

March 4, 1967

Good Companions' Standards

(see page 4)



FROM THIS ISSUE
"THE CHRISTIAN"
IS A
FORTNIGHTLY
JOURNAL

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL WEEKLY OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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HOW MANY CHRISTIANS?

Recently we received a news-sheet from a church — not one of our own we are happy to state — which urged members to give to, pray for, and share in an evangelistic mission in Melbourne.

Now, there is plenty of scope for evangelism in Melbourne. We need more of it. But the news-sheet described Melbourne as "a city of two millions with fewer than two hundred Christians."

There was no indication of the test which was applied to classify the Christians and banish the rest. If the standard in Mark 12: 30 was the measure, then there are indeed considerably fewer than two hundred, for none of us has loved the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind and strength.

If any other test was used, it seems to me that the figure of two hundred is far too low. The number of immersed believers far exceeds that number, and there are many thousands who have made public witness of their faith, meet at the Lord's Table every Lord's Day, refuse any name but Christ's, and have no book but the Bible.

It becomes evident that whatever test was used it was unworthy and unauthorised. It looks as though the folk concerned fell into the error of thinking that "those who are not like us, are not enough like Christ to justify calling them Christian."

Christ himself is the standard against which all Christians should measure themselves, but there are plenty of warnings not to use even Christ for the purpose of condemning others.

Although our own people may have made other mistakes over the years, we should not have committed the error of judging others. The Restoration Movement bequeathed to us many slogans, one of which said, "We are Christians only, but not the only Christians."

I don't know how many Christians there are in Melbourne, or in any of the other big cities where the evangelistic group in question is going to seek converts, but I am constantly meeting Christian witness, Christian grace, Christian humility, and Christian service in all kinds of places and in churches of many different names.

We need to be reminded that even when we are totally Christ's, he is not exclusively ours.

A CONTINUING INJUSTICE

If a nation goes to war its young men will die. This is an inevitable cost of using battles to solve problems. But the deaths of more National Servicemen in Vietnam highlights one of this nation's gravest injustices against one section of its people.

When a nation declares war, as in the 1939-1945 conflict, there may be some justification for conscripting voteless young men. In such a case the burdens would be shared much more equitably. The age group for conscripts would be much wider, and, more importantly, there would be conscription of money and manpower at home.

In the present war, the ordinary man is not affected by its cost. He does not fear invasion, he can work where he likes, none of his pleasures are affected, his food is not rationed, and he does not even pay enough extra taxes to upset him.

Only those who are balloted into the army have to pay. They pay in interrupted preparation for careers, in separation from their families, in the disruption of their church, social and cultural interests, and they may pay with their lives.

At this time, when some of our young men are being forced to fight, others are being lured into distant and uncomfortable areas within Australia by the offer of wages far in excess of normal earnings. The firms concerned find that the inducement is sufficient.

Surely it is reasonable to suggest that the wages of the fighting man be increased to the point where sufficient men will volunteer! This will not make all wars just or lessen our concern for those who die, but it will at least remove something of the present injustice which shames us every time a National Serviceman is killed.

The higher taxes which will result from the increased pay for soldiers will ensure that we know that there is a war being fought, and make for some levelling of sacrifice which now falls too heavily upon one section of our young men.

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LINES FROM LEICESTER

BY STANTON H. WILSON

It is Lent. Only here, in the Northern Hemisphere, has the word its true Old English meaning: "lectern," to lengthen. With us, the days are now noticeably longer. The crocuses, the snow-drops, the daffodils are all out. For the entire Winter, I can only remember one light fall of snow. We have had weeks of mild weather and pleasant sunshine.

Gum Trees in the Heather

One happy excursion of which I have not written yet, was our fortnight's motoring holiday in Scotland, covering 1,800 miles. The weather was kind and visibility excellent. We drove via the lovely Lakes District of England, and visited the home of John Ruskin, and that of Beatrix Potter, near Coniston Water, where Donald Campbell tragically lost his life. We crossed the Scottish border at Gretna Green. We were enchanted by "the bonnie, bonnie banks of Loch Lomond," and a score of other very beautiful lochs, including Loch Ness (no monster the day we were there). Our route right up to the West Coast terminated at the Sub-tropical Gardens at Poolewe. Here, as a final gesture, before turning South again, we picked leaves from an Australian Gum-tree! Contrary to expectations, the climate on the North-west Coast of Scotland is some of the mildest and most dependable in the United Kingdom. This is so because of the tempering influence of the Gulf Stream, which takes its rise near Florida U.S.A.

Royalty of Two Kinds

Returning, we stayed at Inverness, where we saw carpenters on a building hammering in nails by natural light at 10.15 p.m. We crossed through the heart of the Highlands and visited Glamis Castle, spending several hours going through room after room in this baronial castle, the girlhood home of our beloved Queen Mother.

That same day we drove to Dundee to fulfil a great long-
ing, namely, "to see Mary Slessor's glasses." For years I have thrilled at the story of Mary Slessor, the timid mill-hand of Dundee who last century became a missionary and went to Nigeria, where she was affectionately known as "The White Queen of Calabar." She was completely dedicated to Christ, cheerful and brave. At her death she left an estate worth £13, including her glasses and Bible — both dreadfully dilapidated. These two articles are to be seen in the Dundee Museum, within which the proud citizens have appointed a chapel in her honour. I found it a most moving experience to see the glasses through which she looked into God's Word, and then out upon God's world, with such good effect.

It was almost emotionally too much to have seen the home of two such dedicated persons as Mary Slessor and the Queen Mother in one and the same day.

Ecumenical Pilgrimage

Shortly after visiting Scotland, I had the great privilege of leading an Ecumenical Pilgrimage of 43 persons to Lebanon, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and Israel. Actually I was only the Assistant Leader, or as the group insisted on describing me: their "vice-leader," anyway it wasn't true!

We flew from London to Tel-Aviv, and made Tiberias

our base in Galilee. Our hotel had its own private swimming enclosure on the shore of the Gallilean Lake. From Tiberias we visited Megiddo, Haifa, Acre, Nazareth, Mount Tabor, Caesarea and places of similar interest.

The morning we left Tiberias we were awakened by the sound of Syrian gunfire as they rained down bullets on an Israeli fishing fleet. However, General Odd Bull, Chief of the United Nations Peace-keeping Force, quickly restrained the inflamed antagonists.

Crossing into Jordan through the Mendelbaum Gate, we made our headquarters a large modern air-conditioned hotel on the Mount of Olives. From here, trips were made to Gerash, Amman (with a visit to King Hussein's Palace), Jericho, the Qum Ran Caves, Petra, Bethlehem and ancient Sychar, where I sat on the side of Jacob's Well and drank of those waters "whereof if a man drink, he shall thirst again."

The return to London was made by way of Damascus, Byblos and Beirut. I am sure that the way to see the Holy Land is not to go on a tour — but to go on a pilgrimage. There is a world of difference!

In the Heart of England

That's where Leicester is — in the heart of England. One advantage of living in this strategic city is the opportunity of meeting a great many distinguished people. The Archbishop of York (Dr. Coggan) spoke at a meeting "just around the corner" the other day. Next week I am to have dinner with the Archbishop of Canterbury. Perhaps, I ought to mention that there will be exactly 199 other people present too!

Our family had an enriching experience a few weeks ago when we were hosts to Dr. Martin Niemöller here at the Manse for three days. It was a great delight to have as one's guest the man who defied Hitler to his face, and suffered in a concentration camp for years for his loyalty to his Lord. As Dr. Niemöller was leaving our home, at 5 a.m., to fly to a Peace Conference in Yugoslavia that day, he stepped into his waiting car and, with a cheery smile and a wave of the hand, called out, "See you in Adelaide in 1970." I thought it a splendid greeting, and one which more of us ought to start using.

Leicester is the "home town" of Dr. Leslie Weatherhead, and he always stays with one of our church members when he "comes home." On a former visit, he preached for us at Evington Road and, last time, we had two hours "at coffee" with him at his host's, after the evening service. It was an unforgettable time of scintillating wit mixed with profound wisdom. It was a time of warm friendship. Of all the 36 books which Dr. Weatherhead has written, I must confess I went home thinking about the first one. It was called "Transforming Friendship."

Names

In an earlier article, I wrote about some strange names. I have since come upon some strange place names. They

(more on page 4)

GOOD COMPANIONS

MOVE INTO

STANDARDS

BY R. V. LONGTHORP

The happy smile which greets you on the front page of this week's "Christian" belongs to Linda Webb, of the Doncaster Good Companions' Girls' Club. (Incidentally, the freckles are genuine too!).

Linda has plenty of reasons for feeling happy. She is wearing the special Good Companions' scarf and the full range of badges and awards which form such an important part of the "Standards," just introduced into the Good Companions' Clubs. Any girl completing these standards has plenty of reasons for feeling proud.

For some time the Department of Christian Education in Victoria and Tasmania, has felt that the programme of its Good Companions' Clubs would be enhanced by the introduction of Standards. Accordingly a committee was appointed to produce a programme of Standards, and a hard year's work was climaxed at the Leaders' Meeting last Feb. 6, when the Standards were introduced to 150 leaders in the Brotherhood Centre. The response was most enthusiastic.

There is, of course, nothing new about the principles of Standards and badge work. But each organisation has to work out the approach which best suits its particular aims and objective. We have adopted the system which we believe will materially help the Clubs to offer girls the kind of activities which will enable them to develop skills, abilities and insights — and engage in a series of meaningful experiences — all of which will help them grow towards Christian maturity and knowledge.

Briefly, the Standards operate this way: The special Standards book offers the girl opportunities of engaging in about one hundred separate activities; for example, toy-making, first aid, leading in worship, leading games, swimming, hiking, community service, hostessing, group skills — discussion and debating, etc.

The girl commences these activities

round about her tenth year and completes them when fifteen. Each activity has to be learned (the Leaders' job is to teach it), and then she is tested in that activity. When she is successful the leader signs the appropriate section in the girl's book. Special "Bands" identify the activities which the girl passes; the "bands" are grouped under four main areas, each area designated by a special badge. When badges and bands are earned, they are worn, as shown, on the special scarf. The groupings of badges and bands are . . .

— EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS.
Self Expression, First Aid, Home-craft, Hostessing, Group Skills.

— CHRISTIAN DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS.
Worship, Service, Literature, Mission, Bible Study, Church.

— CITIZENSHIP STANDARDS.
Helping Hand, Community, Neighbours, Current Affairs.

— RECREATIONAL STANDARDS
Games Leader, Physical, Creative, Hobbies, Outdoor.

The badges were designed by Mrs. Fay Lawn, of the Ringwood church.

This was an exciting and significant development in the brotherhood's programme of Christian Education, as it affects our girls. Linda, and hundreds like her, who attend our Clubs every week, are now being offered yet more positive and worthwhile programmes. Parents will have greater knowledge of just what the Club is giving the girl, whilst Club Leaders themselves will have far more effective means of guiding the girls towards Christian growth and commitment.

Lastly, local church leaders will feel a double reassurance that our coming generation are being more adequately trained for service and being offered teachings which reflect the heritage and concerns of our brotherhood.

Student Christian Movement

Is the Student Christian Movement a living force in the University today?

The image that society in general has of the University almost invariably involves some estrangement between the University and Religion. Either the highly rational approach destroys religious belief, or the environment of intellectual analysis leads to a re-thinking and re-shaping of conventional ideas.

Many young people who have accepted a Christian faith, or any other faith for that matter, when they enter the University feel their faith threatened. In the process of re-thinking, and under the pressure of a multitude of new concepts and approaches, some are tempted to reject religion as irrelevant and unnecessary to an intelligent, rational human being.

However, others find that their Christian faith is far from irrelevant. Christianity is to them a part of University life, just as it is an essential of their whole lives, and in this environment of thought and exploration can be developed to its greatest depth and fullness. Others, too, find that Christianity can provide valuable help in meeting life's needs, and a source of challenging discussion and satisfying fellowship.

It is these people who make up the ranks of the Student Christian Movement. Not all claim to be Christian, but all are seeking the truth, and are exploring the possibilities of the Christian life.

The activities of the S.C.M. cater for a wide range of interests. In programmes of public lectures, diverse approaches to numerous topics are presented by people of knowledge and experience. An opportunity for discussion is provided by smaller, more personal, and often interest-centred groups. Members worship together and, with other groups, eat and chat together informally, and parties are arranged for a less serious type of fellowship. Service activities and camps also form important aspects of the programme.

It is hoped by present members of the S.C.M. that its activities will become more widely known among students entering the universities, as well as those who are already there. Students who are at all interested, and who make themselves known to the S.C.M. committee will be informed of what is happening, and made welcome at all activities. Functions are open to all students, whether members or not.

Yes, S.C.M. is living, and every new member makes it more alive.

—(Contributed).

VICTORIA - TASMANIA

PRESIDENT - ELECT

Following its sad loss in the death of its highly esteemed President-Elect, Will. F. Newham, the Vic.-Tas. Conference Executive, in conjunction with the Nominations Committee, was faced with the responsibility of securing the services of a successor.

After much thought and prayer and the issuing and acceptance of a unanimous invitation, both bodies are pleased to announce that Graham H. Gilmour will fill the vacant office. His residence is at 9 Pope-st., Blackburn, Vic., and his phone number, 88-4710.

His experience, qualifications, abilities, Christian character and spiritual qualities make Mr. Gilmour a worthy suc-

cessor to Will. F. Newham, and a long line of his pre-decessors in office. A member, Bible School teacher, and an officer of the Blackburn church, Mr. Gilmour served as chairman of the board during the church's rebuilding programme.

Though amongst our youngest Presidents, Graham Gilmour has wide brotherhood experience and contacts. He has served in the Dept. of Christian Union and the Department of Home Missions and Evangelism. He is currently Deputy Chairman of the latter Department. He was elected Assistant-Secretary of Conference in 1962, and still serves in this office.

His contributions to discussions and decision making have revealed balance, sound judgment, a love of the brotherhood and a concern for its best interests, and the ability to discern the implications of decisions and actions. He has been much used throughout the brotherhood as a speaker, and by the Department of Home Missions and Evangelism in deputation work and special consultations, in which his contribution in discussing and helping to find solutions to problems, and giving wide guidance, has been most worthwhile.

All this has given Mr. Gilmour a wide knowledge and understanding of the brotherhood which, added to his capabilities, will enable him to serve helpfully and with credit to the brotherhood and himself. His profession will probably take him to Canberra in 1968, and it is good that Conference should avail itself of his services while they are still available in Victoria.

Mr. Gilmour was earlier a member of Will. Newham's boys' club at Surrey Hills. Will. would only have had the deepest pleasure and gratification had he known that he had contributed to the making of a Conference President, and that one of his "boys" would succeed him in office.

• 21 YEARS IN OFFICE

A "Coming-of-Age" in Service



W. T. Atkin.

Will. H. Clay was the visionary who saw the possibilities (and too much credit cannot be given to him) and W. T. Atkin assisted greatly in translating these dreams into established realities — resulting in well-planned homes, tastefully furnished, solidly financed and later, progressively developed and extended. Today they accommodate one hundred and sixty-six persons.

The list of projects undertaken during W. T. Atkin's 21 years of service is impressive (in the early years, of course, these were undertaken in conjunction with Will. H. Clay). These include the establishment of the Will. H. Clay Nursing Home, and the later building of the Matron's cottage, the Emmaus Rest Home, and subsequent developments — two units of flatettes, Blackwood Street extension, two cottage units, Emmaus Court (four self-contained units for married couples), and Emmaus Lodge (ten self-contained units for ladies). Extensions at the Christian Guest Home have included the cottage units, men's cottage extensions, staff home, sick bay and frail section. At the moment a new wing at the Will. H. Clay Nursing Home is being erected to accommodate an additional twenty-three bed patients.

In all this work W. T. Atkin has received high commendation from those associated with the welfare of the aged, including the Commonwealth Department of Social Services and the Victorian Hospitals and Charities Commission. His advice and counsel have often been sought from many and varied official and other quarters.

His work, of course, has covered all aspects of social services and social

questions, where he has earned a wide respect, not only in our brotherhood but throughout the Christian community. Many would testify to the sympathetic personal help and wise counsel he has given.

The association of W. T. Atkin with the Department began thirty-four years ago when, as a young man serving the Dandenong church as minister, he was elected a member. He served as chairman from 1939 until 1942.

Born in Lismore, N.S.W., W. T. Atkin spent his early years there and was baptized in the Lismore church. He qualified as an accountant and worked as an auditor for several years. Against the advice of some of his friends and business associates, who predicted a successful future in the business world, he entered the College of the Bible in 1927 and graduated in 1930.

His early business training has proved a most valuable asset as he has entered into the wider work as a minister of the gospel and a leader in the social work of our churches.

Over these years W. T. Atkin has continued to serve the Northcote church as an elder, auditor and financial adviser. He has also made a valuable contribution as a member of the Board of Management of the College of the Bible for thirty years, and the State Conference Executive for twenty years.

The whole Australian brotherhood would wish that the opportunity be taken to congratulate him on his achievements and thank him for the tremendous contribution he has made to the work and witness of our churches.

LINES FROM LEICESTER (from page 3)

range from "I," by which name the Island of Iona is well known in Scotland, to the greatest tongue-twister of all: the village of Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwyrndrobwillantysilogogoch, usually abbreviated to Llanfair P.G. It means: "The Church of St. Mary, in a hollow of white hazel, near to a rapid whirlpool and to St. Tisilio's Church and near to a red cave" — so the Welsh say! I have discovered that place-names can be woven into interesting sentences. One

such comes to mind: "School-masters sometimes have. Cause (Shropshire) to administer a salutary Nether Wallop (Hampshire) with a Cane End (Oxfordshire) or a Birch (Essex)."

In Scotland, we stayed at "Rest-And-Be-Thankful," and coming home, through County Durham, we by-passed "Pity Me." On the foregoing sentence, I feel strongly tempted to moralise — but I won't — I won't even write another line — this time!

VICTORIAN NEWS

PRE-SCHOOL COMMENCED

(Boronia, Vic.) The church Kinder Hall is now to be used as a pre-school, with Mrs. Wendy Smart (nee Manallack) as director, and Mrs. J. Cartmel as secretary — the venture is proving a success and thanks are due to all members who helped in the preparation of hall and buildings . . . Two of our boys have entered Dookie Agricultural College — David Chandler and Peter Maguire — both from families that were pioneers in the district and have firm ties with the land . . . B.S. picnic was held at Seaford on Feb. 18.

o EXPLORER NOTES

NEW APPOINTMENTS

(Vic.) At the last meeting of the Explorer Executive, the following new appointments were made: secretary, Trevor Steele (Blackburn) who replaces Peter Wing Tang (resigned). Rural Zone and Inter-State Chief, John Henley (Box Hill) who succeeds the position left vacant by the death of Bill Newham. North East Zone Chief, Viv. Curtis (Doncaster).

Alterations to Explorer Dates:

Adventure Camp — March 11, 12, 13.
Swim Night — April 8.

VIC.-TAS. MINISTERS' ASSOC.

(Melb.). The next meeting of the Association will be at the Brotherhood Centre, March 6. Lunch at 1 p.m. At 2 p.m. the speaker will be Stan Davey, of the Aborigines Advancement League. (Secretary: N. S. Giezendanner, 7 Gardena-rd., Nth. Balwyn. Phone 857-6444).

I.C.E. ASSIST PENTECOST GIRL

(Box Hill, Vic.) Intermediate Endeavourers are assisting to support a 15-year girl at Pentecost, New Hebrides . . . Box Hill C.W.F. ladies acted as hostesses at C.O.B. Garden Party . . . The elders and deacons met representatives of church auxiliaries at a 7 a.m. prayer

SERVICE IN THE HILLS

(Mitcham, Vic.) The church conducted another successful family service in the hills at Mt. Evelyn Recreation Reserve. The Teens class, led by Bob Corrie and Mr. and Mrs. Anderson, of Blackburn, had been enjoying a weekend in the hills and joined the families in a picnic meal prior to the service being held. Brethren from the Montrose church shared in the service. The song service was led by Jim Binney, and musical items were provided by the singing group, the "P.K.'s", with their guitars, the Teens class, and Geoff. Ogden . . . The church has invited the H.M. Dept. to conduct a Review Planned Giving Programme, commencing on March 9 . . . A gift of a hall from the Mt. Waverley church has provided a valuable asset to our B.S. and auxiliary work. Restoration of the hall is near completion . . . Promotion Sunday for

breakfast on Feb. 19. Junior cricketers have reached semi-finals and "A" grade have had three successive wins. A football team has recently been formed. . . Messrs. R. Thompson and K. Clencie improving after recent operations. . . The passing of G. Holloway occurred after a long illness . . . Malcolm Gray is congratulated on being Student Pres. at C.O.B. for 1967. Robert Sercombe on attaining a scholarship at the National University, Canberra, and Bob Hayes, on his achieving his Bachelor of Science Degree at Melb. University. . . Mr. and Mrs. Brian Marchant suffered great material loss when their home was ransacked whilst they were holidaying.

APPEAL FOR TASMANIA

(Reservoir, Vic.) Tasmanian Bushfire Appeal totalled \$116.84 . . . Primary children participated in Zoo excursion to mark commencement of year . . . Recent speakers have been T. Turriff, for Aborigines Mission Board, on his trip to the West, and Mr. Dorning, of Ivanhoe, who screened color films of mission work overseas. An offering was received for New Hebrides mission launch . . . C.W.F. has Mrs. Candy as pres., Mrs. Wookey, vice-pres. C.W.F., together with Prayer Fellowship, made gift of tool equipment to R. Combridge in New Hebrides . . . A Girls' gymnasium class has been commenced . . . C.E. conducted graduation and consecration service on Feb. 8. 30 young people were present. Mr. and Mrs. Fennell recently involved in car accident, not seriously injured.

NEVILLE MOORE CONTINUES

(Nth. Essendon, and Milleara, Vic.) N. S. Moore has commenced his second term. His leadership and ministry is greatly appreciated . . . 75 teenagers have shared in Senior C.Y.F. programmes during the past three weeks. Young Adult Fellowship commenced the year with an attendance of 35. This year the B.S. has 234 scholars and 49 teachers on the staff. Bowl of Remembrance Appeal: \$147. Milleara. Ken Duffy, associate minister . . . The Bible School report a record attendance of 186 scholars and 23 teachers.

the B.S., on Feb. 12, included a family service. Peter Sumner, a blind man with a message, was an inspiring speaker . . . Church has been saddened by the loss of a foundation member, C. W. Whitford, and Mrs. B. M. King, who gave loyal and faithful service . . . Church rejoices in the recovery of Sister Margaret McLeod, following an emergency operation, and Richard Hellis, after six months in the Cresswell Sanatorium . . . Our minister, E. W. Heard, spent a week in Hobart, Tas., visiting his parents.

NEW GUINEA FANCIED

(Doncaster, Vic.) A successful fancy dress social evening was conducted and \$50 gained towards New Guinea Missionary Hospital unit. . . Church has welcomed student minister, Adrian Dean, and his wife as they commenced service. . . With 121 in attendance the newly formed Girls' Gymnasium is thriving and is improving weekly.

TELEVISION APPOINTMENT

(Melb.) Frank Morgan has joined the staff of Christian Television Association (Vic.) as a Producer. Frank took up his new appointment this year. Previously he was a High School teacher with the Education Dept. of Victoria, specialising in Science.

The programmes for which he will be mainly responsible are the Epilogues on GTV9, "Story Time" on ATVO, and "Progress Compassion." Frank is the elder son Mr. and Mrs. Pol. Morgan.

VIC.-TAS. C.W.F. COUNCIL

The C.W.F. Council Meeting will be held in the Reception Room, Churches of Christ Centre, on Friday, March 3, at 11 a.m. Guest speaker: R. Gleeson, Secretary Manager, Council for Christian Educ. in Schools. Remember proposed support of Deaconess Stark.

MEETINGS AT EMMAUS

(Carnegie, Vic.) During January evening services were held at Emmaus Guest Home . . . Three decisions have been registered in past few weeks and a young man was baptized. Six members were welcomed into fellowship . . . Russell Hillbrich has entered New England College, N.S.W. . . B.S. elected as supt., Cliff Meadows; asst., Bryce Ferguson; sec., Sue Peck; Kinder supt., Lesly Odgers; Primary, Joan Odgers. Kay Taylor resigned as sec. due to marriage . . . B.S. held picnic at Carrum . . . Mrs. Baillie is enjoying fellowship after recent sickness . . . Ladies have formed Catering Committee.

BIKE HIKE TO N.Z.!

(Red Cliffs, Vic.) C.Y.F. had a "bike hike," and progressive supper, main calls being at Spriggs and R. L. Chisletta, where Faye Chislett showed slides of N.Z. . . At half yearly business meeting, A. B. West and I. G. Cameron were elected to Officers' Board, J. Cunningham and I. Milne having resigned . . . Recent speakers were M. Milne, W. Neville (Mildura), A. Chiswell, Henry Milne, Ian Cook and V. Jenkins (Mildura).

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NEW SOUTH WALES

BUSHFIRE APPEAL IN N.S.W.

In answer to an urgent appeal on behalf of those left destitute in the Tasmanian Bushfires, issued to the churches in N.S.W. by the Conf. Executive and the Social Service and Homes Dept., a notable response has been made from all quarters. Details are not yet to hand, but contributions in cash and kind have been arriving daily at the church office, 69 Campbell-st., Sydney.

N.S.W. BROADCASTS IN MARCH

Churches of Christ Broadcasts on Station 2CH, Sydney:

Daily Devotional Sessions, 8.45 a.m.:
Tues., March 7 — R. B. Ewers, Belmore. Sat., March 18 — R. B. Elbourne, Lane Cove. Thurs., March 30 — F. L. Ewers, B.A., Burwood.

Church Service — Sunday, March 19, 11 a.m., Church of Christ, Burwood. Preacher, F. L. Ewers, B.A.

ENROLMENTS AT WOOLWICH

The N.S.W. Bible College at Woolwich, opened for student enrolments and the commencement of the 1967 session on Wed., Feb. 22. A note of encouraging optimism prevailed as former students returned, and new students were welcomed. Students enter Woolwich this year from N.S.W., W.A., S.A. and N.Z.

Principal A. W. Stephenson conducted a Devotional Session, after which the

N.S.W. PRAYER LIST

1. The ministry among the native people in the settlement at Balladoran, that in meeting the physical and temporal needs there will be opportunity for the message of Life Eternal.

2. The Conf. Pres., Charles Cole, and for every effort to make the N.S.W. 82nd Annual Conference a time of spiritual blessing, an occasion for thanksgiving to God, and an opportunity for re-assessment and planning for further outreach for Christ.

3. Mr. and Mrs. Hariba Waghmode and family, and Miss Dorothy Geyer, as they move among the churches throughout Australia in support of the

ever-expanding field of Overseas Missions. 4. Our Australian Churches of Christ Colleges — in Vic., N.S.W. and Qld. — that there may be vision and purpose in the programmes of training, so that men and women may hear the challenge of Christ and go forth adequately equipped to be true "Ambassadors" in his harvest field.

5. The Ministry of Music in all of our congregations throughout our brotherhood — that organists, pianists, soloists, choir members — and even those who merely join in "the singing of a hymn" — may be vehicles of the message of the Master.

incoming students were formally welcomed and the Placement Committee announced the student-church allocations for the coming year.

"Open Day" in the College grounds will be held on Sat., March 4.

C.W.F. EXECUTIVE AT NEWCASTLE

(N.S.W.) On Wed., Feb. 22, members of the N.S.W. C.W.F. State Executive journeyed from Sydney to Newcastle and shared in the fellowship with the women of the churches of the district at Mayfield chapel. It proved to be a day of helpful discussion on the effectiveness of the C.W.F. "Workshop" and other kindred interests. State Executive members present were Mrs. C. J. Mackenzie (pres.), Mrs. A. G. Elliott (sec.), Mrs. F. Elsmore, Mrs. J. Dickson and Mrs. I. J. Torode. Taree members of the C.W.F. were also well represented.

INDIAN AT ANNIVERSARY

(Belmore, N.S.W.) The C.E. held its anniversary on Feb. 12. The guest speaker was Hariba Waghmode, Sec. for Conference of Churches in Western India. Later he stayed for the church family tea and gave the message at the parents' night gospel service . . . Two silver wedding anniversaries have been celebrated: Mr. and Mrs. George Philpott and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Milne . . . The Girls' Club held a physical culture and concert night and an offering was received for the Church of Christ Hospital.

LOSS OF VETERAN MEMBER

(Marrickville, N.S.W.) The church was saddened by the loss of its oldest standing continuing member, Mrs. T. Rugendyke. The funeral service was conducted by Mr. Bedwell, the minister, and T. Benson spoke of her years of faithful service to Marrickville church . . . Recently a gentleman who had been attending the services for a short time, confessed Christ. He has now been received into fellowship . . . The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brian Benson, Glenda, was dedicated to the Lord at the morning service . . . Miss Diana Catts has been home from the New Guinea mission field and has been a speaker at our missionary service, the C.W.F. and S.S. . . The church hall was packed for the Youth Group's coffee corner. Three groups took part, and Geoff. Hopson gave the message . . . A trip to Fort Denison, Sydney's old convict fort in the middle of the harbour, was a highlight of the Girls' Brigade activities, under Capt. Enid Stinson.

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.

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Let us share together our prosperity and adversity.

Remember the Homes in your will.
Information from the Secretary,
32-2447.

CHRISTIANS of ALL CHURCHES ARE INVITED to the SIXTEENTH

Belgrave Heights Easter Convention

MARCH 24 - 27, 1967

Guest Speakers: — NEVILLE P. ANDERSEN, B.D., Theol.M. — Dean of N.S.W. Baptist Theological College.

GEOFFREY M. FLETCHER, Th.L. — Diocesan Missioner for Sydney.

DR. THEODORE H. EPP, M.Th. — Founder and Director of "Back to the Bible Broadcasts."

Chairman: A. E. Coombe. Vice-Chairman: Leonard E. Buck.

MEETINGS DAILY — 11 a.m., Bible Studies.
3 p.m. and 7 p.m., Convention Messages.
(Note: No afternoon meeting on Saturday).

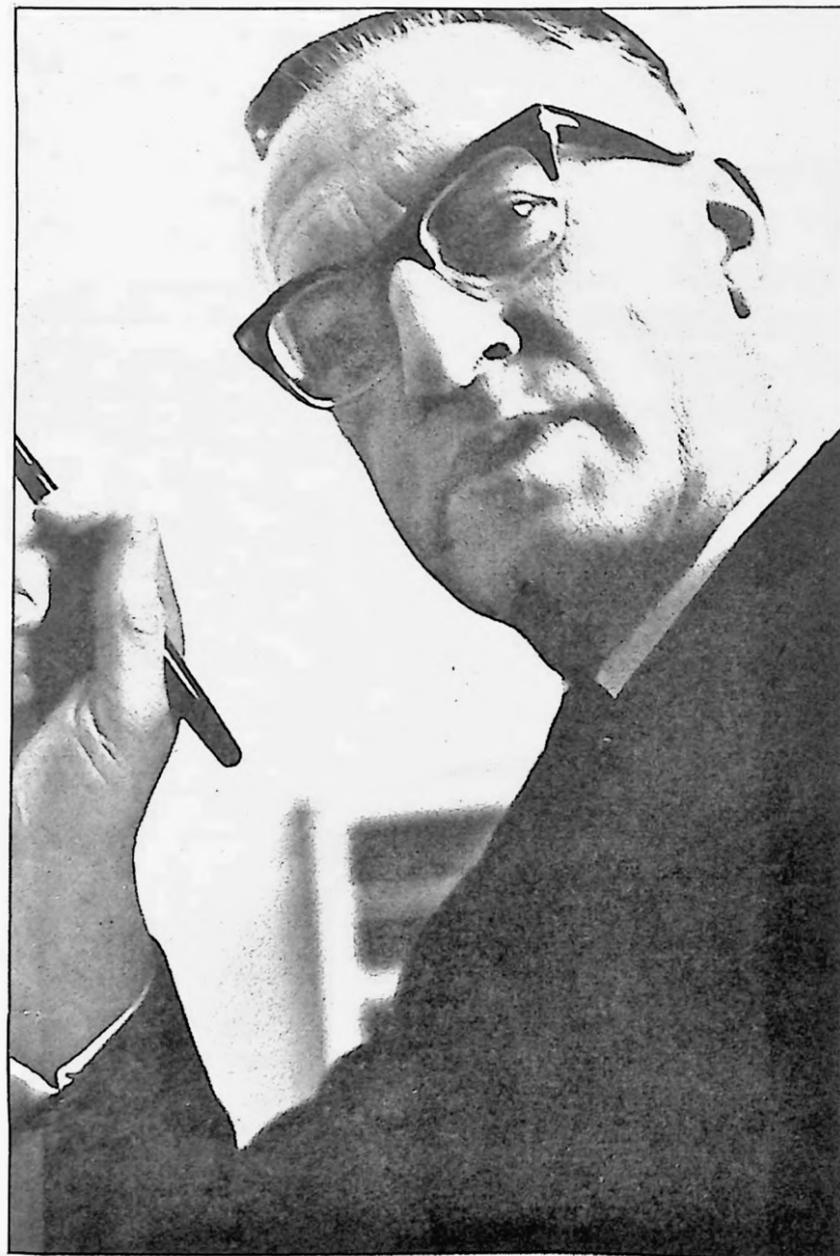
Missionary Meeting — Monday, 3 p.m.
Children's Meetings in Small Hall, conducted by C.S.S.M. team.

SPECIAL FEATURE — Morning Bible Studies on "The Meaning of Calvary and the Resurrection" — conducted by Neville Andersen.

DAY VISITORS are cordially welcomed. Tea or hot water available on grounds. Light refreshments also available (Sun. except.) at reasonable charges. A special PARLOR COACH for day visitors leaves Keswick Book Depot, 317 Collins-st., at 9 a.m., on Good Friday and Easter Monday, and returns direct to City after evening meetings. Early bookings important, at Convention office.

Programme and full information available at Belgrave Heights Convention Office, 317 Collins-st., Melbourne. Phone 62-2777; (or during Convention, 75-2037).

"I urge you to act now!"



says Arthur Haskell

Intimate association with the Properties Corporation as a trustee and chairman, also as a Past Conference President, enables me to approach our brotherhood with confidence.

There is unprecedented activity among our churches in Victoria in connection with the erection and alteration of church buildings, halls and manses, and as I visit throughout the State I am very much aware of the need for still further advancement in this field of our witness.

Continued support from members investing savings with the Corporation will enable it to continue providing reasonable loans to churches planning forward moves, and so continue the work of Church Extension faithfully carried out down the years since 1910.

Thanks is expressed to all who have shared and contributed to the work through the Corporation.

Continual applications by churches for financial assistance will be more readily met if you invest your savings with the Corporation.

Make the Corporation your savings medium — it is a SAFE INVESTMENT backed by: Corporation Funds; Conference of Churches of Christ; Church buildings, halls and manses.

The trustees are men of long standing in our brotherhood, and their varied business activities are of immense value in the work of the Corporation.

I urge you to act now — fill in the Application Form and mail it with your cheque.

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10 year Debentures, 5¼%
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being application for Call Deposit
5 year Debenture, 10 year Debenture.
(Strike out non-applicable lines.)

Mr.
NAME: Mrs.
Miss
ADDRESS:

Arthur Haskell

FELLOWSHIP OF LEAST COIN MARKS TENTH ANNIVERSARY

(Bangkok). During the ten years in which it has been in existence, the Fellowship of the Least Coin has received \$223,775 from Christian women on all continents for projects of evangelism and relief throughout the world.

Funds have been distributed to 91 projects on six continents.

Founded in 1956 by Mrs. S. R. Solomon, of the United Church of North India, it received official support from the Asian Church Women's Conference at Hong Kong in 1958.

Explaining the origin of the Fellowship of the Least Coin, Mrs. Solomon said, "We Asians always want to interpret spiritual feeling through concrete actions, to connect prayer with action. Every woman can put a least coin aside as a token that she has prayed for specific concerns."

The treasurer of the East Asia Christian Conference receives and administers the funds of the Fellowship.—E.P.S.

POPE DISCUSSES RELIGION, PEACE WITH PODGORNÝ

(Vatican City). In an hour-long private meeting, Pope Paul VI and Soviet President Nikolai Podgorný discussed world peace and religious liberty in the Soviet Union.

A communique issued by the Vatican said the Pope mentioned to the President problems concerning religious life and the presence of the Catholic Church in the territories of the Soviet Union.

During his official six-day State visit to Italy, Mr. Podgorný was taken on a tour of the Vatican City, which no Communist chief of state had ever seen.—E.P.S.

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1967 PROGRAMME

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1967

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS . . .

NEW MORALITY

To the Editor,

My niece and her boy friend are enlightened. They ought to be. It costs their parents enough to keep them at university. They are enlightened about everything — politics, religion, education, the arts and sex, especially sex. They have talked to me about it at length. They think that I belong to the Dark Ages. They say that as they are in love, and intend to marry in any case, after their courses, they should be able to give that love its fulfilment before marriage. When I quote the Bible and the experience of other societies than our own, they look at me with a knowing sort of look. "Yes," they say, "restrictions on sex were necessary then, because that was B.P." I asked what "B.P." meant. Chuckling at their naive uncle, they said, "Before the Pill, of course." I said, "What has that got to do with it?" They said, "Sex is natural and all right provided no one is likely to get hurt. Before the pill there was always the danger of pregnancy, and therefore of someone getting hurt."

They always sound very convincing, and I must confess that they had me wondering about my puritanism. But my niece called in tears yesterday. Her boy friend has suddenly decided that they are not suited to one another. He has left her carrying the baby.

You will understand, because editors have nieces.

TERTIUS.

QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



Why do preachers preach on what they preach about? How and why do they choose their subjects?

Last week, in answering this question, I suggested that preachers: (a) follow the morning readings as the basis for morning messages; (b) have no hesitation in departing from the morning reading if another passage is more significant for the day and the need; (c) keep a record of sermons preached to ensure that there are no important themes left out; (d) give regular and adequate emphasis to our Christian outreach through our conference departments; and (e) plan well ahead.

When planning a year's work, the minister is well advised to include sermon planning for the whole period. He can depart from such a plan if necessary, but the preaching programme can be related to the rest of church's life. It also makes for better sermons. With a plan he can make better use of ideas and illustrations that come through general reading.

It is good to involve the congregation through a series of sermons. Each one is complete in itself, but each is also part of a larger plan. A series should not be too long. The people should know that the series will contain a certain number of sermons (it is unwise to go beyond eight) so that the chal-

lenge to stay with them will not be unreasonable. Examples: The names and titles of our Lord; The prophets speak to Today; The 10 Commandments in the 20th cent.; The Seven Words from the Cross; Modern Missionaries; the Six Crises of the Church; The Restoration Principles Restated.

Many ministers find that sermon series are particularly helpful in winter months for gospel meetings.

Preachers will also find an obligation to preach on the many big troubles of the world. We sometimes hear ministers criticised for speaking on nothing but these. Maybe they are at fault, but surely it is a greater fault when ministers ignore the world's front pages. Christ has something to say about war and peace, social injustice, the teenage revolution, the affluent society, the population explosion, the computer age, racial discrimination and so on. What Christ has to say, he will say through his preachers.

Some ministers have actually argued that such themes are divisive and it is much better to stick with the Bible. What sort of a Bible they have, I do not know, but I do know that at least half of the Bible of the Christian church was written against a backdrop of political issues, national conflicts, social problems, personal difficulties, economic needs, human disasters, pride, passion, and prejudice.

I am not defending those who may use the Bible simply to support their own obsessions, but I must affirm that Christ has something to say about every problem that confronts man.

In closing, I think it good to invite the congregation to submit, occasionally, their suggestions for their minister's sermons. After all, the people have to take it. We could at least consider their views of what the pulpit ought to be saying. Even when they are satisfied with the subjects they may still say: "Keep it short!"

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

FINE OPENING SERVICES

The sixty-first year of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., began on Feb. 15, when many visitors joined the College community at the informal opening session. Greetings and good wishes were expressed by interstate and local brotherhood representatives.

The public Inaugural Gathering took the form of a Garden Party, and was held in delightful weather and surroundings in the College grounds. The Chairman of the Board, F. P. Chipperfield, presided, and Mrs. Charles Dow rendered two much appreciated solos. Principal Williams spoke encouragingly of the work of the College and the good results achieved by the students. He presented prizes gained during 1966. K. A. Jones introduced the new students, and Don Jackson responded. The Ladies' College Auxiliary, assisted by ladies from Box Hill church, served afternoon tea.

Prize winners for 1966 were: K. H. Turtman, The L. C. McCallum; W. F. Thornton, The M. S. Noble; K. R. Maddern, The C.O.B. Old Boys; E. G. Kernick, The F. G. Dunn; B. J. Jenkins, The F. M. Ludbrook; W. C. Compston, The Wm. Grindrod; A. H. Coleman and E. C. Keating, The Mrs. A. E. Skinner Trust; R. L. Baxter and W. C. Compston, The Chown Trust; Miss Carol Bray, The Glen Iris Women's.

It was encouraging to note that the L.Th. examinations indicated an overall 78.5 per cent pass for College students. A. H. Coleman, E. G. Kernick, K. R. Maddern and G. A. Smith completed the work and qualified for L.Th.

MINISTERS

DEATH OF T. A. FITZGERALD

(Melb.). We announce with regret the death of Tom Fitzgerald, for many years minister of the church at Fairfield, Vic., on Feb. 21.

GOOLWA INDUCTION

(S.A.). On Feb. 10, the church welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Harold Greenwood into the ministry here. Mr. Greenwood was inducted on Feb. 12 by the S.A. Conf. Pres., S. E. Riches, who gave a stirring message to the church. Mr. and Mrs. Greenwood are looking forward to residence in the new manse which is almost completed. The church welcomed Barry Price back. Mr. and Mrs. Sid Weston left for their future home in Gunadin in W.A. Before her marriage, Mrs. Weston was active superintendent of our Kindergarten work and will be greatly missed by the church.

NO ORDINARY CLAY

(Melb.). The many friends of Will. H. Clay will rejoice with him in the celebration of his 92nd birthday on March 4, 1967.

At University matriculation examinations, Harvey Clark passed four subjects with two second class honours, Geoff. Wilcott passed three, and Douglas Smith, two subjects. At Monash University, Robert Pfeifer passed three subjects towards his B.A. degree, and B. J. Jenkins passed Biblical Literature and Antiquities at Melbourne University. Mr. Jenkins left early in the year to teach at Lushington Boys' School, Ootacamund, South India, and plans to return to College at a later date to complete his College studies.

FEDERAL CONFERENCE, 1968 DATES AND PLACES

After considerable negotiation concerning dates and places, it is now announced that the next Federal Conference will be held in Sydney, from Wed., Oct. 16 to Tues., Oct. 22, 1968. The Conference Centre will be the Sydney Town Hall.

The Conference Arrangements Committee has been meeting, with the Conference President, Principal A. W. Stephenson, as its Chairman. Vice-Chairman is Colin E. Bowser. J. M. Flannery is Treasurer, and the Secretary is W. Nell McCann, 1 Arterial Rd., St. Ives, N.S.W.

Church secretaries may expect registration forms about the middle of the year, but it is not too early for congregations to be informed of the Conference, and encouraged to attend.

MARYBOROUGH FAREWELL

(Vic.). When farewells were said to Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard and family, presentations were made from church, B.S. and all auxiliaries. At an after-church fellowship Barry Heath, from the College of the Bible was welcomed as minister for the coming year. The Ladies' Aid elected to office: pres. Mrs. S. Nicholls; sec. Mrs. Davies; treas. Mrs. A. Kennedy. The Women's Day of Prayer was held in the church on Feb. 7. Both services were very well attended. The Harvest Festival was held on Feb. 26 and gifts were sent to the College of the Bible. The Mission Band concluded a successful year; \$80 was sent to Missionary Dept.; \$60 for Social Service for maintenance to our Homes; 54 scrap books and 17½ doz. handkerchiefs to Kew Cottage children.

NEW AT TEOPEA

(N.S.W.). Early in Feb., Mr. and Mrs. Brian White were informally welcomed at a church social. Attendances both at services and at clubs have been heartening. Prayer meetings are being held 7 a.m. Saturdays, and a mid-week Bible study is planned. Due to illness, Capt. Jean Murray, has been forced to take leave from Girls' Brigade. Lieut. Clelland has filled position.

ALBION APPOINTMENT

(Qld.). Mervyn J. Bedwell has accepted an invitation to minister to the church. His ministry will commence in December. Dr. Jauncey is continuing as part-time minister in the meantime. Ted Watson, asst. minister for two years, was farewelled following his appointment to Southport church. Trevor Meares will be student minister for 1967. Members were especially interested in hearing Hariba Waghmode, who studied at Glen Iris College under a legacy from Miss Tunstall, who was an Albion member.

BAYSWATER MINISTRY

(Vic.). Mr. and Mrs. Coleman and their three boys have been welcomed and are now settled in at the Manse. The 96th anniversary of the church had the Conf. Sec. W. W. Saunders as morning speaker. Kevin Heath Chaplain of Dandenong High School was guest speaker at Pleasant Sunday Afternoon. Artists were Miss Dulcie Gray and D. Allsop. C.W.F. choir sang at night.

MINISTER ON SICK LEAVE

(Strathmore, Vic.). J. E. Brooke will be absent on three months' sick leave. Harold Steele, of Blackburn, is interim preacher. On Feb. 26, eight young people from our S.S. were baptized. Good Companions continues under new leadership of Mrs. Val Hainsworth. Mr. Steele spoke at first C.M.S. meeting.

ANN-ST.'s NEW MINISTER

(Qld.). Mr. and Mrs. L. G. Armstrong and family were welcomed at a special function on Feb. 3. Welcome of the church was given by N. Watson (elder), supported by Mrs. Fox (C.W.F.), N. Culbert (C.Y.F.), Mrs. Ludgater (S.S.). A welcome greeting was also brought by H. K. Burkhead, Conf. Pres., on behalf of the brotherhood, and Rev. Rees Thomas, representing the Qld. Council of Churches. Mr. Armstrong's ministry with the church commenced on Feb. 5. 187 were at the communion service, and 120 at the gospel service. Communicants for the day totalled 171. Gordon Thomas has been transferred to Mt. Isa. J. C. Files, senr., and Mrs. E. Haworth are in hospital.

BAPTISMS FOR METHODISTS

(Berwick, Vic.). On Feb. 19, Mr. Marsh showed slides on Aboriginal work in various fields to S.S. scholars. At night, Rev. Webb, of Pakenham Methodist, conducted service, when six Y.P. from Tynong North Methodist and Pakenham Methodist Youth Fellowship were immersed. Clem. Clack was speaker, and two girls made their decision. Cyril Minns gave his testimony. A. R. Lloyd, Conf. Pres., preached on Feb. 12. At night, a married man was baptized and received into fellowship. D. Graetz gave testimony.

NATIONAL DIARY

WESTERN AUSTRALIA
MARCH:
23-27—Easter Youth Camps at Waterman's Bay, Point Peron, and country districts.
27—Brotherhood Sports Day at McLean Park.

TWO DIRECTORS FOR AUSTRAL

Directors of the Austral Printing and Publishing Co., Vic., announce the re-appointment of Dr. W. A. Kemp, O.B.E., J.P., as Chairman of Directors. The Board, in maintaining its progressive policy, invited two younger men, Messrs. R. M. Walker (secretary, Swanson-st. church) and P. A. Williams (secretary, Ringwood church), to be Associates to the Directors.

Both gentlemen, who are Melbourne business executives, were happy to accept the invitation, and will undoubtedly contribute valuable assistance to the ongoing of the Company. Services of the Directors and Associates are honorary and no remuneration of any description is received by them.

The Austral, a registered "non-profit religious and educational printing house," has served the brotherhood since 1891.

C. G. TAYLOR

on "Pause a Moment"

Clifford G. Taylor, minister of Chatswood, church, N.S.W., and former Editor of "The Australian Christian," will give the "Pause a Moment" segment in the Hospital Hour, from March 13 to March 17 over stations 2BL, 2NC, 3LO, 4QR, 5AN, 6WF and 7ZR, at 9.15 a.m. (8.45 a.m. in S.A.).

FROM LAUNCESTON

(Tas.). There has been a decided increase in the evening attendances. The C.W.F. recommenced activities with a highly successful garden party at the home of Mrs. S. C. Robertson. Margaret St. ladies took active part in Women's World Day of Prayer services. C.M.S. paraded on Feb. 19. Following evening service on 12th, a fellowship hour was held in school hall to enable members to meet Mr. and Mrs. Read and family. Plans are in hand to reorganise the midweekly meeting in an endeavour to stimulate greater interest.

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W.A. NEW FROM W.A.

SCRIPTURE UNION BOOKSHOP
1 Sherwood Court, Perth. 21-7745.

A Grief Observed (C. S. Lewis), 65 cents.
Parson's Pitch (David Sheppard), 75 cents.
What of the Unevangelized? (Sanders), 60 cents.

Song of Songs (Watchman Nee), \$3.

1967

STUDENT FAREWELLED

(Morawa, W.A.). Barry Thygesen was tendered a farewell on 12th, prior to his leaving for Kenmore College. He travelled by car. Helen Anderson arrived from Newcastle, N.S.W., and is working in town. Also from N.S.W. are Mr. and Mrs. Cremmin. Intermediate C.E. started the year with a swim in the new Olympic Pool. Ladies attended combined service of Women's World Day of Prayer. On Feb. 4, Mrs. Arthur Evans, an isolated member, passed away. A. Anderson conducted service in chapel and at graveside. Sympathy is extended to the family.

EVANGELISM PLANNED

(Fremantle, W.A.). To highlight the 75th year of witness, special emphasis is being placed on evangelism. A Mission to Youth, led by Michael Lush (C.S.S.M.) is planned for April 2-7, and J. K. Bond has agreed to lead the church in a month's mission later in the year. Most of the auxiliaries are meeting at various venues until extensions to the hall are completed. B.S. resumption was particularly encouraging at one-year old Hilton section of the B.S., with attendance of 117. A bus has been purchased to aid in transporting children there. Hilton church had first anniversary on Feb. 12. The minister has resumed a training class for presidents, to serve at both churches. D. Hughes, of Whyalla church, addressed the church while on vacation.

BAPTISMS AT HOPELAND

(Qld.). At its annual meeting, the Y.P.S.C.E. decided to make their meetings basically evangelistic, and twice a month will meet with the Chinchilla C.E. The ladies have accepted responsibility for lino. in the manse kitchen, and sink in church hall. The Harvest Thanksgiving service was held in Chinchilla, Feb. 19, when another one of our young people was baptized. One was baptized a fortnight ago. A very enjoyable time was had when the young people told and showed slides of their experiences and trip to the Perth Convention. Miss Maureen Flitt, a study group leader at the Convention, closed the night with devotions on the Convention theme, "The Word is Go". The J.C.E. were thrilled to hear that money sent to Social Service Dept. at Christmas had been used to send a girl to camp where she made her decision. D. Schofield is minister.

THE LATEST ON STH. CANBERRA

(A.C.T.). The church building has commenced on the site at Lyons. Foundations are poured and the walls are beginning to rise. It is hoped that the building will be opened by the beginning of July.

The cost of building and furnishing, plus the landscaping of grounds (a requirement of the authorities) will be about 44,000 dollars.

A group of women of both Canberra churches is offering accommodation to Church of Christ tourists, and their friends, the money to go to the South Canberra Building Fund. Elsewhere in this issue there is an advertisement giving details. A friendly stay in a church home also gives the opportunity for help to the work at South Canberra.

SPECIAL MEETINGS

(Chinchilla, Qld.). Rex Ellis was the speaker at a special series of meetings held recently. The Saturday night youth rally was well attended, at which the gospel film, "Angel in Ebony," was screened. Good attendances continued for the B.S. anniversary, the theme being, "Why Did God Send Jesus?", and also at the youth gospel service. Last Sunday, two young people were baptized. They had made decisions at youth camps. D. J. Schofield is minister.

GOOD GIVING

(Forestville, S.A.). Yearly giving for Aborigines work was \$401. There were 59 decisions at Mt. Barker, State C.E. Camp, when minister, N. Gavros, was speaker. Recent speakers have been I. Gates, N. Kingston, B. Whitford and C. Stock. Three Y.P. were baptized on Feb. 19. Ladies shared in Women's World Day of Prayer, with folk of Christian Rest Home, at Everard Park. C.W.F. held cooking demonstration at Feb. meeting. J.C.E. and I.C.E. combined for graduation service on Feb. 26, when four Juniors were welcomed to I.C.E.

THE NEXT ISSUE OF
"THE CHRISTIAN"
WILL BE DATED MARCH 18

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

S.A. WOMEN ARRANGE INTER-CHURCH SEMINAR

(Adelaide). The Christian Education Dept. of the Churches of Christ Women's Conference in S.A., is arranging an Inter-Church Seminar, to be held at "Nun-yaya," Belair, April 18 to 20, 1967.

It is hoped that there will be eight representatives from each of the Protestant churches.

In addition to Bible studies, there will be a sharing of ideas on the organisation of women's groups, a special dinner, and speakers on the problem of mental health in the community. The latter include Dr. W. E. Mickleburgh, Community psychiatrist for Mental Health Services, and Rev. F. Hansen, Chaplain at Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

As "hostesses," the Churches of Christ Women's Conference is supplying group leaders. These are: Mrs. I. K. Hull (Stirling); Mrs. S. Lawrence (Flinders Park); Mrs. G. Mathieson (Hawthorn); Mrs. J. L. Searle (Nailsworth); Mrs. G. Simpson (Hampstead Gardens); Mrs. C. H. J. Wright (Brighton Gardens).

Registration forms have been sent to the State Secretary of the women's work in each Protestant denomination.

FAMILY FOR MISSION FIELD

(Strathalbyn, S.A.). Mr. and Mrs. Trevor Tonkin and family were farewelled as they left to serve in India with the New Tribes Mission. The church also farewelled Graham Bee and Glen Adams, who will study in Tasmania with the World-wide Evangelisation College. . . . The Women's World Day of Prayer service in our chapel was addressed by Mrs. R. L. Oke, the wife of the minister. Mrs. A. Creeper led the service. . . . Mr. Oke attended the Magarey Lectures at Longwood. . . . Guest speaker for the church anniversary on Feb. 19, was I. J. Chivell, Sec. of the S.A. Conf. . . . The Circuit Men's Fellowship concluded its first meeting with the film, "A Better World Begins With Me." R. W. Bell is sec.

BROKEN HILL C.W.F.

(S.A. Conf.). At the first meeting, Mrs. N. Sonsie was elected president; vice-presidents are Mrs. R. Sack and Mrs. T. Garner; act. sec., Mrs. A. Ball; sec.-elect, Mrs. G. White; treas., Mrs. E. Garner. . . . The minister, R. C. Sack, attended Magarey Lectures at Longwood. . . . Recent visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Warburton, of Portland, Vic., in the city for the wedding of their son, Alan.

MUSIC

No family can afford to be without MUSIC, it is a luxury and an economy; an alleviation of sorrow, and a spring of enjoyment. A protection against vice, and an incentive to virtue. When rightly used, its effects — physical, intellectual and moral, are only good.

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THE NEXT ISSUE OF "THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN"

WILL BE DATED MARCH 18



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WOMEN OF THE WEST

(W.A.). The President, Mrs. C. B. Reid, welcomed 31 ladies, and introduced the devotional leader, Mrs. M. Wyss, a Past-President. The theme of the meditation was developed from Psalm 121. "He Knows and Cares," was the message in song brought by Mrs. P. Armstrong.

A special welcome was extended to Mrs. Austin, who, with her husband, has commenced a ministry with the church at Applecross. Mrs. Austin comes to us from S.A.

Financial. The December statement showed balance in hand, \$3,368.80. Budget, \$2,300.

Miss M. Peacock thanked the women for their support during the 3rd C.Y.F. Convention.

Social Service (Mrs. J. A. Holloway). The girls from "Karingal" enjoyed a holiday with their foster-parents, Mr. and Mrs. M. Green, at "Orana" during the school vacation. 60 Christmas cheer parcels were distributed.

Overseas Missions: Miss Hazel Skuce, Miss Rita Roberts, Mr. and Mrs. Barry Richards were the guests of the young people at morning tea during the 3rd C.Y.F. Convention, when they passed through Fremantle, en route to the Indian Mission Field. The Women's Living Link, Mrs. K. Ludgater, New Hebrides, will be in W.A. during March for deputation and will be the guest speaker on women's day of Conference, March 29.

Aborigines (Mrs. J. L. Pallot). Good secondhand clothing is required, especially white school uniform blouses. All sizes; are urgently needed at "Fairhaven," Esperance.

The guest speaker was D. G. Hammer, secretary, Federal Aborigine Mission Board. He reminded all that missionaries work as a team, using their time and talent to spread the gospel. In this way they encourage and train the Aborigine Christians to proclaim the gospel to their own people.—D. M. Gordon, sec.

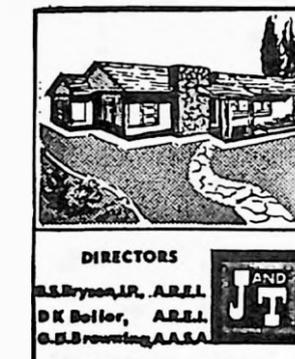
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TWENTY-FOUR ADDITIONS

(South Perth, W.A.). 24 people have made public declarations of faith in Christ since Nov. 1, and 19 have been received into the fellowship of the church. Average attendances over the Dec.-Jan period were 225 in morning, and 200 in the evening. South Perth has been host to the missionaries and children from Norseman and Carnarvon during the holiday period. . . . The minister, G. W. Wood, preached at Kalamunda and Bunbury "Keswick" Conventions. . . . The church has begun a Planned Programme of Evangelism under direction of A. A. Avery, of Vic.-Tas. H.M. Dept. Mr. Avery will visit early

THE LITTEL MAN

Those Small CARPENTRY REPAIRS. Concessions for Churches and Sunday Schools. French Polishing and Flyscreens. E. A. STAUNTON Phone 20 - 2892 (Melb.).

Opportunity was given for all who would constitute the basic membership of the new church to sign a Foundation Covenant.

Greetings of welcome from the members of the Albany congregation at the induction service were voiced by Mrs. Bunny, in whose home the services were first held in Dec., 1962, F. Hunt, present church secretary, Mrs. T. Dunwoodie, president of the C.W.F., and Miss Pat Hunt, for the young people.

23 members signed the covenant memorial to officially constitute the Church of Christ, Albany. Four others, unable to be present at the Sunday morning service, will make a foundational membership of 27. This is a wonderful beginning to Mr. Clapp's ministry.

Until housing becomes available on Feb. 27, Mr. and Mrs. Clapp and John are living in a 4-berth caravan in the grounds of the home of the Hunt family.

The partnership of Federal Home Missions, W.A. Home Missions, and pioneering minister and brethren has begun a good work for Jesus Christ in Albany.

in April for one week, and again in July for the Launching and Commitment phases of the programme. . . . B. R. Wesley has accepted a further year's term as associate minister. Visiting preachers have been H. R. Fitch, Carnarvon, K. D. Horne, S.A., W. Whitten, Woolwich College, Dr. C. W. Slemming, England. . . . Our B.S. picnic, held on Feb. 11 at Coogee Beach, was a great success, with nearly all of the school present and a very large percentage of non-church member parents enjoying the outing and fellowship. Great credit is due to the supt. and staff of the school and also to the Ladies' Fellowship, for organising the meals so efficiently.

LYLE WILLIAMS

:: FLORIST ::

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W.A.

Subscriptions (excluding payments through agents) should be made payable to Churches of Christ in W.A., and sent to A. D. Pyne, 142-146 Beaufort-st., Perth, W.A. Payments through agents should be remitted through local church treasurers as arranged.

S.A.

An announcement for South Australian subscriptions will be made shortly.

A.C.T.

All Canberra subscriptions should be sent to D. W. Burdett, 22 Ferdinand Place, Canberra, A.C.T.

OTHER STATES

All subscriptions for Tasmania, Victoria, N.S.W., and Qld. should be sent (until further notice) to The Manager, "The Australian Christian," 119-125 Hawke-st., West Melbourne, C.3.

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Faith Smith, Millera, Vic.
Mrs. Margaret Burt, Mr. and Mrs. Follett, North Essendon, Vic.
Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Crofts, Robert Nicol, Graeme Barrett, Fremantle, W.A.
Rosalie Brooke, Anne Crocker, Vicki Thorpe, Julia Waixel, Rhonda O'Reilly, Julie Coady, Mark Bot-tem, Stephen Skillicorn, Strath-more, Vic.
Mrs. N. Harris, Miss J. White, Miss D. Best, Miss C. Campbell, Broken Hill, S.A.
Alan Sullivan, Marrickville, N.S.W.
Alan McCraw, Berwick, Vic.

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. and Mrs. Clelland, Nessie and Cathie, Fairfield; Mr. and Mrs. Spratt, and Miss Spratt, to Telo-pea, N.S.W.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

M. J. Savage (minister, Hartwell church), 246 Highfield-rd., Burwood, Vic.
B. H. White (minister, Teloepa church, N.S.W.), 56 Alexander-st., Teloepa.
T. Lawrie (minister, Victor Harbour, S.A.), Acraman-st., Victor Harbour. Phone 2-1718.
D. B. Price (secretary, Albion church, Qld.), 221 Days-rd., Grange, Brisbane.
G. J. Lord (minister, East Burwood church, Highbury-rd.), 10 Cratloe-rd., Mt. Waverley. Phone 28-1613 (Melb.).
Dr. A. C. Caldicott (minister, Too-woomba, Qld.), The Manse, 99 Lindsay-st., Toowoomba.
T. G. Bryant (secretary, North Wil-lyamstown church, Vic.), 83 Elizabeth-st., Newport. Phone 391-2046 (Melb.).

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER
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NORTH FITZROY, Vic.
94th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY
SUNDAY, MARCH 19.
11 a.m.—Communion Service. Speaker: L. G. Crisp.
3 p.m.—"The Christ of the Concrete City" — a play presented by the Westside Players.
5 p.m.—Reunion Tea.
7 p.m.—Evening Service.
Speaker: Neville S. Moore.

Mrs. Ratten, Bentleigh to Robin-vale, Vic.
Mrs. Bowery, Miss Cavanagh, Mrs. Kennedy, Miss Coxhill, Mrs. Dufty, Carnegie, Vic.

MARRIAGES

Sue Ludbrook to Kenneth Ploog, Rosemary Watson to Jim Hender-son, North Essendon, Vic.
Verna Kelly to Graeme Pilton, Fre-mantle, W.A.
Elizabeth Thompson to Wayne Swin-ton; Barbara Kirk to Les Vines, Margaret-st, Launceston, Tas.
Ann Fleming to Laurie Grundy, Box Hill, Vic.
Valerie Haines to Neil Smith, Hart-well, Vic.
Leonie Fallon to Robert Broad-hurst, Doncaster, Vic.

DEATHS

Edward James Fennell, North Essen-don, Vic.
Mr. Holloway, Box Hill, Vic.
Mrs. A. Evans, Morawa, W.A.

IN MEMORIAM

HARVEY. — Loving memories of my dear husband, Charles, called home March 4, 1963; dear father of Raymond and Gladys (Mrs. Stoneham).
"A cluster of precious memories
Tied with all my love."
—His loving wife, Rose.
TRICKEY, William Thomas. — In lov-ing memory of my dearly loved husband, called home March 3, 1966, loving father of Lynden, Lols and Noel. "Sadly missed."
—Dorothy.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

FITZGERALD, Thomas Arthur
(deceased Feb. 21, 1967).
A MEMORIAL SERVICE, to be con-ducted by Ralph V. Amos, will be held in Fairfield Church of Christ, Vic., Gillies-st., Fairfield, on Sunday, March 19, 1967, at 3 p.m., in memory of our late father, and minister of the church. All of his past friends are cordially invited to attend.

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ENGAGEMENT

FRASER - LANDOS. — On Feb. 25, the engagement of Dellayn Fraser (Sun-shine church, Vic.) to John Landos, Can-berra, A.C.T., was announced with pleas-ure.

SILVER WEDDING

PUGSLEY - HAMMOND. — The nieces and nephews of Auntie Vera and Uncle Arthur Pugsley, of Ungarra, S.A., have much pleasure in announcing their 25th wedding anniversary, solemnised at the Tumby Bay Church of Christ chapel, on Feb. 18, 1942, with H. G. Norris officiating.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

JACKSON - HINDLE. — On Feb. 28, 1917, at "Amesbury," Alt-st., Ashfield, N.S.W., by the late A. E. Illingworth — Thomas to Daisy. Present address: 17 Grosvenor-rd., Wahroonga, N.S.W.

KILLEY - LEVER. — Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Killey announce with pleasure the 50th anniversary of their wedding cele-brated at North Richmond chapel, Vic., on March 3, 1917, the late Henry A. Proctor (brother-in-law) officiating. "Hitherto the Lord hath led us."

DEATHS

CASLEY. — On Feb. 20 (suddenly) at Padua House, Brighton, Vic., Lillian Ger-trude (formerly of Bendigo), loved mother of Myrtle (Mrs. Davis), mother-in-law of Alex., fond nana of Graeme and Diane, Ian and Margaret, John, Laura and Allan. "We loved her so dearly."

FITZGERALD. — On Feb. 21, Thomas Arthur, passed away at his home, 219 Arthur-st., Fairfield, Vic., dearly beloved husband of Muriel, loved father of Ken-neth, Joan (Mrs. MacKeachie), and Ray, loved father-in-law of Margaret, Wilma and John; dear grandpa of David, Ross, Julie, Peter, Suzanne, Jane, Christopher, Paul and Sharyn; loved son of Thomas and the late Isabel Fitzgerald.

"He has fought the good fight,
He has finished the course,
He has kept the faith."

FITZGERALD, Thomas Arthur. — Bel-oved pastor of Fairfield church, Vic., entered into eternal rest at his residence on Feb. 21, after many years of loving service. "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

IN MEMORIAM

TRICKEY. — Treasured memories of our dearly loved son, Will, who passed away suddenly, March 3, 1966.
"God has you in his keeping,
We have you in our hearts."
—Sadly missed by his loving Mum and Dad.

Consult . . . !

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WILL BE DATED MARCH 18

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BEREAVEMENT THANKS

Mr. C. W. and Graeme Jackel, and Judy, wish to express their sincere thanks and heartfelt appreciation to all members and friends, ladies' auxiliaries and Officers' Boards, who forwarded wreaths, letters, cards and personal condolences during the sad loss of Mrs. Ivy Jackel. Your thoughtfulness and interest have greatly lightened the burden of loneliness and grief. God bless you all, and many thanks! "Until he come!"

"EASTER IN A SECULAR AGE"

SUNDAY, MARCH 5.

11 a.m.—"THE ARREST OF CHRIST"

7 p.m.—"IF YOU HAD KNOWN!"

Interim Minister:

Kenneth J. CLINTON, B.A.,
B.D., S.T.M., Dip.R.E.

GARDINER (Vic.) CHURCH

cnr. Malvern-rd., and Scott-grove.
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"BACK TO SHEPPARTON"

(Vic.)

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Guest Preacher: A. E. WHITE, B.A.,
Editor, "Australian Christian."

Family Dinner, 5.30 p.m. — 65 cents,
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1967

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PLEASANT SUNDAY AFTERNOON

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Mr. and Mrs. H. J. PATTERSON

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SPECIAL SERVICES

SUNDAY, MARCH 5,

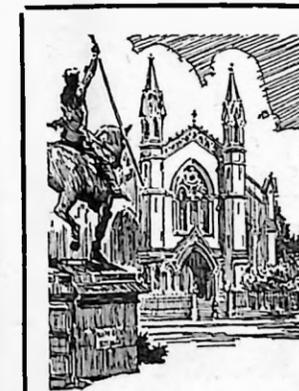
to Mark Commencement of Ministry of
MURRAY J. SAVAGE.

11 a.m.—Induction of Minister.

4.45 p.m.—Church Tea in Hall.

7 p.m.—Worship Service.

All Welcome.



Swanston Street Church

(Right in heart of Melbourne; opp. Public Library)

Minister: **Dr. LLOYD JONES, B.A., M.Th., Ph.D.**

11 a.m.—WORSHIP - COMMUNION - PREACHING.
Part 2 — "FUNDAMENTALS OF THE FAITH."

7 p.m.—GOSPEL HOUR — "KNOW YOUR BIBLE"
"PROPHETS ON PARADE." Series 5.

March 5—"IT'S THE MINORITY THAT COUNTS"
(Isaiah).

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

March 4

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

15

ON "THE CHRISTIAN"

FROM B. J. COMBRIDGE

Dear Mr. Editor,

When you came to our church this morning and stood at the pulpit, I thought of "The Australian Christian," and my thoughts travelled back over the years. I do not know exactly why that happened, for I have thought of the "A.C." hundreds of times without thinking of my childhood, but today it was different.

I recalled that I have been a reader of our church paper as long as I can remember. All in a few short moments memories of my parent's home came to me. They were always glad to get the "Christian." It was more in demand than the daily papers. My parents and the older members of the family knew some of our leaders personally, and almost all our ministers (they didn't call them ministers then) by name.

We belonged to a small country church, but even in my early childhood I knew we belonged to a brotherhood. Reports from the churches were always read and the movements of preachers noted. Articles presented in its pages were discussed and if other church members came in, they too, would share in considering what the "Christian" had to say.

So, Mr. Editor, as I sat in church this morning I asked myself what kind of contribution the "Christian" had made to my early life. It has contributed plenty to my more mature years, but that is by the way. I believe that part of my sense of brotherhood came from those early days, when I myself read of what was happening in places other than the little country church to which we belonged. I received inspiration and vision from these records of achievements in what was to me then, the big outside world.

But, another thought came to me. I am certain now, as I look back to days more than half a century ago, that one of the greatest influences upon my childhood might almost be called incidental.

Of course, it was not really so, but it might have appeared to be. You see, my parents and the older members of the family and members of the fellowship who came to the home talked together of the things of the kingdom, and I heard.

It was not said to me. I was too young to share in discussion of these things. But I heard. And as I sat in the service this morning I was thankful. I know that this sharing of the life of the brotherhood in our home, through the ministry of the "Christian," was one of the greatest influences in my life.

I wonder to what extent the combined influence of a paper like the "Christian," and a wise Christian home might influence young folks who hear or overhear conversation of this nature. We were influenced not by formal lessons, but by what was naturally going on around us. For all I know, this might have saved me from being a juvenile delinquent, or worse, and the same kind of thing might yet save other potential delinquents. So, as I sat there this morning, I remembered with thanksgiving the "Christian," and my home.

You said that the "A.C." was approaching a crisis, the financial situation was becoming critical. You might have to reduce the size of the paper, or turn over to fortnightly, or monthly issues, or seek some other way to restore financial equilibrium. You and your colleagues will have explored the possibilities of continuing the ministry of so important an instrument of Christian endeavour.

I trust that the brotherhood is discerning enough to see that the "Christian" is performing a ministry, the serious curtailment of which would be not only regrettable, but irreplaceable.

Please save your blue pencil, Mr. Editor, and allow me to say that you have done, and are doing, a magnificent job. None could do better. No editor

can have all the readers even part of the time. All people of goodwill must recognise your efforts to be scrupulously fair.

Finally, as a life long friend, I wish for the "Christian," its Editor, and his colleagues, the guidance of God and the confidence and support of the brotherhood which needs its ministry.

THE JOINT COMMISSION ON CHURCH UNION, N.Z.

Report of February Meeting, 1967.

Five churches this year will enter an Act of Commitment to find a basis of union and to unite in common action. The Archbishop of Melbourne, the Most Rev. F. Woods, has consented to conduct a Study Day for 150 official representatives of these negotiating churches, Anglican, Associated Churches of Christ, Congregational, Methodist and Presbyterian, on Wed., May 10.

The Study Day will consider the Mission of the Church in New Zealand, and it will lead into an open service of Commitment.

The following Sunday, Whit Sunday, local services of thanksgiving will be held in churches through N.Z. Not in itself union, this Act of Commitment will involve a solemn pledge of common obedience with the consecration of every endeavour that, by the Holy Spirit, the five might be brought into one church. It will carry with it the intention to do together many of the things that in the past have been done separately.

These were major decisions of the Joint Commission on Church Union, meeting Feb. 14-16, in Wellington, on receiving reports that all the Churches and Dioceses concerned, including those of Melanesia and Polynesia, had approved this action.

Work is to proceed immediately on the preparation of a Basis of Union which will accompany a statement on the Principles of Union as expressed already in the reports of the Study Committees. The Joint Commission believes that a sufficient degree of mutual trust, acceptance and understanding has been reached to justify this next step.

The Joint Commission is not seeking uniformity. The Basis will present in outline a scheme for integrating the life and work of the Churches, but certain details of structure and organisation will continue to be worked out after union in the fellowship and continuing experience of the united Church—E. Ray Vickery.

"THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN"

50 YEARS AGO

1916

HERE AND THERE. A. E. Forbes was appointed resident chaplain for the O.P.D. at the Liverpool Camp, N.S.W., for February . . . One third of all additions to the Churches of Christ in Victoria by faith and baptism are secured by our Home Missionary efforts . . . Out of 109 churches in Victoria, 80, at some time during their history, had received help from the Home Mission Fund.

VICTORIAN PREACHERS' RETREAT. The Vic. Home Mission Tent was pitched on a picturesque slope in the grounds of F. A. Kemp, in close proximity to his house, the latter being thrown open for our use. The morning watch was led by Brethren Ennis, Clark, P. D. McCallum, Sivyer. The ten o'clock sermons were delivered by Brethren Proctor, L. W. Baker (S.A.), and W. B. Blakemore, who was also camp superintendent.

Then came the essay and discussion on the important themes of "The Church and the Developing Democracy," "The Church and Permanent World Peace," and "The Missionary Outlook." The essays were given by T. H. Scambler, R. T. Pittman and J. E. Thomas. Evening sermons were delivered by Brethren Whelan, G. Gordon and G. Chandler. The preachers' choir was led by Will Clay, and sang with a fervour and melody which burned into and charmed the hearts of many.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Frankly I had in mind a lean and hungry looking type for Finance Chairman!"

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God Gave Me a Microphone, by Vernon Turner.

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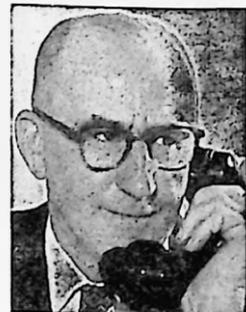
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OPEN FORUM

THE PLACE OF THE MINISTER.

To the Editor,

After reading your editorial on Feb. 18 regarding wearing of the clerical collar, I feel some reply should be made to what seemed an unnecessary gibe at other Christian brethren.

Is there any doubt of the truth in Dr. Loane's words, as quoted: "It always makes clear what you represent in the community." Can we say with certainty that the early church leaders of local communities were no distinguishing feature, however unobtrusive, and if so, would this in any way detract from their being a "minister among ministers"?

This question is closely allied to the larger issue of the place of the minister in a Christian church.

Some of our older brethren would go down fighting rather than give an inch, on the question of the "right" of laymen to "control the minister."

We sometimes over-emphasise the value of laymen participation, to the abnegation of the minister, who has been set aside and specially trained to lead worship. This in no way detracts from the common right of access at the Lord's Table.

Our services are often made less worshipful by the use of inexperienced readers, helpers, and also presidents. Who among us has not felt keenly our deficiencies when taking our turn on the roster?

May I enquire through Open Forum what are the views of other church members on these questions? Also, having come from a Baptist community in recent years, where these problems did not seem apparent, will someone enlighten me as to the scriptural support for denying the minister, whom the church will have called, the privilege of leading worship at the Lord's Table?

—Malcolm R. Morton, N.S.W.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

To the Editor,

After a careful perusal of the editorial of Feb. 4, 1967, with reference to scripture I found it difficult not to form the opinion that a feeling is abroad in your ranks that Christ, not having done modern psychology and the modern brand of sociology, can be ignored in relative matters.

Christ's specially chosen spokesman, Paul, says, in reference to magistrates: Romans 13, that they are the ministers of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid, for he beareth not the sword in vain.

In the New English Bible the verse reads, "It is not for nothing that they hold the power of the sword, for they are God's agents of punishment."

Your leader says, "Imagine our Lord endorsing or participating in an execution." There is no need for imagination. At Peter's request, the Lord destroyed Ananias and his wife, Sapphira.

There is no need to delve further for God's Word needs verification only for unbelievers. Being God's Word it is reliable; otherwise it is not God's Word.

In which case Christians are indeed the most miserable of people!

I fear "The Australian Christian" is trying to serve two masters! One leading to the Kingdom of God; the other to world domination by a few mortals, plenty of Belsen horror camps, etc., commonly called.

Putting two and two together, I am forced to the opinion that you consider God "uncivilised."

Properly appointed leaders, as those named in your paper, become fair game for the character assassins, public ignorance is lyingly exploited with the church joining in — not so blatant, but cleverer with its vicious innuendoes.

God's treatment is treated with scant respect, even contempt. I'm heartily ashamed of you "Australian Christian!"

—Harold T. Darwin, S.A.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

To the Editor,

The case of the punishment of Ronald Ryan has touched off more so-called Christian feeling than any other single event which has taken place for a long time.

So many arguments — seemingly good arguments, at that — have been advanced both for and against his hanging by people, so many of whom claim to be Christians, that it is not an easy task to assess accurately the real truth.

For those who, like myself, find themselves torn by opposing feelings, there is left only one criterion to which we can go, the — fortunately — all important guide, the Scriptures themselves, looked at from an overall standpoint rather than just a few texts without reference to their context.

This done, there is only one conclusion — that is, that our God is not a punishing God, in spite of Roman Catholic misinterpretation, sending his sunshine and his rain alike upon the just and the unjust. Our Lord refused to punish his enemies, and taught that evil could be overcome only by good.

Christian people can do no less than follow his example. From whence, then, comes all the hubbub by professing Christians as to what degrees of punishment should be meted out to Ryan?

—L. R. Reeves, Vic.

SUNDAY.

To the Editor,

Being concerned about inroads being made upon Sunday by sporting interests, and realising the danger this could be to the whole community, especially children and young people, our church at Oakleigh, Vic., wrote to the Chief Secretary's office expressing concern and protesting against any extension of organised Sunday sport. The letter expressed concern at the recent introduction of Sunday Horse Racing programmes and the suggestion by some that V.F.L. teams play football on Sundays.

The reply on behalf of the Chief Secretary said:

"There will be no extension of Sunday Horse Racing (with attendant betting facilities) nor would the Minister approve of League Football being conducted on a Sunday.

"The Minister is mindful of the views of a large number of members of the community who seek the proper observance of Sundays. In a pluralist society, however, where many sections of the community have not the same concern about Sunday observance, the Minister is required to keep a proper balance between the interests of the different sections.

"However, he is in complete agreement with the views expressed by you on behalf of your members."

—A. A. Brown, Vic.

BUDGET SUGGESTIONS.

To the Editor,

I am not sure what happens in churches around budget planning time. Some don't do any budgeting or planning. So may I offer a few suggestions:

1. Many churches take little thought about supplying our theological colleges with men or money, they only have an interest in fishing there. My suggestion is to make a gift of 5 per cent of a minister's salary to the college. The result would be that once each generation that church gives an amount equal to a year's salary to provide a minister for the future.

2. Give a magazine subscription for every church family, say the "Australian Christian," or another similar Christian publication. The influence of the church is extended further into the home.

3. Commence an account with a Christian bookstore for the minister's book purchases, the church being responsible for payment, say \$100. The results both in the preacher and the church will be beyond the wildest dreams.

—C. J. Mackenzie, N.S.W.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

To the Editor,

The editorial, "Death is Irrevocable," "A.C." Feb. 11, will no doubt call forth comment from readers who are for, as well as against capital punishment.

But is the validity of capital punishment for murder the real issue? I suggest that, for Christians, the real question is: "Is God omniscient, or not?" In Genesis 9: 5, 6, God clearly instructs Noah that the murderer shall suffer the death penalty. Are not those who question the validity of capital punishment questioning the wisdom of the Lord God Almighty?

—D. F. Lake, W.A.

• DEADLINE •

Issue No. 9, MARCH 18, 1967—

NEWS and ADVERTISEMENTS will be received until **FIRST MAIL, FRIDAY, MARCH 10.**

Only **LATE NEWS** of special significance and **SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS** will be received in **FIRST MAIL, MONDAY, MARCH 13.**

Issue No. 10, APRIL 1, 1967—

NEWS and ADVERTISEMENTS will be received until **FIRST MAIL, FRIDAY, MARCH 24.**

Only **LATE NEWS** of special significance and **SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENTS** will be received in **FIRST MAIL, MONDAY, MARCH 27.**

• OVERSEAS MISSIONS

ON PATROL

BY ELAINE CHAMBERLAIN

During the Christmas holidays Diane and I had a few adventures when we went on the monthly Infant Welfare river patrol with Sister Lou Joyce. We travelled in the new aluminium "River Truck," which was given by the Clovelly Park (S.A.) church. The "River Truck" is much safer, more comfortable, and quicker than the large dug-out canoes that had been used previously.

The patrol normally takes five days and covers a mileage of about 180 miles, contacting 25 villages and conducting clinic for 300 babies and children.

We started from Bunapas, where the Paternoster Memorial Hospital is now in use. I was delighted to see the lovely clean conditions in which our Sisters and their staff are now working, and also to see the extensive building work that has gone on.

We started off down river Tuesday morning, and called in on Bosman village (a Roman Catholic village) one hour's motoring down river. While the mothers were getting ready we were taken on tour of the large village, seeing the large Roman Catholic church, the schools, the missionary's house, all of which are made of European materials. The mothers and babies by this time were all lined up ready for Clinic. All babies were well and some babies were given Triple Antigen injections.

At the next village all the mothers and babies were waiting for Sister, and the normal routine of weighing the young babies and looking at the general health of the older children was carried out. Here many of the women had never seen a European child very close, so Diane was the centre of attraction while they clicked their tongues and felt her arms and legs.

The next village down river was almost deserted so we intended to call back next morning for clinic. In the meantime we went to Buliva village, just a few minutes run up-river. We spent the night in the Government Rest House, using our own stretchers and mosquito nets, which were essential. I met a mother

here who had had childbirth difficulties, and was taken to the Paternoster Hospital for help. However, the Sisters did not have the necessary facilities and equipment, so Sister Hunting did all she could to get the woman to Bogia Hospital, where she was transferred to Madang, as there was no doctor at Bogia. When I saw her she was well, and so was her three months old baby.

Next morning we had trouble starting the motor, but after a few repairs we started on our way down river again. We didn't get to our destination at the mouth of the Ramu River, as it was thought we didn't have the correct fuel. So next stop was Bunapas, where we replenished fuel and food supplies.

We slept at Asau station, which has no one stationed there at the moment. Sister Joyce led the prayer meeting that night. It was encouraging having men coming too and joining in the meeting. Folk from Bunapas canoe up to Asau two or three times a week to take services and prayer meetings, and to help the people with any problems they have. The next morning after clinic and medical work we continued up river in drizzling rain, which kept on for three hours.

The first village we came to was a welcome sight. Here only a few mothers had brought their babies from inland villages because of the flooding of the river. We found that all other villages we came to were the same, where the people had to come from inland. We understood this, as the flooding of the Ramu makes inland tracks impossible and dangerous.

At the village of Avankun we saw an eighteen months old child who was suffering from malnutrition, weighing 13 pounds. It was sad to hear the very young mother tell Sister Joyce that her husband had acquired another wife (which is quite legal in village custom in New Guinea), and therefore because two wives are a lot of hard work, she and her child were being neglected. Next infant welfare patrol, if the baby

hasn't put on some weight, the baby will have to go to the Paternoster Hospital, with her mother, where the baby will be built up with milk feedings and an educational diet.

We ended up this day sleeping at Zukin village. The Government Rest House wasn't the best that we have seen, but with a few sheets hung around the walls we had enough privacy. It was our intention the next day to reach Tumba station, calling in at several villages on the way to conduct clinic. But we were informed by our motor driver that there was insufficient fuel to get us to Tumba. We were disappointed to hear this news, as we particularly wanted to see Dorothy Howden, who was relieving at Tumba because of staff shortage.

The only way home was to drift. So, after borrowing two paddles from the Zukin folk and, putting all our cargo on board, we started drifting down river at 2.30 p.m. Because the current was so strong, we were able to drift rather quickly sometimes. When night-fall caught up with us we lit a kerosene pressure lamp to show us the way. I was very safe in the "River Truck" and we were grateful were in it and not a canoe.

Eventually, after much paddling and drifting, we turned a corner to see the welcome lights of Bunapas. The time was now 9.30 p.m. We had been on the river a long time, but we had enjoyed this experience, and we were thankful that we had arrived back at the hospital safe and sound.

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Further information from the Secretary, Elm-rd.,
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Our Authority and Guide



THE LAST WORD

Choice (2)

Seek, and you shall find.

—Luke 11: 9.

Seek and you shall find.

Seek — seek.

And if you go to the crowded street

Look not to find the hills;

And if the shops sit gay along the
way,

And laughter fills the air,

Still — you have lost the hills.

—Ellen Coit Elliott.



A man should never be ashamed to
own he has been in the wrong, which
is but saying, in other words, that he
is wiser today than he was yesterday.

—Alexander Pope.



Definition:

Oboe: An ill woodwind that nobody
blows good.



If you did not like this issue, give it
to someone else; tastes differ, and he
may like it better than you did. If,
however, you like the issue, do not lend
it to anybody; that's a disservice to
the publishers. Make them buy their
own copy.

(Adapted).



Old bankers never die. They just lose
their balance.



They were both writing letters, but
suddenly the husband stopped and looked
worried.

"What's the matter, dear?" asked his
wife.

"Why, er-I had it on the tip of my
tongue and now it's gone."

"Never mind," she said, "just think
hard and it's bound to come back."

"Thinking about it won't bring this
back. It was a four cent stamp."