

APRIL 24, 1965

*"You Were
Never Our Age!"*



CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION
ISSUE

THE AUSTRALIAN

CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL WEEKLY OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

THEY ARE OURS!

One day Isaac Watts saw a hungry child in the streets. He was so impressed that he went home and wrote a hymn thanking God for all the blessings that were his. We might wonder why he didn't do something about the hungry child, but it was accepted in those days that God disposed this person to poverty and that person to plenty.

We do not believe that way now. So far as physical poverty is concerned we recognise a responsibility to share what we have with those who have not. No child would be permitted to starve on our streets.

There are other kinds of hunger and there are many children suffering from them. The hunger is for understanding, companionship, purpose—and a hunger for God. They may not know the names of their hunger, nor the way to satisfy it. But they are hungry just the same. We of the church know a little about their needs and we have the resources to meet them.

Another thing about Isaac Watts: the hungry child was anonymous and Watts would never have thought of him as a relative. Here again things are different. We know that those who hunger and thirst after a satisfying life are in a very real relationship with us. We may not always be happy about this. Some of the hungry may be unprepossessing and difficult. But they are ours! We may not even know their names, but we shall have to learn them, for they are on the list of those that Christ has given us to win for Him.

No one agency of the church is adequate by itself for meeting the hunger in the hearts of people. But all of the agencies together can do it; each serving in its own way and co-operating where it can with the rest.

One such agency of the church is Christian Education. In the pages of this issue the story is told of its work in the various States. It is not only concerned with the early years in a part of life, it is concerned with all the years in the whole of life. Christian Education is a big business. It is interested in lessons materials, teaching training, leader making, boys' and girls' clubs, worship, evangelism, service, discipleship, etc., etc., etc. It is concerned with traditional methods which have stood the test of time and it is also concerned with new means of communication, new methods, new techniques, and new equipment.

But so much of this affects only those who are inside — our own young people from our homes and churches. Outside our doors the hungry ones wait, and wait. Our strong support in May for the Christian Education Departments of the States means that we shall enlarge what we have and then move out to serve the hungry.

They are ours, because they are Christ's.

THE VANISHED BLISS OF CHILDHOOD

We grown-ups tend to think of childhood as a carefree adventure. As we get more and more involved with programmes related to our daily work, our church, and our community, we long for the pleasant pictures our memory holds of our youth.

But perhaps this bliss exists only in your mind. In any case, a child to today's world finds it different. A child today is often so busy that there is not enough time for play. An eight-year-old boy recently asked a friend of his to come and play after school. The other pulled out a date-card. "I have swimming class this afternoon," he said. "Tomorrow is piano. But I'm free on Friday if you are." So early do our children become slaves to time.

Because of the claims of many programmes on these youngsters, the church — which is also time-demanding — is in danger of getting the left-overs. When something has to go because of a clash of interests, it is too often the church.

Whether we like it or not, Christian Education is competing for the time and attention of the child. We must therefore be clear about our ideals and objectives. Our leadership must be first rate, our methods must be the best, and our materials and equipment stand up to the most careful evaluation.

Once upon a time Christian Education catered for idle moments. Now it must win its place against strong competition.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

119-125 Hawke St.,
West Melbourne, C.3.

Phone 30 - 1848

Vol. 68

No. 16

Editor: A. E. White, B.A.

Associate-Editors:

W.A. — J. K. Robinson,
11 Aldmondbury Rd., Mt. Lawley.

S.A. — E. P. C. Holland, J.Pi.,
189 Gawler Pl., Adelaide.

Tas. — R. J. Boxhall,
3 Whelan Cresc., West Hobart.

Vic. — W. W. Saunders,
217 Lonadale St., Melbourne.

A.C.T. — G. R. Stirling, B.A.,
88 Limestone Ave., Canberra.

N.S.W. — C. E. Bowser, B.A., Dip.Ed.,
53 The Point Rd., Woolwich.

Qld. — H. Sargent,
403 Annerley Rd., Annerley, Brisbane.

★

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.

★

The material in this issue concerning
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

was supplied by the Federal Board
of Christian Education.

RESPONSIBILITY IN TEACHING

VIVIAN C. STAFFORD

The church as a witnessing and nurturing fellowship must be sure that its educational task is undertaken responsibly.

Effective Ministry

Acting responsibly relates, among other things, to understanding the person who learns (nursery child, kindergarten or primary pupil, junior, intermediate, young person, adult) to the content of curriculum; to teaching methods. The church's teaching must be directed to such fundamental and universal human questions as: "Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going? Who is God? Who is my neighbour?" It must see persons and their human situation in the light of the gospel.

Responsibility rests upon the local church. There needs to be orderly and corporate means for fulfilling its task of Christian Education. Acting responsibly demands careful planning for organisation, leadership, resources, appropriate means, equipment, evaluation, supervision.

If the emphasis is laid here on the responsibility of State Departments of Christian Education and the Federal Board of Christian Education, it is not without recognition that the teaching

ministry in our churches and Bible Schools also requires all departments of our corporate life to think and plan for a responsible discharge of the mission of the church.

We are led into betrayals of this mission and into confusion about our purposes when we fail to recognise that Christian Education must become a part of our basic commitment to Christ Who is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Unless we seriously re-examine our whole approach to the task of Christian teaching we can expect church membership shrinkage to continue. We cannot continue to act irresponsibly in decisions that affect our teaching ministry and hope to preserve our integrity as Christ's witnesses.

Sound Teaching

The Federal Board of Christian Education is the body responsible for the promotion of a programme of Christian education, for curriculum development and production of curriculum materials for children, young people and adults in our churches. This is a joint undertaking of all States. It has a mandate for this from our Federal Conference.



Federal Board of Christian Education Staff.
From left: Miss M. Deane (Assoc. Editor), V. C. Stafford (Director and Editor), H. F. Gross, B.A. (Assoc. Editor), Miss S. Hall (Office Secretary).

This task includes research and study in curriculum planning, providing teaching materials which reflect the emphasis of our movement and will prove adequate through the leading of the Holy Spirit, to witness to Jesus Christ.

A sound curriculum must give proper attention to all aspects of Christian teaching which should be considered by each group. It should cover the areas of experience basic and common to each age level. It will include all the areas of Bible knowledge which have meaning and teaching value for each age group.

It is rooted in the Bible at every point. It will centre in Jesus Christ. It is through him that sin is exposed in its true nature, that the grace of God is supremely revealed, that divine forgiveness is offered, that man's alienation from God is overcome, that mercy and judgment meet, that power is released for victorious Christian living.

It will offer clear moral guidance rooted in the Christian ethic. It will be concerned with Christian social relations, the Christian's calling, the Christian view of work, stewardship of God's resources and gifts, the meaning of church membership, the history of the church, Christian unity, Christian mission and missionary work, worship, service, outreach.

It will be designed to help the learner respond to the gospel of Christ according to his age, his individual capacity, his level of development.

It will reflect the conviction that discovering the Christian faith and living it out is a continuing process. It can never be considered as finally attained in the sense that no further fulfilment is necessary.

Our teaching will be ineffective if we stop at merely giving information about the Bible. A moralism extracted from Bible stories — stories often wrested out of their context and true meaning is a blight that will issue in stunted lives. Drilling in Bible passages without understanding of the message of the Bible leads to futility. The Bible is misused when we resort to it to support a form of legalism. This legalism is, in essence, "a system of salvation by right doctrines and right conduct, which is something quite different from salvation by God's free gift of himself to us in Jesus Christ, a gift that can be received only by yielding ourselves to be indwelt by God the Spirit."

We become responsible educators when we approach our task in the light of the over-arching goal of Christian education, when we see to it that the objective of every teacher-learner experience contributes to this purpose.

That purpose has been stated as follows:

The objective for Christian education is that all persons be aware of God through his self-disclosure, especially his redeeming love as revealed in Jesus Christ, and that they respond in faith and love — to the end that they may know who they are and what their human situation means, grow as sons of God rooted in the Christian community, live in the Spirit of God in every relationship, fulfill their common discipleship in the world, and abide in the Christian hope.

Adults Included

By R. V. LONGTHORP, Dip.R.E.

(Director, Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Christian Education)



Some heresies die hard. One with the most dogged survival value is the mistaken notion that Christian Education is for "kids and youth." Certainly children and young people need the teaching and the nurture offered in the programme of Christian Education. They need the help which enabling, loving relationships and clear, positive teaching give.

But adults need these things also, if they are to continue to grow in Christ and so share in his work of redemption and reconciliation.

There are several good reasons why we must continue with our concern for the Christian Education of adults and continually seek ways and means of implementing suitable programmes.

1. Our Brotherhood Needs It

The case has never been put so well as in the words of one of our American leaders, Richard Lentz:

"Christian Education of adults may be optional for some religious groups, but for us, a democratic, non-creedal people, it is imperative. We believe that every congregation has the right to order its own affairs according to its collective wisdom as it interprets the will of God for his church. This fundamental principle of ours requires, for effectiveness, a religiously literate membership, capable of interpreting intelligently the Christian heritage in terms of modern life and problems. A congregation that measures the responsibility of the church today by ideas or opportunities of 25 years ago is on its way to becoming a vestigial institution.

"We believe further that God speaks to each man directly through personal experiences of Christ and his redeeming grace.

"The values of this religious freedom, so precious in our heritage, are lost both for individuals and churches if persons are not capable of mature use of it. Adult education in our churches is a way to develop that maturity. It must be relevant to modern life and take into account the sweep of adult experience backward and forward."

2. We Need It in the Work of Evangelism

Teaching and preaching belong to each other. The one cannot be effective without the other. A distinguished leader in Christian Education expressed it this way.

"While it is understood that only the Holy Spirit at work in a person brings about commitment, this does not relieve the church from doing all it can to help prepare the way. This is the evangelistic zeal which is inevitably part of the living church. This emphasis has two aspects. One is the proclamation of the good news to those who have not yet heard or accepted it, and the other is the training of church members to be effective and convincing witnesses to the faith. In the latter instance such items as these are important: interpretation, or relating the faith to man's needs; instruction, or the imparting of facts and information about the heritage and practices of the church; persuasion, or the inviting of persons to come and see;

These Children Are Yours!

By K. D. HORNE
(Director, S.A. Dept. of Christian Education)

It is many years since Jesus took a child from the crowd and said, "Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them: for to such belongs the Kingdom of Heaven" (Matthew 19: 14). This concern of Jesus for children was unusual in his day, to say the least, for in that ancient world it was still customary in non-Jewish societies to let unwanted babies die through exposure to the elements. Jesus received them and blessed them and by his action plainly showed his concern for the child's growth towards God. He was indignant when he observed the way his own disciples treated children.

The children with us now present, as never before, the opportunity to "train

apology, or the intellectual defense of the Christian view of life and of the world. All of these elements coupled with the concern for persons' welfare expressed in word and practice are involved in the church's life within the world.

"A clear indication of the health of any church is the fervour and concern which it manifests in ministering both to its own members and to the larger community." All this belongs to the Christian Education of adults.

3. We Need It to Build Strong Youth Groups

We need Adult Christian Education if we are to build strong youth groups. Statistics reveal this: we lose 8 out of 10 young people whose parents do not belong to the church; we hold 8 out of 10 young people whose parents do belong to the church. Bible School work and youth work must start with the family. Win the parents and you have a better chance to win the child.

up a child in the way he should go." Our task today is perhaps more difficult than in any previous age. Our cities are exploding into new communities at a rate that makes it almost impossible for the church to keep pace. The Christian fellowship no longer rates as a status symbol. The church has to compete with materialistic and secular forces operating within society to a frightening degree.

In our programme of Christian Education, children have always been important. The Bible School is still the largest single factor in the church's programme of nurture and evangelism. The only knowledge many people have of God and the gospel is what they re-

ceived in a Sunday School, and in spite of the splendid efforts we make in other fields, we still find that approximately 75% of all decisions for Christ are associated with the Bible School.

In spite of these facts it is not hard to prove that many churches are still not taking their task of nurture and evangelism seriously enough. It seems that we have had things our own way for so long, we are not aware that the tides are turning and things are no longer what they used to be.

When the school's "annual report" is presented, some churches can no longer cover up the losses they have always sustained with the influx of new children who helped maintain their figures. We are delighted at anniversary time

to have children featured in the programme of the church, but we still think of the Sunday School as an appendage or attachment to the church. We tolerate the pilfering of teenagers from the Bible Class to provide teachers for understaffed schools and thrust them forth ill-equipped in personal resources, to chart the eternal destiny of young lives and provide the backdrop of faith against which the children in their charge will play out their entire lives. We have heard educators say that the home is the strongest influence in a child's life and yet we have been content to receive children from non-church homes with no intention of including the whole family in our programme when they are most vulnerable to the appeal of the church.

Plan to go to church a little earlier next week, will you? Get there about the time the children in your Sunday School are surging out into the community. Pause a moment. Take a long look:

- See the light of eternity reflected in the face of that little girl?
- Hear the trumpets of glory echo in the shrill voice of that ten-year-old boy?
- Sense the issues confronting the members of that teenage group. These are decision days for them.

Take another look at those children — they are YOURS!

• In Victoria

. . . It's A New Team!



John Way, B.Sc.

Mr. Way, who has commenced a ministry as associate to Mr. Longthorp in the Vic.-Tas. Department of Christian Education, graduated from the College of the Bible, Glen Iris in 1960. He was the first to enter college from Canberra church. Previously, John Way received the Diploma of Forestry from the Australian School of Forestry and completed his work at Sydney University to attain his Bachelor of Science degree. Graduating from College of the Bible, Mr. Way served the Ashburton (Vic.) church in a part-time ministry and taught at Murrumbena High School. He has come to his new post after giving splendid service to the Kaniva church, 1962-1965.

The responsibility of shouldering the many big tasks of Christian Education in Victoria and Tasmania now rests on the shoulders of two young men: Viney Longthorp and John Way.

After serving for five years as Associate Director, Mr. Longthorp has been appointed Director. He succeeds Mr. Trezise, who retired this year after an eighteen year ministry.

Joining Mr. Longthorp is John Way, who formerly was the minister of the church at Kaniva. John has many specialised abilities and insights which equip him grandly to work with the Youth programme and Bible Schools. These two fields will be his special responsibility. The Department is facing many requests from teachers, superintendents, leaders and adult counsellors who want:

- training in worship,
- training in programme building,
- resources of all kinds,
- help in teaching techniques.

These persons and many others will find a friend and helpmate in Mr. Way. Already his programme will make him the most travelled man in Victoria and Tasmania.

Mr. Longthorp will concentrate his attention on

- The Adult Programme,
- Looking after an extensive Camp programme, and Camp properties,
- Over-all development of a local Christian Education programme,
- Boys' and Girls' Club work.

There is today a great awakening in our churches as they face the responsibilities of mission to the world. The Department of Christian Education through its two full-time workers and a hundred other voluntary workers, seeks humbly yet confidently to offer to all the resources and the training to do the Master's work.

The annual offering being received on May 2
(Queensland May 30) is for the work of
STATE Departments of Christian Education.

IN NEW SOUTH WALES



Inducted to office in 1964, **BRUCE ARMSTRONG** is Director of the N.S.W. Department of Christian Education.

In 68 Bible Schools there are 6,565 pupils, 1,050 teachers and workers. The introduction of a State Teaching Diploma 4-unit course provides for 10 lessons in each unit, with required reading and written assignments. Examinations will be held as each unit is completed. The whole course will be of two years' duration.

Miss Cox continues an important work among 85 isolated scholars, and Mrs. N. Elliott cares for 15 children on an isolated cradle roll.

Youth clubs include 29 Girls' Life Brigade companies, 4 Cadet groups, 20 Boys' Brigade companies, 14 Life Boy teams, 18 Girls' Clubs, 19 Boys' Clubs and mixed Fellowships for teenagers.

Many improvements were carried out at Camp Greenhalgh and further work is planned for 1965.

A 40-acre site at South Swansea, opened in March, will provide a new Youth Centre for Department camps. In addition to vacation camps and weekend house parties, the Department plans to hold weekend camps majoring on Bible study.

A new bi-monthly magazine, "Focus," is to be published, the first issue appearing in June. This will provide a Department link with young people and promote the programme of Christian Education in N.S.W.

The Youth Conference conducted a Youth Crusade in Sydney in 1964. A similar campaign is planned for Newcastle, and other rallies are scheduled for 1965.



K. D. HORNE
Director, Christian Education

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HIGHLIGHTS

"The promotion of a programme of Christian Education for children, young people and adults" are the concluding words of the South Australian Constitution as it refers to the Department of Christian Education. Such a programme is full of highlights and only some of them can be mentioned in the scope of this column.

CHILDREN are a major part of the Department's interest, 9,553 of them to be precise. There is scarcely a month when there is not a "special" event in the Diary for our Bible Schools. These events range from Camps for Superintendents to the "On the Spot" assistance from the Director; from resource materials to Sports Days. This year the Department has embarked on a Campaign to create "Bible School Mindedness" in our churches.

YOUTH time is decision time, and in South Australia each year almost 80 per cent of our addi-

tions come from the ranks of the "under 25's." To meet the needs of youth the Department provides training courses and programme materials for busy youth leaders. This year the Perimeter Club commenced, and the Tertiary Students' Dinner at the University was the best yet. A real highlight was the gathering of 140 young men to hear Dr. Keith Bowes talk on "Your Vocation."

ADULTS still shape our work and the Department is urging all churches to give careful thought to this aspect of their programme. The Director is presently involved with Enfield Heights church as it prepares its A.C.E. programme. In July-August, ministers will have the opportunity of sharing in a course of Adult Work.

The support of the brotherhood on May 2 will determine how effectively this Department will fulfil its charter.

AMONG YOUTH IN QUEENSLAND



PHIL WOOLFORD serves the Youth and Christian Education Committee in an interim ministry.



ALLAN MALE leaves Portland this year to become full-time Director for the Queensland Department of Youth and Christian Education.

Mr. Phil. Woolford gives leadership and service as interim Director, pending the coming of Allan Male, who will take up full-time work as Department Director later this year.

Bible School pupils raised £550 for a mission project. This money will help to build a dormitory at Nassawa, New Hebrides, attached to our Junior Boys' Technical School there.

Christian Education Committee has assisted schools with its programme of visitation, teacher training, teaching methods.

During 1964 two Youth Conventions were held, one at Dalby (70 present), the other at Caloundra, with an attendance of 100. Several working bees constructed an open air chapel at Caloundra Youth Centre. Plans for 1965 include Conventions at Pinalba and Caloundra; a Leadership course began in February.

Bible School enrolment is 3,334 pupils, 426 teachers. Of 190 additions by faith and baptism in 1964, 83 were from Bible Schools.

The Western State —

Miss Merle Peacock, Organising Secretary of the Youth and Christian Education Committee was able to resume duties in September, 1964, after a prolonged illness. She attended the National C.Y.F. Convention in Sydney, January, 1965, as leader of a large delegation from Western Australia.

In 45 Bible Schools there are 4,064 pupils and 692 teachers.

Many schools are participating in the "1965 Oil Strike" Efficiency Campaign at present in operation. Reports indicate that this has helped teachers to realise a need for improvement in their approach to the task of Christian Education.

Dr. G. A. Whiting visited the State in November to promote Adult Christian Education.

State C.Y.F. Commission brought together a planning group of 25 leaders.

Appeal for Londua School, New Hebrides, sponsored by Christian Endeavour, raised £560 from Bible Schools, Youth Fellowship, Christian Endeavour Societies, clubs and recreational groups.

The aim this year is to raise £750 for transport expenses in New Guinea.

One hundred recreational groups participated in basketball, tennis, cricket.



Miss **MERLE PEACOCK** heads up the Youth and Christian Education Committee.

Our Responsibility To Youth

By H. F. GROSS, B.A.

On one occasion an adult joined a group of young people engaged in serious discussion. After listening for a while on the edge of the group, she broke in with, "Now, when I was your age . . ." She was interrupted by the pointed response of one of the young people, "Lady, you were never our age." It was not intended as an affront. It held a profound truth which today's adults must learn to recognise.

The outlook and attitude of today's young people have been shaped altogether differently from those of their parents or their grandparents. These young people have always lived under the threat of nuclear extinction. For as long as they can remember, it has been assumed that the universe is man's oyster, waiting for only a few more techniques to be perfected so that he can explore its farthest reaches. The church has always been a minority voice in the society they have known.

Modern youth does not need to question the answers — there are hardly any answers left for him to question

with modern youth, is surely our first responsibility, if we are to show Christ to them through our relationship with them.

Adults need to distinguish very carefully between what is reprehensible and unworthy, and what is merely young people showing off, as young people have felt it necessary to do since time began. Long hair may make us stare, but as has recently been pointed out, Samson and the Spartans and the Cavaliers were not effeminate, and once upon a time no gentleman would be seen without his shoulder-length wig.

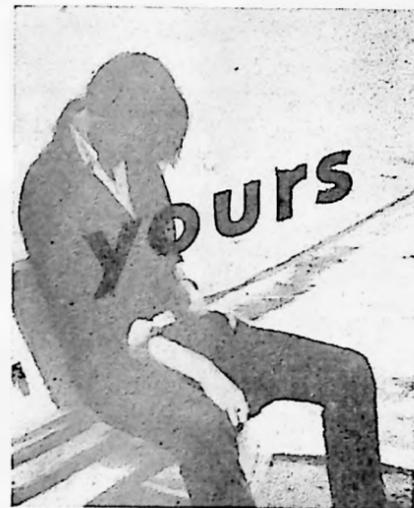
There is a place for criticism, and most young people can take it when it is deserved. But if we confuse our prejudices with our principles, we will not be heard when our critique is most needed. Moreover, any criticism we may utter should be tempered by an embarrassing awareness that our modern world has been wished upon today's youth by us.

From these two basic responsibilities there flow at least three others:

2. We must examine our Christian faith and find new forms by which the relevance of this faith can speak to youth. We who are over 35 have too often been mesmerised and captured by the second, or third, or even the fourth best. The world has been too long with us, and if we haven't been cast altogether in its mould, we nevertheless appear to many young people not as vibrant heralds of good news, but as out-of-date and musty as the old-fashioned newspaper, with all our advertisements on the front page. We owe it to them to smarten ourselves up, to "get with it" — not only with the facts of life in 1965, but also with the ever-contemporaneous gospel, and a little less far behind the great Pioneer.

3. Our third responsibility is as old as the gospel. It is to accept and love modern young people, not because of what we hope they will do for the Church, nor because they cry out in the darkness of this age for a safe light, but because each one is an end in himself, a son or a daughter such as God will never have again. If they lose themselves, Heaven will be forever the poorer. We will be the poorer, too, because the possibilities that God sees in them have not been nurtured until they enriched and watered our common humanity.

Young people do not want us to idealise them or idolise them, or patronise them. They merely ask us to treat them as God does — as individuals, as persons worth knowing.



in the realm of private or public morality. And what can a generation that came of age during the Depression know about the temptations and the opportunities, the freedom and the boredom that are inherent in the affluent society of which modern young people are the premature heirs?

Play It Cool, Dad!

To be aware of all this, and to take it into account when we have contact

1. In the competitive worlds of commerce, art and the professions, this is increasingly the young person's era. New ideas added to youthful vigour make for progress and development. Youth's powers of adaptation fit them for a world changing kaleidoscopically from year to year, almost from week to week. In the Church we must let more and more of them carry out experiments, applaud and foster their efforts when they succeed, and help them to try again when they fail.

ANNUAL OFFERING
MAY 2
(Queensland, May 30)
for
Your State DEPARTMENTS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

CHILE QUAKE AID

(Geneva). The World Council of Churches has appealed to its member churches for \$200,000 for relief and rehabilitation aid for survivors of the earthquake that devastated a wide area of central Chile on March 28.

The appeal was issued by the W.C.C.'s Division of Inter-Church Aid, Refugee, and World Service, following receipt of a cable from the Ayuda Christiana Evangelica (A.C.E.), the social action arm of the Evangelical Council of Chile, an organisation including about 80 per cent of the nation's Protestant churches.

The A.C.E. suggested aid is required to the extent provided by W.C.C. member churches following the May, 1960, Chilean earthquake disaster. Then W.C.C. member churches contributed \$200,000.

The A.C.E. reported that its relief teams had started work in the most heavily damaged areas the night of the quake.

A W.C.C. spokesman said W.C.C. funds will be used both for immediate emergency aid and to underwrite long-term programmes, including construction of churches and social centres in new communities to be built by the government to house the homeless. A large part of the quake-damaged section was slum area.—E.P.S.

In emergency action on March 31, the Australian Council of Churches sent £1,000 to aid the victims of the earthquake which struck Chile, in South America, three days before. The grant, from Australian Inter-Church Aid emergency funds, followed a World Council of Churches emergency appeal for 200,000 U.S. dollars.—A.C.C.

QUESTING

WITH
A. E. WHITE



Is there any real value in the children's programme which is a part of so many of our morning worship services?

Most churches encourage children to attend the church worship service. There is little value in having them there unless their presence is recognised and catered for. How to do this effectively raises many problems.

One difficulty concerns communication. There are different age groups and various levels of understanding and experience. There are values in bringing the whole church family together, but the speaker often seeks to do what generations of religious educators say is impossible: to communicate with a congregation of from 3 years to 70. The reasons for grading our Sunday Schools and State Schools are sound and we must recognise a limiting factor whenever we have such a wide difference of persons before us in our morning services.

Some ministers are not able to talk interestingly to children, although they may be competent with adults. Even if he is able to hold the interest of

children, he usually has to decide which group he will aim at. If his target is the six-year-olds, he will almost certainly miss the 12-year-olds. The latter may not be able to understand the sermon and therefore get little satisfaction. If the minister aims at the 12-year-olds, the younger children may not be with him. In response to these difficulties, the minister often resorts to action stories and light-hearted moralising that entertains rather than enriches.

Although children's sessions may have these problems and defects, I still believe that there are more defects in expecting children to sit through a worship service that is wholly adult. We could be in danger of training the children to close their minds in church. The sermon, the communion talk, the prayers, and the Bible reading — still often in the Authorised Version — may fail to reach the child mind.

It is good to have the whole family at church, and the whole family should be catered for. We cannot speak to all of those attending all of the time, and after their session it may be good to have the children withdraw and be involved in graded activity elsewhere. But in spite of communication problems, there are plenty of stories which can convey Christian attitudes and invite Christian responses, even if the theological implications are not pointed through moralising. In addition, the children can be involved in the family act of worship.

Recommend to Your Friends!

"THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN"

Posted Weekly to Your Home,
38/- a year; 10/- a quarter.

THE GOSPEL FILM MINISTRY'S 1965

RELIGIOUS FILM FESTIVAL!

MAGNIFICENT COLOR

FEATURING "FACE the MUSIC"

PLUS "FLIGHT PLAN", "BILLY SUNDAY", "DREAM ISLAND", "LOVE'S REVENGE", "TASHI FROM TIBET", "THE GOSPEL BLIMP" and 5 others!

Admission Free—Offering

5 NIGHTS OF SPECTACULAR PREMIERE SCREENINGS!

THE GOSPEL FILM MINISTRY LTD.
MELBOURNE: 211 Latrobe St. 32 1232
SYDNEY: 181 Clarence St. 29 4005
BRISBANE: 262 Queen St. 2 9062
ADELAIDE: "Bible House", 8 Twin St. 23 4412
Also at PERTH, LAUNCESTON, CHRISTCHURCH

HERE AND THERE

STUDENT MINISTRY

(Kingsford, N.S.W.). The church has welcomed as minister, Dean Sander (First Year College student) and his wife, from Mt. Gambier church. A fellowship tea was held to bring all members together. . . . Among visitors during Conference was former preacher, Pat Kavanagh, and his family. Mr. Kavanagh preached at morning service on April 11. . . . Bronte was again chosen for the S.S. picnic, under the supervision of Ben Briguglio. . . . Miss Janelle Weedon has left for Canada where she will join her sister June. . . . Mr. Wilson has re-opened his recovery clinic in the church vestry. . . . The extra Faith Offering for Missions has passed £200 (target is £625).

OUR WORLD RADIO

A short-wave amateur radio transmitter powerful enough to reach the farthest places on earth is being set up in Indianapolis, Ind. (U.S.A.) in a centre of a dozen agencies of the Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ). The transmitter is a gift of the Disciples' Amateur Radio Fellowship, an association of "ham" (amateur) radio operators of the Christian Churches. The equipment will be used to communicate with missionaries who are radio amateurs in distant lands.—E.P.S.

PRELUDE TO EASTER

(West Preston, Vic.). Special "Prelude to Easter" meetings held at church on several weeknights prior to Easter, with J. E. Brooke and A. B. Clark leading. . . . Fund for the purchase of a new Hammond organ for the church has reached £600 in six weeks. . . . 64 Junior and Intermediates, and their leaders, were in camp at Monbulk, March 19-21.

"TAMMY"

(Drumcondra, Vic.). Extra seating was required for the family night, on April 11, when the film "Tammy" was shown. A feature was the presence of S.S. scholars and their parents. . . . The annual meeting elected: sec., N. Douglas; treas., G. Batty; L. Mountjoy, sen., H. Mountjoy, H. Douglas, H. Flack, B. Bain, R. Tattersall, L. Cole, B. Jacobi. . . . Alec McCulloch spoke on April 4. He was farewelled by the congregation as he enters full-time service with the Open Air Campaigners. . . . The C.E. Youth group met at Mountjoy "Ranch" for a "go-cart" evening. . . . Boys' club is under the leadership of Randall Casey, Darrell Barnett, Royston Lloyd. . . . Mrs. Smith (C.W.A.) spoke to the C.W.E.F. on the craft of cushion making.

TOOTGAROOK. A weekend camp was held March 26-28 at N. Brown's, of Flinders. 29 young people and adults attended. . . . On the Sunday all returned to church for tea, which was followed by film, "Dust or Destiny." 70 present. . . . April 4 was Harvest Thanksgiving Day. Produce was sent to the College of the Bible. Good Companions paraded.

ATTENDANCES DOUBLED

(Wingham, N.S.W.). Attendances have doubled in the past 12 months. . . . Women's World Day of Prayer was conducted in our chapel by Mrs. D. Paddon, with Mrs. K. Germon as speaker. Our youth took leading parts in the special evening service. . . . An All-Age Fellowship is to commence this month, which will include devotional, social, educational and recreational sessions in each meeting. . . . A missionary evening was held in church hall on behalf of our Aborigines missions. . . . Screens and tables are being made for the Kindergarten and Primary section of the Bible School to meet the increased numbers of scholars. . . . A new series of youth meetings is to commence on April 22. . . . Cottage Prayer meetings continue on Thursday afternoons. Junior C.E. now meets in the afternoon.

INTERIM APPOINTMENT

(Beverly Hills, N.S.W.). J. R. Bacik, of Woolwich College, will minister here for the remainder of the year. . . . Revision of the roll revealed a membership of 110 active and 25 supplementary members. . . . Gifts from the Harvest Thanksgiving service were shared between Boys' Home and Woolwich Bible College. . . . Miss Elaine De Russet, missionary from the Congo, was speaker at C.Y.F. tea. . . . Both bowling teams reached the finals in Inter-Church competition and play off for the premiership. . . . 80 church members are involved in teaching and discussion groups in All-Age Bible School.

STUDENT FAREWELLED

(Woorinen, Vic.). The Harvest Festival was held on April 4, goods and produce being sent to Social Service Dept. This was the last Sunday of ministry of Bill Compston, student preacher. An after-church fellowship was attended by a large number from both Swan Hill and Woorinen, and a presentation made to him. A gift was also presented to him by B.S., of which he was supt. All regret his departure. . . . Junior club continues to grow. 28 attended recent Salmagundi night. . . . Seven Y.P. attended Easter Camp at Bendigo. . . . Painting of buildings is proceeding, working bees being held each Saturday.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SEMINAR

The Churches of Christ in South Australia are conducting a seminar on evangelism from April 30 to May 14, in the Master Builders' Association Lecture Room, South Terrace, Adelaide. The venture is sponsored by the S.A. Home Mission Dept. There will be five sessions under the headings of "Public Relations," "What is Evangelism?", "Me . . . and My Pulpit!", "Winning Them Back" and "The Ministry of Worship." The lecturers will be W. S. Lowe, M.A., B.Com.; Rev. A. E. Preston, O.B.E., L.Th.; Rev. Allan Baxter, Th.L.; E. P. C. Holland, J.P.; C. H. J. Wright, B.A.

Further information may be obtained from the Home Mission Dept., 189 Gawler Place, Adelaide.

The Australian Christian.

CONSOLIDATION MINISTRY

(Col. Light Gardens, S.A.). The consolidation ministry, under Mr. Hollard, is now well under way and proving very successful. Evening meetings especially have risen by 33 per cent in the two months' work. Average attendances are: a.m. 80; p.m. 84; communicants 84 for March. . . . The Chapel and Educational block are nearing completion. The opening will take place about one month after finishing date. . . . The annual meeting was held recently, and F. Pillar was added to the Board of Elders; G. Sandercock was appointed to Deacons' Board. . . . The church has entered into a United Survey by all the churches in the district, to cover quite a large area of new house development. . . . Miss B. Bowen was successful in winning the Singles Tennis Championship for her grade in recent Churches of Christ Association competitions. The two Junior grades won the premierships. . . . The Boys' Brigade Company is to recommence. The growth of Cabin Boys and Life Boys is forcing this move because of graduation. . . . Girls of the G.L.B. will compete for the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

MISSION

(Telopea, N.S.W.). The members benefited greatly from the recent mission, with Des. Nelson (Maryborough, Qld.), during which two folk accepted Christ and four re-dedicated their lives. . . . Forty-five ladies attended C.W.F. anniversary meeting in March, when Mrs. D. Verco spoke on national and international women's work. . . . A family barbecue was held at Lake Parramatta, with 70 present. This provided new contacts. . . . A good representation of our young people are attending D.C.E. Easter camp.

MINISTRY AT WUDINNA

(Pt. Lincoln, S.A.). The minister, A. J. Stora, conducted a short visitation and teaching ministry at Wudinna. . . . Three members of the Missionary Aviation Fellowship made strong impact on the combined churches of the town. S. Fairfull spoke on the work of M.A.F. in New Guinea at a Men's Fellowship tea, and then preached to the church. . . . The men of the church have been working at Redcliffs putting door and window frames in the new camp building.

National Diary

- APRIL**
- 29-May 3. Q. General Conference.
 - 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.

April 24

DISTINGUISHED GUEST-PREACHER

Before this is read in Victoria many in Western Australia, South Australia and South-Western Victoria will have had the opportunity of hearing a distinguished visitor to our shores.

He is Stanley M. Sewell, B.A., B.D., until recently head of New Testament studies and lecturer in New Testament Greek and elementary Hebrew at Thailand Theological Seminary, and now Principal-elect of our British College at Overdale, Birmingham, England. He and Mrs. Sewell are members of the British brotherhood. With their four children they are returning to England, via Australia and New Zealand. Mr. Sewell will take up the Principalship at Overdale in 1966.

From W.A. glowing reports have been received regarding our guest's preaching

180 JUNIORS

(North Perth, W.A.). The North Suburban C.E. Union held their annual rally in our chapel, with 180 juniors and their leaders present. . . . The Intermediate C.E. held a beach outing and barbecue, with Mr. Patterson as guest speaker. . . . The Inters. have received an answer to their letter to Mr. and Mrs. Ryall. They were the first group to write to the Ryalls in India. . . . Miss E. Beck has moved to Appleton. J. Gordon is recovering from an operation in St. Anne's Hospital. . . . Barry Hadlow, of U.F. Mission, spoke to the church on April 4.

SIX BAPTISMS

(Noble Park, Vic.). Temple Day was held on April 11. Having recently made the good confession, six Bible School students were baptized at the gospel services. Two ladies were welcomed into fellowship.

TO CHRISTIAN TEACHERS

Are you a church member and also a school teacher? Perhaps you will be interested to hear of the Victorian Teachers' Christian Fellowship, which is affiliated with the Inter-Varsity Fellowship.

The members of the Fellowship are educationalists of various kinds, who see in their profession a unique opportunity for Christian service. This opportunity, they feel, can best be taken in fellowship with others of like mind and heart.

The Australian Teachers' Christian Fellowship (511 Kent-st., Sydney) publishes a Journal of Christian Education, and holds an Annual Conference in the various States. Deakin Hall, Monash University, will be the site of the Conference commencing January 7, 1966.

These avenues are used to help in the formation of a Christian philosophy of education. Each State group holds meetings and discussions, both in the capital cities and country areas. The total membership is over 2,000, but there are many Christian teachers who may not have had the opportunity to join. If you are interested, please contact Sydney, and A.T.C.F. can direct you to your own State group.

The Victorian Teachers' Christian Fellowship, 59 Rathdowne-st., Carlton, is holding a May Conference. See the advertisement in another part of this issue.

1965

ability, and the contribution he has to make to our brotherhood life and thinking. To give as many Victorians as possible an opportunity of meeting the family, and hearing S. M. Sewell, district rallies have been arranged by Conference Executive. These were to commence at Portland on Thursday, April 22; to be followed by Geelong, April 23; Bendigo, April 29; Moreland, April 30; Hartwell, May 4; Brighton, May 5. Other speaking appointments are also planned. Full details are given in the advertising columns of this issue.

Those who are within travelling distance of the planned meetings are urged to let only the most important reasons prevent their attendance. All who participate will find profit and fellowship too good to miss.

MISS ROFE AT INVERELL

(N.S.W.). The church welcomed the visit of Miss Rosalie Rofe, from New Guinea. She addressed members of the C.E., C.W.F., and Bible study groups and also presented slides depicting the work on the various Mission stations. . . . The boys' and girls' club held their annual meeting and chose Miss Robyn Dick and Peter Mackie as their captains for 1965. . . . Statistics at the annual meeting showed that services have been well maintained during the year. Two new deacons and two new elders were chosen for the Official Board. . . . Maxwell A. G. Hall is minister.

RESULTS AT CLOVELLY PARK

(S.A.). A telegram from the minister, J. C. Cunningham, reads: "Clovelly Park mission. Forty-three decisions. Forty-three re-consecrations. £948 offering. 223 average attendance."

OPENING OF NEW WINGS, CHRISTIAN REST HOME,

34 Norman Terr., Black Forest, S.A., on MAY 1, 1965, at 2.30 p.m.

Ceremony to be performed by The Hon. G. A. Bywaters, Minister for Agriculture.

Open for Inspection from 2-4 p.m. All Friends Cordially Invited. Make This a Brotherhood Afternoon.

+ T.V. HIRE +

HIRE A T.V. SET FOR ONE WEEK,

or as long as you like. Rental includes Installation, Aerial, Maintenance and Licence.

Repairs to All Makes of Television Receivers.

50-8434 (4 lines)

Snellgrove's Electric-Land (S.B. RADIO)

205 GLENFERRIE-RD., MALVERN, Vic. (near Tramway Depot.)

The Australian Christian.

COMING EVENTS

UNTIL MAY 16

CARRAMAR (N.S.W.) FOR CHRIST AEROSPHERE CRUSADE

Evangelist: D. WILLIS

Sundays: 7 p.m.

Tuesdays to Saturdays: 7.45 p.m.

Site — HORSLEY DRIVE

"BRETHREN PRAY FOR US"

RICHMOND, Vic., CHURCH SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

APRIL 25 — 11 a.m., D. J. Andrews. 3 p.m., J. H. McCormick. 7 p.m., A. J. Matheson.

MAY 2 — 11 a.m., D. J. Marr. 3 p.m., W. F. Newham. 7 p.m., D. J. Andrews.

— All Welcome. —

The DEPARTMENT of CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

welcomes all members and friends to share in an

INDUCTION SERVICE

of

VINEY LONGTHORP

(Director)

and JOHN WAY

(Associate Director)

SWANSTON ST. CHURCH, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 28, at 8 p.m.

Items by The Campbell Singers (Youth Choir).

CHRIST'S WITCHDOCTOR

The dramatic conversion of an Amazon — now a jungle missionary. An outstanding new book. Many illustrations - 28/-.

By ISOBEL KUHN: Nests Above the Abyss, 16/-; Stones of Fire, 9/3; Precious Things, 5/-.

Her Life Story: "One Vision Only" (Canfield), 14/6 and 11/6.

And many other missionary books.

Heswick Book Depot

315 Collins-st., Melb. (62-5581) 100 Ryrie-st., Geelong (Tel. 4229).



ALL GIFTS AND REPAIRS — ADELAIDE :: Phone 23-5462 —



BOB WILLIAMS.

News from Balladoran, N.S.W.

During the Woolwich College vacation three of the students held a Crusade at Balladoran. Bible School is held at 9.15 a.m. on Sundays, approximately 40 attending, with six teachers, five of whom come from Gilgandra church. A Girls' Club has commenced, with 35 members, and a Boys' Club will start soon. A sewing class conducted by three women from Gilgandra is now meeting. N. Flint, minister of Gilgandra church, has a Scripture class at Balladoran of 40 native children, and in his Gilgandra High School class he has six of our Aboriginal children. There have been three decisions for Christ, and one rededication. The problem of housing still remains acute, owing to lack of finance and the irregular nature of the work the native people are able to find.

"If Ye Have Faith . . ."

A native man was drowned recently in the flooded Gascoyne River. He was a step-nephew of Bob Williams, Christian native leader at Carnarvon. Bob took a party with him to search for the body, but after a day there was no result. At evening he called the men together and said he was going to ask the Father. He asked that "the river would go down, cut the current and show them the body."

Next morning, after deciding which way to look, they found the water had subsided, and caught under the root of a tree, but just showing, was the body. Then the body was brought by the police to Carnarvon, but the mother insisted that the funeral be held at Mullewa. Most relatives had gathered at Carnarvon, and argued all day, sending telegrams, etc., but to no avail. The mother was adamant that she wanted the funeral at Mullewa (350 miles from Carnarvon).

Bob Williams then gathered the Christians together and prayed that the Lord would change Ullie's (the mother) heart, and that she would come to Carnarvon. At 6.50 a.m. next morning the Native Welfare Officer called to say he had word from Ullie that she was coming to Carnarvon. The funeral was conducted in Carnarvon, some 125 attending. Bob is thanking and praising the Father. Truly, God is at work in the midst of these people.

Workers Needed.

Government assistance of considerable value is available for the establishment of pre-school kindergartens in association with our Children's Homes, and the Board would be very pleased to hear from any women with Kindergarten Teacher qualifications who would be prepared to enter missionary service and use their training in this way.

A suitable married couple is needed urgently to take charge of the Junior Boys' section of the Carnarvon Children's Home, and also a capable cook to take over the kitchen-dining room.

Additional help is needed in the Prim-

ary section of the Carnarvon Children's Home. A great door of ministry is open here to women of stability and adaptability in caring for these little ones.

Uniforms

The girls at "Fairhaven," Esperance, W.A., who go to school are now dressed in a nice uniform of dark blue skirt, light blue cardigan and white blouse. The girls are being taught to manage their own bank accounts, and to understand home budgeting. They need much help and guidance to become confident within themselves so as to be able to handle what to us are common every-day experiences. Please pray that the Lord will lead our missionaries in this great task of training our girls and boys, but that above all they will be used of God to lead the young people to a full commitment of life to Jesus Christ.

o BOOK REVIEW

With the renewal of the Church so much a subject of world-wide discussion today, "GOD AND HIS PEOPLE," by A. Leonard Griffith, serves as a splendid introduction to this great conquest of the modern church. The clear division and progression of this work makes it an excellent study booklet (paperback, 8/6), either in private devotions or in group study.

Each chapter is divided into commentaries on particular passages of Scripture, with a closing prayer to each section tying thought and spirit together. "God and His People" contains a wealth of illustrative material and, with great discernment, it draws upon the words and insights of many Christian scholars and leaders.

From a study of portions of Revelation 2 and 3, Griffiths points to the need of renewal. Here is where we begin. Then we progress through a study of the pattern and areas of renewal, taking in a brief history on the way. We come finally to the means, signs and areas of renewal, and these last three chapters are tremendously constructive, clarifying so well what is happening in the church today, and most splendidly, what the divine resources and "where-with-alls" of our faith are.

It is true that I would recommend all of Griffith's books with confidence. But this, I believe, to be his best to date, because of its conciseness and wealth of material. It's not a matter of picking tasty snippets from a mass of "other" material. Related to the great stirring within the church of our day, it's a reading must for all who are ready to work for and from a deeper understanding of the renewal of the church. — David J. Andrews.

ANNUAL POLICY-MAKING MEETING



R. S. A. McLEAN.

The first Annual Policy-Making meeting of the Federal Overseas Mission Board was held at Maylands, S.A., on April 2-3.

It was an historic occasion as Adelaide, as well as interstate members, met to make plans for the coming year. At the invitation of the Federal Board, the following attended as visitors:

E. Roffey, Federal Conference Secretary; I. J. Chivell, S.A. Conference Secretary; D. Hammer, preacher at Maylands.

Interstate members included: R. Malcolm, Queensland; T. Banks, West Aust.; C. Saxby, N.S.W.; R. Geyer, Vic.; D. Lewis, South Aust. (observer pending the appointment of a member).

Adelaide members were: Sir Philip Mesent (Chairman), A. Anderson, A. J. Ing-ham, F. K. Glover, R. K. Johnson, B. V. Coventry, C. L. Fitzgerald, R. S. McLean, C. A. Butler, Mrs. C. Cunningham.

Mrs. C. Cunningham is the first woman to be a member of the Overseas Mission Board.

It was agreed that a policy-making meeting should be held once every year and during the year the Adelaide members would implement the decisions. Any major changes would require a postal vote by interstate members. Interstate members are members of the Federal Board, not representatives of State Conference or State Committees.

The following are some of the major decisions:

(a) A missionary training seminar will be held biennially on the alternate year to the National Youth Convention. If possible, the first seminar will be held in Adelaide in January, 1966.

(b) Five new missionaries are to be appointed during the next twelve months. They include: (a) a nurse for India;

(b) two teachers for New Guinea; (c) a married couple for Technical School, Maewo, New Hebrides.

A budget of £83,000 was approved. This includes £22,000 for buildings and equipment, the balance to be used for general running expenses, i.e., salaries, travel, upkeep of hospitals, schools, children's homes, general evangelistic work, etc.

A proposed new manual was tabled and, with a few alterations, accepted as the new manual under which missionaries will work. Changes in the new manual include: (a) A shorter term for missionaries in India. The first term will be four years for married couples and single workers, and subsequent terms five years for married couples and four and a half years for single workers.

(b) During furlough married couples will be paid on the same basis as preachers in Australia. The recommendation of the State Conference in which the Federal Board is located will be accepted as the basis. In addition, married couples will receive the equivalent of Child Endowment, fees due to medical practitioners and hospitalization, half dentists' fees and one third opticians' fees. Single workers will be paid two-thirds of the married workers' salary and the same allowances. Salaries on the field will be reviewed at each annual meeting. A detailed survey of present salaries revealed that the present salary rates and allowances were adequate.

(c) Field Councils and C.O.M. (India) will review the missionary's service before he or she returns for furlough. The field will advise the Board whether the missionary should return to the field after furlough.

(d) Interested brethren should be encouraged to give to the mission or

church in another land rather than to missionaries as individuals.

(e) No deputation work is to be undertaken during the allotted rest period of furlough.

It was unanimously agreed that the Federal Secretary should be freed to spend more time on the fields, and make visits more frequently. This would not only help the administrative side of the work, but would provide a ministry to missionaries and indigenous churches. It was agreed that early attention should be given to providing additional office assistance to free the secretary from routine office work for a wider ministry.

Other matters discussed were: possibility of experienced missionaries returning to the fields after they had been at home for a number of years for children's education, etc., translation of Scriptures in New Hebrides, literature and audio-visuals, English Medium School, Baramati, India, and the need for temporary workers to hasten the erection of the Paternoster Memorial Hospital in New Guinea.

It was agreed that the annual meeting should be a time of Fellowship in Prayer as well as general business, and the devotional sessions led by D. Hammer at the first meetings were appreciated. The Maylands ladies catered most acceptably.

CONSULT the LAND PEOPLE of MOUNT GAMBIER FOR ALL LAND TRANSACTIONS



D. M. FIMMELL & Co. Pty. Limited

LICENSED LAND, ESTATE AND BUSINESS AGENTS, AUCTIONEERS, VALUERS, INSURANCE AGENTS, etc.

REAL ESTATE HOUSE, 13 PENOLA-RD., MOUNT GAMBIER (S.A.).

PHONE 2 - 1393, ALL HOURS.

ANYWHERE in SOUTH-EAST of S.A. and WESTERN DISTRICTS of VIC.

E. P. HUGHES TRANSPORT LTD.

for STORAGE, LOCAL, COUNTRY and INTERSTATE REMOVALS Church Members' Moves a Specialty.



Head Office: 78 Unley-rd., North Unley, S.A.

(Established 1912)

Phone: 71 - 0402, 71 - 2270 ::: After Hours: 79 - 5643.



CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION

(Inc.) Est. 1935

In all States and Great Britain.

Agents in All Churches.

All for Each and Each for All. (4,000 Members.)

Membership open to Christians anywhere, regardless of position or age.

Contributions from 3d. upwards per week. Information from Secretary of

Social Service Department, 217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne, C.I. 32 - 2447.

PERSONAL

DISCIPLESHIP

Mrs. Hupfield, Col. Light Gardens, S.A.
Graham Holman, Trevor Boyd, Gregory Farmer, West Preston, Vic.
Garry Burns, Mr. Saunders, snr., Kingsford, N.S.W.
Peter Soeters, Colac, Vic.
David McFettridge, Inverell, N.S.W.
Robyn Burnside, Lynette Edmonds, Gail McCarthy, Susan Scott, Gavin Edmonds, David Runnalls, Noble Park, Vic.
Miss Helen Cole, Beverley Hills, N.S.W.

MARRIAGES

Maureen Rose to Ian Corke, Penshurst, N.S.W.
Jan Dorian to Robert Partington, Col. Light Gardens, S.A.

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. and Mrs. Petrie, Sunshine to Hartwell, Vic.
Mrs. Grocock and Mrs. Bowen, Maylands; Miss Francis, Hawthorn; Miss Riches, Brighton Gardens; B. Parker, Tumbay Bay — to Col. Light Gardens, S.A.
Mr. and Mrs. Brideson, Northcote to West Preston, Vic.
John Watson, Beverley Hills to Kingsford, N.S.W.
Mrs. W. Small, Prahran; Mrs. D. Lavin, Ormond Baptist — to Noble Park, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Rowan, Townsville to Ann-st., Brisbane, Qld.

DEATHS

Russell Boak, Colac, Vic.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

F. D. Craig (minister, Georgetown church, N.S.W.), 72 Lambton-rd., Waratah, N.S.W.
W. J. O. Todd (minister, Nambour church, Qld.), 5 Hocking-st., Nambour, Qld.

BIRTHS

GREEN (nee Robinson). — Elwyn and George give thanks to God for the birth of Roger Craig, on April 9 — 39 Reattard-rd., Trevallyn, Launceston, Tas.
SINCLAIR (Combridge). — To Win and Ian, at Mordialloc Community Hospital, Vic., on April 13, a daughter — Leanne Helene. Both well.

SILVER WEDDING

HASKELL - CRELLIN. — Congratulations Dad and Mum on the 25th anniversary of your wedding which was celebrated at the Church of Christ, North Williamstown, Vic., on April 27, 1940, by the late Jas. E. Thomas.
— Lois, Bev. Ken and Lyn.

DEATHS

BOAK — Russell James, on April 2, at Melbourne, beloved only son of Clarence and Florence Boak, Elliminyt, via Colac, Vic., loved brother of Dorothy (Mrs. I. Baines) and Lorna. "Always with the Lord."

URGENT

Housekeeper Wanted to look after elderly couple; live in, keep and £12 per week. Replies to Editor, "The Australian Christian."

FOR SALE

E. H. Holden, 179 Automatic, White-Blue, 7 months old, 7,000 miles, heater, windscreen washers, gear shift lock, etc. Phone 848-1129 (Melb.) after 6.30 p.m.

VICTORIAN TEACHERS' CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP MAY CONFERENCE

FORMAL EDUCATION AND ITS PART IN CHRISTIAN GROWTH, SECONDARY TEACHERS' COLLEGE, Swanston-st., Parkville, Vic.

SATURDAY, MAY 1, 1965.
Fee: 7/6; Students, 2/6.

Programme—
10.15 a.m.—Official Opening.
10.30 a.m.—Secular Education as Part of a Strategy for Christian Education,
Rev. Dr. D. MERRITT, B.A., Bd.R.D., B.D.
11.30 a.m.—Seminars.
12.30 p.m.—Lunch (Tea and Coffee provided).
2.00 p.m.—Seminars.
3.00 p.m.—Relevance of the Christian Faith to the School,
Mr. D. DYER, B.Com., Dip.Ed.

MEET and HEAR STANLEY M. SEWELL, M.A., B.D.

Distinguished visitor from our British brotherhood. Head of New Testament Studies, Thailand Theological Seminary. Principal-elect, Overdale College, Birmingham, England.

United Rallies

Thursday, April 22, 8 p.m. — PORTLAND CHURCH. (For Coleraine, Hamilton, Port Fairy, Portland, Warrnambool).
Friday, April 23, 8 p.m. — LATROBE TCE. CHURCH, GEELONG. (For Belmont, Colac, Drumcondra, Latrobe Tce., Norlane, Slavic, Thomson).
Thursday, April 29, 8 p.m. — BENDIGO CHURCH. (For North-Central country churches).
Friday, April 30, 8 p.m. — MORELAND CHURCH. (For Western, North-Western, Northern suburbs).
Tuesday, May 4, 8 p.m. — HARTWELL CHURCH. (For North-Eastern, Eastern suburbs).
Wednesday, May 5, 8 p.m. — BRIGHTON CHURCH. (For Southern, South Eastern suburbs).

Other Appointments:

Sunday, April 25 — 11 a.m., WARRAGUL; 7 p.m., ORMOND.
Sunday, May 2 — 11 a.m., GARDINER; 7 p.m., SWANSTON-ST.
Monday, May 3 — 2 p.m., MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION MEETING.
Friday, May 7 — 11 a.m., C.W.F. COUNCIL MEETING.
Sunday, May 9 — 11 a.m., MARGARET-ST., LAUNCESTON; 7 p.m., COLLINS-ST., HOBART.

All urged to take the opportunity of participating in the profit and fellowship of these meetings. Don't miss hearing our highly commended guest.

PLAN TO ATTEND AND SHARE.

WRIGHT THINKING

— BY C. H. J. WRIGHT EVERY DAY RELIGION

At the headquarters of the United Nations in New York, just inside the entrance, there is a small chapel for meditation. It is little more than a small, unpretentious room. In the chapel are curtained walls, flowers on a table — and silence. There is no sign of a Bible — no symbol of Christianity. This tiny chapel is all of religion that is permitted at United Nations. With Muslim nations opposed to anything Christian, and Russia officially atheistic, this is the most that could be achieved.

And this explains, no doubt, the significant statement made by the late Lord Halifax, one-time Foreign Secretary for Great Britain, at the time of his retirement from high office. Lord Halifax, a humble and devout Christian, said that he could not recall one occasion where, in an international conference, anybody paused and said, "What is God's will, what is the Christian way in this situation?" In other words, it was assumed that in any conscious way, the Christian faith and Christian principles did not apply to this area of human activity.

There has always been a strange and dangerous trend in man's thinking upon religion. It is that religion belongs to the simpler and more personal aspects of life, and should not interfere in certain fields of human activity. This is heard in the man who, boasting that he is not a churchman, says religion is all

right for children. It appears in the absurd masculine comment that religion is more for women.

It lies behind the slogan, "business is business," which is supposed to mean that such affairs lie beyond the range of Christian faith and practice. The same thing is in the minds of those who say it would be too risky to conduct international affairs on the Christian basis of active goodwill. There have always been those who believe that worship and prayer and personal piety exhaust the functions of religion.

What the Bible teaches, however, is very different. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths" (Proverbs 3: 6). Truly religious people are not those who live in a little world of their own, where they say their prayers, go to services, enjoy the consolations of religion, have little devotional experiences, and believe that God is only interested in what they call "religious works."

A visitor to the great Lovedale institution in Africa asked an old teacher, "Where is your timetable, do you teach religion?" "We teach it all day long," replied the old teacher. "In language, by learning to say what we mean; in geography, by breadth of mind; in handicraft, by thoroughness; in astronomy, by reverence; in the playground, by fair play. We teach religion by kindness to animals, by courtesy to servants, by good

manners to one another, and by truthfulness in all things."

This does not mean there is no need for special times and special places for prayer and worship. But prayer and worship are not ends in themselves. Rather they are like the violinist tuning his instrument before playing, or like the sailor setting his compass before sailing.

We do not think of the church only as a company of people gathered within the four walls of the sanctuary at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Sunday, but also as a company of people out in the world from Monday to Saturday, expressing the mind and spirit of Jesus in daily life.

Dr. Leslie Weatherhead once told of a girl of sixteen who lay dying in a great hospital. She had been the eldest in a large, poor family. The mother had died, and the girl had spent herself bearing the burden of the home and mothering the children. Her hands were rough with hard work, and she was dying of tuberculosis. Round the wards came a church visitor who questioned the girl about religion. Had she been confirmed? No. Baptized? No. Gone to Sunday School? No. Attended church? No — her life had been so full. The questioner took a very serious view. "What will you do when you die, and must tell God that?" The girl who had given herself for years in hard daily work which had been a glorious contribution to Christ's Kingdom, laid her thin work-stained hands on the coverlet, looked up with eyes full of peace too deep to be disturbed, and made an answer too sublime for comment, "I shall show him my hands." We express our religion in all that we do.

"In all thy ways, acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths."

Churches of Christ BIBLE COLLEGE in New South Wales

Established in 1942 to train men and women for the Master's service at home and abroad.

Regular support in prayer and gifts is sought.

A. W. Stephenson, M.A., Principal, 57 The Point-rd., Woolwich, N.S.W.
G. H. Sloman, Secretary, 24 Knox-st., Belmore, N.S.W.
E. F. Morris, Treasurer, 31 Collins-rd., St. Ives, N.S.W.

HIRE A BUS

WIRELESS EQUIPPED

Keep Your Crowd Together

Sporting Fixtures - Picnics - Parties - Outings - Churches - Lodges - Schools - Clubs.

See us for your Sunday School Picnic.

GREEN BUS LINES

20-3751

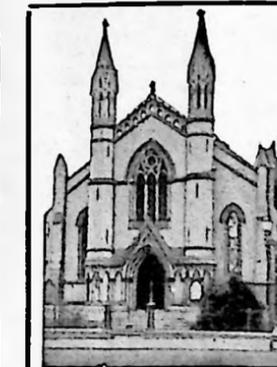
326 TOORONGA-RD., GLEN IRIS, VIC.

1965 FIELD PROGRAMME SERVES 26 CHURCHES.

A. A. Avery and K. J. Harvey will give intensive leadership in

Evangelism and Stewardship

A Major Move Forward by HOME MISSIONS Victoria - Tasmania.



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 EXPOSITION.

7 p.m.—WORSHIP - EVANGELISM.

ELECTION RESULTS

President: F. J. Funston.
Past President: G. S. Brown.
President-Elect: A. R. Lloyd.
Secretary: W. W. Saunders.
Treasurer: J. B. Alabaster.
Assistant Secretary: G. H. Gilmour.

DEPARTMENT OF HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM:

Baker, S. R.; Baxter, E.; Geyer, R. F.; Haskell, A. R.; Jones, K. A.; Smith, D. H.; Thompson, W. A.; Ward, C. L.; Warmbrunn, Dr. C. E.

Plus Conference Officers, 3 to be co-opted and one appointed by and from the Tasmanian District Conference.

OVERSEAS MISSION DEPARTMENT:

Alabaster, R. L.; Crisp, L. G.; Ferguson, D. G.; Geyer, R. F.; Gilmore, R. N.; Heard, E. W.; Killmier, Dr. E. R.; Williams, Mrs. E. L.; Withers, A. B.

Plus 3 to be co-opted, 4 appointed by the C.W.F. and one by and from the Tasmanian District Conference.

ADVISORY DEPARTMENT:

Ministers: Andrews, G. J.; Combridge, B. J.; Patterson, H. J.; Saunders, W. W.

Others: Funston, F. J.; Geyer, R. F.; Haskell, A. R.; Huntsman, B. F.

Plus Principal E. L. Williams, D. H. Smith and W. A. Thompson, secretary and chairman of the Department of

Home Missions and Evangelism, and one appointed by and from the Tasmanian District Conference.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

Brown, G. S.; Cheal, N. W.; Gilmour, G. H.; Smith, D. H.; Thompson, W. A.

Plus one appointed by and from each Department of Conference.

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Barker, L. F.; Gross, H. F.; Hibbert, D. W.; Hillier, R. H.; Longthorp, R. V.; Manallack, J. A.; Newham, W. F.; Whiting, Dr. G. A.

Plus one member of and from each Auxiliary, 2 to be co-opted and one appointed by and from the Tasmanian District Conference.

SELLING YOUR HOME?

J. A. CARTER R.E.S.I.,

Proprietor: Robert F. Geyer, F.R.E.I., F.C.I.V.,
SWORN VALUATOR. Sales Privately or by Auction.

Details of Your Property will Receive Immediate Expert Attention.

164 TOORAK-RD., SOUTH YARRA

Opposite Station.

24 - 1296

LUMPA "PROPHETESS" SEEKS TO JOIN UNITED CHURCH

(Lusaka). The self-styled "prophetess" Alice Lenshina, whose Lumpa sect clashed with Zambian security forces last year, has asked to be allowed to join the United Church of Zambia, the nation's major church body.

The Rev. Colin Morris, president of the United Church, said that her request would be considered after she had been interviewed by a group of clergymen who would seek to determine the sincerity of her interest.

A legal tribunal has decided that the "prophetess" should be kept in detention at Mumbwa, 70 miles from Lusaka, for another six months for her own and public safety. President Kaunda has announced that a commission will investigate the origins of the Lumpa uprising in which more than 600 persons were killed.

Alice Lenshina grew up in a mission church of the Church of Scotland, which is now part of the United Church.—E.P.S.

IS SATIRE A GOOD THING?

BY COLIN A. LAWN, B.Comm., Dip.Ed.

Much of the recent comment on the Mavis Bramston Show, although well informed, has been non-specific in its condemnation or praise of this programme. The programme needs to be examined at two levels, that of satire and that of the use of sex as a subject for humour.

The Mavis Bramston Show is described by the "Age Radio and Television Guide" as a "weekly satirical series." Satire according to the Oxford Dictionary is a "poem or other composition in which customs, manners, etc., are held up to ridicule, to show up folly."

Why should satire appear on Australian television during 1964-5? It is, I believe, because Australia has over the last ten years or so gained a self-awareness that was absent before, except perhaps in times of war. This is evidenced by the rise in status of Australian art and artists, Dobell and Nolan, Australian Literature, West and White, many studies of Australian History have appeared, as well there has developed an unprecedented interest in our architecture, and folk music. It is only natural that this introspection should turn to a re-evaluation of our customs and manners through such analyses as *The Australian Accent*, *The Lucky Country*, and lately satire.

Whether the organisation be the common man, the R.S.L., Ansett Transport

industries, the Prime Minister, or the church, there is opportunity to ridicule. If a programme only sets out to ridicule it is not satire, it must show up some folly. The justification being that the satire will move the people to correct the folly. Satire therefore has a serious purpose.

The writer of satire "must derive from authentic and deeply felt moral pre-occupations which lead them to hit their target." (Max Harris, in "The Australian," 3/4/65). Each satirical script-writer will have his own subjects worthy of his satire, and each member of the audience will have his own range of subjects he considers acceptable for satire. These two will often be at variance. In these cases the viewer has the right to change channels, turn the set off, or just sit and feel outraged, but he has not the right to demand the show be taken off the air.

In all conscience I cannot deny the script-writers the right to satirize the church, its leaders, its congregations, or its laws; nor can I deny him the right to satirize attitudes to sex. We are the first to admit there are weaknesses in the church, but often we are too close to the situation to see the real problems that confront us. If we are satirized let us feel outraged, but also let us look at ourselves again and see if there are grounds for change.

I would like to remind you of the satire that was "aimed at those who were sure of their own goodness and looked down on everybody else," that is the leaders of the church where he read and taught. The satirist: Jesus the Christ; the victims: the Pharisees (Luke 18: 9-14, N.E.B.).

Often we have been the butt of satire on 6 o'clock closing; we did nothing but close our ranks and cry louder, until we were faced last year with the ignominy of a forced change of conscience on the part of our leaders in the temperance movement.

On March 20, Mavis Bramston satirized the Catholic Church's attitude to the contraceptive pill. Contraception is a matter for every adult Australian to consider. This is a programme for adults, at an adult time (8.30 p.m. Saturday), when most of the teenage audience would be out of their homes.

If the script-writer lacked integrity and his script was written solely to be salacious, I would condemn him on two grounds; it is not satire, and it is a subject which offends public taste.

There is no evidence to suggest that sexual humour leads to immoral acts (i.e., "cause your brother to stumble"), so I would not condemn the writer of salacious material on these grounds.

Harris, in another section of his column (see above) says, "The Mavis Bramston Show makes the awful scripting error of underestimating its audience of imagining the community has not outgrown a delight in blue jokes and innocuous innuendo which characterised Tivoli humor in the old days."

In this category I would place the Ladies' Bowling Club sketch (March 20). This had little satire and relied on "bloomers" and innuendo to be very unfunny.

Satire writing is hard work, whereas any person who has "rubbed shoulders" outside church circles will realise the ease with which sexual humour may be composed. As the writers of the Mavis Bramston show have one hour of programme to write a week they lamentably fall back on sex to fill out the programme. The use of sex, therefore, is a result of an underestimation of the audience, and the reliance on an easy way out from the difficulty of satirical writing.

However, we can hope with Harris that "there is a chance that the writing of Mavis Bramston will rise to the intellectual level of the viewing audience, and then a new chapter will have been written in the history of Australian Satire."

Before you write to Sir Robert, or sell your Ampol Prefs., consider these questions: Is satire of value? Is the satire worth the offensive sexual humour of the rest of the programme? If you answered yes to either question, hesitate in the hope that this programme will improve.

LYLE WILLIAMS

:: FLORIST ::

37 Toorak-rd., South Yarra, Vic.
26 - 4880; after hours, 27 - 1771.

FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS.

WHERE TO GO AND WHERE TO STAY

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

"MARGATE"

The Place to Stay in Adelaide for Christian Fellowship in delightful surroundings, en route to Glenelg.

Within walking distance of city.
Twin and family rooms, B. & B.
Mod. Tariff. Menu Breakfast.

For further particulars and bookings: write or phone Mrs. R. F. NORMAN,

34 Trevelyan-st., Wayville, S.A.
(71 - 6096 or 71 - 1510)

BELGRAVE HEIGHTS, Vic. — all elec., with mod. conveniences. Accom. 8. Near shops and bus-stop. Apply "Green Pastures," 63 Broughton-rd., Surrey Hills, E.10, Vic. 89 - 3578.

RYE, Vic. — Self-contained Holiday Flat, all convs., on beach, accom. 4 & 8. Wes Jenkins, 2 Government-rd., Rye, Vic. Phone, Rye 5 - 2104.

McCRAE, Vic. — Holiday house, overlooking bay, close beach, all conv., accom. 7, sewered, hot water. Ross Lloyd, phone 792 - 3000 (Melb.).

SORRENTO, Vic. — Holiday Home, mod. convs. Phone 53 - 6685 (Melb.) after 6 p.m.

MT. RIDDELL LODGE

MT. RIDDELL-RD., HEALESVILLE, Vic.

Restful Holiday within Walking Distance of Beauty Spots. Spacious shady lawns. Television - Hot Water Service.

Afternoon Tea and Supper.

Free Pony Rides, Swings, Slide and Swimming Pool for Children.

Adult Tariff: Throughout year, £9/9/-.
Christmas, £11/10/-.

JAMES BEVERIDGE. Phone 246

The Australian Christian.

HOME COMFORTS AND REST at

"ILKLEY HEIGHTS GUEST HOUSE"

FERNY CREEK, Vic.

Breakfast Trays, Afternoon Teas and Supper. Excellent Table.

Tariff: £13/13/-.

For bookings Phone Ferny Creek 270.
R. and R. Politowski.

AT BRIGHT — "Mar-vin" Guest House. Comfortable accommodation available. Also self-contained 3-bedroomed flat, accommodate 6. Ring Bright 197. V. Peers, Proprietor.

FENNELL'S

Catering and Hire Service

Picnic and Party Hampers Made Up

E. J. Fennell, J.P.,

89 KEILOR-RD., ESSENDON NORTH, VIC. 379 - 6416.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Too bad. We'll just have to make an effort to get here earlier next Easter."

The Australian Christian.

OPEN FORUM

FOR SIX.

To the Editor,

I was dismayed to read on the front page of this morning's newspaper ("Age" 9/4/65), the headline: "6 p.m. Closing Motion Rejected by Church," referring to our Conference decision. Whether we like it or not, the general public now has the impression that the Churches of Christ favor longer hotel trading hours. Furthermore, it could be reasonably deduced that we tacitly approve of people spending their evenings in hotel bars.

One would have assumed that delegates to a State Conference would have the intelligence to foresee such a consequence, or do those who voted against the motion honestly believe they have expressed the will of the majority of members?

Until a better method of expressing the will of the membership is devised, I presume all one can do is to dissociate oneself from the decision.

—A. N. Cartmel, Vic.

FIFTH GENERATION.

To the Editor,

I was interested to read the item, "Fifth Generation Member" in "A.C." for 20/3/65, as I have two grand-children who can claim that honor. My grandfather, Thomas S. Lyle, was a foundation member of the Prahran church (see p. 246, Jubilee History), reputed to be the first Church of Christ in Victoria. Coming to South Aus. in 1855, he joined the Grote-st. church, the oldest Church of Christ in the State, and probably in Australia. A group of the Grote-st. members started to meet in the Manchester Unity Lodge room in Franklin-st. This group moved to Kermode-st. in 1883, and in 1885 amalgamated with another group of the same faith that were meeting in Archer-st. My grandfather and father were both officers there and their photographs are both in the Jubilee History.

I (William C. Lyle) joined the church at N.A. in 1885 and was in member-

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE PATCH (Vic.)

SERVICES: 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9.30 a.m.
A Friendly Welcome Assured.

KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Established in 1965 by Churches of Christ in Queensland.

Equipping men and women to teach and preach the Gospel of Christ.

Pleading for Christian unity through the restoration of faith and practice of the New Testament.

Principal: Dr. James H. Jauncey.

Mailing Address: 84 McLennan-st., Lutwyche, Qld.

YOUR SUPPORT IN PRAYER AND GIFTS IS APPRECIATED.

ship there until 1912, when we moved to Maylands and joined that church. I was honored by having my own photograph published in the "Christian" of 1/12/1964, under the heading "Meet Three Warriors."

My daughter married Mr. Doug. Fitzgerald, and their son and daughter are both Church of Christ members, John Lyle Fitzgerald is a member at Windsor Gardens, and Helen is at the Blackwood church.

This makes them fifth generation members on my side, but what I think is unique is that they are Fifth G.M. on their father's side, G. T. Fitzgerald, a well known minister of the Church of Christ, with ministries in W.A., N.Z., Vic. and S.A., married Miss Jones, whose grandfather was W. H. Jones, an early member and deacon of the Unley church, thus making them fifth generation members on their father's side. Further, it is a strange coincidence that the great-grandfathers had names pronounced the same, but with different spelling, Lyall and Lyle.

If these two young people's position can be matched it will probably be by the ubiquitous Jones family, one of whom is our beloved Keith Jones, Sec. of the Bible College.

—William C. Lyle, S.A.

SMOKING.

To the Editor,

While many are making known the ill-effects of smoking to the human body, it seems a pity that many believers have not faced up to their example in this vital issue, in the light of New Testament teaching. For many years it has been known that nicotine, among other things, is: a narcotic drug; next to prussic acid a few years ago (and still could be) the most deadly poison known to man.

Paul states: "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy, for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are" (1 Cor. 3: 16, 17).

W. J. AIRD, Pty. Ltd. G. F. Hadley Capp, F.V.O.A.

OPTICIAN

82 ELIZABETH-ST., MELBOURNE
and at 49 Church-st., MID. BRIGHTON.
For appointment Phone City 63-8837;
Brighton 92-4267

DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT AND WEDDING RINGS

Hand made from Selected Gems and Materials by H. J. Lem, who will personally assist you to select WATCHES, CLOCKS and GIFTS at

MALVERN DIAMOND JEWEL CENTRE,

1251 High-st., Malvern, Vic.
Phone 20-5656.

The Australian Christian.

We always take care to see that a building which has been set aside for worship, etc., is kept clean and not used for anything else than the work and glorification of God. Yet some allow their bodies, the temple of God, to be defiled by narcotics and poison.

Again, in Romans 12: 1, Paul states: "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service!"

With these and other verses, to me it is clear that believers should treat nicotine on the same basis as alcohol.

—V. A. Symes, Vic.

KEEP IT CLEAN!

To the Editor,

I was disappointed that you allowed to be printed in "Open Forum" a letter that was almost a personal attack on another preacher. If this type of letter is going to be accepted then I and many others would like to see the "Open Forum" column abolished. The new "Christian" is a vast improvement and I would not like to see it spoiled.

—Mrs. Shirley Mansell, N.S.W.

(Ed.—My judgment was gravely at fault in printing the letter in question, and I later forwarded an apology to the preacher concerned.)

OBITUARY

Frank Eaton.

It was a joy to know "Pop" Eaton, as he was affectionately known to us all. A great lover of people, especially the young, for whom he prayed with loving concern. Frank was a great Christian gentleman, greatly experienced in the things of the Spirit.

Frank Eaton was one of four children, of whom only one now remains, sister Cicily, of Victoria Park. Frank's two brothers were in the ministry, Arthur in America, and Ern, who served in Western Australia and Victoria. He was born in Brighton, Victoria, and attended Sunday School at Murrumbena and South Yarra, where he made his decision for Christ under the preaching of Alec Clydesdale. He was baptized by Joseph Pittman.

At the age of fifteen his family moved to Perth, Western Australia, and were among the early members of the Lake Street congregation. Frank, with his wife, were in membership at North Perth, West Subiaco (now Shenton Park), and are foundation members of Inglewood. Frank was an elder of this congregation and as I speak from personal experience, a true friend to the preacher. He loved music and trained many a Sunday School group for anniversaries.

To Mrs. Eaton, Ken, Peg, his grandchildren and all his loved ones, our sincere Christian love, and the certainties of the faith with which his life was so replete.—A. W. Morris.

DID YOU NOTICE?

The oil strike in W.A.? (p. 7).
Where there were 43 decisions? (p. 11).
The book review? (p. 12).

April 24

• DAILY DEVOTIONAL CORNER

THERE IS ONE LORD

DAY BY DAY THROUGH EPHESIANS

Wednesday, April 28. Ephesians 2: 1-2. To you who were dead . . . to you God has given life (Weymouth).

The New Testament does not talk of Christianity as being the difference between good and bad, or between being respectable and disreputable. The New Testament tells us that it is the difference between death and life. We sometimes act as though murderers, thieves, adulterers, etc., are sinners, but the Bible word for sin means the failure to be what we ought to be, and to do what we ought to do. We may be all right if we measure ourselves against our neighbours, but we have to measure ourselves against Christ. This brings us all into the same judgment. We are all sinners. But we all have the means of life through Christ.

Dear Lord, existence is deadly dull and purposeless without you. Amen.

Thursday, April 29. Ephesians 2: 3. We likewise, all the Jews, were once tarred with the same brush (v. 3).

The Jews did not think much of the rest of the world—the Gentiles. In the eyes of the Jews they lived on a lower plane, closer to an animal existence. They were children of disobedience. But Paul now says that the Jews were tarred with the same brush. There was equal condemnation because there was equal disobedience. Because Paul says this clearly he put an end to the practice of making converts come to Christ through Judaism. Both Jews and non-Jews were to come to Christ in the same way.

Dear Lord, we thank you that the remedy of the Cross is equal to our need. Amen.

Friday, April 30. Ephesians 2: 4-6. God, being rich in mercy, because of the intense love he bestowed on us (v. 4, Weymouth).

That is a fine phrase of Weymouth, "rich in mercy." We still measure our wealth in things. We say that this man is rich in land, that man is rich in money, another is rich in power. A man is rich because he has more things than others. God is rich in mercy, in compassion.

This is a far better way to measure wealth.

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the mercy which you possess in abundance. Amen.

Saturday, May 1. Ephesians 2: 7. The immeasurable riches of his grace (v. 7).

Yesterday, we talked of God being rich in mercy. Paul continues this thought in v. 7. We are to be with Christ so that God might continue to show us the immeasurable riches of his grace. With material resources, the more you spend, the less you have left. The opposite applies to spiritual resources. The less you spend the less you have left, the more you spend the more you have left. When you spend yourself in love, mercy, kindness, and compassion, you increase your reserve of these virtues. That is why God, who gave himself fully in Christ, has riches that are immeasurable.

O God, help me to grow rich by spending myself for you and your cause. Amen.

Sunday, May 2. Ephesians 2: 8-9. By grace you have been saved through faith (v. 8).

This is a verse which compresses into a few words the gospel of Christ. Barclay makes the point that when we sin we do so not against law but against love. "It is possible to make atonement for a broken heart." We have sinned against God's love. That is why we can never pay God back, we can never earn his forgiveness. All that we can do is to accept in humility the grace that he so freely gives.

Dear God, I cannot understand why, or how, but I do know that your love is sufficient even for me. Amen.

Monday, May 3. Ephesians 2: 10. We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works (v. 10).

If we make something, we measure the workmanship by the efficiency with which it fulfils its purpose. Well, we ourselves are created and we did not measure up very well. Nothing we could

do would fulfil God's purpose for us because we are self-spoiled instruments. But now God has recreated us for his original purposes. These purposes are the good works and good lives that should be the marks of every Christian.

Dear God, I need reshaping according to the pattern given to us in Christ. Amen.

Tuesday, May 4. Ephesians 2: 11-13. Aliens to the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the Covenants (v. 12, Moffatt).

The Jews were privileged people. God had chosen them for his own realm—his commonwealth. God had made a covenant, an agreement with them. The Jews had forfeited their privileged place because they had broken the agreement. The Gentiles were aliens and strangers. In our modern world no one is more pathetic than the unwanted foreigner or a lonely stranger among the millions in a big city. Now in Christ Jesus, they had been brought into a close relationship with all God's people.

Heavenly Father, I pray that none will be estranged from you.

City of the Bees



A worker bee

THE AMAZING STORY OF THE HIVE

. to live is to work.
every resident has a task that
is willingly performed

16 mm.; colour; 45 mins

BOOK NOW

FACT & FAITH FILMS
(VICTORIA)
4 CANNING ST., CARLTON
34 1211, 34 1275

Request our illustrated catalogue

A MOODY INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE FILM



DIRECTORS

B.S. Bryson, J.P., A.R.E.I.
D.K. Beller, A.R.E.I.
G.D. Browning, A.A.S.A.



JACKMAN & TRELOAR Pty. Ltd.

ASSOCIATED WITH PRITCHARD & MORROW PTY. LTD.
35 Grenfell St. ADELAIDE, STH. AUS.
(Phone 84404 (5 Lines))

LICENSED LAND AGENTS, BROKERS,
AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS.

Reliable, Personal, and Specialised
Service in ALL REAL ESTATE.....

INTERSTATE ENQUIRIES INVITED

CHURCH HYMN BOOKS for 5/-

HAVE THEM REPAIRED LIKE NEW AGAIN

870-8071 — PHONE OR WRITE — 870-8071

W. A. LATIMER & SON, 6 KYLTA-RD., WEST HEIDELBERG, VIC.

WE REPAIR ALL BOOKS

PIANO, PLAYER and ORGAN
TUNING, SALES and SERVICE

A. H. FOX Pty. Ltd.

Church Organs a Specialty.

493 Mt. Alexander-rd., Moonee Ponds,
Vic. 37-4035.

Service throughout Victoria.

PAUL'S AUTO ELECTRICAL

Armatures Rewound. Repair and Change-
Over Units. Carburettors. Fuel Pumps.
Flasher Units, Installed and Repaired.

Distributor of Masse Batteries.

Tune up with Paul.

PAUL MULLER, 198 Through-rd.
Burwood, Vic.

Priv.: 89-3294. Bus.: 83-5559.

THE LAST WORD . .

Prayer Investment.

What profit do we get if we pray
to him?

—Job 21: 15.

One silent prayer in a crowd,
Tiptoes
And whispers to the man beside you:
Echoes
To the men beyond the men beyond
the man
Unbroken:
One small prayer
Unspoken
Grows in ever greater ringlets like
ripples
From a stone
Thrown into a lake. One prayer
Alone
When it starts
Finds other hearts.

—Ruth Manly Powers.

☆

COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE, GLEN IRIS

Principal: E. L. Williams, M.A.

Taking the whole gospel to the whole world
is the task of the whole church.

The College trains men and women for the service
of God at home and overseas.

**YOUR PRAYERFUL AND PRACTICAL SUPPORT
IS SOLICITED.**

Further information from the Secretary, Elm-rd.,
Glen Iris, Vic.

Our Authority and Guide



• MUSIC

No family can afford to be with-
out MUSIC, it is a luxury and an
economy; an alleviation of sorrow,
and a spring of enjoyment. A pro-
tection against vice, and an incite-
ment to virtue. When rightly used,
its effects — physical, intellectual
and moral, are only good.

Do not neglect to see the
**LISZT PIANO, THE KINSMAN and
YAMAHA ELECTRONIC ORGANS**
before you make your choice from

CHENEY'S

808 South-rd., Clovelly Park, S.A.
Phone 76-2880.

Department of Social Service

(The Church in Action).

Churches of Christ Centre,
217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne, C.1.

A church without hands or feet is just
as helpless as an individual without
them.

SOCIAL SERVICE is the hands and
feet of the church, functioning accord-
ing to the measure of support it receives.

Three Homes, sheltering over 130 Sick
and Aged.

Let us share together our prosperity
and adversity.

Remember the Homes in your will.

Information from the Secretary,
32-2447.

To be capable of respect is almost as
rare as to be worthy of it.

—Joseph Joubert.

☆

There is no sadder obituary or more
frequent obituary in the pages of time
than: "We have always done it this
way."

☆

It is usually the people we love that
we have to forgive the most.

—Dorothy Cameron Smith.

☆

Les Lawlor Says . . .

I stand behind every Lawlor Pest Control job person-
ally — all types of buildings — anywhere. Every-
thing unconditionally guaranteed! Weeds — birds on
roofs — Argentine and all other ants — "White Ants"
— Borers — Carpet Pests — Lawn Pests — in fact
any pest that grows, walks or flies.

LAWLORS . . .

THE PEST CONTROL PEOPLE

STH. AUST.: 6-10 Henley-st., Torrensville. 57-9636
141-143 Commercial-st., Mt. Gambier. 2-1861

VICTORIA: 22 Johnstone-st., Malvern. 64-3102.
After Hours: 50-3284, 28-4296
Shepparton — Phone, Mooropna 30.



Woman (to minister): Sir, I thought
you ought to know that I come to these
services only because of your sermons.
They are so wonderful that you ought
to have them published in a book.

Minister: Oh, I don't know. I am not
so sure that my sermons deserve that
much attention. Perhaps they will be
published post-humously.

Woman (enthusiastically): Well, then,
I hope that will be real soon.