleep on, beloved, and take thy rest.  
—Inserted by her loving husband and family.

**VERCO.**—In fond and loving memory of our  
beloved son and brother Clem, and our devoted  
husband and father, Harold. Clem passed away  
Jan. 16, 1939; Harold, Feb. 27, 1947. Loved and  
longed for always by their loved ones.

—Inserted by Mrs. E. Verco and family.

**WARDEN.**—In loving memory of my dear  
husband, David, loving father of Jean (Mrs.  
Hillier), Alf, Les, who passed away so suddenly  
on Feb. 26, 1946.

Often a silent prayer and tear,  
Always a loving memory  
Of him we loved so dear.  
—Inserted by his loving wife and family.

**WARMER (On Active Service).**—In loving  
memory of our dear son and brother Eric  
Francis, killed over Indo-China, Feb. 25, 1947.  
Behind all shadows, standeth God.

—Mum, Dad, Jean.

**WEBB.**—In sweet remembrance of our dearly  
beloved only son and brother, Keith, fell asleep  
Feb. 27, 1946.

In mind a constant thought,  
In heart a silent sorrow.  
—Longed for always by Mum, Dad and Elaine.

## COMING EVENTS

**FEBRUARY 29 (Sunday).**—Cliff-st., South  
Yarra, Annual Home-coming Services. Past  
members and friends cordially invited. Special  
speakers and soloists. Luncheon and tea pro-  
vided. To assist in catering, please notify  
E. H. Wilson, secretary, 50 Arthur-st., South  
Yarra, BJ4800.

**MARCH 5.**—Women's Conference Executive  
Council will meet in Swanston-st. lecture hall,  
at 2 p.m. Leader of devotions, Mrs. Don.  
Thomas. Speaker, Mr. Theo. Fisher.

## BROADCAST SERVICES

February 29.—Hamilton, Vic., 11 a.m., 3 HA.  
Speaker, C. E. Curtis.

February 29.—Swan Hill church, 11 a.m.  
Preacher, A. W. C. Candy. 3 SH.

**SWANSTON STREET (opp. Public Library)**  
Sunday, Feb. 29.

11, "Join All the Glorious Names."  
7, "Men Seen on Mars."

Preacher, K. A. Macnaughtan.

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Conductor, Claude Gadge.

## SECOND INSPIRATIONAL CONVENTION, PARKDALE,

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

Afternoon Session, 4 p.m.

Speakers: Evangelist Bert Marr, outstanding  
Native Evangelist of the United Aborigines  
Mission; Mr. Robert Edgar, Australian Secre-  
tary of the Mission to Lepers. Soloist, Miss  
Dorothy Ludbrook Clark.

Tea interval—cups of tea provided. Bring  
basket.

Prayer session, 7.30-7.45. Evening Session, 7.45.  
Anthem by the choir. Soloist, Miss Frances  
Cowper.

## ILLUSTRATED LECTURE

by Mr. Walter J. Beasley, F.R.G.S., President  
of Australian Institute of Archaeology.

Subject, "A Modern Detective Looks at Modern  
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All interested people are invited to come and  
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the Missionary Task of the World Church. He  
has just finished a tour of India and other  
important areas.

## PUBLIC MEETING,

Assembly Hall, Thursday, March 4, 8 p.m.  
Also other meetings, including Ministers' meet-  
ing, Youth Tea and Missionary Candidates.

## 21st ANNIVERSARY CHURCH OF CHRIST, HAMILTON,

MARCH 7-14.

Midweek meetings with an anniversary tea in  
School Hall, Saturday, March 13.

All past members are cordially invited to  
share in Christian fellowship.

For further particulars ring Hamilton 233, or  
by writing to secretary, W. G. Hadden,  
33 Foster-st., Hamilton.

## NORTH FITZROY 75th ANNIVERSARY.

Pre-Anniversary Services—

Sunday, March 7; Tuesday 9th; Wednesday 10th  
and Thursday 11th,

led by Mr. T. Hagger.

Anniversary Sunday, March 14—

11 a.m., Mr. A. W. Stephenson.

3 p.m., Mr. R. Ennis.

7 p.m., Mr. E. L. Williams.

Public Meeting, Wednesday, 17th.

## HYMAN APPELMAN GOSPEL CAMPAIGN OF AUSTRALIA,

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campaigns in all the Australian capitals and  
many provincial cities.

## WELCOME MEETING,

**COLLINS-ST. BAPTIST CHURCH,**

MARCH 12.

**GREAT INAUGURAL RALLY,**

**MELBOURNE TOWN HALL,**

MARCH 14, 3 p.m.

Owing to the limited capacity of the building  
admission to the Welcome is by ticket until  
7.55. Tickets available at the Campaign office,  
262 Flinders-lane.

J. Wiltshire, organiser.

## ESSENDON CHURCH, Buckley-st., Essendon.

33rd ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.

MARCH 7.

11 a.m., The Lord's Table. Speaker, Mr. K. A.  
Jones.

3 p.m., Reunion Service. Speaker, Dr. E. R.  
Killmier. Soloist, Mrs. V. Marr, Soprano.

5 p.m., Reunion Tea.

7 p.m., Gospel Service. Speaker, Mr. E.  
McIlhagger.

## HAMPTON

25th ANNIVERSARY OPENING OF CHAPEL,  
SUNDAY, MARCH 21.

11 a.m., K. A. Jones.

3 p.m., A. W. Stephenson.

7 p.m., C. G. Taylor.

Monday, March 22, 8 p.m., Church Social.

D. Wakeley, Guest Speaker.

Former members are invited to "Come Back  
to Hampton" for this occasion.

Hospitality provided.

## EAST KEW BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY, MARCH 7, 14 and 16.

March 7-11 a.m., Mr. G. Bennett.

2.30 p.m., Mr. Robt. Edgar.

6.45 p.m., Mr. W. Wigney.

March 14-11 a.m., Mr. R. Geyer.

2.30 p.m., Mr. B. Morton.

6.45 p.m., Mr. D. Wilson.

March 16—Grand Concert, 8 p.m.

Special singing by children's choir (130 voices).

A hearty welcome extended to all.

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members especially invited to attend. Hos-  
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W. J. Crossman, 69 Campbell-st., Surry  
Hills, N.S.W.

A. E. Heard, 54 View-st., Dynnyrne, Tas.

W. Nightingale, 31 Robert-st., Como, W.A.

## The Australian Christian

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# Men -- This Works

*E. P. C. Hollard gives details of a programme for a men's fellowship that is giving encouraging results.*

SOON after our ministry began at Vivian-st. church of Christ, Wellington, New Zealand, one of the elders made an impassioned plea that the minister be surrounded "by a wall of men." As there were many men who had never been cemented into the ministry of the church, it was decided to build the wall. From the plans submitted by the preacher, the following programme came about. It has worked with amazing success. This Men's Fellowship began with 17 members, and has grown to 70 in two and a half years.

On the third Thursday of each month, the men of the church come to the hall from their work, where hot water and towels are provided. The programme that follows is run strictly to a timetable. The chairman has a bell which he rings vigorously when needed.

5.45 p.m.—Dinner. This is usually a hot two-course meal which costs 1/6. The preacher says grace, and that usually begins and ends his part of the programme. He assumes that the men hear him on Sundays at the services.

6.20 p.m.—Devotions at the table. This is all prepared one month beforehand. One man reads a passage of scripture; another is given five minutes to make a comment; and another leads in prayer.

6.30 p.m.—Two five-minute talks. Two men



are selected to speak for five minutes each on any subject they may choose.

6.40 p.m.—Thought for the month. In turn, one man each month gives a pithy word which becomes the thought for the month.

6.41 p.m.—All hands on deck! Stewards wash up, whilst others clear the tables and set up chairs for evening.

6.45 p.m.—Sing-song. The pianist and song-leader go into action. The only men missing from this session are those on steward duties.

7 p.m.—Business. This is concerned only with minutes, introduction of new members, and any special items. As there is an alert committee, it is expected that they will have attended to all business. The full meeting endorses their actions.

7.10 p.m.—Our chapel is equipped for talkies,

and a programme is easily arranged—news gazettes, educational movies and topical programmes.

8 p.m.—Special programme. We usually have a speaker, and the best we can secure. We have had a university professor, observatory director and others with a topical flavor. Occasionally we have had debates and programmes made up by fellowship members.

8.45 p.m.—Question time. If a speaker comes he must face the barrage of questions which naturally come from topical themes.

8.59 p.m.—Vote of thanks by a member.

9 p.m. sharp.—Close.

There are several things behind this programme which make it attractive to men. The most important is that they do not have to go home, change and then come into town again. They eat at the church. The closing time is strictly adhered to, and thus men are not away from their homes for long periods.

One of our younger ladies has undertaken voluntarily to arrange the meal. She asks two ladies to assist her each month, and they set the tables, provide flowers, and make apple pies and custard. Some of the men come early and help. A caterer prepares large meat pies. This is the menu, and as it happens only once a month it does not become monotonous.

Each quarter the whole group conducts a church parade and takes part in the service, after marching in as a group. It is no mean thrill to see such a body of men moving into the church building.

The result has been that men come to our services whom we would not be able to contact otherwise. Our church meetings quite frequently are made up of 50 per cent. men particularly at the morning service. Often we send invitations to the fathers of our school children. From such an invitation we have seen husband and wife accept Christ.

At least two energetic people are the basis of this fellowship; a live secretary and an interested lady who is the liaison between the men's group and the ladies of the church.

We commend this programme to churches, and trust that any who use it will find the same wall of men surrounding the ministry of the church as this preacher has experienced. The church can have something to attract non-members and build on the existing men. We have found that this is it.



**JANUS**—A Roman deity whose temple remained open only in days of war. The temple gates have closed. In the after-time of war, the world looks for a secure and solid peace that will bring happiness, prosperity, and opportunity for all. In this land of ours, which offers more of the good things of life to the average citizen than any other country in the world, opportunities for advancement abound.

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West Hobart.

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

**The Australian Christian**

## Obituary

James Johns

WHILE peacefully working on his farm on Jan. 3 at Silvan South, Vic., Mr. Johns was attacked and fatally injured by a bull. Although aged 75, his natural force had not abated, and he was full of activity. He became a loyal follower of Christ about 55 years ago, acquainting himself with Emerald Christians. Removing to Silvan, he met with Boronia church for a time, and later was the chief promoter of meetings of Christians at Silvan South. In many ways he exerted a Christ-like influence, peaceful, friendly; and many can bear witness of his hospitable home for the Lord's work. He left a widow and nine grown children, all of whom bear testimony of spiritual direction and eternal hope in Christ. Services at the home and at Berwick cemetery were impressively conducted by a nephew (Wallace E. Jackel). All who knew Mr. Johns can well praise God for such a life of testimony for Christ.—H. J. Jackel.

Mrs. Edith Marriott

THERE passed from the earth life at Moorooduc (Vic.) on Thursday, Feb. 12, our sister Mrs. Edith Marriott. That good woman became obedient to the gospel at Cheltenham during the ministry of the late Henry Mahon about forty years ago. Her work for the Lord in that place was in the Sunday school where she taught what was then called the infant class. She left Cheltenham to become one of the foundation members of the church at Parkdale. For some years she has lived at Moorooduc, and for about thirteen years has been more or less an invalid. During her illness she has been lovingly cared for by her daughter, Mrs. Pope. The departed one was 78 years of age, and she leaves a husband, two daughters and one son to mourn their loss. The funeral service was held in the Cheltenham chapel, and the interment took place in the Old Cheltenham Cemetery where the bodies of so many of the pioneers of the work in that district sleep. The separation is only until the day breaks and the shadows flee away.—T.H.

J. J. Taylor

JOHN TAYLOR was not a man who sought place in the church life, though to a degree he attained it. He was of a very lovable disposition, and all who knew him found in him an excellent and reliable friend. He was possessed of good commonsense, and was absolutely dependable. He became associated with churches of Christ in Sydney in the old Elizabeth-st. days, for he made his confession under the preaching of J. W. Shepherd in 1891. Later he joined Marrickville church, where he served in various ways, such as church secretary, teacher in school, etc. He then removed to Longueville, and became a member of Lane Cove church. In latter

years, because of ill-health, he was not able to take a very active part, but he was always in attendance at breaking of bread whenever he felt able. He passed to the Father's house on Feb. 27 after a period of illness and some suffering at the last. The writer conducted services next day at the funeral parlors, and at Northern Suburbs Crematorium. To the daughter, Edna, and other relatives deepest sympathy is expressed. "Our citizenship is in heaven, from whence also we wait for a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ."—H.J.P.

## "You Never Looked After Me"

Churches and members failing to make provision for the care of ageing preachers merit the above rebuke of Jesus (Matt. 25: 43, Moffatt).



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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.).

### UNION OF CHURCHES AND EVANGELISM

WE may well be thankful to God for the increasing signs of glad fellowship in evangelism among memberships of the universal church of Christ. The Restoration Movement—as the labors and writings of Thomas and Alexander Campbell and other leaders show—was inspired by God-given yearning for the fulfilment of our Lord's prayer that his followers may be all one in love and devotion, so that the world might be led to believe in him. Remarkable proofs of the ability and indeed the necessity of brotherly unity among all earnest Christians, whatever their denominations, is forthcoming from England and from mission fields in heathen lands. The recent great adventure in team evangelism in England was a visible demonstration of Christian unity. "Anglicans, Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Salvationists, and doubtless, Disciples and other evangelical bodies, forgot their differences, and heartily joined in a grand soul-saving crusade. The Bishop of London wrote in "The Spectator": "The campaign has provided an object lesson in solidarity. In the teams almost every kind of Christian was represented. So far as I am aware there has been no report of any disagreement or mutual difference." An important lesson learned was that only as the churches act and work together can they hope to find entry into shops, factory canteens, business houses, hospitals, prisons, docks and clubs. It is estimated that quite 80 per cent. of Britons have no church associations, and can be reached, in the main, only by a united Christian witness from the churches. Some of the most effective work was done in the secondary and grammar schools. In Greater London evangelism in house parties was a very encouraging feature. Thank God, this fine experiment in Christian unity is being followed up, and churches are praying and working for a real spiritual uplift for a sorely buffeted nation.

Our Australian churches of Christ are assuredly called on to more zealously than ever promote the union of all Christian believers in the glorious tasks of winning people for Christ and strengthening our nation in righteousness. To do this we must show "fervent charity" towards other Christian bodies, crediting them with sincere desire to do the will of God, although their methods of service and worship may differ from our own. We are all beloved of our sovereign Lord.—R. Burns, Unley, S.A.

### THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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