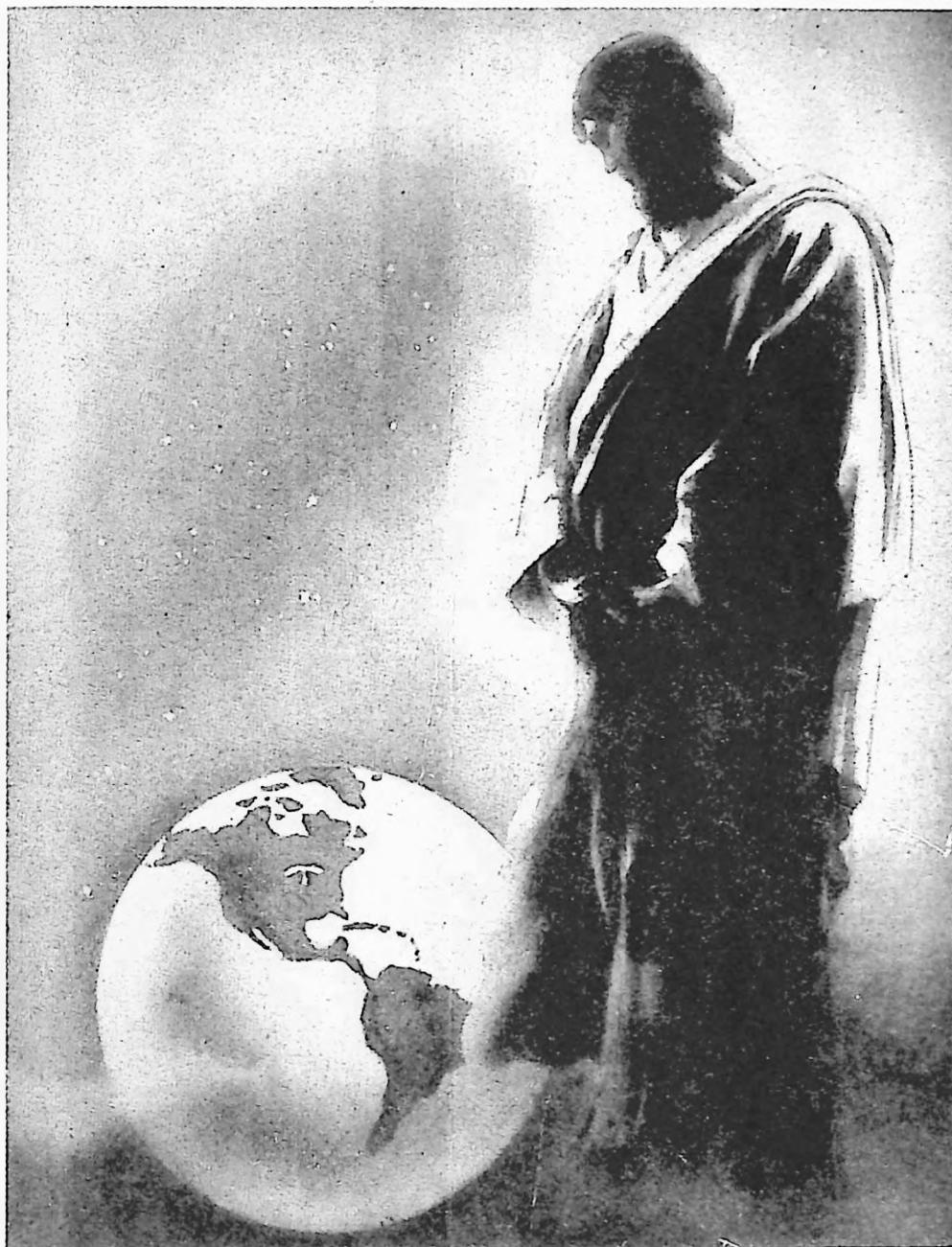


FEBRUARY 13, 1965

# Troubled World



C. G. FLOOD  
BILLY GRAHAM  
B. H. WHITE  
S. H. WILSON

THE AUSTRALIAN  
**CHRISTIAN**

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

## OMINOUS OUTLOOK

Two recent actions on the world scene have greatly added to the threat of world war. One was the decision to send Australian combat troops to oppose the alleged Indonesian build-up of forces in Borneo. The other was the action by the United States and South Vietnam on February 7, against North Vietnam.

The number of Australians involved in Borneo is not great, but in view of the tension there, numbers are not important. We may send our troops for purely defensive reasons, but what looks defensive to us could, from the Indonesian side of the fence, appear to be an aggressive act. Most of us are satisfied that Indonesia has been unreasonable in its policy of confrontation against Malaysia, but we are not all satisfied that every possibility of a peaceful solution to the problem has vanished.

In North Vietnam the action was even more immediately frightening. The attack took place while the Soviet Premier, Mr. Kosygin, was actually in Hanoi, the capital of North Vietnam, and a short time after he had told a crowd of 80,000 that the U.S. should get out of Vietnam, and that "the Soviet Union will not remain indifferent to the destiny of a brother Socialist country."

The attacks may have produced that dilemma that haunts us all . . . the situation where the only way to escape war between the world's two greatest powers is for one of them to back down from a declared position. This will be extremely hard for either to do. The nation which does will lose enormous prestige.

The war in South Vietnam has been called "the war that nobody understands," and that "no matter who loses, the one thing certain is that the U.S. cannot win." However exasperating it may be for South Vietnam to be certain that its enemies have been trained and motivated in North Vietnam, violation of North Vietnam's territory is a wrong that will not help the U.S. cause in the south, and may involve the whole world in a war of devastation.

The fact of the matter is that we have explosive problems that man cannot solve, and God is not permitted to try His hand.

### • And God Said:

## "LET THE EARTH BRING FORTH GRASS"

This was the first living thing. Man had to wait. Great honors were being prepared for him, but the honor of being first with life on a dead planet was given to grass, the living green.

Green growth was the world's first industry, and it is still the greatest. Man may boast of his great cities, his stored wealth, the great empire of his industry, commerce, art, and culture . . . they are all built with grass. If grass died, man's wealth would wither and he himself would also die.

In the green leaf pigment called chlorophyll there is the essence of life for the whole earth. God has placed his gift of creation in the common green of the garden. In every moment of time, carbon monoxide, the ashes of oxygen, is taken by chlorophyll and fused with sunlight and water into living tissue.

This is the continuing work of creation, the mighty act of God. In terms of physics all life comes from the sun, but life's path on earth lies through the green of the grass. This thought should keep us in humility: with all man's learning and developed skills he is still unable to perform the miracle which is a common occurrence in your garden. As Donald Culross Peattie said, "Only when man has done as much may he call himself the equal of a weed."

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# Responsibility and Authority

BY STANTON H. WILSON

Address given at the Swanston Street church, Melbourne, at the Induction of Kevin Harvey as Field Officer for the Department of Home Missions and Evangelism in Victoria and Tasmania.



S. H. WILSON,  
former Secretary Federal Conference  
of Churches of Christ in Australia,  
Minister-Elect of Leicester, England.

"Let the man who wields authority think of his responsibility." — Rom. 12: 8. (Phillips).

I have been to a number of induction services, but never to the induction of a newsboy — until the other week! On a street corner opposite me there stood a newsboy who attracted my attention because his cap was new and didn't seem to fit, he held his papers awkwardly, and his news-call sounded strangely unfamiliar and self-conscious.

Along came a second newsboy, an obvious veteran at the game. He greeted his fellow vendor with the traditional word, "G'day, 'ow many sold?" The new chum reluctantly admitted failure. "None," he said. "Well," said the veteran, with a note of compassion in his voice, "Ya don't wanta stand 'ere yell-in' yer 'ead awf on a corner where the people ain't. Get down there by the railway gates and when they close and the cars stop, get out in the middle of the road and swoop on 'em as slick as ya can!" That, I guess, was the induction of a newsboy!!



KEVIN HARVEY,  
newly appointed Field Officer, Dept.  
of Home Missions and Evangelism,  
Victoria and Tasmania.

Kevin Harvey is a news-boy of a different order. He has the best news ever, but he has to take it where the people are. To people who have no understanding of his message, no interest in its content, and feel no need of what it conveys. That is undoubtedly a great responsibility, and we, as a brotherhood, are about to induct this young man into this charge and invest him with authority to discharge his office.

### Responsibility

He has the responsibility of evangelism. He must take the message, like a successful news-boy, where the people are. It is of primary importance that we be sure where the people are!

A basic rule in education is that you begin where the pupil is — not where he should be, or where you hoped he might be. Your responsibility is to be discharged in a world that is exciting, inviting, exasperating and frustrating at one and the same time.

It is a world of breath-taking, bewildering scientific development. When Col. Glenn circled in space, he saw three sunsets, three dawns, four Tuesdays, and three Wednesdays — all within the span of five hours.

It is a world of breathtaking speed. Arnold Hano, in the "N.Y. Times," said that 600 m.p.h. jet liners are "speeding towards obsolescence." One which will fly at 1,450 m.p.h. is actually on the drawing board, and Maj. Robt. Rushworth has already flown an experimental plane at 4,000 m.p.h. — six times the speed of sound!

It is a world of phenomenal social, political and racial upheaval. Nations are polevaulting from the stone-age into the 20th century and the church is completely unprepared. It is in this kind of world that we have to be evangelists.

The responsibility to evangelise obliges us to ask what we mean by evangelism. If there is one feature more than any other in the life of our brotherhood in this Commonwealth that disposes me to be despondent about our future, it is the varied concepts held concerning evangelism. There is such variance as to amount almost to contradiction.

In some places the word "evangelism" fills people with nostalgia for dogmatism which, by comparison, makes papal decrees seem like tentative suggestions. This "dogmatic evangelism" rests on over-worked and over-strained proof-texts and is a virtual denial of the sound scholarship and careful exposition which helped to make us a people.

In other places evangelism is a sporadic outburst inseparable from the smell of sawdust, the sound of tent-flaps, and the sight of adults clapping to the jingle of jaunty choruses.

In still other places, evangelism is measured by the numbering of so many "primary decisions" with the comforting addition that the "thankoffering covered the expenses!" It is possible that in counting the number of missions in a State, in counting the number of primary decisions, and in counting the number of pounds in the offering, to be grossly materialistic in evaluating the most intensely spiritual work of the church which is evangelism.

We must not equate evangelism with any one method or group of methods. Much less should we feel more spiritual and more evangelistic than those who do not do as we do. The evangel is a message, not a method. To evangelise can never mean less than to present Christ to people that they will come to know their need of him as Saviour and Lord and gladly commit their whole lives

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to him — becoming intelligently and actively involved in the life of his church.

It is to this task that Kevin Harvey is called. No man could be called to a higher or harder task.

### Authority

As representatives of the Victorian-Tasmanian brotherhood, tonight you authorise Kevin Harvey to be a leader in the realm of evangelism. You mean it and he has every right to take you at your word. This means that you are asking him to be a leader of the people. There will be times when, by his strength of character, and consecrated imagination, he will be way out in front inspir-

ing you and challenging you. When he and his fellow leaders do this very thing — don't criticise them! This is the very thing you have asked them to do. It is because they possess unique qualities and rare capacities that you authorise them to be your leaders. Their place is "way out in front."

Therefore, give them every support — your understanding, encouragement, and prayers, and all the resources they need to do the job you've asked them to do.

To Keven Harvey, I would say, in Phillips' translation of Paul's words, "Don't let the world around you squeeze you into its own mould." Had Paul lived in the 20th century he might have said, "Don't let the Church squeeze you into its own mould."

There are forces of conservatism in the church which would squeeze you into the mould of regimented routine and practices which have long ceased to be relevant. Not for this purpose have you been called. You are called to be a leader and inspirer of the people. Your place is way out in front and your only authority for being there is that you are letting God continually re-mould your mind from within.

Any authority which this people invest in you today is a derived authority. It derives from God, whose name and whole nature is Love. After all, it is his lost world for which we are concerned. His love for that world was made visible in the cross of calvary and made vocal in the words of his Son, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel, and lo! I am with you always."

# The Spiritual Dimensions of Leadership

BY BILLY GRAHAM

A portion of a sermon delivered to President Lyndon B. Johnson and invited guests by Dr. Graham, at National City Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Washington, D.C. The occasion was the inauguration of Lyndon B. Johnson, as President of the United States of America on Jan. 20, 1965.

On that day, more than a year ago, when the torch of leadership was transferred, I happened to be with a long-time friend of President Johnson's, and we went immediately to a quiet place to ask God to sustain him for the immense responsibilities which were thrust so suddenly upon him.

That afternoon, when he was placing his hand on the Bible and being sworn in to the high office of President of the United States, we read together a passage of Holy Scripture. It was the prayer of King Solomon upon his ascension to the throne of Israel after the death of his father, King David.

"In that night did God appear to Solomon, and said unto him, Ask what I shall give thee.

"And King Solomon prayed, Give me now wisdom and knowledge, that I may come in and go out before this people.

"And God said to Solomon, Because this was in thine heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honour, nor the life of thine enemies . . . but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge My people, over whom I have made thee king:

"Wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee; and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and honour, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee" (2 Chron. 1: 7-12).

### Responsibility of Leadership

Last February, President Johnson said, "No man can live where I live now, nor work at the desk where I work now, without needing and without seeking the strength and support of earnest and frequent prayer."

Humbled by the magnitude of the responsibilities of a high office, a man begins to probe the erratic swirl of events for a prophetic understanding of history; and when he is a spiritually sensitive man he will feel, as Lincoln did, that he is a "humble instrument in the hands of Almighty God."

During the next four years, many of you here today will have to make decisions of State, perhaps greater than those of any of your predecessors. You will hold in your hands the destiny

not only of America, but of the world. You will lead the richest and the most powerful nation the world has ever known. It is a nation which has been most abundantly endowed with material blessings, but it is also a nation in danger of losing its moral moorings and its spiritual perspective.

Christ, in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom, once said, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mark 8: 36). This applies to nations as well as to individuals, for a nation that loses its spiritual courage will grow old before its time. Even if we gain all our material and social objectives, and lose our souls, it would be disastrous. Winston Churchill once said, "Man's destiny is not measured in material computations."

Jesus Christ said, "Unto whom much is given, of him shall much be required." Those who have the greatest power always need the greatest guidance.

### God's Sovereignty

No government rules except by the will of God. You are leaders, not only as a result of the greatest mandate the American people have ever given, but there is a mandate higher than the ballot box. You have responsibilities not only to all the people of America and to the peoples of the world, but you have also a great responsibility to the God of our fathers.

(continued next page)



President Johnson.



Billy Graham.

### "No Finer Prayer"

Today, at high noon, as he takes that oath again and becomes President in his own right, I can still think of no finer prayer to begin with than that one.

## DR. BILLY GRAHAM'S SERMON

(continued)

### "A Growing Spiritual Vacuum"

Even to the most casual observer, it is apparent that there is a growing spiritual vacuum in our nation. Our wealth and our prosperity are in danger of making us complacent and careless in the matters of the spirit. Jesus said, "Man shall not live by bread alone."

Many nations have tried, and failed. Germany declared a neutrality in matters of religion during the thirties. That neutrality created a spiritual vacuum, and the first robust philosophy to come along filled that vacuum with a vengeance. And that, in my judgment, is how we got Nazism, and the hell of World War II. The Bible says, "Where there is no vision, the people perish."

In foreign affairs, we are faced with overwhelming problems, from South East Asia to the Congo. In domestic affairs, we are faced with an alarming crime rate, a moral crisis, and many individual psychological problems which fill our hospitals. These problems will become more intense and more demanding during the next four years.

There seems to be no permanent solution to our problems. We try this scheme and that, but we find that each one is only a stop-gap measure. Could it be that we have failed to diagnose properly the ills of the world? Could General MacArthur have been right when he said, 20 years ago, "The problem, basically, is theological . . . there must be a revival of the spirit, if we are to save the flesh."

I know the leaders of this administration, especially the President and Vice-President, well enough to know that they believe he was right — that our

problems are basically spiritual and that they require a spiritual solution.

That spiritual solution was outlined by God to King Solomon long ago, when he said, "If My people, which are called by My name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land" (2 Chron. 7: 14).

### "Humble Dependence Upon God"

In the midst of the bloody Civil War, Abraham Lincoln read his Bible regularly. He memorised passages from its pages. He used the Word of God to help him make decisions and solve problems. In matters of right and wrong, the God of the Bible was Lincoln's final court of appeal. The overwhelming problems of his day drove him to the Scriptures and to his knees in prayer. Out of this humble dependence on God came the preservation of the Union.

History throbs with crisis, but the gospel is that God is for man, and that, in the greatest crisis this world has ever known — when Jesus Christ went to the Cross — God transformed that tragedy into triumph and wrought redemption for those who trust in him.

### "Transforming Faith" Needed

Mr. President, on the wall of your office at White House, I have seen a framed yellowed letter. It was written to your great-grandfather Baines more than 100 years ago, and it bears the bold — almost defiant — signature of Sam Houston.

Your great-grandfather led General Sam Houston to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. This conversion transformed that troubled, rough hero of

San Jacinto into a man of peace, happiness and purpose. As Marquis James put it in his book, "The Raven":

"The long quest for spiritual repose ended when Houston knelt before the altar and asked to be received into the Church, and on November 19, 1858, the convert waded into the chilly waters of Rocky Creek, and was baptized. A church publication at that time said, "The announcement of General Houston's conversion has excited wonder and surprise of many who have supposed that he was past praying for."

On the day that Sam Houston was baptized, he offered to pay half the minister's salary in the church. When someone asked him about it, he said, "My pocket book was baptized too."

This newness of spiritual life that the President's great-grandfather Baines helped introduce to General Sam Houston is the same transforming faith we need in our nation today if we are to meet successfully our rendezvous with destiny. That letter, written by a heroic Texan, to the great-grandfather of our President, is heartening evidence of a sense of moral direction. The letter itself is important, but the fact that the President chose to hang it in his office is important also. It is a shining symbol that, from the very apex of government, there is a spiritual emphasis in our national affairs.

Symbolically, it says that Lyndon Baines Johnson has respect for the old faith that has guided his family, his State, and his nation, through generations.

On this solemn occasion, as a great nation goes forward under its newly chosen leaders, I find great comfort for the future, symbolised by a yellowed scrap of paper on a White House wall.

## BISHOP DECLARES CHURCH UNITY COULD HAPPEN IN OUR LIFETIME

(Canterbury, England). The Bishop of Bristol, Dr. Oliver Tomkins, told the Convocation of Canterbury, on the second day of its present group of sessions, that church unity was "something that could happen in our own lifetime." It could no longer be left to our children and grandchildren.

"I think we have to admit," said Dr. Tomkins, "that we have made life tolerable for ourselves in a divided church by pretending to ourselves that the other Christians do not exist." He said that this was the easiest way to do it and he knew there were pressures to carry on as if that were so. "Almost the whole of our church organisation is designed on these lines. It calls for conscious and deliberate effort and a great deal of inconvenience to remember what we have in common."

Dr. Tomkins suggested that different denominations should attempt to cooperate wherever "Christian forces are on the frontier meeting those with little or no contact with the Christian faith." He suggested ways of doing this through house-to-house visitations, in industry, and in the universities.—E.P.S.

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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### GOD'S PUMPKINS

(Barmera - Moorak, S.A.). The patch of Triamble pumpkins, planted to raise money for the church, is growing at a fast rate . . . A junior camp was held at Barmera for 40 children, with T. Lawrie and six other leaders. The emphasis was on missions and the juniors constructed models of our stations in India, New Hebrides and New Guinea. . . . The officers have invited J. W. Lewis, of Brooklyn Park, to conduct a Loyalty Crusade in Barmera, March 14-21.

### PRAYER FOR ELDER

(Broken Hill, S.A.). The church elder, N. Rough, is extremely ill, and is the subject of much prayer in the church. . . . Mrs. Rogers is much improved and has returned home from hospital. . . . The Watchnight Service, held at the manse, was followed by a social gathering on the lawn.

### BUILDING PROGRESS

(Hampstead Gardens, S.A.). The new foyer and toilet block are ready for painting . . . 1965 is to be a year of education following a year of Evangelism. . . . On his return from holidays, K. B. Marriott suffered a recurrence of a throat infection. The following speakers have placed us in their debt: Maurice Coombs, Brian Ricketts and D. J. Lawrie.

### MUSIC

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### PLANNING SESSION

(Brooklyn Park, S.A.). Special Programme Planning meeting held Jan. 27. After an address by the Conf. Sec., I. J. Chivell, the members went into discussion groups, where improvements to programmes and meetings were discussed.

### TO GLEN IRIS

(Lenswood, S.A.). David Potter, of Maylands church, gave his first address at the morning service on Jan. 24. The President, Mr. Ingham, conveyed to David the good wishes of the church as he enters the College of the Bible at Glen Iris.

### STEWARDSHIP PLANNED

(Windsor Gardens, S.A.). A stewardship campaign is being planned to go into operation early in March. . . . The B.S. is encouraging with a record attendance of 155. The school bus has been extended to the Strathmont area and has increased attendance by 40 scholars. . . . Several young married couples have moved into the area and have strengthened the church membership and S.S. staff.

### S.A. CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Overseas Mission Dept. and Dept. of Christian Education are conducting a

### MISSIONARY HOUSE PARTY LONGWOOD CAMPSITE, FEB. 26-28, 1965

Missionary Speakers, Christian Fellowship. Registration forms from local minister, or by contacting above Depts. Young People, 16 years and over. Fee 30/-

### MISSIONARY CANDIDATES

(Strathalbyn, S.A.). The church farewelled Mr. and Mrs. T. Tonkin and family. They have been accepted as candidates for the New Tribes Missionary College, N.S.W. . . . S. E. Riches, chairman of S.A. Aborigines Missions Committee, and a former minister, was a recent speaker.

### BOWL GIFT

(Fullarton, S.A.). The church contributed £44 and the Bible School £6/5/- to the Remembrance Bowl Appeal. . . . Misses M. Rosewarne and J. Wright shared highlights of the experiences at the National C.Y.F. Convention in Sydney. . . . Miss Grace Griswood was home in Jan. after concluding one year of service at Carnarvon Aborigines Mission. Before returning she told of her work to the youth group, the C.W.F., guests at the Christian Guest Home and at a gospel service. . . . The church is sharing with Unley in taking communion to members at the Home for Incurables, at Fullarton. . . . M. D. Williams has accepted a further term of three years' ministry as from June, 1965.

### HAWTHORN (S.A.)

### FINAL SERVICES in OLD CHAPEL BEFORE DEMOLITION FOR RE-BUILDING,

FEBRUARY 14,

11 a.m.—R. C. Dixon;  
7 p.m.—B. W. Manning.

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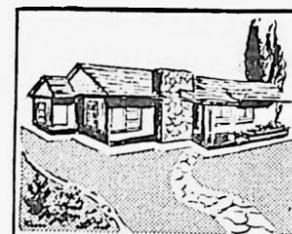
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### DAILY DEVOTIONAL CORNER

# JOURNEY THROUGH LUKE

Monday, Feb. 15. Luke 8: 1-3. " . . . many others who used to look after his comfort from their own resources." (v. 3, Phillips).

We sometimes get the impression that Jesus had so much to give that he needed no help from anyone. This was far from the truth, Jesus was dependent upon others. When he was hungry he did not wave his hand or say some magic words to turn stones into bread. He never used his powers for himself. As he gave himself to his mission there were many occasions when he was dependent upon others. Out of their own resources Mary of Magdala, Joanna, Susanna, and many others, provided for Jesus and his companions. He is still dependent upon us and our resources.

Lord, make me willing to use my resources for the work of your kingdom and for the support of your workers. Amen.

Tuesday, Feb. 16. Luke 8: 4-15. "Those who have heard the message with a good and honest heart possess themselves of it and bear fruit sturdily." (v. 15, Schonfield).

This is the parable of the sower which we hear so often that we may be tempted to close our minds to it, thinking it has nothing more to say. In any version the Word of God is inexhaustible, but if you find that you are becoming indifferent to familiar passages, try the stimulation of some of the newer versions. Our key verse has many different readings. Schonfield uses the phrase, "bear fruit sturdily." In our back garden we find that our few fruit trees lose a lot of fruit before it is ready for use. Orchardists may have the secret of helping the tree to hold its fruit, but the secret is not known in our garden. Very sad! but it is only fruit. Jesus is talking about lives. we are required to bear fruit sturdily.

O Christ, who prayed that not one of your own should be lost, help us to learn the secret of holding fast those who are won for you. Amen.

Wednesday, Feb. 17. Luke 8: 16-18. "A man puts his lamp on a lamp-stand so that those who come in can see." (v. 16, Phillips)

In those far-off days it took quite an effort to get a light going at all. How stupid it would be if a man went to all that trouble and then covered it up! No, said Jesus, a man would put the lamp where it would give most light. Too often we are light-hiders rather than light-holders. We call Jesus the Light of the world, but we are far too successful in covering him up. One little girl said, "I wish I knew where all the

Christians are hiding." The world will never know the light that Jesus can give unless we reflect it.

Dear God, flood our hearts and minds with the light of Christ, that others may see you. Amen.

Thursday, Feb. 18. Luke 8: 19-21. "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the Word of God and do it." (v. 21, R.S.V.).

We concentrate so much upon the recorded public ministry of Jesus that we sometimes forget that nine-tenths of his life was shared with a family in a home. He would surely have been the best of sons and the most exciting of brothers. But there are suggestions that those closest to him did not understand his mission and were not happy about some aspects of his ministry. They came to him now and to take him home because people were saying that he was out of his mind. They were embarrassed and upset because they loved him. Their love without understanding could have hindered the purposes of God. Jesus had to teach them that his family was growing. In his gentle rebuke he was not abandoning his loved ones, he was just multiplying them.

Lord Jesus, we have heard the Word of God, help us to do his will so that we may truly be a part of your great family. Amen.

Friday, Feb. 19. Luke 8: 22-25. Jesus said to them, "Where is your faith?"

Jesus told many story parables, some of his actions were parables also. Surely, Jesus was not suggesting here that the disciples were to control the wind and the waves through their faith in God! Can you imagine the confusion and quarrelling that would take place if they had this power? Even if they could do it, they would never be able to agree on what to do. We might wish to change our environment so that the threats to our life were removed. This is an Aladdin's lamp dream of children. We know that we cannot stop the winds of change and chance or the waves of public pressure and personal disaster. Perhaps Jesus is not saying that our faith will stop the storm, but that we should trust him while the storm lasts. There are plenty of storms in our lives. Some are long threatening, and work up slowly and sullenly. Others burst upon us without warning. However and wherever they come, faith in Christ will enable us to ride them out in safety.

O Christ, whenever storms threaten us, help us to remember that you are our companion within the storm.

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Saturday, Feb. 20. Luke 8: 26-39. "There met him a man from the city who had demons; for a long time he had worn no clothes, and he lived not in a house but in the tombs."

This man belonged to the city. He had a home and a family, but he no longer lived there and no longer belonged to them. His illness had driven him away from all that made life worthwhile. There are many puzzles in this story. Particularly, scholars wonder about the destruction of the swine when the demons left the man and entered the pigs. It is a puzzle to which there is an answer, but don't miss the main part of the story while you are wondering about the side issues. It is the destruction of the man and not the pigs that is vital. And it is the restoration of the man that is the concern of Jesus.

Dear Lord, we sometimes feel that powerful forces are driving us away from you and those we love. Help us to find peace in your presence and fitness for our place in life. Amen.

Sunday, Feb. 21. Luke 8: 40-56. Jesus said, "Someone touched me; for I perceive that power has gone forth from me." (v. 46, R.S.V.).

It always cost Jesus something to heal and help people. This woman, who had been ill for many years, thought she could be healed and remain respectfully anonymous. She thought that the miracles of Jesus were things of nature. There was some faith and also a lot of superstition. The story suggests that she clutched at the fringe of Jesus' robe in a last desperate hope of finding a cure. . . . and healing came! If she had been allowed to go away at this stage she would have continued in her superstition. Jesus forced her to come before him and say what she had done. "This is due to your faith," said Jesus in effect, "your healing was not due to my robe, but to God's will and power." There are still too many who fill their Christian lives with superstition, who look upon church-going, prayer and Bible reading, as kinds of charms to keep them safe. They put their trust in things and look for unobtrusive back ways into happiness. Jesus wants us to confront him. open our hearts to him, receive his help in faith — and give God the glory.

Dear God, help us to witness to the crowd and not hide in it, that Jesus may be known for the help he gives. Amen.

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# IT MAKES ALL THE DIFFERENCE

If There's a Twinkle in the Eye.

H. L. Gee, a delineator of character, tells of a Scottish granny of eighty-seven years, still able to enjoy life. Nothing it seems can ever destroy the serenity of her spirit. She joins in the fun, shares everybody's sorrow and has apparently no fear of death. One day her youngest grand-daughter looked in. "Granny," she said, "every time I come to see you I find you reading your Bible." Granny nodded, the old eyes twinkling. "Aye, for sure, honey," said she, "ye ken I am cramming for my finals."

Blessed are those who keep us smiling. Blessed are those who reverently smile at life. The twinkle in the eye commends the Christian gospel as eloquently as our words. We incline to think of love to God in compulsory terms. Whereas Jesus revealed by his teaching and his own attitude to the Heavenly Father that the God-intention was that his children should love merrily — love with a love akin to the naturalness, the abandonment and dependence of a child to a parent. This content of merriment in love to God will be evidenced in the child of God by a certain glow, radiance, generosity of spirit, a durable hope-

fulness and a hungering and thirsting after righteousness.

Jesus discussed with his disciples the implications of loving God merrily. In the Sermon on the Mount, he is reported by Matthew as saying, "I will tell you the secret of happiness in life." He then listed them in the never-to-be-forgotten Beatitudes. "Be of good cheer," were amongst the most familiar words on his lips. The grace of God is often mediated through the twinkle in the eye. Many a barbed weapon of evil is often arrested, many thoughts of cynicism and harshness stall in the mind because of the twinkle in a bystander's eye.

A fine Christian lady at a church meeting a few days before her passing prayed, "O Lord, help me to keep smiling." A woman who copied the following verse onto the flyleaf of her Bible surely reflected her discernment in loving God merrily and practically.

"Grant me a sense of humor, Lord,  
The saving grace to see a joke,  
To win some happiness from life,  
And pass it on to other folk."

— W. R. H.  
— Occasional Scribe.

## "THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN" 50 YEARS AGO

1915

College were present. The brothers Nankivell, of Tumbay Bay, and Ken Bowen, took part in the service . . . Nubeena Tas. The church held its annual picnic on New Year's Day. On the first Sunday afternoon in Jan., a baptismal service was held on the seashore. F. W. Boreham, on holidays from the Baptist Tabernacle, Hobart, took the service on Jan. 24 . . . Annerley, Qld. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nightingale were farewelled . . . Point Chevalier, N.Z. A social was held to celebrate the securing of sixty names on the S.S. roll. E. A. Perkins was called on to present the prizes. He has done more than any one man in Auckland to build up S.S. work. Three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Perkins as an expression of thanks for his interest and for the social he had so generously provided.

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## W.C.C. LEADERS URGE WIDER CONTACTS WITH CONSERVATIVE CHURCHES

(Enugu, Nigeria). Greater attention to the contribution which "conservative evangelical" churches and groups can make to the ecumenical movement was urged here by the Executive Committees of the World Council of Churches.

Reporting to the W.C.C.'s Central Committee in the annual session, the interim policy-making group urged the W.C.C.'s 209 member churches to seek ways in which the witness of such churches and groups could be more adequately represented in the life of the Council.

"The member churches of the World Council, which have already experienced something of the mutual correction and edification which is made possible by our common membership in the Council, need also the contribution of these evangelical churches and desire to share with them, in such ways as may be found mutually acceptable, in practical tasks of Christian service and witness," the report said.

It noted that the W.C.C. membership includes several churches which would accept the name "conservative evangelical" and whose "theological convictions, spiritual experience and missionary zeal might well find more vital expression in the life of the Council."

At the same time, it said, several churches in this category, including some of the largest, are not W.C.C. members and it is therefore difficult to organise contacts with them on any considerable scale. However, a number of informal meetings have been held "in an atmosphere of mutual trust and charity," it indicated.—E.P.S.

## MOOMBA MUSIC

(Melb.). During the 1965 Moomba Festival the Victorian Council of Churches will present a "Festival of Christian Music," at the Sidney Myer Music Bowl, on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m.

A feature of the programme will be the presentation of modern folk and gospel songs which represent an effort to present the Christian message in a modern idiom. "The Idlers Five," a Melbourne group which has appeared successfully on T.V., will sing "protest songs," such as "Blowin' in the Wind," by the American song-writer, Paul Dylan, and others of their own composition.

Also included will be the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir, and the Methodist Youth Singers, both of which were acclaimed in the 1964 Festival, and the Hawthorn Salvation Army Corps Band. This year's programme will again be compered by well-known T.V. figure, Mr. Eric Pearce. Admission to the Bowl will be free.

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## • OVERSEAS MISSIONS

# TO DO A JOB

BY G. PEERS

(Geoff. Peers went to New Hebrides to serve as a voluntary worker for several months. One of our members kindly provided all travel expenses and finance for his board on the field.)

From the time of writing this letter it will be just two weeks and I will be at Noumea, in New Caledonia, and a few days later back home. It is very hard to believe that my stay here is just about complete. In one way I will be sorry to leave here, and yet in another it will be good to meet with you folk back home again and to share fellowship.

My job was to provide the electrical installation for the new 50-bed hospital being constructed. The hospital consists of a T.B. block, a Theatre block, X-Ray and Casualty block, and Out-patients' block. As well as this the existing Hospital is to be connected to the new electrical supply. The total of this work is fairly extensive, as it not only involves setting up the generating units, but also a duplicate emergency supply throughout the hospital. This duplicate supply is also used during off-peak periods. This was to be the sum total of my work.

On arrival here I found I also had another Lighting Plant to install in the Ndui Ndui church area which would supply their large new church, their old church and the church council-house. I also found that one of the three mission houses here had not been wired electrically, so this was a further job. Also it was decided to move the existing 50 volt generator here at the mission and connect the three houses to the new, larger generator at the hospital, which is some distance away. This meant certain additions to one house. The 50 volt plant would then be shifted to the Londua boys' school, where it would be installed and the boys' new dormitory and the mission house would be provided with an electrical supply.

On top of all this I have put the 'phone network underground, due to the damage being done by lightning when it strikes the overhead lines. All of this required nearly half a mile of underground wiring. These are only items connected with the electric work. I have also been required to pull down petrol engines, repair them and get them going, build necessary equipment for the X-Ray section of the hospital, etc.

As if this wasn't enough, after only being here four weeks the builder's father, who lives in New Zealand, took very sick and the builder had to go home. He returns within the next couple of weeks, but this has meant that, on top of my normal jobs, I have had to supervise the building of the hospital,

having sometimes upward of 30 men to set to work.

In my spare time I am helping a new scout troop to get on its feet. It started only recently. I am not able to do much scouting just at the moment as there is much work to be done before I go, and because of this we have started shift work, working from 6 a.m. to 12 midnight.

We have a prayer meeting here on a Friday night. On Sundays I am normally speaking at one of the 27 churches located here in the Ndui Ndui area.

As you can well see I've not been sunbaking on a beautiful sandy beach in the South West Pacific, but working under a hot tropical sun, on an island with one of the rockiest, most rugged shore-lines in the New Hebrides, and not much time to go swimming.

A little about Christmas Day here. It was a time of real blessing as the nine missionaries on this station shared Christmas together.

Our day began when we visited the hospital and presented a small gift to each of the 24 in-patients with the greetings of this day. Gifts were also presented to the nursing staff.

Following this we made our way to the short, 50 yard stretch of reasonably accessible beach front, where some 200 to 300 people had gathered to witness the baptism of 23 young people, boys and girls, as they publicly declared their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. These baptismal candidates, average age about 18, had been attending baptismal classes each week for some months previous and were well aware of the step they were taking. It was wonderful to be able to witness this spectacle, which lasted for some two hours.

On Monday night, Jan. 25, seas permitting, a French trader has offered us the use of his 70 ft. ship, the "Aoba," to sail the 10 hour trip to the opening of the new Bible Training College at Banmatmat, South Pentecost, which will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 26.

I should be flying out by plane to Santo the following day, Thursday, spending five days there waiting for my connecting plane, which arrives on the following Tuesday. Because of the amount of work still required to be done here, I am trying to see if I can get a ride across on a ship the day before my plane arrives.

To the many who have stood prayerfully behind me in this venture for God, I say "Thank you." The presence of the Lord has been very real in these days. To God be the glory for all things achieved.

# QUESTING



WITH

A. E. WHITE

Should young people inform their parents of the time they will be home, and stick to it?

Yes, they should, but . . . !

Some young people could not be trusted to decide for themselves the time they will come home. Even if they informed their parents of a certain time, and stuck to it, that time might be far too late. Young people need a certain amount of sleep otherwise they are unfitted for study or work.

Because young people go further and stay longer than once they did, it is even more desirable for them to be home at the expected hour. It is natural for parents to worry when they are late. Every week teenagers are killed on the roads, and even a simple outing can have real hazards. These have to be accepted as part of our way of life, but parents should be spared the unnecessary anxiety of late return.

It is not only on the road that there are hazards. When young people attend parties or theatres, with long drives or late suppers, or if they go out in two-somes by car, parents will have other causes for worry if their children are late. Only the stupid will ignore the pressures on young people to surrender to the casual immorality of our times.

Simply to come home at a set time will not remove these dangers, but to dispense with family rules, or to ignore them, will certainly increase the dangers that do exist.

Having said all that it must be pointed out to parents that it is unreasonable to expect children to follow the way of life of their grandparents. Times have changed and the changes have to be acknowledged. Young people may rebel against a lot of things, but they are generally expected to conform to the patterns established by their own crowd. They will feel embarrassed if their parents call to take them home from a party too early. Sometimes unreasonable restrictions prevent young people from joining at all in activities that are otherwise quite acceptable.

I am not suggesting a specific time. Obviously the time to come home from church or a normal youth night programme would be earlier than could be fixed for a barbecue in the hills or a car-trial. The time arranged by young people and their parents should be reasonable, having regard to all the factors. Once agreed, the young people should stick to it. Paul has a good word: "Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord . . . Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged."



SPOTLIGHT ON VIC. . . .

## New Churches From Old

This caption expresses a pleasing feature of brotherhood life. Older churches, on their own initiative and at their own expense are reaching out to establish new causes.

For far too many years our Eastern-most church in Gippsland was at Morwell, about 90 miles from Melbourne. Supported liberally by the brotherhood, through the Home Mission Department, but now self-supporting, Morwell church is expressing its gratitude practically. It is pushing our frontier further East to Traralgon. In this progressive and expanding town a few Morwell members live. The church determined they should be the nucleus of a new cause and encouraged those members to set up the Lord's Table in a hall. Land has been purchased. Building plans have been prepared with the help of brotherhood architects. Erection will begin early next year. This initial stage of the master-plan will cost approximately £9,000. Courageously Morwell and Traralgon shoulder this responsibility, believing that prospects are bright for advance.

Twenty-one miles north of Shepparton is Nurmurkah. Shepparton church is interested in establishing a strong cause there. Members of Churches of Christ gather for a breaking of bread service. Oversight is given and speakers are supplied by Shepparton church as part of its plans for assisting the development of the congregation. In Shepparton itself there is possibility of further outreach. The church is giving much thought to a second cause in South Shepparton.

Amongst our Victorian congregations, Blackburn is the largest. It reported to last Conference a membership of 300 and a Bible School of 369. It is not content to merely

nurture itself, but feels impelled to use some of its strength in establishing a new work in some part of its district where the need for such exists. Investigation and research suggest that the nearby suburb of Forest Hill is such a place and the near future should see this strong church fostering and developing a cause there.

Ivanhoe church has felt the challenge to extend into the outer northern suburbs of Melbourne. Briar Hill has been selected as the best site for a new work. Splendid co-operation has been given by other northern suburban churches. East Preston, Fairfield, Northcote, North Fitzroy, Preston, Reservoir, Thornbury and West Preston have promised £17 per week toward the cost of land and buildings. From the Trustees of the former Northcote East congregation a sum of £1,960, which had been accumulated whilst the church existed, for the building of a chapel, was contributed. One church gave a direct gift of £156. Surveys of the district indicate that 42 Church of Christ families reside there. At a meeting of these people, called to consider the project, there were 59 in attendance, 33 of whom indicated they would link up with the new cause. All concerned are much encouraged by these things and are anticipating a good start for and a steady development of the church in this vital area.

With more and more of this spirit of co-operation and outreach, this sense of responsibility, and this vision of progress, the brotherhood will more and more meet the needs of men and women, extend the borders of Christ's Kingdom, and glorify his name. W. W. Saunders.

## MOVEMENTS

### MINISTRY CONCLUDES

(Nth. Williamstown, Vic.). Large congregations attended the closing services of T. A. Fergusson's ministry there on Jan. 24. A fellowship hour followed the evening service, and appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Fergusson's ministry was expressed in words and gifts by auxiliaries, school and church. Appreciation was also expressed by representatives of the local Ministers' Fraternal and district sister churches. A young lady made her decision at the evening meeting, and a baptismal service was arranged for the following evening to enable Mr. Fergusson to officiate. Fifty-two attended the service and it was an added joy to hear a mother, who had privately made her own decision during the day, make her public confession of faith and be baptized into Christ with the other candidate. It was a fitting climax to an appreciated ministry.

### BEULAH ROAD MINISTRY

(S.A.). On Feb. 7, Mr. and Mrs. Kelvin Parry were welcomed and Mr. Parry was inducted into the ministry of this church. I. Raymond presided and I. J. Chivell (Conf. Sec.) conducted the induction service. Mr. Parry responded . . . Congratulations to Kaye Thompson on receiving her B.A. degree, and Roger Bradlock his B.Sc. Scholarship. This young couple were married on Jan. 16 . . . Nurse Jenny Ball and John Spencer were married on Feb. 6. They will be attending the Windsor Gardens church . . . An after-church presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Athol Anderson. We regret their departure from this church. Athol has been organist and choirmaster for 10 years and was also on the Board of Officers. A welcome has been extended to Chester Schultz who has accepted the position as organist.

### ROBT. CLYMER WELCOMED

(Koongarra Park, S.A.). A packed chapel on Feb. 7 welcomed our new minister and his family. The induction service was conducted by K. D. Horne.

### MINISTER FAREWELLED

(Murray Bridge, S.A.). Following two well attended services on Jan. 31, the church said farewell to Mr. and Mrs. H. Cave, who leave us to add the strength of their ministry to the church at Loxton. At the evening service the choir sang a lovely anthem given them by Mr. Cave. Present at the church were the Mayor and Mayoress, also Lutheran and Presbyterian ministers. They came as representatives of the town and the Ministers' Fraternal, of which Mr. Cave has been an efficient secretary. During his three years in Murray Bridge Mr. Cave has baptized 33 into the church and gathered in 26 by transfer. Average attendance at Lord's Table has been 104. The visitors and representatives of church auxiliaries spoke. Presentations were made to Mr. and Mrs. Cave, who warmly responded.

### NEW MINISTRY AT SEMAPHORE

(S.A.). Mr. and Mrs. F. Burt and family were welcomed into the fellowship of the Semaphore church on Sunday, Jan. 31. The Conference President, R. E. Pittman, was present to induct Mr. Burt in his new ministry. He was previously minister of the Blackwood church, and now follows D. K. Thoday, who concluded his ministry at Semaphore at the end of 1964.

### MEN HEAR DR. JAUNCEY

(Toowoomba, Qld.). About 120 men from local and visiting men's groups heard Dr. James Jauncey speak on "Creation and Science." After his address the meeting was open for questions. Helpful information was contributed. Vote of thanks was expressed by Dr. Ross Green, of Dalby . . . A. C. Thoroughgood has accepted a new term of ministry with church . . . Work has begun on new wing of Mylo Home for Aged . . . Family camp of 78 attended Caloundra Youth Centre, when a study of portion of Alex. McK. Surtees' book, "Go Tell," was enjoyed.

### ANNUAL CHURCH CAMP

(Hornsby, N.S.W.). The annual Church Camp was held at Camp Greenhalgh, Lake Illawarra over the Anniversary weekend, with almost 50 in attendance. Mrs. R. Hilford and Ron Bartholomew were camp parents, Harold Hayward was study group leader. Group leaders were A. Bell, D. Bentley, J. Ellerby and R. Hilford; chief cook was Mrs. Bartholomew, and camp chaplain, Mr. Hilford. Unusual feature of the camp was the 6.30 a.m. communion service on the Sunday. Mr. Hilford conducted the evening service and the soloist was Miss Jan Borham.

### FREMANTLE ENTHUSIASM

(W.A.). Ten have been baptized since last report, including a married couple aged 70. Average attendance in Jan. was a.m. 135, p.m. 145, communicants 140. Bible School reached 156 on its second Sunday . . . Bible College students: R. Taylor and W. Whitton of Woolwich, and G. Ladner, of Glen Iris, each preached during Jan. They are all of Fremantle . . . The church congratulates Don Taylor on gaining an Exhibition and Commonwealth Scholarship, and Carol Brooks on her selection for State softball team.

### OUT IN THE OPEN

(Carramar, N.S.W.). Because it is difficult to get non-members to the services we have decided to go out into the open air and seek them. This move began with open air Bible School last year. On March 6 we are having an open air film service and rally, screening "Wire Tapper." Ambassadors for Christ will take the programme. The next day our gospel service will be conducted out of doors . . . An Aerosphere Crusade, with D. Willis, will commence on April 18 . . . Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins (minister) have settled into the work after their wedding and honeymoon.

### DR. FISHER RESIGNS

Dr. Theo. O. Fisher, minister of Northwood Christian Church for more than 25 years, has decided not to accept the church's offer of a sabbatical leave and will resign effective May 15.

Dr. Fisher announced his resignation to the General Board and to the congregation early in January, but the board offered a 14-months' sabbatical to enable Dr. Fisher to travel, study and preach in Europe in accordance with his plans.

At a special meeting of the General Board, Friday night, and at both services Sunday morning, Dr. Fisher announced that he and Mrs. Fisher had carefully considered the generous offer by the board but had decided to abide by their original decision.

Chairman of the Board, Richard V. Montleth, announced to the Board that he will name a pulpit committee to select a successor to Dr. Fisher as senior minister of Northwood at its February meeting. (See previous item, "A.C.," Jan. 23, 1965).

### HOLIDAY CHURCH

(Southport, Qld.). The Gold Coast end of the year holiday period almost over. The church had large numbers of visitors. One Sunday there were 50 members from four States present . . . The Sunday School started again. The teachers were reconsecrated to their task at morning service, Feb. 7. One scholar confessed her faith in Christ at this service. At night two young ladies were baptized . . . R. Acland is minister.

### THREE FROM PHILIPPINES

(Melb.). At the Dept. of Christian Education night of "Impact," on Feb. 23, at the Brotherhood Centre, 8 p.m., three delegates from the Asian Youth Assembly, held in the Philippines in January, will be featured speakers. They are Lucy Griffiths, Jim Haines and Victor Ryall.

## Circulation Corner

### ON SALE

The Dandenong church, Vic., is buying six extra copies of the "Christian" for sale at the church each Sunday.

### FROM A FRIEND

(Kaniva, Vic.). "Enclosed is a cheque to provide a subscription for an overseas missionary of your choice."

### IT'S HARD TO BE AN AGENT

"I have tried hard to get the church members to become subscribers, but they say the 'A.C.' is too dear. I am sorry, for I know that they are missing out on good reading."

### COLLEGE STUDENTS' FAREWELL

On Feb. 3, the Western Australian Committee for the Federal College of the Bible invited members of the State Advisory Board, the Conference Executive and W.A. students of the three Colleges to tea. J. Swift, secretary of the College Committee presided, and short messages were given by E. C. Smith, C. G. Flood and G. Wood. W.A. students studying in the Colleges are:

- Glen Iris: G. Ladner, R. Clancy, A. Van Leen, Miss Carol Bray, Dip.Ed., and Mr. and Mrs. A. Fletcher, who have been granted a year's absence from the New Guinea Mission field to do a year's study.
- Woolwich: W. Thornton, W. Whitton, R. Cook.
- Kenmore (Qld.): T. Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong.

### NEW FEATURES

Two new weekly features commence in this issue. One is a Daily Devotional Corner and it appears on page 7.

There have been many requests for a daily guide for home worship. A suggested reading, a thought on a key verse, and a short prayer are prepared for each day. The readings will be related in a general way to the suggested readings for Sunday services. The daily guides are not designed as study treatments, they are for devotional purposes only.

The other feature is "Things I'd Like To Change." It is on page 16. From week to week it will deal with a variety of topics from a number of men and women throughout the country. Naturally, the editors of this journal will not necessarily agree with the ideas expressed, but it is thought that the viewpoints presented will prove to be interesting and challenging.

## HERE AND THERE

### SHEPPARTON STEWARDSHIP

(Vic.). Attendances were well maintained during holiday period. On return of the minister, D. B. McIntosh, from holidays, the congregation on Jan. 24 was 110, and the offering £112. The average offering in the Planned Giving programme over the Christmas period has been £82 per week . . . The sympathy of the church is extended to Mrs. L. Clarke in the loss of her father, and to Stephen R. Carr in the death of his brother.

## National Diary

### FEBRUARY

- 13 S.A. A.C.Y.F. and B.Y.F. Combined Rally, Flinders St. Baptist Church.
- 14 \* Annual Offering, Aborigines' Missions.
- 16 W.A. Commencing for 7 weeks, "Know Your Bible" course, Christian Centre.
- 17 V. College of the Bible Resumes.
- 18 V. Good Companions' Swim Night.
- 20 V. College of the Bible Inaugural Meeting and Garden Party at the College, 2.30 p.m.

### THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

will be held in the form of

## A GARDEN PARTY

IN THE COLLEGE GROUNDS,

on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, at 2.30 p.m.

An Interesting Programme. :: Afternoon Tea. :: Opportunity for Fellowship. :: Everyone Welcome.

Note: Visitors will be very welcome when the College opens on Wednesday, Feb. 17, at 9.30 a.m.

# BAPTISM

BY BRIAN H. WHITE



Baptism has always been given a place of high priority in the teaching and preaching of Churches of Christ. The old faithism is a divine command; it is for believers only; and immersion is the only possible method. But much of what has been said on this subject has been associated with the gospel. It has been directed at unbelievers, leaving Christians with an inadequate concept of this divine ordinance.

## No Guarantee of Salvation

For instance, some who baptize infants feel that the person baptized is regenerated during the performing of the ordinance. To a Catholic, baptism assures salvation, but surely this is grossly legalistic. A baptismal certificate is no guarantee of either eternal or abundant life. As essential it is to Christian growth it is not a pre-requisite to salvation. Salvation is possible without baptism.

Whether we like it or not, many of our people have come to believe that baptism is a magical act that ensures a "one-way ticket through the pearly gates." That this concept is held by some is shown in the fact that many baptized members show little commitment to Christ and rarely attend the Lord's Table because they think they are in a secure position as far as salvation is concerned. Whitefield considered such people as "baptized heathen" who need to be taught to trust Christ and not their baptism.

## A Symbol of An Experience

Baptism is an ordinance or sacrament which is an easily understood symbol of a sacred thing or experience. It is a symbol of our union with Christ. In Romans 6: 3-5, we find Paul, in speaking of baptism, using such expressions as "like as" and "in the likeness of." These phrases in themselves denote that he is thinking of baptism as an illustration of something. That something is our union with Christ in his death and resurrection.

This pictorial act symbolises our experience. Going down into the water expresses the thought of our old life dying and being buried, while the coming up out of the water illustrates our rising to a new life. There are times when the experience and the symbol go hand in hand together, but this need not be always the case.

Mr. White is minister to the church at Norlane, Vic.

## An Act of Obedience

In baptism we obey the divine command of Christ. It is an act of obedience. However, it is not the only act of obedience required of a Christian but is more like a doorway into a whole life of obedience to the will of Christ. Most churches have at some time or other seen people baptized, welcomed into fellowship, but seen very little of them from then on. Somehow they have missed the true meaning of baptism. We have failed to lead them into the deeper understanding of the act of obedience which leads to a life of obedience.

## Preparation for Baptism

Earlier in our history it seems that some baptized converts on the same night or a week following the confession of faith. Fortunately, this is dying out and classes to prepare a candidate for baptism are becoming quite popular. These are essential if we hope to conserve our membership. No other movement places so little emphasis on preparation for membership as we have done in the past.

Although we have given an important place to this ordinance, we have at the same time given a superficial and legalistic concept of it, and while people have seen the need to be baptized it has failed to hold the significance it should have.

## Our Attitude Towards Others

Many have the idea that our position is so conclusive that anyone holding to infant baptism is irrational and dogmatic, refusing to believe what he reads. Just a slight amount of reading will prove otherwise. In fact, many who hold the view contrary to ours have a rather solid doctrinal basis and cannot be written off as easily as we would like them to be.

Alexander Campbell showed far more tolerance than some of his successors, when he wrote in his Lunenburg letter, "Should I find a Pedobaptist more intelligent in the Christian Scriptures, more spiritually minded and more devoted to the Lord than a Baptist, or one immersed on a profession of the ancient faith, I could not hesitate a moment in giving the preference of my heart to him that loveth most. Did I act otherwise I would be a pure sectarian, a Pharisee among Christians."

Our people must be led to see baptism as something richer and deeper than a mere guarantee of salvation. It must be a meaningful symbol of a spiritual experience, a gateway to a life of commitment and for this they must be well prepared. And in our attitudes to others we must give "the preference of our heart to him that loveth most," lest we become Pharisees "among Christians."

## DIAMOND ENGAGEMENT AND WEDDING RINGS

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PEOPLE ARE SAYING THIS AFTER READING MY ADVERTISEMENT, BUT IT IS A FACT: A 3-BEDROOM BRICK VENEER HOME AND LAND STILL COSTS ONLY £3,995.

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a new 3-bedroom brick veneer home, including lounge with picture windows and attractive log fireplace, sparkling kitchen with island bar, laminated cupboards and 3 plate stove, gleaming bathroom with a separate shower recess, modern bath and pedestal basin, hot water service, internal flush toilet, sanded floors, hosts of power points, gently rising land, very securely fenced.

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# FIELD OFFICER INDUCTED

## Welcome Dinner

Over seventy representatives of Victorian-Tasmanian Conference Departments, the Federal Executive and Home Mission and Evangelism members attended a welcome dinner at the Brotherhood centre on Feb. 3, to Kevin J. Harvey, newly appointed Field Officer. Mrs. Lowrey and ladies of the Catering Committee served a buffet dinner. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wilson and daughters, who were to be farewelled in the evening service. Speeches of welcome were made by the Home Mission Department chairman, W. A. Thompson, field officer, A. A. Avery and D. H. Smith, the department secretary.

## Crowded Service

Following the dinner a public meeting was held at Swanston street chapel. The very large attendance seemed a fitting tribute to mark the work of S. H. Wilson, as he and his family left for a three-year appointment with the Evington Road church in Leicester, England. The attendance seemingly also marked brotherhood enthusiasm and confidence in the appointment of K. J. Harvey as second Home Mission and Evangelism field officer.

## Tribute

H. J. Patterson, on behalf of the Federal Executive, paid tribute to the

work of S. H. Wilson in his four years as Federal Secretary. His leadership in various fields of Australian brotherhood work would stand for years to come. A. E. White also paid tribute on behalf of Victoria and Tasmania for the enriching contribution made by Mr. Wilson.

In reply, S. H. Wilson spoke appreciatively of his association with so many present in the service. He paid tribute to many individuals and Departments who had made contributions to his personal and family life. For the past nineteen years he had been privileged to serve the churches of Victoria and Tasmania.

## Induction Service

The chairman, W. A. Thompson, said that the appointment marked a vigorous forward move by the Department at a critical stage in the life of the brotherhood. It was in a real sense an historic occasion. The appointment attempted to bring additional assistance and leadership to undergird the programme of evangelism and stewardship in the local church. The strong demand for assistance had prompted the further appointment. C. J. Orr spoke appreciatively of the work already done in Tasmania and of the genuine goodwill towards the move. Tasmanians looked forward this year to sharing with K. J.

Harvey. The Doncaster church choir assisted with special music and S. H. Wilson preached the induction sermon, which is presented elsewhere in this issue. G. S. Brown, as Conference President, gave the formal induction charge.

In his response, K. J. Harvey spoke of his enthusiasm and concern for the tasks ahead. The task to interpret the gospel meaningfully to our world was the greatest challenge before the church. He looked forward to sharing with many local churches as they strove to fulfil their mission.

C. L. Ward, the Department treasurer, at the organ, led the congregation to a climax in worship and inspiration with the hymn, "O Thou Who Camest From Above." A. A. Avery and K. J. Harvey left the next day, to spend two weeks with the church at Ararat.

## VICTORIAN H.M. APPOINTMENT

Miss Diane Gobbett, a member of the North Essendon church, Vic., has been appointed office secretary to the Department. Prior to this appointment, Miss Gobbett held secretarial positions with several large Melbourne commercial organisations.

## WOMAN FOR MINISTRY

Dr. Rachel Henderlite, director of curriculum development for the Presbyterian Church, U.S., has been accepted as a candidate "for the ministry of the Word." The action, which could lead to formal ordination of Dr. Henderlite as a minister in the church, comes less than a year after its General Assembly approved a change in "The Book of Church Order" to permit the ordination of women. —E.P.S.

## 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.

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BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY

## 125th Annual Public Demonstration

to be held on  
**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 7.45 p.m.,**

in the  
**KEW CITY HALL**  
cnr. Cotham-rd. and Charles-st., Vic.

Speaker — **R. A. HICKIN, B.A.,** Sydney,  
Deputy Commonwealth Secretary.

**MUSICAL PROGRAMME — NORTHCOTE SALVATION ARMY SONGSTER BRIGADE.**

Premiere of Society's New Color Sound Film — "OIL FOR MIDNIGHT."

**PAGEANT of Member Societies of the United Bible Societies.**

**BASKET TEA** from 5.30 p.m. (cups of tea provided for all).

**LARGE ON-SITE PARKING SPACE AVAILABLE.**

An Offering will be received for the Campaign to Treble World Scripture Distribution. **S. RUSSELL BAKER, Gen. Sec. for Victoria.**

The Australian Christian.

# PERSONAL

## DISCIPLESHIP

Mrs. M. Stone, Miss C. Fielder, Windsor Gardens, S.A.  
 Mrs. Swanson, Phillip Hunt, Evan Butler, Strathalbyn, S.A.  
 Rodney Ashfield, Warracknabeal, Vic.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald, Trevor Leggett, Edward Croft, Alan Croft, Max Cain, Erica Hockey, Mrs. Maude Taylor, Mrs. Kernahan, Mrs. Wallington, Fremantle, W.A.  
 Jeffrey Forrester, Brooklyn Park, S.A.  
 J. Wickham, Hawthorn, Vic.  
 Miss B. Jones, Mrs. A. Tee, North Williamstown, Vic.  
 Mark Thompson, Koongarra Park, S.A.  
 Joy Banham, Pearl Welch, Lynn Byrne, Bentleigh, Vic.

## MARRIAGES

Valarie Graham to Russell Andrews; Laureen Triplett to Milton Drake, Bendigo, Vic.  
 Janice Donaldson to Neil Lehmann, Oakleigh, Vic.  
 Maureen Goldsworthy to Robert Daff, Boronia, Vic.  
 Mavis Line to Ron Knights, Dandenong.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

C. H. Dow (minister, Coburg church, Vic.), 173 Bell-st., Coburg. Phone 35-2030.  
 A. C. Clutterbuck (secretary, Wattle Park church, Vic.), 22 Moore-st., Box Hill. Phone 28-2874.  
 Dr. Keith Bowes (lecturer, College of the Bible), Private: 299 Mitcham-rd., Vermont, Vic. Tel. 87-3826.

## BIRTH

BRADLEY (Goldsworthy). — At Kaniva District Hospital, Vic., on Jan. 30, to Glad and Bob, a daughter — Sandra Gaye.

## ENGAGEMENT

HOLLARD - HEMER. — Mr. and Mrs. E. P. C. Hollard, Melrose Park, S.A., are happy to announce the engagement of their second daughter, Helen Anne, to Trevor William, second son of Mr. W. L. and the late Mrs. Hemer, Brooklyn Park, S.A.

## WANTED

Close to church, B.V. Home or Villa Unit, small garden, 2 bedrooms, E. or N. suburbs, Melb. Reasonable, c/o Austral. 119 Hawke-st., West Melb., Vic.

When replying to Advertisers say that you saw it in "THE CHRISTIAN"

## MEMBERSHIP

Mrs. Klose, Frankston; Mrs. Banner, North Richmond, to Oakleigh, Vic.  
 T. Bishop, Edwardstown, to Barmora-Moorak, S.A.  
 Mr. and Mrs. D. Curtis, Glenelg; Mr. and Mrs. C. Artis, Koongarra Park, to Windsor Gardens, S.A.  
 Mr. and Mrs. S. Hearne, Collic, to Fremantle, W.A.  
 Paul Bradley, Warrnambool, to Shepparton, Vic.  
 Miss M. Bergermeister, Warragul; Miss L. Foletta, Geelong; Mrs. Davey, to Hawthorn, Vic.  
 Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Smith, Pendle Hill, to Hornsby, N.S.W.  
 Mrs. McQueen and David, Nails-worth; Mr. and Mrs. A. S. Andrews, Glenelg; Mr. and Mrs. R. Clymer, Lynette and Merryl, Beulah Rd. — to Koongarra Park, S.A.

## DEATHS

R. T. Hannah, Cheltenham, Vic.  
 Michael Tulloch, Dandenong, Vic.  
 Miss Edith Battams, Beulah Rd., S.A.  
 Valerie Whitehead, Mrs. Langman, Koongarra Park, S.A.  
 Norman Hood, Brim, Vic.

## DEATH

TREMBATH. — On Feb. 4, at his residence, Tecoma-st., Red Cliffs, Vic., Roy Whitfield, dearly loved husband of Meg, and loved father of Gwenda (Mrs. A. Winkler), Ronice (Mrs. K. Spaulding), Harold and Marion (Mrs. B. Morris). Aged 61 years. "So dearly loved."

## IN MEMORIAM

JENKIN, Linley. — Treasured memories of my dear husband and our father, called Home Feb. 10, 1950. "Ever remembered."  
 —Florence, John, Pam.  
 TUNBRIDGE. — A tribute to the memory of my dear sister and pal, Amy Mary, who passed away on Jan. 16, at Will Clay Hospital, Murrumbidgee, also Percy, husband of deceased, who passed away many years ago. Husband and wife reunited. "By their deeds ye shall know them."  
 —Inserted by Will and Victoria Horne, Echuca, Vic.

## LADY HELP REQUIRED

To live in, with active aged couple in Ringwood area, Vic. Phone 23-6999 (Melb.).

## TO LET

Small furnished flat. Further particulars from Mrs. Waterman, 74 Martin-rd., Glen Iris, Vic.

## COMING EVENTS

### PUBLIC NOTICE

An open afternoon for friends of Miss EDNA VAWSER, between 2-6 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 23, at 20 Kalang-rd., Hartwell, Vic. Phone 29-3924.

NEWMARKET (Vic.) 81st CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, March 7. Special speakers at 10.45 a.m. and 7 p.m. services. Hospitality provided on request.

NORTH WILLIAMSTOWN (Vic.) 77th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY, Feb. 28. Speakers: 11 a.m., S. K. Bannon, chaplain, Essendon High School; 7 p.m., K. J. Harvey, Field Officer, Dept. Home Missions.

SOUTH YARRA (Vic.) HOMECOMING SERVICES, Feb. 28. 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 7 p.m. Speakers: E. W. Roffey, P. Hudson, M.L.A., C. Smith, C.O.B. Soloists: Mrs. J. Pope, Mrs. A. Brown, Miss J. Milne. Hospitality provided. All welcome.

### RESERVOIR CHURCH (Vic.)

Feb. 20 — 2.45 p.m. — Dedication of Manse (48 Mendip-rd.) by G. S. Brown, Conf. Pres., and A. R. Haskell, chairman Properties Corporation.

Feb. 21 — 11 a.m. Induction to Full-time Ministry of F. B. Alcorn, by Principal E. L. Williams, W. W. Saunders, Conf. Sec., will preside.

Please notify G. Booth, 5 Hillcroft-st., Reservoir (phone 47-4412) if attending Dedication of Manse.

### BACK TO THE PENINSULA

#### SUNDAY, FEB. 28

Sponsored by the Red Hill and Tootgarook churches (Vic.). Both churches to have own Morning and Evening Services, Combined Luncheon, Pleasant Sun-afternoon, and basket tea at Red Hill.

A. B. Withers will speak at Red Hill at 11.15, and 3 p.m.

All past members of both churches are welcome. Phone Main Ridge 96112, or Rye 52177 for hospitality.

### ESSENDON CHURCH (Vic.)

#### GOLDEN JUBILEE SERVICES

Saturday, March 13, 8 p.m., Reunion Fellowship.

Sunday, 14th — 11 a.m.—G. S. Brown, Conf. President. 3 p.m.—Pleasant Sunday Afternoon. Dr. K. R. Bowes.

7 p.m.—J. E. Brooke. Soloist: Miss Heather Bastick. Hospitality provided for past members. Please notify J. C. Hemsley, 35 Forrester-st., Essendon, by Feb. 21.

### LEADERS AND PROSPECTIVE

#### LEADERS OF BOYS' CLUBS

are invited to take part in a 16 weeks' course of training at the

#### Y. M. C. A.

Commencing MAY 4, 1965. Enquire Executive Secretary, Y.M.C.A., 1 City-rd., South Melbourne. Phone 62-4153.

# College of the Bible Notes

Dr. K. R. Bowes has been invited by the S.A. Ministers' Assoc. to deliver the Magarey Lectures at Longwood, Feb. 8-11.

Our missionary, Alan Fletcher, of Chumgribu, New Guinea, will be undertaking a special one-year course at the College during 1965. The family will be living at "Ludbrook House" opposite the College.

During December-January each year the College is visited by many interstate friends who are on holiday in Melbourne. The number was larger than usual this year as many young people on their way to or from the Christian Youth Convention in Sydney made visits.

Each year the students are most appreciative of the College Women's Auxiliary, who add comforts and amenities for the students' rooms as well as attending to the care and repairing of mattress and bed covers, curtains, etc. This year they have been very busy again in readiness for College opening.

The 1965 session of College is due to begin at 9.30 a.m. on February 17. The Public Inaugural Meeting will be held in the College Grounds on Saturday, February 20, at 2.30 p.m. All friends are cordially invited to share in this gathering.

# Victorian Women

On Feb. 5, Mrs. Newham presided at the C.W.F. Council Meeting. There were 189 present from 60 churches.

The Victorian President of Women's World Day of Prayer, Mrs. J. Strack, spoke of the work of W.W.D. of P., tracing its beginnings and telling how on the first Friday in Lent, commencing with a service in Tonga, 146 countries participate in the one prepared service, the last one for the day being conducted in North Alaska. From offerings received in Victoria last year, £1,000 was given to British and Foreign Bible Society; £400 to National Missionary Society; £400 to Pacific Christian Literature Society and £200 to Christian Education in schools.

Business: Choral Concert tickets still outstanding. Reminder, Thank-giving Service, Monbulk; New Federal Hand-books will be available for 1966 — plan to use these.

Executive given much thought to closer co-operation of all C.W.F. work — as an initial step towards this, would present to Council and recommend that a Notice of Motion be presented to C.W.F. Conference, 1965, as follows:—"That the following words Article V, para 2 of the Constitution, after the words 'Financial Secretary' be added . . . 'and one other who shall be a sitting member of the Evening Fellowship Executive Committee.'"

"Ludbrook House." — Council informed that a car has been purchased by a group

of church men for the use of missionaries on furlough and doing deputation work — such as not responsibility of C.W.F., as Ballarat Senior Youth Group will meet all costs and carry out maintenance — permission requested that car be connected with Ludbrook House and housed in garage — granted.

Committee urgently waiting to hear from some churches regarding assistance with catering for Centenary Dinner. Details soon to be forwarded to all helping.

Record: Sales are good and to date over £140 profit in hand — records are still available for purchase.

Appreciation: Mrs. Newham's last Council meeting as President — words of appreciation for loving and gracious leadership over the year was spoken by Mrs. Amos.

President informed Council that during Christmas recess many had been saddened with the passing of loved ones — these included the families and friends of Mr. R. Duckett, K. Burden, Mr. Daff, Mrs. Westwood, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Abercrombie, Mrs. Cameron.

Record contribution for Missionary work this year. Requests from New Hebrides — 8 secondhand nurses' uniforms and clothing for children, 8-15 years. Public welcome is being arranged for Miss Vawser — date to be fixed.

—E. M. Rankine, Sec.

## OTHER VIC. CHURCH NEWS

GARDENVALE. The church is greatly indebted to G. Bennett for his continued ministry, and to Miss R. A. Gorler for her acceptance of the position of secretary recently made vacant by the sudden, sad loss of Ern. A. Tippet, who served faithfully for years. We are also very grateful for the assistance received from sister churches . . . Two of our senior members are laid aside with sickness. HARCOURT. Barrie Rice has been accepted by Adelaide Bible Institute (Victor Harbour) for training. Whilst minister has been on vacation and honeymoon, church has been grateful to Barrie Rice, Eric Patterson, Geoff. Pellas, Eric Steele and Vic. Symes in filling the pulpit. Men who have commenced work on septic system were also represented at working bee at camp site at Lake Eppalock. BALLARAT (Peel-st.). Recent speakers have been Mr. Conroy from "Gideons," R. McLeod and P. Taine. Mr. Taine also presented an illustrated talk on his recent visit to the Holy Land . . . B.S. students journeyed to Geelong for annual picnic on Jan. 1. THE PATCH. Attendances at morning meetings have been about 40. We are pleased to welcome members from the Emerald church, although sorry the work there has closed down. DRUMCONDRA. Mrs. J. Fraser is still in hospital, but improving. Mrs. W. Bennett is still not well enough to attend. Mission Band held first meeting for the year, the annual business meeting, and Mrs. Jakobi, pres., Mrs. Pearce, sec., Mrs. Banks, treas. were appointed . . . Bible School has recommenced with two new scholars.

## DEPARTMENT OF HOME MISSIONS AND EVANGELISM

(VIC.-TAS.)

### DISTRICT PRAYER RALLIES

FEBRUARY 17 — BRIGHTON.  
 FEBRUARY 24 — CHELSEA.  
 BALWYN NORTH.  
 MORELAND.  
 WEST PRESTON.  
 BORONIA.  
 GEELONG.  
 BALLARAT.  
 WARRAGUL.  
 RED CLIFFS.  
 RICHMOND.  
 FEBRUARY 25 — SUNSHINE.

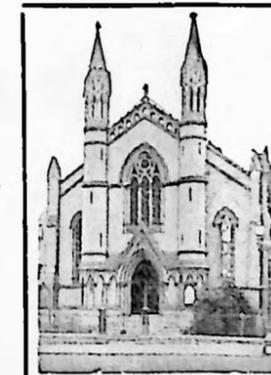
## KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Churches of Christ in QUEENSLAND TRAINING ACTIVITIES commence 1965.

Principal: Dr. James H. Jauncey.

All communications to the Principal or Secretary (M. H. A. Pieper), at 84 McLennan-st., Lutwyche, Qld.

YOUR SUPPORT IN PRAYER AND GIFTS APPRECIATED.



## 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.

VISITORS CORDIALLY WELCOME

WITNESS WITH US AT THE CITY CHURCH.

# Things I'd Like to Change...

No. 1 :: CYRIL G. FLOOD

Claremont won the 1964 grand-finals in the W.A. National Football League. I was unable to see this thrilling game because I had chosen to go to the Churches of Christ Federal Conference in Brisbane. On April 10, Claremont opens its 1965 season and will be presented with its premiership flag. I'd like to be there — but our State Conference will be in session.

I know that I could have nothing to do with our State Conference, but I'm not game. Ministers are expected to be at Conference; you must be there or brand yourself by your absence as one not having the interests of the brotherhood at heart.

Well, then, what about all the ministers who did go to that grandfinal that I missed. They didn't choose to go to the Federal Conference, but there was no outcry. Why? Isn't the Federal Conference as important as the State Conference?

If I could change things I would see that more ministers attend Federal Conference helping to shape our Federal policy. I realise, of course, that that

would mean a few other changes. We would have to change our method of choosing and sending delegates to Federal Conference. At present most States ask what tourists will be making the trip, and then from those who can afford the trip a delegation is chosen.

So far, fortunately, we have been able to choose good delegations; but it is possible that the best representatives for the State can afford 4/6 for the grandfinals but not the many pounds to be at the Federal Conference.

To sum up: (a) I would choose the best delegates before any bookings were made; (b) I would arrange a pooling scheme, to which all affiliated churches contributed, similar to that in operation in New Zealand, to make it impossible for the best delegates to refuse because of expense; (c) and I would instil into the churches a feeling of sorrow and disappointment if the minister is not being helped and helping at Federal Conference.

—Cyril G. Flood.

(Next Week: Glen S. Brown).

## METHODIST CONFERENCE IN NIGERIA VOTES TO ENTER NEW UNION

(Enugu, Nigeria). In a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the W.C.C., the Annual Conference of the Methodist Church of Nigeria announced that it had taken "the momentous decision to enter into the Church of Nigeria in union with the Anglicans and Presbyterian Churches in this country." The other two churches have already taken the necessary steps to enter the union.

Meeting at the Methodist College in Uzakoli, the Conference thus took final action on joining the proposed Church of Nigeria, negotiations for which have been proceeding for many years. In its message to the Central Committee the Church gave thanks "for the inspiration which our membership in the World Council of Churches has meant to us." —E.P.S.

## RENEWAL TO BE THEME FOR NEXT W.C.C. ASSEMBLY

(Enugu, Nigeria). "Behold, I Make All Things New" was set as the theme for the next Assembly of the World Council of Churches, to be held sometime in 1968. These decisions on arrangements for the Fourth Assembly of the Council were reached by the Central Committee of the W.C.C., meeting here. —E.P.S.

## CHURCH UNION DELAYED IS CHURCH UNION DENIED

(San Francisco, California). "Church union delayed is church union denied," claimed Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. Preaching in Grace Cathedral (Episcopal), Dr. Blake stated, "We must believe that if church union is according to the will of Christ, now is the time to get on with it."

The United Presbyterian executive officer pressed for the immediate establishment of a united church "lest in this revolutionary world we find ourselves so bound to our own past histories that we are unable to be God's instrument for peace reconciliation across all boundaries of nation, race, or class."

Dr. Blake cautioned, however, that there are three pitfalls that "ever threaten to trap those who would unite our churches."

"We must," he said, "be against any church union which is established at the expense of truth . . . A union produced by compromising convictions is not according to the will of Christ."

The second pitfall, Dr. Blake said, is the attitude held by some churchmen that the Christian church, through union and a multiplicity of members, "ought to become powerful enough to dominate any state, society, or culture" in which it is set.

"Those who still want the church or churches to dominate American life misread the signs of the times," he asserted. "The churches and their leaders must learn how to serve the world rather than to go on trying, as in the past, to rule it . . ."

Finally, he warned, "We must be against any church union that would in any way threaten the ecumenical movement, or diminish the obligation to continue to co-operate with all Christian churches in their common witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ." —E.P.S.

## ECUMENICAL CHALLENGE TO CONSERVATIVE EVANGELICALS

(Washington). The biweekly magazine, "Christianity Today," called for new initiative toward Christian unity among more than 25,000,000 American church

members who stand aloof from the ecumenical movement.

"Churches whose existence derives only from sociological, racial, or cultural differences ought not to remain separated and divided," the magazine declared. "They should seek, wherever possible, union with other churches of like convictions."

A seven-point statement entitled "Principles of Christian Unity," was described by the editors as "represent(ing) evangelical conviction regarding one of the crucial questions before the Church today." —E.P.S.

## I.T.I.M. LAUNCHES SENSITIVITY PROGRAMME FOR LOCAL CHURCHES IN VICTORIA

Working in areas through the newly formed Division of Industrial Mission and Local Church Co-operation, I.T.I.M. is arranging lectures, meetings, etc., for ministers and laymen to help them to be sensitive as Christians to all that is happening in the changing industrial world of Australia.

In a letter commending this new approach, Dr. Woods, Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne, says, "It is vital that we are constantly sensitive to the will of God and the needs of the world in which we live. We cannot ignore the fact that we are called to be God's people in the world that industry is changing dramatically. I believe that the appointment of area chaplains is bringing I.T.I.M. closer to the local churches. This will make it easier for local con-

gregations to take a more vital part in what I.T.I.M. is attempting."

Under the Sensitivity Programme, Courses and Seminars have been arranged for ministers in "Sociology" and "Ethics" and in area meetings on Human Relations in Industry, Trade Unionism in Australia, and the task of the churches today.

Courses are also being arranged for groups of laymen, using the many laymen now associated with I.T.I.M. as speakers and leaders of discussion groups. If the Christian faith is to have any meaning in today's world, then it is the Christian laity who must show that meaning in their daily lives. One of I.T.I.M.'s major tasks is in helping the ordinary laymen discover how this can be done in the complex and changing world in which we live.

# WHERE TO GO AND WHERE TO STAY

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Adult Tariff: Throughout year, £8/8/-; Christmas, £11/10/-.

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### "ILKLEY HEIGHTS GUEST HOUSE"

FERNY CREEK, Vic.

Breakfast Trays, Afternoon Teas and Supper. Excellent Table.

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

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 Flats, all convs., on beach, accom. 6 & 8. Wes. Jenkins - 36-2197 (Melb.).

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February 13

## Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"There are several ways we can meet this financial crisis — dig down a little deeper, open a gambling parlour, or rob a bank!"

## CARTOON COMMENT

Every church at some stage or another finds itself facing a financial crisis — some churches seem to have them regularly! How a church meets its crisis is often an index to the spiritual calibre of its members. Some churches will resort to schemes and stratagems of money-raising that are very suspect for a Christian body, or which lend support to the oft-heard complaints of fringe members: "The only time my church comes near me is when they want my money!" But other churches will face the challenge of the need with real sacrifice, remembering the assurance of Paul (Philippians 4: 19) that "my God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus."

If you've never seen a really, fully developed look of disgust, just tell your son how you conducted yourself when you were a boy. — Abe Martin.

## OPEN FORUM

### FROM DR. BLAKEMORE.

To Our Brethren in the Australian Churches,

At every point in our journey across Australia, Mrs. Blakemore and I were greeted with warm and abundant hospitality. My return visit to my native land, after forty years' absence, was a great delight, and we were deeply moved by the outpouring of fond remembrance for my mother and father, who worked among you so long ago. It was a privilege to bring the message from your pulpits, and to share with you in addresses my observations of Vatican Council II. Very great barriers to unity remain, but a start has been made and for that we thank God. We trust that 1965 is becoming a great year for each of you. We look forward to a fine delegation from Australia at the Assembly of the World Convention of Churches of Christ in Puerto Rico in August.

With sincere greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

W. B. Blakemore,  
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.

### WHEN IS CHRISTMAS?

To the Editor,

I would like to endorse the fine letter and sentiments of Mrs. Lorraine Watson (Jan. 16, 1965).

It is true that there is also another big lie at Christmas. Every time we

say, or write, December 25 is the birthday of our Lord Jesus, we lie. Originally it was a pagan god's birthday, until the Roman Catholic Church put it to its present usage. Research has proved the impossibility of the 25th being that wonderful day.

Even the names of our days, and some our months, were given the names of pagan gods, Saturn, the most villainous of the lot, being given to the Jewish Sabbath, Saturday. Can this be pleasing to him who is Truth?

Mrs. Jessie Cooke, Vic.

### FRIENDLY VISITOR.

To the Editor,

Enclosed please find my subscription for another year. Congratulations also on the continued high standard of your paper.

As a general reader, less interested in the gossip columns than some will be, I find it encouraging to see so many writers grappling with real issues. In this respect, Dr. D. W. Crowley and W. S. Lowe deserve special mention. The articles on Goldwater and the election, Race relations in U.S.A., Public relations for the church, etc., are, among the best religious journalisms I've read. They are reminders of Dag Hammarskjöld's aphorism: "In our era, the road to holiness necessarily passes through the world of action."

R. M. O'Grady, Asst. Sec.,  
National Council of Churches, N.Z.



## VICTORIA

### VICTORIAN CONFERENCE BUSINESS DEADLINE

Victoria's centenary Conference will be conducted from April 4 to 12 of this year. Preparations are in hand for some special celebration, of which details will be announced later. But in the main it will be "business as usual." In this regard churches and Vic.-Tas. Conference Departments are reminded that the Constitution requires six weeks' notice of any business to be brought before Conference. This means that the closing date for the reception of business notices of motion at the Conference office is Saturday, February 20.

### "FAREWELLS"

(Footscray, Vic.). After-church fellowship was held on Feb. 7, when opportunity was given to express appreciation to Ean Kernick for his services and assistance to the church over past 12 months, during the presidential year of G. S. Brown. Presentation of a cheque on behalf of the church was made to Mr. Kernick. . . Bible School also made presentation to Miss Moya McCrackett and wished her every blessing as she goes to undertake special service with the Y.W.C.A. at Alice Springs. Moya has made a very great contribution over the years in many avenues of the work at Footscray.

### COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP

Appointed last year at the direction of Conference to investigate the reasons behind the slow growth of the Victorian membership, the Commission has already held a meeting this year. The members are anxious to press on with their research and investigation and make them as comprehensive as possible. A constant flow of submissions from both individuals and churches will contribute to that end. Church Boards have recently been approached about this. Individuals are reminded that their views will be welcomed also. Any who care to commit those views to paper and forward them to the Conference secretary, can be assured of the Commission's appreciation of their co-operation. March 15 has been set as the closing date for the reception of submissions.

### MEET MISS VAWSER

Miss Edna Vawser will be the speaker at a meeting to be held in the Swanton street church on February 24, commencing at 7.45 p.m. This will be the only meeting in Victoria at which Miss Vawser will speak; we trust that all churches will plan to send delegations.

### GIVING MAINTAINED

(Hartwell, Vic.). After the close of the half-year, the Church Board reported that the response to the Planned Giving Campaign has been maintained. . . Among visiting speakers recently there have been W. W. Saunders, Conf. Sec., J. Wise, C.O.B., and K. Barton.

### LUCY GRIFFITHS HOME

(Cheltenham, Vic.). Miss Lucy Griffiths, who is on the staff of the World Council of Churches in Geneva, is home in Australia for a few weeks before returning to Switzerland. She occupied the pulpit one Sunday. . . Twenty attended the men's tea on Feb. 7. The speaker was Mr. Campbell, of the Mission to Lepers.

### C.W.F. COUNCIL

C.W.F. Council Meeting will be held in the Reception Room of Churches of Christ Centre, on Friday, March 5, at 11 a.m. Guest speaker: Mrs. R. Dornring, of "The Open Door."

### 1965 FIELD PROGRAMME SERVES 26 CHURCHES.

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### DID YOU NOTICE?

The yellow paper at the White House? (p. 5).

Dr. Boreham preached at Nubeena? (p. 8). What football has to do with it? (p. 16).

The Daily Devotional page? (p. 7). Who works in Switzerland? (p. 18).

How long Dr. Fisher was at Northwood? (p. 11).

## FACES AND PLACES

### PROFILE NO. 37

# WEMBLEY, W.A.

Thirty years or so ago the Wembley district was largely bushland area—4 miles from the Perth G.P.O. and 3 miles from the ocean at City Beach. It was land owned largely by the Roman Catholic Church and then thrown open for sale. It became Wembley—known as a "model suburb" with land at reasonable prices to attract young people to establish their homes. And they did—on blocks ranging from about £70 to £100! Oh, for the good old days!

Many of our own young people moved in and the Youth Committee (then known as the Bible Schools and Young People's Department) established a Bible School in the Infants' School in June, 1937, with T. Banks, from Subiaco (now State Overseas Mission Committee secretary) as the first superintendent, and teaching assistance from the Lake Street (now City) church.

During the next year or so others saw the challenge, and at the 1938 Conference the Church Building Extension Committee (now the Properties Committee) and the Home Mission Committee, were asked to take steps to establish a church and provide a building. The Home Mission Organiser (R. Raymond) and the late D. M. Wilson (Federal President in 1926) canvassed the district thoroughly and organised the first meetings of members. A chapel was erected (this in itself was a departure from previous ideas of commencing with a hall) with a very small lean-to hall at the rear. The total cost of the building and furniture was less than £1,000. Now assets exceed £20,000.

On November 18, 1939 the inaugural service, with 37 foundation members, was held with the late C. J. Garland (Federal President and past State President) presiding.

The brotherhood flavour in its early days seemed to establish a pattern, and always Wembley church has had strong representation on the various committees. The church was unusually fortunate in the number of capable men in membership. At one morning service, for instance, there were 21 men and two women, and for some time the Sunday School staff, with the exception of a couple in the Kindergarten Department, was all male!

Although there were Subiaco members involved, much of the vision of Wembley came from Lake Street church, and the first gospel preacher, on a voluntary basis, was A. G. Elliott, now of Woolwich College, N.S.W. He preached for the first 12 months, and the minister, the late J. B. Wiltshire, helped with midweek services, while both met with the Board at its monthly meetings. D. M. Wilson, previously at Lake Street, was the first secretary and became the first elder.

The early war years naturally created difficulties. Many people evacuated because of invasion fears, and Wembley was in the blackout area. All homes were darkened, and shutters had to be placed over all chapel windows. Naturally it didn't help ventilation in the summer! The Bible School dropped to less than 20 children, but with time came rapid growth and for many years now the enrolment has exceeded 200 children.

In the just-completed 25 years of ministry in the area, there have been 296 additions to the church by faith and baptism, and 208 by transfer.

The active membership, now 189, reached a peak of 222 in 1959, following the Billy Graham Crusade. Now, as with all churches when they reach a certain stage, young people who have grown up in the district are moving out because of careers or marriage. Because of the vision of a generation ago, they move out with a faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Four men have shared the full-time ministry—G. A. Whiting (now at Hartwell), 1945-51; J. K. Bond (Nollamara, W.A.), 1951-58; A. W. Morris (Inglewood, W.A.), 1959-61; and H. R. Fitch, 1962-64. The church has always had a missionary outlook, and has released its ministers, particularly J. K. Bond, for many special campaigns which have been greatly blessed. In addition, through a Living Link Fund, four missionaries are supported—Dr. and Mrs. A. J. T. Thomas, at Dhond; Miss M. Britza, in Borneo, and Miss M. Elsegood, at Norseman.

We rejoice at what has been accomplished in 25 years, and pray that God will lead the church to even greater heights in the years ahead.

—A. D. Pyne.

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## OBITUARY

Leslie Long.

Leslie George Long, of Northcote, Vic., passed away on Jan. 12. On Christmas Eve, 1963, he suffered a stroke, and after treatment for a short time, was cared for at the Will H. Clay Nursing Home until his death. Mr. Long was most known for his association with Kappa Sigma Pi, in which work he served both locally and in a State capacity. At Northcote he was active in this work until a short time ago. He was secretary of the church school for more than 20 years. He was a deacon, and effectively and faithfully served as door-keeper and usher. Except for two brothers, one of whom is in South Australia, and the other out of the city, Mr. Long had no near relatives. He boarded, and lived in a quiet and very reserved manner. Though he had the respect and concern of his brethren in the church, he was of too reserved and independent a nature to let them help, even when at times it seemed necessary. In his final need, however, he had the attention of his nearer brother, the care of the Nursing Home, and the thought of his friends. Many men will remember Les. Long for his interest in them as boys, and the church at Northcote is sad to have lost so zealous and faithful a member. Burial took place at the Kew Cemetery. — A.B.W.

Amy Mary Tunbridge.

The death occurred on Jan. 16 of Mrs. Amy Mary Tunbridge, a member for more than 40 years of the church at Ivanhoe, Vic. She was one of the well-known Austin family, and was a member of the historic Fitzroy Tabernacle. Upon her marriage with Perc. Tunbridge she joined in membership with Swanton Street, city, and later transferred to the new church at Ivanhoe. Her membership remained at Ivanhoe, where she continued until age and illness required that she go with her daughter and, finally, to the Will H. Clay Nursing Home. Here she died at the age of 91 years. Mrs. Tunbridge had a most pleasant manner and was genuine and kindly. Her home was hospitable for those who came to Ivanhoe preaching. She had faith and enthusiasm and a love for the church. She is remembered as a good friend, and her daughter, Mrs. Floyd, pays tribute to her in that "the finest thing" done for her was the giving to her of a Christian home. To Mrs. Floyd, her husband, Jennifer (Mrs. Allen) and Kerry, and the remaining members of the Austin family, the sympathy and appreciation of many are expressed. Services were held at Ivanhoe and the Old Melbourne Cemetery. E. W. Roffey (minister of Ivanhoe) leading the service at Ivanhoe, and A. B. Withers, representing former ministers, paying tribute. — A.B.W.

### STUDIA LITURGICA

The international ecumenical quarterly for liturgical research and renewal, "Studia Liturgica," enters its fourth year of publication this year. The quarterly contains articles from all traditions and seeks to inform its readers of current reforms in worship in the various denominations, and of inter-church discussions. Subscriptions of (A) £2/5/- are payable to Rev. M. Vos, Postbus 2, Nieuwendam, Holland.

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# THE LAST WORD . .

The Lord is gracious, merciful and righteous.

—Psalm 112: 4.

But we make his love too narrow  
By false limits of our own;  
And we magnify his strictness  
With a zeal he will not own.  
For the love of God is broader  
Than the measures of man's mind,  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.

—Faber.

☆

When praying, don't give God instructions — report for duty.

☆

The attempt to combine wisdom and power has only rarely been successful and then only for a short while.

—Albert Einstein.

☆

A friend who isn't in need is a friend indeed.

—F. M. Hubbard.

☆

The parliamentary candidate's friend beamed after the election meeting. "Great speech, old man," he boomed. "I liked the straightforward way you dodged those issues."

☆

Those who know everything never learn much.

☆

An Edinburgh landlady was reading St. Paul's letters to the Corinthians, the Romans and others, and she came across this passage:

"Whatsoever is set before you, eat, asking no questions for conscience sake." She sighed and said, "Ah, what a wonderful lodger he would have made!"

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