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IN EVERY STATE

THE AUSTRALIAN
CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL WEEKLY OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

HOSPITAL VISITOR

There are many news reports that come to this paper which mention casually the visits paid to the hospitals. These casual reports reflect a very precious ministry.

Naturally, children's hospitals are among those visited. In the big children's hospitals in the capital cities there are children with parents in the country too far away for regular visitation. In these cases a strong bond is often forged between the children and the church visitor who represents both the love of the family and the concern of our Heavenly Father. There are city children who are even more lonely. Indeed, some of them are in hospital because of the indifference and neglect of their families. A new understanding of the meaning of love and concern is often discovered in a hospital bed.

Adults, too, often have needs far greater than the surgical or medical problem that brought them to hospital. Occasionally, the visitors involve their ministers as helpful counsellors. In other cases, the hospital visitors go to the homes of the patients to cook and wash and give what help is needed. Sometimes they even bring neglected children into their own homes for the duration of a mother's sickness.

The hospital visitor comes close to the tragedy that is a part of every hospital. But their ministry brings comfort and courage, and, sometimes, a new faith to the patients they serve.

This is an important job being well done for Christ.

DANGERS IN UNITY

In last week's "A.C." A. M. Jackson had an article on "Unity's Demands and Dangers." Among many other fine things, he said, "There is also the danger that some may compromise truth for the sake of unity, or that others may hinder unity by their pride and prejudice."

We need to recognise that these dangers are very real for us and we must discuss them frankly. Truth is not being compromised when we recognise another person's honesty and seek ways of sharing with him and worshipping with him in mutual love for Christ. I take it that to "compromise truth" means to endanger the very interests of truth and in order to gain some kind of advantage, surrender principles that are built upon truth itself.

Any unity achieved by compromising truth in this way would not be unity at all. As Christians, we are bound to follow the truth as we know it. To deny the truth is to deny Christ.

Once upon a time I argued that a man could not change his faith in order to marry. He can deny his faith by giving a verbal form of allegiance to another church, but he cannot change his faith in order to marry. Religious faith is directed toward God, and only a change in attitude to God can rightly be called a change of faith.

Christian unity is a kind of marriage. It could be that in conversation with churches there could be some change in some of our attitudes, as, indeed, there could be changes in the attitudes of other churches! But Christian union has no future unless it is based on truth as well as love.

Pride and prejudice may be hindrances to unity that are hard to recognise. If we were proud and prejudiced it is almost certain that we would find better names to describe our attitudes: like loyalty and perseverance. It is not uncommon for folk to regard their actions as in defence of the church and her Lord, when what they are actually defending is their tradition.

James Gray, in "The Challenge of Christian Unity" (Bethany), said, "By virtue of our origin and witness we have been a kind of protest group with a zeal to see all churches reformed according to the word of God. We have thought we had the key to reunion, and it has been hard for many of us to see any other solution to the problems of our divisions unless every other church became like us . . . there has been among us too often a spirit of exclusiveness which has been narrow and sometimes self-righteous."

These dangers associated with Christian unity are not by any means confined to our movement. Every church is facing them. How they and we face them will determine the course of unity in our day.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

118-125 Hawke St.,
West Melbourne, C.3.

Phone 30 - 1848

Vol. 69

No. 19

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DEADLINE FOR NEWS
AND ADVERTISEMENTS:
MONDAY AFTERNOON

COVER BLOCK:

"Hospital Visitor."

The cover picture is printed with
acknowledgment to
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Pty. Ltd.

• CHRISTIAN WOMEN SERVING

IN SOCIAL SERVICES

BY Mrs. L. JONES, N.S.W.

When my husband comes home of an evening and asks about my day, I hasten to tell him of the proficiency of my domestic management. Closer questioning reveals that, apart from Wednesday, which is spent at the offices of the Social Services Department, other days are often spent doing some kind of Social Service work.

This is utterly absorbing. Sometimes my time is spent writing articles, giving talks, attending meetings and answering the telephone. Since I go to the office on Wednesdays only, some days our telephone rings incessantly. Today I had a telephone call from a disappointed husband in a broken marriage, a mother in need of psychiatric treatment who needed to place her five children in foster homes, the social worker of a psychiatric clinic about a lass who is coming to us for supportive care and employment while undergoing treatment, and a woman who has been ill and accumulated more debts than she can cope with.

You may well wonder if these are ordinary people, the sort of people you know!

Problems

As we share in the hopes, the joys, the fears, the disappointments of the people who come to the office, we realise more and more that there is not a life without a problem of some kind. We know that by reading the newspapers of some of the difficulties faced by people in our community, but most of us feel these things cannot happen to us or the people we know.

In spite of this, most of those who come to us with problems belong to our own church congregations. Their problems include those of the unmarried mother, marriage problems, educational and occupational difficulties, teenage problems, prisoner rehabilitation, children in need of temporary foster home care, home help services, care of the aged, and so we go on. What happens and why do people make mistakes?

Every day, though often we do not realise it, we are all trying to get on with the people we live with, whether it be at home, at work, at school, or with our friends. Many of the problems that come to us occur when people have failed to form and maintain satisfactory relationships with one another.

The reasons for these failures are countless. They may go back into childhood or adolescence. They may be

Mrs. Jones is a worker with the Social Services Dept. of the N.S.W. Churches of Christ.

caused by too much dependence on others, or financial problems, lack of education, poor health, or inherent difficulties. Some problems may have been caused by living through one or two world wars, a depression and the affluent society of the 1950's and 1960's. All these things have an effect on the individual and his family life.

Daily Programme

To describe a typical day in the life of the Social Services Department is almost impossible. There are discussions and interviews which bring telephone calls and letters which are written and need to be answered. We know that a planned day is essential — appointments must not overlap.

When peoples' problems are too big for them, they are in a state of turmoil. We try not to add to their agitation by keeping them waiting. Despite careful planning, the days are often just not long enough — an urgent interview or a particularly difficult problem can change the best of plans.

I want to tell you about Mr. and Mrs. X, and their family, so there won't be enough space to tell you about the meetings there are to go to, the lectures to attend, and the discussions which are going on all the time at our office. It is a pity, because I wanted you to know about our Marriage Guidance Courses, and Social Service Survey, which is the little journal we print to let church members know of the work we do and how they can help us.

Case History

Mr. and Mrs. X, and their difficulties, are typical of those experienced by people who come to us. They are both essentially nice people, and were once said to be "very well suited," but their marriage became a disaster. They have been coming to us for counselling for some time now. When they first came we were impressed with them as people. They were well dressed and pleasant looking, but after fifteen years of marriage the only thing they seemed to have in common was that they were obviously apprehensive about coming to see us, and they shared a mutual dislike for one another.

They told us first that for about twelve years they had been reasonably satisfied with their marriage, but then the whole truth began to tumble out. Mr. X had always been very dependent on his parents. They were nice people, said Mrs. X, but they thought they were still Bob's advisers. This caused friction.

Mrs. X was also a dependent type of person, so she didn't mind some of their

advice, but when they had children she emerged a great deal more as a personality. She resented being told by her in-laws, as well as her own family, how to rear their children. There was more trouble because Mr. X saw no reason to limit his parents' influence on their lives.

Mrs. X had always had most things she wanted, and even though Mr. X's income was quite good, it did not allow for the expense of children and indulgences for Mrs. X. With the refrigerator, television, washing machine and house on hire purchase, they both had to cut down on luxuries and budget seriously. This made her discontented, particularly when, as the children grew older, they became more expensive.

Jim, their elder boy, was not very bright. His teachers were kind about it, but made it quite clear that he would only ever be able to do routine work. This was the added thorn for them since Mr. X was a reasonably successful man, and Mrs. X had held a good position before marriage. The lad had become a behaviour problem at school and at home because they expected too much of him.

Hire purchase problems, discontent, interference, school problems and a rebellious lad made an unpleasant situation. Their life is improving. They have accepted their son's ability and are developing his interests along the lines advised.

The X's are learning to make their own decisions, and are happier for it. We have helped them work out a budget which has relieved their financial situation. They are beginning to find that life together as a family can be enjoyable once more.

While Mr. and Mrs. X feel they have need of our assistance, we will be there to assist them, but we hope they will come to the stage when they will need us no longer.

There is great joy when we see a happy ending to a difficult beginning. Sometimes there is a great sadness.

Why Bother?

It is very easy to wonder, "Why bother about all this?" A new Australian, who had escaped the Hungarian uprising, said to me one day, "You do not even know me. Why are you going to so much trouble?" When I said to him, "You are important in the sight of God, and so, of course, you are important to us," I realised I had given him the very reason for the existence of the Social Services Department and my own reason for working with it.

CONFERENCE COMMENTS

BY A. C. MALE, Dip.R.E.

Guest speaker at this year's Conference was E. T. Hart, of the New South Wales Social Service Dept., who previously served in two Queensland ministries at Boonah and Toowoomba, and naturally there were many scenes of reunion as friendships were renewed with this "gentle giant" of the faith.

Speaking appointments included an address on "Love" from 1 Cor. 13, which was given at the Women's Conference; the Rally organised by the Aborigine and Overseas Missions Committees, and at the Rally arranged by the Home Missions and Social Services Committees; the "Youth Sensational '66," and the combined Communion Service on the Sunday morning. The latter two were held at the City Hall, Brisbane, and the other Conference services were held at Ann Street chapel.

Prior to Conference, Mr. Hart led the men of the churches in studies on "Saints in Overalls," at the men's camp held at Caloundra, with about 60 delegates. Immediately following the men's camp, the ministers were led in their studies by Mr. Hart on the subject, "The Church, 30 Years Ago, Now and Future," in which his valuable experience was shared with all who attended. After the Conference he began a mission with the Kedron church.

Alex. Surtees Concludes Conference Year. Combining the duties of Conference President and Home Mission's Directorship, Alex. Surtees made his valuable contribution to the life of the brotherhood in this State by his capable leadership, clear guidance and his willingness to sacrifice time and energy in carrying out his God-given task. In a closing word of appreciation, mention was made of his leadership throughout the year and that the prayers of the State will be with him this year as he continues in the "front-line" of the Home Missions Department.

Positive attitude of goodwill expressed in appreciation to a large number. All Conference Department leaders were commended for their share in leading the brotherhood in the past year. C.R. Burdeu received another first to add to his distinguished list, as he became the First Life Member of Social Services in Queensland, in recognition for his witness in the field of "inasmuch."

His commitment to the work and witness of Christ was highlighted when it was stated that he made the first contribution of 10/- towards the Aged Person's Home, aptly titled "Burdeu House," which stands as a monument to him and his wife, who both continue to serve as the cooking staff of Kenmore College. Queensland salutes this Adventurer in the Faith.

Matrons and staff of the Homes; Miss Marj. Skennerton for her service in the

bookroom; Dennis Usher, student at Kenmore, who has organised the students and saved considerable expense by supervising work on the extensions to the College — were mentioned among the words of appreciation as those who have served faithfully in the State.

Vic. Boettcher, who is ill, and was unable to attend Conference, was congratulated by applause for his concern for the advancement of the brotherhood's interests in past years, and particularly for his assistance in arranging the transfer of the recently purchased Social Service Home at Marburg. The late H. J. Lee's significant effort on behalf of Social Service was highlighted, as well as a commendation to the Director, Stan. Chalmers. The Conference Secretary, Rev. Ludgater, and his wife Myrl, were also appreciated for their service over and above the normal course of duty, and caterers, flower-arrangers, and minute secretaries who were in attendance at Conference were thanked, and the motion was carried by acclamation.

Devotions taken by newcomers to the State. Alan Webb, B.A., minister at Camp Hill, led the opening devotions after the "Call to Prayer," which was a feature at each session. Ron Sansome, minister at Rockhampton (formerly Enfield Heights, S.A.), spoke of the need for each Chris-

tian to be an encourager of others. Allan Male, Youth Director, referred to the "Brotherhood" and spoke of various leaders in all States of Australia and overseas who make up the family from which we must not be divorced, as we, "in whatsoever state we are" seek to serve Christ.

Kenmore College Extensions were officially opened by the President of Conference, Alex. Surtees, after the chairman, Maurie Pieper, minister at Gatton, introduced some distinguished people who brought greetings. The Hon. Mr. Drury, Federal Member for Ryan, the State Member for Indooroopilly, Mr. Lickiss, and President of the Qld. Council of Churches, Rev. Pashen, were among the officials.

Conference Officers for the On-going Work of the Church. Elected to serve for the 66/67 year were: Women's Conf. Pres., Mrs. Plint (Redcliffe), taking over from Mrs. G. Haigh (Kedron); Conf. Pres., Keith Burkhead (Wynnum); Vice-Pres., Lloyd Read (Ann St.); Junior Vice-Pres., David Baker (Annerley).

Conference was a time of inspiration and challenge, momentous decisions being made that will greatly enhance the future of the brotherhood in this State. Perhaps the most significant aspect was the obvious talents displayed in arranging and continuing the programme of Conference to its fulfilment. The attitude of goodwill and the concern of many to appreciate the genuine efforts of those who serve.

The future of Queensland is especially bright as all Departments seek to cooperate with each other and cement relationships in an unbreakable bond. We rejoice with other States in their thrilling Conference reports and pray that God will bless us all as we serve him in this land of Australia.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS . . .

WHERE IS GOD?

TO THE EDITOR,

I am puzzled. I used to think that Browning was right when he wrote, "God's in His heaven, all's right with the world." Since then everything went wrong with the world, but I kept my chin up because apparently God is still in heaven. However, now I am not sure.

For instance, last Sunday I opened the "Church Chat-Chat" while waiting for the service to get under way, and I read, "When you are down in the mouth, look up." I knew that meant that God was in heaven. Then the service started and the president said, "We come into the presence of God." He must have meant that God was in church. Then we sang "Lord of all being throned afar." The reading said, "He is not far from any one of us." Then the preacher told the children a sad little story of a little boy who died and went up to heaven to be with God.

In his sermon the preacher tried to stir us up (it was a muggy morning) by telling us that we don't take God out into the world with us. He is already there, waiting for us to get out there and work with Him.

I have confided my problem to a few amateur theologians. They all shrug it off by saying, "But God is everywhere!" But most people don't seem to live as though He is anywhere. Maybe it was better for all of us when He was up in heaven!

Do editors know where God is?

TERTIUS.

THE POWER OF THOUGHT

BY FRANK L. EWERS

"Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, if there be any praise, think on these things."—Philippians 4: 8.

Who can estimate the power for good or evil in a single thought? "We sow a thought, reap an act; sow an act, reap a habit; sow a habit and reap a character; sow a character, and reap a destiny." (Thackeray).

J. M. Mitchell ascended a high mountain peak of India looking for the source of the great river, Godivari. He came to the place where he said he could hold the trickle of the river in his hands for some seconds. It was such an insignificant rill, but at that point he could divert the river into a channel leading into an entirely different direction. For every great event in life there is some such place of origin — a place where it can be checked at its source, or directed differently.

Further on it takes a dam, costing millions of pounds, to tame the river; but near its source, the control is simple. Sometimes it costs a war to control an evil which starts in a man's mind.

And this is just the point where the Bible places the right emphasis.

"As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Prov. 23: 7).

Jesus did not say that they are blessed who are great in their accomplishments, but those who are pure in heart. They who will see God are those who have found the means of purifying their stream of life at the point where it can be sweetened and controlled — the spring of thought.

So David cried out not for cleansing or strengthening of the body, or that his sin might be purged from the pages of history, but

"Create in me a clean heart, O Lord, and renew a right spirit within me."

This illustrates the difference between the Old and the New Covenants. The Old Covenant demands that a person act right; the New Covenant enables us to think right. The Old law says, "Thou shalt not kill; the gospel of Christ gives us a heart of love with

Mr. Ewers is the minister at Burwood, N.S.W.

Then to my pen, from whence immediately

On paper I did dribble it daintily.

Where did it come from? From Holy Spirit-inspired thoughts, from the heart of God's man. That is where all great movements begin.

Or, take another example. Pastor Louis Harms was one whose ill-health prevented him from becoming a missionary. But this was the motivating passion of his life. As he preached at the church at Hermansburg, his messages began to infuse the church with missionary zeal. They began to ask themselves, "Why should we not help missions?"

Then they asked, "Why may we not plan missions of our own?" They built and launched their own ship to transport their missionaries, even though they were a very poor parish. The church increased to a thousand members, and sent out scores of missionaries. This flow of the Holy Spirit did not cease with the death of the pastor. In 1890, forty-one years after commencement, there were sixty mission stations, and three hundred missionaries. Its influence is still felt in the world.

Where did it start? It started in the thought life of a man who drank of the missionary spirit in the secret place where God dwells.

Let us Christian people ponder these facts. You would do something for God? First, let your heart be cleansed by the Holy Spirit. Then, let the Holy Spirit promote in your mind, thoughts which are just, true, honest, pure, lovely, of good report, and praiseworthy. Then, in the influence of the Spirit of God, let these thoughts develop, and see what God can do. What can he not do in a Spirit-directed life?

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

\$1000 ANONYMOUS

(Goolwa, S.A.). An anonymous donation of \$1000 was received. It is deeply appreciated and will assist the finance of the new manse, plans for which have been approved by the Council, and building will commence immediately. The builder responsible for the new church building will be erecting the new manse. . . . Ross Graham, who died recently, was one of three ministers who came from this church. The others were the late J. E. Shipway and Stan. Neighbour. . . . The church was encouraged by a visit from E. P. C. Hollard for services recently. . . . Three members have received instruction with Church and Life Movement to assist with a definite purpose to reach the non-church folk.

INTERSTATE B.S. HELP

(Mayfield, N.S.W.). The B.S. is assisting a new B.S. being established at Arana Hills, Qld., by lending film strips. . . . The annual business meeting elected Mrs. Davidson, deaconess, and as deacons: J. McCosker, J. McIver, H. Robson and M. Sayers. . . . Recent speakers: G. McKelvie, S. Reeson, D. Schofield, R. Aird and J. McCosker. . . . A special Mother's Day service was conducted by the B.S. at 9.30 a.m. The speaker was Mrs. Holloway, wife of minister at Georgetown. Morning tea was served prior to the worship service. . . . Young people from Mayfield took part in the Dist. Convention at Hamilton.

STH.-EASTERN WOMEN'S CONF.

(S.A.). Wampoony was host church for the 1966 South-East Women's Conference on May 2. The tiny church held 60 women for morning business session led by the Pres., Mrs. C. Verco. Reports were presented from Mt. Gambier, Tarpeena, Naracoorte, Bordertown and Mundulla-Wampoony groups. It was decided that the women would support the Hospital Chaplain as their project for the coming year. Afternoon session commenced with the introduction of incoming Pres., Mrs. G. L. Brown. 90 women were present. Guest speaker, Mrs. N. Tiver, gave an insight into the life in America, and illustrated points with excellent slides. An added feature of the Conference was the presentation of a display by each group depicting a successful programme that they had arranged. . . . All-Age Bible School has commenced with the introduction of an Adult Discussion Group. Stimulating thoughts, ideas and arguments are exchanged under the leadership of Gordon Brown. A wide variety of topics, both religious and secular, are discussed. . . . G. T. Lawrie is minister.

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SOCIAL SERVICE IN S.A.

Each month a brief article on some aspect of Social Service work in S.A. will appear to help readers understand the scope of this important part of the church's ministry.

Social Service is as wide as human need. In its outreach it touches life at every place of need, and in its ministry endeavours to meet every cry for help. It represents the love of the gospel in action. It is the soul of the gospel, and more than in any other way represents the Spirit of the Master, who went about doing good, showing compassion to every one in need.

It interprets "Love your neighbour as yourself," not only in its offer of services, but also in its opposition to all social evils, which may violate our standards of morality. Representing the church thus, it becomes the Champion of Social Justice and Social Righteousness, the

guardian of principles which have become sacred to us, and the leader in social reform.

Christians are urged to adopt standards and accept principles which not only uphold the teachings of Jesus, but which will be an example to the younger and the weaker members of society. The church still believes in the direction of Paul, that "the strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak," and even be prepared to sacrifice one's right rather than cause a weaker brother to stumble.

It also believes that its mission is to save the world from evil systems that dehumanise and demoralise. The slave traffic is gone, child labour is gone. War and race segregation must go.

"Love your neighbour as yourself" surely means that the church must not only save man from sin, but save him to a life that is full, free and happy.

FIVE BAPTISMS - SIX DECISIONS

(Grote St., S.A.). On May 1, five were baptized. Six more young people made decisions. . . . The S.S. anniversary on May 8 had Trevor Meade leading the singing and K. D. Horne as guest speaker. . . . R. C. Thomas led the church choir in the absence of W. Watson, in hospital. . . . Youth attended camp at Balaklava over Anzac weekend. They attended Balaklava church service. . . . There is increased attendance at B.S., and a new teacher. . . . The cricket club, premiers in their grade, was entertained at home of G. A. Blackeby. . . . R. Greenhaigh is minister.

CHURCH MEETING

(Hampstead Gardens, S.A.). The annual meeting elected the following: elders for next two years, N. Bright and M. Parker; deacons, A. Sander, M. Bunyon, M. Bennett, R. Street and R. Todd; deaconesses, Mrs. M. Bunyon, Mrs. C. Grant and Mrs. F. Morris. . . . On medical advice, A. Sander was relieved from the office of S.S. supt. Max Bunyon was elected in his stead. Ron Street takes over from M. Bunyon as S.S. sec. . . . The ladies of the church conducted the evening service for Mother's Day. Mrs. Purdie was guest speaker.

MORNING DECISION

(Ascot Park, S.A.). Albert Fix confessed his faith on May 8 at morning service. 40 mothers attended the kinder. dept. on Mother's Day. The C.E. distributed white flowers at church. The C.W.F. had charge of evening meeting. Miss M. Chinnick sang two solos, Mrs. Judith Watson read the Scripture, Mrs. Ursula Wright led in prayer. The President, Mrs. Outlaw, gave the address and, with her daughter, Mrs. J. Curtis, sang the invitation hymn as a duet. . . . C. G. Dredge is minister.



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NEW SOUTH WALES

DUTCH CHOIR

(Narraweena, N.S.W.). The Presbyterian Dutch Choir sang most acceptably at our church. Mr. and Mrs. Grainger and Miss De Russett also visited us, all three being missionaries from the Congo. . . . Three members of our C.W.F. spent a profitable weekend at "Gilbulla," the Christian Convention Centre at Min-angle. Bible studies were taken from Philippians. . . . C.W.F. Women's Anniversary held on April 20, with representatives from several churches and was addressed by Mrs. McKenzie, State C.W.F. Pres. . . . Several of our members are attending Church and Life Movement classes at the Forest Kirk, Forestville. . . . Le Donaldson, from W.A., and Mr. and Mrs. Underwood, from Blaxland, were visitors. . . . Anzac service at Dee Why Beach, at Soldiers' Memorial, was addressed by our minister, D. Foletta. . . . A church picnic was held at Lane Cove National Park, also on Anzac Day.

N.S.W. PRAYER LIST

We seek your continued prayer-support in various aspects of the work, as follows:—

1. Overseas Missions — especially in New Guinea, that the efforts of our workers — at Tung, Chungribu, Bunapas, Asau and Tumba.

2. Balladoran Aborigines Mission Settlement — that the faithful leaders may receive encouragement — and that the Gilgandra church may be used more and more in giving leadership and spiritual support.

3. C.T.B.Y.P.S.C.E. — City Temple Brotherhood Young Peoples' Society of Christian Endeavour — and all our N.S.W. Endeavour Societies — in their impact on the lives of young folk who are being trained to serve.

4. Student-Preachers of Woolwich Bible College — as week by week they are used in faithful pastoral and preaching ministries among the suburban churches in and around Sydney.

5. Churches at Auburn and Padstow — where "follow-up" work is proceeding as an aftermath to evangelistic crusades held in these areas.

6. The forthcoming "Christian Life Crusade" among N.S.W. churches — that effective, prayerful preparation may be made for a great spiritual impact upon our own people as they seek to witness to others concerning the gospel and Christian unity.

"AEROSPHERE" CRUSADE

(Padstow, N.S.W.). After preparatory work led by the minister of the church, H. C. Wheat, the Padstow "Aerosphere" Crusade had a good beginning on April 29, with Doug. Willis as evangelist, supported by Max Harrison as songleader, and Les Pilkington as pianist. "Adventure Time," with Bruce Armstrong assisting, and including films and audio-visuals, has attracted large numbers of children each afternoon. To date evening meetings have averaged around 100. Interest is growing among contacts in the district.

N.S.W. MINISTERS' SESSION

(Sydney). The guest speaker at the recent meeting of the N.S.W. Ministers' Fraternal was Rev. Egerton Long, minister of Stanmore Baptist Church, who outlined the "Special Missionary Programme," for which his congregation has become renowned.

He showed how such a programme was costly in the loss from the local life of the church those keen members who hived off into full-time work, either at home or abroad — in somewhat the same way as the church at Antioch lost Barnabas and Saul!

Situated beside their chapel is their own missionary press, owned and operated by the local church, printing Christian literature in many foreign languages, as well as English. He estimated their locality to have 65 per cent of non-

English nationals, and indicated the value of foreign language records, tape-recordings and literature in presenting the gospel. Mr. Long also emphasised their Missionary-Giving Plan — from "Tithe-giving" to the "Giving-in-Faith" method.

Under the guidance of the Fraternal President, F. L. Ewers, discussion followed in which the members of the Fraternal were challenged by the obvious merit of this seemingly unspectacular method of missionary-emphasis, whereby an inner-suburban congregation in an unlikely and unpromising inner-city area has been revitalised in spiritual power.

The next meeting of the N.S.W. Minister's Fraternal will be held at City Temple on May 30, when the speaker will be Norman Reeves, of the Sydney City Mission.

ACCOMMODATION FOR MARRIED STUDENTS

(Woolwich, N.S.W.). Among resolutions passed at the recent N.S.W. Conference referring to internal and administrative matters, was one expressing the desire to see a speedy implementation of a plan to make available more accommodation for married students at Woolwich College.

The Principal, the Chairman, and other members of the Board assured members of Conference that this provision for more married men at the College was very high on the priority list for attention during this year.

CHURCH ANNIVERSARY

(Burwood, N.S.W.). A splendid anniversary day was appreciated by all on May 1. In the morning, Dan Wakeley, a former minister, gave the message and the choir rendered two items under the baton of Lloyd Piper. More than 50 shared in the youth tea, when a programme entitled "Sound of Music" brought a challenge to all. The evening service was especially directed to youth, conducted by the N.S.W. Youth Conference Evangelistic Committee, with Ken Dundas delivering the address, and musical items provided by visiting singers.

F. L. Ewers continues in leadership of the A.C.E. programme each Wednesday evening, current studies for discussion groups being based on A. R. Main's "First Principles."

BELMORE - EARLWOOD YOUTH CAMP

(N.S.W.). The youth groups of the Belmore and Earlwood churches combined over Anzac weekend. April 22-25, at "Gwandalan" Camp Centre, Wentworth Falls. Ray B. Ewers, of Belmore, conducted the camp studies, based on Colossians 1-3, and Neal Hodgekiss, of Earlwood, was Camp Director. It was an occasion of rich spiritual experience, concluding with 13 decisions, 7 of which were first decisions.

65 young folk shared in this fellowship, and a recent reunion gathering gave many of them an opportunity of testifying to the depth and reality of the experience of Anzac weekend.

R. B. EWERS IN QLD.

(Belmore, N.S.W.). The church has released its minister, R. B. Ewers, to engage in an evangelistic and teaching campaign with the Camp Hill church, where Allan Webb is ministering.

"OVER 50" HOUSE PARTY

(Nth. Sydney). Someone has said that people over 50 are the loneliest folk in our society. Acting on this possibility, and in an effort to meet the need of this age-group, Noel Flint, the minister at North Sydney, organised an "Over 50" House Party, at Stanwell Tops, on the South Coast, from May 2 to 5. . . . Excellent accommodation, and the provision of a relaxing and stimulating programme made this a most attractive innovation.

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FRANCIS LESLIE HADFIELD

1873 - 1966

BY A. C. WATTERS

Born in London, England, the grandson of a Baptist minister, he emigrated to New Zealand at the age of 18. In that small British colony he became a member of the Church of Christ.

When New Zealander, John Sherriff, of Bulawayo, Rhodesia, reported to his home churches of the missionary work he had opened in the early years after his arrival as a stone mason, in 1898, he appealed to N.Z. to send out a missionary to give his full time to the cause.

There must have been fewer than 3,000 church members in New Zealand when the decision was made to send out volunteer F. L. Hadfield, with his wife and two young children. This was a co-operative effort by the N.Z. brotherhood, who have for many years now done their overseas work under the name, "Association of New Zealand Churches of Christ."

Mr. Hadfield was 32 years old when he arrived in 1906. He found a young congregation, chiefly of Africans and Coloreds (Eur-Africans), worshipping in a building Mr. Sherriff and the local Christians had erected the previous year. As the new leader took over the work, Mr. Sherriff opened a second effort in Forest Vale, about seven miles from the city centre.

F.L.H. soon became a leading personality in the young city, and took an active part in its communal life, especially in the discussions regarding educational problems. He founded the first school for Colored children, now maintained by the government. He also established the first successful African newspaper in the country, the "Bantu Mirror," and was for many years associated with the production of the "Rhodesian Annual."

He was also the founder, after some years, of the Dadaya Mission, 100 miles east of Bulawayo. That was the mission station where the Garfield Todds were much later to take charge and

develop their significant work. The pioneering work in Bulawayo and Dadaya was not the whole of Mr. Hadfield's missionary accomplishment.

He encouraged the expedition which went from Bulawayo to Nyasaland in 1908 to open the Church of Christ mission there, and which became the British responsibility in 1909. He also supplied the first African evangelist to work with Church of Christ emigrants from Britain among the native workers in the Johannesburg mines. Our large African membership can be traced from that beginning.

Mr. Hadfield was elected to the Rhodesian Legislative Assembly in 1920, retaining his seat till 1928. He played a major part in the campaign for self-government, granted to the Europeans in 1923. He was chairman of a Commission, appointed to prepare a report on the matter of Native Education, and to make recommendations. That investigation led to Mr. Hadfield and his colleagues visiting almost every mission station in the colony during the year of study, and the "Hadfield Report" was submitted to the Governor in 1925.

After the missionary commitment had been extended to Dadaya, Mr. Hadfield was of the opinion that the small N.Z. constituency would not be able to support two stations, and suggested their support be given entirely to the new field. He would be prepared to go into business, support his family and manage the mission work as well. This offer was accepted. For many years, therefore, the work in Bulawayo has ceased to be under N.Z. control.

Mr. Hadfield's major church interests were on behalf of the African and Colored communities, and for each of them he managed to build a place of worship, as well as one (at Colenbrander) for the Europeans. It was only on the passing of the Land Apportionment Act that the separate places of worship had to be provided, and the Church of Christ

in Bulawayo was the last congregation in the city to divide into racial groups. One result was a much accelerated increase in the African membership. That is the congregation that now has the overflowing Bible School for whose 1,400 children we are now planning to erect more accommodation.

It was not till after the last World War that the N.Z. missionaries began to learn of the varying emphases within our American churches concerning missionary methods and other matters. Mr. Hadfield learned the hard way after he had accepted the offer of help from a young American missionary (of the non-instrumental group) with the preaching at the Colenbrander church and the supervision of the African mission schools. After one year the European congregation divided on the question of whether the playing of an instrument in the worship should be made a test of fellowship. Half the congregation, including some of its ablest leaders, and various members of the Hadfield family, withdrew to commence another cause, under the American missionary, just one mile away.

The weakened congregation, after a few years, applied to the U.C.M.S. for help, and it was in response that I agreed to go for two years. That brought me into close fellowship during the last nine years with our aging brother. He was handicapped by great deafness, but continued with mental clarity and physical strength to preach to one group or another almost every Sunday, sometimes twice.

Although he had suffered much abuse, he refused to retaliate, and insisted on recognising the various groups as within the family of God. As I visited him for the last time, a few hours before his death, he was growing rapidly weaker, and only held my hand in his. His only utterance was worthy of his great Christian spirit:—

"Give my love to the brotherhood."

I am sure he meant me to give that message, not only to the racial groups in Rhodesia (which I have done), but also to the World Convention of Churches, and to the various sections in all the countries that have the Restoration Movement background.

He was on the programme of the World Convention at Leicester, England, in 1935. He was one of the organisers of the Bulawayo Ministers' Fraternal, and of the Southern Rhodesia Missionary Conference. Widely known and respected throughout Rhodesia, he was awarded the letters M.B.E. by the British government, and a few years ago the Rhodesian government granted him a pension.

It has been my privilege to meet many great men and wonderful Christians. Our N.Z. brethren, through their missionaries, have provided some of these, and I am glad to have enjoyed the friendship of most of them. I know no other mission that has produced a greater church membership in its mission field than it had at home. Our F. L. Hadfield will always rank as one of the great leaders used mightily of the Lord.

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

— N.Z. NEWS —

Fires in Feilding

On Friday evening, April 15, the Feilding Church of Christ was destroyed by fire. A Presbyterian Church was also gutted, and an attempt made to set fire to the Seventh Day Adventist property. Feilding Church of Christ is part of the Manawatu Circuit, where E. R. Vickery is minister. Police are investigating the circumstances of the series of fires.

Death of R. S. Hoffman

Advice has been received of the death, on April 16, of R. S. Hoffman, minister of the Richmond church. Mr. Hoffman had attended the Centennial celebrations of the Gore-Matura Circuit churches over Easter, where he had been the main speaker for the occasion. Previously he had served the Wellington South congregation, and Invermay, Tas.

Closures

The Mornington church and the South Dunedin church have announced decisions to cease services due to increasing problems of maintaining work in these areas.

Women's Inter-Church School

This annual event, arranged by the Auckland branch of the N.C.C., attracted a registration of some 400-500 women. Father Geoffrey Curtis, of the Anglican Community of the Resurrection, Mirfield, Yorkshire, is to speak on Unity and

Worship; and two lectures on Music in Worship are being presented by Ronald Dellow, Mus.B., F.R.C.C. (Chm.) of the Dept. of University Extension.

From the New Hebrides

Edward Tambisari is now settled in Christchurch, whilst doing secondary school work at Hillmorton School. He is living with Mr. and Mrs. Ron. Chapman. Joshua Garae is staying with Mr. and Mrs. Ross Taylor, of Mairangi Bay church, whilst studying at the Auckland Hospital.

Pioneer Missionary Passes

F. L. Hadfield, senr., who went to the field in Southern Rhodesia in 1906, died at Dadaya recently. He was in his nineties.

Dr. C. C. Morrison

who founded the now famous Christian Century religious journal, and who died recently in the U.S.A., had links with N.Z. His father, Hugh Morrison, was a former minister of the now defunct Vivian Street church.

Inter-Church Nation-wide Study

The Joint Commission on Church Union is to engage in a nation-wide study programme for church and youth groups during the Lenten season, 1967. It will be a co-operative venture with the N.C.C.

—From W. B. Burn.

QUESTING



WITH

A. E. WHITE

Some time ago you said in "Questing" that it is better to spend an hour with an alcoholic than to go to a prayer meeting. Surely you didn't mean that?

I shall have to take your word for it that I did say that. I have had a look but couldn't find the reference. I am very certain, however, that I wouldn't say that alcohol is as good as a prayer meeting!

If I said what you quote, it was almost certainly to emphasize the need to make prayer a means to our witness and service for Christ, and not a substitute for it.

One of the consequences of our busy life in the church is that most of what we do is in and around the church buildings. It is possible to teach S.S. children for years without making any real contact with the homes from which they come. And we can preach and pray in our churches about God's love for the social outcasts, including alcoholics, without doing anything about our concern for them.

I am convinced that there are many broken homes which could have been repaired if Christian people had been prepared to share their lives with them.

In my earlier answer I was probably trying to say that we must be careful not to make our prayer-time a substitute for the thing that God wants us to do. It is easier to go to a prayer meeting than it is to visit an alcoholic. It is much more pleasant to spend an evening in Bible study and in prayer with those of like mind and spirit than it is to share a night with a fringe-church family. I see no reason why we can't do both, but if we have to choose between a prayer meeting and representing Christ in a redemptive situation, then it is better to visit an alcoholic than go to a prayer meeting. There, I've said it!

Kagawa once wrote: "Let him who would meet God visit the prison cell before going to the temple. Before he goes to church, let him visit the hospital. Before he reads his Bible, let him help the beggar standing at his door. If he visits the prison after going to the temple, does he not by so much delay his meeting with God? . . . If he fails to help the beggar at his door and indulges himself in Bible reading, there is danger lest God, who lives among the mean, will go elsewhere."

I applied this thought to prayer. If we serve without praying we rely too much on our own strength. If we pray without serving we presume too much upon God's. If we pray without giving God a chance to use us in answering our own prayers, even our prayers may be useless.

OBITUARY

Ralph Leonard Hovey.

The church at Horsham, Vic., lost one of her finest members when, on March 10, Ralph Hovey died suddenly on his property at Haven. A committed Christian for the best part of his life, Ralph was a faithful servant of his Lord until the end. During the 2nd World War, Ralph served with the Australian Air Force. He always claimed that this time in his life was one of spiritual testing and exercise for his faith, and his depth of love for Christ and the world grew daily. It was in Ballarat that he met and married his wife, Nance. The Lord used them both in the work of his Kingdom. On settling in Horsham, the name of Hovey became linked with another brother of the Lord in a business partnership. When they sold the business Ralph settled down to the solid work on his dairy farm. It was at the farm in the course of his regular work that the Lord called him home. He was a quiet, yet capable and energetic and willing worker in the place of his calling. He served the church as a deacon, secretary and finally as elder. Much of the progressive work accomplished at Horsham over the past few years has in no small way been because of the faith and drive of this man of God. He is

survived by his wife, two sons and three daughters. He also left in the memory of all who knew him the legacy of a Spirit-filled life and a memorable Christian character.

— Bob Baxter.

Kathleen Derris Pitt.

Kathleen Pitt was born in Gladstone on the North-East Coast of Tasmania. She spent most of her school days in Georgetown, and later moved to Launceston, where she lived with her aunt, Mrs. Miller. It was here that she was introduced to the Churches of Christ, and confessed her faith and was baptized in the Sandhill chapel. Later she transferred to Invermay church, where she met her husband Rod, and there they served their Lord. Moving to Devonport, some 23 years ago, she became ill with meningitis, which became the forerunner of much sickness in her life. She spent two periods of nine and six months in hospital, but still she managed to help in various ways, both in the church and in other community organisations. Eventually it seemed the body became too tired for the spirit. After a brief confinement to bed, she died in her 52nd year. Mrs. Pitt leaves a husband and four children, Lorraine (Mrs. W. Crabtree), Vonda (Mrs. D. Jeffrey), Graeme and Judith. We lovingly commend them to the Lord.—E. W. Taylor.

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NORTH-WESTERN DISTRICT CONFERENCE

The North Western District Conference was held at Warracknabeal, Vic., on Anzac Day. The theme was "Social Service Within the Mission of the Church."

Churches represented were Ararat, Brim, Haven, Horsham, Kaniva, Minyip, Stawell, Warracknabeal. Dimboola was the only church not present, but a report was received.

The president, B. Snoxall, presided. Devotions were prepared and led by R. C. Bolduan (Kaniva).

The afternoon session commenced with devotion by Mr. Bolduan. Guest speaker for the day was F. M. Combridge, who spoke on the work of the Social Service Dept., and played a taped recording from the Homes for the Aged, with singing by the aged people.

The ladies then adjourned to the chapel for their meeting, which was followed by a guided tour of Warracknabeal.

Evening session commenced with bright singing, led by N. Rogers, of W'beal.

FIRST CAMP

(Rockhampton, Qld.). The first official camp at the newly-acquired camp site at Emu Park was attended by 25. Study theme was "In the Cross of Christ I Glory." Campers combined with Baptist campers for barbecue and "sing-along" . . . \$100 has been given to the Wheat for India appeal . . . Two have been welcomed into fellowship by faith and baptism . . . A special Mother's Day service at William Street featured items by the B.S. . . . The interior of the new Craig Street hall has been painted. An indoor bowls club has commenced . . . The usual flow of winter visitors to our sunny city has begun. . . . Mrs. J. Hughes led 20 Good Companions in a great camp at Emu Park during school holidays.

APPEAL FOR INDIA

(Narraween, N.S.W.). The work here is led by Dennis Foletta. All auxiliaries are on the up-grade, and the Girls' Life Brigade is increasing in numbers . . . Recent visitors have been K. E. Crawford, Director of Home Missions and Evangelism, and Miss Elaine de Russett, former missionary in the African Congo. . . . The church has shown interest in the Appeal for Milk for India, and is undertaking a special effort locally.

CHURCH UNITY BONUS

(Melb.). At the Royal Children's Hospital recently, the Sister in Charge asked a hospital visitor from Churches of Christ, "When do you girls get your work done?"

Visitor: "Before I come, of course."
Sister: "Have you done your washing this morning?"

Visitor (walking on): "Of course."
Sister (calling out): "I suppose you have one of the fully automatic washers?"

Visitor: "No, an old 'Pope' does mine."
Sister (after silence): "This church unity is a wonderful thing. Church of Christ visits us, and the Pope does their washing!"

M. Snoxall introduced the incoming President, A. Williams, of Kaniva. Mr. Combridge's address was illustrated by slides of the Dept. of Social Service .

During the day items were given by members of the Horsham, Brim and Warracknabeal churches.

Office-bearers for the coming year — pres., A. Williams, Kaniva; sec., D. Hillier, Stawell. Ladies' Conference: pres., Mrs. D. Hillier, Stawell; sec., Mrs. H. J. Newell, Minyip.

Resolutions passed were — 1. Next Conference to be held at Stawell (this will be the first time).

2. That we have a session for the young people at the next Conference.

3. That Presidents, Secretaries of the various District Conferences be named in the State Conference Handbook.

4. That the Home Mission and Evangelism Dept. be featured at the next Conference.

SPECIAL SERVICES

(Wembley, W.A.). On Youth Sunday, R. Britton chaired the youth gospel service. Others sang, read the Scriptures, testified, and C. Hall preached . . . The ladies led the evening service on Mother's Day. They presented a duet, a "Spot-light" on local ladies' work, and Mrs. A. Nicholas spoke on Christian womanhood. Mrs. D. Manning was leader. Another feature of Mother's Day was a service held by the J.C.E. Society . . . At a special after-church fellowship, George Yeats was farewelled prior to his departure to work in New Guinea . . . The C.W.F. welcomed ladies from other churches to a united social; 70 ladies attended. The C.W.F., led by Mrs. P. Pritchard, presented an outstanding concert. The proceeds of \$47 were in aid of the Bethesda Hospital Sanctuary and the Carnarvon Christian Centre. Miss M. Ambler has returned from Sydney, where she has been working with the European Christian Movement . . . The church expressed sympathy to Mr. J. Whitome and family at the sudden death of Mrs. R. Whitome, who had been a faithful member for over 24 years . . . D. A. Ladbrook is the minister.

CHURCH LIFE CONFERENCE

(Whyalla, S.A.). E. P. C. Hollard spent three days with the church conducting Church Life Conference, assisted by the minister, D. M. Hughes. He also showed slides of his trip to the Holy Land . . . Mrs. C. Watson was guest speaker at special C.W.F. meeting that also featured guest artists. \$13 was raised for Wheat for India . . . The B.S. missionary social realised \$19 . . . A feature of Mother's Day was a song session after church at night. Opportunity was taken to say goodbye to Mr. and Mrs. Hartley Jolly and family, who are moving to Tasmania. W. Berry spoke on behalf of the church. John Lawrie for the S.S. and Mrs. R. Flavel for C.W.F. . . . Ken. Coventry, of Clovelly Park, is meeting with us and assisting in B.S. and youth work.

PREACHERS' CONFERENCE "QUEENSLAND '66"

It rained bucketloads. We did manage to capture a little sleep, and Eric garnished our programme from his stores of wisdom and experience.

"The Church in a Changing World" was the theme of four lectures delivered by Eric T. Hart, Associate Director of Social Services in N.S.W., to the Queensland fraternal.

These lectures, and the discussions which followed, proved a rich experience for all the men. Papers were prepared by Maurie Pieper and Alex. Surtees on the subject, "What Constitutes a Church of Christ Minister." Dr. Jauncey later treated this subject from a different angle in an evening lecture. Keen discussion was again evident.

A rewarding feature of the camp experience, especially as so many of our men are separated from each other by forbidding distances, was the opportunity to get together and indulge that obvious infirmity — the tongue.

ACTIVE IN C. and L. M.

(Fullarton, S.A.). Church is active in preparation for Church and Life Movement. Some have done training course for group leadership, and many registered as group members. . . . Young people attended "Teen and Twenty" mission; 4 acted as counsellors. Several attended Junior High Camp at Longwood, during May vacation . . . On Home and Family Day, May 8, parents of Cradle Roll members were present and two new members were welcomed to roll after church, and parents shared in a dedicatory act, at morning service. Film screened, 7 p.m., "Walls We Build." Father and Son night held May 9, meeting of Life Boys.

STILL IN SERVICE

(W.A.). At the suggestion of the Director of Social Services, Geo. Smith, Will H. Nightingale is serving as Hospital Chaplain, especially in Homes for the Aged, including Mt. Henry Home in Manning. Mr. Nightingale sets up the Lord's Table there on Sunday afternoons and then gives a message in the Lounge Rooms to an average of 205 weekly. There was one decision on May 8, Mrs. A. E. Mercer, a widow. Ladies from South Perth and Manning churches are giving good service in monthly visits and meetings in the hall.

NATIONAL DIARY

MAY: VICTORIA
19-27—WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY.
22-29—CHRISTIAN LITERATURE WEEK.
27 —Christian Youth Fellowship "Impact."
28 —Eastern Suburban Dist. Conf. — Quarterly Meeting.
29 —PENTECOST — CHRISTIAN UNION SUNDAY.
NEW SOUTH WALES
24 —2nd Term commences at Woolwich College.
31 —C.W.F. "Workshop" — 10 a.m. (every Tuesday till July 5) — at Rockdale.
QUEENSLAND
29 —Annual Offering — Youth Department. Conclusion of Talents.

BOYS' BRIGADE FORMED

(Bridgetown, W.A.). A Boys' Brigade has commenced, under the leadership of B. Stitt and G. Castle. At the third meeting, 28 boys attended . . . About 40 adults and 20 children attended the Mother's Day gospel service led by the ladies. The message, "Asked of God," was given by Mrs. Stitt. A special item by the children was much enjoyed . . . Miss J. Mather is new supt. of J.C.E. A space competition is in progress to increase team co-operation and interest. The Endeavourers have sent \$8 to Indian Wheat appeal . . . A special C.W.F. Easter service was held on April 20. Only a few ladies attended.

AT BALLADORAN

(Gilgandra, N.S.W.). The minister, B. Benz, was speaker at a Mother's Day service conducted by the S.S. at Balladoran . . . At Gilgandra, the kindergarten gave items at a Mother's Day service, at which Mrs. R. Hilford was speaker. All mothers were invited to a fellowship tea. Many Balladoran folk were present at night, when Mrs. Hammond, Mrs. Benz, and Roy Ried gave messages in song . . . R. Hilford has shared in preaching recently.

MASTER OF TECHNOLOGY

(Hornsby, N.S.W.). The church congratulates A. E. Bell upon receiving the degree of Master of Technology . . . The annual business meeting elected the following: elder, Ron Bartholomew; deaconess, Mrs. E. R. Bishop (treas.); deacons, Russ Bartholomew, A. E. Bell, D. A. Bentley, H. R. Bishop, J. V. Ellerby (sec.), A. E. Morton and R. E. Newton. All auxiliaries' leaders were re-elected. Two new appointments are: D. A. Bentley, to Board of Officers, and Mrs. Oldfield, as a Girls' Brigade leader.

B.S. RAISES \$32

(Hurstville, N.S.W.). In one month the Bible School raised \$32 for our India Milk Fund . . . Bruce Armstrong, State Youth Director, presented special programme on behalf of his Dept. at our Radio Broadcast on May 8 . . . We have had fellowship and music with an American Youth for Christ team, and they presented their final rally in Sydney at Hurstville Civic Centre . . . Mother's Day special service held with B.S. and Kindergarten.

STUDENTS WERE GUESTS

(Broken Hill, S.A. Conf.). On April 17, 19 High School students, associated with the church, were guests at a tea provided by the women. Explorers and Girls' Brigade paraded at the service which followed . . . The C.W.F. held successful birthday meeting on May 3. A large representation from other churches shared a pleasant afternoon . . . 16 Explorers had an excellent weekend under canvas about 20 miles from the city in April. Mother's Day meetings were well attended, with the evening service being conducted by Junior and Intermediate girls . . . The church gave \$47 for Milk for India and \$10 for Wheat for India.

NEW MANSE

(Hamilton, N.S.W.). Members rejoice with Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Howard on the birth of a son. Our pastor and his wife have moved into our new manse at 140 Dawson-st., Newcastle . . . Members enjoyed and appreciated the messages brought to us by guest speakers recently . . . Church treasurer, David Brown, who has spent some time in hospital, is home again . . . Lanelle Butts has taken up duties as a trainee nurse at Kurri Kurri Hospital.

STUDENT CHRISTIAN GROUP

(Warracknabeal - Brim, Vic.). Under the direction of Brian Snoxall, a W'beal High School Student Christian Group has been formed. Both head prefects and deputy head-prefects are the principal officers of the group. Meetings are held on Fridays during lunch hours. Good attendances, plus lively discussions, with films, talks and group activities are resulting. Mr. Snoxall is counsellor to the group . . . Warracknabeal was the centre for leadership training for the Church and Life Movement leadership course on April 29-30. B.C. Snoxall was registrar. Seven Church of Christ members were trained out of a total of 32. W'beal was the centre for Horsham, Rainbow, Beulah, Brim, Jeparit and W'beal . . . Pupils of the W'beal S.S. graduated to new classes in April. The S.S. anniversary has been shifted to November, from the usual May period.

KINGLAKE PICNIC

(Essendon, Vic.). The C.M.F. organised a picnic to Kinglake on Anzac Day. 70 attended. Proceeds are for Hall Fund. . . . S.S. anniversary, on May 1, had A. Musgrove conducting singing. A.m., Teachers' dedication service. Afternoon, Kinder. prizing. P.m., Scholars presented the play, "The Light of the World." C.W.E.F. and Good Companions held evenings to honor mother. Gifts were presented by both clubs . . . The film, "Where Is Your Faith," was screened on May 8.

HUNGER SPEAKER

(Moreland, Vic.). The C.W.F. took the church service at night on May 8. Mrs. Frost, chairman of Freedom from Hunger campaign, was guest speaker. Miss Mudge was guest soloist from West Moreland Baptist. In the morning there was a dedication service for baby Jacqueline Taylor . . . Kindergarten children had mothers at a special service for Mother's Day . . . Explorers spent a busy Saturday afternoon gardening and chopping wood at several homes, as part of Service Month activities.

GEO. T. FITZGERALD

(S.A.). The Australian brotherhood has suffered another great loss in the sudden death of G. T. Fitzgerald, one of our best known and most loved members. He had ministries in Australia and New Zealand, and served the Restoration Movement well. An obituary notice will appear in a later issue.

WOMAN SPEAKER

(Frankston, Vic.). The evening service on Mother's Day was led by the C.W.E.F. President, Mrs. Patterson, with other women giving items. The guest speaker was Mrs. E. W. Heard, previously a missionary in India. At Kindergarten, 20 mothers were present when new members were welcomed to the Cradle Roll. In the Primary Dept., nine visiting parents were served with morning coffee.

NOBLE PARK BAPTISMS

(Vic.). Three Bible School students were baptized on May 8 . . . C.W.E.F. decided to make their project for 1966/67 the support of "Fairhaven" . . . S.S. teaching staff, at their annual meeting, voted to continue the school's missionary endeavour commenced last year — that of supporting an Indian boy at Baramati.

NEW ORGAN

(Tootgarook, Vic.). After two years' hard work, the ladies of the C.W.F. have purchased a new Conn Electronic Organ. It was presented on May 8 by Mrs. H. Burris, on behalf of C.W.F. members. The organ was dedicated by D. Good, student minister . . . The church is sorry to lose Miss Y. Tait, who has moved to the Will H. Clay Nursing Home . . . A young people's camp was held at Y.M.C.A., Camp Shoreham. 50 attended.

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Restoration and the Holy Spirit

No. 12

BY C. J. MACKENZIE, N.S.W.

I must confess I am prejudiced. How can "Restorationism" conflict with the guidance of the Holy Spirit if both are bound by the New Testament? The Restoration Movement has demonstrated how an organic body has been able to work for Christ and present a united witness on evangelism. This same Movement has been largely composed of people who have come out of various denominational bodies. The witness of these people is found in more than forty countries around the world, thus providing sufficient evidence of the practicability of the plea for the restoration of New Testament Christianity upon the basis revealed in the New Testament.

I understand that the object of any kind of restoration is to restore the original. In like manner the task belonging to Churches of Christ is to restore the original, i.e.,

1. New Testament Church.
2. The Fellowship of the New Testament.
3. You and I are to live out the New Testament life in the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is both costing and exacting for those who believe the claims of the New Testament.

What then is the cost of such fellowship? It is all that a man has for the sake of another, loving without any limitation, serving without consideration of self, giving oneself without reserve of any kind. Such a way of life is laid down by our Lord: "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."

Similarly there is a price to pay for the New Testament church. It means the end of denominationalism, no matter how dear it may be to the heart of any person.

The demands of such living fellowship seem overwhelming and so hopelessly beyond us all. But it soon grips us. It is the only thing worth working for. It is the only thing in life which will work. Who among us doesn't ache for a fellowship that loves us to our best; that knows our meanness and weakness and prays and believes and works for our highest?

The Holy Spirit will always seek to produce that which honours Christ. He will seek to restore all that will glorify Christ and he is glorified in the church. This poses the question, Is he glorified in the churches?

Looking at church history there is no happy picture presented. After all, which church is right? Not one. Yet each may be presenting a facet, or

several facets of truth, and all hold on to what they possess as if it were the whole truth. For those who possess a high proportion of divine truth, so there will be revealed a high proportion of divine blessing. Similarly those who possess a low proportion of divine truth will show a low proportion of divine blessing.

We must recognise that no group possesses any spectacular endowment of truth and correctness. It is at this point that I would assert that, as people of the Restoration Movement, we are different, and have a right to be different, because the denominational bodies are different from Scripture.

It is interesting to see that many of these bodies are having conversations with a view of working towards union. This we would wholeheartedly encourage. However, some thoughts disturb me.

1. Is there to be simply a fusion of bodies to make one great denominational church?

2. Is it going to be a joining of various groups on standards less than the N.T. requirements? If this is so then there will be union, but not organic unity. There will be union, but no restoration of the original.

We cannot deny that there appears to be an activity of the Holy Spirit in our day to bring people together. In my mind there is no conflict between Restorationism and the on-going guidance of the Holy Spirit in the church. The conflict exists where denominational assertions are super-imposed on the teachings of Scripture to bind people into one body. Denominationalism must wither and die if believers are to get back to the teaching and practice of N.T. Christianity.

We, as a body of believers, have sympathy for earnest, pious people who have

been led astray into the errors of denominationalism. We have always held that we are believers only, but not the only believers. But not for a moment can we concede that membership in a denomination is identical with, or is a substitute for, membership in the blood-bought body of Christ.

There must be a final authority above and beyond the thoughts and efforts of people as the starting point for Christian unity. It is here that the Restoration Movement would point to the revelation of God given in Christ, and which is interpreted by the Holy Spirit in the N.T. Scriptures. This authoritative and abiding pattern for the church in the New Testament is a unity with diversity. It is a unity of spirit, of faith, of obedience, and is a functioning organic whole, visible for all the world to see.

Beyond the essential fact of salvation there is liberty in the non-essential things where no clear testimony of Scripture is given. The Holy Spirit would direct all to the simplicity of faith, worship, witness, ordinances and life of the church in apostolic times.

For the churches to differ in these things brings them into conflict with the Holy Spirit and the will of Christ. If we, as a people, have lost this, or are being drawn away from this, then we, too, stand in a similar position of condemnation and should go out of existence.

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OBITUARY

Charles Ross Graham.

Many churches in the brotherhood will remember with gratitude the work and ministry of Charles Ross Graham, who died, after a long illness, in the Stirling Hospital, S.A., on April 28, aged 77 years. Born at Goolwa, S.A., he accepted Christ at the age of 14 years and was baptized in the Murray, at Laffins Point, near Goolwa. From that time till he entered Glen Iris, he attended regularly, each week, the home of James Gordon at Laffins Point for Bible study. Possessed of natural eloquence and ability he preached his first sermon at the age of 17 in the little chapel at Point Sturt, which always retained a treasured place in his memory. In 1913, he entered the College of the Bible at Glen Iris, and in 1916 married Miss Nellie Bice, of Croydon, who gave him every encouragement and helped with her singing. Together they ministered at Albion, Qld., and Warrnambool, Vic. The greater part of his ministry was in S.A., including Mallala-Long Plains, Henley Beach (2 ministries), Croydon (2 ministries), Prospect, Tumby Bay-Ungarra, Stirling

East and Aldgate Valley, where he preached his last sermon 18 months ago. His last ministry was at Murray Bridge. He was a member of both Home Missions and Aborigines Missions Committees for a number of years, where his enthusiasm and wise counsel were greatly valued. Younger men in the ministry valued his interest and encouragement. During his illness in hospital he won the esteem of hospital and medical staff; local ministers, including the Catholic priest, regularly visited him. Services at the funeral parlor and Cheltenham Cemetery were conducted by the writer, assisted by W. A. Russell and G. T. Fitzgerald, friends of long standing, and Rev. E. N. Broomhead (Methodist), whose ministry at Murray Bridge coincided with that of Mr. Graham. To Mrs. Graham, and her daughter Nancy (Mrs. Cullen) and her husband, and their loved ones, sincere Christian sympathy is extended—Stan Neighbour.

James Isaac Howard.

James Isaac Howard was born at The Nook, Tasmania, in 1882. It was not until 1923 that he confessed his faith in Christ and was baptized, under the ministry of Mr. Warren. However, once having made his decision, he never

wavered. In the same year he married Jane Elizabeth Byard, from Mole Creek, which marked the beginning of a long and happy partnership in Christ. In the latter years his hearing failed, and still later he was afflicted by a series of strokes, which necessitated his confinement to "Devon House," Latrobe. In the front of his Bible was written, "Looking unto Maranatha" (Jesus is Coming), which typified his faith in these trying moments. He died on April 27, 1966. The writer ministered at the funeral service held in the church he loved in Devonport.—E. W. Taylor, Devonport.

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FIRST DECISION - FIRST BAPTISM

(Bruce Rock, W.A.). It was a thrilling experience, on April 24, when two of our young people gave their lives to Christ. One decision was made, also one baptism, the first of these events in our church . . . C.W.F. has started a new venture. Instead of monthly meetings, we now attend an in-between afternoon called "Dorcas" day. Sewing for missions, etc., is the main theme.

MISSION AT KEDRON

(Qld.). Eric Hart, of N.S.W., was the guest speaker at mission, from May 1-8 . . . Miss Win. Walker and Miss Dorothy Howden have been visiting missionary speakers . . . Alan Male, Youth Director, presented Robert Walters with a prize for "Project Nesusawa." Young people conducted "Hide-away" after an evening service, with our churches participating . . . Men of the church have been busy with working bees on church property . . . Beautiflora demonstration, and a slide evening by Helen Trudgeon, were programmes of the E.W. Fellowship . . . S.S. picnic was held on April 16, at Margate. Several young people went to Easter camp, and some men attended Men's Camp.

INTERIM AT BELMONT

(Vic.). R. C. Bust, Chaplain, Geelong West Tech. School, has accepted an interim ministry during Mr. Langford's illness. Recurrent illness has forced Mr. Langford to tender his resignation. His ministry will conclude at end of this year . . . Mrs. B. Wilson, relieving as B.S. kinder supt., had a record attendance of scholars on May 1. Eight teachers attended B.S. conference . . . C.Y.F. shared in "Shindig" teenage programme in Geelong churches on May 7. Seven Y.P. attended Easter Sunraysia Camp . . . Miss Jan Hunting spoke at midweek meeting on April 13 . . . Mrs. G. Hall underwent surgery at Kardinia House . . . The church begins its Stewardship Campaign, with A. A. Avery, on May 23.

THRILLS AT NORSEMAN

(W.A.). The following is an extract from a letter written by Keith Stevenson, at the Norseman Christian Centre: "In the two weeks since Easter Convention, the Lord has indeed blessed us richly. We rejoiced with Sonny Graham to see his dad, Robin, make his decision for Christ. The change is so noticeable. Then we had a young teenage lad (white) who is friendly with the Hawker family, make his decision for Christ too. A native chap, Roy Fergusson, made a re-dedication in my office. Last Thursday, Eric Dimer came asking for further literature, i.e., daily devotional readings to help in his walk with Christ. Then last night we had the joy of seeing Jock Barton make a re-dedication to the Lord. We have prayed for him for some time. There was one decision at the Mission last night too."

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Mrs. M. Veivers, Phyl. Fleming, Rockhampton, Qld.

MARRIAGES

Verna Warren to Robert Corbett, Essendon, Vic.
Beth Harmer to Ian O'Brien, Warraeknabeal, Vic.
Beverley Stokes to Robert Rennison, Caulfield, Vic.
Margaret Rosewarne to John Mathieson, Fullarton, S.A.
Kaye Scantlebury to Terry Garner, Oakleigh, Vic.
Margaret Garner to Douglas Millard, Broken Hill, S.A.

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COLLINGWOOD CHURCH (Vic.)

Homecoming- Thanksgiving Day

All past members and friends are invited to attend the

98th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY on SUNDAY, MAY 29.

10.55 a.m.—Worship and Communion.
Speaker: J. Turner, B.A.
3.00 p.m.—P.S.A. Speaker: Doug. Nicholls, M.B.E.
7.00 p.m.—Gospel Witness.
Speaker: L. G. Crisp, L.Th.

Lunch and Tea will be provided.

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. and Mrs. H. Walpole, and Hugh, Brighton Gardens, S.A., to Oakleigh, Vic.
Mrs. Fay Cooper, Briar Hill to Warraeknabeal, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Seacombe Gardens, S.A., to Essendon, Vic.
Mrs. D. Brown, Whyalla, S.A., to Mayfield, N.S.W.
Carole Ellis, Bruce Rock, W.A.
Mr. and Mrs. Monson, Anthea and Trevor, Hartwell, Vic., to Kedron, Qld.

DEATHS

C. G. S. Daff, Gardiner, Vic.
Mrs. R. Whittome, Wembley, W.A.
Charles Tovey, Harry Myerscough, North Williamstown, Vic.

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61st CHURCH ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 1966.

10 a.m. — Speaker: Sister N. JAMIESON.
7 p.m. — Speaker: Mr. GRAHAM CANN. Supper.

(No Tuesday Night Meeting).

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THORNBURY CHURCH (VIC.) 45th ANNIVERSARY AND HOMECOMING DAY

SUNDAY, JUNE 5

11 a.m.—Dr. LLOYD JONES, B.A., M.Th., Ph.D.
3 p.m.—SUNDAY AFTERNOON MUSICAL.
Glen Witham, Organist.
Instrumental Trio.
A. E. White.
5 p.m.—FELLOWSHIP TEA.
7 p.m.—A. R. FIGDON.

Welcome past members and friends.
Hospitality Convener: W. E. Mounsey, 44-3376.



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BIRTHS

SEARLE (Morffew). — To Linda and Norm, at Mitcham District Hospital, Vic., a son — Geoffrey Norman, on May 16. Both well.

MARRIOTT. — To Bonnie and Bruce, a third son — Paul Bruce — on May 3, weighing 7 lb. 14 ozs. Both well.

DEATH

CLIPSTONE. — On April 30, 1966, Martha Andrew Isabella, loved wife of the late Pastor H. M. Clipstone, loved sister of David, Elizabeth and Thomas (all dec.), and Craig (Kyneton). "In God's loving care."

IN MEMORIAM

FLOWER, William James. — In memory today and every day, loved father and grandfather of Em. Alan, Arthur and Geoffrey. "Peacefully sleeping."

KEATS. — In memory of our beloved mother and grandmother, Pearl Alma, passed away May 20, 1962. "In our thoughts always."

—Myra and Laurie Ladgrove, Barry, Rodney and Jeffrey.

NASH, Frederick Henry. — In loving memory of our dear father and pa, who was called home on May 27, 1965. "Treasured memories will always remain" with Eileen, Ted, Beverley and Margaret Grenfell; Kathleen, Allan, Linda, Merryn and Coralie Male, Qld.

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Victorian News

NEW BUILDING AT DONCASTER

(Vic.). The building of the new Christian Education Centre is progressing. The Men's Society has been carrying out mopping-up operations and have built a retaining wall on the south front boundary. In another month the Building Committee should be making an appointment with the Conference President to do the "honours" . . . The Director of Christian Education, V. Longthorpe, spoke on May 15 . . . At the gospel service two young girls were baptized . . . The Men's Society has donated \$24 for Milk for India appeal. . . . After 18 years' very profitable service, Mrs. A. T. Tully has resigned as C.W.F. sec. Mrs. Dick Jenkins is her successor.

ACTIVE IN C. and L. MOVEMENT

(Mildura, Vic.). Members are preparing to participate actively in Church and Life Movement . . . C.Y.F. have raised over \$90 for Milk for India . . . A. F. Cant exchanged pulpits with Rev. Van den Houting, of Presbyterian Church. . . . C.M.S. joined with Anglican Men's Fellowship to hear Sir Edmund Herring. . . . Big improvements at District Camp Centre have been appreciated by recent campers . . . S.S. picnic was held at Lake Cullulleraine . . . Monthly modern worship services attract large congregations.

104 YEARS COMMEMORATED

(Maryborough, Vic.). The church celebrated its 104th anniversary on May 1, when N. Gilmore, B.A., B.D., of Brighton church, was guest speaker. He also spoke at the men's tea. An after-church fellowship was held, when the religious drama, "the Nail," was presented. The play was produced by Miss Jean Bartlett, who also led the choir in special anthems at both services. . . . The minister, R. Pritchard, has indicated he will conclude his ministry at the end of this year.

LONDON CRUSADE

Evangelist Billy Graham begins in London, on June 1, what he expects to be his biggest evangelistic campaign ever — the Billy Graham Greater London Crusade. The Baptist evangelist hopes that the crusade will reach more than a million inhabitants of the British Isles. Already more than 1,800 churches in England have offered key personnel to work with the crusade, and more than 8,000 prayer groups are meeting each week. An estimated 120,000 persons are involved in the prayer groups as "prayer partners."—E.P.S.

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SIDLOW BAXTER AT WARRAGUL

(Vic.). Dr. J. Sidlow Baxter was preacher on April 24 . . . Reg. Combridge, of New Hebrides, gave interesting and informative talk on April 22. All present were moved to greater interest in mission work . . . C.W.A.F. conducted street stall and realised \$77 for Building Fund . . . Minister handed in \$20 from sales of pumpkins grown on manse site . . . Youth Sunday was celebrated on May 8, when C.Y.F. had active part in services . . . A car trial was held in afternoon, and audio-visual, "As the Twig Is Bent," was screened at night. This was followed by a good discussion. Several members journeyed to Morwell on May 10 to join district H.M. prayer rally . . . Minister spoke recently at "Fairview" Homes and on "Morning Thought" over 3UL . . . C. Byard, sec.; E. J. Austin (treas.), were re-elected for two years with deacons, A. Fox and P. Jenkins . . . T. V. Weir is minister.

RECEIVED

(Oakleigh, Vic.). Five girls were welcomed into fellowship following baptism, and a married couple and son welcomed on transfer from S.A. . . . Student minister, David Skewes (C.O.B.), conducted evening service on May 1 . . . Seven new scholars enrolled in B.S. Missionary activities have been featured in B.S. and Y.P. group . . . Two tennis teams defeated in grand finals.

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

(Doncaster, Vic.). Crowded congregations marked Mother's Day at Doncaster. The C.W.F. took the evening gospel service. Mrs. B. Genat led the meeting. Mrs. J. G. Shaw preached the sermon. The ladies' choir was conducted by Mrs. G. Crouch, with organ accompaniment by Mrs. K. Crouch, and Mrs. G. Wood-Borgess read the lesson.

WITHIN THE FAMILY

(Moreland, Vic.). The guest speakers at the church anniversary service had been at Moreland before. H. F. Gross was once a member here, and David Hibbert is the son of a former member. A. E. Barber led the song service, Mrs. Quaife was soloist . . . At the annual meeting, Mrs. G. Harman, Mrs. A. Taylor and P. Blain were elected deacons. . . . Sister V. Beckett, Health Centre Sister, has been giving demonstrations on baby care for the Kindergarten Dept.



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"WOMEN AT WORK"

A national conference on "Women at Work," the first of its kind in Australia, has been held in Melbourne. For two days over 250 representatives of industry, trade unions, government departments, women's organisations and the churches, heard first-class papers on "Women at Work."

Overseas speakers who shared experiences were Dame Mary Smieton, D.B.E., Permanent Sec. to United Kingdom Ministry of Education; Mrs. Mary Keyserling, Director, Women's Bureau, U.S. Dept. of Labour, Washington, D.C., and Mrs. N. Takahashi, Director, Women's and Minors' Bureau, Japan Ministry of Labour.

It became clear that those attending the conference came with attitudes largely determined by their particular background. Management expressed their concern at the great shortage of labour in Australia, and the need to use the very real potential of the married woman.

The trade unions were concerned about the vital question of equal pay, for they have a fear that in the changing industrial and clerical scene, women might replace the "bread-winner" as cheap labour. Those connected with social work clearly expressed their concern about the effects on family life and, in particular, their concern for young children.

The first task of conference was to provide us with some facts. From surveys, both Australia and overseas, it is clear that the mere fact that a married woman with children works, is not a cause of juvenile delinquency. The root cause is either rejection or overdomination, and these factors are equally present in working and non-working mothers.

It is also clear that, like it or not, we are experiencing a dramatic increase in the number of married women between the ages of 31 and 39 who return to work once their families are reasonably self-dependent. In U.S.A. and U.K., 50 per cent of working women are married. In Australia, it is 38 per cent. Of married women working, 12 per cent have children under 9; 24 per cent, children between 9 and 11, and 35 per cent, between 11 and 14.

The churches have a clear task before them. We are living in a time of great changes. We must be careful not to resist change because it is change. Our task is the prophetic one of visualising or discerning the trend, or possible trends of these changes, so that the outcome of each change is for a positive good and not a retrograde step

in human living. This means we must obtain accurate information.

Our concern must be that we do not lose healthy family life merely for the sake of increased production. There is more to happiness than more and more goods. Women have always worked and, because we are all living longer, and because the housewives' job has changed, we must respect the dignity of women to use their abilities and talents to the full.

Women must be careful not to seek for opportunities merely because they

are women. We must be aware that not only are relationships changing between parents and children, but there will be changes in the relationships between husband and wife. The Aussie husband has become much more of a partner at home than he used to be. Our New Australian workmates are having to rapidly adjust their attitudes to their wives as the latter become financially independent.

I.T.I.M. has established a study-group to follow up the work of this conference, and this group will supply what information it can to the churches, as well as making our own continual study. The group would welcome any offers of assistance.

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A Dirty Bible. The toast of a Scottish regiment quartered at Edinburgh Castle in the early days of last century, had a curious toast, which was drunk at mess. It was: "A clean sword and dirty Bible." If the sword had to be drawn, it must only be in the cause of honor — for the protection of the weak, for the defence of the helpless. The dirty Bible meant a Bible whose leaves were thumbed and frayed with constant use. The second condition secures the first. Town Hall Gospel. The Prahran church hired the New Prahran Town Hall for gospel services. The building was well filled. Gifford Gordon was preacher, and there were five decisions. Reminder. "Will any who made promises at the last Sth. Aust. Conference, and who have not sent their remittances along, kindly do so without delay if possible?" City Church. W. B. Blake-more is to succeed J. J. Franklyn as minister of Swanston St. church. These Preached in N.S.W. Mr. Rush at Marrickville; Mr. Arnott at Petersham; Mr. Stevens at Mosman; E. J. Tuck at Broken Hill; Mr. Brown at Wagga; F. T. Saunders at Auburn; H. G. Harward at City Temple; Mr. Illingworth at Enmore.

o FOR PENTECOST

THE HOLY SPIRIT — OUR HELPER

We call to your remembrance what our Lord said as he anticipated God's gift of the Holy Spirit. In the darkened world of his day when the shadows were lengthening over his own life he said to his disciples: "But the Comforter, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you" (John 14: 26). Pentecost confirms the historical reality of our faith. Whatever men may do or may not do they cannot alter the fact that our world was the scene of God's great redeeming acts, and that in a human life he manifested the fullness of his grace and glory.

Having come into our world and our life, God has never forsaken them. In our common life, witness and activity, God, through the continuing presence and activity of his Holy Spirit, is our helper. When we reflect on our common calling to work for the unity of the church and of all mankind, for social, economic justice, and for the peace of the world, and size up the magnitude of these tasks we thus confront, we become aware of our inadequacy.

It is in such a moment that the message of Pentecost sounds in our ears with relevance and clarity. We did not choose these tasks, we were chosen for them. The reason why we are engaged in them at all is because God called us by the Holy Spirit to attempt them, and by that same Spirit evoked the response of obedience in us. The Spirit is ever helping our infirmities, making his strength perfect in our weakness. Pente-

cost, with its message of the Holy Spirit, the Helper, sounds for us here and now, and even in the darkest hour a great "Sursum Corda," "Lift up your Hearts."

Pentecost is not only an assurance about the past and the present, but also about the future; "when the Spirit of truth comes . . . he will declare to you the things that are to come" (John 16: 13). The truth about the future, the future of our world, of each one of us, is in the mind of the Spirit. Power

to possess the future in the name of Jesus, the Christ, this is the gift of the same Spirit and of him alone.

We pray that through the message of Pentecost, that God is our Helper, churches and Christian people everywhere may be given new heart and confidence and find in him the source of the only lasting hope.

1966 Message from the Presidents of the World Council of Churches.

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OPEN FORUM

THE CHRISTIAN UNIONIST.

To the Editor,

As a member of a trade that has no compulsion of membership to unions, and as a Christian, I wish to ask fellow Christian workers, the position of unionism and its action in our life today.

Recently, in Victoria, there have been strikes which, to me, seem to be away off their mark of their demands, i.e., the inconvenience of fellow workers and families which have no influence to further their claims.

The age of strikes to "wake up" the ruthless employers to the employees' demands, I feel, has gone, but still this method is being used with results that outweigh the importance of their claims. In Australia we enjoy a high level of living which, no doubt, has been achieved by unions in various ways.

I am not suggesting that unions should be abandoned, as there must always be the opposing forces to find the middle course, but I am questioning the "spoilt child" attitude that is reaching out to those that are innocent.

Can we justly support our fellow workers in this action?

To me, as a Christian, we are to be peacemakers in the world, as has been urged with the war in Vietnam.

Perhaps as Christians and unionists we have failed to make our presence felt in the world around us. Perhaps it is in the "I" and not "we" that failure lies!

—D. C. Robinson, Vic.

GEO. T. FITZGERALD.

To the Editor,

With the home call of George T. Fitzgerald, there leaves us one of the most inspiring preachers we have known. Dedicated to the priesthood of the R.C. church by his mother, he nevertheless accepted Christ as his own personal Saviour, and the plea put forward by Churches of Christ — not for church unity, but for Christian unity. His entry into the ministry of the word and his marriage to Miss Clara Jones, at Armidale, W.A. (he came from W.A.) were two great further decisions of his life. His booklet on "Why I Am Associated With the Churches Known Simply as Churches of Christ" has probably run into more printings than any other of the Austral booklets.

He brought up a large family, all of whom are in the church today, as well as the grandchildren. These and other relatives accepted the New Testament as their guide to primitive Christianity. He preached in the days when salaries were low and suffered hardship, but he never was bought in any way by money.

He suffered contumely at the hands of some because of his strong, pacific views, but he never ceased to voice his beliefs or to proclaim the "whole counsel of God." Let there be any hardship anywhere and he would be there to help, even to building homes for the elderly. My admiration for these two grew and grew over the years. The loss to the church on earth is very, very great. —Wilkie J. Thomson, Vic.

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FAMILY TEA

(Cowandilla, S.A.). The Life Boy team held its annual family tea for 140 on May 8. In a short address, Mr. Ots emphasised the importance of the family in today's society. . . . Our minister, E. C. L. Ots, is holidaying in Victoria. . . . A.C.Y.F. was held at Cowandilla on May 14, and the film, "The Sixth Happiness," was screened. 300 young people were crammed into the church hall, and at least 100 had to be turned away.

GROWING OLD

They say that I am growing old,
I've heard them say it times untold,
But I am not growing old.

This frail old shell in which I dwell
Is growing old I know full well,
But I am not the shell.

What if my hair is turning grey,
Grey hairs are honorable they say!
What if my sight is growing dim,

I can still see to follow him
Who sacrificed his life for me,
Upon the Cross of Calvary.

What should I care if time's old plough
Should leave its furrows on my
brow,

Another house not made with hands
Awaits me in the glory land!
What though I falter in my walk,

What though my tongue refuse to
talk,

I can still tread the narrow way
I can still watch and praise and pray.
My hearing may not be as keen

As in the past it may have been,
Still I can hear my Saviour say .

In whispers soft, this is the way!
The outward man, do what I can
To lengthen out my life's short

span,
Will perish and return to dust
As everything in nature must.

The inward man the Scriptures say
Is growing stronger day by day,
So how can I be growing old

When safe within my Saviour's fold.
Ere long my soul will fly away
And leave this tenement of clay,

This robe of flesh I'll drop and rise
To seize the everlasting prize,
I'll meet you on the streets of gold

And prove that I'm not growing old.
—Author not known.

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Information from the Secretary,
32 - 2447.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

WHEAT FOR INDIA

At the end of April, \$8245.92 was in hand to send Wheat to India. The response indicates the concern our churches have for the Indian people.

Cost of 80 tons of wheat shipped on April 27 was \$5083, freight to Bombay, \$1575.65, remitted to India to transport to mission area, \$376.50. Total, \$7035.15. Although \$376.50 has been remitted for expenses in India, the amount required is unknown until the consignment arrives.

After payment for this shipment has been finalised, all money still on hand, and being received, will go towards a second shipment. Even if rains do come, assistance will be required for a long time, due to the severity of the famine.

In addition to the above, several tons of milk will be forwarded to India when Miss Walker returns.

On behalf of needy people in India, we say "Thank you" to all who have responded to this appeal.

PASTORS' CONFERENCE POONA

By R. POWELL.

The Monday after we arrived here I returned to Poona with two others to attend the Maharashtra Pastors' Conference in Poona, which commenced Monday night, 18th, and concluded Friday afternoon, 22nd. Although it may seem strange, this conference was held in the SAD College (Spicer College, Poona).

Five hundred and eighty resident members gathered for this historic conference, organised jointly by World Vision Inc. and the Churches and Missions working in the State of Maharashtra, these being — Church of India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon; Churches of Christ in Western India; Church of the Nazarene of Bharat; Hindustani Covenant Church; Methodist Church in Southern Asia; Church of the Brethren; Christian and Missionary Alliance; South India Assemblies of God; United Church of North India; American Marathi Mission; American Friends Mission; Church of Scotland; West India Mission, Evangelical Alliance Mission; PIV Mission; Swedish Alliance Mission; Ramabai Mukti Mission; Salvation Army and Norwegian Evangelical Free Mission.

Besides the resident members of the conference, a bus load of people came out from Poona City each day for the meetings, and many came on cycles for the evening Inspirational Rallies from surrounding suburbs. From our own Conference we had a total of 27 pastors, evangelists and Bible women in attendance for the whole of the Conference, and some of the other missionaries and workers were present for part of the time. Each day began at 6.30 a.m., with a Devotional Bible Study, led by Paul Rees, Vice-Pres. of World Vision, with the theme, "I am made a minister by God" (Col. 1: 23).

The speakers during the morning sessions were Rev. R. M. Rathod (Supt. of Ahmedabad Dist. of Methodist Church in Gujarat State), and another Indian

pastor, Rev. P. S. Bhonsle, from the American Marathi Mission in Satara. Then there was Dr. Benjamin Moraes, who is the President of the Bible Society of Brazil, South America, and the pastor of the Presbyterian Church there. Whilst from U.S.A. there was Dr. Ted. Engstrom and Dr. R. C. Halverson. These spoke on the topics of "Reaching the World for Christ in This Generation," "Ways and Methods of Church Growth," "The Responsibility of the Pastor in the Social Life of the Community," "Equipping the Saints for the Work of the Ministry" (i.e., the pastor's work of preparing the members of the church to be a witness).

In this latter series there was the interesting facts mentioned that — the first evangelist in N.T. church (Philp) was a church member, not a minister. Likewise, the first martyr, Stephen, was not a minister. The job of every believer is to be a witness, and as pastors we must equip the church members for this task. Then the other series of messages was on "The Growth of the Church."

Afternoon sessions were in the form of a Discussion Panel, whilst Bob Pierce, President of World Vision, led the evening inspirational rallies with the theme, "The Kind of Men God Uses." We were challenged with the thought that we need, like Charles E. Fuller, to pray, "Lord, I will serve you in all the power, strength and money that you are going to give me," and not "I am going to serve you in my poor weak way." We need to make room in our lives for the "help of God," for, as Paul wrote in 1 Thess. 5: 24, "Faithful is he who calleth you, who also will do it."

I believe that, as a result of this conference which, incidentally, was opened by the Governor of Maharashtra, Dr. Cherrion, a Christian and member of the Mathoma Church, we will see great things being accomplished in this part of India for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

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WESTERN WOMEN

The President, Mrs. C. B. Reid, led the morning meditations at the May meeting of the W.A. Women's Auxillary, based on her motto, "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God" (Col. 1: 10). Soloist was Mrs. L. W. Ladner.

Mrs. F. Newcombe is Pres.-Elect. As Mrs. E. C. Smith, with her husband, will soon be leaving the State, it was with much regret that we received her resignation as Vice-Pres. and Home Missions supt. Mrs. R. H. Richards was elected Vice-Pres., and Mrs. J. A. Sonsee, Home Missions supt.

Attendance 103. Financial statement showed balance in hand, \$1167.89.

Appreciation was expressed to Mrs. W. A. Turnell, who travelled 60 miles from York, especially to present the Diamond Jubilee Conference Echoes.

President's aims for 1966: Theme, "Walking with Jesus."

Budget Aim: \$2400 minimum.

Second Mile Giving: "Homes Project"—\$300 for equipment for "Karingal" (foster home). The Lodge, and the Missionaries' Flat.

Woman to Woman Evangelistic Campaign, to be held in July in the City and Country Districts.

Reports. Aborigine: Mrs. J. L. Pallot. Mr. and Mrs. L. Fisher now living in the new cottage at the Carnarvon Christian Centre. The audio-visual, "Bob William's Missionary Journey," now available. Mrs. D. G. Hammer brought glimpses of her Easter visit to the Norseman Mission Station.

Prayer Requests for — 1. Mr. and Mrs. H. Fitch, as they accept the responsibility of an interim ministry at "Fairhaven."

2. Miss Hazel Skuce, during deputation this month in W.A.

3. Missions to be held in August at Applecross, Rivervale and Scarborough.

4. Mr. and Mrs. Miles Green, foster parents at "Karingal," as they prepare themselves and the Home to receive the girls.

5. Hospital Visitation, especially weekly visit to the Royal Perth Hospital and Sir Charles Gairdner.—Dora Gordon, Sec.

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THE LAST WORD

The Word Brought Death and Life.
And the word of the Lord spread.

—Acts 13: 49.

In 1536, Tyndale, dying a martyr's death for his faith, prayed, "Lord, open the King of England's eyes." The king, Henry VIII., had prohibited the translation of the Scriptures. A year afterwards Henry changed his mind, and a Bible, Tyndale's version, was dedicated to him.

☆

Search others for their virtues, thyself for thy vices.

—Benjamin Franklin.

☆

As it has been the theologians who have helped the laity to rediscover the world, may it be that the laity are going to help the theologians to rediscover God?

—Martin Conway.

☆

Among other discoveries, space travel is going to make it easy to separate the men from us cowards.

☆

A woman will look into a mirror any time except when she is about to pull out of a parking space.

☆

Definition.

Honeymoon: the morning after the knot before.

☆

An Eskimo mother was sitting in the igloo and reading from a storybook to her small son. "Little Jack Horner," she read, "sat in a corner."

"Mother," asked the kid, "what's a corner?"

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