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THE NEGATIVE OF CHRISTMAS

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unto you IS BORN — Luke 2:11

THE NEGATIVE OF CHRISTMAS

There were two elements in the first Christmas. One was the positive—this was God's plan for peace and goodwill among all men. This was the promise of the incarnation. The other element was the negative—the world as it was, the ugly reality of things as they were.

The shepherds watching their flocks could surely have done with the positive realisation of "good news of a great joy." They were the representatives of a world full of poverty and sickness. The Holy Land had enough misery in it to justify it being declared a disaster area. The real world surely needed someone to give hope for peace on earth, the only peace it knew was that imposed by the spears and swords of a Rome that needed time to digest its conquests.

The positive symbols of Christmas (ignoring the added symbols of glamour such as bells, candles, trees, holly, and Santa Claus) were a star, the manger, the Wise Men, the shepherds, and the Child. These represented the promise of Christmas. But there were other symbols and we dare not leave them out if we follow truth. The negative symbols include the child victims of Bethlehem, the bereaved Christmas mothers screaming with love, a depraved and hypocritical king, the shepherds returning to their unrewarding fields, the Wise Men returning home in secret with the promise seen but unfulfilled, and the Child being carried, of all places, to Egypt for safety from his own people.

The promise of Christmas, unfulfilled though it may be, is still a genuine promise and we can rejoice about it. But the real world is still awaiting realisation of that promise. We could be in danger of celebrating Christmas with-

PERSPECTIVE — PROVISION — PRAISE

Perspective and Reassurance

Considerable interest has built up in Overseas Missions in recent months with the visit of Ron S. McLean, Federal Secretary of the Board located in Adelaide, and Bruce Coventry, to strategic areas in South-East Asia.

For N.S.W. missionary enthusiasts this tour of investigation culminated at the Burwood church on Nov. 7 when Ron McLean was the guest speaker.

Mr. McLean graphically outlined problems faced by our Indian workers due to governmental pressures and consequent probable withdrawal of Australian missionaries. He also raised hopes regarding likely extension in New Guinea, as well as the opportunity of sharing with other evangelical groups in the evangelisation of selected areas in Indonesia.

May we be encouraged to pray for the leading of the Spirit in all these things.

Provision and Rejoicing

On Nov. 15, a grand company of interested friends crowded into the Croydon Aged Persons' Guest Home, N.S.W. This resulted from a desire of many to respond to the invitation of the Social Service Department, under the direction of Charles Cole, to inspect additions to be known as the "Fan and Bert Cox Memorial Wing," made possible by the generous gift of Bert Cox, whose wide brotherhood interest and social service sympathies are well known.

out the central figure. If we think to invite the Christ to our table, we may find that he will prefer to be with those who hunger. We are well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed, and well-educated, and we may think we have much to share with our Lord, but there is evidence to suggest that he would rather die with the rejected than be a guest at the tables of unconcern.

The negative symbols are still with us. There is ignorance, poverty, sickness, oppression, violence. The children of Biafra and Vietnam have replaced those of Bethlehem as the low mark of man's shame. There are more refugees in the Middle East today than in the worst of our past. The monstrous Herod has been replaced by violent rulers with far more terrifying weapons. The song of angels is replaced by high-fidelity records playing low-fidelity carols in department stores dedicated to over-spending.

We do not object to Christmas joy and good wishes. Far from it. The New Testament didn't think that peace and goodwill were unmentionable because they hadn't been attained. Of course the Christmas season should be one of happiness and thanksgiving. But it seems to us that the other side of the Christmas story should also be told.

All of this brings us to our Christmas greeting. It has two sides, a positive and a negative if you like, as it tries to face up to both the promise and the reality:

We wish for you a Christmas of joyous minds and disturbed hearts;

May you dedicate the days of your years to the welfare of your neighbour,

And walk with Christ toward peace on earth and goodwill to all mankind.

GUEST EDITORIAL by Dr. A. G. ELLIOTT

It was an occasion to be remembered and such practical provision for elderly people rejoices the heart and does much to commend the Gospel of Christ.

May we be encouraged to pray for the leading of the Spirit in all these things.

Praise and Recognition

After nineteen years of service as Principal of Woolwich College, A. W. Stephenson has concluded his ministry. The College Board and the N.S.W. Conference Executive felt that such an occasion should be fittingly marked and consequently the Woolwich Graduation Service, at Enmore Tabernacle, on Nov. 21, also took the form of a "Recognition" of the retiring Principal and Mrs. Stephenson.

Twelve students graduated and representative messages of appreciation were conveyed to Principal and Mrs. Stephenson by the Conference President, John Morris, and the State C.W.F. President, Mrs. Beckingham. A presentation was made by G. H. Sloman, Chairman of the College Board and good wishes came from all parts of Australia and New Zealand.

Backward glances in reviewing the work of the Lord's servants revealed many evidences of his grace, together with expressions of hope and trust in God for the future of the work of the College.

May we be encouraged to pray for the leading of the Spirit in all these things.

• "THE MESSIAH"

HANDEL COMES TO BETHLEHEM

By VINEY LONGTHORP



It is not to be wondered that Christmas is a time for music making, because music, above anything else, is a perfect means of expressing joy and affirming faith in life and God. A vast corpus of music has grown up around Christmas helping us to celebrate the glad tidings of the Incarnation. Of this music, Handel's oratorio "Messiah" is an outstanding example and for many, Christmas would not be complete unless they could hear again that lovely air, "He Shall Feed His Flock" or share the confidence of "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth."

At the first performance, in Dublin in 1742, the work received an enthusiastic response and has remained a firm favourite; few choral societies dare ignore it. Sir Malcolm Sargent used to say that whenever he couldn't get to sleep he did not count sheep, but counted the number of times he had conducted "Messiah"! Perhaps this is a good time to ask why has it fared so well and remained so popular. These are really leading questions because the mortality rate amongst musical compositions, oratorio included, is as enormous as the dropouts of the poets.

The literary plan of "Messiah" is a good one. This is not the first time that a composer, in setting words to music, has been assisted with a worthy libretto, which has enabled him to offer his best. Many a composition, including some of Handel's, have been prejudiced because of a sloppy text. "Messiah" is unique in oratorio for several reasons: the entire text is taken from the scriptures, there is no narrative or incidents in series or any characters. When compared with "Judas Maccabaeus" or "Samson" these differences stand out. The arrangement of the texts is remarkable and Charles Jennens who supplied Handel with this must be given much credit for the success of the work. The texts are arranged in three parts: Part One is chiefly concerned with Isaiah's prophecies of the Nativity and the Incarnation and the effect of the coming of the Messiah. Part Two tells of two aspects of Christ's work, whilst Part Three tells of the hope of the world to come. The work is mainly concerned then, with prophecy, reflection and doctrine. This is an interesting commentary on the religious outlook of the 18th century with its mixture of the

"heroic" and the "mystical": nearly a hundred years had to pass before a Berlioz could offer a homely and romantic account of the coming of Christ, in his "Childhood of Christ."

Again "Messiah" is popular because it is never dull: it possesses dramatic movement and colour. Handel learned his craft in the theatre and he knew how to appeal to people's susceptibilities—music wise, at any rate. He came to England as a composer of opera in the "Italian style" and turned to oratorio when he saw further possibilities of making a living in this field. Oratorio is really opera without acting: we see this in the very forms of oratorio, it has the "recitative," the "aria" and the chorus. Oratorio has three parts as opera has three acts. Though Handel's effects are calculated, they are sincere and give rise to pure music: on innumerable occasions in "Messiah" we feel that the dramatic emphasis placed on the words are exactly those of the sacred writers themselves.

Mozart is supposed to have remarked, "when Handel strikes he strikes like lightning." And strike he does: his music is strong, vivid and sturdy: "Of all music, this is most cunning, and craftsman made"—so wrote a contemporary, who intended a compliment. Handel was an incomparable writer for the human voice. It is no accident, that of all the great works in choral form, the "Hallelujah" chorus is the outstanding example. One rather respects the musical sensibilities of George II who stood to his feet during the singing of this chorus, thereby setting a royal precedent. The very grandeur of this piece lies in its simplicity. Then there is the thrilling contrast as voices of different registers sing of the earthly kingdom and the heavenly.

Handel's ability to evoke mood is nowhere better heard than in the aria, "He Was Despised and Rejected of Men," where towards the end, on the words "despised" and "rejected," the voice is heard without any instrumental support. In the chorus, "Behold the Lamb of God" the whispered awe brings the listener to the very threshold of the mystery of Christ's work.

The work was written, we are told, in a space of about three weeks, in 1741. Something of a record for a work of

such length. This has given rise to many speculations about the nature of Handel's "inspiration." The miracle, of course, lies in the innermost quality of the music as such. During the whole of its three hours, the quality rarely falters as it leaps from one high peak to another. Remember also, that Handel was not unused to composing in a great hurry. It was common for most of the composers of the time, to write an opera in a month or so when one was demanded, and we have some remarkable instances of this. Also he borrowed some of the tunes from his own works. The chorus, "For Unto Us" was written a few weeks earlier as a set of Italian chamber duets. Handel rewrote it for four-part chorus.

The inspiration behind "Messiah" is explained in the life-long discipline of an artist of integrity, who as a master of his craft, gave his best to what he regarded as a worthwhile theme.

Of all the great composers next to nothing is known about Handel the man. He left but meagre evidence of his feelings, aspirations and ambitions. We would love to know something of the mind that hid itself behind the bland expression and periwigged trimmings of that portrait of him as a typical 18th century gentleman. Apparently there were no great emotional trials to give some clues to the kind of man he was, no love affairs, no great tragedy except the blindness which afflicted him in his old age. His religious attitudes are hard to fathom. He once praised England as a place where a man might hold whatever religious opinions he liked and not suffer persecution, a statement which someone has observed, would not have been made by an orthodox Christian of the time. Or would it? Then, there are those who on the basis of the music alone, would regard "Messiah" as a great work of art rather than a great religious observance, as such.

But what matter? Here is music, which because of its inherent worth, is a true and worthy vehicle for our praising God. Eric Blom, one of Handel's biographers, remarked that, "Handel's work is as clear as daylight and full of health and exuberance." He is the man for this particular season. We have need of such exuberance right now.

Austral Graded Lessons

and the

Board of Christian Education

... AN HISTORICAL SURVEY

By G. R. STIRLING

BEGINNINGS

IN 1917 the Austral Printing and Publishing Company entered into a partnership with the Victorian Churches of Christ Bible School Committee to produce lesson materials for Australian Bible Schools. Almost immediately the lessons prepared and printed were used in nearly all schools in all States. In 1935 the two partners set up a Board of Control of Austral Graded Lessons consisting of two representatives each from the Austral Company and the Victorian Bible Schools and Young People's Committee, who appointed another three Board members. The late Ralph Gebbie who had been Editor was succeeded by R. T. Pittman who became Editor-in-Chief with A. W. Stephenson as Associate Editor. Some of those who served on the Board of Control during its 19 years were R. Ennis, K. A. Jones, R. P. Morris, D. E. Pittman, T. H. Scambler, W. R. Hibbert, G. J. Andrews, A. E. Kemp, B. F. Huntsman and A. R. Haskell.

THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

For many years prior to 1948 the Victorian Bible Schools and Young People's Committee served as the Federal Churches of Christ Bible Schools' Committee. Through the inspiration of W. R. Hibbert, then Director of the Victorian Department, State Youth Directors began to meet each year from 1944 to 1947. They shared ideas and resources, arranged to use common promotional material and produced Youth's Own Diary. They accepted common standards for a Teachers' Diploma Course. They published the first edition of the "Leader's Kit." They were in effect the Board of Christian Education in the process of formation.

THE 1948 FEDERAL CONFERENCE IN PERTH

At the Federal Conference in Perth in 1948, the Board of Christian Education was constituted as a Department of the Federal Conference of Churches of Christ in Australia. Elected representatives plus the State Youth Directors were its members. Its first chairman was F. T. Morgan who served in this office for 18 years.

During the Federal Conference informal talks took place between R. Ennis, Chairman of Directors of the Austral Printing and Publishing Company and the new Board of Christian Education. The talks were to arrange for the commencement of negotiations for the Board to take over responsibility for the preparation of the curriculum and materials of Austral Graded Lessons. Further conferences between the Board of Christian Education and the Austral Directors led to the Board being given responsibility for the preparation of what became the new Austral Graded Lessons. The Austral Graded Lessons Board of Control remained in existence until 1954 as the publishers of the lessons. The Victorian Bible Schools and Young People's Department thus remained in business partnership with the Austral in publishing the materials, but it gave all of its share of income from the lessons to the new Board of Christian Education. State Youth Department subsidies made up the rest of the Board's income until 1957. The late V. C. Stafford became the first Director of the



RICHARD LAWTON, B.D., A.P.A.,
Director and Editor, Federal Board
of Christian Education.

Board of Christian Education in 1948, and Editor-in-Chief of Austral Graded Lessons from 1949.

At the suggestion of the Austral Directors and to emphasise the role of the whole of the Australian brotherhood in the production of lesson materials, the name was changed in 1966 from "Austral Graded Lessons" to "Churches of Christ Graded Lessons."

THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND AUSTRAL GRADED LESSONS FROM 1948

As soon as the 1948 Federal Conference was over writers began the mammoth task of creating a new curriculum and writing the lessons, working against relentless printing deadlines. V. C. Stafford bore most of the burden of these early writings. However, a great number of people in the brotherhood shared in the onerous and anonymous task of lesson writing in order to get the new materials into the schools.

The guiding principle of the new lessons was active research into the Bible, in class, by pupils, and the recording of the findings of this research, and applying the findings to life situations. Sometimes the activity commenced with basic Bible material and moved to the life situation; sometimes it started with the life situation and the Biblical research threw light on the situation. The years 1949 to 1951 saw the production of a completely new set of lesson materials.

SOME HIGHLIGHTS FROM 1948 TO 1965

From 1948 the Board shared with the Baptist Federal Board in the production of the "C.Y.F. Manual" and the "Elementary Teacher." Later the Baptists were also to share in the production of Primary Lessons.

In 1952 separate Kindergarten and Primary Syllabi were commenced.

In 1957 the Junior Primer was added to the material, providing a valuable transition for children passing from Primary to Junior Grades.

From 1958 to 1962 the curriculum and lessons prepared under such heavy pressure of time and resources 10 years before, were revised by the Board together with educational experts amongst us.

In 1965 the annual meeting of the Board instructed its executive to investigate the possibility of sharing with the Joint Board of Christian Education (Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational) its new "Christian Life Curriculum" and materials from 1970.

OTHER ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FROM 1948

The production of lesson materials has only been one part of the Board's activities. It produced an extensive set of camp and adult Christian education studies, used in all States. It published the "Leader's Kits." It had struck the popular C.Y.F. badge. It ran National C.Y.F. Commissions from 1958 to 1962. It was responsible for Discipleship materials, Bible School Efficiency Campaigns, and promotional materials for all States. The Board has conducted National

AUSTRAL GRADED LESSONS AND THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Youth Conventions in Adelaide (1963), Sydney (1965), Perth (1967) and Brisbane (1969).

THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND THE JOINT BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational)

From 1965 two facts became increasingly evident. One was the need for a new curriculum using new methods to keep up with the best educational practice. The other was the problem of producing adequate materials at low cost for the small constituency of Australian Churches of Christ.

As the Board of Christian Education faced the task of preparing a new curriculum it was discovered that the Joint Board of Christian Education was already working on one to commence publication in 1970. It was felt that if the two Boards could work together, better work on curriculum planning and preparation would be possible. Later it became evident that if the two Boards could become partners in actual lesson production, Australian Churches of Christ could have materials of a standard only possible with a large circulation.

It was in 1965 that the Board of Christian Education decided to investigate the possibility of sharing with the Joint Board in curriculum planning.

In 1966 it was recommended to Federal Conference that the Federal Board pursue the matter of co-operation with the Joint Board.

In 1967 the Directors of the Austral Printing and Publishing Company encouraged the Federal Board to continue working towards co-operation with the Joint Board.

In 1968 Federal Conference decided to authorise the Board to make an official approach to the Joint Board in order that both might become partners in the production of curriculum and lessons materials.

Early in 1968, V. C. Stafford, architect of the partnership between the two Boards, died. Dr. G. A. Whiting acted as Board Director for the rest of 1968, when Miss Merle Peacock became Acting Editor-Director for 1969, the crucial year immediately preceding the publication of the new "Christian Life Curriculum" materials (the name given to the new joint productions of the two Boards.)

WOOLWICH COLLEGE

LECTURER APPOINTED

The Board of Management of the N.S.W. Bible College at Woolwich announces the appointment of Graeme Chapman, B.A., minister of the church at Hurstville, N.S.W., as full-time Senior Lecturer. Mr. Chapman will take up his appointment at the college at the beginning of 1971.

A graduate of Woolwich, Graeme Chapman has served in pastorates at Kedron, Qld., and Hurstville, N.S.W. Though still a young man he has made his mark already on the churches with his outstanding ability as a preacher and is known and respected also for his scholarship. Mr. Chapman received his Arts degree from the University of New England, Armidale. At present he is engaged in studies leading to the Bachelor of Divinity and also the Master of Arts Degrees. His special fields of interest in study and research include Church History, Old Testament, Homiletics and Exegesis. Mr. Chapman will undoubtedly be a tremendous asset to the academic staff at Woolwich not only because of his proven scholarship but also because of his mature Christian character and spiritual perception.

Mrs. Chapman was formerly Helen



GRAEME CHAPMAN, B.A.

Main, of Wollongong, and there are two daughters in the family. The Woolwich College Board is confident that Mr. and Mrs. Chapman will bring much that is worthwhile and of spiritual benefit to their new sphere of service.

THE NEW DIRECTOR OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

In 1969 the Board of Christian Education appointed as its Director and Editor, Richard Lawton, Associate Minister of Canberra Churches of Christ, to commence service at the beginning of 1970. Mr. Lawton is a South Australian. He is a graduate of the College of the Bible (1965), a Bachelor of Divinity (Honours) of the London University, an Associate of the University of Adelaide in Public Administration, and is a holder of the Licentiate of Theology and the Diploma of Religious Education of the Melbourne College of Divinity. He also brings to the new position an unquestioned consecration to Jesus Christ, a thorough knowledge of the scriptures, a firm faith in their inspiration and authority, and a zeal for the Church's mission in evangelism and concerned outreach, together with a maturity far beyond his years.

THE FUTURE OF THE BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Board of Christian Education will continue as a Department of the Federal Conference of Churches of Christ in Australia. It will still include in its membership all State Directors of Christian Education. Its work will be two-fold: (1) It will be a partner with the Joint Board of Christian Education in the production of "Christian Life Curriculum" materials; (2) As well, it will continue all of the other activities that bring into Federal co-operation, all of the State Departments of Christian Education.

Whatever lesson systems may be used in various Bible Schools, the Federal Board will co-operate with the States in the development of the highest standards of Christian education through training, sharing of ideas and insights, and in the production of useful materials. The Director will be at the service of the whole Australian brotherhood and will co-operate closely with all Departments of Christian Education and their Directors.

1948 TO 1970

At the 1948 Federal Conference in Perth the Board of Christian Education came into existence, and the foundations of its work in lesson production were laid. It was also at this Conference that Churches of Christ in Australia decided to commence their witness in Canberra. It is interesting that 22 years later the Canberra church should give one of its ministers to the Board of Christian Education as its second Director.

NATIONS URGED REJECT WAR

(Washington, D.C.) So successful was the huge peace demonstration in the heart of Washington recently that future protests will be limited to local demonstrations across the U.S. possibly on Christmas Eve, leaders of both the moratorium group and the New Mobilisation Committee to End the War agreed.

300,000 persons came to the nation's capital for the "March Against Death" and the subsequent mass rally.

Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, American-born general secretary of the World Council of Churches, speaking at an interconfessional service in the National Cathedral (Anglican) stated that "the wound of the nation has been poulticed, the flow of blood has been sharply reduced." Yet the improvement is only minor and the wound "may yet turn out to be fatal."

Noting that Americans are deeply divided as to why peace is being sought, the ecumenical leader said there is no sign yet that the nations of the world have "seriously rejected military power and war, with its modern horrors, as the central instruments to keep or establish peace."

"Too few men anywhere take the power of a righteous God seriously," Blake added. Even more than intellectual maturity, moral insight and repentance are needed to make peace.—E.P.S.

QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



Whose job is it to prepare the year's programme for the church and what things should the over-all plan include?

Somebody should outline a comprehensive programme for the church and I think it is the minister's task. The plan should be endorsed by the Board of Officers, however, and there will be consultation with various church leaders in the course of its preparation.

The minister is the obvious person to prepare the programme because he, more than anyone else, will give expression to the plan, and because he is most in touch with the majority of the auxiliaries in the church.

As this is December, it is too late to plan for next year. The job should have been done, considered and discussed, amended and agreed to, before the end of November at the latest. Still, if it has not yet been done, a late plan is probably better than no plan at all.

Perhaps the best way to answer the second part of your question is to outline one way of doing it. It is not the

only way, and maybe not the best way. There are many different ways of doing it. The plan should do at least three things: (1) relate the year's work to the general targets of the church; (2) ensure that the necessary people are consulted and involved; and (3) guard against important aspects of the ministry of the church being left out or dealt with inadequately.

Rule a large sheet of paper (maybe 36" by 18") so that there is one line for each day and at least three lines for each Sunday. In this way the whole year's activities can be related visually to each other.

Write in the special days and events that concern the local church, the brotherhood, the nation and the community. Specially mark the occasions when guest speakers will be required, and note the occasions when the local minister is not free to accept other speaking engagements. Note school holiday and examination times (how often a church has been forced to alter a long planned activity because the planners did not note that children would be on holidays? And how foolish it is to have some outstanding youth activity during the weeks of exam. pressure!).

Then attention should be given to preaching programme, planning for morning and evening series of sermons, and noting other ideas for topics by pencilling them in to take account of the requirements of the particular congregation.

The various groups in the church will be involved. Young people, the men, the ladies, the children, sporting groups, etc., should all be involved from time to time in worship and service activities—not only

as listeners and spectators, but as participants.

Plan also for through-the-week activities, seeking to provide a balance in the ages and interests of the various groups. Consider the particular and general needs of your community and try to give major support to at least two areas of need.

By this time there will be so many changes, deletions and additions, it will be desirable to type out the programme on quarto or foolscap as a prelude to talking it over with some of the key folk in the church. Eventually, the plan will need to be considered in detail by the officers, but it would save many later difficulties and also a lot of time if folk like the church secretary, the youth leaders, and S.S. Superintendent have a chance to consider the aspects that concern them before presenting it to the officers.

The endorsement of the officers is essential in some instances, especially those which relate to the church budget. In other cases, such as preaching and those aspects of the church's pastoral work that are the minister's prerogative, the minister should be prepared to listen to the opinions of others, but he has the liberty to act as he thinks proper in respect to his own spiritual responsibilities.

A plan for the year is not in itself an achievement. When the plan is completed it is only the end of the beginning of the year's work. Careful planning is most important, but quite useless unless the plan is put to work.

BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION

(Vic.). Three visitors from overseas are included among the speakers for the 52nd Annual Convention, Belgrave Heights, from Boxing Day, Dec. 26, through to New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 1970: J. Oswald Sanders, the retired General Director of the Overseas Missionary Fellowship who will conduct the Morning Bible Studies; Chua Wee Hian, B.D., of Singapore, the Associate Secretary of International Students for the Far East; and Dr. W. Cameron Townsend, who commenced the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators in 1935 and is currently General Director of this movement.

Two other speakers are the Rev. David Hewetson, Th.L., formerly Principal of Kongwa Bible College in Tanzania, Africa, and now Education Secretary of the Church Missionary Society for N.S.W.; and Graeme Smith, L.Th., Organising Secretary of Campaigners for Christ, Vic.

The Convention, in a large open-sided auditorium with seating capacity for almost 2,000, attracts large attendances, with many staying in the area in youth camps, house-parties or in caravans on the delightful grounds. With greatly improved roads leading from the city to Belgrave Heights the number of day visitors to the Convention each year is increasing, and these are well catered for with good facilities, including tea and canteen service together with ample parking for 500 cars.

(See notice on page 21)

COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE

Graduation and Ordination

(Vic.). The Graduation and Ordination service for the Federal College of the Bible, Glen Iris, was held at Lygon St. church on Nov. 21. It was the largest meeting of this kind for many years, the overflow crowd being accommodated in the hall.

The Chairman of the College Board of Management, F. P. Chipperfield, presided, and the college choir, conducted by Roy Arnold, gave items.

D. H. Smith, Director of the Dept. of H.M. & Evang., gave the occasional address, and C. E. Curtis, of S.A., led the prayer.

Diplomas were awarded to Adrian Dean, Graham Marsh, David Nancarrow and Karl Turtmann. The ladies' certificate was awarded to Mrs. Carol Marsh.

Principal E. L. Williams conducted the Ordination service, with questions being asked by and the Words of Ordination spoken by W. N. Heath, Immediate Past-President of the Conf. of Churches of Christ in S.A.

Those ordained were Carl Clayden, Barry Heath, Graham Marsh, Ian Mullen, David Nancarrow and Karl Turtmann. Assisting in setting apart these men for the ministry by the laying on of hands were A. W. Cleland, L. E. Dewberry, K. A. Jones, Dr. E. R. Killmier, N. S. Moore and A. R. Pigdon.

They were chosen for this purpose by the Federal Conference Executive on behalf of the Australian churches.

Valedictory addresses were given by Karl Turtmann and David Nancarrow.

TABLE MANNERS

DO YOUR OWN THING! BUT DO IT RIGHT!

Having brought the guests to the dining table, the hostess will graciously indicate where she wishes each one to sit. This should be planned beforehand so that she is ready to direct decisively, thus avoiding the all-too-frequent confusion while the meal dries in the oven. Ladies sit first when hostess sits. Hostess must make sure that the men are not kept standing for her. Everyone seated, she can then rise and bring the first course if it is not a cold one already on the table.

Place your table napkin on lap immediately all are seated. After a dinner party or restaurant meal, leave the napkin unfolded on the table as it will not be used again. If you are a staying guest either at a home or hotel, fold the napkin and lay it beside your plate. Commence eating when your hostess begins. And here a hostess must be careful that she is not so busy talking that everyone has to wait for her to lift her soup spoon.

Eating should be done quietly and with the mouth closed. Clean spoons should be used for taking sugar and clean knives for butter. In other words, use the spoon and knife provided with the dish and not your own.

On commencing soup, break bread on plate, if provided, otherwise at side of setting. Do not crumble bread in soup or put it into soup at all. Drink soup quietly from side of soup spoon, spooning away from yourself. Tilt plate away from you when soup gets low.

Ladies are served first so do not make the mistake of passing plates along, especially on formal occasions. The waiter or your hostess will serve you on your left and plates will be taken away on your right. Even on very informal occasions it is not correct to stack up plates, much less "scrap up," at the table. Your hostess will quietly remove the plate while the conversation flows on.

When a roll is served with lunch or dinner, break it and butter it piece by piece as needed. A slice of bread is buttered first and then cut into small pieces. Salt and mustard are placed on side of dinner plate, never straight on to the food. Pepper may be milled or shaken over the food.

When knife and fork are used together, the fork's prongs should always point down. Do not hold knife or fork like a pencil. Knife should be held under the palm of the hand with the index finger pointing along the blade. Hold fork in left hand, prongs down and handle pressed against palm of hand.

After eating (no need to leave anything for good manners, but also no need to polish plate!), cutlery should be left tidily in the middle of the plate, spoon and fork pointing upwards, knife blade pointing inwards. Leave plate where it is—do not push it away. It is the duty of the hostess to finish each course last so that no guest will feel that they have delayed proceedings. This is a point to be watched by a hostess who may naturally be a rapid eater. Tea and coffee spoons should be replaced on saucer after gently stirring (not rattling) sugar. Meal over, do not leave the table until the hostess rises.

(Next time: VANESSA writes on "ENTERTAINING AND BEING ENTERTAINED.")

Scripture readings and prayer were given by Ian Mullen, Graham Marsh, Barry Heath and Carl Clayden.

The ordinands are to minister with the following churches: Carl Clayden at Uiverstone, Tas.; Barry Heath at Kilburn, S.A.; Graham Marsh at Northcote, Vic.; Ian Mullen at Warragul, Vic.; David Nancarrow at Knoxfield, Vic.; and Karl Turtmann at Coburg, Vic.

The 1970 informal opening will be at the College on Feb. 18, 9 a.m.

SUPPORT FOR CHAPLAIN

(Edwardstown, S.A., C. E. Curtis). The C.W.F. arranged a church Family Dinner to raise funds to support the Hospital Chaplain . . . During the S.S. anniversary the scholars, led by Reg. Sugars, provided items for the morning communion service . . . At a successful Temple Day dinner approx. \$500 was received . . . Choir members raised \$650 to purchase new piano which they presented to the church during their 10th anniversary celebrations when P. Whitmore was guest speaker . . . Findon Ladies' Choir provided an excellent programme on Nov. 16 . . . Mrs. Alan Brown has resigned from leadership of Girls' Brigade . . . Members recognised the 25th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. John Walker at an after-church fellowship on Nov. 16.

STUDENT HONOURED

(Maylands, S.A., C. L. Smith & A. J. Ingham). Congratulations to Barry Heath, a young man from Maylands who successfully completed his College course, and enters his ministry at Kilburn next year . . . On Nov. 9, a team of our Young People assisted in the service by giving the messages in appropriate readings and singing. Young People also organised an evening on Nov. 21 to raise money for the Social Services Christmas Fund . . . On Nov. 29, an outstanding series of slides were presented by Lyle Roberts, who with three others from the church, recently completed a tour of 10,000 miles through the Northern Territory, North-West Australia, and home across the Nullabor Plain. \$21 was raised for the Infirmary at St. George's Christian Rest Home . . . The church is looking forward to the coming of Mr. and Mrs. Neville Moore and family in the New Year.

JUBILEE AT FORESTVILLE

(S.A., J. A. Luff). The 50th anniversary services began with Saturday fellowship and slides depicting the past 50 years, reproductions of old documents and photographs. Former minister, N. Gavros, led in devotions. Several foundation members were present at the services. When the Conf. Pres., W. J. Philp, addressed the communion service the Bible readings and hymns used at the first service on Nov. 23, 1919, were used again. The O.T. was read by G. D. Lovell, grandson of A. H. Lovell who read the same passage in 1919. At the P.S.A., past and present members provided musical items, and former ministers, A. E. Brown and N. Kingston, gave messages. At night, W. J. Maxted, a former B.S. scholar, gave the address. The choir and soloists assisted. An attractive brochure given to each person present included a history of the church.

WORD TALK

No. 4 MATTHEW 5: 40

him have your coat as well." (Matt. 5: 40 T.E.V.)

FOR TODAY. Barclay comments: "What Jesus is saying is this, 'The Christian never stands upon his rights; he never disputes about his legal rights; he does not consider himself to have any legal rights at all.' There are people who are forever standing upon their rights, who clutch their privileges to them and who will not be pried loose from them, who will militantly go to law rather than suffer what they regard as the slightest infringement of them. Churches are tragically full of people like that, officials whose territory has been invaded, office-bearers who have not had their rights, courts which do business with a manual of practice and procedure on the table all the time, lest anyone's rights should be invaded. People like that have not even begun to see what Christianity is. The Christian thinks not of his rights, but of his duties; not of his privileges, but of his responsibilities. The Christian is a man who has forgotten that he has any rights at all; and the man who will fight to the legal death for his rights, inside or outside the Church, is far from the Christian way."

Our wardrobes are so large these days that the point of this verse may be lost, although the spirit of it cries out for expression. The Jews were pretty quick to go to law to defend their rights and privileges and were as quick to take possession of a man's goods to discharge an unpaid debt. Even one's clothes could be forfeited. In fact, in many cases a man's clothes were all that he had.

Usually folk wore two garments. One was a tunic (usually translated a "shirt" in modern versions). It was long and sack-like, and made of cotton or linen. Even a poor man would have at least two of them. The other garment was a cloak, heavy and rather like a blanket. This was worn over the tunic as an outer covering. It was also used as a blanket at night. The tunic could be claimed in law, but never the cloak. It was so important that it was protected for its owner by many laws. Even if it was temporarily pledged in a crisis, it had to be returned to its owner (and wearer) before sunset. "For that is his covering only, it is his raiment for his skin, wherein shall he sleep." (Exodus 22: 27).

Now Jesus says, "If someone takes you to court to sue you for your shirt, let

END OF A CHAPTER

The sale of the old Gore St., Fitzroy chapel has now been completed, and in co-operation with the Vic.-Tas. Properties Corporation, the sum of \$7,825.50 has been forwarded to the Board. The Fitzroy building houses many memories, first as the spiritual home of the congregation which met there, and in more recent years as the centre of an Aboriginal work led by Doug. Nicholls. When the building was no longer needed for normal church activity some 17 years ago it was sold to the Aborigines Board on very favourable terms. An important mission work was done there, amongst the many Aboriginal families in the area, and the visitors coming to the city. Many people found help and encouragement when they made contact with Doug, and his helpers. In more recent years the situation has changed. Families from the inner-suburban areas have been re-housed in newer suburbs, where the facilities of normal church and community life are available. The centre of interest has moved from Fitzroy to Northcote, where Mr. Nicholls continues a centre of encouragement and help for Aboriginal folk in connection with the Advancement League Hostels. There were some great gatherings throughout the years, and we rejoice in the opportunities of service provided, and the victories won for Christ.

A NEW CHAPTER?

Through the Vic.-Tas. Aborigines' Committee it was decided that the proceeds from the sale of the Fitzroy property should be used (for the next few

years at least) towards the erection of a manse at Carnarvon, to house the first full-time minister in this exciting new venture in integrated church life (Jack Anderson is expected to begin in May, 1970). The Carnarvon church, consisting of Mission personnel and young people, town folk, and Aboriginal people from the reserve and surrounding areas, is working with enthusiasm to prepare for this ministry. Some \$4,000 has already been saved, after paying for the land, and it is hoped that with the Fitzroy money there will be enough finance to complete the payment by the time the manse is finished.

Aborigines Missions are contributing heavily apart from finance, in that Ian Foot and other Mission staff-members are providing the labour, vehicles, carting, etc., for the building of the manse. It is hoped to have it to the locking-up stage before the Christmas vacation. When completed, the church is aiming to provide the furnishings.

CHANGE OF SUPERINTENDENT AT "FAIRHAVEN"

Mr. and Mrs. Graham Butler from Carnarvon Mission, have been appointed to succeed Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Stevenson at "Fairhaven" Training Hostel for girls at Esperance. Prior to their years at Carnarvon they had considerable business experience in S.A., and Mr. Butler was also engaged in Child Welfare work. They plan to take over before the Stevensons leave on Dec. 16.

The work of Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson, spread over the 3½ years which they

made available before their retirement, has been very much appreciated. It is recognised that they made a great contribution to the work in many ways. Building, training and encouraging the girls, building up goodwill with the people of the town, the churches, the Government, etc., are some of the things that come to mind. They are planning to return to N.S.W. and after a much-needed rest, hope to engage in further Christian service consistent with age and retirement plans.—D.G.H.

BRIDAL PARADE

(Kensington Park, S.A., Walter Bartlett). C.W.F. had a Bridal Parade when 30 old and new fashions were displayed. . . . At our final youth service our young people conducted a Trial Scene with judge, counsellors and jury. Mr. Bartlett summed up the proceedings. The introit was sung by Intermediate girls. Guest musicians were from Magill and Croydon . . . A social afternoon was recently enjoyed by Elderly Citizens of the district . . . The promotion committee, assisted by C.W.F. ladies, conducted a trading table in front of Woolworth's store. \$70 was realised for church funds, gifts sent to Social Service for Christmas Cheer and a S.S. parcel sent to the Children's Home . . . A family picture night was held.

(GOOLWA, S.A.). Carol Spencer was recently baptised by the minister, H. E. Greenwood. She is a grand-daughter of A. Neighbour who assisted in the service . . . Mrs. Tonkin has been received in from Strathalbyn . . . F. E. Archbold of S.U.M., spoke at both services on Nov. 16 showing colour slides of mission work in Chad (Africa).

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- Jan. 11 "Christ and Your Suffering."
- Jan. 18 "Christ and Your Marriage."
- Jan. 25 "Christ and Your Future."



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Minister

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8.15-9.30 p.m.

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Theme: History, background, message and growth of the Old Testament.

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OPEN FORUM

THE LITURGICAL MINISTRY

To the Editor,

Keith Skillicorn has surely been one of the most challenging contributors to "The Australian Christian" in recent years. In Feb. 1966 his two-part article, "That They All May Be One" really cut to the root of the disaffection and disunity which plagues even our own denomination—the conservative—liberal conflict. Now he hits us with another salvo (29/11/69), this time about the ministry of every Christian—calling it "liturgical" and "living" if you please!

It reminded me of a group of church people sharing in a structured mealtime conversation round the breakfast table at a family camp. The early morning communion service had centred on the theme, "Every Christian is a priest," and now everyone was asked to describe the picture that came to mind at the mention of the word "priest." It seemed incongruous that by far the majority saw a dog-collared, black-cassocked cleric whose faith, like his garb (or because of it!) was not beyond suspicion!

The church today is manaced by the meaningless and morbid concepts it holds of such deeply Christian ideas as "priest" and "liturgy." If only we self-styled people of the New Testament could rid ourselves of our mental blocks of error!

But how? How can we explode the dams that are holding back the rivers of Christian compassion and service—and damning both Church and world in the process? Maybe one has to really share the suffering of humanity which is the suffering of Christ, as Keith Skillicorn has done, until one's "patience with the Church's traditional methods is all but exhausted." Then perhaps we'll begin to exercise the true "priestly" and "liturgical" ministry which Christ has laid upon us.

Now Mr. Skillicorn has issued a public invitation for us to get with it. What better start, Mr. Editor, than for you to publish his postal address so that those who wish to do so can take him up on it?—T. R. Mason (S.A.).

(Ed. The address is Mr. K. Skillicorn, c/o New Life Leprosy Clinic, Village Nawadib, P.O. Chandu, Surguja District, Madhya Pradesh, India.)

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

GENOCIDE

To the Editor,

"Genocide" was a word coined after Hitler and the gas ovens to describe any attempt to destroy a whole people. Genocide has reared its ugly head again, I think. It seems to me that the adults of the world are setting out systematically to destroy whatever children are able to beat the pill and abortion and be born.

First the adults of the race seem to be setting out carefully to destroy the minds and characters of young people. They have discovered that young people have money and they are determined to take it from them by every device of advertising and pressure that a scientific age can think up. In exchange they will give young people baubles and beads, as our imperialistic fathers gave to colonial natives. That they are destroying their values seems unimportant.

Well trained adult pushers give free drugs to young people along with the psychology that drug-taking is being "with it." When the young people are "hooked" it is adults that get the rake off from the ever-increasing payments for drugs by the addicted. It is adults that get youngsters onto grog and into souped up defective cars . . . all for profit. It is adults that sell them pornographic books, plays and pictures.

When any idealism breaks through the minds of those who have escaped the brain washing of vested interests, and some young people see truth and demonstrate and protest in its interests, there are always adults who jump on the band wagon and start to manipulate the idealism for narrow self-interest or jaundiced political reasons. But when the blood starts to flow . . . it isn't adult blood.

It was adults, and some of them parsons, who invented the new morality. It is adults who make money by dressing teenagers up to look dirty and ridiculous, and then sneer at them. And when young people look for a strong moral lead from the adult world, they see a brilliantly devised system of morals of convenience, expertise in the respectable lie, manipulation of facts, and cultured evasiveness.

It seems that "the treatment" will destroy the minds and morals and characters of the new generation, only leaving their bodies to be disposed of. But trust the adult world to have thought out an effective means of body disposal. Nothing so crude as gas ovens. It is easier to create the conditions for war . . . defensive war, far away and out of sight and out of smell. Any fit young people can be sent to such for painless extinction.

Sometimes I'm ashamed to be an adult.

Hoping you are the same,

TERTIUS

APPEAL TO ENDEAVOURERS

To the Editor,

This is an urgent appeal to all of your readers who are or have been Christian Endeavourers. The 33rd Australian National C.E. Convention is to be held in the Melb. Town Hall and Music Bowl from Jan. 9 to 16. The Australian C.E. Union is bringing the World President (Bishop Meadows) from U.S.A. and other outstanding speakers. The Convention City Committee in Melbourne is responsible for all costs of rentals, publicity, etc., amounting to several thousand dollars. Many C.E. Societies—and some churches—are contributing but we urgently need much more finance and we feel that there are many friends who would gladly help. One aged Endeavourer very kindly sent us \$300 this week—a tremendous help.

Contributions should be addressed to the Finance Chairman, National C.E. Convention, Box 575D, G.P.O., Melbourne, or left at the Victorian C.E. Union, 288 Lt. Collins St., Melbourne. Cheques should be made payable to the "33rd National C.E. Convention City Committee."—John A. Robinson, Chairman.

ROBINVALE AS HOSTS

(Vic., E. K. Morrison). For the first time, Robinvale hosted the Sunraysia Half-Yearly Convention on Nov. 16. Visitors came from all Sunraysia churches and Swan Hill-Woorinen. Guest speaker was Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres., Dr. E. R. Killmier . . . Suitable presentation and words given to Miss Barbara Civic, as she left for her home in Santa Ana, U.S.A. Barbara joined the church during her 10-month stay. Her transfer has been sent to the Disciples church nearest to her home . . . A married lady and a young girl have made the good confession. There have been three baptisms.

AID FOR VIETNAM HOSPITAL

(Brighton Gardens, S.A., K. J. Harvey). A Spring Fair raised \$600 for Vietnam hospital and hospital chaplain . . . A Church Life Conference led to formation of six committees to assess church programme and ministry . . . A series of "Features at Seven" Sunday night services have commenced with excellent response, 300 at Junior B.S. anniversary, Baptist Youth Orchestra led packed chapel for inspiring youth service . . . Mrs. E. Richards is C.W.F. Pres. for 1970 . . . Scott Davie has been appointed to Board . . . Barry and Chris Thomas were farewelled as they left to live in New Guinea for several years . . . Six New Guineans doing course at Woodside Army Camp have been given weekend hospitality . . . Planning has commenced to launch Christian Life Curriculum at approx. 35 informal house parties in February and March, 1970.

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- Our Daily Bread—366 Devotional meditations by M. R. DeHaan \$4.45
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- Handicap Race—The inspiring story of Roger Arnett. By Dorothy Clarke Wilson \$4.25
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8.30 p.m.

Sunday, January 11, 1970

DEDICATION OF MISSIONARIES
AND FELLOWSHIP HOUR

All Invited

"Come and hear the
Christmas message
in song" with the

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presenting the Cantata
"LOVE TRANSCENDING"
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on
Sunday, December 21, 7 p.m.

Local & interstate visitors welcome.

Note — During vacation period,
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morning service commences 9.30
a.m.

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11, inclusive.

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Mr. JOHN TUDOR,
B.COMM., L.TH.

11 a.m.: Worship—Communion—Preaching.

7 p.m.: Evangelistic — Worship.

HARTWELL (Vic.)

Holiday Period Times

AS FROM
Sunday, December 28, 1969

TO
Sunday, January 25, 1970

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ALL WELCOME

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THE AUSTRALIAN
CHRISTIAN

SPECIAL ISSUES

- Aborigines Feb. 22
- Christian Education April 19
- Overseas Missions June 14
- Social Service Aug. 9
- College Issue Sept. 20
- Home Missions Nov. 1

ARTICLES

- Avery, Allen
Evangelists from Asia: 130
- Dr. Aklea Abdul Haqq 175
- Dr. Jong Sung Rhee 198
- Chua Wei Hian 226
- Dr. Helen Kim
- Bacik, Jay
Community Talk Back 288
- Baker, A.
The Strategies of Satan 192
- Ben, Mr. and Mrs. A.
First Christmas in New Guinea 9
- Bhonsle, B. C.
Rambhau of Ambarnath 251
- Boynston, E.
Ecumenical Black Power 141
- Burdeu, C. R.
Time to Advertise 299
- Butler, Don
Norseman Children's Homes 53
- Caldicott, Dr. A. C.
Recollections of Karl Barth 3
- Chivell, I. J.
Letter to the Aust. Brotherhood 134
- Clifford, P. R.
A New Style of Ageing 98
- Clydesdale, Mr. and Mrs.
Progress at Mooroopna 51
- Cook, Lt. Cmdr. A. Bramwell
The Hallucinogens 479
- Cooke, Joy
The Word is L.I.F.E. 5
- Coventry, B. V.
The Fascination of the East 444
- Crawford, K.
Why Churches Grow in America 321
- Crossman, G. J.
South Vietnam—A Strange War 205
- Hong Kong—Gateway to the East 232
- Malaysia 255
- Crowley, Dr. K. S.
Wisdom or Wishful Thinking? 364
- Draney, Miss A. & Miss R. Rofe
Pastorate with a Difference 607
- Elliott, Dr. A. G.
King Solomon's Mines 107
- Getting "With It" in Communi-
cation 366
- North American Scene (1) 535
- North American Scene (2) 557
- Feeney, D.
News from Pentecost 551
- Fisher, Lance
Gospel Goes Bush by Plane 50
- Gaikwad, Dr. M. B.
Everything For Christ 331
- Geyer, Dorothy
"Listen in at Shrigonda." 283

- Gilmore, Neil
Canterbury 480
- Gorton, Rt. Hon. J. G.
Conscientious Objectors 421
- Graham, Sonny
Christian Centre Activity 51
- Griffiths, F. G.
Encounter on the Jericho Road 280
- Gross, H. F.
Uppsala—Currents and Trends 27
- Hall, J. A.
Rebellion and Authority 128
- Hall, Dr. G. J.
Abortion and Birth Control 513
- Hall, V.
Luke's 406
- D. G. Hammer
The End of a Chapter, etc. 588
- Hart, E. T.
Homes for the Aged 413
- Hibburt, W. R.
It makes all the difference: If
Being a Backnumber Doesn't Hurt
If One is a Picker-up of Frag-
ments 330
- Hollard, E. P. C.
Why Not All In? 478
- Hollenweger, W. J.
Bible Study for Groups 129
- Hurdler, Dr. S.
N.A.S.T.Y. 309
- Jauncey, Dr. J. H.
The Ministers' Preparation 432
- Killmer, Dr. E. R.
The Alcohol Problem 261
- Kissell, Veronika
Building Bridges Between Genera-
tions 403
- Koopman, Le Roy
The Happy Family Image 158
- Ladbrook, Denis
World Mission 23
- Lawton, Mrs. Kath.
Pressure-packed President
Among the Kiwis 236
- Longthorp, V.
First of the Many
Handel Comes To Bethlehem 584
- Lowe, W. S.
Once in a Decade 307
- Ludgater, Mrs. S.
Tribute to Laura 387
- Matheson, A.
The Invisible Poor 83
- Murder or Mercy? 206
- de Mello, Manuel
The Church that has nothing more
to give 231
- Miles, E. J.
Reflections 168
- Moore, N. S.
Courageous Christianity 279
- Moyes, G. K.
The Transforming Touch 127
- The Religious Commercials 484
- Muggeridge, M.
Muggeridge Gives It Away 173
- McAllister, Dr. R. F.
Looking Toward Adelaide 1970 382
- McKenzie, R.
Experiments in Ministry 98
- McLean, R. S. A.
Opportunities in Indonesia 408
- Enchanting Thailand 475
- Philippines and New Guinea 503
- We Cry To You 531
- O'Grady, Ron
N.Z.'s Plan for Union 560
- Robertson, C.
The Strategies of Satan 192
- Robinson, C. J.
Dead or Alive? 430
- Roffey, E. W.
Adam and the Astronaut 383
- Rowland, S. J., Jr.
Hatching a Poultry Revolution 310
- Ryall, R.
S.S. Teacher Training 19
- Shannon, Dr. P.
In New Guinea 247
- Skillicorn, Keith
The Liturgical Ministry 555
- Skuce, Hazel
Bible Correspondence Fees 251
- Sonsie, Betty
Medical Work in N.G. 250
- Stephenson, A. W.
Dialogue on the Lord's Supper 282
- In Christ's Service 434
- Stewart, Les
Explorers' Tassie Trek 140
- Stirling, G. R.
Austral & F.B.C.E. 584
- Sumner, P.
Take My Hands 24
- Swain, J. C.
Who's a Saint? 335
- Thompson, W. A.
Fair Play 289
- Tull, C.
What's So Special About Jesus? 203
- Turiff, T. O.
Evangelical Fellowship 492
- Waghmode, Hariba
Teaching for Christ 449
- Williams, E. L.
Ministry—Then and Now 431
- Williams, Kay
Mission and Education 253
- Williams, Miss R.
Bitten by a Death Adder 607
- Wilson, S. H.
Lines from Leicester 80, 384, 481
- Wright, C. H. J.
Parliament Goes to Church 113
- Work and Prayer 178
- The World's Worst Disease 204
- Reception and Renewal 312
- A Christian Presence in the A.N.C. Teenagers 390 558

CONFERENCES, etc.

- World Convention 36, 62, 134, 246,
354, 383, 402, 458, 478, 566
- W.A. Conference 237
- S.A. Conference 459
- Vic.-Tas. Conference 136, 159, 168-169,
212, 259, 292, 293, 343, 498
- N.S.W. Conference 91, 188
- Qld. Conference 256, 545

INDEX 1969

SPECIAL TOPICS

A.C.C.	17, 85, 197, 290, 493, 501
V.C.C.	269
W.C.C.	5, 27, 209, 318, 448, 480, 501, 558
S.A. C.C.	501
Graham Crusade	10, 26, 63, 41, 93, 132
Council for Christian Education in Schools	26, 35
Fog, Tennis and Fellowship	33
Ministry Changes	34
Campbell Edwards' Gift	47
National C.Y.F. Convention	56
S.A. Temperance Alliance	61, 445
B. & F.B.S.	74, 79, 185, 260
New Guinea's Own Bible	79
Radio Sunday School Closes	81
N.S.W. Congress on Evangelism	117
Cairnmillar Institute	121
Marriage & Family Week	133
Campbell Singers	134
T.V. Goes Ecumenical	139
Australian Frontier	164, 260
Alcohol	173, 261
Meals on Wheels	176
World Vision	183
Child of the Month Club	183
Book Month	184
Week of Prayer	191
Austcare	207
Chain of Prayer	269
Women in Hospitals	273
W.A. Crusade '69	312
U.K. Anglicans and Methodists	337
Don DeWalt Team	367
C.E. Convention	419, 516, 574
Conscientious Objectors	421
Temperance	445
The Eleventh Hour	482
Perth—Repeal of National Service	485
W.A. Signpost '69	502
White Man and Money	536
Strathalbyn Centenary	561
Packing for Mission Fields	576

EDITORIALS

Graham Crusade 1969	2
A Man Leaves The White House	2
God and the Communicators	22
Book for a Million	78
The Orange and the Green	78
Delayed Crusader	106
The Cruel Press	106
A Crusade Closes	126
Trial by Question	126
"A.C." Housekeeping	154
Dedicated Inertia	182
The Church in the World	182
Telling and Doing	202
A Matter of Morality	202
To Build Bigger Barns	230
Altar or Table?	230
Progressing Backwards	278
The Kwai Miracle	306
The Initial E.R.A.	306
From the Four Corners (E. P. C. Hollard)	334
Historical Drama Replay	334
Getting "With It" in Communication (Dr. A. G. Elliott)	366
A Christian Presence in the A.N.U. (C. H. J. Wright)	390
"Man does not live by Bread Alone." (A. C. Male)	414
Operation Relief (W. W. Saunders)	414
Mr. and Mrs. Brown make a Minister Dead or Alive? (C. J. Robinson)	430
Congress of Evang. & Social Concerns	458
New Features	466
Why Not All In? (E. P. C. Hollard)	478
The Negative of Christmas	582
Perspective-Provision-Praise (Dr. A. G. Elliott)	582
The Morning Readings	594
1,449 Bibles you cannot Read (R. A. Hickin)	534

LETTERS FROM "TERTIUS"

Bible Names for Bible Things	8
A Survey	30
Limelight	58
Treat Me Cool	86
Ritualism	115
Hear the Pennies Dropping	134
Personal Evangelism	162
Mutual Ministry	187
Cling to the Bible	210
My Neighbour has a Dog	235
Experts in Goodness and Simpletons in Evil	258
A Time for Shouting	286
A Guilty Conscience	314
Open Membership	338
Sound of the Gospel	362
Here is the News	388
Pardon! Your Theology is Showing	410
Judgment Day	440
Jaundice	462
Lord! Lord!	486
Why doesn't the Church join all the Good Causes?	514
Not Far from the Kingdom	540
The Middle of the Road	562
Genocide	589

AT THE LORD'S TABLE

Don't Remember Me!	36
Our Need	55
Relationships	85
Satisfying Our Hunger	110
Lift Up Your Eyes	133
Two Moments In Time	164
A Time to Listen	226
Past, Present, Future	233
Lo, Here is a Miracle	257
Strength in Remembrance	298
Consider Him	324
The Acted Parable	336
The Abundant Life	361
For Others	394
Return to Faith	449
We Would See Jesus	488

OPEN FORUM

Abortion	7, 258, 287, 362, 440
Sunday Observance	7, 86
Gloom Season	7
Virgin Birth	8
Darwin	30
Manufactured Plagues	30
Too Many Ministers	30, 58
Lost Diary	58
Walk Against Want	58
Another Lost Diary	86
Fellowship of the Saints	86
Church Symbols	86
Lonely Apprentices	162
A Time to Speak	162
Graham as Specialist	187
Going Steady	187
Happy Christians	210
I Have a Matter at Heart	210
Book Club	258
New Blood	258
Christians for Parliament	258
Giving to Overseas Missions	258
Church Finances	286
They Leave You — But In Bereavement	286
Conf. Appointments	314, 362
Women in Community	314
Plea from Collingwood	314
Hymn Wanted	315
Community Service	362
Conference Appointments	362
Not Sinners—Saints	388
Open Membership	388, 410, 440
Uncensored	410

Ethics of Responsibility	440
India As It Is	440
The Church—The Sensitive Society	446
Hospital Sunday	462
Church Finances	462, 486
Liberty (Evang. F'ship)	514
Unity Not Uniformity (E.F.)	514
Incongruous	514
T.V. Commercials	514
Better Stand Alone	540
Tortured for Christ	540
E.F.	540
Who Runs The Country?	562
Electoral Methods	562
Chas. Young	562
Support for E.F.	562
The Liturgical Ministry	589
Appeal to Endeavourers	589

QUESTING

Outer Space Evangelism	33
Sunday Christians	55
Lost Enthusiasm	82
Club Standards	112
Ministers on Loan	133
Conscience	159
Ministers' Children	186
Solving Troubles in the Church	227
Elders' Duties	234
Bentley, Ian	255
Modern Christians	283
Ministers' Wives in Leadership	283
Calling Ministers	311
Dedicated Laymen	340
Witnessing to our Contemporaries	360
Differences in the Local Church	386
Economic Privilege for Ministers?	409
Sacrament	460
Inactive Members	512
Resurrection	538
Part-time Ministers	559
Church Planning	586

PROFILES

Winches of Wodonga (No. 72)	25
Waterman, Grace (No. 73)	108
Young, Charles (No. 74)	537
Hamann, Charles & Rose (No. 75)	564

BOOK REVIEWS

Resurrection and the Christian Faith	46
The Principles of Biblical Interpretation	46
Learning to Love	46
New Guinea's Own Bible	79
Get Smart	100
God's Smuggler	100
The Church and the New Generation	100
Makers of our Heritage	148
Archaeology and the Old Testament	148
Revolution in Evangelism	148
Truths that Compelled	161
Preaching from Paul	161
The Desert is My Dwelling Place	161
Tortured for Christ	184
The Davidson Affair	184
Christianity at the Centre	184
Praying Together	272
The Wild Children of the Urals	272
An On-Going Christian Movement	272
Escape from Reason	272
Living Lessons of Life and Love	300
The Last Cry	300
The End of this Present World	300
Quiz and Puzzle Books	300
Seeking Stars	300
Israel—Act III	300
The Gospel Today	328
Who Shall Ascend	328
Heads Up	328
How to Stay Alive All Your Life	328
Creative Leadership	372

Flame of Anger	372
The Family in Dialogue	372
The Church in a Changing World	372
Goodbye Jehovah!	416
Christianity Today	416
Change of Address	416
When Death Takes a Father	416
Runaway World	417
Guidance by God	450
Sermon Booklets	450
Land Settlement in South Australia	496
Black and Free	496
Repentance, the Joy-filled Life	496
Happy Hang Up	496
The Essence of Marriage	517
100 Talks to Teenagers	517
What's New in Religion?	568
Cameos	568
Flying Doctor under the Desert	568
L'Abri	596
How in the World?	596
Run Today's Race	596

OBITUARIES

Ammon, A. G.	423
Badenhop, E.	43
Bartlett, Mrs. E. R.	326
Bell, W. R. C.	497
Benson, T. W.	96
Bentley, Ian	43
Blackwell, Mrs. A.	146
Boake, C. R. A.	423
Bolwell, W. J.	122
Brown, D. J.	68
Brownrigg, A.	373
Buckley, Mrs.	122
Burns, R.	373
Bush, W.	223
Byard, Miss H.	447
Cameron, Florence	173, 223
Carroll, Ellen H.	326
Clements, Mrs. E. E.	499
Collings, Rosina	43
Conning, R. H.	603
Cook, Keith	603
Crossing, A. E.	68
Daniel, T. H.	423
Edgell, Miss Ruth	575
Ellis, Miss H.	146
Ellis, Miss P. M.	575
Fancourt, Henrietta L.	270
Fennell, Rodney	122
Fergeus, A.	497
Fittell, V. T.	68
Garland, Mrs. M. L.	223
Garth, Mrs. E.	147
Gollen, Mary E.	173
Goode, R. F.	499
Gray, Mrs. C. A.	575
Green, Ross and Miriam	296
Griffiths, R. G.	223
Hall, J.	147
Hall, C. H.	497
Haworth, Eliza H.	474
Hendry, Mrs. W. W.	11
Hudd, A.	497
Hunt, R. E.	499
Johnson, Mrs. C.	270
Johnston, R.	122
Kay, J. A. E.	326
Keneley, Mrs. G. M.	68
King, Mrs. A.	146
Lawson, Mrs. F. T.	603
Lawton, Tina	4
Linard, W. H.	68
Mander, W. (Eng.)	34
Mansfield, E. H. R.	122
Marley, Mrs. E.	223
Marshman, D. A.	575
Milne, Ross	147
Mott, G. A.	173
McCallum, Dr. W. C.	474
Pallot, Mrs. C. H.	423
Pawson, A.	423

PEOPLE

Bateman, Duxie	317
Bokeleale, Jean, B.	478
Bowes, L. B.	215
Brown, Arthur L.	458
Burdeu, C. R.	97
Cameron, Florence, M.	103
Chapman, G.	585
Clay, Will, H.	146
Clinton, Heather	343
Daniel, Laura (N. Heb.)	387
Eisenhower, Dwight	289
Finger, A. L.	151
Finger, Mr. and Mrs. J.	313
Fosdick, H. E.	525
Garrison, W. E.	302
Gilmore, R. N.	318
Halbert, J.	290
Hayden, Edwin, V.	354
Hendry, Mrs. W. W.	11
Holden, Dr. J.	542
Holloway, Miriam	441
Hromadka, Dr. J. L.	605
Kolhatkar, Dr.	151
Lawton, Tina	4
Locke, Mrs.	292
Martin, Lloyd	13
Mathieson, George	110
McCallister, Dr. R. F.	382
Miller, Dr. P.	47
Miles, E. J.	166
Morley, Rev. D.	26, 75
Moxon, Rev. B.	25
Niles, Dr. D. T.	402
Popov, Rev. Haralan	208
Short, Dr. Howard E.	534
Smith, G. A.	542
Stephenson, A. W.	437, 438
Westcombe, Mr. and Mrs. Nell	467
Williams, John	465
Winther, Dr. J. M. T.	348
Wood, George	54

DEPARTMENTS

Federal Board of Christian Education	270
37, 57, 102, 208, 246, 259, 316, 344, 461, 387, 444, 460, 527, 543	
Vic. & Tas. D.C.E.	33, 140, 209, 449, 526
Good Companions	44
N.S.W. D.C.E.	60
Vic. & Tas. Home Missions	62, 111, 269, 316, 341, 392, 443, 502
W.A. Social Service	89, 239, 441
S.A. D.C.E.	109, 239, 284, 374
Qld. Home Missions	167
S.A. Home Missions	268
W.A. Home Missions	345
Qld. D.C.E.	413
Qld. Social Service	418
Christian Union	524
C.M.F.	9, 41, 99

DO YOUR OWN THING

Good Manners	488
Introductions	512
Invitations	538
Table Setting	559
Table Manners	587

WOMEN

W.A.	89, 111, 163, 241, 302, 340, 404, 464, 485, 524, 561
S.A.	16, 96, 111, 116, 167, 222, 273, 302, 303, 344, 408, 445, 493, 573
Vic.-Tas.	42, 44, 65, 93, 111, 165, 196, 216, 259, 263, 341, 392, 447, 461, 500, 512
N.S.W.	137, 346, 468
Qld.	63, 111, 165, 169, 217, 291, 407, 474, 520
Fed.	368, 491
World	236

COLLEGES

Federal College of the Bible	29, 120, 320, 395, 407, 464, 466, 489
N.S.W. Bible College	40, 92, 346, 362, 461, 544, 585
Kenmore Christian College	35, 97, 135

BUILDINGS

Albany, W.A.	32
Bible House, London	77
Leichhardt	233
Eidsvold	313

HOW IT STARTED

Robbing Peter to pay Paul	55
Best Man at the Wedding	81
Blind Justice	186
Black Maria	210
The Vicar of Bray	236
Dunce	260
Agnostic	283
Funeral	314
Wedding Anniversaries	368
Honeymoon	408

UNCENSORED

No. 7 Teenagers a Special Group	40
No. 8 Witnessing for Christ	88
No. 9 Christian Involvement	131
No. 10 Going Steady	160, 187
No. 11 Science v. Religion	185
No. 12 What is the point of praying?	240
No. 13 Sex before Marriage?	270
No. 14 Existence of God	285
No. 15 Sunday work	320
No. 16 Christ an Agitator?	386
No. 17 Church Services Boring?	409

THE CHRISTIAN GOES TO . . .

A Send-Off	336
Carnarvon	483
C.M.F.	9, 41, 99

WORD TALK

1. Mark 11: 16	485
2. Proverbs 11: 24	526
3. Mark 15: 21-32	561
4. Matthew 5: 40	586

WARD 7

84, 113, 135, 160, 257, 317, 360, 388, 461, 497, 520	
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THE MORNING READINGS

We don't believe in formalised worship but over the years we have developed a pattern for our worship services which has become deeply rooted and we tend to be upset if changes are made. For example, most of our churches follow the "Suggested Readings for Sunday Morning Services." They are not official, but it is probable that as many as 90 per cent. of the churches use the two readings, one from the Old Testament and one from the New.

A change has been introduced for 1970. The Standing Committee on Worship in Victoria was asked to assume responsibility for selecting readings and hymns. Instead of working through N.T. books and searching out related O.T. passages, the Standing Committee has used the Christian Year as the basis for choosing readings. From Christmas-New Year to Pentecost the readings deal with the life and death of our Lord, the next section shows the work of the Holy Spirit at work in the world through the church, and the third section points to God the Father of the world-wide family. The year ends, of course, with Advent readings.

What may disturb the conformists in our non-conformist

churches is the fact that three readings are now available for each Sunday. One from the Old Testament, one from the Gospels, and one from the Epistles. The printed folder showing readings and hymns gives all three Bible readings, but the church calendar and the Quarterly plan give only two of them, and quite often these do not include an O.T. Reading. For the whole of 1970, there are only 20 O.T. readings shown on the Calendar and Quarterly plan.

Compared with some of the shattering changes that are taking place in the formal worship services in other churches, this reading plan is not such a great event. But it is a serious attempt to make the Sunday morning readings more significant for worship and as a basis for the day's sermon.

The new reading plan should receive a fair trial. It is "suggested" only, but it is a worthwhile suggestion,

Of course, it is not only what we read but how we read that matters. What disturbs some of us is that the only difference it will make to some lazy readers is that instead of asking on Sunday morning, "Am I Old or New?" they will ask "Am I Gospel or Epistle?"

RESIGNATION OF MINISTER

(Dalby, Qld., A. C. Weedon). The resignation of our minister was received with regret by the church after five years of faithful ministry. Mr. Weedon has accepted an invitation to minister at Townsville . . . Numbers attending prayer and Bible study meetings are increasing. Some of the youth group are attending. We had highest attendance at S.S. for several years.

PROF. WILSON ON ABC

Professor Alan Wilson, of the Univ. of Qld., and speakers from the Univ. of Townsville, will take part in the "Encounter" programme over ABC Radio on Jan. 4, 1970. The subject is "Archaeology and the Bible." Prof. Wilson is also a lecturer at Kenmore Christian College.

THINGS TO COME

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FEB. 15-MARCH 3:
Deputation in W.A. by Mrs. Keith Ludgater, W.A. Women's Auxiliary Overseas Missions Living Link.

Mid-FEB.:
Morning Tea for Mr. and Mrs. John Main and Mr. and Mrs. Roger Rvall en route from India, in the Christian Centre.

NEW SOUTH WALES

DEC. 26-JAN. 1:
Christmas Youth Camp—conducted by N.S.W. Dept. of Christian Education—Lake Illawarra.

QUEENSLAND

DECEMBER:
16-21 Midgets' Camp (7-9 yrs.).
25-Jan. 1 Senior Camp (16 yrs. plus).

JANUARY:
3-9 Tweenagers' Camp (13-15 yrs.).
5-23 Super Summer Sunshine State Safari, Brisbane-Cairns.
13-19 Junior Camp (10-12 yrs.).
30 Expo '70—Youth Conference, "Camp Cal."

WORLD CONVENTION ADELAIDE — 1970

CHURCH NEWS SHEETS

COMPETITION RESULTS

(Vic.). Results of the competition sponsored by "The Australian Christian" and the Vic.-Tas. Dept. of H.M. and Evang., have just been announced. In the section for churches in excess of 100 members the following churches were successful: First, Cheltenham; second, Dandenong; third, North Essendon, with a special mention for Wattle Park. In the section for churches with less than 100 members, Ashburton achieved first place with Briar Hill and Echuca equal second.

FAREWELL TO MINISTER

(Grote St., S.A.). The large attendances at the farewell services to Mr. and Mrs. R. Greenhalgh at Grote St. left no doubt concerning the high esteem in which they are held. Tributes were made by W. Philp (Conf. Pres.) and Mrs. R. W. Saunders (Women's Conf. Pres.) representing the brotherhood. Those representing Grote St. stressed the worthy contribution made by both Mr. and Mrs. Greenhalgh during six years of ministry. Suitable presentations were made. As they go to North Haven, N.S.W., may they fully enjoy their retirement after 42 years of full-time ministry.

AUCTION BY CHURCH

(Kalgoorlie, W.A., A. Coleman). An auction sale conducted by the church on Nov. 15 for the proposed combined churches' Welfare Centre in Kalgoorlie raised over \$250 . . . The Gospel Mission Team "Gems of Joy" (Mr. and Mrs. G. Jones and Cyril Lawrence, from Wollongong) shared in an evening service on their way to Perth to conduct evangelistic campaigns . . . The Prayer and Bible Study Group travelled to Kambalda to meet in home of Mr. and Mrs. Gimbe, of West Kambalda. Rev. Neve, of Kambalda Combined Church, led the service, with Mr. Coleman guiding the study . . .

WIDE INTEREST

The purpose of the competition was to encourage churches in the presentation and communication of their news and comments to the church membership and general constituency. About 50 entries were received. The panel of judges felt that the response spoke well for the interest of the churches in this matter. It is anticipated that all participating churches will receive comments on their entries. As a follow-up to the competition, the judges' general comments will appear in the "Christian" early in 1970.

Ladies of C.W.F. with Mrs. Coleman as leader presented "This is Christmas" at their annual At Home. 70 ladies from various churches attended . . . Ladies raised over \$85 at a street stall . . . The Badminton Club finalised its year's activities with a barbecue at Cruikshank Sports Arena on Nov. 22.

NINE DECISIONS

(Hobart, Tas., L. G. Cooke & R. E. Pfeifer). 9 young people have made the "good confession" and two baptismal services have been held . . . Bethany held a very successful Open Day, and was well supported by the public as well as the brotherhood . . . Gordon Stirling visited us. He met with the Y.P. for discussions, and also to attend the Southern District Conference at Copping.

MINISTER FOR 73 YEARS

A record which is not likely to be beaten in Australia is that of Will H. Nightingale who commenced his long term of ministry 73 years ago. In that period he shared in winning 2,059 members to the church. He is now living in Carinya Village, Plantation St., Mt. Lawley, W.A., which is conducted by our W.A. churches and houses 129 persons. Mr. Nightingale exercises a retirement ministry here.

WHITE PAPERS

ON LIFE AND FAITH

CHRISTMAS BOWLING This is not a new sport, although giving can be fun. But it is no game to see the third world's empty bowl, or the emptiness of children's lives in far-away lands. Adults in refugee camps (some of them were born in those same refugee camps!) look through their fences at a world that is not their world. The old and young in the war regions, the helpless victims of hate, greed, and bigotry, look to the conscience of the world to be moved to speech and action on their behalf. Whether you like it or not, the conscience of the world is partly your conscience.

Our giving to others is not a prelude to preaching the gospel. It is a part of the gospel which speaks to man's mind, feeds and clothes his body, and seeks to reconcile him with his neighbour. Giving to others will enrich our own lives. I don't mean simply that it will make us feel good—although this is not an unwelcome bonus. I mean that by giving to others we increase our knowledge of them and our concern for them, and it may even increase our capacity to give to them.

It is important for us to measure our full tables against our brother's empty bowl. When we do this sincerely, we shall certainly be moved to do something in accordance with our abilities. But the brother is even more important than the bowl. Everybody's making suggestions for Christmas! — here is another one! Have a family discussion about your giving and receiving this year. Have a good look at your home, its table, its decorations, and its spending. Make sure that Christ is a part of your family talk about these things. Christ is what Christmas is really about and we ought to include his vote in our decisions. Then in the light of what you have and what you know you can do with what you have—GO CHRISTMAS BOWLING!!

LABOR'S GOSPEL HOUR Dr. Everingham is a self-styled atheist. He is also the Labor M.H.R. for Capricornia in Queensland. On 3KZ's Labor Hour in Melbourne this week he advocated a new gospel. In doing so he attacked the old gospel of the Christian church, its leaders, and its teachings. While admitting that Christianity and other religions could rise to sublime heights of dedication, he said they were also dangerously polluted with bigotry.

He was very vague about the new gospel he was preaching, except that it must be one of "peace, goodwill, self-respect and hope." How these ideals differ from those of Christianity, he did not say. All Christians firmly believe that their gospel is one of peace, goodwill, self-respect, and hope.

If Dr. Everingham's complaint is that Christians do not live up to their ideals—we have to agree with him. He said that "in Jesus' name, millions have been burned, flayed alive, or sold as slaves." Let us allow for natural political exaggeration and let us ignore the fact that Christians were in the forefront of the fight against slavery, it must, however, be affirmed that many Christians have been honest to examine and just to condemn the failures of the church in the past and in the present. We admit the failures by churchmen, collectively as churches and as individuals and there is no point in starting counter charges about Christians killed by atheists, or non-Christians enslaved by non-Christians. The doctor has every right to point out where our actions do not fit our words, but it is as stupid to judge the gospel by those who have failed it, as it is to judge the ideals of socialism by the worst examples of communist savagery. In his Labor Hour broadcast, Dr. Everingham could have done a great deal of harm by linking atheism with Labor's official radio programme. The Labor movement in fact, numbers among its honoured pioneers many who were devoted followers of Jesus and who actually felt that their political aims and activities were motivated by genuine Christian ideals. Then, too, many of the doctor's present day political colleagues, both inside and outside Parliament, are deeply convinced that the one hope for the world is the Christian gospel of "peace, goodwill, self-respect, and hope"—and love.

GOOD GRIEF! Dr. William Hall, a physician of New York, left a large portion of his estate to the Plymouth-Bethesda United Church of Christ—with the stipulation that the bequest is to be forfeited if and when the church or the denomination recognises Communist China or favours its entry into the United Nations!

THE WHOLE BIBLE

(Belmore, N.S.W., Bruce Armstrong). The B.S. anniversary had the theme ". . . And God Said . . ." In four services the whole Bible was covered. A great deal of preparation was required for this ambitious theme . . . A barbecue/cricket club night was held at Mr. Milne's home. Trophies were awarded . . . Two of our members died recently—Harry Harrison and Ray Edmonds—both will be missed from fellowship.

1969

MUGGERIDGE & BARCLAY—T.V.

Malcolm Muggeridge, the well-known critic of anything and everything, and William Barclay, Professor of Biblical Criticism in Glasgow, have a public conversation on the subject, "Last Chance for the Church." ABC T.V.: Dec. 28, N.S.W., A.C.T., Vic., Jan. 4, Qld., Jan. 11, S.A.

Have you entered the
Short Story Competition?

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

WOOLWICH EXITS PLACED

(N.S.W.). Woolwich exit students will serve as follows: B. McMurtrie goes to York Street, Ballarat, Vic.; B. Brown to Echuca, Vic.; G. Walker, to North Parramatta, N.S.W.; G. Towle to Penrith, N.S.W.; C. Crago to Loftus Park, N.S.W.; G. Elliott will be engaged in an interim ministry at Rockdale, N.S.W.; and R. Smith, prior to commencing at Mt. Druitt, will serve in an interim at Epping, N.S.W.

Miss Judith Gordon will serve as a deaconess at Penrith, commencing in March, 1970, and Miss Mary Pitt will take up a similar work at York Street, Ballarat.

BACK FOR CRUSADE

(Mile End, S.A., Neal Hodgekiss). Alan Leane, a member here before going into the ministry 10 years ago, came back for a week-end crusade, Nov. 21-23. The gospel was plainly and positively presented. Many members participated in prayers and witness. The greatest thrill was to see a man, aged 80 years, who has been in regular attendance at church for 19 years, make a commitment to Christ, and be baptised. There were eight first decisions. Other young people are making enquiries. Just prior to the crusade, one adult man confessed Christ and was baptised.

CHURCH OF CHRIST SOUTHPORT, QLD. ON THE GOLD COAST

To the many members who visit with us over the following months we extend a warm welcome.

Sundays: 9.30 a.m., Bible School and Kindergarten.

(in recess Dec. 14-Jan. 25, inclusive).

11 a.m.: Worship and Communion.

7 p.m.: Evangelistic.

Wednesdays: 7.30 p.m., Discipleship Meeting.

Fridays: 7.30 p.m., Christian Youth Fellowship.

When you come be sure to inspect the new Golden Age Retirement Village and our new Manse.

Minister: E. Watson, 58 Ridgeway-ave., phone: 24353.

Secretary: R. Prince, 39 Ridgeway-ave., phone: 22883.

ALBION CHURCH

86 McLennan-st., Lutwyche, BRISBANE

SERVICES DURING HOLIDAY PERIOD

(Dec. 14, 1969 to Jan. 25, 1970)

Morning 9.30 a.m., Evening 7.15

(See advertisement in Saturday "Courier-Mail")

Christmas Day Service, 7 a.m.

Visitors very welcome.

Secretary: A. J. Dunn, 60-5948

BOOKS

"L'ABRI"

by Edith Schaeffer (Norfolk Press. Sole Aust. distributors: Jordan Books). \$4.35 Aust.

This is the story of an adventure in sharing and sheltering. "L'Abri" is simply French for "shelter." L'Abri community in Switzerland commenced only 12 years ago, and has grown rapidly in size and influence. It has spread to England, Italy, and Holland, and the spiritual results of its ministry have reached out to many other lands.

Its leaders are Dr. and Mrs. Francis Schaeffer and they sought to provide a spiritual shelter for anyone needing spiritual resources—especially those searching for a meaning for life and those looking for answers to basic philosophical problems. Dr. Schaeffer has written several books, "Escape from Reason," "The God who is there," and "Death in the City." These books contain the theological and philosophical outlook of the Schaeffers' evangelical faith, and "L'Abri" tells the story of the human expression of that faith in a community experience.

There are now many buildings at L'Abri—chapels, chalets, library. Those who come range in age from 16 to 60 and come from every continent and many different religious backgrounds—some with none. Not every one who comes to L'Abri makes a Christian response to its impact but atheists and agnostics who came to argue have remained to serve or have gone home to witness. No appeal has even been made for funds and sometimes there have been anxious moments. But all needed resources, material, spiritual and personal, have come and there is no doubt in Edith Schaeffer's mind that God has blessed the community in remarkable ways. Roy Coad describes "L'Abri" as a "first-class story of Christian experience." David Potter, reviewing it for the "Evangelical Times," called it "the story of a work begun and carried through by God." The "Baptist Times" said it is "a story of a remarkable experiment." The book is proving a best seller and is recommended for Christmas giving and for church libraries as well as personal reading about ordinary people who are doing remarkable things because they are proving that God is a present day reality.

"A family of six, two of them sick children, move into a beaten-up chalet in a tiny mountain village without even a living-room . . . and pray that God will send them the people to talk to! They 'bury' themselves as far as this world's standards go, and should never be heard of again. And as they pray, the people come; the room is finally packed with fifty; doors are taken off and sixty are included within earshot; the chapel holds over 150 now and then some on balconies and steps." . . . "Whether we be large or small, widely known or less widely known, our prayer has been simply to fulfil God's purpose faithfully."

"HOW IN THE WORLD?"

By Carl E. Johnson (F. H. Revell). \$3.50 Aust.

Although primarily directed to American evangelicals (When visiting in Europe "Don't chew gum," and "Don't drink Coca-Cola in public"), there is a lot of valuable general material about the needs and potential in the realm of world Christian communication. It is estimated that about 350 million people between the ages of 15 and 50 will learn to read in the next five years and something must be done to provide Christian literature.

It seems that we are desperately short of Christian writers, printers, managers, photographers, translators, editors, distributors, radio and T.V. technicians and producers, journalists, and film makers. J. Arthur Rank once dreamed of producing a really good religious film each year. When asked what happened to his dream, Rank replied: "To produce a notable religious film there must be Christian story writers, Christian producers, Christian actors and actresses, Christian cameramen." "Sadly," he added, "I cannot find enough of them."

What is true of the film world is true of the rest of the realm of communications. Johnson outlines the magnitude of the task and it is obvious that in order to make any sort of impact on the problem many technicians of professional quality must be prepared to work for non-professional salaries, or the Christians in the churches will need to give far more than they have ever before thought of giving in this field.

We lack at present the resources of our two major competitors—we haven't the ready sales market open to the smut peddlers and, this is hard to say, we haven't the dedication of the Communists who find their reward in what they do rather than what they get for doing it. This does not pretend to be a craft book for writers, although it does give some good advice in a number of areas: "How do you learn to write? Write. Write. WRITE. Sound trite? Maybe so, but that is the advice given by a top novelist . . . Read as much as you can about writing, but in the meantime write as much as you can about your world, internal and external." Although it gives many valuable hints, the book is rather a call to the Christian church to be alert to the possibilities and opportunities and a call to those already skilled in the various forms of communications media to consider a response to the widespread needs.

"RUN TODAY'S RACE"

By Oswald Chambers (Marshall, Morgan, & Scott). 95c Aust.

A paper-back collection of extracts from the many books of Oswald Chambers, one of the great fundamentalists of this century. It is presented in the form of a devotional word for each day in the year.

STEWARDSHIP REVIEW

(Dawson St., Ballarat, Vic., F. C. Hunting). The second review of the Planned Giving Programme resulted in a 10% increase in giving. Splendid leadership was given by E. C. Keating. . . . House fellowship meetings were held to contact membership . . . The church board met at Hepburn Springs Guest House for 24 hours, Nov. 7 & 8, to evaluate work and to consider plans for a positive thrust of outreach and evangelism in 1970. E. C. Keating contributed valuable guidance . . . J. Edwards, of Norlane, was one of the guest speakers when the S.S. anniversary was held on Nov. 2 & 9.

VICTORIAN C.W.F.

In the "Shades of Christmas" programme arranged for the December Council meeting Mrs. Haden spoke on "Christmas in the Dorcas Committee," Mrs. Ludgater on "Christmas in the New Hebrides," Mrs. Weatherhead on "Christmas in the Hospitals," and Mrs. Dorgan presented "Christmas Catering" by Mrs. M. Bryant.

One hundred and forty-three delegates and visitors representing 49 churches

TOORA'S FOURTH

(Vic.). The 4th anniversary of the South Gippsland church meeting at Toora was held on Nov. 16 with E. W. Roffey as speaker. 25 were present . . . The church regrets the loss of fellowship of Mr. and Mrs. Geoff Reed, of Leongatha, who are moving to Melb. early in 1970 . . . The church continues to support a Bible student in the New Hebrides . . . Visiting speakers recently have included A. E. White, D. Good, C.O.B., and J. Myers, M.B.I. . . . The secretary would appreciate names of members moving into the South Gippsland area (see address in holiday notice on page 10) . . . The year's average attendance was 14.

FOR ARMY SERVICE

(Nth. Williamstown, Vic., K. H. Pitt). John Thatcher has left for Vietnam to serve with the Army for one year . . . Guest speakers at the S.S. anniversary were Clem Clack and Doug. Smith (C.O.B.). Features included a teacher dedication service, and a scholar dedication service. Scholars sang under the leadership of A. R. Haskell . . . The annual business meeting elected R. C. Haden as church secretary, L. C. Firth as treasurer, and the minister, K. H. Pitt as B.S. Supt. Auxiliary reports and finance statements showed a successful year.

COMBINED FOR B. & F.B.S.

(Pyramid Hill, Vic., C. G. Henderson). A combined service was held and a film shown by the B. & F.B.S. . . . C.W.F. ladies held a successful street stall and raised \$330 . . . Our minister, Mr. Henderson, appeared on the Eppalock programme on BCV8 recently for five nights . . . After the S.S. prize-giving a film "Inhale the Incense" was shown . . . Mervyn Broad has been accepted into M.B.I. and will enter this coming year. . . . Mrs. Nancy Broad is in Lilley Lodge Hospital in Bendigo, and Mrs. Chalmers is receiving periodic hospital treatment in Melbourne.

YOUNG PEOPLE SERVE

(Noble Park, Vic., A. B. Titter). On Nov. 1, the young people's group held a concert. On Nov. 9, the Good Companions held a church parade and presented a tableau. Also W. Little, of C.O.B., gave an illustrated talk on the College . . . The young people's group took part in the service on Nov. 30. Bill Little was the speaker.

were present. Devotions were presented by Mrs. Holloway and prayer of intercession was given by Mrs. J. Preston.

Mrs. Barnett reported on the launching of the appeal for a Hall of Residence for Women Students at the University of Papua and New Guinea.

Next council meeting will be held on Feb. 6, 1970 at 11 a.m. Speaker will be Mrs. Anderson, missionary from Lebanon.—M. Nelson, Asst. Sec.

FAIR RAISES \$580

(Footscray, Vic., F. B. Alcorn). A fair held by the Evening Fellowship raised \$580 . . . At the B.S. anniversary on Nov. 2 and 9 the singing was led by Athol Leach. Speakers were Mrs. Lorraine Clencie, Ron Muller, Mr. Westerman and Mr. Alcorn . . . Neville Livett has been appointed B.S. Supt. . . . Men from C.M.F. provided an outing to Geelong for some of the elderly members . . . Explorer Boys once again won the Western Zone Sports Championship. They were sixth among all clubs in Victoria and Tasmania . . . Church participated in a Day of Prayer on Nov. 23. The church sends food parcels to Indian families. 200 have been sent in four years.

WHEEL CHAIR PULPIT

(Oakleigh, Vic.). E. J. Miles, former minister here, preached from his wheel chair on Nov. 30. Mr. Miles, who lost both legs through surgery, has shown remarkable courage.

CAULFIELD DECISIONS

(Vic., F. A. Youens). Two B.S. scholars were baptised recently, and there have been two new confessions of faith . . . Mission Outreach offering for year amounted to \$2,563. This amount has been distributed to various missions . . . The Family Fancy Dress Night on Oct. 31, raised \$28 for the Golden Bag Appeal . . . Youth drama group gave \$100 to Overseas Missions. Part of revue programme was repeated at Ringwood C.W.E.F. birthday . . . C.W.A.F. visited Cheltenham Homes for Aged and distributed home-made biscuits to patients. C.W.E.F. sent a quantity of hand-knitted garments to Leprosy Mission and Esperance; also chartered a bus to take "Over 60's" to McCrae. C.W.F. and P.B.P. held a combined meeting, Nov. 20, when Mrs. Muller, C.W.F. Pres., was speaker.

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The remarkable Christian work of Dr. Francis Schaeffer and family. | |

ON OUR "SPECIALS" TABLE THIS WEEK:
"CHRISTY," Catherine Marshall. Cloth. . . . \$3.50
WORLD AFLAME. Billy Graham. Cloth. . . . \$1.50
HANDICAP RACE. Dorothy Clarke Wilson . . . \$3.00
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- Tas. — C. J. Robinson,
43a Jermyn St., Ulverstone, 7315
- Vic. — W. W. Saunders,
217 Lonsdale St., Melbourne, 3000
- N.S.W. — Dr. A. G. Elliott, M.A., Ph.D. (Lond.)
B.Sc., Dip.Ed.,
41 The Point Rd., Woolwich, 2110
- Qld. — Allan C. Male, Dip. R.E.,
428 Ann St., Brisbane, 4000

Overseas Correspondent:
S. H. Wilson, 177 Hoosick St., Troy, New York,
12180, N.Y., U.S.A.

Issue:	Deadline:
Jan. 24	Jan. 16
Feb. 7	Jan. 29

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J. F. Morris, B.A., Dip. Ed., Secretary.
14 Sixth-ave., Campsie, N.S.W., 2194.
A. M. Cave, Treasurer.
36 Koombalah-ave., Turramurra,
N.S.W., 2074.

DEATH
CORDY, Cliff.—On December 5 (sud-
denly), of 4 Minerva-st., North Balwyn,
adored husband of Eunice and loving
father of Bevan and Stuart. "He lives
in our hearts, because of the love we
shared."

— PERSONAL —

DISCIPLESHIP

David Liston, Oakleigh, Vic.
Lynne Whitney, Miss Jan Robins,
Mr. Jan Hansen, Gordon Harris,
Gary Trevelein, Cheltenham, Vic.
John Karam, Robert Allen, Ed-
wardstown, S.A.
Sandra Mackay, Fawkner, Vic.
Rodney Kenworthy, Mrs. Mary Bun-
tin, Mrs. Margaret Christie, Daw-
son St., Ballarat, Vic.
Merran Hartam, Elizabeth Spauld-
ing, Carol Stamford, Peter Stam-
ford, Bill Earnshaw, Stephen
Spaulding, Stephen Boxhall, Roger
Woolley, Gary Fenton, Collins St.,
Hobart, Tas.

Carol Spencer, Goolwa, S.A.
Mrs. Chury, Marilyn Boardman,
Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Jillian Graham, North Essendon,
Vic.

Neil Earl, Ivanhoe, Vic.
Beth Spencer, Robyn Henley, Anne
Seferth, Box Hill, Vic.
Anne Verity, Elaine Chalkley, Caul-
field, Vic.

John Kingshott, John Patterson,
Mark Travill, Nth. Balwyn, Vic.
Barbara Civic, Donna Haw, Sus-
anne Silcock, Robinvale, Vic.

Kathy Fulton, Sheridan Webber,
Joy Holland, Brighton Gdns., S.A.
W. Harris, Mr. Colbert, Wendy
Hodgekiss, Mile End, S.A.

Vicki Dargan, Helen Sice, Mary
Sice, Sue Joworski, Linda Master-
man, Wayne Kerrison, Adrian
Spinks, Geoffrey Orr, Malcolm
Orr, Philip Younger, Steven Mas-
terman, John Masterman, Craig
Hall and Norman Piper, Launce-
ston, Tas.

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. and Mrs. J. Rout, from Sun-
shine to Oakleigh, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Wally Tabensky, from
Richmond; Mr. and Mrs. Bert
Huntley, from Hobart; Mr. and
Mrs. Ron McPherson, from Mal-
vern; Mrs. Muriel Griffith, Mrs.
Beryl Blackwood and Noel Ineson
to Cheltenham, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. Holloway and
Heather, from Perth to Oakleigh,
Vic.

Miss Janice Dorgan, from Nth.
Williamstown to Sunshine, Vic.

Mrs. Tonkin, from Strathalbyn to
Goolwa, S.A.

John Eichner, from Mandurah,
W.A., to Surrey Hills, Vic.

A. Swan, from Kensington Park to
Magill, S.A.

Mrs. Vickstrom, from Blackburn,
Vic. to Taree, N.S.W.

Ron Hansen, from Southport to
Roma, Qld.

Mrs. M. Morley, from Wollongong,
N.S.W. to Nth. Balwyn, Vic.

MARRIAGES

Barbara Curtis to Alan Cox; Joy
Kelly to Ron Williams, Oakleigh,
Vic.

Julie Tresize to Dennis Davies,
Dawson St., Ballarat, Vic.

Lorraine Bryant to Geoff. Bailey;
Rhonda Trigg to Wilfred Lane;
Wendy Hannon to Greig Kidman,
Cheltenham, Vic.

Mary Nicholls to Bert Witnish,
Maryborough, Vic.

Thea Visser to Ross Thompson;
Margaret Roworth to Gary Mc-
Intosh, Wollongong, N.S.W.

Joyce Hart to Wilfred Lovell; Bar-
bara Davey to Bruce King, Ed-
wardstown, S.A.

Sandra Mackay to Eric Kelly, Cob-
urg, Vic.

Pat Cannon to Brian Mibus, Mile
End, S.A.

Yvonne Amos to Adrian Hobbs;
Ella Johnston to Frederick Page,
Taree, N.S.W.

Diane Bird to Colin Nelson; Carol
Coleman to Allen Rose, Wingham,
N.S.W.

DEATHS
W. Morton, Sunshine, Vic.
Miss Gladys Batch; Mrs. Norma
Davies, Dawson St., Ballarat, Vic.
Hube Barnett, Cheltenham, Vic.
Les Snow, South Yarra, Vic.
Harry Harrison, Ray Edmonds, Bel-
more, N.S.W.
Mrs. King, Footscray, Vic.
J. Cliff Cordy, North Balwyn, Vic.
Mrs. Mary A. Forster, Boort, Vic.
Mrs. Will Hopper, Taree, N.S.W.

FARM WORK WANTED
CHRISTIAN girl, 18, brought up on
sheep farm, keen to work on farm else-
where for more experience during sum-
mer vacation. Jennifer Baulch, Caven-
dish, Vic., 3408.

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"HOW TO LOVE"—new 20-page ser-
mon booklet by G. K. Moyes. Available
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**VISITORS TO
SOUTH GIPPSLAND
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Meets in Toora Hall fortnightly from Dec.
14 at 11 a.m. A warm and sincere wel-
come to all who may be holidaying in the
area to worship with us. For other details
contact E. L. Payne, Boolarong Sth., Vic.,
3960, phone Boolarong 1R.



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Victor Harbour, South Aust. — Fully
self-contained flat, accom. 4, 1 minute
beach, shops, bowling greens, etc. Con-
tact D. Williams, 16 Burbridge-rd., Brook-
lyn Park, S.A., 5032. Phone 578811.

DEATHS

LAWSON (Moysey).—On November 9,
Florence Treeby, 23 Wingan-ave., Cam-
berwell, Vic., loved wife of the late
Ernest Alfred, and loving mother of
Dulcie (Mrs. A. Rice) and Lloyd. In her
90th year. "Our loved ones re-united."

LAWSON (Moysey).—On November 9,
Florence Treeby, beloved daughter of the
late Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Moysey, loving
sister of George, Annie (Mrs. W. P.
Lawson), Ethel (Mrs. S. J. Wilson),
Sydney, Jessie (Mrs. A. J. Saunders) and
Campbell (all deceased). "Forever with
the Lord."

IN MEMORIAM

BARNES.—In loving memory of Clara
Barnes, dear wife of Ted (dec.), loved
mother of Wesley, Olive and Hazel (all
dec.) and Myrle Hattersley; grandma of
Rowley Hal Hobbs and Wes Manton;
mother-in-law of Elsie, Harry (dec.),
Charles (dec.) and Jack. — Inserted by
Myrle Hattersley, last survivor of fam-
ily and Elsie (Oakleigh Guest Home).

FINGER.—Loving memories of a won-
derful wife and mother, called home
Dec. 27, 1966. "We'll meet again, I'll
not be long."—H. Finger, Gwyneth, Cyril
and John and families.

GOLDSWORTHY.—Loving memories of
our father and mother, Reginald, Jan.
12, 1941; Amelia, Jan. 2, 1954. "Till we
meet again."—Inserted by their sons and
daughters.

LAWRIE, Donald.—In loving memory
of a dear husband, father and papa,
called to higher service 3-1-67. "As
time goes by we miss you more; But we
all shall meet on that beautiful shore."
—Lovingly remembered by Marge,
Brenda, Noel, Peter and Kerry.

NEWHAM. — Treasured memories of
my dear son, Will, reunited with his
loved Dad, Jan. 13, 1967. "His presence
we miss, his memory we treasure; Lov-
ing him always, forgetting never."
—Mother.

BOARD WANTED

Board for young lad, early Jan., close
to Aircraft Factory, Fisherman's Bend,
Melb. References. Reply V. Becroft, 30
Maginnes-st., Benalla, Vic. Ph. 62-1007.

HOLIDAY HOME TO LET

Eden, N.S.W.—New 3 br. hol. home on
beach, fully furn. and appointed. Avail-
able from Jan. 26, 1970. Contact M. F.
Murray, 189 Eureka-st., Ballarat, Vic.,
3350. Phone Ballarat 21959.

Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Stirling

of 1 ELM ROAD, GLEN IRIS, VICTORIA

take this opportunity of greeting their friends for

**CHRISTMAS AND THE
NEW YEAR**

(The money that they would normally have spent on cards and postage is being
added to the College of the Bible Bursary Fund for married students with families).

BIRTHS

MATHIESON (Rosewarne).—Margaret
and John are rejoicing in the birth of a
son—Mark John.—101 Angas-rd., West-
bourne Park, S.A. "Thanks be to God."

WILLIAMS (Smith).—To Kaye and
Graeme, a son—Andrew Dean—at Bur-
wood & District Community Hospital,
Melb., Nov. 18. Brother for Phillip. Both
very well.

STEELE (Lacy).—To Pam and Eric,
of 31 Johnstone-st., Castlemaine, Vic.,
on December 1, 1969, a son—Brett And-
rew. Brother for Carolyn.

ENGAGEMENTS

FIMMELL-ALLEN.—Mr. and Mrs. D.
M. Fimmell, Mil-Lel via Mt. Gambier,
S.A., announce the engagement of their
second daughter Rosemary Margaret, to
Christopher Colin, eldest son of Mr.
and Mrs. C. H. J. Allen, Wandilo via Mt.
Gambier, S.A.

MAY-COLE.—Mr. and Mrs. G. G. May,
147 Oak-st., Beaumaris, announce with
much pleasure the engagement of their
daughter, Michelle Yvonne, to Graham
Peter George, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs.
P. D. Cole, East Bentleigh, Vic.

BLASKETT - HEMER.—Mr. and Mrs.
A. G. Blaskett, of Prospect, S.A., have
pleasure in announcing the engagement
of their second daughter, Carolyn Joy,
to Donald John, only son of Mr. and
Mrs. J. R. Hemer, of Blackwood, S.A.

SILVER WEDDINGS

WATSON-BERLIN.—Alan and Eleanor
give thanks to God on the occasion of
their 25th Wedding Anniversary, solemn-
ised at Ann-st. (Brisbane) Church of
Christ on January 6, 1945, by Mr. F. C.
Hunting. Eleanor and Ian Roberts share
this happy time with them. Present ad-
dress: 575 High St. Rd., Mt. Waverley,
Vic., 3149.

GAYWOOD-ANDERSON.—With grati-
tude to God, Alison and Haydn an-
nounce the 25th Wedding Anniversary of
their marriage celebrated at Middle
Park on December 16, 1944. Present ad-
dress: 30 Grand View Grove, Wendouree,
Vic., 3355.

JONES-THOMSON.—Lloyd and Isabel
give thanks to God on the occasion of
their 25th wedding anniversary solemn-
ised at Earlwood Church of Christ,
N.S.W., on December 16, 1944, by B. G.
Corlett and A. Hinrichsen. Son and
daughter, David and Wendy, lovingly re-
joice with them. Address: Swanston-st.
Church of Christ, Melb., 3000.

GOLDEN WEDDINGS

BURRIS-HUTTON.—Mr. and Mrs. H.
C. Burris announce with thankfulness
to God the 50th anniversary of their
marriage on December 20, 1919.—Present
address: Flat 4, 46 Murrumbeena-rd.,
Murrumbeena, Vic., 3163.

GILMOUR-DOWNING.—The family of
Mr. and Mrs. Hume Gilmour have much
pleasure in announcing the 50th wed-
ding anniversary of their parents. The
marriage was solemnised at Prahran
Church of Christ on January 24, 1920,
by Mr. W. L. Jones. Present address: 8
St. James ave., Mont Albert, Vic., 3127.
At home: January 24, 1970 from 2 p.m.-
5 p.m.

Getting Engaged?
HINTON & SON
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"LANDSLIDE VOTE" Against Sunday Drinking

(N.S.W.). Saturday, Nov. 29 was a memorable day for the Churches and Temperance organisations.

The liquor traffic and Hotels' Association leaders had built up considerable confidence in the recent campaign in which they had strongly advocated hotel trading on Sundays.

Some 10 years ago, the hotel and breweries vested interests gained a singular advance with the bringing-in of 10 o'clock closing—and now, as some expressed it—it was a foregone conclusion that Sunday trading would be swept in by a large margin.

Imagine the dismay of the leaders of the liquor interests when it became clear in the early hours of November '30, with counting of votes sufficiently advanced for a clear judgment to be made, that the "No" Vote had triumphed with a crushing majority of something like 309,000.

The "Sydney Morning Herald" brought out headlines describing the referendum result as "A 'NO' LANDSLIDE ON SUNDAY DRINKING," and quoted the telling figures that out of 98 electorates in the State of N.S.W. only two in the city area and four in the country districts recorded a majority for "Yes."

Rev. Alan Walker, Chairman of the Committee for Responsible Liquor Reform, said in Sydney that it was a clear-cut victory for common sense and responsible citizenship. Rev. Bernard Judd, of the Temperance Alliance of N.S.W., was high in his praise of the splendid team-work of the churches in their campaigning and in their efforts to arouse the Christian conscience in the community. Among those commended for their part in the extensive organisation of the campaign were Bishop Hulme-Moir, Pastor Ron Taylor, and Douglas Lamb.

The Minister for Transport and President of the N.S.W. Road Safety Council, Milton A. Morris, stated that he was personally satisfied with the result of the poll. It was overwhelmingly significant. He said, "I believe that any increase in outlets for liquor must bring increased consumption. Therefore, any extension of the trading hours must affect the road toll. I think this figured prominently in the minds of voters."

WOOLWICH GRADUATION SERVICE

(N.S.W.). The Graduation Service of the Woolwich Bible College took place on Nov. 21, and was combined with a special "recognition" of the work of Principal A. W. and Mrs. Stephenson.

Enmore Tabernacle was packed to capacity and 12 students graduated. G. H. Sloman, Chairman of the College Board, presided. Musical items were rendered by the Conference Choir under the baton of Alan Rae, and the Student Quartette Party. The scriptures were read by Miss Judith Gordon, and a response was made by Garry Towle.

Graduates included: Missionary certificates: Misses Jennifer H. Doye, Judith A. Gordon, Margaret A. Horne, Mary I. Pitt, Betty Yates. Diplomas: Barry W. Brown, Colin D. Crago, Barry E. McMurtree, Robert V. Smith, L.Th., Garry A. Towle, Gary A. Walker. Honours Diploma: George R. Elliott, B.A.

Following the conferring of certificates and diplomas, the incoming Principal, Dr. A. G. Elliott, delivered the charge to the graduates and then commended them to God in a prayer of dedication.

Greetings were extended on behalf of the Ex-Students' Association by their president M. H. A. Pieper, and the chairman announced the appointment of Graeme Chapman, B.A., as full-time Senior Lecturer, to take effect in 1971.

The Conference President, John Morris, and Mrs. Beckingham, State C.W.F.

Through
THE CHRISTMAS BOWL
you will give —
\$5,000 to support Asian Missionaries
in foreign countries.

President, delivered brief messages of appreciation of Principal and Mrs. Stephenson, and Mr. Sloman made a presentation on behalf of the College Board. Many messages of greeting and appreciation were conveyed to the gathering, coming from various parts of the Commonwealth and also from New Zealand.

Principal Stephenson acknowledged the good wishes of the speakers and then delivered the main address of the evening.

HOME MISSIONS

(N.S.W.). There is development and church growth in many areas of the State. Some of these, as listed by Director of H.M. & Evang., K. E. Crawford, include North Sydney (where Noel Flint is ministering), Orange (served by Ray Hawkins), Dapto (Jay Back), Engadine (Graham Warne). Also Colin Crago (Woolwich exit) takes up the work at Loftus Park, Garry Towle (Woolwich exit) commences at Penrith, and R. V. Smith (Woolwich exit) will shortly enter the field at Mt. Druitt.

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LIVERPOOL WEST CRUSADE

(N.S.W.). The recent "Crusade" conducted at Liverpool West church by Kevin Christensen, of East Kew, Vic., with M. Pieper, of Burwood, as song leader, attracted much interest. The minister, Don Norling, has indicated that there were nine adult commitments as a result of the effort.

JOY AND SORROW

(Wagga Wagga, N.S.W., P. French). Special thanksgiving prayers were offered on Nov. 9 following the healing of Andrew Mowser, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. Mowser. Sympathy is expressed to Austral church on the tragic drowning of Mr. and Mrs. Fry and the sudden death of their church secretary, G. Smith . . . Delroy Brown, of N.S.W. D.C.E., was guest speaker at B.S. anniversary services on Nov. 9. He also spoke at C.Y.F. . . . C.Y.F. helped June Baptist Church at service during illness of minister. P. Reid was speaker . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. Revell have been welcomed after two years in Queensland and Mrs. Maulsbury after a period at Wangaratta.

NEW CHURCH

(N.S.W.). The church at Nelson's Bay, in the Port Stephens area, has been meeting in the hall at Halifax Park at 11 a.m. and 7.15 p.m. for approximately three years. During this time the meetings have been directed by Syd Reeson, formerly of the Carnarvon Native Mission, W.A., but have been largely interdenominational in character. It has now been considered, however, that the time is ripe to set up a Church of Christ, and as all those in attendance are baptised believers, they have agreed to become a part of the N.S.W. brotherhood. At a recent business meeting, elders and deacons were elected and since that time the work among the young people has also been organised. Church membership stands at 19.

LISMORE MOVES AHEAD

(N.S.W.). The church announces that Delroy Brown, formerly of California, U.S.A., and more recently with the N.S.W. D.C.E., has accepted an invitation to serve as the second full-time minister, with H. C. Wheat, in the Lismore district, where he will work mainly with the congregations located at Goonellabah and Bangalow.

Victoria . . .

NEW MANSE

(Oakleigh, Vic., T. V. Weir). Many members gave time, gifts or services to help in the construction and completion of the new manse. After the official opening a Devonshire tea was served. . . . Father and Son Tea was followed by a film. Explorer boys presented a drama . . . Board of Officers met at lunch after recent service . . . C.Y.F. has had a volleyball night, seen slides of, and heard of Norm Woodward's time in New Guinea, played table tennis, and had a scavenger hunt . . . Recent Dorcas jumble sale raised almost \$70 . . . Cricket team and second tennis team are in top positions . . . Mr. Weir has returned home after surgery. E. J. Miles (former minister) and A. Dean (former student minister) have been recent preachers.

CAMPS AND PICNICS

(Box Hill, Vic., G. A. Grainger). The Midgets held their first camp at Pound Bend with 17 boys and six leaders. Youth camped at Cowes . . . The B.S. picnic was held at Nth. Croydon and the combined C.W.F.'s at Wattle Park . . . Mrs. Clare, Pres., Mrs. H. W. Smedley, Sec., and Mrs. A. Holden, Treas., were re-elected by C.W.F. . . . Geo. and Judy Steele were welcomed back from America . . . Young people visited Will H. Clay Nursing Home . . . Recent auxiliary speakers were Clifford Wilson, M.A., B.D.; Barry Baker, Don Proutt, Miss Ruth Tozer, and Miss Eileen Steenson. . . . Student Bob Morris will be in W.A. for vacation and at Dunolly-Bet Bet circuit in 1970. Ian Mullen was ordained prior to taking up the ministry at Waragul . . . Many are still on the sick list.

VETERANS AT MONBULK

(Vic.). On Nov. 26, five men went to Monbulk Camp for a working bee. Nothing unusual except that the youngest was 61 and the oldest 80! And did they work! They cut grass, slashed blackberries, painted and weeded. It was a fitting climax to a year of service by men of our churches totalling 400 hours.

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SERVICE TO THE END

(Hartwell, Vic., M. J. Savage). The late Mrs. Carroll had knitted 491 pairs of bed socks for hospital distribution and was still knitting when her call came 6½ months ago. Miss L. Berriman is continuing this worthwhile service . . . C.W.E.F. final meeting took form of progressive supper, donations received going to Bowl of Remembrance Appeal . . . P. Hancock is now Chairman of Officers' Board, replacing L. Seath retiring after eight years' service as Chairman . . . At the Nov. meeting the C.W.F. special speaker was Mrs. M. Holloway, recently of W.A.

STUDENT TO CONTINUE

(Tootgarook, Vic.). M. Humphries will be preacher during the Christmas holiday season, and has been asked to continue as student minister for the coming 12 months . . . Graham Chapman, from the C.O.B., has assisted Mr. Humphries with church and youth activities, during the past two months . . . Many visitors attended the B.S. anniversary . . . The church has enjoyed fellowship of past members Mr. and Mrs. H. Burriss and Mr. and Mrs. Stan. Wilson.

FURTHER TERM ACCEPTED

(Cheltenham, Vic., G. K. Moyes). Mr. and Mrs. Moyes have accepted the church's invitation to continue in the ministry here for five years commencing January, 1971. The Officers' Board has given approval for Mr. Moyes to conduct a Crusade covering a two-month period in 1971 in both islands of N.Z. . . . The church has averaged \$61 per week in giving to others . . . A Marriage Rededication service was held on Nov. 29. . . . Both Senior and Junior Explorers attended weekend camps . . . S.S. teachers attended Christian Life Curriculum

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training programme held at Methodist church . . . \$550 was raised as result of self-tax for Hunger Appeal . . . C.W.E.F. and C.Y.F. attended I.M.T. at GTV9 . . . Interview guests in evening services have included Mr. Simba Mumbengerwi, Neville Muir, worker with the deaf, Vincent Tan, from Hong Kong, Miss Betty Baruch, Jewish missionary, John Bishop, and G. R. Stirling.

TALENT PROGRAMME

(Maryborough, Vic., C. Muller). A talent programme was launched in October to last until May. At a special service on Oct. 26, \$1 "talents" were presented, set aside and dedicated . . . The Ladies' Aid held a series of jumble sales and made a donation of \$960 towards the church building fund . . . The Mission Band provided a parcel of clothing for Clare Robertson, of Norseman Mission, also a large parcel of scrap books and handkerchiefs to the Kew Cottages, at the final meeting of the year. A donation of \$100 was sent to Home Missions, also \$39 to Social Service . . . I. Living has been in hospital for surgery.

Answers to

"FIRSTS" OF THE BIBLE ON P. 27

1. Cain (Genesis 4: 8).
2. Stephen (Acts 7: 58-60).
3. Antioch (Acts 11: 26).
4. Saul (1 Samuel 10: 21-24).
5. "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me" (Exodus 20: 3).
6. The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5: 6, 7).
7. Jacob and Esau (Genesis 25: 37).
8. Andrew, Simon Peter, James and John (Matthew 4: 18-22; Mark 1: 16-20; Luke 5: 10-11; John 1: 40-42).
9. All the streams in Egypt were turned to blood (Exodus 7: 17-21).
10. Romans.

ing his full-time ministry he served churches at Chelsea, Ascot Vale, Warragul, Carnegie and Mildura. His Bible teaching, enthusiasm, sincerity, helpfulness, clear-thinking and thoroughness marked him as an outstanding pastor. With typical determination and energy he studied part-time at Melbourne University, successfully graduating with B.A. and Dip. Ed. He began teaching at 45 at St. Arnaud where his excellent contributions to civic life were so keenly appreciated. From St. Arnaud he moved to Sunshine and then to North Altona High School as Deputy Principal. Flexibility, thoughtfulness, initiative, efficiency, humility and extraordinary selflessness gave a ring of truth to the relevance of the gospel in the context of his vocation as a teacher.

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He will be missed enormously by his colleagues in the teaching profession, grateful students, fellow pastors and the wider membership of Churches of Christ.

With his wife, Una, and children Jim, T-d. Dawn, John Rhonda (Mrs. Barry Aldersley), and Bill; and five grandchildren, we share a great loss. W. W. Saunders and Alan Baker shared the service with the writer.—D. P. White.

PIDGIN STORY

(Inverell, N.S.W., Maxwell Hall). 100 attended the annual meeting of the B. & F.B.S. on Nov. 15. The Rev. Graeme Smith, area representative, screened the excellent film, "God I Givem Tok," portraying the release of the Pidgin N.T. The combined choirs of the Salvation Army and Church of Christ rendered items . . . Noel Jones, Temperance Alliance representative, visited schools, Sunday schools and churches during the month . . . Guest speaker at the combined Town Hall service on Nov. 30 was Capt. Trevor King of the S. Army. Mr. King, an ex-boxer, fought in the Inverell district some years ago. One of his opponents, now also a Christian, shared with Capt. King in giving testimonies.

BYRON BAY ADVANCE

(N.S.W.). Advances are being made at Byron Bay, the Australian continent's most eastern extremity. Gospel services have been commenced in the local R.S.L. Hall, and will continue on the first Sunday of each month under the guidance of the Lismore and Bangalow churches.

BRIGADE ACTIVITY

(Devonport, Tas., E. W. Taylor). 20 boys and officers from 1st Tasman Coy. of B.B., visited Devonport. Excursions were arranged, also joint training and demonstration sessions. There was a church parade on Nov. 9. Personnel of G.B. went by train to Deloraine for picnic . . . A new car parking area in church grounds has been completed . . . A combined prayer meeting was held on 16th to open the church's Week of Prayer . . . N. Thomas, of African Inland Mission, gave an illustrated talk on mission work in Africa . . . The "Inter-Company Olympics" was held in the High School grounds on Nov. 22. 93 G.B. personnel, representing six Tasmanian Companies, took part in events . . . Brian Tizzard, of B.C., was guest speaker on Nov. 23 . . . Quartette playing the chapel. by Miss Judith Goroun, and a response was made by Garry Towle.

Graduates included: Missionary certificates: Misses Jennifer H. Doye, Judith A. Gordon, Margaret A. Horne, Mary I. Pitt, Betty Yates. Diplomas: Barry W. Brown, Colin D. Crago, Barry E. McMurtie, Robert V. Smith, L.Th., Garry A. Towle, Gary A. Walker. Honours Diploma: George R. Elliott, B.A.

Following the conferring of certificates and diplomas, the incoming Principal, Dr. A. G. Elliott, delivered the charge to the graduates and then commended them to God in a prayer of dedication.

Greetings were extended on behalf of the Ex-Students' Association by their president M. H. A. Pieper, and the chairman announced the appointment of Graeme Chapman, B.A., as full-time Senior Lecturer, to take effect in 1971.

The Conference President, John Morris, and Mrs. Beckingham, State C.W.F.

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DECISIONS AT APPLECROSS

(W.A., L. Austin). Two lads accepted Christ as Saviour at the recent Sunday School anniversary when D. Croot was speaker. It has been decided to use New Life Curriculum for 1970 . . . Mrs. A. Joseph was elected President of Ladies' Fellowship for next year. It was good to have Mrs. Whitfield back with us from Adelaide. \$11 was sent to the paraplegics as a combined donation from the Wembley, East Victoria Park and Applecross ladies following an evening of fellowship and sale of cakes . . . An early Sunday morning prayer meeting has commenced . . . The officers are working on a "blueprint" for the church for the future.

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OBITUARY

Keith Cook
Keith Cook was in the Alfred Hospital, Melbourne, a few days undergoing tests for the heart. He suffered an attack and after major heart surgery, he died on July 2. He was born at Horsham in 1918. At the age of 16 he was baptised at Hamilton by J. Methven, Sr. In 1940 he went to Warrnambool where he met Glenda Shields and they were married in 1943. In 1949 they moved to Portland and in 1962 with their family they came to Frankston. Keith Cook was a man of sincere and deep faith. He was a most faithful member of the church and for many years served as a S.S. teacher and as a deacon both at Portland and Frankston. He loved to sing the praises of God and used his voice in group singing with his family and others. As a member of the church choir his encouragement greatly helped to maintain its service and witness. He leaves his wife, Glenda, and three children, Darrel, Joy and Ross, daughter-in-law Elife, and grandchildren, Wayne and Andria. The services were conducted by the writer at Frankston church and Springvale Crematorium.
—R. Patterson.



Robert H. Conning
Few men have accomplished so much in life, in the church, and in the business world as did Bob Conning. When his death came just a few days before his 47th birthday, one wondered how he could crowd so much into so few years. He had a long association with the North Essendon (Vic.) church reaching back to the time when the church held meetings in the State School. Then, after a few years in Adelaide where his father, Robert Conning Sr., died, they moved back to Melbourne and were for many years with the Moreland church. Bob became a very young Boys' Club leader, S.S. teacher, and church officer. Following his marriage to Gwen Beer, Bob moved to Essendon where, in the Nth. Essendon church he was Boys' Club leader, S.S. Supt., youth leader and C.Y.F. Counsellor, church officer, and church treasurer. In August last, Mr. and Mrs. Con-

ning moved to a new home in Heidelberg and transferred their membership to the Ivanhoe church.

In business life he rose from junior office boy with James Miller & Co. Pty. Ltd. to Company Secretary in 27 years. He used to speak of the inspiration and example he found in G. L. Murray, a former executive. Mr. Murray was also a great businessman and a great churchman. Bob Conning in his turn became an inspiration to others and earned the high esteem of his business associates and acquaintances because of his character, capacity, diligence and efficiency.

In brotherhood activities, Bob found his great interest in Federal work. When the Federal Conference Executive became settled in Melbourne in 1948, he was its first treasurer at the age of 26. Although remaining a member of the Executive until the end, he retired as treasurer in 1962 because he had undertaken further studies. These enabled him to become a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and among the prizes he won was the cherished George L. Murray Memorial Prize for outstanding work. Recently R. H. Conning was appointed to "The Australian Christian" Board of Management as Victorian Director and Treasurer and was entering with enthusiasm into this new service. On the Sunday prior to his death he visited the Parkdale church in what was to have been the first of many promotional visits to churches.

At the North Essendon church the funeral service was conducted by the minister, N. S. Moore, assisted by E. W. Roffey, minister at Ivanhoe and Secretary of Federal Conference Executive, and A. E. White, former Nth. Essendon minister and presently editor of "The Australian Christian."

The sympathy of the brotherhood is offered to his wife Gwen, his children, Neil, Janis, and Beth, to his brother Graham, and his sisters Jean (Mrs. E. Holmes) and Gwen (Mrs. T. Harman).

Leslie Ernest Snow
Les Snow died on Nov. 6, 1969, after an exceptionally useful and dedicated life.

The presence of a large company at the Maidstone (Vic.) chapel indicated the worth and quality of the life he lived. He was born July 5, 1905, to Joseph and Mary Snow at Bangalow in N.S.W. At 14 with his merit certificate, he left school to become a cream-tester at the local butter factory. On the basis of his allegiance to Jesus Christ and a firm conviction that God would have him train and prepare for the ministry, he entered the College of the Bible, Glen Iris. Upon completion of studies and successful student ministries, he married Una Benson at the Church of Christ,

Windsor, in 1933. During his full-time ministry he served churches at Chelsea, Ascot Vale, Warragul, Carnegie and Mildura. His Bible teaching, enthusiasm, sincerity, helpfulness, clear-thinking and thoroughness marked him as an outstanding pastor. With typical determination and energy he studied part-time at Melbourne University, successfully graduating with B.A. and Dip. Ed. He began teaching at 45 at St. Arnaud where his excellent contributions to civic life were so keenly appreciated. From St. Arnaud he moved to Sunshine and then to North Altona High School as Deputy Principal. Flexibility, thoughtfulness, initiative, efficiency, humility and extraordinary selflessness gave a ring of truth to the relevance of the gospel in the context of his vocation as a teacher.

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LIFELINE GOES INTERNATIONAL

The Life Line telephone counselling ministry is rapidly becoming a world movement: this fact emerged from the Second Life Line International Convention held in Chicago from November 14 to 17. An Australian idea, pioneered by the Life Line Centre in Sydney, it is proving successful wherever it is adopted.

Over 100 delegates assembled at the Chicago Temple for the Convention. For four days they listened to lectures on the problems of human compulsiveness, loneliness, suicide. They analysed the best ways to using the telephone to meet crisis needs. They planned the future of the movement for a further three-year period.

The first Centre was opened in 1963. At Chicago it was revealed there are 158 centres round the world with Life Line Centres already in operation or at some stage of preparation. National Committees are at work, or are being established in America, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

The Rev. Peter Storey analysed why Life Line is proving so successful a venture. "At the heart of the Life Line concept there are two keys. One offers a chance to communicate, the other a chance to care. The two keys are the telephone and the Christian layman." He added: "The reasons for the overwhelming response to telephone counselling services lies in accessibility, availability, anonymity and intimacy of the telephone."

Personal need today has reached towering proportions. In every country it is far outstripping professional services. In

South Africa, for example, there are only 150 psychiatrists in a population of 14 million where the suicide rate is 14.1 per 100,000 people. To quote Peter Storey again: "The argument as to whether laymen should be used is academic—who else is there?"

There are positive reasons which prove the value of the trained, dedicated Christian layman. It is clear people welcome the lay counsellor, turning to him or her with great confidence as is shown by the fact that at the Sydney Centre 17,000 calls are now being received annually. The level of excellence being shown by many lay counsellors is confounding the critics.

LAND BILL CRITICISED

(Salisbury, Rhodesia). The Land Distribution Bill proposed by the Rhodesian Government is "an infringement of the basic rights of all races," according to a group of Christians here.

According to the Bill, now before a parliamentary commission, the land is to be divided half-and-half between the European population (less than 250,000) and the African population (five million). It will not be possible for a person of one race to own land allotted to the other race or to work within the zone allocated to the other race without permission.

The meeting of Christians, including Roman Catholics, Protestants, and the Salvation Army, termed the Bill "a contradiction of the teaching of Christ."

—E.P.S.

Hromadka Resigns

(Prague). Prof. Josef L. Hromadka, 80, professor emeritus of the Comenius Faculty in Prague and long-time member of the World Council of Churches' Central Committee, has resigned as president of the Christian (Prague) Peace Conference. He was founder and the only president of the movement which was officially constituted as the C.P.C. at an assembly in 1961.

Notice of his resignation was contained in a letter sent to the C.P.C. Working Committee on Nov. 14. In it he expressed full solidarity with the organisation's general secretary, Dr. J. N. Ondra, who had tendered his resignation November 5.

Professor Hromadka's letter expressed regret at not being informed of the intention to force Ondra's resignation, and said he was unable to find out the real reasons for the loss of confidence.

"I was disgusted by the fact that any effort to analyse this unhappy situation and to find some kind of unhurried solution was rejected."

"After a long talk with an official personality I came to realise that the issue of Dr. Ondra had been decided at a higher political level and that any activity of Dr. Ondra as general secretary would be made utterly impossible," Hromadka wrote.

The controversy is "one of the most tragic experiences of my public life," he concludes. "I have no alternative but to submit my resignation."—E.P.S.

"THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN"

50 YEARS AGO

(From "The Australian Christian," December, 1919)

Rain! From Lismore daily newspaper. "The Church of Christ Conference adjourned for an hour's intercessory service last Wed. afternoon. There were scripture readings and prayers. Within a few minutes after its commencement rain began to fall, and continued throughout the meeting. The prayers and readings were not audible to the people because of the beating rain but the worshippers were happy in the belief that the Creator of heaven and earth heard their petitions."

Fire! A telegram was received from Lismore, N.S.W.: "Lismore Tabernacle burnt to ground. Brethren, pray for us.—Parkes."

Editor's Comment. "We did not praise H. L. Willett, though we have often heard of his fine speaking ability. We personally could not endorse a man of Mr. Willett's views, and would far sooner honour a man of deeper faith in the Bible who came far short in other things."

H.M. Additions. In nine months of Conference Year there were 250 additions in Vic. H.M. churches.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



REV. TWEEDLE, D.D.
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"You're sticking your neck out! Peace on earth is a very controversial subject right now!"

NTH. ESSENDON MOURNS

(Vic., N. S. Moore). The members and friends of the church were deeply saddened by the sudden death of Robert Conning on Nov. 12. Representatives of the brotherhood, both congregations, youth organisations and business associates overflowed the chapel to share with his family and testify to the outstanding quality of his life . . . Mrs. F. Funston has been awarded a bar to her medalion for long service with Red Cross . . . E. C. Keating was visiting speaker on Nov. 9 . . . Father Phelan visited the Teens' Group to answer questions on Roman Catholic doctrines and practices. . . . Essendon and District Inter-Church Council recently met at Nth. Essendon when N. S. Moore presented the position of Churches of Christ during "Understanding Time."

MINISTRY AT SOUTH YARRA

(Vic., A. Baker). Mr. Baker will terminate his ministry here early in 1970. Two students from the College of the Bible will be appointed . . . All officers were re-elected except John Smith who has left the district . . . The Searles have returned after their trip around the Northern Territory and W.A. by Land Rover . . . One of our members, John Wilson, now attending Bunyip Pres. Church, preached here on Nov. 2. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas of that church were baptised . . . The church was saddened by the death of Les. Snow on Nov. 6. . . . Recent Y.P.C.E. meetings have been in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott and Mr. and Mrs. Roper. A C.E. barbecue was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Smith at Belgrave Heights . . . The Oct. after-church song session was held at the home of Mrs. Liesham.

\$400 FOR TEMPLE DAY

(Sunshine, Vic., S. Wilkerson). The church anniversary and Temple Day was on Nov. 9 and had Dr. E. R. Killmier and J. Hunting as speakers. Mrs. A. Gore contributed vocal solos. The Ambassador's Quartette also gave items. Temple Day offering amounted to \$400 . . . Mrs. Illif's mother (Mrs. Ely, of Castlemaine) died recently . . . The S.S. anniversary and fellowship tea was held on Sept. 28. A. Musgrove conducted the singing with Mrs. J. Lowry at the piano. D. Russell and S. Wilkerson were speakers.

OVERSEAS YOUTH FELLOWSHIP

(Ivanhoe, Vic., E. W. Roffey). Three letters arrived from overseas—Heather Clinton, New Hebrides, Christine Chipperfield, America and Judith Fisher, England. All are members of our Young People's auxiliaries within the church. . . . At a morning service a scroll was presented to the secretary by Briar Hill delegates being a record of appreciation by Briar Hill for help in establishing a sanctuary by the parent church at Ivanhoe. Also for twin pedestals of matching timber in keeping with the panel rear wall each side of baptistery . . . We regret the death of Robert Conning only seven weeks after transferring from Nth. Essendon church . . . Walter Brown left by ship for W.A. for extended annual leave.

READING DESK PRESENTED

(Red Cliffs, Vic., H. Cave). Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Martin have given a reading desk on the occasion of Mr. Martin's 60 years of church membership . . . There were 24 from Red Cliffs at half-yearly Conference Rally at Robinvale on Nov. 16 . . . Newly organised J.C.E. now has attendance of 25. They held a barbecue at the home of Mr. and Mrs. French recently . . . A. B. West showed slides of W.A. wild flowers. An offering assisted Aborigines' Welfare at Dareton. . . . C.W.F. ladies held a sewing bee on Nov. 18 to make curtains for girls' dormitories at Sunraysia Youth Camp.

ADDITION AT PRAHRAN

(Vic., G. Jackel). Carol Francis was baptised on Nov. 9 . . . 60 attended a church picnic at Midvale Ranch at Tynong on Nov. 1 . . . The Women's Fellowship lunched together on Nov. 17 and then inspected Ludbrook House . . . Following a youth tea on 23rd a film on the work of Wycliffe Bible Translators was screened by Mr. Grace . . . The Senior and Intermediate C.E. Society has an average attendance of 15. They held a combined meeting with South Yarra C.E. . . . Boys' Explorer average attendance is 14 . . . General visitation has commenced for the first Sunday every month.

CHURCH IMPROVEMENTS

(Maidstone, Vic., D. White). Members of church completed work around the church including alterations to kindergarten, painting, etc. A new fence is being built around the church . . . Miss Dawn Martin addressed the ladies on Nov. 7. She showed slides of the nine-acre property for Spastic Children at Box Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Box showed slides from New Guinea dealing with the need for doctors and medical supplies to combat the influenza epidemic . . . Church was saddened by the death of Leslie Ernest Snow at the age of 64 years. He was a well respected member of our church for many years. He lived in West Footscray and was assistant headmaster at Altona North High School. A memorial service on Nov. 16 was conducted by David White and other ministers. The deep sympathy of the church is extended to his wife and family.

EX-CRIMINAL INTERVIEWED

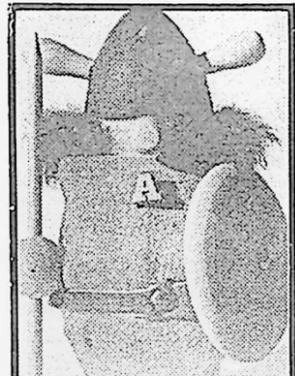
(Dandenong, Vic., A. A. Avery). Vincent Tan, a converted ex-criminal leader from Singapore, now working in the high rise apartments, was interviewed by Mr. Avery on Nov. 2. Others interviewed at evening services have been Kevin Sheather, Cyril Minns and D. E. Stewart, B.A., Dip. M. & E. (Eng.). Slides of H.M. work were shown. W. W. Saunders was interviewed at a morning service . . . C.W.F. ladies visited the C.W.F. group at Norlane for lunch. The fete organised by the C.W.F. raised over \$212 . . . Our S.S. teaching staff travelled to Box Hill and Doncaster to observe the new team-teaching system that will go into operation next year. Members of the church acted as emergency teachers on Nov. 23. The Good Companions zone break-up was held at our church on Nov. 19. 100 girls came to present gifts to Auntie Rita and Uncle Charlie for his hospital work. . . . There have been three recent declinations.

LOYALTY DINNER

(Surrey Hills, Vic., R. V. Amos). A loyalty dinner was held on Nov. 16 when only seven of the entire membership were unable to be present. Dr. G. H. Oldfield presided, and an effective programme was presented, concluding with family worship in the chapel . . . C.W.A.F. recently entertained the ladies from Berwick C.W.F. . . . The minister has been giving a series of studies (with duplicated notes and questions being provided) on the theme, "MY Place in THIS Church." These studies were the basis of evening discussion groups.

FOLKSY ANNIVERSARY

(Fawkner, Vic., Ian Mullen). The S.S. anniversary services were conducted by Peter Richter, and his wife Heather who provided the music by playing her guitar. The children sang folk-style hymns. Speakers were Mr. Quayle (Moreland minister), Miss Elizabeth Hunting of C.O.B., Ian Mullen and Mrs. L. Clencie, of Box Hill . . . Sandra and Eric Kelly, on working holidays, are in London.



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OVERSEAS MISSIONS

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By Misses A. DRANEY & R. ROFE

NEW GUINEA

Unusual challenges await a man with a sense of adventure and great love for Jesus Christ and those for whom he died, in an area of some 5,000 people with little or no knowledge of Christ. This area covers approximately 300 square miles of grass country between the Sepik, Keram and Clay Rivers in New Guinea. The southern portion of the area is forested and many coconut palms enhance well laid out villages.

QUALIFICATIONS

1. A liking for boats and all things associated with small craft, e.g., sunburn and stiff bones from sitting in a limited space.
2. An ability to mend outboard motors—this ability would most certainly increase with experience in the area. This would need to be teamed with an ability to exist on sago and muddy fish in the event of complete breakdown of motor.
3. An ability to swim and walk (in the dry season).
4. A strong stomach to overcome nausea felt on living over (for short

stays) or traversing the black, stinking water which covers most of the area for about nine months every year.

5. A love of constant companionship even if it comes mainly from insects buzzing in your ears for 24 hours a day for at least nine months of the year.

6. A right sense of values as faith in temporal things will be continually shaken as there is every doubt about the stability of foundations of many of the homes you would visit.

7. An ability to live on what you have and not on what you think you might get.

8. Most important — an overwhelming desire to serve Jesus Christ and reach others for him.

Don't be daunted by the above—the people here have survived physically for centuries BUT without knowing Jesus Christ. Application forms for this pastorate, and all missionary service, are available from Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board, 60 Henley Beach Road, Mile End, S.A., 5031.

Bitten By A Death Adder

NEW GUINEA

Last Monday night a woman was brought into our hospital after having been bitten by a death adder. As you know this snake is a killer.

We were awakened at 4 a.m. Anyway after reading up on snake bites, we were

By Miss R. WILLIAMS

able to give her the necessary antivenene. We spent the next hour and a half trying to raise Madang to talk with a doctor. After talking with him we then had to sit back and watch and wait to see if she would pull through.

Praise the Lord she did not die, but did recover. She was from Tung and as Aileen is away on a patrol they brought her through to us. Of course, they did not bring her to us until seven hours later! In the meantime the poison was spreading. I tried to explain how foolish they were to leave her for so long, but I don't think that they feel they were foolish. Some of them are so ignorant of these facts.

We now have a woman here with a dreadfully burnt arm. Her arm is just raw flesh. How Judy Simpson and I are longing for this new nurse to arrive and how we will welcome Jan Hunting back.

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JAY'S COLUMN IS FOR Juniors

THE UPPER IS LOWER

IN the U.S.A. when train travel was popular, a man told the Pullman ticket agent that he wanted a sleeping berth from Chicago to New York. "Higher or lower?" asked the agent.

"What's the difference?" asked the traveller. "A difference of 50 cents," replied the agent, continuing: "The lower is higher than the upper. The higher price is for the lower. If you want the lower you'll have to go higher. We sell the upper lower than the lower. In other words, the higher is lower. Most people don't like the upper, although it is lower on account of its being higher. When you occupy an upper berth you have to get up to go to bed, and get down to get up. You can have the lower if you pay higher. The upper is lower than the lower, because it is higher. If you are willing to go higher it is lower."

But the poor traveller had fainted.

BILLY'S BEATTTOODS

BLESSED iz the mann with small Dize, for not mutch dust can git in um.

"FIRSTS" OF THE BIBLE

IF you know your Bible this list of questions is easy. It has to do with some famous "firsts."

Give yourself 10 points for each one right. If you score 80, you are all right. If you score 90, you can boast about it. If you are under 50 you should stay on at Sunday School for a few more years.

1. Who was the first murderer on record in the Bible?
2. Who was the first apostle of the early Christian church to die the death of a martyr?
3. In what city were the followers of Jesus first called Christians?
4. Who was chosen the first king of the Israelites?
5. Which is the first of the Ten Commandments which God gave the children of Israel?
6. According to Matthew, what was the first great sermon Jesus preached after taking up his ministry?
7. About what well-known pair of twins was the word "boys" first used in the Bible?
8. What were the names of the first four disciples whom Jesus called to follow him?
9. What was the first of the ten plagues with which God chastised Pharaoh and the Egyptians for not releasing the Israelites?
10. Which comes first of the fourteen epistles of the apostle Paul, in the order in which they appear in the New Testament?

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 21)

THE LAST WORD . . .

Christmas Cell

"For me the frame of the Christmas festival is clearly defined—the walls of my prison cell. Never have I knelt at the manger in such poverty as I do this year; everything has been taken away — my home, my honour, my life. So I want to kneel at the manger of Him who had no place to lay His head, who as a friend of His people, was condemned to death, who poured out His blood like a libation, in sacrifice for the salvation of His people and of the entire world."

—Alfons Maria Wachsmann.

(Father Wachsmann was executed by the Nazis on Feb. 21, 1944, on the charge of undermining the morale of the armed forces. He wrote the above to his sister on Dec. 23, 1943.)



Forgetfulness of all religion leads to the forgetfulness of the duties of man.

—Rousseau.

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"We have grasped the mystery of the atom and rejected the Sermon on the Mount . . . We know more about war than we know about peace, more about killing than we know about living."

—Omar Bradley

Take the play out of humans and machines and they wear out fast.

—P. K. Thomajan.



If absence makes the heart grow fonder, a lot of people ought to love their church more than they do.



To err is human; to blame it on the other party is politics.



It's all right to talk to yourself so long as you don't take what you hear too seriously.

Frowning uses more muscles, Than smiling, doctors advise. I know, but still I scowl— I need the exercise.



Going to bed can cure almost half one's ills, and getting up, the other half.—Robert Shaffer.



Two bachelors were talking about their domestic problems. "I got a cookery book once," said one, "but I never could do anything with it."

"Too fancy for you?" asked the other.

"You said it. Every recipe started the same way—"Take a clean dish"—that settled it for me."

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