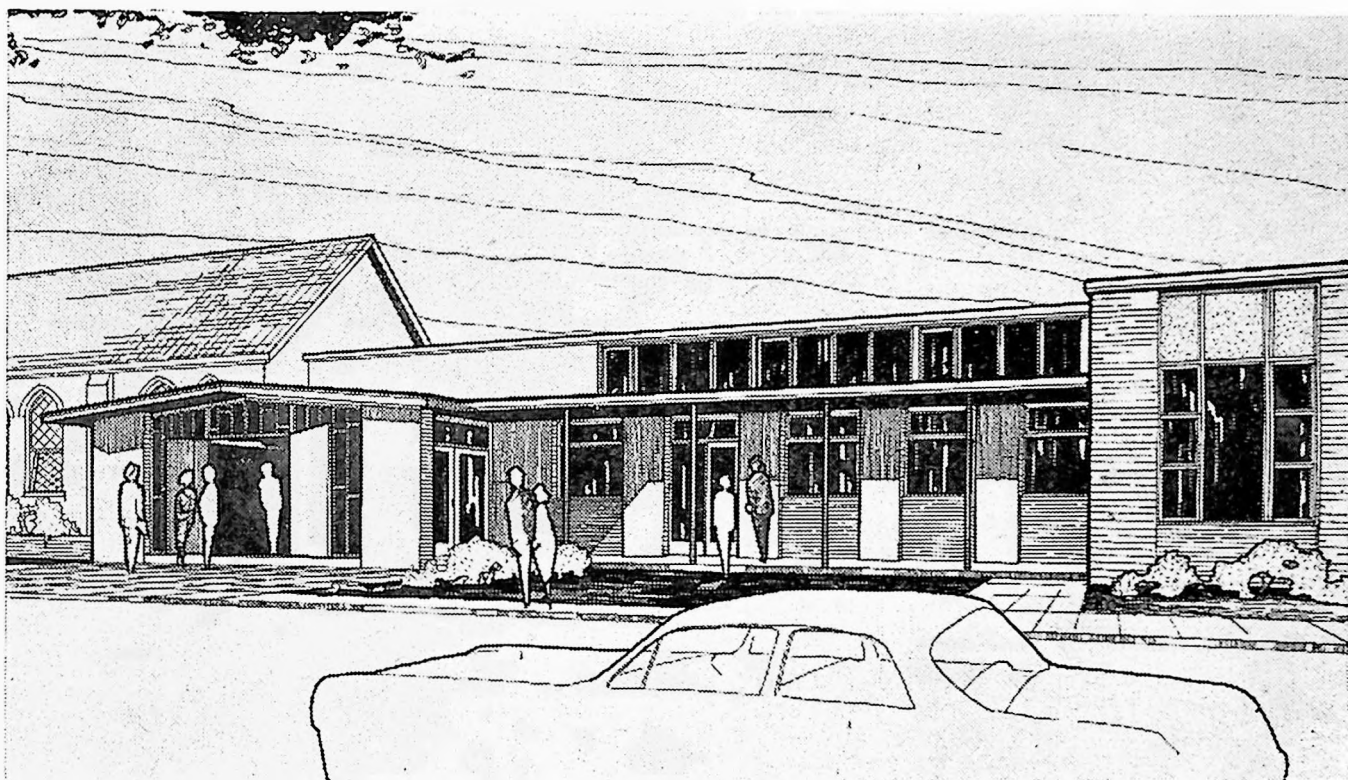


SHEPPARTON'S NEW BUILDING



GIVE
"THE CHRISTIAN"
AS A GIFT

See page 20

THE AUSTRALIAN
CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL WEEKLY OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Registered in Australia for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

WHY DID IT HAPPEN?

The terrible tragedy at Aberfan has been brought much closer to us by the two despatches from Stanton H. Wilson in England.

His latest word contains the names of twenty-two children of the Church of Christ Sunday School in the Welsh coal town. They will not be coming back to their classes.

The report also includes the editorial from the church's monthly paper. It is a deeply moving, touchingly human, yet courageously Christian picture of an ordinary Sunday School faced with an extraordinary time of testing.

The families of Aberfan may well ask, "Why did it happen?" There will be a probing enquiry to find out the physical causes. They might even find someone whom they can blame, and perhaps some of the towns in similar situations may be spared a similar tragedy. But whatever answers the probers may find, it will be a long time before happiness comes back to the homes, the school, and the churches in the coal valley.

None of the answers to the question "Why?" can help much. What is needed above all is not the reasons for yesterday's dying, but resources for today's living. If we find the latter, we shall be better able to accept and understand the former.

Aberfan needs a faith that will enable parents, brothers and sisters, uncles, aunts and Sunday School teachers, and friends, to face each day with courage and hope.

We, too, must learn this lesson, over and over. While we share in spirit and prayer with a remote town we had never heard of until a few weeks ago, we are reminded that not all disasters are distant nor the same in character. We are all living in the constant shadow of pain, suffering, separation, accident, death, or with problems that have no quick or pleasing answers. Christian faith can enable us to see beyond our own particular shadow to the resources God brought to us in his Son.

Christian faith does not guarantee escape from the severest tests which life can bring. Nor does it provide the answer to some of life's most disturbing and irritating questions. What it does do is to remind us that the heart and mind of God are bigger than the fears and doubts of man, and that in faith we can live each day with courage and with purpose.

No one — but no one — has greater resources than those available to us all in Christ.

HARD TO KEEP CLEAN

It is difficult, if not impossible, to keep an election clean. The present one is evidence that not all of the dirty fighting is in Vietnam.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition have both descended from the platform of rational political debate to the low level of personal sneers and smears. It is only the absence of any reasonable alternative that prevents some from saying "a plague on both your houses!"

In the closing stages of the campaign we have had Melbourne's Roman Catholic Bishop Fox entering the lists on behalf of the Government's Vietnam policy. Since the A.L.P. had previously claimed the support of the Pope, U Thant, J.F. and Robert Kennedy, and a few others to discredit the Government, the Bishop's intervention might have been justified. While he was on the job, however, the Bishop suggested that Roman Catholics should also make State Aid for church schools a decisive factor when placing their vote.

The Government received a bit more public support from a group of Protestant evangelicals who said, "we are convinced that the main issue is plain to anyone who has followed the conflict carefully with unbiassed mind." The Protestants want the people to support a Government "that is awake to the perils of (militant, atheistic) communism."

Other ministers who have publicly dissented from the Government's policy have declared that no war is better documented than this one, and anyone who approaches the facts objectively will clearly see that we have no moral justification at all in Vietnam and that we should get out.

(turn to page 6)

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ADVERTISING RATES

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Memorial Notices, Thanks, etc. — per
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Coming Events, For Sale, To Let, Wanted,
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consecutive issues: 85c (8/6).

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

REMAINING ISSUES, 1966.

The last issue of "The Australian
Christian" for 1966 will be dated Dec. 10.

The first issue for 1967 will be dated
Jan. 14, but copy included in it will be
required not later than Dec. 12, 1966.

COVER:

New building at Shepparton, Vic.
(see page 5)

• FEDERAL CONFERENCE ADDRESS

OUR REDEEMING LORD IN UNITY

BY H. G. NORRIS

The first necessity of health in any body is the perfect harmony and co-operation of every organ of that body. There is awful maladjustment of some parts of Christ's body. These weaken and prevent the church from completion of her mission on earth. Disunity is the tragic sin of the church. Division is often created by those who claim to be "contending for the faith," when in reality they are only being contentious for their own opinions.

Four times in John 17 our Lord prayed for the unity of his people. We look at four aspects.

The Nature, Basis, Purpose and Means to this unity.

THE NATURE of Christian Unity

Jesus prayed for a unity which would be visible to the world. "That they all may be one . . . That the world may believe." This is more than a spiritual unity. This involves some organisational unity.

Therefore, if Churches of Christ have been sincere in their plea for unity we must pray, help and encourage those Christians who are discussing their faith together in the World Council of Churches, and in the Uniting Church of Australia. For these Christians are seeking to make visible their unity in Christ. But a visible unity does not necessarily mean one super church organisation.

Our task as a Restoration Movement is not, first of all, to restore the forms of the New Testament church, but to restore the spirit, life and purpose of that church. This involves restoring a church where members have the same spirit of dedication and self-sacrifice as was possessed by the first Christians.

Mr. Norris
is
minister
of
the
church
at
Blackwood,
S.A.



The unity we seek — the only kind of unity than can work in this world, is not to be confused with conformity. But is a unity in spirit, purpose and life which allows liberty and diversity of ideas, opinions and interpretations — liberty to think . . . and the only time people think alike is when they don't think. Our unity is in a person not in personal opinions. Unity does not require that we share the same interpretations and opinions. We walk together because we are one in heart, not because we are one in head.

Our Lord died to create a family of brothers. God made us a brotherhood at the cross. The relationship he created at the cross is greater than anything about which Christians differ. We do not have to agree in our opinions before we walk together as a family and treat each other as brothers. God does not expect all his children to think and be alike. Harmony is not created by always harping on one string, but by blending of the sounds of many strings.

The New Testament Christians differed in temperaments, gifts, ways of worship and church organisation according to local conditions, but they were one in Christ.

Unity does not necessarily mean one form of worship for everybody, nor one form of administration. Unity which grants liberty to others to think, speak and act is the spirit and genius of our movement.

How is the passion for unity working in our brotherhood today? Is it creating as it should a closer and more fundamental inner unity? This is the vital question.

In local congregations folk who claim to be "spiritual" often split our churches by being contentious about personal opinions. In our Australian brotherhood whisperings of heresy, etc., build Berlin walls to divide us.

If we would work in the spirit of Thomas Campbell, we will find a unity which works, in which we will not expect everybody to agree in opinions. But if all Christians will love Christ they will tear down these "Berlin" walls of suspicion and build bridges of understanding. A unity will become visible in our own local congregations, in our Australian brotherhood, and in our relationships with other denominations.

THE BASIS of Christian Unity

Jesus prayed, "That they may be one in us." "As thou Father, art in me, and I in thee."

The twofold aspects of our plea as Churches of Christ — Christian unity through the Restoration of New Testament Christianity — saves us from being vaguely benevolent with a unity-at-any-price — undenominational approach. For true unity cannot come by compromise. But there is an opposite danger. The danger of a deadening legalism in the over emphasis upon restoring New Testament forms, which creates a "holier-than-thou" exclusiveness and refuses to help unity moves anywhere.

We must keep the balance between these two aspects of our plea. We must adventure in love and understanding with other Christians without surrendering essential Christian convictions. The basis of Christian unity is in restoration of a membership which has returned to the New Testament basis of the love and obedience which glorifies our redeeming Lord. It is important that we realise that the unity for which Jesus prayed is based on living in his presence. He who loves Christ cannot quarrel with his brother in Christ's presence. When we realise the basis of unity as being as Jesus prayed, "one in us," then we will not be so interested in where our brother stands in doctrine. We will only be concerned with the direction he is facing.

The house of God is not one because its bricks are uniform in shape and size. The living stones of the church are varied in perception, understanding and interpretation. The house is one because they are cemented together by mutual love for Christ.

We must find this unity within our own congregations and brotherhood. We must tear down the "Berlin walls" we have been building — and we must be bridge-builders. Some of our talented members and Christian Union committees are the spans of these bridges of understanding. The rest of us must serve by prayer and active interest to support them as the pillars and piers support the bridge spans. This task of building unity belongs to every member of our churches.

The basis of unity is "in Christ." There is room in Christ for all our differences.
(turn to page 5)

THE CHILDREN OF ABERFAN

BY STANTON H. WILSON

The Aberfan tragedy has focused interest on children as few calamities have. Amidst the desolation and grief of broken families, a "second rescue operation" is taking place. This time, to bring the children who survived the disaster back to normal. Teachers, welfare officers, psychologists and psychiatrists are sharing their skill and pooling all their resources in this onerous responsibility.

"This rescue operation is every bit as vital as the first and is a very delicate, difficult task," said the local Director of Education. He went on to explain that senior pupils would take part in "light-hearted" activities — sports, film shows, excursions — until they went back to school. It had been observed that some junior and infant survivors had a "morbid fear of school."

Those engaged in this work of rehabilitation recognise that they must first establish a mutual bond between the

parents and themselves before they can hope to counter the fear the children have. It is gratifying that this important aspect of the aftermath of this great calamity is not being underrated. This "second rescue operation" should call forth our prayerful response, as did the first rescue.

Moreover, reflection upon this "second rescue operation" should deepen our appreciation of what our Youth Departments, through Sunday Schools and other organisations are doing, week in and week out, for our boys and girls in the routine and unspectacular work in our churches.

I have just received from our Aberfan church their monthly paper. This issue is one of the most moving and thought-provoking leaflets I have read for a very long time. Here it is. There is no need to moralise. What it is saying, indirectly, yet effectively, about the boys and girls in our care, is all too plain. The issue begins:—

"WE SAY THANK YOU FOR . . .

Dennis Arscott (8)
Desmond Carpenter (10)
Jean Evans (10)
Dywen Griffiths (9)
Pamela Heaman (10)
Janet Jones (9)
Carl Minnett (7)
Jill Parfitt (9)
Jaqueline Powell (8)
Annette Smith (9)
June Williams (10)

Kaye Bowns (10)
Terrance Davies (10)
Maureen Evans (8)
Anthony Hill (8)
Neica James (9)
Sandra Leyshon (9)
Maralyn Minnett (10)
Vincent Parfitt (12)
Paul Roberts (7)
Vicky Simmonds (10)
Graham Williams (8)

"THESE WE HAVE LOVED."

THE EDITORIAL:

Now they have gone . . . the big yellow machines and the strange policemen. The Army and Navy and those screaming ambulances. The newspapers have gone back to their politicians and beauty queens. The television to its soap operas and serials. And Aberfan has gone back . . . No! . . . we cannot go back, we must try to stumble forward.

Out of the black terror of these past days come some wonderful memories. None more wonderful than the courage and unselfishness of the bereaved families. But, for the memories that we would cherish, we have to go back to the "old" days . . . to ten to twelve on a Sunday morning. To the time when our chapel was transformed by the sound of irreverent, noisy laughter. Pennies rolling on wooden pews. Hymn books and Bibles thudding to the floor. Everywhere a tangle of children.

No one can take away the incomparable pleasure of seeing rapt attention on a score of small faces . . . of knowing from their responsive expressions that for that small period of time you have some influence on their lives.

God, we thank you for those youngsters . . . for their noise and cheek and lack of respect . . . for their affection and intelligence . . . for their response to love and sincerity. For all the joy, the pleasure, the headaches and the heart-aches they gave to us, we give our most humble thanks.

And now, boys and girls . . . May the Lord bless you, and keep you. May he make his face to shine upon you, and give you peace. AMEN."

The Church Secretary of Aberfan expresses thanks to all who sent donations and messages of sympathy, assuring such friends that they can not possibly know how much their concern and prayers have meant to the people of Aberfan. To date over £200 had

been received. He explained: "Some of this will be given directly to the bereaved families; the remainder will be used to provide a memorial to the children who died, and to improve the facilities for the children who still rely on us for Christian education."

BAPTISTS QUESTION SOVIET

(London). In response to the news that six Russian Baptists have been sentenced to prison for influencing young minds by means of illegally published books, the General Secretary of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, has asked whether measures taken against the six are contrary to the Soviet Constitution and Criminal Code.

Dr. Ernest A. Payne reports that when he last visited the Ministry of Cults in Moscow, it was made clear that while the U.S.S.R. is officially an atheistic country, within certain rules and regulations "freedom of worship" is guaranteed. The freedom is limited, however, to church services in properly registered buildings. The instruction of children outside the home is not allowed, nor are services in the open air, he stated.

Dr. Payne ventured the guess that "what appears now to be happening both within the Orthodox and Evangelical circles is rebellion against these restrictions on the part of a number of Christians."—E.P.S.

DR. WYON DIES

Dr. Olive Wyon, 85, widely known for her writings on prayer and the Christian life, died in Edinburgh, Scotland, on Aug. 21. To readers of theological writing she first became known as a translator of the works of Ernst Troeltsch and Emil Brunner. She was a full member of both the Church of England and the Church of Scotland.—E.P.S.

★

True Strength and Power

By D.J.H.

*Oh, the joy of full surrender;
Oh, the bliss beyond degree;
Oh, the happiness of knowing
Jesus lives — and lives in me.
Then the work that I am doing,
And the love that fills my heart
Are but Christ Himself within me;
I am His, yes, every part.*

*Of myself I can do nothing;
Helpless, feeble as I am.
Keep me ever trusting, yielding
To the Christ, God's Holy Lamb.
Then He'll use me as His channel,
Pour through me His words of love
So that those around may know Him
And be drawn to heaven above.*

*Strengthened by His Holy Spirit
With the Power which He supplies;
Jesus Christ, Himself indwelling
In my heart — He satisfies.
Oh, the length, the breadth, the height;
Oh, the depth of His great love.
Fitted with all of God's own fulness,
Fitted for His home above.*

*For His power is far exceeding
Every thought and wish of mine.
He is able, and He's willing
To change me by His grace divine.
For His plans are higher, richer,
Than the ways my heart had planned.
Oh, keep me, Lord, surrendered always,
Led and guided by Thy hand.*

—Based on Eph. 3: 16-21.

• SEE COVER . . .

Family Centre Opened

Shepparton church, Vic., celebrated its 85th Anniversary by Opening New and Renovated Buildings costing \$45,000.

The Shepparton church, Vic., celebrated its 85th anniversary on the weekend of Oct. 22-23, by opening a \$45,000 Family Centre. The Family Centre, and interior renovations to the existing chapel have been described, by the local press, as a "scene of incredible beauty." Much admiration, and many congratulations from the public at large, have encouraged and thrilled the congregation.

The official opening took place at the new foyer doors, and was led by the resident minister, D. B. McIntosh. The large gathering included representatives of the brotherhood, City of Shepparton Council, local clergy, and former ministers and members. A. V. Taylor, an elder of the church, was honored for his years of devoted service and loyal support of the church, by receiving the privilege of turning the key and declaring the building officially opened.

A service of thanksgiving and dedication followed in the renovated chapel, and the occasional address was delivered by A. Ross. Lloyd, the President of the Vic.-Tas. Conf., and a former minister at Shepparton.

A highlight was the presence of the Campbell Singers of Melbourne, who provided the choir for the service of thanksgiving and dedication and for the 85th anniversary service the following morning.

The Campbell Singers also delighted a capacity audience in the new auditorium with a two-hour variety concert on the Saturday evening.

John Chivell, the secretary of the S.A. Conference, challenged the congregations with his forthright sermons at both services on Oct. 23. On Oct. 24, 80 tourists, delegates from Federal Conference, lunched in the new auditorium. They were welcomed by the Mayor of Shepparton, and taken on a tour of the city.

The first wedding in the renovated chapel took place the following Saturday, Oct. 29, when the daughter of the editor of the "Shepparton News," Miss Joan Esson, married Richard Johnston, a member of the church.

On Sunday, Oct. 30, a civic service was held, at which the Mayor of Shepparton, Cr. A. Rigg, and Cr. Richard Treviski, a member of the congregation, read the scripture lessons. The crowning joy of a hectic, but happy fortnight came with a crowded baptismal service that evening. Two young ladies of the Numurkah congregation, and a young man from Shepparton, were baptized. Anglican and Presbyterian ministers attended as interested observers.

The Shepparton church is grateful for the dedicated work of the architect, Ray Drayton, of Drayton and Coleman;

OUR REDEEMING LORD IN UNITY (from page 3)

ferences, but there is no room in Christ for any of our divisions.

THE PURPOSE of Unity

Is stated by our God, "That they may be one, that the world may believe."

Our world totters on the brink of disaster, whilst Christians (even within our own brotherhood) snipe at one another. However important our idea may seem to us at this moment, in the light of the Cross, and the stark need of our world Christians must respond to the Lord's prayer for unity.

Five minutes in heaven! Five minutes after I die! In those five minutes I venture to say that most of the things about which I have differed and argued with my brethren on earth will seem irrelevant and unimportant. Because, then I will be with my Lord and will see things in true perspective. If then, why not now?

In the light of the purpose of unity why not now? Let us unite our forces in the war against sin, respecting each other's convictions.

THE MEANS by Which Unity Will Be Achieved

Our Lord did pray for the unity of his church. He didn't give us tech-

niques and schemes. He only prayed. Was this because he knew that real Christian unity can never be manufactured by conferences of theologians and the ingenuity and schemes of men? The true Christian unity begins in the heart of the Christian who knows how to pray for it. Jesus prayed for unity because unity is God-given, not manufactured. Perfect unity in the church must be the gift of God's grace and power. Such unity needs, first of all, to be prayed for.

This unity will come within local congregations, in our Australian brotherhood, and beyond ourselves, when all Christians come into a fellowship so vital that it can be described as being "in Christ." Such a unity if sincerely prayed for will become a visible unity. Let us pray with the same passion as John Wesley.

"Would to God that all the party names and unscriptural forms and phrases (and other things among us) that have divided the Christian world were forgot. And that we might all agree to sit at the feet of our God, to hear his Word, to imbibe his Spirit, and to transcribe his life on our own." — Then we will have a visible unity now — in answer to the prayer of our redeeming Lord, "That they may be one in us."

the contractor, Charles Lea, of Shepparton, and Stephen R. Carr, the construction supervisor, for their many services to the church, which have produced the outstanding structure which now stands on the corner of Nixon and Corio Streets, Shepparton.

The Family Centre, unique in design amongst the Shepparton churches, has among its many pleasing features — a large entrance foyer, which links the renovated chapel to the new family centre; an extensive use of clear glass in the foyer which allows it to be used for an overflow congregation, and as a cry-room (it is possible to stand in the minister's room and look through the board room and foyer and see the cross on the far end wall of the chapel!) The boardroom, which has a prominent position near the foyer entrance, leads into the minister's room, which has a separate door leading into a covered way. The new kitchen leaves nothing to be desired, and with its large automatic gas-cooker is capable of providing meals for large gatherings.

A primary room, club room and kindergarten-lounge surround the main auditorium, which will seat 200. A projector room, changing rooms on either side of the baptistery, and toilets with such extra accessories as hand basins, mirrors, and paper hand-towel dispensers, complete a handsome suite of buildings.

The greatest transformation has taken place in the chapel, which now has a completely new sanctuary, with platform, choir stall, and a tiled, open baptistery, over which stands a wooden cross on a rough textured wall. Acoustic tiled ceiling, modern light fittings, and amber glass windows, all add to the overall transformation. The C.W.A.F. have provided a new gold tone-on-tone carpet for the chapel, and the C.W.E.F. have been responsible for purchasing the crockery and cutlery for the kitchen.

Finance for the project has come from the local church members who, through direct giving, special efforts, and generous donations, have provided \$15,000 of the total \$45,000. The Properties Corporation is providing the balance in a loan grant of \$31,000, more than half of which is covered by debentures placed with the Corporation by local members.

The present minister, D. Bruce McIntosh, commences his fifth year with the Shepparton church in February of next year.

Department of Social Service

(The Church in Action).

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

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

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

Three Homes, sheltering over 130 Sick and Aged.

Let us share together our prosperity and adversity.

Remember the Homes in your will.

Information from the Secretary,
32-2447.

PROFILE
NO. 60

W. LANCE BRUNE S.A.

To be chosen as architect for at least thirty church buildings, seven halls, five manses, remodelling seven church buildings, bespeaks the confidence and satisfaction of the South Australian brotherhood in the work of W. Lance Brune. He has also been entrusted with the plans and oversight of the Christian Rest Homes at St. Georges and Everard Park (formerly Black Forest) valued at half a million dollars; alterations and additions to the Girls' Hostel at Med-indie involving \$25,000, and alterations and additions to the Brotherhood Centre involving over \$9,000.

Over the long association he has given freely of his professional advice and time, frequently travelling to country centres to supervise work on churches, at his own expense. In all this our brother has made a most generous contribution both practically and financially to the brotherhood.

Born at Brunswick, Vic., the eldest of six children, he first came into contact with Churches of Christ at the age of eleven, through the influence of Bart Manning, at Hawthorn, S.A. In his early teens he came to Dulwich, where his Sunday School teacher, Mr. Ward, would have members of the class home to tea, and accompany them to the gospel service. At fourteen years of age he committed his life to Christ in the Kellems-Richards Mission, and

was baptized at Dulwich by the late E. W. Pittman.

He taught in the Kindergarten, and at 19 was supt. of the Christian Endeavour. He belonged to an orchestra, and the 5CL Male Choir, and in his own words, "enjoyed ourselves and entertained others." They visited such places as Minda and Salvation Army Homes.

In 1935, Lance Brune and Molly Ludbrook were married by Dr. A. C. Garnett. After their marriage they lived at Blackwood, where their daughter Linda was born. They came to live in Waterfall Gully Road, Burnside, in 1946, and renewed their membership with the Dulwich church. He has been a deacon for over 30 years, and an elder for many years. Through the influence of Horace Cave — his minister, and at the time Conference President — he became interested in brotherhood work. He was elected to the Home Mission Committee, the Building and Church Extension Committee and Conference Executive. Though approached on occasions to stand as Conference President, his natural modesty prompted him to refuse the honour.

He, with Mrs. Brune and Linda, attended the World Convention at Edinburgh, Scotland, and visited the Indian Mission Field on their way home. They were keenly interested in and liberal supporters of our

Overseas work. They attended the World Convention at Puerto Rico last year, but soon after their return our brother, and his daughter Linda, were saddened by the serious illness and death of a beloved wife and mother.

As a school boy Lance Brune cherished the ambition to become an architect, but his was to be an experience in the "University of Hard Knocks." Leaving school he worked as a carpenter with his father, from the age of 14, and attended the Adelaide School of Mines five nights a week. At the age of 19 he entered a drawing office and worked as a quantity surveyor. During the depression it was a real struggle to find the fees of 13 guineas a quarter. At 27 he went into partnership for 12 months before starting on his own account.

The Flinders Park church, the first for which he drew plans, was acclaimed in the Press as a new departure in church architecture. The \$370,000 Everard Park Christian Rest Home, with its single story cottages, flats, single rooms, infirmary and appointments, has been recognised by Government Departments as one of the best in the Commonwealth.

Lance Brune is a keen gardener. He has over 100 varieties of camellias in a spacious garden spanning the creek in Waterfall Gully. He is a Rotarian, has gone through the chairs of the Masonic Lodge, and has served as President of his Bowling Club. He is a practical man, a modest man, a man of strong conviction, broad sympathies, steadfast loyalty and Christian consecration. His Christian faith is a joy and satisfaction to himself and an inspiration to those who know him as a friend and brother in Christ.—Stan. Neighbour.

INTERSTATE NEWS

"SWING WIDE"

(Marrickville, N.S.W.). The S.S. anniversary theme was taken from the first four words of the song, "Swing Wide the Door of Your Heart to the King of Kings." A parents' and scholars' tea was well attended. Andrew Maxwell was the Dux of the S.S. Brian Benson, gen. supt., led the singing . . . H. Long has taken a Bible study on the "One Church" for two Tuesday nights, and Wiley Park Y.P. joined with the I.C.E., and were guests for tea . . . Dennis Nutt, a member of Marrickville, has graduated with honors from the Woolwich Bible College.

NINE DECISIONS

(Wattle Park, Vic.). Extensive opportunities among young people were realised when nine made confessions on Nov. 13, six being baptized. Although most were from Teens group, all youth leaders are greatly encouraged as the Teens were recently formed amongst C.Y.F. and older Good Companions and Explorers, with Mr. and Mrs. Brough, R. Mullin and the minister, leading, and senior C.Y.F.'s assisting . . . S.S. anniversary was helped by very good play produced by Mrs. Hartvigsen. Convened by the minister, most local churches joined in large combined service at P.L.C. Hall, where "Mr. Brown Comes Down the Hill" was screened . . . John Way discussed Christian Education programming with the officers.

STUDENT MOVES ON

(Fairfield, N.S.W.). The church is sorry to lose the student minister, and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, who leave for service in S.A. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Clelland have moved from district after 15 years of consecrated and concentrated service — Jim as elder and B.S. supt., Barbara as organist and B.S. sec./treas. Their daughters, Cathie as pianist and B.S. teacher, Nessie as projectionist, leave a gap that will be hard to fill. Mr. and Mrs. B. Hosking will also be leaving soon. Brian has a promotion to English and History Master at Wirilla High School. His wife, Judith, is a B.S. teacher. Brian has helped with preaching, and as organist over the years. If there is a preacher wanting to do part-time service we would be glad to hear. We have a manse that could be made available . . . Our B.S. anniversary showed that we have many contacts in the district, and there are many migrant families. The few remaining active members are carrying on bravely, but we do send out this S.O.S. for helpers.

BRUNSWICK IS 84

(Vic.). The church's 84th anniversary was celebrated on Nov. 6, with A. Ross. Lloyd, Conf. Pres., as morning speaker. K. J. Clinton spoke on his recent trip overseas, at P.S.A., Miss V. Barnden was soloist. R. E. Burns, preacher of church, spoke at night, and Mrs. M. Ladgrove rendered a solo. Many past members visited during the day and stayed for a fellowship tea.

KENMORE 1967 COURSES ANNOUNCED

Kenmore Christian College, Qld., has announced that the following courses will be available in 1967.

FIRST YEAR.

Old Testament Area: Archaeology and Bible History A; O.T. in Hebrew; O.T. in English I.

New Testament Area: N.T. in Greek; N.T. in English I.

History Area: Church History Survey. Ancient History. I.

Theology Area: Theology Survey I; Theology of Marriage; Philosophy of Religion.

Practicum: The Ministry I; Special Practicum; English.

Secular Area: Mathematics; Modern History; Geography.

SECOND AND THIRD YEARS.

Old Testament Area: History and Religion of Israel II; Advanced O.T. Introduction; O.T. in English II, III; O.T. in Hebrew II, III.

New Testament: Life of Paul; Advanced N.T. Introduction; N.T. in Greek II, III; N.T. in English II, III.

History Area: History of Restoration Movement; History and Theory of Missions; Ancient History II; Special History Seminar.

Theology Area: Biblical Historical Theology; Church and Ordinances.

Practicum: The Ministry II, III; Counselling; Christian Education; Personal Evangelism; Special Practicum.

As the enrolment for 1967 now stands at 42, and applications are still pending, intending students are advised to make applications to the Registrar, Kenmore Christian College, Kenmore, Qld., without delay.—James H. Jauncey, Principal.

S.A. YOUTH CHOIR CELEBRATES

BY JOHN HEMER

The long weekend in October was well planned as the S.A. Churches of Christ Youth Choir's 10th Anniversary celebrations.

The Hindmarsh church graciously loaned their chapel for the Sunday programme, which commenced with a Thanksgiving service at 11 a.m. The present choir sang, and past members took part in the service. Guest preacher was Barry Pryor, who returned from Essendon, Vic., especially for the celebrations. Prior to entering the College of the Bible, Barry was one of the choir's keenest workers, and a regular success in the comic lead in all the early Gilbert and Sullivan productions. During the day it was pointed out that Barry was one of six of the choir's membership now in the full-time ministry.

The morning congregation consisted largely of past members. Many of these are now the proud parents of vocal youngsters — obviously the choir's future is well assured. Over the years the choir has fostered a number of romances — and is well known for good work in this direction. Seeing family groups where both husband and wife were previously members of the choir, stressed to us all that the choir must be 10 years old.

A magnificent luncheon, organised by the present committee, gave everyone a good chance to catch up on old friendships and to find that time had not spoilt these.

Reg. Brand (minister of Albert Park church) compered the P.S.A. Present at this service was Alby (as he was affectionately known) Glastonbury, in whose home the concept of the youth choir originated. A well rounded programme was presented, with excellent items by past and present members.

On the Monday, Longwood picnic ground was a bustle with present and past choir members, and their families. The programme consisted of a barbecue lunch and some organised (!) sports in the afternoon. There was plenty of time for the "oldies" to renew friendships and talk about old times, and the conversations made fascinating hearing.

From remarks overheard it would seem all the work in arranging the weekend was definitely worthwhile and thoroughly appreciated, and many people are looking forward to the 20th celebrations.

Thanks again to John Hall, the present conductor, and his active committee, for an excellent couple of days.

ANNIVERSARY BAPTISMS

(Inverell, N.S.W.). The S.S. anniversary, on Nov. 13, had Bruce Armstrong as guest speaker at all services. The theme was "We Would See Jesus." The Kinder programme in afternoon delighted all. Mr. Armstrong introduced Sergeant Leon, his talking doll, who intrigued all with his presentation of humorous stories, cleverly depicting Biblical truths. . . . Senior scholars shared the evening service with Biblical plays, and the school choir was featured, followed by the presentation of awards. A baptismal service was held in the morning for three young men . . . The visit of the missionary deputation, comprising Mr. and Mrs. Hariba Waghmode, Mr. Fletcher and Mr. McLean, was much appreciated on Nov. 9, when a further insight was had into the work on the Indian and New Guinea mission fields.

NOBLE PARK MINISTRY

(Vic.). A. B. Titter has accepted a part-time ministry for two years at Noble Park . . . On Nov. 6, Boys' Sunday, 42 men and boys sat down to tea. Paul Payne was speaker. The boys took part in the evening service. One of the lads made his decision for Christ.

EDITORIAL (continued from page 2)

Many of us are trying to be both unbiased and objective and we can't find an answer that satisfies our Christian intellect and our Christian conscience. Despite the crystal clarity with which political parties and some church leaders see their own points of view, many of us are genuinely and agonisingly undecided. We see shame and blame in both the courses open to us — stay or get out!

The election will determine whether we shall indeed stay or leave, but it will not calm our troubled hearts. It will neither solve the problems nor even give a clear picture of the attitude of the Australian people. We are not voting on what to do in Vietnam. We are electing a government. People will vote because of their views on Vietnam, because they like this party, or they like that person, or because of their views on State Aid for church schools, pensions, education, health benefits, longer holidays, the arbitration system, or rural development.

While we are still puzzling over all of the issues involved it will be a great help if our political leaders will use reason instead of ridicule and spend more time in informing the public of their policies and less on defaming their opponents. Keep it clean!

(Responsibility for election comment in this issue is accepted by A. E. White, 119-125 Hawke Street, West Melbourne.)

DR. HEWLETT JOHNSON

Dr. Hewlett Johnson, the former Dean of Canterbury who, because of his espousal of Communist causes, was known as the Red Dean, died in London on Oct. 23. His age was 92. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Michael Ramsey, said: "Dean Hewlett Johnson was a good friend to me since I came to Canterbury. Disagreeing as I did with some of his views, I held in regard his many-sided gifts and his keen human sympathy."—E.P.S.

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



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ANNIVERSARY REPLACED

(Brighton Gardens, S.A.). Parents' visiting days were held for Primary and Kindergarten depts. of the B.S. in Oct. These demonstrations of the scholars' activities replaced the usual annual B.S. anniversary services. . . . Recent speakers have been I. J. Chivell, Dr. Keith Crowley and John Halbert, who conducted the monthly youth service. This attracted a full church, with about 150 Y.P. attending after-church coffee hour. The "Simple Folk" were guest singers. . . . The third Spring Fair, organised by the Christian Women's Fellowship, raised \$525. Proceeds of C.W.F. Project this year is for S.S. equipment, and Overseas Missions. . . . Two cricket teams are in the United Churches Assoc. Three tennis teams are in the Churches of Christ Assoc, with two junior teams playing in Sat. morning competitions.

YOUTH SPOT

In recent weeks the S.A. Dept. of Christian Education has been the sponsor of a number of programmes for young people that have had a tremendous response from S.A. youth. An after-church fellowship was sponsored in the Adelaide Town Hall. There were anxious moments with this because city halls are not hired for a few. Over 1,100 young people came to the Town Hall at 8.30, after church, on Sunday evening, and "The Christian Travellers," "The Quay Men," and vocalist Maureen Dobbin, gave song leader John Halbert, and compere Keith Horne, all they and the youthful audience could wish for. On Nov. 27, another programme is planned at the Adelaide Town Hall, with "The Christian Travellers," groups arranged by the Salvation Army, organist Robert Parker, and soloist Maureen Dobbin.

Cox - Foys' sixth floor Cafeteria became the location for "Skyline '66." Candles, tables, a city view and almost three hours of gospel music in modern idiom, delighted 430 young people. Olympian Scott Davey, Sturt ruckman, and Keith Chessell were interviewed by "K.D.H." a first-rate supper was served and young people declared it to be one of the greatest Saturday night programmes ever.

More to Come. — S.A. young people should plan to attend:

— The After-Church Fellowship in the Adelaide Town Hall, at 8.30 p.m., on Nov. 27.

— "Christmas in the Pines," at Longwood Youth Camp, Dec. 10, at 8 p.m. Tickets at D.C.E. Office.

— 1967 "Teen and Twenty Mission," July 14, 15, 16 (1967).

— The 1967 Department Diary is in the hands of the printer. Watch for it.

MT. COMPASS JUBILEE

(S.A.). Visions have become reality and a new era has begun at Mt. Compass. The rejuvenated buildings are a symbol of the inward uplift experienced by the church.

New furnishings in the chapel, with floral decorations by Miss Betty Jacobs, helped create a splendid atmosphere for 200 at communion. Cecil Skewes presided. His parents helped to begin the first S.S. Scripture readings and prayers were given by representatives of families of long-standing membership: Ivern Simons, David Creeper, Len Leane, Stan Roberts and Brian Simons. Miss Mona Verco revived many memories as she led the congregational response in music. Roland Pittman, son of E. W. Pittman, an early minister, gave the address.

250 had lunch in the Community Hall, where Mrs. Hugh Jacobs had arranged urns of pink pearl rhododendrons, pink roses and abelia, with three vases of real lily-of-the-valley on each table.

While the 100 children enjoyed films in the R.S.L. Hall, the adults shared highlights of the past. Speakers were Don Jacobs, Noel Jacobs, Mrs. Hugh Jacobs, Bart Manning, and Mrs. A. C. Killmier. G. Bugar and Brian Skewes gave items. Mrs. Nita Harvey and Brenda Bugar were at the organ. L. Jacobs, secretary for past 16 years, read greetings, and S. E. Riches, State Conf. Pres., E. Long, Sthn. Conf. Pres., and Mrs. E. V. Lawton, State and World

C.W.F. Pres., gave greetings in person. The women again provided the evening meal.

At the gospel service, the emphasis was upon former ministers. Ralph Oke and Bob Burns led the meeting, the daughter of the late A. C. Killmier, Mrs. L. Jacobs, was at the organ, Mrs. Bob Burns sang, and in the youth choir were grandchildren of the Manning and Killmier families. Miss Esme Harris, now a missionary in Japan, forwarded a testimony on tape. Stan Riches gave the message.

Hugh Jacobs had compiled a most interesting brochure on the first fifty years of history and this was available to all without cost.

There has always been an outstanding feature in the Mt. Compass church in that all children of each family are brought regularly, from infancy, to church, where they sit with parents until they graduate to the teenage rows of boys and girls. When the scripture is announced almost every person, from eight years upwards, produces his own Bible and finds and follows the passage. This good grounding has resulted in missionaries in Japan, Ghana and New Guinea, and faithful S.S. teachers and youth leaders throughout churches in S.A.

The present membership is 50. The minister is Ron Saunders, who also led the Jubilee Committee responsible for all of the arrangements for the celebration.

CHURCH LIFE CONFERENCE AT MAYLANDS

(S.A.). Keith Horne, of the S.A. Dept. of Christian Educ., led the church in Church Life Conference, over the weekend of Nov. 5-6-7. Maylands is not only our biggest church in S.A., it is also one of our most virile. Some people may think that this church is reaching the "grand old lady" stage of its history. If throbbing life, a willingness to experiment, and an infectious optimism about the future count for anything, then this church is "grand" indeed.

The minister is James Lewis, a man who does not spare himself, and who led this church magnificently in the months of preparation for the Conference. He had splendid support from his Board and his church, and this was evidenced in the fact that no less

than 176 people filled in an anonymous questionnaire handed to them prior to the Conference, seeking their attitude and reactions to the life and witness of their church.

An average of 85 people involved in group work sessions as they assessed their present programme and planned a future programme. There were 230 communicants on Sunday morning.

The results? — Lots of work is in store for sub-committees appointed to follow up the ten recommendations arising from the plenary session. Here is a church that refuses to believe that age is anything more than an asset and, what is more, is producing a vital programme at every level of its ministry to the community of Maylands to prove it.

AND THEY STILL

MAKE HISTORY . . .

It was certainly a historic occasion, for although some State Conferences have had Pioneer gatherings from time to time, it was the first dinner that had been held for those who had attended the Federal Conference in Melbourne in 1906 — or earlier.

Those who gathered at "The Victoria" on Tuesday, Oct. 11 were, C. R. Burdeu, Qld.; Will H. Clay, M.B.E., J.P., Vic.; Will Gale, Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, Vic.; Miss E. Johnson, Vic.; Dr. W. A. Kemp, O.B.E., J.P., and Mrs. Kemp, Vic.; Mrs. F. Locke, Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. W. Nightingale, W.A.; R. T. Pittman, B.A., Dip. Ed., Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. Roland Pittman, S.A.; Mr. and Mrs. Scarcebrook, Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Warmbrunn, Vic.; Mrs. A. Williams, Vic.; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Thomson, Vic. Also present were S. Russell Baker, retiring Conf. Pres.; Principal A. W. Stephenson, incoming President, and Mrs. Stephenson; E. W. Roffey, Fed. Conf. Sec.; Mrs. Doreen Strack, Women's Conf. Pres., and Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Saunders, who organised the function, Mr. Saunders being the Secretary of the Arrangements Committee.

The ages of all those present were listed and the chairman announced that "they amounted to five years under the two thousand." Some of the wives and those "also present" brought the average down a lot.

At an informal hour before dinner, Will Clay (the oldest present, being in his 92nd year) told of his early days in Auburn, N.S.W., and how the Church of Christ there grew out of his Sunday School in the Cumberland Hall. It is 73 years since he was baptized. 1896 was a great year, for in that year Dr.

Kemp, Randall Pittman and Will Nightingale were baptized. R. T. Pittman commenced attending Conferences at the age of 14. Will Gale, well known in N.S.W. and Vic. as Y.P. and H.M. Organiser, now 79, was baptized in 1901 by G. T. Walden, and received the right hand of fellowship by Dr. Kingsbury, who was a foundation member of the churches in N.S.W., and was then about 88 years. G. F. Warmbrunn, and his brother (now of Devonport, Tas.), and Ernest Hillbrich (of Warragul, Vic.) were all baptized the same night at Berwick by late Dr. A. J. Saunders. Mrs. G. F. Warmbrunn was taken by her father to Conferences when a child, and continued to attend them until she, Lynda Foreman, went to India as a missionary in 1929. Roland Pittman remembered pioneers like Picton and Ingram. Mrs. F. Locke had commenced playing the organ for church services when she was 15, and at 82 is still playing. W. J. Thomson, as a small child, had been brought to Melbourne from W.A. with his parents, who were fraternal delegates to the Jubilee Conference in 1903, and has vivid memories of some of the meetings.

Some speakers emphasised that coming into Churches of Christ meant something, and some had to suffer a mild form of persecution in doing so.

After-dinner speakers were S. Russell Baker, A. W. Stephenson, and Mrs. Strack (wearing a brooch that had belonged to her grandmother Kemp). Each emphasised the achievements through faithful continuity in the Kingdom of Christ, and the wish was expressed that such a function as this should be held in all the States at Federal Conference sessions.

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YOUTH FOR CHRIST

(Vic.). The Christmas Rally will be presented at the Melbourne Town Hall on Dec. 3. Featured will be Clifford Warne, Ritchie Gunston and Clive Stebbins. Group reservations may be made at Youth for Christ, 747 Burke-rd., Camberwell (phone 82-1528).

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QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



Do you think that we are getting too "business-like" in the church? Our church now wants two auditors to check up on the treasurer, and the auxiliaries have been asked to have their accounts checked. Can't we be trusted?

Strangely enough, we used a Bible passage in church the other day which might appear to agree that Christians should wholly trust each other.

It is in 2 Kings 22: 7. Money which had been received for restoring the Temple was to be handed to the workmen doing the job. "But no accounting shall be asked from them for the money which is delivered into their hands, for they deal honestly."

It is a lovely picture, but I doubt that anyone would accept this as a general rule for dealing with tradesmen today, or for other church financial transactions. Jesus used illustrations to suggest that the care that is exercised in worldly financial enterprises should also be used in connection with spiritual stewardship. A wealthy Eastern landholder would place his affairs in the hands of a trusted friend who became his steward. But the fact that the steward was a friend did not release him from the obligation of giving an account of his stewardship. God trusts us with more than money, and this does not mean that we do not have to account to him for all that has been entrusted to us.

The business of the church includes money business and we should readily accept any reasonable Christian concern for the church's finances.

It is not a question of distrusting anyone. It is rather a question of guarding the interests and the good name of the church. The treasurer himself is protected by a method which clearly controls the church's money and which provides for regular independent checks by competent auditors.

Many churches today handle comparatively big sums of money, through offerings, gifts and trust funds. The auxiliaries also often have fairly large amounts. The church and auxiliary treasurers should be chosen for Christian character and for capacity to look after financial accounts. But even the best of treasurers can make mistakes, and even the best of Christians should be guarded from unnecessary temptation.

Auditors who do their work well will not only see that the books accurately record what is received and expended. They should also ensure that all payments are authorised and that none is excessive.

It is the Lord's money and we are all his stewards.



DIRECTORS
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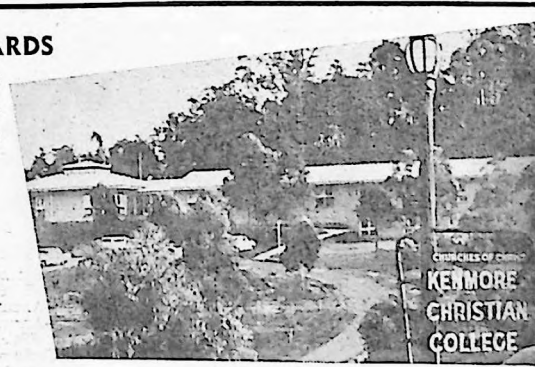
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SOUTH CANBERRA CONGREGATION FORMED

On Sunday, Nov. 13, at 11.15 a.m., the first South Canberra church service was held in the Lyons primary school hall.

Seventy-five persons were present, and 51 partook of the Lord's Supper. Mrs. Fergie, senior, was present from Perth, and Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, senior, from Adelaide. There were seven others who will be continuing in the Canberra church. The rest were members and friends from the southern district.

The service was conducted by Richard Lawton, and G. R. Stirling was the preacher. It was an act of dedication of a group of God's people joyously becoming involved in a piece of pioneering in a new area. It was the forming of a fellowship to reach out in love to those who are hungry for the fellowship of God and other people.

Ten people, and twice as many children, had already crossed the lake to the north side to fulfil their obligations to the Canberra Sunday School, in order not to disrupt its activities so close to the end of the school year. They then

returned south for the service. Hence the 11.15 a.m. commencement.

After the service, 70 of those present went to the manse in Lyons for lunch, provided by Mr. and Mrs. Lawton, and some lady helpers. The standing room only conditions did not prevent those present from having an excellent meal, and some warm fellowship at close quarters.

In the new year it is planned to have Christian education activities for the church families. As the school is only available from 10.45 a.m. to 1 p.m., it is planned to hold family worship each Sunday, followed by project work and discussion groups for the different age groups, from nursery to adults. It is expected to complete each day's programme in ninety minutes.

Negotiations regarding the church building are still going on with architect, builders and the National Capital Development Commission. If any one in any distant State hears a cheer from the Canberra direction, he will know they are finished.

COMBINED COMMUNION CELEBRATED

(Tumby Bay, S.A.). The 3rd monthly combined communion service was held at our church on Nov. 13, the other two having taken place at the Church of England and Methodist. At supper, the discussion on Communion and various Doctrines, proved very helpful to the large, mixed gathering . . . 38 Christmas cakes, made by Guild ladies, and iced by C.W.F., have been forwarded for inclusion in S.S. Christmas food parcels . . . Ross Gaskin, from Ghana, spoke to church, J.C.E. and S.S. on Oct. 23 . . . The I.C.E. and Methodist Y.P. joined for successful "Hayride" and barbecue. Methodist Y.P. were guests at fellowship tea on Nov. 13, when an audio-visual, "The Crunch," was shown.

FOUR BAPTISMS

(Collins-st., Hobart, Tas.). Four Y.P. were baptized on Nov. 13 . . . Several members travelled to Highcroft for the Southern Dist. Convention . . . The C.W.F. held its annual meeting, and reports showed an encouraging year, with a wide range of activities. Mrs. L. G. Cooke was re-elected president. . . . The E.W.F. visited an Old Peoples' Home, presenting a short programme, and distributing gifts to each resident. . . . Mr. Josiah Park is at home convalescing after surgery.

CAMP FARTHEST OUT

(S.A.). The 1967 Camp Farthest Out will be held at Westminster School, Marion, S.A., Jan. 23-27. The leaders will be Rev. Roland and Mrs. Marcia Brown, of the U.S.A. Other C.F.O.S. will be held: N.S.W., Jan. 16-20; Tas., Jan. 30-Feb. 3; Vic., Feb. 13-17; and Qld., Feb. 20-24. Write to C.F.O. secretary, 7 Tennyson-st., Medindie, S.A., for registration form.

QUESTIONS ANSWERED

(Fullarton, S.A.). Special series of gospel services entitled "Questions People Ask," is based on questions submitted. Also features youth services, films and visiting artists . . . B.S. anniversary on Nov. 13 had children singing, under baton of C. Battle. Visiting speakers were C. Cunningham and A. Cremin. The minister, M. D. Williams, conducted teachers' dedication service . . . Church has welcomed home, on annual holidays, Miss Grace Griswood, from Carnarvon Aborigines Mission station.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

(Port Pirie, S.A.). S.S. teachers held a prayer breakfast at 7.30 a.m. on a recent Sunday . . . Women's Fellowship commenced Christmas visitation to the aged and "shut-ins" . . . Girls' Cadets recently held a "Bring a Friend" night, when 12 visitors attended . . . 120 attended Women's Fellowship morning tea. A demonstration of Bessemer Ware was given . . . The Men's Fellowship toured a wheat ship in the harbour . . . The C.Y.F., ladies, and men's international rules basketball has commenced a successful season, with 20 players.

LOSS AT TAREE

(N.S.W.). The church was saddened by the sudden death of R. F. Macindoe on Nov. 9, after a heart attack. He was a loyal member of the congregation and served the church well and faithfully over many years, being a deacon for the greatest part of his membership. R. J. Anderson, minister of Mayfield church, conducted the funeral service and paid a tribute to his life and witness in the community. The church extends Christian sympathy to Mrs. Macindoe and the family who mourn his passing.

IT MEANS "HAPPY HOME"

(Scarborough, W.A.). The B.S. anniversary demonstrations on Oct. 23 and 30, were well supported. Mr. and Mrs. Green, foster parents to several needy girls at "Karingal" (meaning "happy home"), spoke at the youth tea, and at evening service, about the needs of these young girls . . . George Smith shared a few highlights of Fed. Conf. meetings with us. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Seaby were also at Conf. . . . B.S. teachers dedicated themselves to a new year of service . . . Mrs. Phill. Hutchison and Faith Smith were baptized . . . T. D. Maiden is minister.

INTERIM MINISTRY CLOSES

(Taree, N.S.W.). The church expressed deep appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Thomas at the conclusion of their interim ministry on Oct. 30. An after-church fellowship was held, with A. W. Billingham presiding. He expressed the thanks of the church for the able leadership and for work well and faithfully done. Mrs. C. A. Norling conveyed the warm wishes of the ladies of the church. C. A. Norling made presentations to both Mr. and Mrs. Thomas on behalf of the congregation. Mr. Thomas commended the church to the grace of God and expressed confidence that the church would make another advance under the leadership of L. E. Wylie. On the same evening the church also farewelled Miss Jennie Mott, a very loyal member, who had joined the R.A.A.F. Several speakers praised her devotion to God and a presentation was made.

VICTORIAN MINISTERS' LAST MEETING

The December meeting of the Vic. Ministers' Association will be held at the annual picnic luncheon in the Botanical Gardens, Melb., on Monday, Dec. 5, at 12 noon. Wives are also expected.

This time of informal fellowship is welcomed each year and a large attendance is anticipated.

NATIONAL DIARY

QUEENSLAND

DECEMBER:
3 —Final Rally — Y. & C.E. Dept., Annerley.

VICTORIA

Throughout this month Good Companions conduct thanksgiving parties.
27—Annual Offering — Department of Home Missions and Evangelism.
27 —Home Mission Offering.

DECEMBER:
6—Christian Men's Fellowship Christmas Dinner — 6 p.m.
10—Explorers' Final Rally.
10—Dept. of Social Service Women's Committee Rally — Venue to be announced.
17—Christian Endeavour Christmas Treats.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

27 —C. E. Curtis completes 11 years at Glenelg Home Mission Offering.

DECEMBER:
2 —Brotherhood Farewell to Mr. and Mrs. E. P. C. Holland at Grote Street.
6 —Annual Meeting S.A. Council Christian Educ.
8 —Annual Christmas Men's Rally, Park Street, Unley.
10—"Christmas in the Pines" at Longwood. Last A.C.Y.F. for 1966.

ANNIVERSARY EXPERIMENT

(N.S.W.). The City Temple Brotherhood Y.P. Soc. of C.E. anniversary revealed a change of face. Instead of the usual old run of the mill church-style show the group went outdoors. They took the Manly Music Bowl right on the surfing beach promenade. Several hundred deck chairs were set out and most were occupied. Many casual passer-by types stopped to hear the 40-voice choir present good Christian music. The artists, some with guitars, ukuleles, etc., made a tremendous contribution to the variety and overall effectiveness of the programme. Good amplification carried the music and spoken word well into the crowds of surfers, and into the units and flats around. Bruce Armstrong, N.S.W. D.C.E. Director, spoke on "The Purpose of Their Life." President David Crawford and Bob Aldred (in charge of arrangements) did a fine job. In all a very welcome change for Australia's unique C.E. Society.

MORE B.S. ADDITIONS

(Bexley North, N.S.W.). B.S. anniversary services, on Oct. 23 and 30, saw six young girls make their decisions. As a result, a discipleship class is being commenced, led by Barry McMurtrie, the assistant minister . . . Boys' Sunday was held on Nov. 6. At the special gospel service the film, "As the Twig Is Bent," was screened. T. W. Bagley, and sons John and Graham, in addition to a B.S. scholar, took a special part . . . Church sec., L. Yelds, showed slides of his recent visit to Fed. Conf. . . . Prayer meeting attendances are still good on Wed. evenings.

DEVONPORT IN CAMP

(Tas.). On Oct. 14, 50 girls from G.L.B., with leaders, attended a camp at Port Sorell, and on 21st, a number of boys from B.B. held a camp at Gillam's farm . . . Missionaries recently were, Bob Story, of U.F.M., and Miss M. Moore, of E.G.M. Film, "Pasiya," was screened. . . . S.S. anniversary on Oct. 30 saw children present varied programme. Cradle Roll, Kindergarten and Primary prizes and awards were given. Speaker was R. Harvey, of W.E.C. On Oct. 31, a most enjoyable programme was presented by L.B.B., G.L.B. and B.B. Prizes were presented to senior scholars — then a film . . . C.W.F. ladies met with Launceston and Caveside ladies, at Caveside, for a day of fellowship . . . About 70 attended a church picnic at Merseylea on Nov. 7.

ECHO RALLY AND PRIZEGIVING

(N.S.W.). Over 300 young people were at Enmore for post-Crusade '66 pre-Crusade '67 Youth Rally, Oct. 29. The N.S.W. D.C.E. Scripture Examination and Field Day prizegiving was combined with the Youth Rally. Successful schools in exams were Epping — two honor shields; and Lane Cove, Caringbah, Belmore and Doonside — each receiving a shield . . . Field Day victors were: Granville, the mixed events total shield; Canley Heights, the boys' shield; and Miss J. Beaumont (Burwood), the individual shield . . . The Crusade Choir and visiting artists gave us some great singing, and Ray Ewers, Belmore, spoke on "Christ in You the Hope of Glory."

SIN OF SPIRITUAL PRIDE

(New York). One of the paradoxes of the search for Christian unity is that "those denominations or families of churches that claim the presence of the Holy Spirit in their midst are almost always the most divisive."

This was the conclusion voiced by Dr. Eugene Carson Blake.

One reason for this, explained the General Secretary-elect of the W.C.C., is that however close to God any of us is, we never pass beyond the danger of our very virtues becoming vices. "Our most devoutly held convictions" become the "very sins which divided the followers of Jesus Christ from each other," he said.

The sin of spiritual pride is the essence of sin, according to the Bible. For pride is the source of rebellion against God and his Spirit.

"There is never any time when Christians or a company of Christians may rest on their achievements saying to themselves: We have come so close to God that those apart from us are apart from God," Dr. Blake asserted.

Applying this truth to the ecumenical movement, he stated that "the nearer

the ecumenical movement comes to reflecting the purposes of God in our time, the greater the danger that its aspirations will be corrupted by sin into an even greater disaster."

Dr. Blake noted that there is an important movement, chiefly American centred, which is attempting to organise world-wide Christianity "in flat opposition" to the W.C.C. and the national Christian councils in all the nations.

While not denying that important differences in theology and ethics exist among Christians, the World Council leader urged all Christians to "repent of the arrogant sin of pride which not only divides the Church, but also weakens its evangel by turning even Christian virtue into ugly vice."

He made a plea "to ecumenical and anti-ecumenical Christians alike": "cease forever from false witness and mutual caricature. Let all who call upon the name of Jesus Christ pledge to all the others the sincere desire to listen to and heed the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who does in fact unite those who would be obedient to the one Lord Jesus Christ."—E.P.S.

SIX MOOROOPNA GIRLS BAPTIZED

The scene was the dining room at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clydesdale, at Mooroopna, Vic. The time: Sunday, Nov. 13. Those present were eight Aboriginal girls, Mr. and Mrs. Clydesdale, and T. Turriff.

The occasion was a tea-party, prior to the service that night at Shepparton, where six of the girls were to be baptized.

After practising a song they were to sing at church, the girls became strangely quiet as they sat down, some on the floor, and enjoyed the Clydesdale hospitality.

Aboriginal and white people crowded the church, where the minister, D. B. McIntosh, led the service. The eight girls sang a Negro spiritual before the six candidates for baptism withdrew to prepare.

At the conclusion of a short address, Mr. McIntosh heard the confession of faith of each girl, and that declared faith was then demonstrated in baptism.

Continuing prayer is asked for Leslie, Nola, Rachel, Denise, Linda and Brenda, as they continue the Christian life. — Tyrrell Turriff.

MORE GAINS AT EARLWOOD

(N.S.W.). There have been two more decisions and one baptism recently. Auxiliaries are making an "all-out" effort, under the leadership of Mr. and Mrs. Hodgekiss . . . Church annual business meeting, on Nov. 3, appointed R. Carrick, J. Werner, K. Small and J. Morris (sec.) as deacons. Elders are N. Matthews and N. Hodgekiss . . . Good attendance at B.S. anniversary on Oct. 23, was attributed to visitation by teachers to each B.S. home to give a personal invitation. Illustrated talks were given by Noel Flint and N. Hodgekiss. Singing was under the baton of Mr. Ceaser, and was assisted by visiting accompanying musicians. On Oct. 29, scholars were entertained at tea, followed by games and a film. Parents and friends joined later for items by scholars and prizegiving. Superintendents R. McLean and S. Sulfaro, with staff, are commended. Added interest this year was the preacher's message, printed on attractive invitation folders, setting out information regarding the B.S., with the request for parents to contact him in case of

difficulty. Two mothers have so far responded.

SONNY GRAHAM VISITS MERREDIN

(W.A.). 50 Aborigines attended a mid-week service at Merredin on Oct. 27, where Sonny Graham presented messages in song and spoken word. The following night was opened to whites as well, where we also combined with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship. About half the Natives returned for the second night. Again Sonny preached, and it is evident that the Aborigines appreciate the ministry of one of their own people. A regular midweek Aboriginal meeting is held at Merredin. Attendances fluctuate between 12 and 40, and there is evidence of mutual respect and understanding and appreciation of each others' worth. Sonny's visit was a big help. We enjoyed the fellowship of Sonny and his wife, who gave up the last few days of their holidays to help us. We also invite these people to the Sunday services, and it is envisaged that the separate Aboriginal meeting will eventually become unnecessary.

AUSTRALIAN FRONTIER

"Australian Frontier had promises of \$600,000 to build a research centre and overseas promises of staff assistance, conditional on Australia finding \$20,000 a year to pay for the initial staff," said Peter Mathews, Director of Frontier, at a meeting of Friends of Frontier last week. "It would be ridiculous to miss this opportunity to meet a long recognised need, by failing to raise a paltry \$20,000," he said.

Mr. Mathews was speaking at the first Melbourne meeting of Friends and Sponsors, on Nov. 2, arranged by the Melbourne Committee of Frontier.

Dr. J. R. Darling, Federal Chairman, spoke of the role of Frontier, its origin in the Australian Council of Churches, its theological justification, and the scope for its work in extending the service of the church in secular society. He claimed that all Christians must believe that everything had its theological aspect, and all should work to the end that all men should be reconciled to each other as well as to God.

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

In addition to plans at the national level, the Director announced plans for appointing Regional Directors in capital cities. Gifts to Frontier had made it possible to appoint Howard Abbott, in Adelaide, from Dec. 1, and to provide office facilities there.

MORE FRONTIER GROUPS.

Mr. Mathews announced the formation of Frontier groups at the local level, made up of Sponsors and Friends, who would support Frontier's programme and have opportunity to study problems of society and to take action with Regional Committees, especially by way of Consultations. It had become apparent from experience so far that more time spent in preparation and appropriate follow-up of Consultations would have enhanced the effectiveness of work done. This emphasised the urgency of appointing full-time Regional Directors.

The meeting formed into four study groups to discuss aspects of Frontier's

work, and issues needing clarification. Discussion stressed that Frontier saw itself, not as a social action group, but as a catalyst, stimulating responsible action in the community and creative thinking on the new problems which society faces in times of rapid change.

NATIONAL STUDY COURSE.

Another National Study Course was announced, to be held in Sydney from Jan. 1 to 16, on "Radical Obedience in a Secular Age," under the leadership of the Rev. J. Mathews, of the Evanston Ecumenical Institute.

FRIENDS AND SPONSORS.

The Assistant Director reported on a Sponsorship Scheme, which with Friends of Frontier would provide the necessary backing, both in interest and finance, to make Frontier's objectives a reality. It provides for National Sponsors who donate \$500 a year, and Regional Sponsors who give \$100 a year.

Those attending the meeting were asked to fill in forms indicating their interest, and these showed a considerable number willing to join as Friends and to participate in new Frontier groups.

Information concerning Frontier is available from the Chairman of the Melbourne Committee, Gordon Bruns (73 Well-st., Brighton, phone daytime 60-0541). Other members of the Committee are Roy Johnston (vice-chairman), Rev. G. Beatty, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Chambers, Mrs. T. H. Coates, Dr. P. Fensham, D. Hibbert, Brian Jones, Rev. A. McCutcheon, F. R. Morgan, Mrs. H. Rogers and Dr. N. Snow, and the Victorian resident members of the Australian Frontier Commission: Dr. Darling, Mr. Frank Crean and Mr. R. P. Morris.

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

ANGLICAN - R.C. WEDDING

(Portsmouth, England). The 26-year-old daughter of the Anglican Bishop of Portsmouth was married at a R.C. ceremony in Fareham's Sacred Heart Church.

Later the couple drove to the Anglican Cathedral for a special service of blessing conducted by Dr. John Phillips, the bride's father.

R.C. and Anglican sources said that this is the first time in Britain that a Roman Catholic has been permitted to attend such a ceremony. The groom, Timothy Melhuish, had to get special permission from the Holy See to do so.

The marriage was one topic of discussion when the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Michael Ramsey, met Pope Paul VI. earlier this year. It had been the father's hope that he could officiate in the ceremony, but he found this was impossible.

The bride promised that any children of the marriage will be brought up as Roman Catholics. Her father did not object, but stated, "I had hoped that the Vatican's recently-revised rules on the subject of mixed marriages would include a concession that the children be brought up as Christians and not necessarily as Roman Catholics."—E.P.S.

BRITISH COUNCIL CRITICIZES FRANK REPORT ON SEX AND MORALITY

(London). The controversial report on sex and morality prepared for the British Council of Churches by a 12-member working party was rejected by the Council at its half-yearly meeting.

Instead the Council issued a statement holding that "sexual intercourse should be confined within the married state." This rule, it said, "is in accordance with the will and purpose of God."

The 77-page report, published by S.C.M. Press, and released to the press before the Council meeting, had drawn the condemnation of two leaders of the Church of Scotland and several Anglican bishops. However, the "British Weekly" and "New Christian" had welcomed its "refreshing candour" and its "frank facing of issues."—E.P.S.

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EVANGELISM CONGRESS

From HELEN CATERER - in Berlin.

The Kongresshalle in Berlin is an exciting building — the vast overhanging shell of its roof, the terraces jutting out, the ornamental lake and fountains surrounding it, and at night the floodlighting and interior lighting showing through its great glass walls, make it a spectacular sight.

For the World Congress on Evangelism, a number of displays have been set up in the foyers. Most striking is the extensive blue wall map of the world in relief. Transparencies show the faces of children of many races. A "world clock" records the number of children born since the World Congress began on Wed., Oct. 26. In five days it reached a total of 475,230.

The audible ticking of the clock echoes through many rooms, over the hum of the voices of 1,200 delegates and above the click of typewriters in the press room, reminding everyone that the world population is growing ten times more quickly than the church is increasing. The caption beneath reads, "Every second another soul to win." The sense of urgency is reflected in the emphasis on the need for evangelism, and the great commission given by Christ to "go and preach the gospel to every creature."

The amazing thing about this whole gathering is the diversity of the people who are attending. They come from every background and culture. Emperor Haile Selassie, of Ethiopia, opened the Congress. There is Bishop Mar Theophilus, from India, whose church, the Mar Thoma Church, began with the apostle Thomas in Apostolic days. The dignified little Bishop is a colorful figure in a long, pink cassock and black cap, with a neck flap embroidered in gold.

Roman Catholic and Jewish observers are present. There are delegates from Pentecostal and Gospel churches, from the Salvation Army, Methodist, Congregational, Baptist and other free churches. There are Anglican Bishops and noted German theologians, representatives of great churches and renowned

universities, members of small churches with some particular emphasis. In their beliefs they would have many differences, but they are all agreed on the authority of the Bible, and of the salvation which is offered in Christ, and the need for evangelism.

This unity is shown particularly in the evening sessions, when the official group on the platform includes men of different colors, dress and language. On the platform one night was a South American, who read the Scriptures in Spanish, an African, in Nigerian dress, who gave a report on the church in West Africa, an Indian teacher and evangelist, who gave a stirring main message, a Korean woman, who prayed in the Korean language, a French guitarist, who sang, and an Indian in white robes and draped shoulder scarf, who sang Indian songs to the accompaniment of small brass cymbals.

Distinguished speakers have included Dr. Johannes Schneider, Prof. Emeritus of Theology at Berlin Univ.; Bishop Timothy S. K. Dzao, President, Ling Liang World-wide Evangelistic Mission, Hong Kong; the Rev. John Stott, of London, rector of All Souls, Langham Place, Chaplain to the Queen; Dr. Oswald Hoffman, U.S.A., known for his world-wide broadcasts on the Lutheran Hour; Dr. Hermann Sasse, Prof. of Theol., Immanuel College, Nth. Adelaide, S.A. — besides Dr. Carl Henry, editor of "Christianity Today," who is Chairman of the Congress, and Dr. Billy Graham, its Honorary Chairman.

Among the few women taking part is Dr. Helen Kim, Ph.D., President Emeritus of E.W.H.A., Women's Univ. in Seoul, Korea, and formerly Korean delegate to the United States. She is now a roving Ambassador for Korea. Rachel Saint, a translator with the Wycliffe Bible Society, who has been instrumental in bringing many of the people of the primitive Aucas tribe of Ecuador Indians to a faith in Christ, is present with two of the men of the tribe. One is Kimo, who ten years

ago, with others of his tribe, murdered five young American missionaries. In front of this vast crowd these two have told, through Rachel Saint, of the change which has come to them in every part of their lives. It was dramatic evidence of the need for evangelism among 2,000 other Aboriginal tribes throughout the world, who have never heard the Word of God in their own language.

On Sunday the delegates took part in an open air service of witness, in which 12,000 West Berliners joined to mark Reformation Sunday in Germany.

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 Sylvia Wright, Brighton Gardens, S.A.
 Ann Blackley, Elizabeth James, Ursula Burns, Sandra Jackson, Dianne Powell, Garry Powell, Christine Stott, Jillian Brough, Wendy Deith, Wattle Park, Vic.
 Judith Miller, Douglas Brentwood, John Camm, Allan Camm, Ian Masterton, Don Masterton, Barry Scantlebury, Oakleigh, Vic.
 Colin Argent, Warracknabeal, Vic.
 Mrs. B. Hahn, North Essendon, Vic.
 Susanne Geary, Roslyn Hardie, Gregory French, Colin Smith, Denise Whitrod, Bryce Stevens, Neil Greaves, Peter and Kerry Hanaford, Michelle Smith, Daryl, Lance and Roger Wade, Burwood, Vic.
 Alan Benson, Denis Blade, Phillip Goninon, John and Gary Bagley, Fairfield, N.S.W.
 Mrs. Phill. Hutchison, Miss Faith Smith, Scarborough, W.A.
 A. Foster, Ararat, Vic.
 L. Baggs, Milang, S.A.
 Graham Waddell, Colin Burt, Jeffrey Burt, Inverell, N.S.W.
 Geoffrey Morfeff, Ernest Downie, Malcomb Odell, Kerry Randall, Collins-st., Hobart, Tas.
 Cathy Miller, Berri, S.A.

MEMBERSHIP

Jim Weepers, Croydon to Brighton Gardens, S.A.

MARRIAGES

Jeanette Anderson to John Nicolle, Milang, S.A.
 Margaret Walker to Robert Brennan-Frost, Mosman, N.S.W.
 Nancy Nichols to Clarence Mackley, Bendigo, Vic.
 Janet Holmes to Denis Peebles; Margaret Mander to Ken Burt, North Essendon, Vic.
 Jan Burgess to John Braybrook, Burwood, Vic.
 Jennifer Harrison to Les Gobbitt, Wattle Park, Vic.
 Fay Rogers to Ross Tolliday, Brim, Vic.
 Rosemary Evans to Don. Graham, Balwyn, Vic.
 Glenda Purdie to Harry Seaforth, Pt. Pirie, S.A.

DEATHS

A. H. Fisher, Wattle Park, Vic.
 Miss Marie Walters, Mrs. R. A. Northington, J. G. Gardside, Castlemaine, Vic.
 Mrs. F. Mableson, Brighton Gardens, S.A.
 Mrs. Caroline Gilbert, Oakleigh, Vic.
 Mrs. E. A. Whitfield, Milang, S.A.
 R. F. Macindoe, Taree, N.S.W.
 Mrs. L. C. Mau, Fullarton, S.A.
 Mrs. A. Feetham, Rockdale, N.S.W.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

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 Miss M. Reid (secretary, Fairfield, N.S.W.), 125 Seville-st., Fairfield, N.S.W.

David Youens (secretary, Burwood church), 27 Middleborough-rd., Burwood, Vic.

R. Pearce (secretary, Noble Park church), 21 Jeffer-st., Noble Park, Vic.

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BIRTH

GALLETLY (Freeman). — On Nov. 5, at Box Hill, to Julie and Warwick, a daughter — Heather Joy. Sister for Sandra Kim.

DEATH

MITCHELL. — On Nov. 19, 1966, at the W. H. Clay Nursing Home, aged 82, Ethel Alice Margaret, of the Malvern church, Vic., very much loved wife of the late George William Mitchell, mother of Marjorie (Mrs. Gilbert), Nance (Mrs. King), Gwen (Mrs. Rowe), Betty (Mrs. Merry) and Charles (dec.). "In God's care."

IN MEMORIAM

WATERS (Jack). — In fond memory of my dear husband, called home Nov. 25, 1964. "Until then."
 —His loving wife and family.

ENGAGEMENT

WARMBRUNN - JONES. — Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Warmbrunn, 14 Power-st., Dandenong, Vic., have pleasure in announcing the engagement of their younger daughter, Marion Irene, to Peter, second son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Jones, 4 Marshall-st., Noble Park, S.A.

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COMING EVENTS

GLEN WAVERLEY (Vic.) CHURCH, Montclair-ave., Sunday, December 11, at 3 p.m. — OPENING OF NEW EDUCATIONAL UNIT. Former members and interested friends welcome.

BLACK ROCK (Vic.) HOMECOMING SERVICES, DEC. 4. 11 a.m., Speaker, A. R. Lloyd (Conf. Pres.); 5 p.m., Fellowship Tea; 7 p.m., Speaker, P. Thickens. Will past members and friends please accept this as an invitation to attend these special services?

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MISSIONARY IN THAILAND

Ian Cook, of the West Preston Church of Christ, Vic., has reached Tak, 350 miles from Bangkok, where he will be engaged in language study for some time.

Due to letters going astray, and unscheduled arrival of ships, Ian was not met by those who planned to do so, but he found many missionaries able and willing to introduce him to his new land of service and to its people.

Among the many hazards of the east, are two types of mosquitoes. The daylight mosquito carries dengue fever, and the night variety carries malaria. But he is well and settling down to the months of preparation before engaging in missionary work.

CIVIC SERVICE

(Nth. Essendon and Milleara, Vic.). A Civic Service was held, with Mayor of Essendon, John Williams, presiding, and the Mayor of Kellor and ex-Mayor of Essendon, reading the scriptures. Other Councillors and Members of Parliament were present . . . A series of studies and discussions on Unity were held . . . The B.S. Building Competition raised \$100 which purchased new hymn books. . . 40 young adults met for tea at the church on 13th. Members of Y.A.F. conducted the evening service. The speaker was Y.A.F. President, John Birt. . . The W.E.F. raised \$868 this year. They continue to have large meetings. . . Mrs. B. Shea has been appointed Milleara Road church treasurer.

"WHAT IS MAN?"

(Hartwell, Vic.). B.S. anniversary singing was under leadership of L. Butler, organist Miss W. Sowler, pianist Mrs. Willing. Special speakers were A. E. White, A. Rowe, Dr. Whiting, N. Gilmore and J. Birt. On second Sunday evening, C.Y.F. gave narration entitled "What is Man?" Three boys from school read scripture portions . . . Student ministry of B. A. Mann closed on Sunday, when gift of books was made prior to his return to S.A. . . Mrs. Layton underwent surgery for ear trouble.

BOYS' SUNDAY DECISIONS

(Oakleigh, Vic.). A Father and Son tea was held on Boys' Sunday, followed by a film, "Teenage Challenge." Two Explorers read the scripture, and the address was given by Harvey Miller, Explorer leader. One girl and six boys made their decisions . . . The B.S. anniversary theme was "What a Won-

derful Story to Tell." Mrs. Miles wrote the script and trained the children who took part, and Miss Jean Milne conducted the choir. Mrs. J. Randall spoke at the Kindergarten and Primary session . . . "Friendship Sunday" was observed on Nov. 13. Members invited friends or neighbours to tea and then to the gospel service. The Y.P. provided supper at the fellowship time and sing-song following the gospel service. . . The officers have planned to hold the morning service on Christmas Day at 8.30, when the speaker is to be Brian Booth, N.S.W. and former Australian Test Cricket captain.

ANNIVERSARY DECISIONS

(Burwood, Vic.). A most successful B.S. anniversary started with 350 in school and congregation. Eleven B.S. scholars made decisions at the services. . . Explorers' Club had a tea on Boys' Sunday and shared in evening service. Speakers were F. Morgan and V. Lonthorp . . . In preparation for G. Lord's 1967 ministry, the construction of the manse is well under way, with finance from the Properties Corporation . . . The church has appreciated the leadership of assistant minister, Ken Duffy, with the young people.



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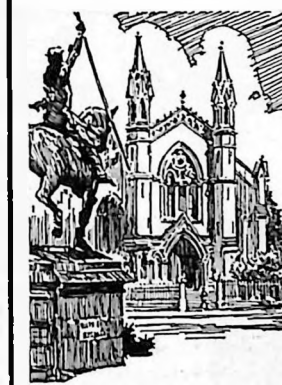
Minister: Dr. LLOYD JONES, B.A., M.TH., PH.D.

— • —

11 a.m.—WORSHIP - COMMUNION - PREACHING.
 Nov. 27—"DID CHRIST ACTUALLY RISE FROM THE DEAD?"

7 p.m. — KNOW YOUR BIBLE COURSE.
 Nov. 27—"CAN MODERNS LOVE GOD?"
 (Song of Solomon).

(Outline Study Notes provided).



OBITUARY

Eric J. Parker.

On Nov. 8, soon after awakening, Mr. Parker quickly passed away. He was born in Seville, Vic., on Nov. 5, 1901. He came from a background of belonging to Churches of Christ, and he maintained this relationship all of his life. Mr. Parker was a wonderful family man and he, with his wife, have endowed his family with a strong sense of awareness of each other. His activities within the community were extensive and varied because he had such wide interests. He served on the Coburg Council over a period of 16 years, being Mayor twice, which was only interrupted by war service in both the Army and Air Force serving in the Pacific War Zone. Mr. and Mrs. Parker were the first church members to be married in the Coburg church, both being foundation members. He held every church office of responsible leadership during the time he lived in Coburg. By profession he was an Optometrist, and was in business for over 30 years, serving the people of Coburg. He was a quiet man, with a very generous spirit, and this led to many of his good deeds going unnoticed other than by those he helped. An overflowing congregation filled the Coburg chapel to pay their respect, and gave evidence of his wide interests and the high esteem in which he was held. Mr. Parker was motivated by a delightful spirit and a real commitment to his Lord. He took this commitment into every sphere of activity and we, as a fellowship and a community, are the poorer for his passing, yet we are deeply thankful that he passed our way. To his wife and family we extend our love and sympathy during this time of real sorrow.—Charles Dow.

Mrs. Mary Pretoria Roberts.

Mrs. Roberts, of Strathewen, died on Oct. 12. She was the beloved wife of Leonard, the devoted mother of Mary, Frank (dec.), Harry and John. Her Christian experience began in the house church at W. Tree, Mt. Murrumbidgee, in the Aust. Alps. Coming to Melbourne to do nursing, she found a church home at Fairfield, and later married and set up home in that district. She shared generously in the life and worship of the church, and is remembered for her

gracious spirit and prayerful approach. Removing to Strathewen, the church was again set up in her home, and it was here that her family grew up. When the church at Hurstbridge was established, the family entered into membership and made a splendid contribution. She gave good service in the B.S. The funeral service in the Fairfield church, and the Heidelberg Cemetery, was attended by many relations and friends. We extend deepest sympathy to all her sorrowing ones.—T. A. Fitzgerald.

Lydia Talbot.

Lydia Talbot, of Murray Bridge, S.A., died on Sept. 29. She was born on Sept. 30, 1872, was married on Sept. 30, 1896, and was laid to rest in the Murray Bridge Cemetery on Sept. 30, 1966. She would have been 94 years of age had she lived one more day. For many years she and her husband, Agars E. Talbot, were connected with the Baptist church at Richmond, S.A. She taught the B.C. girls and he taught the B.C. boys, and most Sunday nights the two classes were entertained in the Talbot home. On leaving Richmond to take up land at Kersbrook, the Talbots linked up with the Church of Christ. Mrs. Talbot was a true help-meet to her husband, encouraging him as he accepted preaching appointments in our brotherhood — full-time at Berri, from 1927-31, and interim ministries at Williamstown-Kersbrook, Victor Harbor, Moonta and Broken Hill. She became Pres. of the Ladies' Guild at Williamstown and Berri. The family thanks God for a mother, and many more are grateful for the Christ-like influence of her life. The service was conducted by the minister of the church at Murray Bridge, K. Pitt, who commended the mourners to God for his heavenly comfort.—W. N. Bartlett.

Mrs. Esther Wells.

Another link with the earlier days of the church at Margaret St., Launceston, Tas., has been broken with the death of Mrs. Esther Wells, on Oct. 1, aged 88 years. Her husband pre-deceased her many years ago. She became associated with the church during the Griffith's mission in 1913, and was the oldest living member of the congregation. She loved the church, and had been an active member of the Women's Auxiliary. For many years she had lovingly laundered the linen of the communion table, and

as a good needlewoman, she rendered splendid and continued service in making garments for the needy and for overseas missions. In culinary efforts Mrs. Wells excelled, and was a valued member of the Catering Committee. Also many "shut-ins" and sick folk were cheered and helped by her visits and gifts of dainties. The attendance of Mrs. Wells at the Lord's Table was exemplary, and only physical weakness prevented her, on occasions, from being in her accustomed place. In the absence of C. J. Robinson in Melbourne, the funeral service was conducted by the minister of Hobart church of Christ, Lloyd Cooke. The church extends sympathy to the members of the family.—J. P. Foot.

Mark Leroy Gibson.

On Oct. 15, at the Launceston General Hospital, Tas., as the result of misadventure, Mark Leroy, the infant second son of Brian and Noreen Gibson, died in his third year. He was a bright little boy, for whom Sundays did not come around often enough for him to attend Kindergarten. He had not missed a Sunday through the whole year, and recognising this, the B.S. requested his father to accept Mark's award posthumously. The writer was recalled hurriedly from Melbourne to conduct the funeral service in the Margaret St. chapel, at which there was a very large attendance. The church extends sympathy to Brian and Noreen in their sorrow, and commends them for their fortitude and faith.—C.J.R.

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1916

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT. "Capt. Chaplain Walden is here. I have lent him a 'Christian.' He was pleased to get it." "I was glad to get the 'Christian.' There was such a lot of news in it."

OFF TO WAR. Albany Bell, Pres. of W.A. Conf., is, at his own expense, proceeding to the front to undertake any service that may be allotted by the Y.M.C.A. He is accompanied by H. R. Manning.

MAN, THY SHAME! Leprosy was introduced into the New Hebrides from New Caledonia. The missionary, Fred. Paton, urged that a tract of land be set aside where the infected could be segregated. At first rejected, the suggestion was later accepted, and the frightened islanders presented a site with running water, rich soil and fruit trees. In every case where the man alone, and none of his family was a leper, the wife elected to enter the leper camp with him, but in no case was a "well" husband willing to enter the segregation camp with the leprous wife! Mr. Paton said that the blessing of God was on these sacrificing Tanna women. In no single case did the wife contract the disease, but in every case, save one, the husband died.

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OPEN FORUM

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS.

To the Editor,

I attended the Evangelistic Rally and cannot understand why the lengthy announcements were thought necessary. Those present had read programmes of Conference meetings, but their literacy was ignored, and every planned meeting that remained was enumerated. The faulty loud-speaker system marred the message, but we did hear most of it. We did hear the preacher's message, but, when he had finished, most of the advertising we already had heard was re-iterated.

Mr. Editor, why cannot we have a meeting that won't be killed by announcements? At every meeting of every conference the atmosphere build-up has to overcome the drag-down of an interminable string of announcements.

—W. A. Strongman, Vic.

BROADCAST REPLACEMENT

(Dulwich, S.A.). Due to sickness of minister, S. Neighbour, morning service on Nov. 6 was conducted and addressed by J. Lewis, of Maylands, for A.B.C. broadcast. Letters of appreciation came from as far away as Oodnadatta, where member Don Kisson was engaged temporarily on electrical work. Augmented choir, under K. Allison, sang splendidly. The B.S. anniversary was also observed that day, with R. Holmes (Unley), as a "magician," delighting afternoon audience. At night there was youth panel discussion on social and moral problems. . . . Albert Jones and K. Crosby have helped in pulpit during minister's illness. Mrs. Neighbour is now confined to bed with same throat ailment.

GRAHAM EXPLAINS STATEMENT

(Berlin). The World Congress on Evangelism, sponsored by the U.S. journal, "Christianity Today," and chaired by Billy Graham, drew 1,250 delegates, church leaders, independent evangelists, and Bible School leaders from all major denominations, including Orthodox, Anglican, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist and Pentecostals.

In his first address, Billy Graham quoted a representative of the World Council of Churches as saying that if the W.C.C. would define evangelism it would split the W.C.C.

Later, in a private interview with the W.C.C. observer to the World Congress, Dr. Walter J. Hollenweger, Graham explained this statement. The W.C.C., being a fellowship of diverse churches, cannot easily spell out theological matters, he said, because there is too much diversity amongst the different churches. Nevertheless, it is very important that people of different theological back-

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS . . .

SENIOR CITIZENS

To the Editor,

My wife commandeered me to drive some of a party from the church to an aged persons' home in our suburb. They were going to put on an entertainment for the old folk. I went in with them to see the show.

They ran some games and put on some items and handed out sweets and ice creams. I had to blink a few times and pinch myself to make sure it wasn't a kid's show. Our ladies certainly had their maternal instincts out, and clucked over the old people like motherly orpingtons. They just couldn't help being "matronising." (Men are patronising)!

The ninety-year-old next to me looked at me with a mischievous grin. She said, "They think we're in our second childhood. But we wouldn't hurt them for anything; so we let them think it."

Mr. Editor, you'd better start brushing up on "Poor Pussy" and boiled lollies; you're getting older.

TERTIUS.

PLANNED GIVING SUCCESS

(Castlemaine - Harcourt Circuit, Vic.). The Planned Giving Programme led by Allan Avery was outstanding in its success, not only from a financial standpoint, but in bringing the churches together in prayer, team training and co-operation in visiting. An inspiring youth rally resulted in four decisions.

118 attended the family dinner prepared by the church ladies. Through the generosity of church members, the dinner was without cost to the church. Friends of the ladies outside the church fellowship waited on tables and cared for 33 children in the kinder hall. Miss E. Clarke, Mrs. Cattermole and Mrs. Jackel gave hospitality to Mr. Avery. Others who gave special assistance were Mrs. Vic. Symes, Mrs. C. Hall, and Mrs. S. Broad, who did the typing, duplicating and general office work; W. John-

stone, H. Rice, M. Whittaker, C. Rice, R. Broad, and the chairman, Vic. Symes, cared for programme of information of members; Mrs. V. Normington, Mrs. Lovelace and Mrs. Paxton prepared the tea for the team workers.

The Baptist and Methodist churches loaned tables and chairs.

Contacts were made in two weeks that would have taken a year in normal pastoral ministry. The financial programme was given a good start as the team of visitors pledged \$6,645. The pledges exceeded the aim of \$16,000 for three years, by \$141.

The C.W.F. is working well and gained \$60 from a cake stall. Talent Bags were returned on Nov. 16, with approx. \$140. Mrs. T. Williams addressed the ladies . . . Members received much benefit from the message of S. R. Baker, and the combined meetings with the team led by P. Levett and J. Giles over eight days' emphasis on the work of the B. and F. B. S.



ROAD SAFETY CORNER

There's danger in a loose wheel — and more in a tight driver.

Straight roads when misused are the most dangerous of all, and nearly half of our road deaths occur on them. The driver who pushes the accelerator "flat to the boards" on straight roads, particularly in the country, stands a good chance of taking off — permanently.

OUTSIDE PRISON WALLS

Have a good look at the two little boys in the photographs! They are both boys — the one on the right has a blue boy outfit that looks a bit like a dress when you don't know the color. He is Dallas, aged 14 months.

The other is Duane, two and a half. They are just two little boys beginning the adventure of growing up. They are not much different from the hundreds of other boys in our big cities — who have very little chance of developing normal lives.

Their father is in prison!

Gary will be in prison for another three years and a half. When he comes out of gaol, his sons will be six and four years old — if they are still his sons.

He doesn't want the boys to go into an institution, for he, himself, was an "institution" lad, and he feels sure that this is one reason why his life went wrong. When he moved into the world of work and responsibility he found that he was quite ill-equipped emotionally and morally for the business of living.

Gary got himself a girl friend, and when it was discovered that the girl was pregnant, they were married — at 17 years of age! Duane was born, and within two years Dallas joined his brother. Two children being cared for

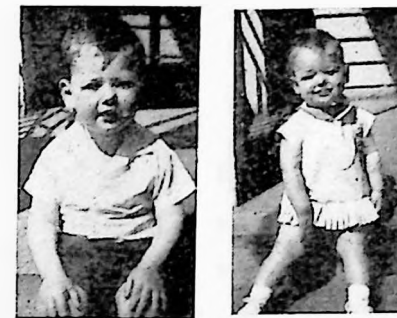
by parents who couldn't properly look after themselves.

The young wife was sometimes not all she could have been in the home. Occasionally when Gary came home at night the beds would not be made, the house would be dirty, and the children unwashed. This caused increasing tension and the marriage, which started wrongly, and too early, was headed for serious trouble.

The young mother was also a poor housekeeper, and this led to many arguments. It was this which triggered off the climax, and one night Gary threatened to kill his wife. She ran for the police and, when they came, Gary, still angry, fired a shotgun at one of them. The policeman was only thirty feet away and he received twelve pellets in his leg. This limited injury, at such a distance suggests that Gary did not really try to kill, at least, not anyone but himself. With the same gun he tried to commit suicide, but was not successful. For wounding the policeman he was convicted and sentenced to five years in gaol.

The two little boys never did have much of a father. Now they had none. They haven't much of a mother, either. She does not really care about them and is anxious to be relieved of the problem of caring for them.

That brings us to the present chapter



in the life of the boys. Gary and his wife are both 20 years of age, and the question is: What is to become of their boys?

One of our church members is in close contact with Gary in Pentridge. The young man has matured a great deal whilst in prison, and he is deeply concerned about the future of his children. He doesn't want them to go to an institution, and he doesn't want them adopted. At least not yet. He loves his boys, and he is hoping that, in some way, he may be able to build a home for them when his debt is paid in three years' time.

After those three years, we still do not know what the future may hold, but at least all of the pieces will still be together if the boys can find a temporary home.

Perhaps someone who reads this story may be able to do something about looking after Duane and Dallas for three years. If so, please write to the Editor of this journal, and he will provide further information.—A.E.W.

BUILT WITH PAPER

(Warrnambool, Vic.). The Building Fund is benefiting through series of periodical waste paper drives . . . Field Director of H.M. Dept., K. J. Harvey, was guest speaker at Temple Day on Nov. 13. Offering was \$200, with more to come. Mrs. Larcombe, organist, rendered a solo at both services. The Allan family, of Brisbane, Qld., were visitors . . . C.W.F. have forwarded \$20 as their contribution to various interests connected with the Executive Com. . . . Working bees by men of the church have been active in repairing kindergarten equipment and in caring for various parts of the building.

SWAN HILL MINISTRY

(Vic.). Student ministry of Deane Olafsen concludes on Nov. 27. He will be succeeded by Ian Mullen (C.O.B.) as interim minister until Christmas. The full-time ministry of Graeme A. Harrison will commence on Jan. 17 . . . All day fete conducted by C.W.F. on Nov. 4 realised a profit of \$440 . . . Good attendance of church members and friends enjoyed annual picnic at Riverside Park.

HOUSE CHURCH MEETINGS

(Ararat, Vic.). House church meetings have greatly increased attendances, with elders leading Bible study. Church gladdened by decision of A. Foster, husband, and father of church members . . . C.Y.F. were winners when they challenged old girls and old boys to basketball match . . . All leaders have met to plan for next year's activities.

BOYS' SUNDAY

(Preston, Vic.). On Boys' Sunday, K.S.P. club conducted morning service, and Boys' Explorers assisted at night . . . C.W.E.F. raised over 65 dollars at street stall in High-st. shopping centre. . . . Young Women's Evening Fellowship held mystery car trial on Cup Day. At end of trip there was a barbecue picnic at Lower Eltham Park.

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THE LAST WORD

Evil Times.

"He never prophesies good concerning me, but always evil."

—Isaiah 30: 10.

My grandpa notes the world's worn
cogs,
And says we're going to the dogs;
His grandad in his house of logs
Swore things were going to the dogs;
His dad amid the Flemish bogs
Vowed things were going to the dogs;
The cave man, in his queer skin
togs,
Said things were going to the dogs;
But this is what I have to state—
The dogs have had an awful wait.



Finding fault is easy. Doing better
may be difficult.

—Plutarch.



How rare it is to find a soul quiet
enough to hear God speak.

—De Fenelon.



Definition.

Modern: word often used to justify
what has no other merit.



Yes, our Bert's a real sportsman. Box-
ing, running, cricket, football, swimming.
Our Bert watches 'em all on TV.



Oil was struck on the land belonging
to the poor farmer and his wife. Sud-
denly their income zoomed to \$10,000
a week.

"Now that we're rich, Mary," said the
farmer to his wife, "what would you
like to have most of all?"

"Well," she answered, after some
thought, "I'd like to have a new axe
handle."

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