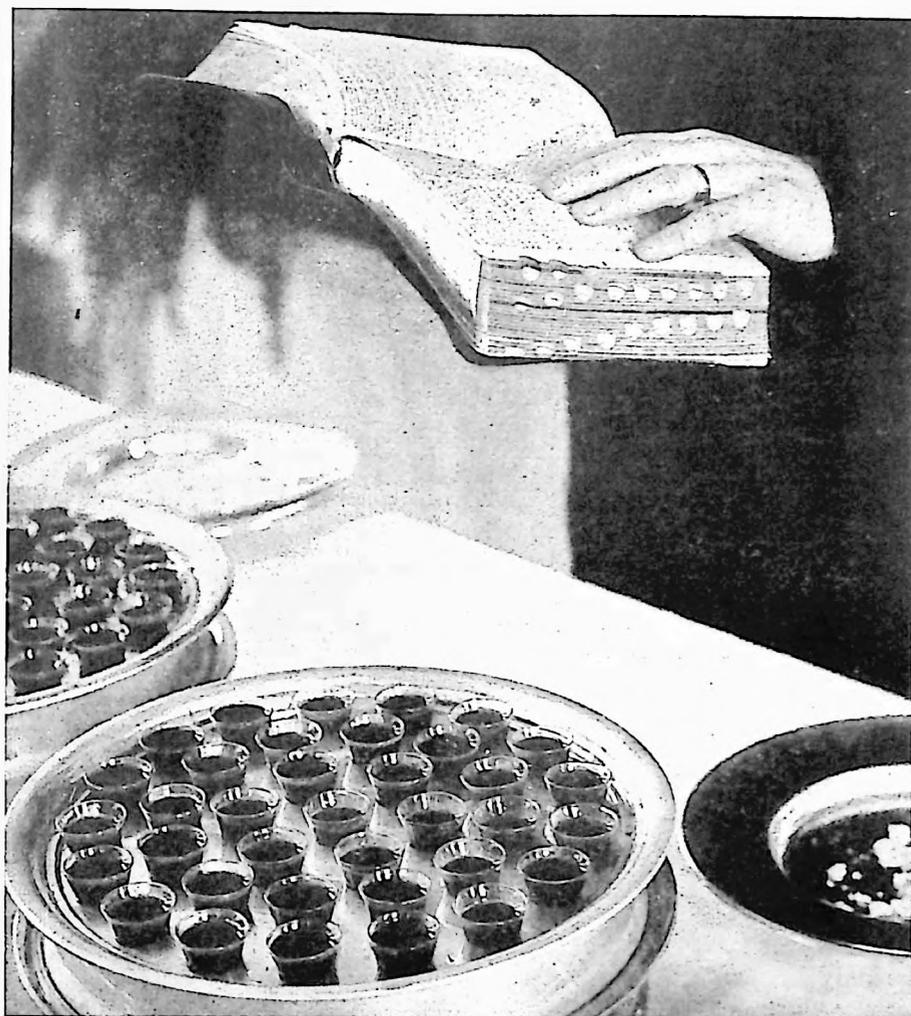


APRIL 3, 1965

# Before the Cross



LES. DEWBERRY  
DR. J. H. JAUNCEY  
VINEY LONGTHORP  
MRS. R. POWELL  
GWENDA ROGERS

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL WEEKLY OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST  
Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

## POST- OR PRE-CHRISTIAN?

Alan Walker takes issue with the Archbishop of Canterbury for using the phrase "post-Christian world." Saying that such a statement is a great disservice to the Christian church in Australia, Mr. Walker went on to say that today's world is "pre-Christian." "Christianity has never been practised by more than a minority of people in any society." (See page 16 in this issue.)

This is not the first time a visiting Anglican has used this phrase. Bryan Green used it in Melbourne in 1951 when giving the Moorhouse Lectures. He said that in the English-speaking countries with which he was concerned "the task of evangelism is made all the harder by the fact that they are post-Christian. The Gospel has been preached, there is a Christian church, and there are many vague Christian ideas woven into . . . their cultures. Religion is not rejected through hostility but because it seems irrelevant."

It is surely in this sense that the Archbishop of Canterbury was using the phrase. And he is right. Mr. Walker is also right, for the world has never been wholly Christian. And it never will, unless Christians are prepared to pay the price of discipleship in consecrated service.

## COLLISION COURSE

The news from South-East Asia continues to add to the world's gloom. With the stepping up of South Vietnamese and American air attacks on North Vietnam — the U.S.A. and China, according to a news comment, could be on a collision course. The use by "our" side of gas — lethal or not — has made the situation worse.

It is probably infuriating for the U.S. to know that the Hanoi regime is aiding and abetting the Viet Cong guerrillas, and it may seem foolish for the Americans to think of continuing a fight against the enemy in the South when its supplies and direction come from the North. When the Viet Cong humiliated the Saigon government and its American supporters in a series of hit and run successes, the Americans became convinced that they had to reach a position of strength before they could negotiate a settlement for the unhappy country, and this meant the destruction of the enemy's bases.

In this issue, however, D. T. Niles, of Ceylon, the General Secretary of the East Asia Christian Conference, questions the validity of the reasons behind the present policies of the U.S. government. Especially he makes the point that whereas both South and North Vietnam want to see their lands unified, American policy seems directed towards a permanent division.

U Thant, Director-General of the United Nations, is also representative of a strong body of opinion that the present operations of America are a dangerous threat to world peace. He is supported in that view by many statesmen, diplomats, Asian experts, and well-informed church leaders.

The U.S. must feel that China will not make good her promises to defend North Vietnam or, if she does, she will not be able to make a decisive difference to American and South Vietnamese hopes of achieving their aims. Unfortunately, American judgment on such matters has often proved to be faulty, and we could be faced with involvement in an adventure like the Korean war — costly, destructive and indecisive. Surely the U.S.A. does not seriously think that it could defeat a nation like China in Asia without plunging the world into an all-out nuclear war that no one could win.

Perhaps the U.S.A. is relying on the rift between China and the U.S.S.R. to temper China's resolution. But a common threat may have the effect of uniting Russia and China. They have both promised to help North Vietnam.

The whole sorry business is a job for the United Nations, but that organisation is suffering from an illness that may yet prove mortal.

It is also an area for Christian concern, clear thinking, and straight talking by those who are able to guide us. It is not a matter that concerns only the Vietnamese and the U.S.A. It concerns the whole family of nations and could involve us all.

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

119-125 Hawke St.,  
West Melbourne, C.3.  
Phone 30-1848

Vol. 68

No. 13

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Published for  
The Federal Conference of  
Churches of Christ  
by  
The Australian Christian Ltd.  
L. J. Butler, Chairman.  
E. F. Morris, Secretary.  
W. W. McDowell, Treasurer.

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## • CHRISTIAN WOMEN SERVING (2)

# Among The Mentally Handicapped

By GWENDA ROGERS

The first day at school! Not an unusual experience in the lives of most families. For the Sollys, however, this first day was different.

Five years before they had learned that their baby, Trent, was mentally retarded. The uncertainty which clouded the future left them with an overwhelming desire to shelter and protect the child. There was little room left to discover his abilities, nor for the development of those abilities, no matter how limited they were.

At least, that was the case until they accepted the advice to enrol Trent in the local Training Centre. There came the day when Mrs. Solly closed the Kindergarten gate behind her and left her boy to face his first day at school.

Silently and, for a time, even fearfully, Trent surveyed his new surroundings. He felt terribly alone . . .

\* \* \*

Throughout Victoria there are some 32 Training Centres for the Intellectually Handicapped — here daily, there are over 1,400 children and adult age people in attendance. These Centres are subsidised by the Government, through the Mental Hygiene Authority, but there is still a large financial burden left on the shoulders of each local committee of parents and interested members of the community. Through the Mental Hygiene Authority, there is a training course available to all those who wish to teach and work within this field of service.

In the training of these children, who are not likely to benefit from the normal, or even special school curriculum, our goals are necessarily somewhat different — we find that there cannot be the same grading, examination methods, or certificates of scholastic achievement as in ordinary schools. However, if we keep in mind the guiding principle which helped so much in the establishment of our Centres — that being the belief that every retarded child is FIRST A CHILD, with the full rights of a child, then we will strive to ensure some achievement through a programme aimed at developing the child's full potential, no matter how limited. In order to do this, we

Miss Rogers is a member of the church at Montrose, Victoria, and has had ten years' experience in the service she describes.

1965

must organise and plan so as to embrace the very wide field of Retardation.

A definition of mental retardation has been a problem to educators, research workers and administrators for many years.

Although seldom do our children ever learn to read books profitably, or practise the use of arithmetic, many can learn to recognise words and phrases which are used in every day signs, or develop the understanding of number and a realisation of the minimum symbols and terms which are essential in his daily living. The children also learn to respond to, and appreciate the things of beauty — whether it be art, music, or in nature itself. In the course of time, with careful planning and direction throughout the training programmes of our centres, we hope to see each child succeed in achieving some participation in both worthwhile and meaningful activities that the adult workshop may give. As Teachers in this somewhat new, but expanding field we are presented with a tremendous challenge. There is so much to be learned and developed that one must never submit to complacency at present achievements, but rather be on the alert for new methods and ideas, seeking always for an increase of knowledge and a better understanding of mental deficiency.

However, there is one important factor to be remembered — mental retardation IS NOT a disease, but a resultant condition. Right at the very beginning, parents of the young retarded child are encouraged to see and use the facilities offered by the Centres, and from them to receive every possible help and guidance.

Frequently it has been found that during these early years there can be times touched with fear, disappointments and confusion, which, if isolated or harbored, are most likely to be increased. Also, a close contact between the home and the Centre is most desirable and beneficial, when seeking to understand and train the mentally limited child.

As with any handicapped person, the limitations of retardation are varied, and we must not think of them merely as a group of retarded children or adults, but must remember to plan for their individual needs. Throughout most of the Victorian Centres, the children are divided into their most appropriate

groups, from Nursery and Kindergarten through to training groups — then, as their various acquired skills or developed abilities progress, they move through to vocational training groups, and finally to sheltered workshops.

For some whose limitations or difficulties may be too great to achieve, or adjust to, the over-all Centre programme, every opportunity and help is given in the attempt to suit individual needs, and in some cases special groupings are made. Medical and psychological help is available to all Centres to cope with such situations. Careful attention is given to the keeping of records and observations. Regular tests are made, and as a result, a more suitable placement can often be made.

Basically, when our children come to us, they, like any other child, have three great tasks facing them — COMING TO TERMS WITH MATERIALS, PEOPLE and SITUATIONS. Starting in the Kindergarten, a foundation for future learning is prepared. Approached through the method of play, this should, if successful, develop to the maximum the child's sensory, motor and self evaluated skills. During these Nursery-Kindergarten years the young intellectually handicapped child is assisted through the adjustments necessary between the home and the outside social group, with added attention given to the standard already established at home, and steps made toward gaining self dependence.

There are new opportunities given to explore and enjoy the world about them, and limited growth in the ability to communicate is gradually developed. With this preparation there is then the follow

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## NEWS AND REPORTS

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The Australian Christian.

## AMONG THE MENTALLY HANDICAPPED

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through into the training groups, where the child will learn to communicate his feelings and ideas, where new words are gained and understood, and he becomes better equipped for independent thinking. Through these groups we plan for the child to be given opportunity to participate in group activity, so that the idea and habit of working co-operatively with others is slowly achieved. During this period the children must learn obedience to the laws of society, and to respect the rights of others, with an aim towards the eventual development of conscience.

\* \* \*

Trent is still limited and always will be, but he is no longer fearful or unfamiliar with his surroundings and the children and leaders at the Centre. There are even exciting signs of development as he races for a football. Sometimes he makes a pretty good kick, at other times he takes a tumble. He wears his best clothes when on a group excursion and he expects the same of you because he is aware that this is an occasion for dressing up. In your turn you expect from him his best behaviour and he gives it, for Trent is learning to conform to the rules of the society of which he is a part. Personal independence has nearly been mastered and communication is progressing.

There is still a long, long way to go, and the future is still limited, but there is a future! Trent now has a real place in his family. He participates in its activities and has his privileges and duties. One day the Sollys should see their boy graduate to a sheltered workshop and become an effective part of the community.

# STUDENT TRAINING AT KENMORE

By Principal Dr. JAMES H. JAUNCEY

The academic day at Kenmore Christian College starts at 9 a.m. and finishes at 9 p.m. with attendance at the College required of students during all these hours. All study and class preparation is done under supervision to ensure the most efficient use of time and the most adequate learning process. Apart from exceptional circumstances no "homework" is required outside of school hours.

The College is in session four days per week, Tuesday through to Friday. Two one and a half hour breaks for meals occur during the day and one twenty minute chapel period.

There are three stages in the learning experience at Kenmore: presentation, tutorial and exercise. In the presentation, the material to be learned is presented by a lecturer; in the tutorial, the pertinent points are thrashed out in class discussion; and in the exercises the students test their knowledge in the area. These stages are varied throughout the day.

Kenmore operates in six areas of knowledge. These are studied continuously for four years.

**New Testament:** background, archaeology and introduction, comprehensive knowledge of the contents, detailed exegesis of the individual books in Greek, with four years' Greek required.

**Christian Thought:** Restoration Movement teaching, systematic theology, philosophy of religion, comparative religions, ethics, psychology of religion.

**Church History:** History of the Christian Church from ancient times to the present day, history of missions, history and development of the Restoration Movement.

**The Ministry:** a non-lecture, workshop course, on preaching, church administration, counselling, Christian education, evangelism, worship.

**Secular:** Matriculation (London and Queensland), degree work towards B.A. and B.D. Matriculation deficiencies are removed the first year, and we do the teaching ourselves. Then students proceed to degree work. Graduates will be expected to gain both degrees.

Kenmore imposes no system of rules and regulations. Student conduct is supervised by the Student Association. There are no curfews and no necessary restriction against marriage. But the student's learning and personality and practical work are under constant appraisal of the Principal. Students working in churches are employed by the College and not by the churches, and their work is backed and supervised by the College. The whole College system is designed to be a tight religious community.

## 1,000 TONGUES

Some part of the Bible was published in 1,232 languages and dialects as of last December, the United Bible Societies report. The figure represents languages spoken by about 95 per cent of the world's population. Complete Bibles have been published in the languages of over 90 per cent of the world's population. Some 70,000,000 copies of Scriptures were circulated throughout the world in 1964.—E.P.S.

## RUSSIAN BIBLE

A new translation of the New Testament into modern Russian has just been completed by the British and Foreign Bible Society after 12 years of work by Russian scholars associated with St. Sergius Academy in Paris. The typescript will form the basis of a Bible translation into modern Russian when it is possible to produce it in Russia—or when permission can be secured to import Bibles into Russia.—E.P.S.

## SPANISH POLICE CLOSE SCHOOL

(Zaragoza). Spanish police have closed the primary school operated by the Adventist Christian Church here, on the grounds that educational activities by Protestant church groups are forbidden.

Twenty-five parents of the children affected by the closure have protested of the action to the Ministry of Education and asked recognition of their right to educate their children in accordance with their religious beliefs.—E.P.S.

## KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

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# DO WE NEED A SECOND MINISTER?

THE CASE FOR THE SECOND MINISTER IN CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

BY R. V. LONGTHORP,

Director of Christian Education, Vic.-Tas.

One of the hopeful features about the church today is the manner in which it is re-examining its faith and structure, so that it can be relevant to life and be better able to face the challenges of this new age. With increasing clearness the church is discovering the need for its ministry to diversify and specialise.

These new patterns are necessary if the church is to bring the gospel to all points of man's many needs. It is encouraging therefore, to see our ministers equipping themselves to be the more effective servants of the Flat-dweller, the Slum-dweller, the migrant, the "man in industry," the alcoholic, the neurotic, those whose marriage is growing bitter and brittle.

Subserving all these ministries is the ongoing ministry of teaching and nurture — the ministry of Christian Education. This operates seven days a week, every week of the year, upbuilding the Christian Fellowship. This work informs all other ministries — it is part of all others.

This ministry must also be kept vital. As we examine the tasks which the church now faces a strong case can be forwarded for the appointment, in the local church, of a second minister — a minister of Christian Education, someone whose sole task it is to administer and lead the over-all programme of Christian Education.

Churches so often fail in youth work, in club work, in the Bible Schools, at the level of mere administration. We have in our churches today as much zeal, dedication and skills as we have ever had. But it is becoming increasingly difficult for the part-time, voluntary worker to give the amount of time and

thought necessary to administering and co-ordinating the many aspects of this varied work.

As standards of education increase, as our young people mature earlier, as more is expected of the church, so our programmes must be kept relevant, vital and alive if we are to address ourselves in strength to the world.

This means better work and higher standards from our teachers and leaders. There is greater need for more "on the spot training." There is much evidence to suggest that we have reached the limit which can be given by the part-time, voluntary worker. He will always be the mainstay and the sinews of the local church's teaching ministry, but in facing the challenge of this day he must be offered the help of those who are trained, qualified and available.

If we take this seriously, it means

that someone has to be set aside to give it his whole attention — his whole life.

The present minister is too busy to do this; the preparing of sermons and worship services, time consuming pastoral activities is more than a full-time work.

There are some churches in Australia who could engage the second minister on their existing incomes. Many other churches could do this if they so planned. Money can always be found for projects which we deem as being important for the work of the Kingdom — witness the great sums raised for activities at home and abroad.

**The Second Minister:** this is no new idea. There are churches in Australia, in Britain as well as in the United States, who find it necessary and beneficial to use the services of a full-time servant in Christian Education.

**The Second Minister:** far from reducing the scope of activities for the layman, he would increase him. The laity would have more adequate leadership to help him in his role as teacher and leader.

**The Second Minister:** there are many men and women in our brotherhood who, by training and calling, would find an enriching vocation in the work of Christian Education. Not everyone who feels the call to full-time service realises his service in preaching. Many would better offer their talents in the class, in the group, rather than in the pulpit.

**The Second Minister:** he could be the key to a "break through" in adult work; he could be the answer to a more effective ministry to youth; with his help we could go a long way towards finding God's answer to our membership problems.

Who will "give it a go?"

## OBITUARY

Arthur Henry Webber,

of "Bingley Hall," N.S.W. (one of our Homes for the Aged), died on March 19. Born at Nelligen, on the South Coast of N.S.W. in 1877, he lived all his life in Australia, except for one trip abroad when he and Mrs. Webber, both members of the N.S.W. Youth Dept., were delegates to the 10th World Convention of the International Sunday School Union, held in Glasgow in 1924. Most of his working life was spent as a bank officer, first with the old N.S.W. Savings Bank, and later with the Commonwealth Bank. Owing to ill-health he retired from bank service 32 years ago. Arthur Webber was baptized by G. T. Walden at Enmore 73 years ago. He was a mem-

ber of the old Enmore Training Class, and preached his first sermons at the age of 18. He helped in the early days at Chatswood, preached the first gospel sermon at the Lane Cove church, and for 3½ years was preacher for the church at North Sydney. He was for a time asst. secretary at Enmore, and also asst. secretary of the N.S.W. Conference. His greatest work was in the realm of the Bible School. Mr. and Mrs. Webber both served as teachers and for many years were on the Bible School Committee. To his widow, and his sister (Mrs. Ryan), and to their many friends, we express our sincere Christian sympathy. Funeral services were conducted by H. T. Williams (Methodist), R. Kronert (Baptist), R. Hilford (Hornsby), C. Cole (Social Service), R. Middlemass (Asquith) and the writer.

—D. Wakeley



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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### BOND-BOWDEN MISSION

(Clovelly Park, S.A.) The second week concluded with a packed tent each night. There have been 30 conversions and rededications. All attending have appreciated vital Bible-based messages of Jack Bond and the warm-hearted singing led by Bill Bowden. Each night people from the district are attending and continuing prayer is requested.

### WORKING HOLIDAY

(Maylands, S.A.) Doug. Schultz and Peter Stephens have been on a working holiday at Aborigines Mission at Esperance, W.A. . . . A farewell evening was tendered to those going to various mission fields. These included Miss Rofe and Miss Mobbs, and Messrs. Graham, Heath and Atwell . . . Seven young people have been received into the church after baptism . . . The passing of Miss Nell Charlton made another break in our history. She was one of the few remaining original members and cared for the flower ministry for 40 years. She was a Sunday School teacher, girls club leader and attended to many other duties in her very active life in the church . . . The New Hebrides project was over-subscribed in less than the allotted time. The Lenswood folk assisted by contributing £75 . . . Goods from the Harvest Festival went to Children's and Elderly Folks' Homes.

### BRIDGING THE GULF (SPENCER'S!)

(Koongarra Park, S.A.) The Birds-eye's Bus Service had the task of transporting 12 members of the Koongarra C.W.F. to Tumby Bay for their country link visit. Someone talked all night, kept everyone awake — including the bus driver! Our ladies enjoyed the hospitality lavished upon them by their hostesses. A very interesting meeting was held on Wednesday evening with speakers on various subjects and pictures (ancient and modern). Gratitude is expressed to all at Tumby Bay for days of happy Christian fellowship.

### WAYSIDE PULPIT

(Nailsworth, S.A.) Church Wayside Pulpit Notice Board is now illuminated each evening and controlled by a time-switch. Has the effect of brightening the street corner on which Nailsworth property stands, and provides many extra hours of silent witness . . . Recently formed G.L.B. growing in numbers . . . Attendance, March 21: a.m. 145; p.m. 125; communicants 154; two decisions.

### OTHER S.A. CHURCH NEWS

**BERRI.** On March 28 the Harvest Thanksgiving services were held, and in afternoon of the same day Berri and Winkie Bible Schools held a combined Teacher Training session, under the leadership of Mr. Greenwood. Our minister has agreed to continue his term of ministry with the church at Berri until January, 1967.

## How Not To Grow Old . . .

Youth is not entirely a time of life — it is a state of mind. Youth is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotions, a freshness of the deep springs of life.

It means a temperamental predominance of courage over timidity, of an appetite for adventure over love of ease.

Nobody grows old by merely living a number of years. People grow old only by deserting their ideals.

Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up interest wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, self-distrust, fear and despair — these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the growing spirit back to dust.

Whatever your age, there is in every person's heart the love of wonder, the undaunted challenge of events, the unfailing childlike appetite for what next, and the joy of the game of life.

You are as young as your faith, as old as your doubt; as young as your confidence, as old as your fear; as young as your hope, as old as your despair.

In the central place of every heart there is a recording chamber — so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer and courage, so long are you young.

When the wires are all down and your heart is covered with the snows of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then, and then only, are you grown old.

### BRIGHTON GARDENS ESTIMATES

(S.A.) At the annual business meeting tentative plans were accepted for chapel, foyer and service rooms. It was decided to request detailed specifications and seek quotes from several builders. L. Brune is architect . . . Elected were: K. Matthews, G. Miller, K. Ladner and T. Edge, deacons; Mrs J. Wenham, deaconess; L. Drummond, B.S. supt.; P. McDonald, choirmaster . . . Active membership is 234, with 46 additions during the year. Sunday School has 370 scholars, plus 75 names on cradle roll, and staff of 57 . . . A grade tennis team is at top of premiership list.

### CHRISTIAN NURSES

(Adelaide). The South Australian branch of the Australian Nurses' Christian Movement will hold its annual public meeting at Holy Trinity Church Hall, North Terrace, on Tuesday, April 13, at 8 p.m. The speaker will be A. Norrish, Field Secretary of the Bible and Medical Fellowship, and there will be items by nurses.

### ELDER HONOURED

(Broken Hill, S.A.) Many of our men give splendid service to the churches over a long period. One of these was recognised when, at Broken Hill, the church honoured elder N. Rough with a life eldership in recognition of his long and faithful service. Mr. Rough is still in hospital but is greatly improved. G. Lee, treasurer, is home from hospital after an appendix operation . . . Recent speakers have been W. Harris, G. Lee, W. Lee and E. Garner . . . Members of the Y.W.C.A. held a church parade on March 21.

### STEWARDSHIP RESPONSE

(Queenstown, S.A.) Stewardship campaign was conducted because of reduced offerings of £7 over last two years. Promises returned on Harvest Thanksgiving Day amounted to £40/9/- (increase of £8) . . . A successful start to iced coffee bar after Sunday youth service was held . . . The young people held a successful camp at Balaklava Camp site.

### COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE, GLEN IRIS

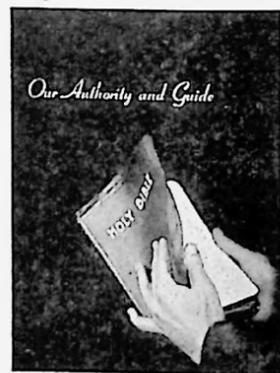
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## THE MEMORY LINGERS

BY L. S. DEWBERRY

It is nearly 2,000 years since our Lord instituted the supper or feast which we call the Lord's Supper or Communion or Sacrament. On that occasion he said: "Do this in remembrance of me."

It is a wonderful fact that in every generation since and in expanding numbers and an ever growing number of places, Christians have met to remember Him, as He asked, in this sacred feast of love. Surely we should, with reverence and awe, ask ourselves, "What makes this such a remarkable act of worship?"

In answer we could say firstly, that the supper endures because it holds before Christians not so much the beauty or ritual of the ceremony, for its origin was winsomely simple, but the memory of a supreme and incomparable Person — the Christ of God. This feast has endured because in every generation, Christians have been able to feel, in this act of worship, that they were in the living, abiding presence of their Living Lord . . . that in their changing world they were in communion with the changeless Christ who is "the same yesterday, today and forever."

### Great Act

We could say, secondly, that this feast endures because of the great act it commemorates — the sacrifice of Christ for the sin of the world. These simple emblems of bread and wine are memorials of the body and blood of Christ. Someone has said that to live is to place oneself in need of forgiveness. Which of us will deny that, day by day, we need forgiveness. And here at

the sacred feast, with faith and gratitude, we find the pardon and peace we seek as we realise that as we confess our sin, "God, for Christ's sake, forgives us." So this feast endures, because our need for forgiveness endures and Christ's pardoning grace endures.

### Not Alone

We could say also that this supper endured because we sup not alone, but as part of a large family of people of like mind and like need. Thus there comes the sense of a fellowship of love which makes us realise that we belong to each other because we first belong to Christ. Herein lies the union in Communion. Union with one another and with Christ. At this point, the Lord's Supper becomes a potent agent of Christian unity as Christians of differing denominations and of different doctrines become aware that as they eat and drink they are ascribing glory and majesty, Lordship and power to Christ in common with Christians throughout the world.

Thus they are reminded that whatever their differences, on these big, fundamental issues, they are united. Yes, as we are "at communion" the memory lingers on the Christ and we are thankful for this opportunity of responding to His call, "Do this in remembrance of me."

—Box Hill "Gazette."

### PRAYER

By Dick Batten.

O Lord, my Lord, how excellent is thy name!

My body was afflicted, and I cried to thee in pain.

But my pain went not away. Yet the hours became more bearable. The nights less dark and grim.

And now I see my prayers were answered.

No giver of pills, O Lord, art thou. Instead, for Patience — Faith — Forbearing —

Thy miracle of healing gave! Oh Lord, my Lord, how excellent is thy name!

—"World Call."

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# Asian Churchman Critical

D. T. NILES LOOKS AT SOUTH VIETNAM

(Geneva). A leading Asian churchman said that the policies followed by the U.S. government in Vietnam have almost completely destroyed the chances that North Vietnam can maintain its independence from China and made practically impossible the development of a flexible policy for Asia by the U.S.S.R.

Dr. D. T. Niles, of Ceylon, General Secretary of the East Asia Christian Conference, framed his statement in terms of replies to the question, "What is the U.S.A. government seeking to achieve by its present policy in Vietnam?" Following are major portions of that statement:—

1. It says that it is seeking to make North Vietnam leave South Vietnam alone.

The basic difficulty is that North Vietnam and South Vietnam together comprise one country and that the people in both parts want the country unified again. The situation in Vietnam is quiet different from either the situation in Korea or in Germany. It is a basic miscalculation to think that a foreign power can prevail over the will of the common people to seek the unification of their own country. Nor is it possible for a foreign power to decide how the people of the country can achieve their desire.

2. It says that it is seeking to contain the influence of the People's Republic of China in Asia.

The fundamental miscalculation here is a double one. First, the U.S.A. cannot stay in Asia for ever. The peoples of Asia must make their own adjustments among themselves.

Secondly, the social, political and economic conditions of the countries in Asia are such that they cannot formulate their policies in terms of a simply negative approach to Communism. Before the patterns of parliamentary democracy emerged in the West, western countries had already dealt with the

problems of feudalism, class-communalism, self-government, etc.

To put it vividly, some of the things which Henry VIII did in England are happening in Asia only now. All this means that the government of U.S.A. cannot expect a sympathetic understanding of what they are attempting in Vietnam from the peoples of Asia.

To say that the government of South Vietnam approves of the policy of the U.S.A. is to say precisely nothing. It is not yet clear whom that government represents. As far as one can see, it simply represents those in whose hands military power at the moment resides.

3. It says that it is seeking a way to negotiate a settlement in Vietnam which will not be a sell-out to the Communists.

Should we begin from the fact that most people in Asia think of the leader of North Vietnam as a national hero, and agree with him in his aim to build in Vietnam a Communist State, but outside the control of China, then one begins to wonder what kind of a negotiated settlement the U.S. is aiming at.

By its present policies and actions the U.S. has almost completely destroyed the chances of North Vietnam maintaining its independence from China. It has also destroyed, or almost completely destroyed the possibilities of a flexible policy for Russia in Asia. All that has happened is that the hands of China have been tremendously strengthened.

If then there is to be a negotiated settlement which is not a sell-out to the Communists, the only way of achieving it is to make South Vietnam a colonial dependency of the U.S.A., but dress such a dependency up in terms of treaties and parallels that have to be guaranteed by foreign power. To expect the countries of Asia to accept such a situation for long is to expect too much.

4. It says that should the U.S.A. pull out of Vietnam now, it would betray

other countries in Asia which look to its presence in Asia for their own stability.

This consideration is important. But how can the countries of Asia, which look to the U.S. for economic aid as well as political stability, really depend on the U.S.A. if it creates the impression that, in the last analysis, it will use its overwhelming military power to protect what are primarily its own immediate interests?

The history of American aid in the countries of Asia is a checkered history. It is of paramount importance that an image of the U.S. as a powerful country with mature political judgment should be built up in Asia. It is not necessary for a country such as the U.S. even to think of answering the challenge that it is only a paper tiger.

5. It says that sooner or later there has to be a confrontation between the People's Republic of China and the U.S.A., and that Vietnam is the time and place.

Here we ask only one question. Is human life in Asia cheap? — E.P.S.

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# WRIGHT THINKING

— BY C. H. J. WRIGHT

## WHO IS TO BLAME?

A boy was up before a magistrate for thieving recently. When asked why he had done it, he answered, "My father and mother don't live together." I am well aware, of course, of the disastrous effect of broken homes on children, but this popular explanation of misconduct is often too easily offered. Modern attitudes tend to undermine the sense of personal responsibility, providing the wrongdoer with far too many excuses. We are adept at laying the blame somewhere else. Some of us are very fond of animals, others are not. But it would seem there is one animal to which we all persistently cling and could not do without — the scape-goat. Strong within us all is the instinct, when anything goes wrong, to look around for someone or something upon which to shift the burden of responsibility. We blame our heredity, our home, our environment. Here is a woman declaring her troubles spring from her narrow and strict parental upbringing. Here is a man convinced that all his disasters can be traced to the fact that he was, from birth, an unwanted child. Here is another woman who explains all her domestic unhappiness on the grounds that she was rushed into marrying the wrong man.

All these things do make a tremendous difference and must be reckoned with — but they never make all the difference. Take, for example, the story Jesus told of the Prodigal Son. "The younger son gathered all together and took his journey into a far country, and there wasted his substance on riotous living." Whose fault was it that this boy was a delinquent? When this kind of thing happens today, we are quick to say it is the fault of the home. The father is too stern, or the mother is too soft, or the older brother is a prig. But Jesus did not say anything about that. He seems to place the blame squarely on the shoulders of the young man himself. The boy's salvation began when he said, "I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him: father, I have sinned!"

The current habit of holding parents accountable for everything ignores three important facts:

One: Failure is not caused by an event, but by the way a person reacts to an event. John Stuart Mill, Beethoven, Florence Nightingale (and many others) had unhappy childhoods — but what a glowing success they made of their lives! What life does to us depends upon what life finds in us. The things that happen to us from without do not determine the consequences. What happens to us from without pulls our triggers and explodes us; the consequence depends on what is in us to explode. Have you heard of Thomas Bridges? He was an unwanted baby. He was found beside a river. They picked him up at a bridge — that is why they called him Bridges. He was found on St. Thomas' Day — that is why they called him Thomas, Thomas Bridges. To look at

# QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



Worship in church should be solemn and dignified and reverent. Does this mean that light-hearted singing is out? Is it ever right to laugh in church?

To worship is to reverence or value. To worship God is to reverence God and give him supreme value.

There are, however, various levels of worship and in some of these levels light-hearted singing and a happy spirit is definitely out. For example, if you are centering your worship on the Christ of the cross, it is surely impossible to find anything funny. But if I cannot laugh in the presence of Jesus on the cross, I can laugh with him in the joyous fellowship of the disciples. Do you remember when Jesus spoke about the people who were so fussy about their drinking water that they strained out the almost invisible gnats — then swallowed whole camels, humps and all! There was certain to be laughter in the presence of Jesus then. If such examples are rare it does not follow that they seldom occurred. The mission of Jesus was a serious one and it is fitting that the New Testament writers should treat it seriously. Nevertheless, Jesus himself was a real person who would find time to laugh.

In a church worship service there can be these different levels of worship, and we are required to act appropriately to each of them. Laughter will be justified occasionally because laughter is a gift of God and he will expect us to exercise it.

We must guard against thinking that we are worshipping simply because we are in a religious setting. At one camp the song leader was conducting an hilarious group singing "Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!" Every time the girls sang "Hallelujah!", they would stand up and quickly sit down. Every time the boys sang "Praise the Lord!", they would rise and sit. Since the chorus consisted of nothing but "Hallelujah! Praise the Lord!" the boys and girls were bobbing up and down at a furious rate. This may have been fun, but it wasn't worship.

If I think that is going too far, I believe our greater fault is in the other direction. Too often we act as though we are of all men most miserable! The New Testament is realistic about sin and suffering, but it also throbs with joy. "Rejoice always," said Paul. Now one can rejoice without going into peals of laughter, but I am sure that the Old Testament writer was correct when he said, "there is a time to weep, and a time to laugh." If we exclude all laughter from God's house, people will be excused for thinking God's family is joyless.

You see, not so much what life does to us, not so much what happens on the outside, but what there is on the inside — this makes the difference to people.

## "THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN" 50 YEARS AGO 1915

The mayor of one of Victoria's towns recently said that the reason the Churches of Christ were making the progress they are is because they have a definite policy to put before the people . . . There were thirteen confessions of faith in the mission at Warragul, Vic. . . Reports to be presented to Vic. Conference show increases for preceding year: Churches 6; church members 310; Bible Schools 4; B.S. teachers 137; B.S. scholars 870 . . . From the Field: Paddington, N.S.W. A. G. Saunders from the Philippines, gave one of the finest addresses to children the writer ever heard. The children gave him an encore . . . Invercargill, N.Z. The members gave bulk of purchase money for new property in temporary loans and straight-out donations. It is hoped that the whole of the purchase money will be raised in this way.

## HAVING FUN WITHOUT LIQUOR . . .

"Moomba" is an Australian Aborigine word meaning "Let's get together and have fun." Each year during the early part of March the City of Melbourne conducts a "Moomba Festival" culminating in a public holiday on which a great parade is held and many entertainments are presented in the beautiful Alexandra Gardens.

It is usual that on this day liquor is dispensed from a number of booths and on previous occasions there has been brawling by teenage mobs and irresponsible gangs, as well as damage to the gardens and facilities situated there. This year the Police objected to the granting of a liquor licence and as a result no liquor was sold on the public holiday within the Gardens.

750,000 people (a record crowd) viewed the parade and assembled at the many attractions in the Gardens. That Melbourne had its most successful Moomba ever has been agreed by all. The absence of incident and irresponsible actions not only added to the enjoyment of the great occasion, but rather forcibly proved that liquor is not essential to having fun. On the contrary, its presence increases dangers and makes otherwise happy and healthy people into irresponsible hooligans.

Melbourne "had fun" this year without liquor, and would recommend this experience to every other city seeking an occasion of gaiety and relaxation.

—E. S. Sanders (Vic. Temp. Alliance).

## HERE AND THERE

### CENTENARY PAGEANT

Folk who attended the Federal Conference in Hobart (Tas.) in 1962 will recall the play presented by the Maryborough (Vic.) young people. R. V. Longthorp, Director of the Vic.-Tas. Department of Christian Education, was the author. Folk who attend the family and youth night of the forthcoming Vic.-Tas. Centenary Conference, will see a further product of the fertile mind and facile pen of R. V. Longthorp. He has written a Centenary Pageant portraying the development of our sense of mission over the years, and presenting the challenge of the future to us as a people. The newly formed youth choir of 60 voices — "The Campbell Singers" — conducted by Ron Mullen, will make their debut at this function, which will be held in the Methodist Ladies' College Assembly Hall, Fitzwilliam-st., Kew, on Saturday evening, April 10.

### OBJECTIVE REACHED

(Hurstville, N.S.W.). At the annual business meeting, it was noted that the Church had fully attained its objective in its first budget year, and 22% of total offerings went to brotherhood funds. The elders and deacons were re-elected. . . . The Youth Director, Bruce Armstrong, was a recent speaker. . . . About 19 Y.P. visited Katoomba on Mar. 20.

### PLANS TO ENLARGE

(Rockhampton, Nth. Rockhampton, Moongan, Qld.). At a specially convened members' meeting it was decided to enlarge the Craig-st. chapel by 25 feet to meet the growing demands of the S.S. and youth clubs. Over £200 is already in hand. . . . A married man made his decision and was baptized the same hour.

There have been four recent additions to the church at William-st., three of them by transfer. . . . Plans are being finalised for a youth "Rendezvous at Rockhampton" in June. . . . Two ser-

### PRAYER EMPHASIS

(E. Ipswich - Leichhardt, Qld.). Eighty members participated in 24 hours of prayer, and there were 70 at a prayer rally at which Sister Jean Delaney spoke of her work on Pentecost. She also spoke to the Junior and Intermediate fellowships, their parents and friends. . . . At the combined swimming carnival we gained the shield for first place, and Sherry and Shauna Otago tied for the Junior trophy.

### NEW ORGAN

(Kalgoorlie, W.A.). A new Hammond organ has been installed in the church, and the church has accepted plans outlined by the minister for method of payment of the £200 balance within six months. The old organ, nearly as old as the church, has been sold. . . . The best annual business meeting for years elected K. Smales, secretary, and J. Tinetti, treasurer; deacons, Messrs. Beasland, Denn, Lloyd, Lydon, Martin, McMeikan, R. Reid, Smales, Smythe, Tinetti, Turner, Wright. . . . Bill Thornton and Ron Cook and family left for Melbourne, where the young men have entered the C.O.B. for training. . . . The half-hour broadcast service over 6KG on Sundays has been recommenced. . . . A number of Endeavourers journeyed to Norseman on Labour Day for a rally and picnic.

vices at William-st. were held in connection with the Women's World Day of Prayer. The a.m. service was led by Mrs. V. G. Boettcher; in the evening the youth service was conducted by Mrs. G. Watson. Attendances were 250 and 85 respectively. . . . The C.W.F. stall netted £44. . . . Recent speakers at C.Y.F. included Ross Neilsen, of Townsville, Miss D. Rawson, Y.M.C.A., recently appointed from Grote-st., Adelaide, and Phil Woolford, youth director. . . . 25 were present at special luncheon and afternoon at girls' club, Craig-st. . . . Victor G. Boettcher is minister.

### FIRST FOR MINISTRY

(Malvern, Vic.). Robert Pfeifer has entered the College of the Bible. He is the first member from Malvern to train for the ministry. . . . The Youth Fellowship conducts an evening service each month. A Teens group has been formed in conjunction with the S.S. Total attendances are now 80. . . . A family service was held on March 14, with 100 present. . . . "Operation Friendship" is being intensified in anticipation of the mission with College of the Bible students in May. . . . A. B. Clark is minister.

## National Diary

### APRIL

- 3-11 N.S.W. General Conference.
- 4-12 V. Centenary Conference.
- 8-16 W.A. General Conference.
- 15-19 V. Easter Camps — Monbulk and Banksia.
- 15-19 V. C.E. Easter "Action" Camp.
- 21 V. Explorer Assistant Leaders' Course (4 weeks).
- 25 V. North-Western District Conference — Ararat.
- 30 V. Good Companions' Worship Service (Senior).

### MAY

- 1 V. C.Y.F. Central 217.
- 1-31 V. Explorer Service Project.
- 2 V. Department of Christian Education Offering.
- 8 V. Explorer Hike and Barbecue.
- 8-9 V. C.E. Missionary Demonstration and Rally.
- 11 V. C.Y.F. Impact.
- 12 V. Department of Home Missions & Evangelism Quarterly Prayer Rallies.
- 17, 19, 21 V. Explorer Junior Leaders' Course.
- 17-20 V. Good Companions' Camp (11-year-olds), Monbulk.
- 23-30 V. Christian Literature Week — Literature Department.
- 26 V. Leader Training Course Begins — 10 weeks — D.C.E.
- 27-June 6 V. Week of Prayer for Christian Unity — Union Department.
- 29 V. North-Eastern and Riverina District Conference — Shepparton.
- 29 V. Eastern District Conference, Quarterly Meeting, Boronia, 6.30 p.m.

## MOVEMENTS

### A. E. HURREN RESIGNS

(The Patch, Vic.). The church is saddened that Mr. Hurren has had to submit his resignation on account of ill-health. At the annual church business meeting it was received with regret. . . . Last year, the C.W.F., with a membership of about 15, paid the interest on the building loan amounting to £114. . . . Church anniversary services were well attended, special singing at the evening service being a feature. Temple Day offering was £75.

### JOHN WAY LEAVES KANIVA

(Vic.). After a three years' ministry, Mr. Way goes to the Department of Christian Education as Associate Director. He and his wife will be greatly missed in Kaniva both by the church and the community. This was amply expressed by the speakers at a farewell tea on Sunday, March 28. Though put in many ways, one speaker expressed the thoughts of all in saying that Kaniva is a better place for having had the Ways live amongst us. Crowded services marked his farewell Sunday. In the morning there were 98 communicants. At the evening service, Mr. Way spoke of "the ongoing faith, sufficient for all our needs."

### DR. JAUNCEY AT N.S.W. CONFERENCE

The main speaker at the Annual Conference of Churches of Christ in New South Wales will be Dr. James H. Jauncey, Principal of Kenmore Christian College, Queensland. The Conference will be held from April 3 to April 11.

Dr. Jauncey will speak at the Ministers' Conference on April 8, at 2 p.m., at the Social Service and Boys' Home Rally on April 9, at 7.15 p.m., the Home Mission and Bible College Rally on April 10, at 7.15 p.m., and at the Service of Witness at the Sydney Town Hall on Sunday, April 11, at 2.45 p.m.

Other features will be the Christian Women's Fellowship Conference on April 6, at 10 a.m.; Overseas Missionary Rally, on April 7, at 7.15 p.m., with F. C. Hunting as speaker.

This is New South Wales' 80th Conference.

### EPPING ITEMS

(Epping, N.S.W.). Ed. Holt, first year Woolwich student, formally welcomed to church. . . . Young people took gospel service on Feb. 28, when K. Oliver gave a challenging address. . . . Due to the changing face of the locality, with high density building programme, 100 members met for a buffet tea after which outreach possibilities were discussed. Plans were put forward to extend the existing hall to provide further accommodation. . . . Des Nelson (Maryborough, Qld.) spoke at morning service on Mar. 14. . . . Members have been sharing in the mission at Telopea. . . . Parents and friends attended Sunday evening church parade of Life Boys and Boys' Brigade, occupying one side of chapel. . . . Special speaker on March 21 was Miss Rosalie Rofe, of the New Guinea mission field.

### THIRTY ADDITIONS

(Pahran, Vic.). All meetings well attended. Feb. 26-28, church camp was held at Belgrave Heights. Inspiring messages given throughout. . . . At the annual business meeting it was reported that there were 30 additions by faith and baptism for the past year. . . . A day of prayer was held on March 10, commencing at 7 a.m. and finishing at 9 p.m. . . . In the past month there have been 26 rededications. . . . The church anniversary was celebrated on March 21, with Dr. A. C. Caldicott and J. Sutton as speakers.

### COMBINED FELLOWSHIP PLANNED

(Caulfield, Vic.). A number of the older young people from the Caulfield, Malvern and Ormond churches met with the view of forming a regular Young Adult Fellowship. . . . Ninety ladies were present at the 42nd birthday of the Afternoon Women's Fellowship on March 25. Mrs. W. S. Lowe was the speaker. . . . The annual business meeting was very well attended, when Mr. Youens was asked to consider a further term of ministry. . . . On March 28, two were baptized during the service.

### N.S.W. MINISTERS' WIVES

The N.S.W. Ministers' Wives' Fellowship will hold its next meeting on Friday, April 9, at 11 a.m., at 41 The Point Road, Woolwich. All ministers' wives are invited.

### TEACHING SERIES

(Blackburn, Vic.). Principal E. L. Williams, M.A., has just concluded a four-week series on "The Message and Mission of Churches of Christ." Mr. Jenkins showed slides of work of Mission to Lepers at C.W.A.F. . . . About 30 young people attended camp at Mt. Evelyn from March 19-21. . . . The annual business meeting of church held and the following appointments were made: sec., B. Graham; asst.-sec., G. Scambler; treas., J. McCann; elder, G. Kruse; deaconesses, Mesd. Miles and Joyce; and deacons, E. Addicott, G. Gilmour, A. Graham, N. King, D. Nelson and A. Overton.

### LIFE ELDERSHIP

(Carnegie, Vic.). G. Warmbrunn has been made a life elder in recognition of years of service to the church. . . . Three B.S. scholars have made decisions for Christ. . . . The new school hall and alterations to the church are progressing. . . . At the annual meeting the following were elected: deacons: A. Galletly, sec., K. Hawkins, K. Miles, treas., R. Thompson, D. Dowling, G. Luke. Deaconesses: Mrs. R. Hillbrich, Mrs. A. Mudge, Mrs. J. McCarty. . . . In the B.S., Cliff Meadows is Supt., Bryce Ferguson, asst.-supt., Kay Taylor, sec. . . . The minister, R. Hillbrich, has accepted the invitation of the church to continue in ministry for a further twelve months.



## QUEENSLAND

### LADIES' CHOIR

(Bundaberg, Qld.). Recently formed Ladies' Choir now assists in the evening services. Mrs. G. Pohle is conductor and Miss J. Wissman, organist. Barolin St. and Sims Road Bible Schools have been amalgamated, with W. Deoberitz as general supt. "Teens" Bible Study group meets at the manse each Sunday morning, under the leadership of the minister. . . . Christian Women's Fellowship has commenced a busy programme for 1965. Mrs. M. Vanham is pres., Mrs. A. Watson, vice-pres., with Mesdames G. Pohle and B. Phole sharing office of sec.-treas. . . . Elders for 1965 are Messrs. W. Deoberitz and R. Voss. W. Pohle is church sec., and W. Deoberitz, treas. . . . Improved exterior lighting has been installed at Barolin St. and Sims Road. Tender has been let for painting of Barolin St. building and hall. Church is a member of the recently formed Wide Bay Christian Television Association, with S. Vanham, the minister, as representative.

### MAIDSTONE CRUSADE

#### ENTERS FINAL WEEK

(Vic.). Enthusiasm of members in visitation and invitation of others to come and hear the gospel, and faithfulness in prayer is bearing much fruit. Sunday night was shared by 155, making total attendances 1,501 in 14 nights. There were seven first decisions and two re-consecrations, making the total to date 27 primary commitments and 11 for fuller commitment. An average of more than 25 each night at the prayer meeting has been a tower of strength in undergirding the ministry of W. J. Maxted and the supporting gospel singers. The final service of the Crusade will be next Sunday, April 4.

### MEDITATIONS ON THE CROSS

(Melb.). On Monday to Friday, April 12 to 15, a series of midday services will be held at the Swanston St. Church of Christ, from 1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. Dr. Lloyd Jones will lead the meetings and give a series of Meditations on the Cross. Miss Jean Milne will be soloist, and Cleve Lyster will be at the organ. There will also be a Good Friday service at 10 a.m.

### HOUSEKEEPER TO RESIGN

(Glen Iris, Vic.). Recently the College of the Bible received the resignation of the esteemed housekeeper, Mrs. Holmes. She is to be married and will make her home at Horsham. Mrs. Holmes has made a splendid contribution to the life of the College, and her loss will be deeply regretted. Elsewhere in this issue the College indicates its need for a suitable person to assist with housekeeping duties.

### QUEENSLAND CONFERENCE

The official opening of Kenmore Christian College and Principal's residence will be a feature of Queensland's 82nd Conference of Churches of Christ. It will be held on Sunday, May 2, at 2.30 p.m.

Other Conference sessions will be: April 29, 7.30 p.m., Aborigines Mission Rally; April 30, 9.45 a.m., Women's Conference; 7.30 p.m., Overseas Missions and Youth Rally; May 1, 7.30 p.m., Home Missions and College Rally.

Business sessions will be on May 1 and May 3, commencing at 9 a.m. All meetings will be held at Ann-st. church, except the United Evangelistic Service, which will be at the City Hall on May 2, at 7 p.m., with Dr. J. H. Jauncey as preacher.

### AGED CHRISTIANS' HOME

(Maryborough - Baddow - Hervey Bay, Qld.). At the first meeting of the Aged Christians' Home Committee the following were elected: H. Oakley, Chairman; S. Clow, Supt.; J. Ferguson, Treas.; A. Popp, Sec. . . . Two young women were baptized on March 14. . . . The minister, D. G. Nelson, has been conducting a mission at Telopea, N.S.W.

# LANGUAGE SCHOOL

—MAHABLESHWAR INDIA

BY Mrs. R. POWELL



It is hard to believe that we have been here at Mahableshtar now for nearly two weeks. We had a very good trip up on the bus, coming from Baramati to Faulton, where we had to change buses, then on to Mahableshtar. Both Richard and John came on the truck with our goods, so as to have most things in order when we arrived. Roger and Betty and children enjoyed the scenic trip too for the first time, and no-one was feeling sick coming up the ghats, which is the part which makes most Indian folk very sick. It seems that they just cannot bear the heights at all.

Since arriving we have all settled into Language Study, and are quite enjoying life again at Mahableshtar. We have a lovely view from our front verandah, which puts you more in the mood for

study than at home in all the hustle and bustle of housework.

One of the Pundits has offered to give me an extra two hours on Saturday mornings as from this week, which I think would be a great advantage, as this would mean I can start on the stories in Dusra Pustak now. I have already started on the Gospel of Mark in my private pundit hour at school. There are certainly a lot of new words to learn, but still I think with a bit of hard work it could be possible for me to sit for the exam. in May. For this language season I had three very good pundits who were willing to help wherever and whenever possible.

We were certainly all pleased to see Val Main pass First Year exam. with honours. It was really wonderful!

## AIR LINK - NEW HEBRIDES

There is now an air link between Aoba and Pentecost. This is a real boon to our work. A small Drovler plane operates a weekly service between Vila and Santo, making calls at Pentecost and Aoba. The air-field on Aoba is at Walana, and Thea Lake describes a trip made recently.

The ride to the airport at Walana from Ndui Ndui was an adventure. Barbara Donnelly and I, and all the other people with nothing much else to do, piled into an ancient jeep and set off along the narrow, roughly cleared area that is called a road. Some of us held on to each other, and the rest of us held on to the jeep. It was only our frantic clutching that held parts of the jeep together. It was an experience! Next time I will leave the luggage to travel in the dubious comfort of the jeep, and walk.

The plane took us up to Longana,

where the other five passengers got off and waited while the plane brought Barbara and me across here. Flying is certainly the way to travel inter-island. We were less than thirty minutes in the air. It takes ten hours on the launch, on a good day.

Samuel and his brother Job, with Jack Smith, met us at the air-strip, in Job's truck, which was very nice. We had been contemplating the possibility of an hour or so in the dinghy, from the air-strip to Ranmawat. I just don't much like sea travel in little boats.

Jack Edwards was busy during my enforced, and enjoyed, holiday, teaching the village teachers what to teach this year. They came to Ranwadi for a week to plan lessons, make teaching aids, and learn a bit of teaching technique. The results from the South schools last year seem to have reached an all-time low.

## CHURCH HYMN BOOKS for 5/-

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## CENTRAL AND NORTHERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE (VIC.)

The Conference opened with devotions, led by G. J. Andrews, at the host church, Short-st., Bendigo. Authority was given to the Building Committee to proceed with the programme of erecting the initial accommodation building at Eppalock camp site. Approval was given for the young people of the Conference churches to form a Youth Conference. This is for the purpose of arranging youth rallies, camps, etc.

Guest speakers were Mrs. M. Fletcher, missionary on furlough from New Guinea, and C. Dow, minister of the Coburg church. Mr. Dow gave a very challenging and thought-provoking message entitled "A Message for this Changing World." Mrs. Fletcher addressed the ladies in the afternoon, and also brought a short greeting to the evening session. Both these speakers were very much appreciated.

One hundred and four attended this Conference, and all enjoyed the hospitality of the members of the Short-st. church and the fellowship with other churches. The Short-st. ladies catered splendidly for those who attended. The Bendigo C.Y.F. Choir rendered two most enjoyable items during the evening service. Miss Vercoe also sang during the afternoon meeting.

The next Conference is to be held at Harcourt on August 7. Because of the interest shown by the Maryborough and Shepparton churches in the Eppalock project, members of these churches have been invited to share with us.

Election of Officers: Pres., M. Drake; sec., Mrs. M. Drake; vice-pres., Messrs. B. Baker and R. Lacy; asst. sec., Mrs. C. Houston; treas., E. Duus; auditors, R. Perl and A. Pollock. All these officers were inducted at the evening service by Mr. Dow.

Thanks was also expressed to Mr. Henderson for his excellent service as president. Best wishes were expressed for his return to better health. Representatives at the Conference were from Bendigo, Boort, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Kangaroo Flat, Harcourt, Pyramid Hill, Woorinen, Spring Gully and Echuca.

## FENNELL'S

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G. H. Sloman, Secretary,  
24 Knox-st., Belmore, N.S.W.

E. F. Morris, Treasurer,  
31 Collins-rd., St. Ives, N.S.W.



## VICTORIA

### 35 YEARS IN SCHOOL

(Bentleigh, Vic.). At the annual meeting of the church, special mention was made of the valuable service given by Mr. and Mrs. H. Lee-Archer for thirty-five years. . . . The elders are T. Keneley, C. Dahl, A. Beddome, and the officers are G. Lee, D. Gaffney, N. Waters, H. Lee-Archer, S. Ratten, R. Ratten, B. Sheppard. . . . There was a special prayer session after church on March 21 for Mrs. S. Ratten and H. Anderson. . . . 40 young people attended a holiday weekend camp at Yarra Junction with Kevin Harvey as leader. . . . The S.S. picnic was held at Cheltenham Park on March 20.

### THIRTY INITIATED

(Bayswater, Vic.). At a special Good Companions' night 30 new members were initiated, the largest ever on one night. There were 48 present and two new leaders were welcomed. . . . Miss Perrin, Governor of "Fairlea" Women's Prison, was guest speaker at the Christian Women's Fellowship. Slides were shown of the life and work of "Fairlea." An invitation was given to the men of the church and quite a number accepted. Mrs. Ray Davis led the devotions.

### STUDENT MINISTER IN HOSPITAL

(Bet Bet, Vic.). Neil Graham (C.O.B.) is conducting services during absence of John Lowery, who is in hospital recovering from appendectomy. At annual business meeting all office-bearers were re-elected. . . . Bible School picnic was held at White Hills on March 8.

## GOLDEN JUBILEE

(Essendon, Vic.). The church celebrated its 50th anniversary on March 13-14.

After preliminary meetings in the home of Dr. W. A. Kemp, the first meeting of the Essendon Church of Christ took place on March 7, 1915, at the local picture theatre. The present property was bought in 1920, and the main chapel was opened in 1925. This was a step of faith on behalf of members of that time, and some of the officers, acting as trustees, put up the assets of their own homes as security for the loan obtained to erect the building.

The first student minister was F. J. Sivyer. The first organist, Miss A. Little, served for over 25 years. During the intervening years many have given devoted service in various capacities. During the ministry of E. McIlhagger a manse was purchased and soon after both the chapel and manse were clear of debt. The present project is a modern church hall and amenities, the fund for which is nearing £3,800.

### COMMUNION FOR SHUT-INS

(St. Kilda, Vic.). A miniature communion table and tray, hand-made in cedar, was recently given to the church. On March 21, the set was used in the church communion service following a prayer of dedication by A. B. Clark, minister of Malvern church. The communion set was then taken to an elderly member unable to attend services. . . . Mrs. E. Brown and Miss A. Dall have been transferred to Thornbury. . . . At a family service prizes were distributed to scholars and D. R. Stirling was guest speaker. . . . "Operation Friendship" meetings for the ladies are held on alternate Fridays.

At a Fellowship Reunion, on 13th, those present, including many past members, were entertained and given glimpses of the past 50 years with photos thrown on the screen by means of an epidioscope, together with a number of vocal and musical items. Alex. Ferguson, a son of one of the members of the first Officers' Board, compered the evening.

Excellent attendances marked special Jubilee services on the Sunday, and additional seating had to be provided. Dr. W. A. Kemp, the only surviving member of the first Officers' Board, was president at the communion service, at which the guest preacher was G. S. Brown, Conference President. In the afternoon, Dr. K. R. Bowes was guest speaker and presented a glimpse of churches in U.S.A. The guest preacher at the gospel service was J. E. Brooke. Music was provided by the Youth Choir, Miss Heather Bastick, soloist, and Jeff. Cheal, organist.

The present membership is 175. A married couple and a young lad made decisions on March 21.

### YOUTH CLUBS IN CELEBRATIONS

(Echuca, Vic.). The youth clubs won a prize with an excellent float in recent centenary of local government celebrations. A special combined church service was also held in conjunction with this observance. . . . The World Day of Prayer service was conducted by our ladies in our chapel. . . . C.W.F. office bearers: pres., Mrs. Smith; vice-pres., Mrs. Parry and Mrs. Armstrong; sec., Mrs. R. Rosendale; treas., Mrs. Comte. A presentation was made to Mrs. Parry to recognise 15 years as C.W.F. secretary.

### CASTLEMAINE CHANGES

(Vic.). N. V. Hall relinquished office of secretary following seven years' service. B. McDonald resigned after two years as treasurer because of transfer to Kyneton. Election of officers: elders, Messrs. W. Johnson, H. Peeler; deacons, Messrs. Cattermole, Tonkin, Hall, Whittaker and Patterson, the latter also being new secretary; deaconesses, Mesdames Flower, Normington, McDonald and Jones. . . . C.Y.F. club being commenced under leadership of Mr. and Mrs. M. Whittaker, and Explorers under Eric and Graham Patterson. . . . Sunday School picnic was held at Hepburn Springs. . . . Ladies' group raised over £300 in 1964 and the church is out of debt for the first time for many years. . . . Family socials are being held monthly, with proceeds towards Eppalock Camp development.

### DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT AND WEDDING RINGS

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## Belgrave Heights Easter Convention

APRIL 16 - 19, 1965

Guest Speakers: J. GRAHAM MILLER, LL.B., B.D., Minister Presbyterian Church, Papakura, N.Z.

DUDLEY FOORD, M.Sc., B.D., Th.L., Dean of Students, Moore Theological College, N.S.W.

Chairman: L. E. Buck. Vice-Chairman: K. Curnow.

MEETINGS DAILY — 11 a.m., Bible Studies.  
3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Convention Messages.  
(Note: No afternoon meeting on Saturday).

Missionary Meeting — Monday, 3 p.m.

Children's Meetings in Small Hall, conducted by C.S.S.M. Team.

SPECIAL FEATURE — Morning Bible Studies on Isaiah 53 and 1 Corinthians 15, conducted by J. Graham Miller.

DAY VISITORS are cordially welcomed. Tea or hot water available on grounds. Light refreshments also obtainable (Sunday excepted). A special Parlor Coach for day visitors leaves Keswick Book Depot, 315 Collins St., at 9 a.m. on Good Friday and Easter Monday, and returns direct to the City after the evening meeting. Early bookings important at Convention Office.

Programme and full information available at Belgrave Heights Convention Office, 315 Collins Street, Melbourne. Phone 62-2777.

# PERSONAL

## DISCIPLESHIP

Lyn Dennis, John Lang, Prahran, Vic.  
 Alan Wylie, Graham Lewis, Nails-worth, S.A.  
 Darryl Thacker, Kaniva, Vic.  
 Mrs. Matt Anderson, Kenneth Gos-sow, Neil Hass, Toowoomba, Qld.  
 Terry Laing, Enfield Heights, S.A.  
 Garry Donnan, Oakleigh, Vic.  
 E. R. Stanley, William-st., Rock-hampton, Qld.  
 Dawn Baldwin, Lynette Brooks, Maryborough - Baddow - Hervey Bay, Qld.  
 Trevor Schmidt, Queenstown, S.A.  
 Mrs. Hirst, Bentleigh, Vic.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Graham, Ron-ald Musgrove, Essendon, Vic.  
 Margaret Presser, Stawell, Vic.  
 Misses Helen Clark, Catherine Mc-Cormach, Grote-st., Adelaide, S.A.  
 Evelyn Clark, Glenda Bryant, Lor-raine Tee, North Williamstown, Vic.

## MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Semmens, Julie Semmens, Flin-ders Park, to Nailsworth, S.A.  
 Anne Williams, Ormond, to Kaniva, Vic.  
 Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Stirling, C. Stirling, Rivervale, W.A.; Mrs. M. Parnell, Wembley, W.A., to Oak-leigh, Vic.  
 Arnold Schultz, Warwick; Mrs. Shaw, Mackay; Matt Anderson, Hawthorn, Mr. and Mrs. Greg Allen, Peter, Richard and Michael Allen, Ann-st., to Toowoomba, Qld.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Haydn Sargent (minister, Annerley church), 403 Annerley-rd., Annerley, Qld.  
 G. McLeod (sec., Boronia church), 56 Tulip-crescent, Boronia, Vic. Phone: Boronia 2-2201.

## ENGAGEMENT

SEARLE-GREIG. — Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Searle, 11 Northcote-tce., Medindie, S.A., have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their only child, Patricia, to Bruce, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Greig 685 Gilbert-rd., Reser-voir, Vic.

## APPROACHING MARRIAGE

WALTERS-HUGHES. — The marriage of Lorraine, only daughter of Mrs. M. Walters and the late Reg. J. Walters, 27 Murray-st., Prahran, to Julian, second son of Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Hughes, 235 Kooyong-rd., Elsternwick, will be solemn-ised by C. G. Taylor and W. A. Wig-ney at South Yarra Church of Christ, April 10, at 4 p.m.

## MARRIAGES

Judith Flower to John Coad, Echuca, Vic.  
 Mirriam Hudd to Laurence Kelly, Maxine Wicker to Ian Moorland, Rosemary Matthews to Len Kin-lock, Maylands, S.A.  
 Karen Robottom to John Birt, North Essendon, Vic.  
 Lorraine Tayler to Rex Whiteley, Dandenong, Vic.  
 Sanchia Wood to Arthur Rowe, Kaniva, Vic.  
 Jill Brindley to Don Kittel, Nails-worth, S.A.  
 Marilyan Sedgman to Roger Green-way, Hartwell, Vic.  
 Samlyn Hattam to Duncan Crockett, Malvern, Vic.  
 Chris Lynch to Ian Larmer, Judith Hillbrich to Malcolm Scouller, Carnegie, Vic.  
 Dorothy Keele to Keith Hebble-thwaite, Jill Paterson to Wolf-gang Gaebler, Blackburn, Vic.  
 Jennifer Cooper to Peter Logan, Ascot Park, S.A.  
 Beverley Haskell to Ian McCallum, Marion Towers to Edward Uzzell, North Williamstown, Vic.

## DEATHS

Miss Nell Charlton, Maylands, S.A.  
 Mrs. R. Walters, Toowoomba, Qld.  
 Mrs. H. Gerhardt, Maryborough - Baddow - Hervey Bay, Qld.  
 Mrs. R. Partington, Queenstown, S.A.  
 Ernie Smith, E. Ipswich - Leichhardt, Qld.

## IN MEMORIAM

READ. — In loving remembrance of Walter James, beloved husband of Martha Victoria, beloved father of Lloyd, Gwen (Mrs. Walmsley) and Mark, who fell asleep in Christ March 24, 1960.

## APPRECIATION

STREET. — Mrs. Street, Victoria-st., Box Hill, Vic., conveys her sincere thanks to all who by prayer, word, letter and deed shared her anxiety, strain and sorrow in the prolonged ill-ness and eventual death of her beloved husband. Through your Christian fel-lowship and love God has revealed himself as a Refuge and Strength and a very present Help in the time of trouble.

WATERS. — Mrs. Waters and family express appreciation to their relatives, friends, churches, etc., for the expres-sions of loving sympathy shown in vari-ous ways on the passing of a beloved husband and father. Special thanks to Messrs. G. S. Brown, A. E. Hurren and D. V. Thomas. "Severed only till he come."

—8 Naismith-st., Footscray, Vic.

## DEATH

LANAWAY. — On March 23, at her residence, 5 Davies-st., East Brighton, Vic., Eva Annie, loved wife of the late Arthur Charles, loved mother of Nellie (Mrs. Griffiths), Vi., Bert and Ernie (dec.), mother-in-law of Robert and Elsie, loved nana of John and Evelyn, Margaret and Ken Hank.

## EASTER

### BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION

Applications are now being received for Churches of Christ EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP CAMP.

Apply Ron Muller, 80 Rostrevor-pde., Box Hill, Vic. (89-3294).

## WANTED

The Department of Christian Educa-tion, Victoria and Tasmania, requires two 1,000 gallon tanks and stands for the Banksia Camp, Vic.

Would any person knowing of the availability of disused water tanks (in good order) kindly contact R. V. Long-thorp, 217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne, phone 32-2449, or R. Bucknell, 21 Melissa-st., Strathmore. We also require a slow combustion cooking stove in going order. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

## COMPANION WANTED

Wanted — Companion for active widow, nice modern home, eastern suburb, car available if licensed driver. For further particulars ring 29-3602 (Melb.).

## INVITATION TO WORKING BEES

St. Kilda Church (Vic.), Saturday, April 3 and Sat., April 10. — Jobs: Painting and cleaning up generally. Any assistance welcomed. The church is at Pakington-st., near Chapel-st.

## ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Rooms or flat for lady and school-age child. Would appreciate care of child for 1 hour after school. Replies to "Needful", Flat 7, 4 Langford-st., Surrey Hills, Vic.

## WANTED

Lady to assist in Housekeeping Duties at the College of the Bible. Information may be obtained from the secretary, K. A. Jones, 3 Elm-rd., Glen Iris, S.E.6. Phone 25-6085 (Melb.).

## WANTED — TIMBER WORKERS

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## IMPORTANT NEW BOOKS

Backward Christian Soldiers, a critique of R.I., 25/-; Christ's Witch-doctor, a notorious Amazon trans-formed, 28/6; Christians from Siberia, (Pollock), tragedy and suffering, 28/-; 100 Years' War, Salvation Army Centenary, 28/6; Ben Gurion, 46/-.

By Dr. James Jauncey: "The Power Within", 21/-; "Science Re-turns to God", 21/6. (Postage extra).

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## Victorian News

### FUNCTIONAL GROUPS BEGUN

(Balwyn, Vic.). At a church family dinner on March 19, the Box Hill ladies assisted so that all local members could participate. Don Russell introduced the leaders of six functional groups which will enable all members to take part in enriching service . . . A Young Adult Fellowship has been commenced with C. Carr and J. Duffy as leaders . . . The S.S. picnic at Toorourrong Reservoir was greatly enjoyed by all . . . The C.W.E.F. travelled to York-st., Ballarat, their "adopted" fellowship, to entertain and share with the younger group . . . Local Senior Citizens paraded at a gospel ser-vice and were later guests at supper.

### NEW COMMUNION TABLE

(Collingwood, Vic.). A new communion table, built by one of our members, and carpet on the platform are the latest renovations to the chapel . . . At the annual business meeting the following were elected: R. Warry, elder; W. Cord-ingley, deacon; R. Warry, sec.; G. Hay-lock, treas.; deaconesses, O. Goodwin, M. Boyd, B. Dusting, J. Benning, B. Hay-lock, D. Cordingley and I. York . . . C.W.F. conducted successful "Western Dress" and barbecue-social, when £7 was raised for the group. Some mem-bers are attending the Extension Lec-tures at the C.O.B. . . . Aborigines Mis-sion Fund now over £160 . . . Colling-wood Rotary conducted an appeal for the churches of this district; we grate-fully received a share to the amount of £27/10/- . . . The Chapel Debt Appeal was £145 at beginning of March . . . Mrs. Topham is leading the Good Com-panions whilst Mrs. Cordingley is holi-daying in W.A. . . . Church expresses sympathy to Mrs. J. Mackley in the death of her brother, Walter Kennett.

### STUDENT WELCOMED

(Stawell, Vic.). Malcolm Gray was wel-comed as student minister for 1965. A young lady made her decision on March 21 . . . Mrs. Hockfeld and girls were farewelled as they left to make their new home in Wangaratta . . . As from April, Sunday School is to start at 9.30 a.m. . . . The Youth Club has increased in numbers and will meet weekly . . . It has been decided to hold a Talent Fund again this year.

### 118 MEMBERS

(Chelsea, Vic.). The annual report on Chelsea church showed membership as 118. Fourteen of the additions were by faith and baptism. Bible School enrol-ment is 140, and the average number breaking bread is 82 . . . C.W.E.F. cele-brated 4th birthday with 70 members and visitors and artist Alan Rowe . . . Under the guidance of Alb. Turnham, the tennis club now has 38 financial members and will have five teams in the winter competitions . . . Mrs. Riss-trom, of the W.C.T.U., was recent speak-er at C.W.F. meeting. Members had an afternoon looking over Heinz factory at Dandenong.

### IMPRESSIVE SERVICE

(Oakleigh, Vic.). The Dorcas Society last year received, prepared, produced or despatched the following: 848 articles, 40 sets baby clothes for Social Service Dept., 120 garments to Christian Guest Home, 61 garments for Kew Coltages, 61 garments for Aborigines' Clothing Ap-pel, 246 gifts, and 45 jars of jam for the Hospital Visitation Committee . . . Mrs. Rochelle Sutherland has been visit-ing from New Zealand . . . Cars and a bus with folk from Christian Guest Home, transported 180 to Mordialloc beach for a combined church and S.S. picnic . . . A B.S. boy was baptised on March 21 . . . The church has 36 men on the service plan . . . E. J. Miles is minister.

### FRIENDSHIP VISITATION

(Dandenong, Vic.). The lay "Friendship Visitation" venture was commenced on March 14. L. Armstrong, minister of the Springvale church, gave the com-mission to the visitors. D. R. Stirling led the evening meeting, while A. R. Lloyd was at The Patch . . . S.S. picnic was a great success at Aspendale . . . The combined afternoon and evening groups held a flower show and apron parade . . . The tennis team was de-feated in the grand final of the church competitions . . . A Dedicated Disciple-ship drive was commenced on March 7. All members invited to deeper consecra-tion . . . The first birthday of the Scout Troop was held on March 12 . . . Youth Council members and the C.M.S. gathered, cut and distributed firewood to needy members on March 20 . . . The sympathy of the church is offered to Mrs. McGrath and her son John at the death of Mr. McGrath.



## Swanston Street Church

(Right in heart of Melbourne; opp. Public Library)

Minister: Dr. LLOYD JONES, B.A., M.TH., PH.D.

11 a.m.—WORSHIP - COMMUNION - BIBLE EXPO-SITION.

7 p.m.—WORSHIP - EVANGELISM.

"MEDITATIONS ON THE CROSS"

HOLY WEEK MIDDAY SERVICES—

APRIL 12, 13, 14, 15 — 1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m.

Good Friday Service, 10 a.m.

# Alan Walker v. The Archbishop

"The Archbishop of Canterbury has done a disservice to the Christian Church in Australia by defeatist talk of a 'post Christian world,'" the Rev. Alan Walker, Superintendent of the Central Methodist Mission, said at the Mission's Annual Academic Service, in the State Theatre, Sydney, on Sunday, March 21.

Mr. Walker described today's world as "pre-Christian" rather than "post Christian." "Christianity has never been practised by more than a minority of people in any society," he said.

Mr. Walker continued, "When was the world Christian? Certainly not in the 18th and 19th centuries, with slavery, colonialism, industrial exploitation of the working classes and endless war. England and Europe maybe, are spiritually decadent today as they are politically weakened. But the world is greater than Europe. Christianity today is revealing tremendous vitality in many areas of world life."

The following evidence shows the overall advance rather than the retreat of the Christian Faith.

- "For the first time in history the Church is now universal, with 50,000

Christian missionaries serving indigenous churches;

- "The Churches are stronger in the United States than ever in history with 64 per cent of the nation in Church membership;

- "Christian leadership directs the Civil Rights Campaign in America, making it one of the noblest Christian movements of history;

- "A vital religious renewal is occurring in South America;

- "More experimenting is going on today in the Church than at any time since 1900;

- "Christian scholarship over the last 50 years has strengthened the intellectual foundations of the Christian Faith.

"God is working in wonderful ways in the Church and the world today. His Spirit is causing a revolution in unity among Christians, drawing Protestants and Roman Catholics together. We are living through one of the advance periods of human history through the expansion of the conscience of mankind."

—Central Methodist Missions News Release.

## CONGO MISSION FUTURE

(Leopoldville, Congo). Future missionary work in the Congo will probably be concentrated in urban areas because of the unfeasibility, in light of the political situation, of stationing men, particularly those with families, in "bush stations," a U.S. Presbyterian missionary said.

Dr. John R. Crawford, in an article written for publication in the United States, said the changing situation also calls for closer Roman Catholic-Protestant relations, increased emphasis on training Congolese medical personnel, and the recruitment of more Negro missionaries for the Congo "who by their very presence can witness to the universality of the gospel."—E.P.S.

## NYLON STOCKING APPEAL CLOSED

The closing of a successful appeal for old nylon stockings was announced by Australian Inter-Church Aid. The stockings received are now being packed for dispatch to Korea where they will be used in small industries for re-weaving and dyeing for use in the manufacture of socks and other garments. Sufficient stockings have now been received to meet the needs of the small industries being supported for some time to come.

The Acting Secretary of Inter-Church Aid (the Rev. Harvey Perkins) expressed thanks to the many people who had supported the appeal. Because of the supplies now in hand, Inter-Church Aid offices will no longer receive used nylon stockings for Korea.

## Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"A fine topic the very Sunday they vote on your salary increase!"

## CARTOON COMMENT

A good topic, despite the bad timing. Worldly goods can't harm us as long as WE possess THEM — only when THEY begin to possess US. Scripture warns us — and we are wise to heed the warning — not to set too great a store by earthly treasures, which will prove of no avail in our hour of greatest need. All of us face a daily temptation to trust in THINGS rather than in the living God.

## OPEN FORUM

### BAPTISM.

To the Editor,

Colin R. Johnson, in "A.C." 13/3/65, has somehow gone astray in his study of the baptisms of the New Testament. Baptism of the Spirit occurs twice only, was entirely exceptional, and depended on the will of God only. The apostle Paul in Ephesians 4 declares: There is one baptism. All the wonderful blessings which he says are contained in the baptism of the Spirit are already contained in water baptism. In water baptism, instituted by Christ himself, we are spiritually immersed into the death of Christ where his blood flowed, and without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. Luke 1: 77 proves helpful here. The priestly father of John the Baptist, offering up thanksgiving to God for the birth of his son, by the Holy Ghost said: "Thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways. To give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins." The Holy Spirit was imparted to the Samaritans by the laying on of the hands of the apostles Peter and John after water baptism. Sin separates man from God and until he receives the remission of his sins he cannot enter into true fellowship with God.

It is in water baptism that we become definitely associated with Christ in his death, in his burial, and in his resurrection, and enter into unity, fellowship and co-operation with Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Robert Benzie, N.S.W.

# WHERE TO GO AND WHERE TO STAY

## VICTORIA

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# VIC.-TAS. CENTENARY CONFERENCE

APRIL 4-12, 1965

## INSPIRATIONAL SESSIONS

1. DEVOTIONAL PRELUDE, Lygon Street, SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2.45 p.m. Presidential Address: Glen S. Brown. "The Church and the World." Items by Choral Society.

2. FAMILY and YOUTH NIGHT, Methodist Ladies' College, Fitzwilliam-st., Kew, SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 8 p.m. First appearance of our Our Own Youth Choir, "The Campbell Singers." "This Pilgrim People" — Historical Pageant especially written for Centenary occasion by R. V. Longthorp. Artists: Mrs. Jean Dow, Robert Gray, Ian Wolstencroft, Ken. Briggs.

3. CENTENARY CONFERENCE SERMON, Melbourne, Town Hall, SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 2.30 p.m. Organ Recital. Choral Society Items. Induction of New President. Preacher: Dr. K. R. Bowes. "Equipped for Work."

## BUSINESS SESSIONS

1. MONDAY, APRIL 5, 7.15 p.m. Lygon Street. Conference Executive Report. Recommendation re Unified Promotion. Motions re "Ministers' Salaries" and "Ministers' Allowances."

2. THURSDAY, APRIL 8, 7.15 p.m. Reports: C.W.F. and Overseas Mission. Focus: Aborigines and Social Service. C.M.S. Motion re "Name." Social Service Motion re "6 o'clock Closing of Hotel Bars."

3. FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 7.15 p.m. Reports: C.M.S., College and Christian Education. Focus: Literature. Social Service Motion re "War."

4. MONDAY, APRIL 12, 7.15 p.m. Reports: Advisory and Home Missions. Focus: Properties and Christian Union. Declaration of Poll. Unfinished Business.

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## SPECIAL CENTENARY SESSION

St. Kilda Town Hall, TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 6.15 p.m. DINNER and MUSICAL PROGRAMME. Artists: Audrey Davies, Jean Milne, Keith Neilson (Comper). Thanksgiving. History. Worship. Admission by Invitation Card only.

## SECTIONAL SESSIONS

1. MONDAY, APRIL 5, 5.30 p.m. Lygon Street Hall. C.O.B. OLD BOYS' CLUB ANNUAL TEA. Fellowship Business.

2. TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 10 a.m., 2 p.m. Brotherhood Centre. MINISTERS' CONFERENCE. Business. Discussion on Topical Subjects. "Frontiers of Ministry" presentations.

3. WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 10 a.m., 1.45 and 7.15 p.m., St. Kilda Town Hall. WOMEN'S 79th ANNUAL CONFERENCE. Devotions. Reports. Business. "Golden Bags" for Monbulk. Soloists: Mrs. Jean Dow, Mrs. Frances Denholme. Afternoon, Speaker: Dr. Eira Eden. Evening, Drama: "The Living Book."

4. MONDAY, APRIL 12, 5.45 p.m. Lygon Street Hall. MINISTERS' and SECRETARIES' TEA. Speaker: D. H. Smith, H.M. Sec. "Facing the Second Century."

# OPEN FORUM

## METHODIST HYMNS

To the Editor,

After nine years of worship in fellowship with Methodists, I still find I am disappointed and sometimes frustrated when hymn after hymn, well known to our people, is played to an unfamiliar tune. To say the least it detracts from the spirit of worship.

More important, however, is the fact that the Methodist book provides a mere twenty-three hymns under the heading, "The Lord's Supper", compared with fifty-six in our book. Surely this is sufficient reason for us to retain our own hymn book, regardless of any other shortcomings it may have.

As Churches of Christ have conversation with other denominations, I consider the greatest contribution we can bring to the Church universal is our appreciation of the Lord's Supper. Never let us sacrifice this centre of worship and renewal. Please don't consider the Methodist Hymn Book.

—T. Walker, S.A.

## BAPTISM.

To the Editor,

Brian White says of "Baptism" in "A.C." 13/2/65, that "it is not a prerequisite to salvation" and "salvation is possible without." He cannot uphold these statements with scripture. Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." Peter said, "Repent and be baptized for the remission of sins." Ananias said to Paul, "Now why tarriest thou, arise and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling, etc." Again Peter says, "The like Figure whereunto baptism doth even now save us, not the washing away filth of flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God." Jesus said, "Except a man be born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

No record of salvation in scripture is forthcoming without baptism. He says, "Earlier in our history it seems some baptised the same night or the next

week." The Bible states that they baptized same hour of night, same hour of day and the same day, so that can't necessarily be wrong.

The reason for unfaithfulness lies somewhere else. If the convert's faith was real and true, his repentance sincere, his confession genuine and not forced by someone, they rise to walk in newness of life. Baptism the same day is not wrong. All these things except baptism are a life-time job and can break down if any of them are not O.K.

Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."

Brian White says, in effect, "He that believeth and is not baptized can be saved."

We prefer the words of Jesus as recorded, it is safer ground.

E. P. Verco, S.A.

## WHENCE THIS COURAGE?

To the Editor,

What sparked the unquenchable fire of courage in Sir Winston Churchill and gave us his dedicated leadership?

His ancestry, success and failure would be included in those things he confessed were a preparation for his great commission, but surely faith in God must be included. He acknowledged an overruling providence and the stirring words of the heroic Maccabees are echoed in his speeches.

In earlier years, as an escaped prisoner during the Boer war, with a reward offered for his re-capture, we are told of a moving experience on the African veldt. "His food supply consisted of four slabs of chocolate, but no water. A gigantic vulture settled uncomfortably near and watched him in greedy anticipation. With that simplicity of spirit, which is part of his contradictory make-up, he betook himself to prayer."

Was it by chance that he later found refuge on the property of a Mr. Howard, the only Englishman within 20 miles, who hid him in an unworked mine

where he stayed in the darkness till the hue and cry swept on and died down?

Winston was impressed by the leadership of Moses. As a prelude to the Exodus the Scriptures tell of the commissioning of Moses and how he took his wife and two sons and set out upon an ass returning to Egypt. "And Moses took the rod of God in his hand."

Here is his comment: "In all history was there ever such an heroic rescue party!"

Perhaps, like Rahab in Jericho, Winston was not given to conventional expressions of faith. —P. H. Luke, Vic.

## EASTER BUNNIES

To the Editor,

Mrs. Davey's letter, "A.C." 27/2/65, referring to the Christmas fantasies for the children's sake encourages comment on the fantasies of Easter (named after a female pagan goddess), the funny bunny rabbit, the Easter eggs, etc., which our shops exhibit for sale in commemoration of the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

Significantly, these are all of pagan origin, the name Christ-mas means the mass of Christ, which is described in Isaiah 44: 15-17, as the bread or (in modern language) the wafer god. The Christmas tree (which is worshipped in some Latin American countries) is also described in Jeremiah 10: 3, 4. Both these ceremonies are stated, despised and hated by God.

The times of Easter are also mixed up, Jesus is but two days in the tomb, Friday morning until Sunday morning. The whole business brings an uncanny and disturbing reminder of Daniel's prophecy of the Man of Sin speaking "great words against the most High," wearing out the saints of the most High, he shall think to change times and laws, and "they shall be given into his hands until" (Daniel 7: 25).

In most Latin American countries Christmas Day is celebrated in the most horrible and degraded fashion, with little innocent children as the chief stars. Surely we should be very thankful that God, in his wisdom and respect for his Son, has kept the real day of his Son's birth so secret. It is a humble, unknown day. It cannot be desecrated, it cannot even be honored, by the world. It is his secret.

—Mrs. Jessie Cooke.

## CORRECTION

The name of the author of the letter under the heading of "Churchill" on this page last week was wrongly given. It should have been shown as David McCrone, Vic.

## "UNDER THE BIG TOP"

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## DAILY DEVOTIONAL CORNER

# JOURNEY THROUGH LUKE

Monday, April 5. Luke 20: 1-8. So they answered that they did not know (v. 7).

Jesus had disturbed the temple and while he was teaching, the chief priests, scribes and elders came to him. Our Lord was popular enough to have the V.I.P.'s take a personal interest in him. They wanted to know what authority he had for doing what he did, and who gave him that authority. Instead of answering, Jesus asked them a question. "Was the baptism of John from heaven or from men?" So they answered that they did not know. They discussed the question among themselves, but they did not seek to assess the authority of John. Their discussion centred on what was the smart answer. If they said John's baptism was from heaven, the next question would be, "Why didn't you believe him?" If they said it was from men, the people would be angry because the people had accepted John. "So they answered!" Jesus did not waste any more time with them. If they would not be honest with their own answers, they would not honestly hear his.

Lord, we know that a condition of acceptance by you, is to accept you. This we do. Amen.

Tuesday, April 6. Luke 20: 9-18. This is the heir, let us kill him! (v. 14).

How stupid of the tenants to think that they could get away with it! Surely they would not believe that the owner would ignore their terrible deed in killing his son. But evil consistently makes this mistake of ignoring the consequences. The present advantage or the present pleasure blinds them to the consequences. Jesus is trying to warn the religious leaders of the people of the dangerous course they were following. The cost of their action would be disastrous. But they would not be warned and Calvary was a step closer.

O God, may we count the cost of our actions, and know that any deed against you will produce a harvest of sorrow for ourselves and others. Amen.

Wednesday, April 7. Luke 20: 19-26. Spies, who pretended to be sincere (v. 20).

The experts in the art of trapping men with words had thought out a cunning question. Jesus was to be caught on the horns of a dilemma. No matter what answer he gave, he would be in trouble. Spies were coached to ask him, "Is it lawful to pay tribute to Caesar, or not?" If Jesus said Yes, it would anger the people, because they hated the oppressive taxes of the Romans. If he said No, he could be reported to the Romans themselves and they would deal with him. Jesus saw through them so easily! Taking a coin he pointed to the likeness and the inscription and asked whose it was. "Caesar's," they replied. "Then," said Jesus, "give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." This was a double thrust, for the men who thought up this scheme were cheating both God and the emperor.

O Lord, we have responsibilities to our nation and to you. Help us to discharge both in the spirit of Christian commitment. Amen.

Thursday, April 8. Luke 20: 27-47. They are fond of being saluted (v. 46).

Halford Lucock said that salutes are among the most corrupting words in the world. The lust for flattery is habit forming and it is soul destroying. King Farouk, who died recently, began well and it was thought that he would help his country in its desperate plight. But he failed miserably, lost a kingdom and gained only a reputation for pleasure-seeking and irresponsibility. It is reliably reported that his ruin was begun by listening to the flatteries of his false friends. In our reading, Jesus openly told the people to beware of those scribes whose love of praise and honour had led them deep into hypocrisy.

Heavenly Father, may we learn from Jesus the way to life through humility and service. Amen.

Friday, April 9. Luke 21: 1-9. He noticed a poor widow putting in two tiny coins (v. 2, N.E.B.).

There is no virtue at all simply in giving a little. Jesus did not commend the widow for putting in two small coins. He praised her because of the large amount she gave in comparison with her possessions. She gave all that she had. If we have much we need not expect the favour of Jesus if we give a widow's offering. Those who have much are expected to give much. This applies to all of our stewardship and not only to money. Before we make our gifts we must give ourselves.

Lord Jesus, your great love is seen in the greatness of your gift to us. We give ourselves to you. Amen.

Saturday, April 10. Luke 21: 10-28. Take heed that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name (v. 8).

False Christs have already arisen and false dates for the coming of Christ have been announced. Many have already been misled. When Jesus spoke of a coming doom for Jerusalem he was not speaking of some far-off Armageddon, but of the destruction of Jerusalem which took place about forty years later. To retain their power and prestige, the Jewish leaders were prepared to make a sacrifice of Jesus and for their horrible deed all they gained was forty years of trouble before their city and symbol came down in ruin.

Dear Lord, while we know that you will come again, help us not to neglect your presence with us now. Amen.

Sunday, April 11. Luke 21: 29-38. From hour to hour keep awake (v. 36, Moffatt).

It is good for us to use special occasions for special purposes. Good Friday is a sacred day because we feel that on it we get closer to the mind and heart of Jesus. But we cannot keep spiritually alert simply by making special occasions of Christmas Day, Good Friday and Easter Day. We cannot even do it by going to church every seventh day, although this we should do. In order to keep spiritually fit and alert, we need to exercise every day. "From hour to hour, keep awake," said Jesus. "Watch at all times. Be on the alert."

O God, we know that we cannot afford to cease our vigilance for a moment when we face the spiritual dangers of our day. Amen.

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**THE LAST  
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**The Hungry.**

**To this day we go hungry and thirsty  
and in rags.**

—1 Cor. 4: 11.

God,  
Please let me forget  
The hungry people!  
How can I eat  
If I constantly remember  
Starving people?

Child,  
Suppose I forgot  
The hungry people?  
If all my children remembered,  
There would be no  
Starving people!

—Myrtle W. Williamson.

☆

**By way of doubt we arrive at the truth.**  
—Cicero.

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Asked why he did not weep while listening to a sermon which had moved many in the congregation to tears, a worshipper replied, "I don't belong to this parish."

☆

**How beautiful to do nothing and then rest awhile.**

—Spanish Proverb.

☆

A woman telephoned an airline in Brisbane and asked: "How long does it take to fly to Adelaide?"

The clerk said, "Just a minute."

"Thank you," said the woman and hung up.