

March 26, 1966

THE GOOD LIFE



THE  
BROTHERHOOD  
PAPER  
FOR EVERY  
STATE

THE AUSTRALIAN

CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL WEEKLY OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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## GUIDELINES (1)

## God

The modern dialogue about God has been popularised by the "Honest to God" debate, but it is certainly not a dialogue in which the ordinary man can easily take part. The new concepts of God and the terms in which those concepts are expressed tend to confuse those who have thought of God in traditional personal ways.

A great deal of the new theology is concerned with the inadequacy of those traditional views, especially the view that God is a Person. According to the theologians who so strongly influenced the thinking of the Bishop of Woolwich, God is no longer to be regarded as a Person. Paul Tillich said that all of the propositions we have made about God: that God is personal, love, absolute, creator, that he is omnipotent, omniscient, and omnipresent — all of these are symbols. There is, he said, only one non-symbolic proposition which we make of God and that is that "God is Being-itself." God is not a supreme being, or the supreme being, but simply Being.

The debate has undoubtedly exposed the fact that our propositions about God have been inadequate and to this extent we must be grateful. There are, however, at least two very important things to note. One is that the new terms for God: Being-itself or the Ground of our Being, suffer as much as the old. They are symbols we use for something beyond our capacity to measure and analyse. The second thing is that this kind of thinking must end in pantheism, equating God with nature.

In spite of some modern theologians, there is a very good reason for thinking that God is personal — it is because we are personal. We are thinking, feeling, purposive creatures. We believe that God expressed himself in the person of Jesus, not because God is physical, mental, social and religious, but because we are. Any other kind of expression would have been less meaningful and unable to call forth our personal response. The older theologians were well aware of their limitations in their understanding of God and they expressed this awareness by spelling "Personal" with a capital "P", or by saying that God is supra-personal — above and beyond the limitations of our personality but understood through it.

There are many paths to knowledge. One is observation, and another is reason. By observation and reason we learn something about our world and ourselves and the Being who fashioned it and us. But the knowledge gained in these ways is not enough. We need also the revelation by God of himself. God did reveal himself in many ways, but his ultimate revelation was through Jesus the Christ.

No man has seen God at any time. To say that "God is" cannot help us much unless we can come to know the God that is. It is the claim of Christianity that God can be known in Christ. As John Baillie said, "The great fact for which all religion stands is the confrontation of the human soul with the transcendent holiness of God."

## COUNTED BLESSINGS

The Baptist Church in Victoria has received an extremely large bequest for Whitley College, the Baptist College of the University of Melbourne. There were, in fact, two bequests from Alexander Crocket and Miss Margaret Crocket totalling \$840,000.

These splendid gifts will enable the college to increase its accommodation and to expand its ministry to the Baptist Church.

We congratulate our Baptist brethren in the good fortune that has come to them, even though our congratulations are just a little tainted with the sin of envy.

The generous gesture of the Crockets could well be copied by men and women in other churches, including our own. It is important for us to remember God in our wills. In the meantime, it is worth reflecting that our present capacity for giving is not exhausted and that regular, weekly sacrificial giving of ourselves and our resources is still the means of growth for the church.

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# PARISH IN THE SKY

## (A) A NEW CREATION

In their short life they have been called everything from "king-size filing cabinets" to "20-storey pigeon roosts." These upward, sprawling concrete pinnacles which provide homes for an increasing number in our cities, are hailed as the answer to our suburban sprawl. These giants are eventually planned to thrust their limbs of concrete and steel some 30-storeys into the sky.

Progress associations, local councils, churches, and outraged citizens have fought a losing battle against their creation. But the powerful forces of politics and economics have allied themselves on the side of the creators of these monsters, and they have come into being. It is the inner city that is fast becoming the playground of these new creatures. Every acre of land that is cleared for the erection of these standardized units costs nearly 160,000 dollars.

It is reliably estimated that by the year 2,000 (only 34 years away) Melbourne's population will be more than five million. The only way in which this can be done is by the super re-development of much of the inner city. These areas, within five or six miles of the G.P.O., will see fantastic recreations of the entire landscape in the immediate future.

None can doubt that the Housing Commission of Victoria, which is responsible for the redevelopment, is faced with a staggering task. While some, including many church leaders, have condemned the conception and birth of these monsters, it does appear that the latter half of the twentieth century will see a decided increase in the number of flat dwellers.

Much of the criticism has been ill-informed and unjust. Within the Commission are men of integrity who are only too well aware of these emerging new communities. They have welcomed any informed assistance that the church could give; the tragedy has been that the church has been largely unaware of the whole process of urbanization. It would appear that we, as a brotherhood, are not structured to make any informed contribution to the development of these communities.

Our lack of structure may be due to

- (1) historical tradition;
- (2) numerical representation in these areas;
- (3) unawareness — it is 10 years since all inner city churches met;

Mr. Matheson is ministering to the Churches of Christ in Ascot Vale and Newmarket, Vic. His area of concern includes several completed multi-storey flat buildings and work is beginning on further units.

— there is no constituted inner area commission.

## (B) FEATURES OF THE NEW CREATION

The city is a complex. "It is a place of noise, of assault on the ears by the raucous voice of commercialism, by the booming of exhausts, the rattling of trucks, the clatter of trains, the throb-

BY ALAN MATHESON

bing of drills, the clanking of excavators; there is no birdsong, there is no tranquility — for the transistor has inherited the earth. Romeos, in our city will woo their Juliets beside the garbage dump, between the beer cans, at the bus stop, in all the hallowed romantic recesses of the city, the ten-pin bowl, the cafe, the drive-ins . . .

"It is a place which proudly displays the efflorescence of our material culture. It is a place of views, opinions, controversy and creative thought, for in it books are written and read, music is joyously played, art flourishes, the theatre grows strong, dances are danced, poems are sung and dreams are dreamed" (Australian Frontier Consultation Report.)

Within this sociological paradox and technopolitan complex the high rise unit overpowers with its features.

- (1) Population density: No other area in the city is more densely populated.
- (2) Economic status: All residents belong to a particular economic class.
- (3) Anonymity: The resistance to involvement in church and community groups is nothing more than a technique for survival. Privacy is a most desired after commodity.
- (4) Mobility: Residents work, play, seek entertainment all in different places. The flat becomes nothing more than a place for bed and T.V.
- (5) Family life: Working mothers, inadequate playing space, boredom, close confinement, are all threatening the stability of the family.

It has to be admitted that in Australia we are inadequately informed about many of these features. Those concerned with these developing communities are awaiting the publication of a sociological survey which was initiated by the Brotherhood of St. Laurence and carried out in a high rise community.

## (C) THE PLACE OF THE CHURCH

The church is in a dilemma. Not only does it not understand its function and role, but it fails also to understand the city. It is imperative that it discover ways and means of coming to terms with the modern metropolis. To do this it will need to make use of every tool at its disposal, whether provided by the sociologist, social worker, psychologist, town planner or theologian.

These perpendicular communities have now, quite literally, become parishes in the sky. With their immensity has come the realisation that no longer can the local congregation fulfil its mission to these new and exciting worlds. Financially embarrassed, numerically small, and theologically inadequate, the local congregation has found itself unable to respond to God's call from the surrounding community. All this has led to the development of a strong principle of co-operation.

1. **At the Local Level.** A proposed population of 4,000, housed mainly in high rise towers of 20 or 30 storeys, has challenged the churches of Flemington to become mobile. For the first time in their history they have begun to examine God's mission to the world. It is slowly being realised that if the Church is to be the "presence of Christ," then radical points of departure will have to be initiated. Loving service will be the driving force rather than the constant talking which has dominated so much of our witness.

2. **At the City Level.** 1965 saw the creation of the Inter-Church Inner Areas Commission, consisting of Anglican, Congregational, Churches of Christ, Methodist and Presbyterian representatives. Specifically this Commission has considered the place and role of the church in the redevelopment of Carlton. Here approximately 300 acres are to be ultimately redeveloped, with an estimated population of 30,000 people.

This Commission has unanimously agreed to encourage the formation of group ministries working from three ecumenical centres. There is the strong feeling that we cannot return to the separate, competitive, denominational days of our fathers.

Within the Commission are those who are convinced that God is challenging them to go forward with a will to break down denominational barriers, "that the world might believe." On every level of discussion and action there is ever present the single purpose of discovering the most effective way the Church might deploy its forces in its assigned mission in, and for, the world.

The exciting aspect of these new communities is the realisation that multi-storey flats are pointing not merely to an empty sky, but to whole new ways of Christian ministry and service.

# TEN O'CLOCK CLOSING IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Ten o'clock closing was introduced in New South Wales in 1955. However, it is almost impossible to find reliable information about its effects on the lives of the people in this State. It appears that 10 p.m. closing has merged into the way of life of the people of New South Wales, and is no longer a contentious issue.

Many, when questioned, are indifferent, whilst others hold strong views concerning this matter. Consequently opinions are often colored by personal prejudice and emotionalism.

Figures show that, in 1963, road deaths in N.S.W. numbered 900, and in 1965, 1,150. Major crimes rose from 32,400 in 1962, to 36,570 in 1964. These facts could be effected by changes in our society, such as the increase in population, the increase in the number of registered motor vehicles, increased consumption of alcohol, which may have occurred without 10 p.m. closing. Judge Curlew is reported to have remarked to the effect that consumption of alcohol is a factor in 80 per cent of criminal charges.

## Dangers of Alcoholism

Few of us need convincing of the dangers of alcoholism as an illness, its effects on family life, and the work performance of the individual, which has its effect on the national economy. We would agree that when alcohol reduces the inhibitions and judgments, it contributes to the road toll, crime, teenage and adult delinquency, and other serious social evils.

However, we must avoid confusing the issues. The effect of alcohol and the effect of 10 p.m. closing are two quite different subjects. Many responsible people in our community, amongst them non-drinkers, make certain observations concerning 10 p.m. closing.

We no longer experience the "six p.m. swill," which was unpleasant to observe, made travelling in public transport around 6 p.m. odious, and caused danger on the road. Nevertheless this has been reduced only, not eliminated. Since old habits die hard, there are still increased numbers who drink on their way home from work, particularly during the summer.

Drinking has lost much of its compulsion due to the time factor, so in many cases rapid consumption over a short period has been reduced. Rapid consumption caused drunkenness, since the body metabolism cannot de-oxygenize alcohol faster than 15 mgm. per hour. Ten p.m. closing may mean equal or greater consumption of alcohol for some individuals, but being consumed more slowly

it has less harmful bodily effects, hence less appearances of drunkenness.

The Hoteliers' Association has observed that many suburban hotels with a good day trade are virtually empty at night, which would suggest that many drinkers either drink at clubs, drink in their own homes, or do not drink at all at night.

It is contended that after the closing of hotels at 10 p.m., there are increases in driving hazards, but on the other hand, the hazard of the 6 p.m. period, when the use of the road is at its highest, would in all probability be greater if hotels closed at 6 p.m.

Despite these aspects which we must credit to 10 p.m. closing, there are other effects, also, which have a subtle and far-reaching influence on our community.

## Youth in Hotels

In May, 1965 (7/5/65) the following headlines appeared in the "Sydney Morning Herald" — "Pops' Followed Into Hotels. Groups Attract Teenagers."

These "Observations" have been compiled by CHARLES COLE, New South Wales Director of Social Service and Homes Department from reports of recent investigations made under the direction of such bodies as the N.S.W. Temperance Alliance and other responsible authorities.

Under these words, the reporter proceeded to describe a situation where young people, many of them still almost children, spend most of their spare time each night in attractive lounges provided by our hotels, entertained by popular singing groups, and quenching their thirst in a manner which would horrify their parents.

Although the legal age for drinking in N.S.W. is 18, there are numbers of teenagers under this age who have already become experienced drinkers. Part of the reason for this is that many hotels are no longer just places where one goes only for a drink, for some hotel proprietors go to lengths to provide the kind of entertainment that will attract the largest, and most affluent single group in our society, teenagers. The "Pop" groups are the type of performers the teenagers want, for theirs is the rhythm that stirs and excites. To obtain this stimulation free of charge, the young people follow the artists into the hotels, and, as stated in the "Herald" article, "once there, they do not for long stick to lemonade."

## Women Are Also There

There are other effects, additional to this attack on the vulnerability of adolescents and the resultant encouraging of excessive drinking at earlier ages than previously. These effects are not confined only to teenagers. It is a fact that the later hotel closing hours enable women more easily to accompany their menfolk, or alternatively to go with girl friends, or alone to the lounges. It is argued by some that with the presence of women, drinking takes place on a civilised level, and thus gains the restraints found among men in the company of women.

On the other hand, the function of alcohol in reducing self-consciousness and lowering inhibitions, is readily acknowledged. It follows, then, that this reduction of defences and self-control through liquor, and aided by the atmosphere created in these hotels, as discussed above, will not necessarily mean a maintenance of restraints. As the "Sydney Morning Herald" reporter noted, "Girls are not long alone, and some go to these places because they are likely to meet men for whom self-control has no importance or meaning."

Admittedly, if hotels were not open at night, such behaviour could occur elsewhere, but surely, as a responsible society, we should be taking steps to eliminate this rather than encourage it in an atmosphere of approval.

## Effects on Family Life

Inevitably family life is affected, too. The unpleasantness of spending an evening at home with a husband under the influence of alcohol, through longer trading hours, has been replaced for many wives with loneliness and responsibility of children, and evenings at home alone.

Some say that these later closing hours encourage family life because all are able to relax at the hotel after the evening meal. This may be true for a certain group in our community, but what are the effects on their children? Often an older child is left in charge, or a neighbour is asked to "keep an eye on them," or perhaps they are taken with their parents and left in the car.

However, it is more common for husbands to leave their families at home, either because of the wife's dislike of alcohol and all that it means to her family, or because of her sense of responsibility, or for other practical reasons. Either way, this means a disintegration of family life and a strain on marital relations. Ten p.m. closing has not solved family problems resulting from alcohol, but rather has changed the form of the problem.

Social workers can testify to the facts that much financial hardship, and even poverty, is due to the indulgence in alcohol of one or both partners. Of course, this is not necessarily dependent on later hotel closing hours. However, most people will agree that more money will be spent in three hours, although it may be spent more leisurely, than in half an hour compulsive drinking after work and prior to the 6 p.m. closing hours.

(continued on p. 13)



## THE "CHRISTIAN" GOES TO . . . AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL CONFERENCE

What happens in between State Conferences? Departments and Committees mostly go their own way, operating within the framework of a constitution which they aren't always happy to look at, they submit a written report to the annual Conference, they listen to what is said, noting the criticisms and the like, and then on with the grind again.

Caught up with a circle of methods which may not be changed from time to time, they usually find little or no time to look at themselves within the framework of the whole brotherhood.

For instance, what does Overseas Missions know about Building Extension in the Homeland? Wherein does Home Missions and Christian Education have a meeting place? Their contact with one another is mostly casual, and working in almost watertight compartments they become insular within the affairs of the brotherhood. This should not be so, for it defeats the purpose of outreach, and it surely cuts across the best presentation of a united effort.

Becoming conscious of this, the General Executive in S.A. called every Con-

ference Department and Committee together to have a look at their work as it related to the work of the others. This would involve 123 people in the State. That 60 per cent made themselves available suggests some interest.

The sessions were held on a Saturday at the Unley church. State Secretary, I. J. Chivell presided, after the President, M. T. Lawrie, had led devotions. Two major addresses by K. D. Horne and E. P. C. Hollard sought to face up to a factual look at the brotherhood.

Statistics and figures over 19 years were presented, the impact of the present in education and evangelism were fronted, the easy acceptance of losses and little concern for gains came in for discussion, the possible relinquishing of restoration for unity, the embracing of new methods of Bible School teaching, the use or misuse of stewardship, and a number of other related items all received their quota of attention.

From these addresses, both hard-hitting and forthright, came a series of group discussions. Tea intervened, and then, after a further discussion on "What

did they say?" the whole group came together again.

Like any session of its kind, red herrings and inconsequential things got into the picture. How easy it is to think that what we think is more important than anything else! How easy to assess a matter of minor importance as being epoch making! It happened again, but, a good chairman earthed it all the time.

The evidence of serious thinking and a willingness to see one's own Department as part of another, became evident. Naturally this Conference could not become a decision making affair, but if it were a disturbing affair, then it served its purpose. Out of it came a demand for a continuance of the pattern.

Next time there need not be any addresses, but some weeks beforehand there could be a series of questions for Departments to look at, discuss, and then to share in the get-together.

This kind of Conference proved several things. One, that our Departments are not in competition with one another; two, that too often they know little or nothing about one another; three, that even the most informed in say, Home Missions, knows little about Christian Education, and that the communication between our Conference Departments and the local churches is slight. People cannot be expected to support things they know little about, therefore Conference Departments not only represent, they have a responsibility to make known to the average member just how that representation has been attended to.

There'll be a lot more of this!

# PRESIDENTS LOOK BACK

The Tasmanian District Conference President, and the President of the Tasmanian C.W.F. review their year of office.

LES. MOORE writes:—

1965 saw the fulfilment of the Year of Evangelism among our Tasmanian churches, and there is no doubt that this was a successful venture. It seems to me, that from this activity there has developed for those who took part, a much deeper conviction of the love of Christ our Lord, and the task of the Church in sharing this love with all men.

Each church taking part applied its endeavours to the particular needs of that church. One group saw the need for membership visitation, whilst another became deeply concerned with the call to youth. It would be fair to say that the results of these and other activities go far beyond the direct result seen in any additions to the church by these efforts. Any activity in which we participate in our task of spreading the gospel must strengthen both the individual and the group concerned, and on these grounds I believe our Year of Evangelism to be one of the best things to have happened to us for years. It remains now for this to become a Life of Evangelism, not only for the Church, but for every member.

1965 also saw the first active use of our camp site Bicheno, after some very useful and effective work under the capable

guidance of Wally Fielder. Wally, with his wife and son, spent several months in residence at the site, while directing the energies and skills of the members of the various working bees.

Bicheno is a good thing, but only the future can tell how good. We must maintain the efforts of last year and ensure both the security and quality of our enterprise. This is a true brotherhood activity, and as such a joint step in our outreach into the changing pattern of life about us. It is a task half-finished, and therefore requires our continuing attention and assurance that it will not be set aside nor forgotten.

The rejection by Conference of the Notice of Motion submitted by the Executive is evidence that we as a brotherhood are obviously not ready or willing to take the proposed step. Whether we ever do join the Tasmanian Council of Churches will depend on where we find the unfolding pattern and purpose of our part in God's plan for his work. The important thing now and always is to remain steadfast to that purpose. To stick to past decisions and determinations because they were right at the time they were made is both short-sighted and stultifying, whereas to

appreciate them for their worth, to see their application to the future, and boldly uphold or modify them is the privilege and reward of a goodly heritage.

Finally, I must express my sincere appreciation of the privilege extended to me to serve as President of Conference. What little we may have done has been achieved with the combined aid of the Conference Executive, and the ready co-operation of all whom we have met while moving among the churches, and we thank them all.

Mrs. M. G. DAVIES writes:—

The commencement of C.W.F. Camps in this State during the term in which the Women's Executive has been located in Hobart, has been a feature which I gladly took up from the former Presidents. This, I feel, has been an outstanding success in bringing together the women in Tasmania. It has also been worthwhile and satisfying service to continue our interest and financial support for the Bicheno Camp Project.

At the beginning of my year of office I commended the Year of Evangelism to our Women's Conference in the thought, "Begin where you are." As I pass on the presidency I again commend this thought to all our women. A pebble thrown into the water produces circles which become wider and wider as they spread from the centre. The deeds we begin where we are will likewise, through God's blessing, spread far and beyond our most optimistic hopes.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CONFERENCE . . .

The 69th Annual Conference of our churches in Western Australia will be held in the Christian Centre, commencing on March 31 and concluding with a devotional service on Good Friday, April 8.

The theme of the Conference is "Agents of Love," and the guest speaker will be E. L. Williams, M.A., Principal of the College of the Bible. Other speakers will be the Conference President, G. Smith, the incoming President, R. Vincent, Dip. Soc. Sci., D. G. Hammer, the new Secretary of the Federal Aborigines Mission Board, and K. Turner, minister of the Inglewood church.

The opening meeting, on March 31, will be a Social Service Rally, and business will be conducted on Friday night and all Saturday, with the Missionary Programme on that night. The Conference Sermon will be preached by Mr. Williams on Sunday afternoon, and the Youth Night will be held on Monday. Wednesday will see the ladies meeting in their 61st Conference, and the concluding rally will be on Thursday night.

## — WESTERN YOUTH —

### YOUTH AIM FOR \$2,000

Believing it to be a wise policy to "aim high," the youth of the West were responsible for suggesting that \$2,000 be set as the target for the 1966 Youth Project for brotherhood missionary work.

After consultation with the Federal Overseas Missions Board Secretary, and the Carnarvon Native Mission Superintendent, it was decided that half the amount contributed would be designated as a memorial to Dr. Lindsay Michael, and used to purchase laboratory equipment for Dhond Hospital, and that the other half would be put towards the building of the baptistry and platform in the chapel at the Carnarvon Christian Centre.

An aim was suggested to each local congregation, and they were asked to appoint local Project organisers. Several Youth groups have already been active in regard to the 1966 Project, and it is hoped that by Oct. 31, the \$2,000 will be to hand.

Contributions should be marked "1966 Youth Project," and addressed to Miss M. Peacock, 142 Beaufort-st., Perth.

### "DOLLARS FOR BRICKS"

(W.A.) The Youth and Christian Education Committee in W.A. is facing considerable expense as it seeks to establish a new Camp Site at Point Peron, 30 miles from Perth. The first stage in the plan of development — the ablation block — is almost completed, and will cost approximately \$4,800. Young people are being asked to share this cost by contributing "\$1 for a Brick." Such contributions are to be sent to Miss M. Peacock, 142 Beaufort-st., Perth.

### BROTHERHOOD SPORTS DAY

(W.A.) In the past a Brotherhood Sports Day, on Easter Monday, was a regular feature of Conference in the West. This event was discontinued several years ago, but as it was felt that it had a definite value as a day of fellowship within the brotherhood, the Youth and Christian Education Committee decided to reintroduce the Sports Day to the Conference Programme in 1966.

The Brotherhood Sports Day will be held at McLean Park, Floreat Park

(near the Floreat Forum), and will include events for children and adults. Entry forms have been sent to all congregations. Young people attending the Waterman's Bay and Point Peron Youth camps will attend the afternoon session at McLean Park on Easter Monday.

### FOUR EASTER YOUTH CAMPS

Young people in the West have the choice of attending four Camps this Easter, and the Application Forms for the Camps are now available.

(a) Waterman's Bay Easter Youth Camp — for young people 16 years and over.

(b) Point Peron Work Camp — for 20 young people, 18 years and over, and prepared to work!

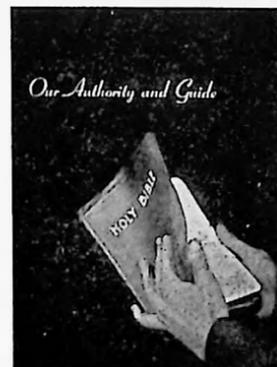
(c) Eastern Wheatbelt and Kalgoorlie Youth Camp — to be held at Bullfinch. City young people invited.

(d) Northern Districts Camp — to be held at Morawa. City young people invited.

Young people! Complete an Application Form, and send it in immediately.

### NORTHERN DISTRICTS RALLY

(Morawa, W.A.) A time of fellowship and blessing was experienced at Dalwallinu during recent Northern Districts Rally. W. Gaunson, from the Northam church, gave a challenging address, Geraldton, Morawa, Dalwallinu and Perth were represented. The Dalwallinu ladies accomplished a great work in coping for the large crowd.



Our Authority and Guide

## FEDERAL CONFERENCE

Already about 120 Western Australians have registered for Federal Conference. There are others who are thinking of going — they are urged to contact the Conference Secretary, A. D. Pyne, as early as possible, because it will be increasingly difficult to secure berths on the train.

The party will leave Perth on Sat., Oct. 8. The biggest problem is obtaining return bookings, and it therefore is essential that if there are any at this late date who are thinking of going that they make early arrangements with the Conference Secretary.

For those who have not yet forwarded the Conference Registration Form to the Federal Arrangements Committee in Melbourne, they are asked to do so at once.

Those who have attended recent Federal Conferences from the "West" have always had a marvellous time of fellowship and many are making this a regular visit with their brethren to the Eastern States. This Conference will be no exception as far as fellowship and inspiration is concerned.

### YOUNG MARRIEDS MEET

(Busselton, W.A.) A Young Marrieds Fellowship has commenced meetings once a month, and these are along informal lines. Unchurched couples are showing a keenness in this programme . . . C.W.F. new president is Mrs. W. Sprigg . . . At recent election of officers, Messrs. W. Sprigg, F. Clark and H. Whisson were elected as elders . . . A series of morning sermons is being presented entitled "God in the Market Place." This is a series on the minor prophets . . . A recent speaker at Men's Fellowship and the evening service was Miss Shirley Barby, of the S.I.M. . . . M. Hodgson is minister.

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



## NEW SOUTH WALES

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

(Sydney). All ministers' wives are cordially invited to attend the meeting of the N.S.W. Fellowship, at 41 The Point Road, Woolwich, at 11 a.m., on Friday, April 1. There will be a basket lunch, and those intending to travel by ferry will meet at No. 5 wharf, Circular Quay, at 10.25 a.m. We extend a special welcome to the wives of country ministers.

### TELOPEA CRUSADE

(N.S.W.). After much preparation, the Young People's Swingalong Crusade commenced on Feb. 25, with over 140 present and over 150 on the 26th. At the following weekend, the attendances were over 100 at each meeting. There was one decision, but many new contacts were made with the young people of Telopea and the surrounding areas. The Youth for Christ team supplied the programme, and the young people of the church supplied drinks, etc., at Teen Tavern after each programme . . . The C.W.F. annual meeting in the church hall on March 10 had E. Hart speaking on the theme, "Building a Happy Home." Guest artists were "The Gspelaires," and Gordon College at the organ . . . The Senior Citizens' meeting on Feb. 28 was appreciated by the older folk of the area. Films were presented and afternoon tea served.

### ALFRED WINTER MEMORIAL PLAQUE

(N.S.W.). On March 5, during the course of the Opening Day gathering at the New South Wales College, at Woolwich, opportunity was taken to conduct a brief ceremony, presided over by Principal Stephenson, in which Mrs. Winter-Little graciously unveiled a memorial tablet in the College Entrance Hall to the memory of her brother, the late Alfred Winter, followed by a prayer of dedication offered by N. H. Matthews.

From the very beginning of the College, Alfred Winter always took a keen interest in the training of the students and the support of the work, and it was the wish of his family that his close association with the College should be perpetuated in this way.

## THE SHERIFF IN CHURCH

(Murwillumbah, N.S.W.). On Feb. 27, the evening service was conducted by the Murwillumbah Sheriff, Fred Little, and who is stationed at the Murwillumbah Court House, and he preached on "How God Works Through the Cross of Christ." It was a personal thrill to him to tell the congregation how he made his decision for Christ only three years ago and accepted the Lord as his personal Saviour. As an officer of the Supreme Court of N.S.W., he gave many instances of how God is playing a tremendous part in his daily duties as he carries out his work among alcoholics, habitual gamblers, people in poverty, and persons generally who come up against the "law." Before being transferred to Murwillumbah he was stationed at Lismore for nine years as Sheriff, and during that period he made a study of

people and prisoners before the court. He has discussed various aspects of crime with no fewer than 18 or 19 different judges, and has visited several gaols. He recently took with him Pastor Davis (Church of Christ) and Pastor Jensen (Baptist), both of Murwillumbah, on a tour through the famous Maximum Security gaol at Grafton.

Mr. Little is now a deacon of the church, a director of the Tweed District Hospital Board, the President of "Birrale" special school for subnormal children, an observer and special supporter of Alcoholics Anonymous, secretary of the High School P. and C. Association, and publicity officer for Guide Dogs for the Blind. In recent weeks Fred has given his "testimony" in churches at Fingal, Murwillumbah and Mullumbimby, where two decisions were made for Christ.

### FROM SOUTH-EAST ASIA

(Burwood, N.S.W.). S. G. Chua, the President of the Federation of Boys' Brigade in Singapore and Malaysia, testified at an evening service to his conversion from Buddhism through his B.B. training at a Presbyterian Company. Mr. Chua was staying with W. Small, who was re-elected as N.S.W. President of B.B. The Captain of our Company, M. Gray, was elected Deputy Pres. of Aust. He was also seen on T.V. in "Dialogue" as the B.B. Pan-Pacific Camp Commandant at Surfer's Paradise . . . A presentation was made G. Elliott from the S.S. as he enters Woolwich Bible College . . . Ken Chumley, from Telopea, will be assisting here while in his first year at Bible College.

### SCHOLAR INCREASE

(Inverell, N.S.W.). An increase in the kindergarten scholars during the past few weeks has been reported. Dept. Badges for bringing new scholars have created keen interest among these young people . . . 13 attended the inaugural meeting of the Junior C.E., and much enthusiasm is being shown in the bright and varied programmes . . . C.W.F. elected officers on March 6. The ladies have decided to commence a series of special night meetings, beginning in April, for a three months' trial . . . March 13 was set aside by the Inverell churches as a "Prayer and Penitence" Sunday. Members were requested to renew their dedication to God. The Ministers' Fraternal felt that the present drought had awakened a sense of dependence on God.

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## CONFERENCE AT PYRAMID HILL

(Vic.). The Northern Central Dist. Conf. was held at Pyramid Hill on March 5. 98 were present on Sat. night. The guest speaker was E. Heard, former missionary to India. He showed slides on India and also preached on the Sunday morning. Officers of C.W.F. are Mrs. D. Broad, pres.; Mrs. A. Broad, sec., and Mrs. T. Farrar, treas. The C.W.F. bought blinds to fit the hall. S.S. teachers make frequent use of film-strips when teaching. The Fellowship Hour on March 1 was conducted by the minister, C. G. Henderson. There have been two transfers from Preston, Mr. and Mrs. L. Mann.

## NEW BUCKINGHAM NOVEL

(Caulfield, Vic.). The church joins with the brotherhood in congratulating Miss M. Buckingham on the publication of her latest novel, "Many Waters," the latest in the series that has brought her such wide acclaim. The annual meeting re-elected retiring elders and deacons and elected new officers, with absolute majorities. On Feb. 27, after the evening service, the church farewelled Mr. and Mrs. J. Machin, and made a presentation to them in appreciation of many years of fellowship and service. Mr. and Mrs. Machin were departing for an overseas trip and later will be in membership with the church at Tootgarook. F. A. Youens is minister.

## "ADVENTURE 66"

(Brighton, Vic.). Church plans for "Adventure 66" have entered first phase for the year with "Adventure Dinners" for adults on March 2, and young people on March 6. Commitment Sunday, on March 20, will be followed by the presentation of the 1966 Budget on 23rd. Interest is maintained in Church and Life Movement, minister and chairman of the Board, are members of local planning committee. Church budget is geared to an outreach "for others," and includes help for nearby East Bentleigh cause, interest in local Y.M.C.A. project, and greater participation in aid for I.T.I.M. work. C.M.S. has undertaken project for assistance to a local need. Number of members admitted to hospital in last few weeks, including Mrs. Tuckerman, Mrs. McLean senr., Miss B. Wright, B. Huntsman, A. Edwards. Church is inspired by recent decisions of five young people.

## VISITORS TO COLAC

(Vic.). F. J. Funston, Conf. Pres., R. A. Banks and S. Bannon assisted the church with messages while we were without a preacher. A. van Leen, of the C.O.B., has now been welcomed as our new preacher. Tony Jerome, from Briar Hill, who has joined the local radio station, is taking an active part in church work. Aborigines Mission offering was £19/1/- Six from Colac attended S.E.D. Conference at Manifold Heights church.

## "WHEAT FOR INDIA" APPEAL

(East Kew, Vic.). The ladies of the church conducted a special afternoon on March 3 and raised \$98 for the appeal to send food to India. The money is to go through our own Federal Mission Board. The church has arranged for a general offering for April 3. Morning services have been well attended, with many visitors. A young lady made confession of faith on March 6. Mrs. G. York is not able to attend services, and her ill health causes concern. J. Pope had returned home from hospital and is convalescing. The church has reluctantly accepted the resignation of A. W. C. Candy, who will take up the work at Reservoir in November. This second ministry of six years will make a total of 10½ years as our minister. Four other ladies accompanied Mrs. Candy to the W.C.F. Missionary Committee camp at Monbulk.

## LOSS AT RED HILL

(Vic.). The church has been saddened by the death of W. Kerville. The C.Y.F. flourishes with 20 members, a number coming from homes outside membership. Harvey Mawson and Thelma Prossor are co-presidents. At the church anniversary on March 6, the guest speaker was J. Smith, from New Hebrides. Mrs. J. Holmes is still confined to bed by illness. Chelsea Salvation Army Band and songsters gave a splendid concert on Feb. 26.

## • OVERSEAS MISSIONS

### THREE FIELDS

#### New Missionaries - New Hebrides

Three new missionaries have been appointed to the New Hebrides. They are Sister Jennifer Doye, W.A., Miss B. Clapp, W.A., and Barry Baker, Vic. Sister Doye and Miss Clapp are replacements, but Mr. Baker is an additional worker. He is an electrical mechanic, and will assist in maintenance work and the establishment of a technical branch at the Londua School.

Mr. Baker has offered to serve for 12 months, with the possibility of remaining for a longer period. Further information concerning the new workers will appear in April-May issue of "Missionary News."

They leave Sydney for the New Hebrides on April 6. On behalf of our Australian brotherhood we assure them of our interest and prayers, and pray for God's richest blessing as they go forward.

#### On the Job After Furlough

J. Bolton.

There has been a lot of rain since we arrived, the river is in flood, and the Chungribu airstrip is under water for the second time in two years. We are in urgent need of supplies, and are frantically trying to arrange for a ship to drop cargo at the mouth of the Ramu. If only the airstrip at Bunapas was a reality instead of a dream of the future.

Margaret and Alan Fletcher have settled in at Asau. We have seen them a couple of times and enjoyed wonderful fellowship.

We have been teaching our folk the important facts of Decimal Currency and they are picking it up very well. Most of the village folk are going to be confused, but the children who do go to school will be able to help them.

The cargo cult has grown very strong down this end of the river, and our Christians are facing severe trials and temptations, some are finding it very hard. Would you please pray for them that they may stand strong and be the shining witness for Christ that the people need?

We praise the Lord for the time we had in Australia, the encouragement we received as we visited the churches, for refreshing of spirit, mind and body, for new ideas, and for the renewing of our call to the work here in New Guinea.

#### Preaching Opportunities in India

R. Ryall.

Since Marathi is such a difficult language for any Westerner, I must still rely on an interpreter for some months to come. Late last August I visited Bombay to see some of our work there at first hand. The membership of our churches there is scattered, and the possibilities for God's Kingdom abound on every hand.

# QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



My husband and I disagree on some matters of Christian practice on which he feels very strongly. Mostly I am able to keep my opinions to myself, but sometimes in discussion with others I am asked directly what I think. When I state my views he feels that I am letting him down by differing from him and he gets quite upset by it. I feel that to pretend I do agree would be hypocritical. Would you please comment?

Once upon a time a woman was expected to spend her life in the background of a home, concentrating on caring for the children and, above all else, making her husband happy.

She was expected to defer to her husband's superior masculine intelligence and to remain charmingly quiet in company.

Something has happened to change the little woman's place in the world and, however reluctantly, man has come to realise that women can gain university degrees, become doctors and lawyers, run businesses, enter Parliament, write books on economics, physics,

and even logic — in fact to realise that she has a mind.

Although the earlier inferior place of women was long accepted by the church, this inferiority was not supported by the New Testament. Differences are recognised by Christianity, of course, there are racial differences, and social differences, and differences between men and women, but there is a higher equality that gives a person dignity if his skin is colored, that makes another free even while a slave, and that makes men and women one in Christ Jesus (Gal. 3: 28).

When Paul, in places like Eph. 5, speaks of the relationships between husband and wife, I believe that he was giving very good advice within a social environment where woman's place was grossly inferior. But, even here, after saying that wives should be subject to their husbands in everything, he argues that the husband's love should be like that of Christ for the church. This sacrificial love of the husband for his wife cannot be selfish, and there is something selfish in a husband's expectation that a wife should conform to his views, or to expect silence if conformity cannot be given.

Love does not necessarily mean conformity in all things. Where there is oneness in Christ there will be a fundamental unity of love and purpose, but there will still remain many areas of thought and action where a wife should be free to think for herself and to express her own views. Love means respect and that includes respect for a partner's capacities and respect for her integrity. We rob another of dignity and all that makes a personality and partnership so precious when one imposes his will upon the other.

At the request of the pastor, Balu Bhonsle, I preached at two Sunday services — one in an old village, and one at his flat in the Bombay suburb of Chembur. Balu took me to visit some of the members' homes and places of work. It was a moving experience to lead devotions in Christian homes in Bombay; on every occasion I was very ably translated by the pastor. Incidentally, he is equally "at home" in Marathi, Hindi and English!

All missionaries, especially the men, share frequently in the conduct of English-speaking services at Mahabeshwar. There, one's congregation is mainly fellow-language school students.

Our membership is with the church at Dhond. I first preached to them on Boxing Day at a Christmas service. At least I was able to greet them in Marathi, although the sermon had to be in English! The service was most fittingly conducted by Kissan Ran Singh, and it included the baptism and reception into membership of three young people.

I have taken opportunity to go on medico-evangelistic trips in the ambulance from Dhond. In the villages, one sees starkly, many of the needs of India — for food, for hygiene, for leadership of integrity at every level of community life, for family planning, for education, for deep spiritual satisfaction.

## VICTORIA - TASMANIA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

### • INSPIRATIONAL SESSIONS

#### 1. Devotional Prelude

Sunday, March 27, 2.45 p.m. —  
SWANSTON-ST. CHAPEL.  
Presidential Address: Frank J. Funston.  
"The Church, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." Choral Items by Doncaster Choir. Offering.

#### 2. Reception and Garden Party

Saturday, April 2, 2.45 p.m. —  
College of the Bible.  
Singing, Music, Items, President's Greeting, Fellowship, Afternoon Tea.

#### 3. Family and Youth Night

Saturday, April 2, 8 p.m. —  
South Melbourne Town Hall.  
Good Companions' Choir. Explorers' Gymnastic Display. Play Reading. The Campbell Singers. Family Worship. Vocal Items. Offering.  
Address: G. K. Moyes, B.A., "Who's Got the Key?"

#### 4. Conference Sermon Session

Sunday, April 3, 2.30 p.m. —  
Melbourne Town Hall.  
Organ Recital, Praise and Worship, The Campbell Singers. Offering for Costs and Preachers' Provident Fund. Induction of New President. Conference Sermon: R. N. Gilmore, B.A., B.D. — "The Old Faith In a New Day."

### • BUSINESS SESSIONS

#### SWANSTON-ST. CHAPEL.

- MONDAY, MARCH 28, 7.15 p.m.**—  
Conference Executive Report. Coordinating Committee. Modified Unified Promotion. Commission on Membership. Motion re Change of Department Title. C.O.B. Focus. Voting.
- TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 7.15 p.m.**—  
Aborigines' Mission Dept. Report. Motions re College of the Bible. Focus, Overseas Mission Dept. and Christian Men's Fellowship. Motion from Dandenong Church. Voting.
- THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 7.15 p.m.**—  
Reports of Literature Dept. and Dept. of Social Service. Dept. of Christian Education Focus. Motions re National Service and Liquor Research and Education. Motion from Ormond Church. Voting.
- FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 7.15 p.m.**  
Motions from T. O. Turriff. Dept. for Promotion of Christian Union Report. Focus, Dept. of H.M. and Evangelism. Poll Results. Reports of Properties Dept. and Christian Women's Fellowship. Unfinished Business.

#### PLEASE NOTE

The Devotional Prelude and all Business Sessions will be held at Swanston St. Chapel. The Ministers' and Secretaries' Tea, and also the C.O.B. Old Boys' Tea, will be held at the Brotherhood Centre, 217 Lonsdale St., Melb.

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MARCH 27 to APRIL 3

### • SECTIONAL SESSIONS

#### 1. Ministers' and Secretaries' Tea

Monday, March 28, 5.45 p.m. —  
BROTHERHOOD CENTRE,  
Lonsdale St.

Address: M. J. Hurren,  
"The Church Secretary."

#### 2. Ministers' Conference

Tuesday, March 29, 9.45 a.m. & 1.45 p.m.,  
Reception Room, Brotherhood Centre.  
Discussion: "The ministry - Enlistment, Conservation, Specialisation."  
Address: "Assisting National Service Trainees," Miss V. Fowler. Guest Speaker: Rev. Arthur Preston. Association Business.

#### 3. C.O.B. Old Boys' Club Tea

Tuesday, March 29, 5.30 p.m. —  
BROTHERHOOD CENTRE,  
Lonsdale St.  
Annual Get-Together. Fellowship. Business.

#### 4. WOMEN'S 80th CONFERENCE

Wednesday, March 30, 10.15 a.m., 1.45 and 7.15 p.m., St. Kilda Town Hall.  
Organ Recitals. Devotions. Reports. Business. Items. "Golden Bags" for Home Missions. Campbell Singers. Speakers: Afternoon — Missionaries on Furlough.  
Evening — Principal John Morley, M.A., Dlp.Ed., "What Are You Advertising?"

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## TOUR TO BLACK FOREST

(Murray Bridge, S.A.). C.W.F. groups combined for a bus trip to Adelaide on March 8. They visited Balfour's Cake Factory and toured Black Forest Rest Home . . . C.M.F. held a successful "Progressive Sports" evening on 8th . . . Harvest Thanksgiving services on March 6 saw a delightful display of gifts. The highlight of the day was the gospel service, when two young people obeyed their Lord in baptism . . . A. B. & F. B. Soc. rally was held on March 13, in Lutheran Hall. Several churches took part. K. Pitt presided. Several members attended a successful Sthn. Dist. Conf. at Strathalbyn, on Feb. 19 . . . On March 6, the Y.P. came together for a "Cook's Convention."

## HARVEST DONATED

(Fullarton, S.A.). Harvest Thanksgiving services were held on March 13, produce being donated to Christian Rest Home and Indian Mission Field . . . B.S. picnic held recently at National Park, Belair, with good attendance . . . C. P. Hughes addressed the church on March 6 in interests of Building Extension Mutual Fund. An agent for the fund has been appointed . . . Girls' Brigade has resumed, under the leadership of Miss Jennifer Russell, of Dulwich, some girls from there joining group . . . The church has registered for participation in Church and Life Movement . . . The church rejoices in improved health of A. J. Rosewarne, admitted to hospital after heart attack . . . Tennis teams played in finals of Churches' Association, recently concluded.

## MOVEMENTS

### TASMANIAN TRANSFER

(Ulverstone). The church, in association with the Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Home Missions and Evangelism, has invited C. J. Robinson, at present at Margaret Street, Launceston, to a full-time ministry. Mr. Robinson will commence his ministry on Nov. 20, 1966.

### FAREWELL AT YARAWONGA

(Vic.). R. Oke's last Sunday at Yarrowonga was Feb. 27. On the 23rd a farewell evening was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Oke and boys. After items, speeches, etc., gifts from church and C.W.F. were presented. The Oke family have accepted a call to the Strathalbyn church in S.A. As yet no minister has accepted the call to minister at Yarrowonga . . . Ken Davis has commenced a Junior C.E. with great interest. Meetings are held fortnightly on Sunday afternoon. Children bring their tea and then attend the evening service.

### FOR INDIA

(N.S.W.). Miss Frances Woods, formerly of Gilgandra, and of the N.S.W. Bible College, Woolwich, has recently completed her advanced training in linguistics with the Wycliffe Bible Translators. Miss Woods shortly sails for India, where she will be engaged in Linguistic activities among mission outposts in the district near Poona.

## CHURCH FINANCE DISCUSSED

(Loxton, S.A.). A church tea, attended by 50, was held on March 13 to discuss church finance and future activities. . . 22 members of the Girls' Brigade attended the annual church parade on same evening. 40 Girls from Loxton and Barmera Companies, and Moorook S.S., attended a camp at Moorook, March 18-20.

## HOSPITALISED

(Adelaide). The many friends of Albert Anderson will regret to know that he has been in Royal Adelaide Hospital for several weeks. Good progress is reported. Another well known patient has been Mrs. H. R. Taylor, of Unley. She, too, was in Royal Adelaide, but is now in a private hospital. One of the ministers, N. Gavros, Forestville church, has undergone surgery and reports indicate progress.

## SURVEY AT NAILSWORTH

(S.A.). Reviewing a period of nine months, a survey presented to the Board of Officers revealed the following interesting points: an increase of 10 per cent in attendance at the Breaking of Bread; offerings increased 10 per cent; average morning attendance increased from 145 to 158; evening attendances averaged 130. In report to last Conference active membership moved from 194 to 225 . . . The minister, C. E. Watson, has been granted three months' leave of absence to visit England, and return as chaplain on a migrant ship.

## INDUCTION AT DARETON

(Vic.). On Feb. 6, John Lowrey, a graduate of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, was inducted by D. H. Smith, who represented the Vic. H.M. Dept. 70 people were present. The following Wednesday evening, the Dareton members gave Mr. and Mrs. Lowrey an official welcome, at which were present 75 folk from the Sunraysia district of Churches of Christ, together with representatives from the Dareton Presbyterian and Methodist churches. Three young ladies have made their decision at recent services, which have been consistently attended despite the busy season of grape picking.

## NEW MINISTRY AT WEMBLEY

(W.A.). D. A. Ladbrook, B.A., Dip.Ed., Dip.Rel.Ed., who recently arrived with his wife and family from Zambia, has accepted an invitation to the ministry at Wembley. Mr. Ladbrook is the son of Albert Ladbrook, a past lecturer at Woolwich and Glen Iris Bible Colleges, and at present a missionary in Rhodesia with our New Zealand brethren . . . The Ladies' Fellowship had its first meeting of the year, with Mrs. P. Pritchard as pres., and Mrs. S. Karhu as sec. The ladies held a morning tea for three ladies of the church over 80 years of age, to whom birthday cakes were presented . . . 30 of our young people had an enjoyable Labor Day weekend camp at Waterman's Bay. A. Walkington led a daily Bible study, after which the campers went into discussion groups. Misses Marlene Spiken and Julie Slater were the camp cooks.

## WORLD PRESIDENTS SPEAK

(Brighton Gardens, S.A.). At the 11th church anniversary on March 13, the speaker at morning service, when 232 were present, was the President of the World Convention of Churches of Christ, Sir Philip Messent. Mrs. E. Lawton (President of the World C.W.F.) spoke at the evening service . . . The foundation stone of the new church building was unveiled by Theo. Edwards prior to the morning service . . . The new building is rapidly progressing . . . Monthly youth services for 1966 have commenced with over 100 young people present at the coffee hour after the service . . . Three young people confessed faith on March 6 . . . Peter Wright was top of the State in the Leaving Honours Examination and has been awarded the "Advertiser" prize . . . "A" tennis team was premiers and "B" team runner-up in the summer competition . . . Both cricket teams are top of the table. . . 70 girls have enrolled so far to play basketball . . . Les Drummond has been appointed leader of the newly formed Boys' Brigade. This makes three age groups of Boys' Brigade, two age groups for Girls' Brigade, working strongly in the church. A large group also attend Christian Youth Fellowship.

## CONFECTIONERY FOR INDIA

(York-st., Ballarat, Vic.). The Ladies' Guild met at the home of Mrs. Fraser, and raised \$15 for the B. & F. B. S. . . . A tin of confectionery was also sent to India . . . There were two recent decisions . . . Mrs. Dixon and Mrs. Heard were visiting guests to the C.W.E. Fellowship. Mrs. Dixon spoke on women's activities, and Mrs. Heard on overseas missions . . . The proceeds from the Harvest Festival on March 13 were forwarded to a Ballarat babies' home. . . R. S. A. McLean, of the Overseas Missions Board, was a recent speaker. . . . A delegation of members attended the South West Dist. Conf. in Geelong. . . . A successful working bee was held at Hall's Gap in preparation for Easter camp . . . H. Street is minister.

## NATIONAL DIARY

APRIL: SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
2 — Missionary Conference, Cowandilla.  
2 — Bible School Sports Day.  
8 — Baptist Church of Christ United Service in Flinders Street Baptist Church.  
8 — Easter Camps commence.  
15 — "G. and S." Story (Concert).  
25 — Youth Workers' Conference.

NEW SOUTH WALES  
Mar. 26 - April 3—State Conference.  
8-11—Easter Camps  
14 —Woolwich College Extension Lectures commence — Burwood  
15-17—N.S.W. C.W.F. House Party — Gillbulla.  
16 —N.S.W. Youth Conference "Car Rally."  
17 —Mission commences at Auburn.

VICTORIA  
Mar. 27 - April 3—State Conference.  
7-11—Easter Camps — Monbulk, Dromana, Eppalock, Mildura.  
8-11—C.E. Action Camp.  
15 —Good Companions' Swim Night.  
16 —Explorer Leaders' Canvas Camp.  
16 —C.Y.F. Painting Spree — Carlton, Collingwood, Fitzroy.  
19 —Depart of Christian Educ. — Adult Workers' Seminar commences (4 weekly sessions).

## "YOUTH SENSATIONAL 66"

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Bright Programme. Top Sound Music.  
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## MISSIONARY VISITOR

(Chinchilla, Qld.). The C.W.F. annual meeting was privileged to have Miss Dorothy Howden as speaker. She also presided over business meeting . . . The first fellowship tea for the year was conducted by Barry Clack. A film about Mission to Lepers was screened and suitable items given . . . Monthly meetings continue at Dulacea and Miles. . . The Western Church Fellowship at Hope-lands was well represented by Chinchilla . . . A farewell evening and presentation, given for Gordon Thomas, who has joined the police force in Brisbane. . . . An Intermediate C.E. has started. J.C.E. and S.S. very encouraging, with new members . . . A number of ladies attended World Day of Prayer meeting.

## THREE NEW DECISIONS

(Nambour, Qld.). There were two decisions on March 6, and four on 13th. Three were primary decisions. These have been the object of much prayer. Prayer and Bible study meetings continue to hold their interest. Recent visitors have been Denis Usher and family, Kenmore College; also Trevor Mears, formerly of Mackay, now of Kenmore . . . At a recent church meeting a Constitution was adopted . . . Denis Usher has been called to conduct a student ministry when Mr. and Mrs. Todd leave for England at the end of April . . . Brethren have held a working bee to resite the church rest rooms. Our ladies took part in the Women's World Day of Prayer.

## PRINCIPAL PREACHER

(Albion, Qld.). Dr. Jauncey is to continue as part-time preacher of the church and is to conduct a mission at Albion during September. He will be assisted by Ted Watson and Kenmore Christian College students . . . Annual meeting — elders, C. R. Burdeu, Prof. A. F. Wilson, J. G. Owen. Dallas Steigenberger (formerly of Bendigo) has been appointed a deacon . . . Bible studies held in conjunction with Kenmore College have again commenced, being held on Tuesday nights at 7.30.

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Brookfield-rd., Kenmore, Qld.

## MOVED ON

(Mayfield, N.S.W.). In recent weeks we have farewelled our church organist, John Chalker, to Nth. Albury High School staff; David Caddies, to Sydney, to train with Dept. of Territories; Miss Evelyn Harris and Mr. and Mrs. C. McCosker, to Kenmore Christian College . . . The worship service of Feb. 27 was recorded and broadcast on March 5 . . . B.S. picnic was held at Maitland Park . . . Young people shared in services on March 6, when youth tea was also held . . . On March 12, David Eagling showed slides concerning the work in New Hebrides, and brought a message to the church on 13th.

## THREE DECISIONS

(Essendon, Vic.). H. E. Steele and D. G. Andrews were guest speakers at the church anniversary services on March 6. The singing was led by the Youth Choir . . . Three Bible School girls who recently decided for Christ were baptized and received into fellowship . . . B. L. Pryor is minister.

## VIETNAM FILM

(Epping, N.S.W.). The Aust. General Secretary of W.E.C. (Rev. A. I. Davidson), screened a film on Vietnam, "Jungle Beachheads," at our midweek meeting . . . The minister, H. M. Long, has concluded a series of sermons at our morning worship, "Not of This World" . . . Boys' Brigade and Life Boys held a well attended church parade at the gospel service, and Lex Lake (Aust. Director of Life Boys) gave the address. . . . C.W.F. visited Bingley Hall Aged Peoples' Home. Mr. Long gave devotional talk . . . At the C.W.F. (Evening) meeting, demonstration and devotions was given by representative from Avon Products . . . C.M.S. visited a Formica factory at Thornleigh.

## INDIAN CRISIS

Realising the gravity of the present food crisis in India, and moved by a joint appeal by the United Nations and F.A.O. the Executive Committee of the Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign resolved yesterday to provide immediately to F.A.O. and U.N.I.C.E.F. the sum of \$20,000 for the purchase of food for the use of persons engaged in self-help food production projects in India.

The object of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign is to assist the developing countries to increase their food production. It was considered by the National Committee that the gift of this food would be one of the quickest ways in which to stimulate India's own food production. The food to be used in this project will be purchased in Australia.

The Committee also decided to allocate further funds for projects which it is supporting, as follows:—

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Through:—                                     |          |
| Food and Agriculture Organization (F.A.O.)    | \$55,580 |
| United Nations Children's Fund (U.N.I.C.E.F.) | \$46,900 |
| Catholic Overseas Relief                      | \$17,500 |
| Australian Council of Churches                | \$16,380 |
| U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees           | \$3,640  |

## S.S. GROWTH

(Bridgetown, W.A.). Eight new members have been added to the Sunday School and two teachers . . . Harvest Thanksgiving Day, on March 13, raised 14 dollars. Cases of apples donated were sent to various missionaries . . . At a recent Woman to Woman session, 12 ladies enjoyed an evening, when the theme was "A Pattern for Living." Many novel ideas suitable for stalls were exchanged . . . An appeal for India has been opened. So far 18 dollars has been given.



## 3<sup>RD</sup> YOUNG PEOPLE!

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and attend the

## 3<sup>RD</sup> NATIONAL C.Y.F. CONVENTION IN PERTH.

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Christ Hall.

# THE VIRGIN MARY

BY N. GAVROS

There are few practices of the Church of Rome today in which the revealed will of God is more flagrantly contradicted than in the extravagant honour shown to the Virgin Mary, who this church teaches, is to be addressed as "the Mother of God."

Many sincere Christians consider it uncharitable for others to object to the offering of prayers, etc., to Mary, because they say no harm is done by such acts of worship.

On the contrary, a consideration of the Scriptures, and an intelligent investigation of the facts will reveal that, in popular practice, the Virgin has practically usurped the place of her Divine Son in the scheme of redemption.

One of the prayers most used in the Church of Rome is the "Ave Maria" ("Hail Mary"), which contains the words, "Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and in the hour of death."

The Rosary consists of 150 Ave Marias, with a Pater Noster between every 10. That is to say, 150 prayers to Mary and 15 to the Holy Father.

Thus we see how large a place is given to Mary in the worship of her devotees. Let us then consider some pertinent questions regarding the Virgin Mary.

## 1. Is It Right to Pray to the Virgin Mary?

The answer to this question must be an emphatic "No," and the following are some reasons why this must be so:

1. Because worship belongs to God alone.

Jesus, when tempted by Satan to worship him, replied, "Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God and him only shalt thou serve" (Matt. 4: 10).

Scripture clearly teaches that the only Object of Worship is the true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Nowhere are Christians told to worship any other. Indeed, the worship of any other is expressly forbidden.

Therefore it is wrong to worship Mary.

2. Because prayer should be made to God alone.

Jesus said, "Pray to thy Father which is in secret" (Matt. 6: 6).

Again, nowhere in Scripture are we taught by command or example to pray to any other — hence, not to Mary.

Mr. Gavros is minister of the Church of Christ at Forestville, S.A.

## 2. What Should Be Our Attitude to the Virgin Mary?

In view of all that we have said, it may be thought that we advocate complete opposition to Mary.

This is not so!

Our attitude, as Christians, will ensure that we honour the good qualities she displayed, as we do with such people as Moses, Ruth, David, Esther, Paul, Lydia, Mary Magdalene, Alexander Campbell, Mary Slessor, etc.

They all can teach us lessons to our spiritual edification and we should thank God for their lives and examples.

### 1. We should honour Mary for her purity.

In a day when purity is more and more a subject for bad jokes, and morality is fast being relegated to a place in the past with such things as "button-up boots," we do well to remember that Mary was a pure virgin, and we all do well to emulate her purity, not only in matters of sex, but also of thought and word and deed.

### 2. We should copy her faith.

Her faith was a very real and vital thing, as evidenced by her reaction when she was told by Gabriel the staggering news that her child would be the Son of God.

Then again, at the Wedding in Cana, she believed her Son could do the impossible when she said to the servants, "Whatsoever he saith unto you, do it."

How real is our faith?

### 3. We should be as obedient as she.

When told she was to bear the Christ child she replied, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." She was quite prepared to do anything that God commanded. Are we? Or do we pick and choose as to which parts of his Word we will obey?

Prayers addressed to Mary or any other of the so-called saints are quite worthless, unscriptural and in direct opposition to the teaching of the Word of God and, therefore, ought to be abandoned.

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March 26

# WRIGHT THINKING GROWING OLD

— BY C. H. J. WRIGHT

Her hair was white; her cheeks, though pink, were covered with a network of deep, criss-crossed lines. The little girl who had come to see her pondered all this and then asked gravely, "Are you an old lady?"

"No, honey." Her eyes, bright with an unconquerable spirit, held a twinkle. "Not exactly. But I must say I've been young for a mighty long time."

More people are growing older today. During the time of the Roman Empire the average length of life was about 24 years. By 1,800 it was 35 years. By 1,900 it was 50 years. Today, it is about 70 years. Some authorities claim that many children born today could have a life expectancy of 100. The percentage of elderly people in the community is increasing all the time.

We have no choice but to grow older, but while we may lose the outward signs of youth, it is possible to retain that same buoyant, hopeful spirit that filled our earlier days. The capacity for love, for companionship, for creativeness, for intellectual activity, for many other of the plain, simple enjoyments of life, need not diminish at all with the passing of years.

But if we are to grow old gracefully and happily, we must begin to practise the art long before we reach old age. We must set the course of our lives in earlier years, and we must set it aright if we are to reach the haven of a peaceful and happy old age. The bad traits we have in earlier days often become more accentuated with the years, and the inner conflicts which we have left unsolved become an increasingly heavy burden to us.

As we grow older, what kind of people are we becoming? We ought to try so to live that, upon attaining old age, and looking back, we can successfully subject our lives to three tests.

**First:** to be able to look back with no regrets. The opening words of David Christie's lovely book, "The Service of Christ," are "When I look back to my college days, over a stretch of more than 40 years, I feel that earth has nothing to offer which I would accept in exchange for those years." It is a wonderful thing to be able to look back over the years with that kind of satisfaction.

Remember Paul, as an old man writing to Timothy, "I am ready to be offered. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith." From the point of view of the worldly man, Paul might have had many regrets, for he had missed nearly all the things for which most people strive — power, money, position. When he became a disciple of Jesus, he "suffered the loss of all things," but he had no regrets because, as he said, "I count them all as refuse that I may win Christ."

This is the only way of living which gives real satisfaction and brings you to the end without regrets. It is living for something, for Someone bigger than yourself, for some cause which is lifting the world to a higher level.

And here is a second test: a character that has mellowed with the years. Let us take Paul the aged again as an example. If a friend of his young manhood had visited him he would recognise the Paul he once had known. The same intensity, the same passion, the same flashes of fire would still be there.

But now there was a real difference. Once Paul had been harsh and intolerant, the typical persecutor and inquisitor — but now there was about him a mellowness and kindness, a tolerance and patience, a desire to understand that had not been there in earlier years.

In the companionship of Jesus Christ Paul had learned that though a man were the greatest of preachers, "able to speak with the tongues of men and of angels," though he was mighty in intellect, able to "understand all mysteries"; though he were the most lavish of philanthropists "bestowing all his goods to feed the poor," if he had not love, it was worthless.

As we grow older, do our people find us easier to live with? Do our friends find us easier to work with? Are we growing in understanding and charity?

And on the third test: Have we kept the faith? Russell Lowell said of one of his friends, "He had kept at evening the faith of morn." It is always a moving thing to see a young person professing his faith, but then that young person has not really been tested.

An old person has been tested, been through storms, and in deep water, and their testimony of the mercy, and providence and love of God is powerful and convincing. As we grow older and take our share of life's disappointment, sorrow and rebuffs, are we as sure as once we were of the love and power of God? Paul the aged could write, "For which cause we do not lose heart; but though our outward man perish yet the inward man is renewed day by day."

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

## TEN O'CLOCK CLOSING IN N.S.W.

(continued from p. 4)

It would be interesting to obtain figures on the increase of poverty resulting directly from alcohol since 10 p.m. closing was introduced to N.S.W. Unfortunately, no such figures are available, and one can only speculate on this.

These are some observations of some effects of 10 p.m. closing in N.S.W. Some are good, some are bad. But it is up to the individual to observe and decide for himself, with an unbiased mind, which is preferable.

### What To Do

An answer would seem to be to outlaw liquor altogether. Since such legislation would seem to be unlikely, we ought to be doing something to educate people to fully appreciate the danger of alcohol to the individual and to the society.

To this end it is encouraging to note that trials are being held by the Foundation for Research and Treatment of Alcoholism in an effort to educate school children on the dangers of Alcoholism. These have been made possible through a special committee formed of representatives of the Education and Health Departments and independent schools, as reported in the Sydney Press.

Despite the advertisements to the contrary, alcohol is neither necessary to the individual nor for the social occasion.

As Christians we should choose to exercise this further restraint expressed in 1 Cor. 8: 13, by the Apostle Paul, "If meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend."

## ADVERTISING RATES FOR 1966

Births, Deaths, Engagements, Marriages Memorial Notices, Thanks, etc. — per notice: 75c (7/6).

Coming Events, For Sale, To Let, Wanted, and similar advertisements, paragraphed — For 24 words: 60c (6/-). For five or more consecutive issues: 50c (5/-).

Coming Events, Displayed, and similar Displayed Items — for 24 words: 70c (7/-). For five or more consecutive issues: 60c (6/-).

Accommodation and Travel — For 24 words: \$1.00 (10/-). For five or more consecutive issues: 85c (8/6).

General Advertising — per column inch: \$1.20 (12/-). For four or more consecutive issues: \$1.00. For quarterly contract: 80c (8/-).

Full Page — \$25.00 (£12/10/-).

Half-Page — \$13.00 (£6/10/-).

Quarter-Page — \$7.00 (£3/10/-).

One-Third Page, or one column — \$9.00 (£4/10/-).

For one-third page or more, discount at 10 per cent allowed for four or more weeks booked; 20 per cent for 12 or more issues booked.

# PERSONAL

## DISCIPLESHIP

Mr. and Mrs. Hoskin, Mrs. Henley, Misses Lorraine Bassett, Lyn. Jolly, Margaret King, Doris Turner, Nailsworth, S.A.  
 Sherrel and Peter Vesely, Murray Bridge, S.A.  
 Christine Hewitt, Russell Waddle, Carolyn Cock, Roger Hancock, Brighton Gardens, S.A.  
 Wendy Fisher, Albion, Qld.  
 Mary James, Robert Berry, Sunshine, Vic.  
 Gail and Janis Patten, Ringwood, Vic.  
 Dianne Hartney, Maureen Hartney, Essendon, Vic.  
 Neil Sobey, Geoffrey Harrison, York-st., Ballarat, Vic.  
 Kym Shields, Fay Storer, Jane Alexander, Dareton, Vic.  
 Mrs. Boss, Burwood, N.S.W.  
 Joan Mann, Brenda Ducat, Vicki Graham, Lynette Price, John Pitts, Brighton, Vic.  
 Jeanette Simpson, Black Rock, Vic.

## DEATHS

W. Kerville, Red Hill, Vic.  
 A. Lambert, A. Farrow, Nailsworth, S.A.

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

J. C. Berry (secretary, Doncaster church), 384 High-st., Lower Templestowe, Vic. Phone 850-2902.  
 C. G. Dredge (minister, Ascot Park), 90 Nilpena-ave., Parkholme, S.A. Phone 95-4960.  
 A. G. Leane (minister, Naracoorte, S.A.), 13 Livingston-st., Naracoorte, S.A. Phone 21147.

## THE CAMPBELL SINGERS Victorian Churches of Christ YOUTH CHOIR

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### Three GREAT RALLIES of the 101st STATE CONFERENCE

WED., MARCH 30, 7.15 p.m.—  
 St. Kilda Town Hall.  
 SAT., APRIL 2, 8 p.m.—  
 South Melb. Town Hall.  
 SUN., APRIL 3, 2.30 p.m.—  
 Melbourne Town Hall.

The Singers invite all their friends, the Churches they have assisted, and all brotherhood minded people to share in these Inspirational Sessions.

Mr. Ron Mullen, Musical Director.  
 Mr. Geoff. Cheal, Accompanist.  
 Miss P. Tippett, Secretary.

## MEMBERSHIP

Mr. and Mrs. Henrick, Ascot Park; Mrs. J. Ritter, Glenelg, to Brighton Gardens, S.A.  
 Mrs. Smith, to Nailsworth, S.A.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Murray Tassicker, Maylands, W.A. to Busselton, W.A.  
 Mrs. F. Vesely, Bordertown to Murray Bridge, S.A.  
 Ian Gates, Unley to Brooklyn Park, S.A.  
 Mr. and Mrs. D. Chigwidden, and Alan and Graham, Bordertown to Fullarton, S.A.  
 Mr. and Mrs. R. Beaumont, Burwood to Telopea, N.S.W.  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. Wooten, Scarborough (recently of Leonora), to Kalgoorlie, W.A.

## MARRIAGES

Virginia Rae Cordy to Robert Haddon, Sunshine, Vic.  
 Valda Morrison to Maxwell Bulley, Hartwell, Vic.  
 Kaye Wainwright to Vince Reilly, Busselton, W.A.  
 Faye Zeller to Victor Holt, Chinchilla, Qld.  
 Dorothy Gregson to Milton Tattersall, Manifold Heights, Vic.

## BELGRAVE HEIGHTS EASTER CAMP

Applications now being received.  
 Open to all young people over 15.  
 Applications close April 1.  
 Ron Muller, 80 Rostrevor-pde., Box Hill, Vic. 89-3294.  
 (Churches of Christ Evangelical Fellowship).

## Missionary Conference HAWTHORN, S.A.

Arranged by the S.A. Overseas Missions Department,  
**Saturday, April 2**  
 Afternoon Sessions, 2 and 3.40 p.m.  
 Evening Session, 7 p.m.  
 Missionary Panel—  
 R. Combridge — Supt., New Hebrides.  
 Miss D. Howden — New Guinea.  
 Miss H. Skuce — India.  
 E. Enright — Coonoor, India.  
 Mr. and Mrs. G. Sonsie — New Guinea.  
 Missionary Exhibition, Creche, Picnic  
 Tea, Cups of Tea provided.

## HOLY LAND STUDY TOUR KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE, Kenmore, Queensland,

proposes to sponsor same next summer, conducted by Dr. JAUNCEY.  
 Persons interested please write.

## BIRTH

LADNER (nee Young). — Beryl and Graham are happy to announce the arrival of Andrea Beryl, at "Hillcrest," North Fremantle, W.A., on March 6. Both mother and daughter are well.

## ENGAGEMENT

DEGUET - GRIFFIN. — The engagement is announced of Glenda Leigh, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Deguet, of Hove, to Neil Ralph, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Griffin, Glenelg North, S.A.

## APPROACHING MARRIAGE

TREGLOAN - BROWN. — The marriage of Gwenda, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Tregloan, 84 Cudmore-ter., Whyalla, S.A., to Darrell, elder son of Mrs. M. M. Brown, 114 Crebert-st., Mayfield, N.S.W., and the late Mr. H. B. Brown, will be solemnised at Whyalla Church of Christ, S.A., on Saturday, April 2, 1966, at 2.30 p.m., D. M. Hughes officiating.

## SILVER WEDDING

NANKIVELL - DURDIN. — Graeme, David, Helen and Alan are happy to announce the 25th wedding anniversary of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Reg. Nankivell, Tumby Bay, S.A., solemnised at Beverley Church of Christ, March 15, 1941. Pastors I. Durdin and W. Nankivell officiated.

TROMPF - CLAPHAM. — The family of Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Trompf, 10 Severn-st., North Balwyn, Vic., have much pleasure in announcing the 25th anniversary of their parents' wedding, celebrated at Gardiner Church of Christ, Melbourne, on March 29, 1941, by Thomas Hagger.

## ACCOMMODATION

ACCOMMODATION (share), Canterbury, Vic., suit young women friends. Contact Social Service Dept., 217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne (32-2447).

ACCOMMODATION. — Free, suit active woman pensioner who would care for child aged 5 when mother at work. Contact Social Service Dept., 217 Lonsdale-st., Melbourne (32-2447).

## FOR SALE

BELGRAVE, KALLISTA, £1,250 DEP. 3-bedroom W.B. home, H.W.S., septic, car port, slow combustion and elec. stove, Wonderheat, carpets, lovely views, nice garden, a very comfortable home. Full price, \$3,990. Phone 75-98386, or write V. Watson, Kallista, Vic.

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## DEATHS

SMITH. — On March 9, at Camperdown and District Hospital, John Edward (Jack) Smith, beloved husband of Myrtle, loving father of Margaret and Lynette (dec.), loved father-in-law of Robert Gunner, and adored papa of Bronwyn. Aged 64 years. Late of Bamberd. and Surrey Hills churches.

SMITH. — On March 9, at Camperdown, John Edward (Jack) Smith. Loyal friend of Bert and Alison Oldfield and loved Gramps of Robert. "At rest."

TRICKEY. — On March 3, William Thomas. In loving memory of the wonderful husband of Dorothy, and father of Lynden, Lois and Noel, father-in-law of Christine, dear friend of David. "Absent from the body, present with the Lord."

TRICKEY. — On March 3, William Thomas, dearly loved son of George and Mary, fond brother of Hazel and Melva. "Behind all shadows standeth God."

KEATS. — On March 8 (result of accident on Feb. 13), Albert, loved husband of Pearl (dec.), loved father of Myra and Laurie Ladgrove, grandfather of Barry, Rodney and Jeffrey, Broadmeadows, Vic.

## IN MEMORIAM

PHILLIPS, Harriet. — Treasured memories of dear mother, who passed away March 27, 1947.—Inserted by her loving daughter, Elsie, and son-in-law Walter, Cremorne, N.S.W.

## BENDIGO (Vic.)

### CENTENARY and Homecoming Services

OCTOBER 29 to NOVEMBER 6, 1966.

We would love to have fellowship with all our past members, but ask that you please contact

Mrs. C. F. Houston,  
 4 Davies Court, Bendigo, Vic.,  
 and let us know your present address.  
 Hospitality provided.

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## SUNDAY SCHOOL AIDS

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 Teaching Handbooks . . .  
 Flannel-graphs and Activity Materials . . .  
 Greeting Cards . . . Easter Music.

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317 Collins-st., Melb. (62-5581)  
 100 Ryrle-st., Geelong (Tel. 4229).

## NEW MINISTER INDUCTED

(Manifold Heights, Vic.). Church members welcomed Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Stevens and family on Feb. 5, and on Feb. 6, Keith Jones (College of the Bible) conducted induction service . . . Ten new teachers have been welcomed into S.S. work. Book presentations have been made to Miss Jennifer Douglas (teaching at Ballarat), Miss Valerie Greenaway (Horsesham) and Peter Bauer (Adelaide) . . . On Feb. 27, Harvest Festival goods were given to Glastonbury Orphanage . . . We enjoyed fellowship as hosts to Ballarat, Colac and Geelong churches for conference on March 5. C.W.E.F. provided afternoon tea and supper, and pies and soup at nominal charge for tea. Guest speakers enjoyed were Rev. R. H. Sunderland (Church and Life Movement), Kevin Harvey (H.M. Dept.) . . . On March 13, young people from Norlane Salvation Army, "The Glory Beats," entertained us at fellowship hour . . . Six young people attended Missionary Encounter Camp at Monbulk . . . At C.W.E.F., ladies learnt the art of making smocked aprons.

## NEW PRESIDENTS

(Maidstone, Vic.). During February two young men from Mr. Snow's presidents' class, presided at morning service — Peter Heath and Lance Patterson. Both presided with humility and dignity. It is encouraging to find young people interested in church work . . . The combined prayer rally was held at Williamstown church on Feb. 24. It was a time of prayer and fellowship, but the response was poor. It was also an opportunity to meet the new ministers from district churches. J. Weldon, of Williamstown, presided, and V. Quayle, of Sunshine, gave the address . . . At the Women's World Day of Prayer, on Feb. 25, Mrs. Duan, from Maidstone, gave a Bible reading.

## HOME TO MOTHER

(Bendigo, Vic.). Kangaroo Flat have been accepted back into membership with the "mother" church — we now are known as the Bendigo District Churches of Christ, comprising congregations meeting at Short Street, Spring Gully and Kangaroo Flat. The ministers are M. J. Drake and D. Potter . . . Centenary plans are well under way. It was decided to build a minister's study, church office and new entrance foyer . . . At the annual business meeting on March 9, the following were elected: elder, Grat-

ton Doolan; deacons, Ron Lacy, John Langley, Harold Langley, Ray Perl; sec., Mrs. C. F. Houston; treas., Jack Glenister.

## GOOD HARVEST

(Red Cliffs, Vic.). Harvest Thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 27, and later 15 boxes and bags of goods were forwarded to our Homes . . . The Cook family took charge of the 2nd Family Night on March 6, when the theme was "Something Personal." This was also the subject of Mr. Marshall's address. Mrs. Clarke, of Buronga, N.S.W., was soloist in main service . . . Mr. and Mrs. Paulson, Aboriginal singers from Nth. Qld., gave items in the "Sing Song" after C.Y.F. paid a visit to Channel STV8 in Mildura, on March 11 . . . Women's World Day of Prayer was held in our church, with leaders of all Red Cliffs churches taking part. '75 present.

## MISSIONARY VISITOR

(Black Rock, Vic.). Family tea was held recently to allow members to meet Miss D. Lake, a missionary from New Hebrides. She later showed slides and gave a stimulating talk on the work in the islands . . . A young lady of C.Y.F. group confessed Christ and was baptized . . . The minister, P. Payne, has accepted a second three-year term of part-time ministry . . . The annual business meeting was held on March 10.

## DECISIONS AT RINGWOOD

(Vic.). Two C.Y.F. girls were received into membership through faith and baptism on March 13 . . . C.M.S. conducted a family worship service, and presented the film, "God Loves You." Singalong was enjoyed after the service . . . C.M.S. have also helpfully reorganised parking area . . . New appointments on Officers' Board are: Ian Smith, chairman; A. Hall, general B.S. supt.; Peter Burden and John Kinrade, deacons . . . C.W.F. have undertaken to clothe a senior girl of Carnarvon Aborigines Mission, W.A. . . . Young people will be attending Easter youth camps at Monbulk, Mildura and Eppalock . . . Offering for India Food Appeal at present is \$261 . . . Colin Lawn, deacon and church paper editor, suffered severe facial injuries in accident whilst teaching at High School. Plastic surgery was necessary and he is making good progress . . . Mrs. F. Roberts is making some progress, though very ill.

## 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.  
 Final series on "Sermon on the Mount."

7 p.m. — GOSPEL HOUR. "KNOW YOUR BIBLE" Course.

March 27 — Exodus, "Men in Chains."

Printed study outline each week for each worshipper



# - OBITUARY -

Archibald Lambert.

The church at Nailsworth, S.A., was parted from one of its noblest sons on Feb. 8, 1966, when Archie Lambert died, aged 60 years. The church joined his wife and son and sisters in the sadness of his going, for here, indeed, we parted with a Christian gentleman. Mr. Lambert was born at Rhynie, in S.A. He shared for a time with the church at Mosman, N.S.W., but the major part of his life was given to the Nailsworth church, where for 33 years he worshipped and served various terms as elder, deacon, Bible Class leader and B.S. teacher. On the Sunday preceding his death he occupied his accustomed place in the services. On the day of his decease he went to his work as a printer. The writer conducted a largely attended funeral service in the chapel and at the graveside.—C.E.W.

Albert E. Farrow.

Another respected member was lost to the Nailsworth church, when Albert Farrow, aged 84, died in hospital after a long illness. Mr. Farrow linked up with Nailsworth church in 1923, and for 43 years, until feebleness prevented he was regular in his attendance at services. During his membership he held office of elder and deacon, and for a time was Sunday School supt. Mr. Farrow was a man respected in the community. As a young man, he served with the Forces in the First World War; he then became an employee of the local council, and was on their payroll for 40 years. His wife, Mrs. Ethel Farrow, is still with us, and we commend her to the love and care of our Heavenly Father.—R.E.P.

Elvina Elizabeth Barnacle.

The year before her birth, in 1884, Miss Barnacle's father, John Barnacle, together with John Gray and Tom Bull, began the church meeting at Port Fairy, Vic. Thus for almost 82 years her life was associated with Churches of Christ. Miss Barnacle was baptized at the old Malvern church, and subsequently had membership at Swanston Street and Glenferrie, before coming to Camberwell about 45 years ago. Of quiet, cheerful disposition, she did not seek the limelight, but gave what service she could, playing the organ, singing in the choir, helping wherever asked. "What she had to do, she did well," is but one tribute paid her. The last 11 years of her life were spent at the

Emmaus Rest Home, where she passed suddenly and quietly to be with her Lord on Feb. 16. For her brother Charles, and sister Pearl (Mrs. Gray, Toowoomba, Qld.) we pray the love and comfort of our Heavenly Father.—A. H. Coleman.

Florence Whelan.

After 30 years as an invalid, Mrs. Florence Whelan died at the age of 89. She was the loved wife of the late Joseph Whelan, M.A., for more than 20 years minister of the church at Chatswood, N.S.W. Florence was the youngest daughter of John and Jeannie Woodhead, of "Kirklands," Surrey Hills, Vic. They were members at Swanston Street and regularly attended the services there — travelling the eight miles in a horse-drawn vehicle. To help establish a church at Surrey Hills, they gave the land on which the chapel was later built. At the age of 13, Florence was baptized by the late John Barnacle. She lived near to the Lord all her life and loved and served him with deep devotion. She was a true help-meet to her husband. When illness came she continued by prayer, counsel and encouragement, to help him in his ministry. Mrs. Whelan had a very gracious and most unselfish nature and was always eager to express her appreciation of even the smallest kindness shown to her. In a perfectly calm manner she selected the hymns for her funeral service, and asked that the service should be one of tribute, triumph and thanksgiving; but the tribute was not to be to her, but to her husband; triumph, through trust in Christ, was to be her own testimony, and thanksgiving was to be her final word to the many friends to whom she felt indebted, including the Matron and staff of our Ashwood House Home for Aged Ladies, where she spent the last ten years of her life, and especially to one who went with Mr. Whelan to the College at Glen Iris, in 1911, and was her friend and adviser in all the years since Mr. Whelan's death. We thank God for Mrs. Whelan's faithful ministry in the homeland and in her support of our overseas work, especially our orphanages in India. The funeral services at the Chatswood church and Northern Suburbs Crematorium were conducted by Cecil Thomson, a former minister of our churches, who was baptized by Mr. Whelan at Footscray, C. G. Taylor, B.A., present minister at Chatswood, and the writer.—D. Wakeley.

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## "THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN" 50 YEARS AGO 1916

CURRENT TOPICS. In State Schools. The Methodists of South Aust. have had a somewhat spirited debate on scripture instruction in State Schools. Mr. O. Lake retiring Pres., said that the movement for scriptural instruction was an effort to Anglicise our schools, and that "you cannot trust the Anglicans in this matter." This seems a strong statement to make, and only likely to perpetuate partisanship rather than tend to a unifying of Christian forces. As Mr. Lake or any other Methodist minister would have as much opportunity of instructing the Methodist children as an Anglican would of teaching those of his own denomination, we fail to see where there is any unfair advantage or any need for lack of confidence in those who seek such a desirable object. (J.E. Thomas). HERE AND THERE. S. G. Griffiths, at Dunedin, N.Z., reports eleven additions to the church, and audiences increased fully fourfold . . . There were fourteen decisions at the Burns-Shipway mission at Rochester, Vic. . . . Only a quarter of one per cent of the 50 million in Japan are Christians, but half the decorations to educators bestowed at the coronation of the new Emperor went to Christians . . . FROM THE FIELD. Newmarket, Vic. We have lost two more of our young men from the activities of the church: H. White having gone to Queenscliff on military duty, and G. Rankin about to leave for active service. A. T. Pierson. In memory of the devoted life and service rendered to missionary work throughout the world, an A. T. Pierson Memorial Bible School has been organised in Korea to teach scripture.

## Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



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### CHRISTIAN BOOK WEEK.

reviews of specially selected books have been prepared by the Federal Literature Department.



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In Lent, 1965, Dr. Barclay was invited to give six talks on the Life of Jesus, on Scottish B.B.C. Television; and now these messages are available to us in a slender S.C.M. paperback edition, at \$0.65.

Do you know five things Jesus learned by heart as a Jewish boy? — Is the leadership of Jesus midst life's conflicts meaningful to you? — Has it dawned upon you, who Jesus really is? — Does the mystery and the magnetism of his cross grip you and cause you to say: "What Jesus suffered, he suffered for me?"

If you would see Jesus in the early and preparatory phase of his life — if you would appreciate the nature of his purpose and courage; — if you would be more deeply aware that "Christ is risen!"; — if you would experience more fully the sheer adven-

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# OPEN FORUM

We invite correspondence, but ask that letters be brief. If they exceed 250 words, the Editor reserves the right to reduce or reject. "Let thy words be few" (Eccl. 5: 2).

## WHO FOR KOOYONG?

To the Editor,  
The Leader of the Opposition in the Federal House said that the Kooyong election will be a test of the electors' approval, or otherwise, of our attitude to Vietnam.

Now that Mr. Andrew Peacock has been chosen as the Liberal candidate for that constituency, it might also be an opportunity for many people to register their disapproval of the introduction of "10 p.m. closing" without the promised referendum, by not supporting this President of the State Liberal Party, who so strongly advocated the violation of the Premier's promise of "No change in hotel trading hours without referendum." I think so.

—James Holloway, Vic.

## FORCE IN RHODESIA.

To the Editor,  
L. O. Collyer appears to have misunderstood both my letter and Dr. Crowley's original article. I condemned not only the use of force, but also the use of sanctions as an "act of war, unjustifiable war."

Mr. Collyer has been carried away by his own imagination as a result of misreading my meaning. The whole of his letter is thus irrelevant to the criticism I made, except, as so often happens nowadays, my queries brought forth the stigma of "racial prejudice."

In our brother's last paragraph he asks, "when will we Christian people acclaim, and show, to the colored races that we have no part in the political and economic forces that deny them equality with ourselves . . . ?" A good question, but why limit equality, etc., to the "colored races"? and how can such a statement tie in with sanctions against (the peoples) of Rhodesia?

I agree with the last three points of the World Council of Churches' resolution on Rhodesia ("A.C." March 3), the first two (sanctions) merely kick the man we should be helping.

My last paragraph was misconstrued altogether. The point I made and make is this: Had Mr. Smith been a black man leading a similar black minority, his seizing of power would not have invoked sanctions or the attention of Mr. Collyer.

—John J. Alderson, Vic.

## FAITH AND DOUBT SONGS.

To the Editor,  
After nearly 50 years as a preacher of the Churches of Christ, I was deeply shocked at the programme distributed at the Myer Music Bowl on March 16, at the meeting for young people. In my opinion, it was blasphemous, and a shocking example of bad taste.

Just how such a programme could, in any way, help the young people of our churches, is putting a severe strain on one's imagination. In spite of many imperfections and faults in our brotherhood activities over the years, we have kept the scriptural injunction to "preach the word," "that faith comes by hearing," and hearing by the Word of God.

Whether we agree, or like some of today's modern minds, infer that the gospels are out-dated, the great and only commission is, "to go into all the world, in every age, and preach the gospel to every creature."

—H. Hargreaves, Vic.

## CHURCHES ENCOURAGED

(N.S.W.). The Conf. Pres., C. E. Bowser, B.A., Dip.Ed., has been busily engaged in visitation throughout the State, bringing encouragement especially to those in country and isolated areas. His recent visits have included Taree, Port Macquarie, Macksville, Wingham and Comboyne on the mid-north coast; Wentworth Falls and Penrith in the west; and Gilgandra and Broken Hill in the far-west.

## HOME BIBLE STUDY

(Kalgoorlie, W.A.). Bible studies which are being held in homes of three different areas during the week are proving very helpful, and many members are attending them. At the church one night, Thea Lake, missionary in the New Hebrides, spoke and showed slides of her work . . . The half-hour broadcast session held on Sundays has recommenced . . . The young people held a mystery car trial one evening . . . On the Labor Day holiday, 26 people journeyed to Norseman for an Endeavour rally and picnic, with other Endeavourers from Norseman and Esperance . . . The annual general business meeting has been held. It revealed that our membership of 94 shows a slight increase on the previous year. Eleven deacons were appointed. K. Smales is secretary, and M. Turner is treasurer.

## S.A. MINISTERS

The S.A. Ministers' Fraternal meets at 10.30 a.m. on Monday, April 4, at Gawler Place. Subject, "Churches of Christ in Great Britain and America." Speaker, E. P. C. Hollard.

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## BEHIND PRISON WALLS

# He Sets the Prisoners Free

BY A. R. JONES, A.U.A.,  
Chaplain, Yatala Prison.



Tony is very vague about the crime that sent him to prison for life. His mind seems to be a complete blank. He can't even remember other people being present. It appears that his mind has completely obliterated the whole horrible event. But it worried him. He had come to the place of repentance and faith and had found forgiveness, but he was left disturbed because of this vagueness of the past and was often depressed. He seemed to be so burdened at times that it was difficult to feel that there had been any deliverance at all.

One day the chaplain asked if the sense of guilt was still there, or was it self-pity? Was he sorry for himself rather than sorry for what he had done? It is often harder for these men to forgive themselves than accept God's forgiveness, and only time and deepening faith enables them to do it. He agreed that self-pity was the possible cause of his depression. He had been helped by the talk and left the office saying, "You've given me an anchor this morning to stop the ship from dragging."

Then one day two special visitors were received. They were the crown witnesses at his trial. They had come to talk with Tony, and say how sorry they were that they had to testify against him, but wanted to clear up a few doubts in his mind. Tony accepted their statement and was no longer concerned about the past.

On his next visit Tony's happiness was apparent. He had read Isaiah 42:7, and in it, it seemed that God spoke to him and showed him a new freedom that

even he in bondage could find. He spoke about people being in bondage in their own souls. He said that he could see how easily people were enslaved to things, but the Lord wanted them all to be free. To the disciples Jesus said, "Follow me," and they left all to follow Him.

They were free — free from self and things because they followed Jesus. To some others he said, "Follow me" — but they made excuses. They remained in bondage. (1) Until we leave all and follow Jesus, we are in bondage. When we leave all and follow him we are free. This is how Tony reasoned and how he explained it all to the chaplain. He had made a most wonderful discovery.

"Four walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage," Tony said. He was free and he wanted to share his new freedom with every man in the prison. Lifers are his special interest because, he said, "They have a different attitude to life." (2) He knows that they suffer much from a guilty conscience and he wants to help them get on top of it.

"A life sentence closes the door for you. It shuts you off from the future. You can see the mental strain in some men's faces when sentences are taken seriously. I want to help these men find this freedom."

It's over six months now since Tony found his freedom and, although his health has not been good, he has maintained his witness that Christ

"Breaks the power of cancelled sin. He sets the prisoner free."

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## UNIVERSITY OF 7 SEAS

(Sydney). Some of our brethren in this State had the privilege of meeting and sharing in fellowship with members of the floating "University of the Seven Seas" — a ship-load of U.S. students, professors and lecturers sailing around the world under the sponsorship of the Disciples of Christ Chapman College, California. Chaplain and Lecturer, Robert Haegenberger, and party, were welcomed by N.S.W. Director of Dept. of Christian Education, Bruce Armstrong, and enjoyed visits to C.T.B.Y.P.S.C.E. on March 9, and to Woolwich College on March 10.

The "University of the Seven Seas" consists of 314 students, and 40 professors and lecturers. They have already visited Honolulu and New Zealand, and when they leave our Australian shores their study tour takes them on to Singapore, India, Suez, Palestine, Greece, Italy, North Africa, and finally back to New York, U.S.A.

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP IN U.S.

(New York). Church and synagogue membership in the U.S. totalled 123,307,449 in 1964, an increase of "slightly less than 2 per cent" in a year when the population rose by less than 1.5 per cent.

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THE LAST  
WORD

Crucifixion.

Jesus endured the Cross, despising  
the shame.

—Hebrews 12: 2.

Under the Eastern sky,  
Amid a rabble's cry,  
A Man went forth to die  
For me.

Thorn-crowned his blessed head,  
Blood-stained his every tread,  
Cross-laden on he sped  
For me.

Thus was thou made all mine,  
Lord, make me wholly thine,  
Grant grace and strength divine  
To me.

—Author Unknown.

☆

One of the weaknesses of our age is  
our apparent inability to distinguish our  
need from our greed.

☆

He reminds me of the man who mur-  
dered his parents, and then — when the  
sentence was about to be pronounced —  
pleaded for mercy on the grounds that  
he was an orphan.

—Abraham Lincoln.

☆

Don't be discouraged if your efforts  
are criticised. At least you've done some-  
thing worth talking about.

☆

A man answered an ad. for a job at  
the zoo. He got the job and was dressed  
up as a chimpanzee and told to perform  
in one of the cages. All went well for  
several days, and then, as he was swing-  
ing from limb to limb on the tree in  
his cage he fell against the lion's cage.  
Scared, he called out, "Help, Help!"

"Be quiet," said the lion, "or we'll both  
lose our jobs."