

THE AUSTRALIAN

CHRISTIAN

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Vol. 75 - No. 6

APRIL 1, 1972

PERTH CALLING

(See page 5)



APPRAISAL

LET'S LOOK AGAIN AT THE NEEDS OF THE AGED

by DAVID SCOTT

AUSTRALIA now has more nursing home and hostel beds per 1,000 of the elderly people in the community than any other country.

At first glance this seems something to be proud of, particularly for the churches that have provided most of the homes and hostels with the help of subsidies from the Commonwealth Government.

However, a strong case can be argued that we have too many nursing homes and hostels, that we are spending too much money on them and not enough on the services that would enable elderly people to remain in their own homes, or at least have a choice about where they would like to live.

Despite the fact that nearly 50,000 flats, cottages, nursing home and hostel beds have been subsidised by the Commonwealth under the Aged Persons Homes Act, the waiting lists are as long as ever.

To add to the mystery, it is surprising to discover that more than 60% of pensioners own, or have an equity in the homes they live in.

Why do so many seek accommodation with church and other voluntary agency housing schemes? The answer seems to be that many elderly people are not seeking accommodation as much as security. These people are worried that pension rates, already low, may be eroded further by inflation, and they are also worried about how they will manage in their own homes if they need some care and attention.

The various housing projects of the churches are ideal for many elderly people but for others

it is a big wrench to have to leave one's own home and move to an area away from accustomed surroundings, friends and family.

Last year the Commonwealth spent \$70 million on financing buildings and subsidising nursing homes and only \$7 million on home care services. This imbalance is not entirely the fault of the Commonwealth. State Governments and church and voluntary agencies have not given enough emphasis to domiciliary services and some of the funds the Commonwealth was willing to provide were not taken up.

The nursing homes are fully occupied but some of the occupants could be in rest homes or hostels if some of the present occupants in rest homes and hostels were in their own homes and accessible to home care services.

Elderly people are entitled to choose where they wish to live. It is socially and economically undesirable to force them into institutional accommodation because pensions are too low and home care, nursing, meals on wheels, clubs, home helps and visitors are not available to give them security and companionship in their own homes.

All church organisations should be looking closely at our work for the elderly. There's a great deal that local congregations, working with other denominations, could do to provide domiciliary services and to insist that State and local government give more emphasis to services that will keep in the community those elderly people who wish to remain there. Younger people need them too, for a community where adults are all the one age means a widening of the so-called generation gap and a loss to all generations.

[David Scott is Executive Director of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence which is an independent social welfare agency of the Anglican Church. David Scott is President of the Victorian Council of Social Service and a member of the Committee of the Australian Council of Social Service.]

ARTHUR PORVETT, an English Journalist, went to visit Honor Morten when she was dying. She greeted him with a happy smile and before he could say anything she said in a serene voice: "Now let us be cheerful. I am not going to allow anybody to interfere with my enjoyment of dying." On the very night before the cross, Christ said to his friends: "Be of good cheer . . . I have overcome the world."

When we think of our present being we think in terms of years. When we think of our inner being we think in terms of eternity. To our bodies we say a happy New Year. To our inner being we say a happy eternity.

The intention of this article is to record in part observations during association with our Christian Guest Homes specialising in caring for the sacred seventies, the aching eighties and the noble nineties — the end years of life.

"Let me go" was the request of an aged guest to the matron as she endeavoured to revive her out of the distress which now frequently overcame her.

By
WILL R. HIBBURT

A guest, who had a passion for autumn colours in her exquisite needle work, foreshadowed the autumnal spirit exhibited in her life's closing hours.

Will Clay, anticipating the end of his long road, delighted testifying in song, "All the way my Saviour leads me."

A willingness and a readiness to rest from their labours never fail to impart comfort to loved ones at the bedside.

Many by their buoyant hopefulness say in effect, "I am not going to allow anybody to interfere with my enjoyment of dying." "Living to me," declared the Apostle Paul, "means simply Christ, and if I die I should merely gain more of Him." (Phil. 1: 23, J. B. Phillips). While most guests are conscious of the setting sun, nevertheless they have a vision of a tomorrow's sunrise.

THE ENJOYMENT OF DYING

DULL? . . .

By J. ERN. BROOKE

AT EASTER? . . .

"**H**OW dull you are." Something like that, suggests a new translation of the New Testament—(Luke 24: 35 N.E.B.), Jesus said to the two disciples he met on the road to Emmaus on the afternoon of Easter Day — "How dull you are."

Here were these men, on the most exciting day in human history, meeting the most exciting person who ever lived, yet how dull they were!

Charles Lamb once wrote in a letter, "The man must have a rare recipe for melancholy, who can be dull in Fleet Street." To be dull in that street where is focused the news of the world is to be dull indeed.

But here were these men, on the day and in the place where the most tremendous news the world has ever heard was breaking, dragging their heavy feet and hanging their woe-filled heads in utter dullness.

"How dull you are!" That not only puts the Bible words into our common language, but brings them close to our common condition. Dullness is an exceedingly prevalent complaint.

THROUGH COMMONPLACENESS

Many people are dull just through commonplaceness. Monotony, boredom, takes hold of them. Nothing interests them because they have no interests within themselves. Life passes in a wearisome sameness. "Tomorrow and tomorrow and tomorrow creep in this petty pace from day to day."

A man who, at work, had been by passed in promotion by another, very much junior, was protesting to the manager, "But I've had 25 years' experience." "Oh no you haven't," said the manager, "You've had one year's experience—25 times."

Many people, in their very efforts to relieve the monotony of the rest of their lives, find that their pleasures pall from the same essential cause. To commonplace souls everything becomes commonplace.

Even religion can become formal and stale, a dull dreary routine which, far from uplifting, rather depresses the soul.

"How dull you are," says the risen Christ. We live in a world of teeming interests, brilliant beauty, enchanting harmonies.

Above all, we live in a world which has been invaded by the Living God. Incarnate in his Son, he wrought the world's redemption on a cross, and rose again, triumphant over death.

THROUGH SADNESS

Tragedy strikes, our hopes are dashed, we suffer shattering loss. How dull with sorrow are so many faces.

The French writer, Gide, in his lovely short story, "Pastoral Symphony," tells of a young girl, Gertrude, who had been blind from birth. Her blindness really protected her, so that she had a childlike, sentimental picture of the people around her, which neither her friends nor her family tried to upset. Then, one day, an operation was performed, so that she could see. Two things immediately struck her. One was that nature was more beautiful than she in her blindness had ever dreamed it would be.

The other was that the faces of men were sadder than she had ever imagined they would be. Every one of them lined with anxiety and inner restlessness. She almost wished her eyes had never been opened.

"And they stood still, looking sad." Or, in the new translation, "They halted, their faces full of gloom." How many are caught with them in that pause!

And yet, for all such souls sunk in sadness there is a living Saviour, longing to dispel the gloom, to comfort every sorrowful heart, and wipe the tears from every eye.

THROUGH SELF-CENTREDNESS

When Jesus questioned Cleopas and his companion, as well as telling him of the calamity of Calvary, they admitted the amazing report of the women, returning from their early morning visit to the tomb, saying that they had seen a vision of angels, who said that their Lord was alive.

But, although some of the disciples went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, they had not credited the report. With the others, "It seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them."

Absorbed in their own sorrow, the joy of others seemed unreal. Our self-centredness seals us off from a great deal of truth that we might share in fellowship.

Shut up in our own restricted interests or moods we exclude ourselves from a wider world which to others is real and vital.

There is a sense, of course, in which our faith, to be real, must be our own. But the fact that many, many others believe, should at least raise the question in our minds that we in our doubt may be wrong.

THROUGH THOUGHTLESSNESS

"How dull you are." It is a good rendering of the word which the Authorised Version translates "fools." For the particular shade of meaning is "thoughtless." How much of our dullness is through thoughtlessness?

It is terrible, indeed, to have nothing to think about, but even more terrible to refuse to think.

Somebody once said that all thinking begins with a pain in the mind. A young fellow in a youth club, urged to attend a discussion group, echoed this, with real distress in his voice, "Honest, I can't. Thinking about religion gives me a blooming headache."

There is plenty to think about, but we are just too lazy to make the effort. And so we are dull to the most tremendous truths in life.

We have far less excuse for our dullness than those two on the road to Emmaus. We have the scriptures, not only of the Old, but also of the New Testament. We have the story of the fulfilment of prophecy, and of the atoning death and glorious resurrection of the Son of God. Let us think about it, and give it the chance to become real to us.

THROUGH FAITHLESSNESS

We are meant to live by faith. Faith is the natural, healthy approach to life. Faith is thought at its highest. "Faith is not something added to reason, or substituted for it. Faith is reason grown courageous."

Faith is the original, intended way of living. Doubt is something that comes afterward, from some sickening of the outlook.

And we actually do live by faith. In our ordinary everyday life we are able to proceed because we believe certain things, take certain things for granted, and trust many people.

But we are timid and slow to believe beyond a restricted range. We live by the little faiths, and so our lives are small. We will not trust ourselves to the great faiths, and to the greatest, in God, and thus grow with his greatness.

Christ comes to call us to a great faith, in God and in himself. He is God come to us in the flesh, saving the world through his death on the Cross, rising triumphant from the dead to live and reign forever, and be the great Companion and Leader of all who will follow him.

The two travellers on the road to Emmaus embraced that faith at last, and it transformed everything for them. It could for us, too.

Now is the time to shake off all dullness and spring into decision and adventure.

FELIX

THIS is the story of the rise and fall of a remarkable man.

He was the first slave in history to become a Roman Governor. He came to this position after gaining freedom through the influence of his notorious brother Pallas, who was a close friend of the Emperor Claudius. He married well—marrying three princesses, one the grand-daughter of Anthony and Cleopatra and another Drusilla, the sister of Herod Agrippa II. He was an ambitious and unscrupulous man whom Josephus says used hired murderers to gain his position.

Felix was Procurator of Judea 52-60 A.D. during Paul's last visit to Jerusalem and his arrest. Paul was sent before him following the Jerusalem riot (Acts 23: 17-35). He was formally accused by the High Priest Ananias and the lawyer Tertullus (Acts 24: 1-9). Felix heard the arguments on both sides, then with his wife he heard Paul privately speak "about faith in Christ" (24: 24-25). He became alarmed when Paul spoke of "justice and self-control and future judgment" (v. 25). He had good cause to be worried! He dismissed Paul and postponed any decision concerning him or faith in Christ "until I have another opportunity." Felix would have released Paul if Paul would have bribed him (v. 26-27) but when he would not he left Paul in prison for the next two years to curry favour with the Jews of Caesarea who had reported him to Rome for criminal misconduct. He was recalled to Rome and was succeeded by Festus (Acts 25). In Rome he was tried but evaded punishment through the influence of his brother Pallas.

FOR TODAY:

Felix was typical of the worst type of colonial mis-managers known well in Africa and South America and occasionally discovered in Australian history books. "He exercised the prerogatives of a King with the spirit of a slave" (Tacitus). He had help for his ambition from his marriages and his big brother but in the end his character showed through. Character always shows through even the most privileged position.

Even with his life at stake Paul courageously spoke concerning the faith and God's judgment. Even his judge trembled with guilt. Niemoller said in Melbourne his one regret was that he had argued face to face with Hitler about politics when he should have told him the gospel and of God's judgment.

Felix delayed a decision concerning Paul and Christ. "Not to decide is to decide," Harvey Cox bluntly told the world. Procrastination is really polite rejection. "Once to every man and nation, comes a moment to decide in the strife of truth with falsehood, for the good or evil side." (Lowell Hymn 865). The scriptures affirm a decision for Christ is not to be delayed: "Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6: 2).

—GORDON MOYES.

ESSAY COMPETITION— "CELEBRATE THE FAMILY"

The publicity being given to the so-called "rebellious generation and generation gap" has increased and has resulted in a great deal of strain being placed on the importance of the family unit in our modern, progressive society. Each year, the National Marriage and Family Week Council seeks to offset this trend by focusing public attention on an important aspect of family life. To assist the Council in these aims, A.N.Z. Bank annually sponsors an essay competition for the youth of Victoria between 15 and 17 years of age.

Through this competition, the bank recognises the importance of youth in society's development and demonstrates in a practical way its concern for a compatible relationship between youth, the family and all that the unit stands for.

"Celebrate the Family" has been chosen as the subject for the 1972 essay.

The essays of not more than 1,500 words on the topic "Celebrate the Family," will be judged by a representative of the National Marriage and Family Week Council,

A.N.Z. Bank and a leading Australian writer.

Special attention will be paid to writing, spelling, English expression and general interest value of the material presented.

A.N.Z. Bank will donate prizes of \$75, \$50, \$30, \$20 and \$10 in the form of savings bank accounts with special book prizes being awarded for merit.

Closing date for the competition is 5 p.m., April 17, 1972 with presentation of prizes on May 4.

Entry forms are available from A.N.Z. Bank, Marketing Department, 2nd Floor, 287 Collins St., Melb., 3000. Phone 63-0191, ext. 226, or G.P.O. Box 778H, Melb., 3001.

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oct. 10-15 1972

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see page 14

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New South Wales: J. V. Ellerby, 23a Dural Street, Hornsby, 2077.
Queensland: N. Watson, 24 MacIntosh Street, Auchenflower, 4066.

(or see your Church Secretary)

FARES: Perth and Return

Rail from Brisbane (via Broken Hill) 1st \$195.27, 2nd \$147.47; Sydney (via Broken Hill) 1st \$166.27, 2nd \$130.07; Brisbane (via Melb.) 1st \$204.50, 2nd \$136.33; Sydney & Canberra 1st \$175.17, 2nd \$118.80; Melbourne & Ballarat 1st \$147.20, 2nd \$104.73; Adelaide 1st \$113.93, 2nd \$86.87.

T.A.A. AIR FARES: (Budget Return)

From Brisbane \$277.20; Sydney \$220.00; Canberra \$222.10; Melb. & Ballarat \$173.90; Adelaide \$130.90.

N.S.W., VIC. & QLD.

"FAIR HAVEN" PRAYER

(MARYBOROUGH, Qld., R. Clark). The cottage prayer meetings in various centres have grown from 3 to 6, the latest being at Fair Haven Home led by Elder Emeritus Harry Oakleigh, with 11 attending . . . Mr. Clark has accepted a call for a further two years of ministry . . . Attendance at morning service in the three centres now stands at 200 . . . With the theme "Youth Takes Over" there was a decision at the youth service . . . Five audio-vision film strips are being used in personal evangelism in the homes, and teams are being trained. 150 homes are available for visitation.

TWO DECISIONS

(TOOTGAROOK, Vic., D. Holmes). Two S.S. children made decisions after gospel message by Mr. Farmer. K. Christensen spoke at morning and afternoon services on March 12 . . . The S.S. picnic was held at Red Hill Showgrounds . . . A. Barber is attending meetings again after hospitalisation. Mrs. R. Pretty is in Alfred Hospital.

UPWARD TREND

(MANIFOLD HEIGHTS, Vic., A. E. Stevens). Gospel meeting attendance has improved and last quarter's offering average was \$177, the highest in nearly 10 years of planned giving . . . C.W.F. members attended the Hall's Gap camp . . . Intermediate Endeavourers attended garden party at Government House . . . All four tennis teams reached the finals. C2 Junior Mixed team won the grand final. . . . Harry Flack is recuperating after surgery . . . Seven attended S.W. Dist. Conf. at York St., Ballarat, on March 4.

FISHERS AT EPPING

(N.S.W., K. Farmer). Lance and Enid Fisher spoke to the church on the work among Aborigines in North Western Australia . . . G. Ratten was guest speaker at Men's Fellowship tea . . . Junior youth fellowship held picnic and barbecue at Whale Beach . . . Bruce Armstrong was speaker at church parade for Boys' and Girls' Brigades.

HOME COMING

APRIL 16, 1972

86 YEARS AT

WARRAGUL (Vic.)

CHURCH OF CHRIST

All past members are asked to make a special effort to attend.

Phone I. Mullen (Warragul 2-1936) for enquiries, or write to Secretary, R. A. Williams, 114 Victoria Street, Warragul, Vic., 3820.

If unable to attend please send a greeting.

N.S.W. C.W.F.

The State monthly meetings are being held at the Burwood church for a trial period. In February, Kevin Crawford, Director of the H.M. Dept., was guest speaker on the theme of the month, "Now is the time to build." Mrs. Lance Fisher from W.A., also addressed the meeting. The devotions were prepared by the Orange C.W.F. and were presented by the Mt. Druitt Fellowship. 114 ladies representing 27 fellowships represented an increase of approximately 25% on recent attendances at City Temple.

For World Day of Prayer the ladies were encouraged to support meetings arranged in their own districts.

An "International Supper Night" at the Greenacre church on March 3 featured coloured slides of many countries. Testimonies were given by an Australian, a Dutch/Indonesian and a Yugoslav. A description of "Women in New Guinea" and "Life in Egypt" was also presented. International souvenirs were displayed. Ladies dressed to represent various countries and a supper with an "International Flavour" was served to 175 ladies.

State Conference Women's Day will be held at the Brotherhood Christian Convention Centre at Stanwell Tops on Wednesday, April 26 at 10 a.m.

—I. J. Webb, Asst. Sec.

WHERE TO GO

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RYE, Vic.—Flat available, acc. 4, \$3 per day off-season. Summer bookings now available. May and Wes Jenkins, 2 Government Rd., Rye, Vic., 3941. Phone (059) 85-2607.

A Practical Christian Position

Bethany Children's Home

requires a young lady (pref. 20-30) to assist in the Home.

"Bethany" is home for 15 children ages 3-16 years. It is situated on the Eastern Shore of the Derwent River, 4 miles from Hobart G.P.O.

Live-in conditions, 3½ days off per fortnight.

This position consists of domestic duties and child care. Present staff: Supt., Matron and Assistant Matron.

For further details contact:
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The Director — Counselling Services,
LIFE LINE,
Box 108, P.O.,
Fortitude Valley, Qld., 4006.

UNSTRUCTURED

To the Editor,

It only seems the other day that the bright boys at our church were all enthusiastic about "restructuring the church." So we've been restructuring and stream-lining like nobody's business. But now the bright boys have come up with a new "in-word". It's "unstructured." "Planning," "organisation," and "structure" have become dirty words. They stand for authoritarianism, repression and brain-washing. We are being told that the Holy Spirit can't work through structures. Now our church is becoming unstructured.

We now make up our minds what to do at midweek meeting when we get there. No preparation or planning. It's exciting! We take all night making up our minds and then it's time for supper. The boys' club has gone all unstructured, and now the Board is urgently appealing for funds to restructure the damaged hall.

"Unstructure" has even invaded our family camp. Our kids used to be organised out of our hair for a few peaceful days. This year it was a disorganised melee of kids and parents jumbled up together trying to decide what to do. Only one thing came out of it. Every one there became a firm believer in the generation gap.

Even family prayers are "out." If they are imposed on the family they are not a true, spontaneous religious experience. Prayer should rise spontaneously out of family situations that give every one the urge to pray. If that's so I know how often our family would pray!

The "unstructure boys" are now claiming something brand new . . . the unstructured church service. Haven't they ever heard of the Plymouth Brethren? And we'll soon solve our curriculum problems and save the high cost of Sunday School materials. The kids will decide what they want to do when they get to Sunday School . . . for instance to go down to the beach!

So "unstructure" is in. Give it a few years and the pendulum will swing and the bright boys will discover organisation. Then we'll probably be so tightly organised it won't be funny!

When are you going to unstructure the "Christian"?

TERTIUS.

OPEN FORUM

WOMEN AND LIBERATION

To the Editor,

The age old discrimination against women as if they were inferior to men, is finally being exposed for what it is: un-Christian rationalisation for employing a full-time woman servant, to slave without respite for remuneration well below the basic wage. We do not only condone such inhumanity, but even in the light of Christ's example, can hypocritically claim that those who are "liberated" are indulging in sinful rebellion against our Lord's teaching. How blind we are to the truth, the truth that Christ claimed would set us free.

Those who stand for such slavery quote as their support, verses like Ephesians 5: 24. It is perfectly true that this verse, taken out of context, demands total subjection of the wife to the husband. We are always ready to condemn those who quote out of context, but in ourselves we call the fault a virtue, and live by the false teaching that results. In the same epistle (6: 5) Paul intreats slaves to be obedient to their earthly masters. Yet this verse never seems to have the same effect on us. No one expects us to rush out and procure ourselves a slave, or alternatively offer ourselves to an earthly master as slaves: (unless we happen to be of the

female sex of course, and then such bondage is considered duty).

Paul, in his writing, advocates that we make the best of existing conditions; and at that time these conditions included slavery and subjection of women to the tyranny of men. The ideal conditions are shown in Galatians 3: 28 — ". . . there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."—(Miss) Andrea Champion, A.T.C.L. (W.A.).

FRANKFURT DECLARATION

To the Editor,

Re the introduction to the Frankfurt Declaration ("A.C.," Feb. 19), the "draft section" referred to on page 48 (apparently meaning the "Drafts for Sections") cannot be called a document from the Uppsala Assembly—that Assembly set that document aside in favour of a new one which goes unquoted in the article!

There are two, at least, false assumptions made—one that the Uppsala documents supersede all that has gone before and the other that "humanisation" and "humanism" are identical. The documents need to be read in context of all that has gone before including the familiar ground of "the primacy of the declared gospel, the necessity of Christian conversion, the uniqueness of Christ and so on." The document on "Renewal in Mission" is no restatement of the familiar but a reaching

forward to new frontiers in the direct Biblical tradition of Hebrews 6: 1-2. The document speaks of "a single saving outreach to bring men to the measure of the fulness of the nature of Christ" . . . that is the understanding of humanisation in the document!

The Uppsala document makes no pretense to be a full statement on mission or missions; it was produced under the pressures of an Assembly feeling very strongly the voice of those from the former mission fields of the "third world." This voice is not always complimentary to missions and their activity. By way of contrast the Frankfurt Declaration, with which few of us could have much argument, is a "western" document produced without the voice from the former mission field churches. It is a much more limited document by that very fact.

The Uppsala document "Renewal in Mission" presupposes a great deal: the commitment of the Christian to Christ, the persistent call to proclamation, the fact of Jesus Christ, incarnate, crucified and risen, forgiveness through that death on the cross, the need for the response of faith, the putting on of the new man, these are not only presupposed but are in many cases set forth in as many words in the document. It remains for each to be open to the probing of the Spirit as he reads and applies the challenge of this reaching out to new frontiers of mission in the place where he finds God has placed him. No one pleads verbal inspiration for any Uppsala document—one simply hopes for fair, intelligent reading, free of prejudice.

Would it be too much to ask that, in the light of your stated intention to publish the "Frankfurt Declaration" and the many inaccuracies in the "Introduction" already printed, you might also publish the actual Uppsala document entitled "Renewal in Mission." It needs no lengthy introduction; it has the strength to stand on its own feet.—R. N. Gilmore (Vic.).

[Ed.: We shall print both.]

CHILDREN WANTED

(HOBART, Tas., L. G. Cooke). A door-to-door visitation of Battery Point area over three weeks has emphasis on recruiting children 3 to 6 for S.S. . . . Mr. Cooke exchanged pulpits with Rev. Kerri Graham (Methodist), who is prominent for research into Social Questions . . . A recent experiment was the Family Camp at Carlton which included discussions and the church annual meeting.

WITNESS IN YUGOSLAVIA

(GARDINER, Vic., L. S. Dewberry). Max and Robin Heron help conduct the Protestant Worship Group of Belgrade, Yugoslavia, where Max is on the staff of the Australian Embassy. This church is conducted entirely by members of the congregation, and averages about 140 at each service. We have supplied Max and Robin with C.L.C. teachers' manuals and activity sheets for their small class of kindergarten children . . . Three of our young people have recently been baptised . . . The young people visited Phillip Island on March 4. . . . David Stevens was farewelled by the church and S.S. and presented with a gift book by the latter, which he served as pianist and treasurer, when he left to become a patrol officer in Papua-New Guinea.

FIFTEEN PLUS

(MAGILL, S.A., R. Clymer). Twenty members of Fifteen Plus group were joined by five young people from Milang at Pt. Sturt Camp, March 17-19. Our minister, R. Clymer, led the camp . . . On March 19, Miss Jean Delaney, missionary on furlough from New Hebrides, showed slides and told of the work on the islands . . . Brian Phelps was a recent speaker.

EARLY HOUR TRIAL

(BALWYN, Vic., W. W. Saunders). During April, church service and B.S. will commence 10 a.m. After Lord's Supper, children will go to classes . . . p.m. service had recorded royal service with Prince Philip and Governor of N.S.W. reading scriptures . . . J. Burns gave talk and film at p.m. service on his 1970 visit to Oberammergau and its Passion Play . . . Mrs. J. Burns, Mrs. D. Killey and Mr. Hercules recovering after hospitalisation.

MISSIONARIES AT WARBURTON

(Vic., C. W. Jackel). Abel Morgan from A.I. Mission, and Miss Betty Hart (now accepted as missionary to her own people in Brisbane) gave remarkable testimonies of their conversion, and slides were screened of the mission work at Walgett, N.S.W. An offering of \$17.10 was donated to the mission . . . At the Ladies' Guild the minister gave a message on "Be always dressed in White," signifying that God always expects our inner Christian life to be pure . . . A S.S. has been started.

N. WILLIAMSTOWN IS 84

(Vic., K. H. Pitt). The Conf. Pres., J. Alabaster, spoke at 84th church anniversary on Feb. 27 . . . At March Youth Service, Rev. Andrew Pearce (Footscray Methodist) was speaker and "Believers Incorporated" of Reservoir, gave items . . . The Minstrel Group led gospel witness service at Footscray Methodist Church with Mr. Pitt as speaker . . . Harvest Thanksgiving, Temple Day, and Family Service day were combined for March 19. Miss Lilian Morgan was soloiste. Harvest Festival goods were given to married students at the College of the Bible . . . A presentation was made to Mr. and Mrs. Roy Hope on removing to Portland . . . A bus

load of ladies attended A.C.W.C. at Belgrave Hgts. . . . W. A. Jenkins spoke on Aborigines' Missions to B.S. and church.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE

(KENSINGTON PK., S.A., W. Bartlett). Our minister is often called to the churches as President of Conf. . . . Recent speakers have been Barry Pryor, Mr. Lucas (B. & F.B.S.), J. Chivell, Miss Jean Delaney (New Hebrides), and J. Wise. At youth tea and evening service Craig Cook (S.A. footballer) was speaker . . . Daryl Green, Misses Jenny Young, Lyn Clymer and Bronwyn Billette have given vocal and instrumental items . . . C.W.F. assisted on the flower stall at garden party at Lance Brune's home at Waterfall Gully in aid of Hospital Chaplaincy . . . Church saddened at death of Fred Hensel.

CURRICULUM SCHOOL

(TUMBY BAY, S.A., K. J. Edwards). Gerald Rose and Dr. Malcolm McArthur conducted a School on S.S. Curriculum at Red Cliffs, March 4-5. A small percentage of teachers from Ungarra and Tumby Bay attended . . . C.W.F. commenced activities with a work night to aid Adelaide Hospital Chaplain. Work realised \$60 . . . The Guild year began with an all-day sewing day with members contributing material, etc. . . . Following Harvest Festival displayed goods went to Port Lincoln Old Folks' Home.

TALENT SCHEME

(RINGWOOD, Vic., G. W. Barnett). A Talent Scheme promoted by Ken. Geyer raised over \$300 in three months for church funds . . . A dedication service was held for B.S. teachers and staff. Ken. Geyer is Supt., and Don. Barnett, Sec. . . . A family camp was held at Buxton over Labour Day week-end . . . Church shared in Gospel Pop Festival at Dandenong Park . . . Barry Baker is serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in New Guinea. . . . Mr. Barnett is Chaplain for Ringwood City Council and is Industrial Chaplain at Holeproof Ltd.

FAMILY CAMP

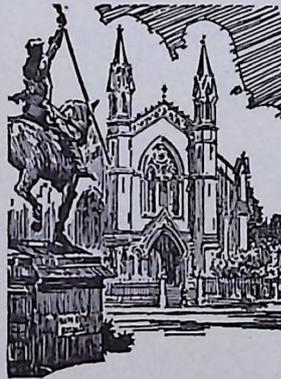
(HORSHAM, Vic., D. J. Marr). Ted Keating led the studies at the family camp at Hall's Gap attended by 80 campers . . . A new club has been formed for older youth . . . Eight ladies attended Women's Camp. Hall's Gap, March 17-19.

MONTROSE CHURCH OF CHRIST

9.45 a.m.: BIBLE SCHOOL

Services: 11 a.m., 7 p.m.

A warm welcome for all.



Swanston St. Church

(Right in heart of Melbourne: opp. Public Library)
11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Minister: A. L. WEBB, B.A.

11 a.m.: LETTER TO CORINTH.

APRIL 2: "God is not Dead!"

APRIL 9: "Painless Extraction."

7 p.m.: WORSHIP & EVANGELISM.



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"Jesus, Your Lord and Friend" (10-12 years)

To be published shortly

"Guide to Church Membership" (Adults)

SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH (12)

Irene Henderson was born at Southern Cross in 1907 — but spent most of her childhood in the South-west timber country . . . later coming to Perth area as a young girl.

She was married in 1928. The Ladners have four children: three sons and a daughter. All are active in Christian work.

It was not until she was baptized in the Church of Christ at Claremont that her life became meaningful. Church membership has been at Claremont, Northam, Cottesloe, and now at

Fremantle. At Fremantle she became more deeply involved in the church and became Kindergarten Supt. and later taught in the S.S. and Bible classes.

She was local C.W.F. President for three different terms. She is regular at Women's Auxiliary Conference meetings and has rarely missed the monthly meetings over the years. In 1965 she became the Overseas Mission Supt. and in 1968 was elected a Vice-President. In 1971 she became President of the Women's Auxiliary Conference, holding office until April 6, 1972.

MRS. IRENE LADNER . . .
President, Women's Auxiliary
Conference, W.A.



LOOK OUT FOR HAPPINESS!

IN these days of so much advertising, through radio and television and other media, we hear of all sorts of things that are supposed to bring us happiness.

Happiness comes from this, or that. People rush madly about, trying to do, or get, something that will make them happy. Parents spend vast sums of money, buying toys and "mod" clothes for their children, thinking that this is what they want and need.

Millions of dollars are spent every year on all forms of entertainment and amusements, with the one object of providing happiness for people.

Old people retire after a lifetime of hard work and stress and strain, and say "Now I'm going to 'live it up' and have a good time. I've got things to do now that my time is my own," . . . and yet they soon find that they become bored and anything but happy.

Have you ever noticed the faces of people when they come from a cinema or theatre or a sporting field? They looked harassed and strained, tired and bored, and all but rarely truly happy.

The truth is of course, that the world at large, is looking in the wrong direction for happiness; for one thing it confuses "pleasure" with happiness. Pleasure is a momentary thing, it passes, and leaves us the same as it found us.

That this world needs to discover the secret of true joy, is only too obvious. That it doesn't know where to look for it, is equally obvious.

The fact is that true happiness can't be found by directly looking for it. True happiness is a by-product; it comes to us when we are giving ourselves to quite

other purposes than seeking pleasure for ourselves and our loved ones.

Jesus spoke of "My Joy." It is the origin of this joy that we, and the world at large, need so desperately to learn.

What is the secret?

Partly it was that Jesus' eyes and ears and mind and heart, were wide open to all the wonder and beauty of God's world. He saw with delight, "the lilies of the field," he enjoyed watching the children at play . . . he fully entered into social relationships . . . He was sensitive in fact, to all that was good and glad in human life. He loved people, and knew their fear and grief and loneliness, and found joy and happiness in helping them.

When Jesus left this earth he said, "Peace be unto you: as the Father has sent me, even so send I you," and he breathed on his disciples, and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit." When we receive Christ into our hearts, we receive the Holy Spirit, and it is for us to go and tell others, and point the way to true happiness and peace in the things of God. We all know that the word "blessed" means "happy," and if we put "happy" before each of the Beatitudes, we will clearly see where real joy and happiness lies.

For Jesus . . . the secret too, was in his faith in God. There are two main enemies to happiness — insecurity and frustration. Faith is the antidote to both. Faith in God . . . in his word . . . and in his wonderful promises.

In him, too, we are given an all-engrossing purpose, and something to live for, with mind and heart and soul. A purpose firm and strong . . . for living the Christian life with all its wonderful meaning.

GREEK FELLOWSHIP AT BAPTISMS

(MILE END, S.A., N. Hodgekiss). Last year we combined in a communion service with the Greek Evangelical Fellowship which meets in our church hall. On Feb. 27, the two fellowships combined again for a baptismal service, when four adults from the Greek Fellowship were baptized. N. Hodgekiss from Church of Christ and E. Glinatsis from the Greek Fellowship conducted the service, each preaching for about 10 minutes, so that there was an English and a Greek address. The Bible reading and musical items were given in both languages. Other important announcements and greetings were translated, but hymns were able to be sung at the same time in Greek and English. Members of the Greek Fellowship like to give a personal testimony prior to their baptisms. The translation lengthened the service which closed at 8.45 p.m. The Greeks present outnumbered the Australians, and there were many children in the congregation. Then the two congregations mingled and exchanged Christian greetings . . . B.S. children had tea and attended a church parade on March 5. Bob Brown, a pastor to Aborigines in Adelaide, preached. A film evening was held for Aborigines on the 10th. Quite a number of Aboriginal families have moved into the district, and several children attend the B.S. Jim Stanley has been visiting them . . . Don. Grant conducted L.I.F.E. programme for one week in March.

"BREATH OF LIFE."

By **PATRICIA
ST. JOHN**
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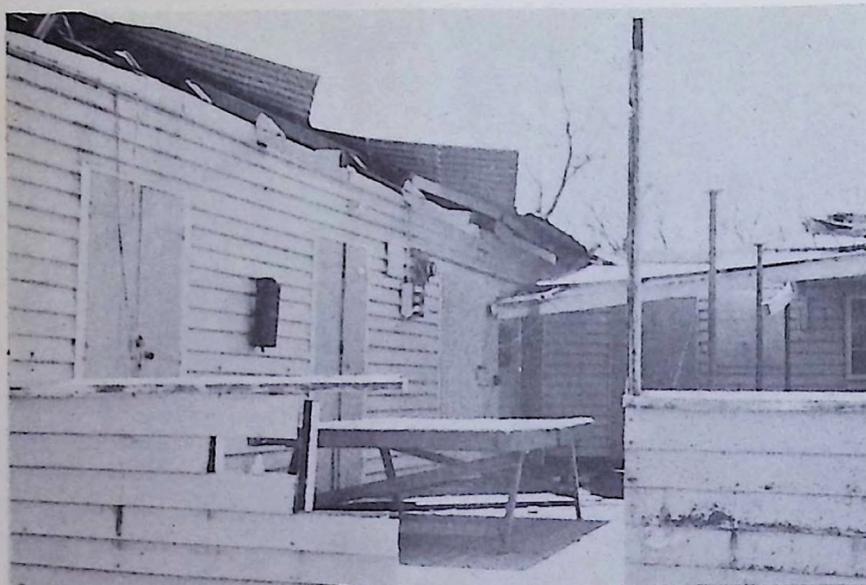
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ALTHEA WAS ANGRY!



(QLD.). Alan Weedon, of Townsville, sends us this picture of the damage done by cyclone Althea to Camp Irwin at Magnetic Island. The main building containing the dormitories and general purpose area lost more than half its roofing. The kitchen was completely destroyed.

A bitter blow at any time, this loss came after one of the best years of ministry that the camp has given. Apart from our own church camps, the site was well booked for the rest of the year.

Individuals and churches have already sent gifts to help in relief work and for rebuilding. Much more will, of course, be needed. Those able to help are asked to mark their contributions "For Camp Irwin" and send to D.C.E., 426 Ann St., Brisbane, Qld., 4000, or Camp Committee, P.O. Box 383, Hermit Park, Qld., 4812.

DISTINGUISHED WOMAN FROM ARGENTINA

Mrs. Esther Moore de Sainz, Director of Women's Work at the Latin American Bible Service Centre in Argentina, is visiting Australia this month.

Mrs. Sainz is the widow of a Methodist pastor. She has a Master's Degree in Philosophy and Letters, and has studied sociology, drama, and audio-visual subjects.

She will visit Australia states speaking about Bible distribution in Latin America.

Her visit coincides with the Bible Society Youth Project on Latin America. (See advertisement on page 14).



THINGS TO COME

APRIL: VICTORIA

- 2 EASTER SUNDAY.
- 7 "Impact"—Programme for Teenagers.
- 14-16 C.E. Leadership Seminars.
- 24 "Impact"—Film Night, Carnarvon Work Party.
- 26-29 Ministers' Seminar (Monbulk).
- 30 VIC.-TAS. CONF. BEGINS, United Gospel Witness, Melb. Town Hall. "Strategy for the Seventies" launching and commitment.

MAY:

- 3 C.W.F. — Women's Day of Conference, Kew Town Hall.
- 1-5 VIC.-TAS. CONFERENCE. (See Page 14.)
- 7 ANNUAL OFFERING — DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.
- 7 "Day of Commitment" ("Strategy for Seventies" Programme).
- 8-20 Three Camps for Grade 6 Girls at Monbulk.
- 14-21 "WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY."
- 16-20 Intermediate C.E. Camp, Hall's Gap.
- 21 PENTECOST SUNDAY.
- 21 Engaged Couples' Seminar (2-10 p.m.).
- 24 Explorer Leadership Training.
- 27 F.O.Y.A. Programme.
- 28 Good Companions' Leadership Training Afternoon.

APRIL: TASMANIA

- 30-April 3 Tasmanian Easter Youth Camp.
- 6 Tas Quarterly Convention Meeting at Ross.
- 22-23 TASMANIAN CONVENTION — MARGARET ST., LAUNCESTON.

APRIL: WEST AUSTRALIA

- 4-9 75th Annual State Conference, Christian Centre. Guest preacher: I. J. Chivell, S.A.
- 6 Women's Day of Conference.



THE BIBLE AND THE POLITICIAN

Robin Millhouse
of the B. & F.B.S.

ROBIN MILLHOUSE, M.P., Deputy Leader of the Opposition in South Australia, and former State Attorney General and Minister of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs, has been elected as Commonwealth Chairman of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Australia.

Mr. Millhouse made headlines during his term as Attorney General when it was disclosed that he regularly reads the scriptures while travelling to and from work by public transport.

After hearing the announcement of his two-year appointment, Mr. Millhouse said that he would like to see many more people involved in the Bible Society and its work. "The Bible Society," he stated, "is the most practical working partnership between people of different denominations."

Mr. Millhouse placed a special emphasis upon the need to direct young people towards the Jesus of history as presented in the New Testament, and to encourage these same young people to use their energies in furthering the Bible Society cause, which is to translate "the Word of God into the words of the people."

WHITE PAPERS

ON LIFE AND FAITH

THE FRUSTRATED STURGEON We doubt if we have ever eaten caviar. If there is any uncertainty, it is because there have been one or two items on our table over the years which were unidentifiable. But we doubt if it was caviar. Especially these days, when a liberal dab of caviar on a Salada would cost about \$2.40. Caviar now sells at \$40 a pound. The reason for this higher cost of high living is in the fact that the Caspian Sea is 8 feet lower than it used to be and less attractive to fish. Lower because the rivers which feed it have been dammed for power stations, less attractive because of the pollution from industrial waste. The caviar's mother takes one sniff and heads back to sea, and that means no caviar.

The caviar's mother is the sturgeon, a fish that grows up to 14 ft. in length and takes 7 to 15 years to reach egg-laying maturity. It lives in the wide oceans, but an inbuilt urge calls it back to its home in the Caspian Sea to lay its eggs. The eggs of the sturgeon (with a little straining and a pinch of salt) become caviar. Now, the sturgeon are caught in nets on their way home. While the fish are in captivity, egg laying is speed-induced, and the fish are released. Nearly all of Russian caviar today is produced by this method and that is why the price has gone up.

As we say, it won't affect our menu, but we are sad about the sturgeon, whose days may be numbered. And we can't help wondering what other fish, animals, or birds, have fallen victim to the spoiling of the Caspian Sea and the rivers which feed it and drain it. The other victims may not even be missed by man, but they may be missed by a resentful and rejected nature—which may exact a far heavier toll than an increase in the price of fish eggs. It may not be too late to look again at Lake Pedder and the Kakuda "National Park."

A NEW FACTOR When the Federal Government indicated that at last it was proposing to take some action to end T.V. and radio cigarette advertisements, we wondered what new factor had influenced them. We discovered it! The same week an opinion poll revealed that the majority of the public wanted such restrictions! Could it be that the prospect of gaining votes made the difference? In our office we are more than a bit cynical in this election year.

GOOD GRIEF! Down in Melbourne, where a strange winter religion known as "Australian Rules" excites multitudes of seventh day devotees, they have produced some posters for the twelve tribes. One of the twelve (for St. Kilda) reads as follows: "Blessed are the Faithful Supporters of the SAINTS; and all those Pious and Devoted Apostles Give Thanks that they Follow an **INSPIRED TEAM**; Those High Flying Haloes in Red, White and Black, Whose **RESURRECTION TO THE HEIGHTS** of Olympian and Paradisical Boating of the Eternal and Celestial Oval have left their Worshippers **SPELLBOUND. CARN THE SAINTS.**" Good Grief!!



CHELTENHAM GIRL IN TOP TENNIS

PAM WHYTCROSS, member of Cheltenham (Vic.) has followed in the footsteps of both her mother and father in achieving tennis distinction. Pam was runner-up in both the singles and doubles Victorian Junior Championship. She was defeated in the doubles championship in Sydney by the Russian Olga Morosova. In Hobart she was defeated in the finals of both the singles and the doubles. In Adelaide she once more reached the finals. In Perth she represented Victoria in the Wilson Cup team that was victorious over all State and New Zealand teams. She was further successful in winning the Australian Junior Doubles Championships and reached the finals of the Open

Women's Championships going down to Evonne Goolagong and Barbara Hancock. Pam, and her parents have been keen members of the church's seven tennis teams that have won more than 90 pennants.

Happenings

More than 200 instructors in all mainland States have begun the training of group leaders for the Action for World Development Campaign. It is hoped that 200,000 will share in the study-action campaign in July.

The Vic-Tas. Conference acknowledges the receipt of an anonymous gift of \$80.00 directed to the Manager, Churches of Christ Centre.

U.S. postal rates for religious journals went up 146% in Jan., 1972. Rates for "purveyors of direct mail advertising and pornography" were raised by only 25%.

A full-page advertisement in "Presbyterian Life" calls for resistance to the proposed union with Methodist and Congregational Churches.

When the Tasmanian Branch of the Chiropractors' Association held a seminar in Launceston the daily paper said, "Appropriately, the seminar will be opened by the Hon. G. J. Foot, M.L.C."

Wycliffe's Bible Translators have a "Jungle Aviation and Radio Service" with 35 aircraft, including three planes and a helicopter in New Guinea.

Last year the Bible Society in Papua-New Guinea distributed 58,000 New Testaments—more than in any State in Australia.

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NEW MINISTER

(NAILSWORTH, S.A., P. De Wildt). Our new minister, Peter De Wildt, his wife and their two sons, have already made a great impact on both young and older members of the church . . . The new Baldwin organ has been a real asset to our services . . . On March 4 the young people held a "car wash" and raised \$64 for the organ fund . . . 32 young people attended a Prayer Breakfast on March 11 at 7 a.m.

MISSION PLANNED

(ASCOT PARK, S.A., S. R. Baker). A Mini-Mission is planned for August with G. K. Moyes as missionary . . . The B.S. picnic was held on March 11 . . . John Crowley was baptized on March 13. Roger Dufty led the service assisted by young people. Jock Wolstencroft introduced the topic with "Why I am a Y.P. Leader," then Janet McDonald, Barry Fisher and Dianne Wilkinson read papers on "Why I am a Christian in the home, at school, and at work."

FOR YOUNG MARRIEDS

(MANDURAH, W.A., R. Cook). Evening meetings have improved. Mr. Cook commenced the Young Marrieds' classes for Bible Study . . . Graham Watson has been baptized and received into the church. . . . Bible School added helpers are Mrs. Martin and Sue Franz . . . Harvest Festival, a success, about \$24 from sale of goods to be sent to Mission to Lepers. . . . Mrs. Langley is ill in Fremantle Hospital.

50 YEARS AGO

Here and There . . . Four volunteer missions in Tasmania have closed with eight decisions at Southport, seven at Ulverstone, twelve at Hobart and one at Dover . . . The Mile End (S.A.) church is purchasing two blocks of land on the main road, near the Cowandilla school. The church is paying for the land at 2 guineas a foot as the first move to start a new church at Cowandilla.

Temperance Space: The Religious Press devoted space to Temperance interests in the past three months as follows: "Aust. Christian" 193; inches; "Spectator" 190; "Messenger" (Pres.) 80; "Southern Cross" 77; "The Presbyterian" 44; "The Independent" 17; "Signs of the Times" 12; "Messenger" (C. of E.) 11.

Letter from Callawadda (near Stawell, Vic). Lindsay R. Smith writes: "I called a meeting of local residents to see what interest there was in starting a Bible Study class for young men. Only one other turned up. We called a meeting for the following Sunday evening. Three or five turned up and we decided to form a class. For first few weeks we thought a dozen was a great number, but now 50 to 60 come each week to the public hall to listen to the explanation of Bible truths."

WOMEN OF THE WEST

The President, Mrs. Ladner, opened the final auxiliary meeting for this Conference year. Mrs. Alan Gordon led the morning meditation. Mrs. F. Newcombe led in prayer of intercession.

W.A. has been saddened by the home-call of our loved Marj. Robartson, sick and bereaved Supt. and past-president. Our lives are the richer for having known her and worked with her. We thank our God upon every remembrance of her.

Guest speaker was Don. Butler, Federal Aborigines Missions' Secretary. He spoke of no-hopers of the scripture whom Jesus saved to serve. His ancient power is still at work today touching the lives of Aboriginal "no-hopers"!

NEW FOR ALD GATE VALLEY

(S.A.). After a week-end ministry shared by J. Baker and W. Bowden, H. E. Paddick commenced a ministry on Jan. 3. 30 years ago Mr. Paddick served the Aldgate Valley-Stirling East Circuit . . . Miss Shirley Porteus is new Kindergarten Supt., and Graeme Harslett is B.S. leader . . . At the annual meeting R. Harslett, Sec., and R. Caudle, Treas., were re-appointed . . . The B.S. picnic on March 11 also had as guests Sister Hilda Shanks, two staff officers, and 10 girls from Davenport Girls' Home . . . The Blackwood church supplies a president one Sunday a month.

MINISTER AWAITED

(MOROWA, W.A.). The church is awaiting the coming of Mr. and Mrs. Sack in June . . . C.W.F. March Friendship meeting was instruction in emergency mechanics for ladies . . . Y.P. travelled to Perth for folk musical "Natural High." . . . Mr. and Mrs. J. Gordon were speakers at half-yearly rally of Nthn. Dist. Conf. at Dongara on Labour Day. Mr. Gordon also spoke at Sunday services . . . Other speakers have been Messrs. Manallack and L. Cox . . . Mr. and Mrs. R. Carslake represented Morawa at induction of Mr. Letheby at Geraldton . . . Inter Youth Work is led by Mr. and Mrs. W. Carslake.

MINI-AUCTION

(WILLIAMSTOWN - KERSBROOK - GAWLER, S.A., R. V. Chamberlain). Circuit Teen and Twenty raised \$30 from a Mini-Auction for a good cause . . . Mr. Chamberlain was leader of a camp for 9-12 year olds at Balaklava . . . Harvest Thanksgiving services have been held at Williamstown and Gawler . . . Two young people have made decisions at Williamstown . . . Miss Jean Delaney, missionary from the New Hebrides, was a recent speaker . . . After annual meetings at Kersbrook, V. Ross continues as secretary and Mrs. N. Ross is C.W.F. Pres.

CALLED TO FULLARTON

(S.A., N. Gavros). M. T. Lawrie, now ministering at Port Pirie, has accepted a call to Fullarton, commencing 1973 . . . B.S. picnic was shared with children at the Mordialta Children's Home. Added attraction was rides on model engine supplied by R. Skewes. Gifts from Harvest Thanksgiving were also given to the home . . . Mrs. Hammond represented Aboriginal women of S.A. at C.W.F. Miss J. Delaney spoke and showed slides of New Hebrides at "Hour of Power" meeting.

Miss Diana Catts, New Guinea, will be guest speaker on Women's Day Conference, April 6. She will visit C.W.F.'s during her month of deputation in W.A.

Prayer and Praise:

● For the employment situation and those in authority over us.

● For the opportunity to provide food and raiment for the needy.

● For Mr. and Mrs. L. Fisher as they return to minister to the Aboriginal people of Onslow and beyond.

● For the new works to Carnarvon and Norseman missions and the experienced missionaries serving in new areas.

—D. M. Gordon (Sec.).

CIVIC RECEPTION

(GLENELG, S.A.). A Civic Reception was given by the Mayor and Mayoress of the City of Glenelg to Mr. and Mrs. Holland prior to their moving to the U.S.A. . . . The newly-formed "Spartimers' Club" caters for retired members and others in the community . . . Young people went "blackberrying," made jam with the pickings, and netted \$50 toward assistance for the Hong Kong Orphanage, "Home of the Loving Faithfulness." . . . At a garden party held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Beaumont, the women raised \$140 for the work of the Hospital Chaplain and to assist the Mordialta Children's Home.

BOTTLED ONIONS

(CROYDON, S.A., F. B. Burt). 1,000 lbs. of onions were bottled to raise funds for Social Service Dept. and our own work. \$150 is expected result . . . The church honoured Mr. and Mrs. H. K. Brand on the occasion of their emerald wedding on March 11. After serving as elder for 40 years the honour of Elder Emeritus was conferred on Mr. Brand by Mr. Burt . . . Harvest Festival services' goods were shared with our Christian Rest Home and the Aborigines' Home at Blackwood . . . A special tennis parade on March 12 brought back former players and wound up a good season for our players, having been defeated in the grand final by Brighton Gardens.

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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

BIRTHS

HOLT (Clark)—Eula, Robert, Glenice, Bevan and Darren welcome with love—Rohan William—born at Dalby Maternity Hospital, Qld., February 21, 1972.

MAIN—To John and Valerie, of Poona, India, on Feb. 19, a son—Cameron Mark. Brother for Jenny, Elizabeth and Jonathan.

REABY (Fordham)—To Glenys and Bob, God's gift—Deanna Christine—March 21 at Springvale Hospital, Vic. Sister for Julie.

READ (Bamford)—Born on Feb. 13, 1972, at Brisbane, Qld., to Vivienne and Kingsley, a daughter—Alison Fiona.

STEWART—To Don, and Margaret at Traralgon, Vic., on March 19, a son—Paul Dominic. Brother for David and Anne.

ENGAGEMENTS

CREEK-MACKENZIE—After a relatively short courtship (compare Genesis 29: 16-30), Dr. and Mrs. C. J. Mackenzie (Beverly Hills church, N.S.W.) and Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Creek (Rockdale church, N.S.W.) announce, with great pleasure, the engagement of their elder daughter, Rhondda, and their eldest son, Geoffrey.

DAVIS-SANDERS—Mr. and Mrs. Ray Davis, Axford Rd., Wantirna, Vic., announce with pleasure the engagement of their daughter, Elaine, to Bernie, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Sanders, Elm St., Bayswater, Vic.

DIAMOND WEDDING

GORDON - FINLAYSON—Lionel, Coralie and Jefferson announce with pleasure the 60th anniversary of their parents' wedding, celebrated at Grote St. Church of Christ, S.A., on March 20, 1912, by J. E. Thomas. Present address: 4 Ilfracombe Crescent, Sandy Bay, Tasmania, 7005.

DEATH

DAVEY, Florrie and Clarrie—At Dromana (Vic.) on March 9 (result of accident), loved sister and brother-in-law of Stella (Mrs. Picone), and Alma (Mrs. Mathieson), sister-in-law and brother-in-law of Joe and Jack, loved aunt and uncle of Ray and Beryl (Mr. and Mrs. Tresize), Gwenda, Joy and Jim (Mr. and Mrs. Woolcock).

HAMANN, Charles William—At Maryborough, Qld., on March 18, 1972, beloved husband of Rose Hamann of "Fair Haven," Maryborough. Aged 75 years. "Forever with the Lord."

WITHERWICK—The death occurred on January 17, 1972, at Cessnock District Hospital, N.S.W., of Mrs. Lillie Witherwick, beloved mother of Joan (Mrs. Kel Thompson, 5 Regent St., Cessnock), mother-in-law of Kel, grandmother of Greg and Joy, Anne and Barry and Ian, and great-grandmother of Martin and Juanita.

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BOAKE—In loving memory of my dear son, Russell James, called home April 2, 1965. "Like falling leaves the years go by, But loving memories never die."—Mother, Florence Boake.

JENNER—In fond remembrance of our parents, Mother, passed away Dec. 27, 1932; Father, March 27, 1950. Also a dear brother, Perce, May 27, 1969. "In heavenly love, abiding."—Grace and Stan.

McARDLE, Ned—In loving memory of my dear husband and father who left us to be with Christ, March 24, 1971. "Always in our thoughts."—Dolly, Barry and Jan.

SUMMERTON, Norman A. J.—On April 6, 1969, "God saw the rugged pathway was getting hard to climb, So he closed those weary eyes and whispered, 'Peace, be thine.'"—Pop.

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Victoria APRIL 22-26
West Aust. MAY 3-7
Canberra MAY 9-11

Queensland APRIL 13-16
South Aust. APRIL 28-30

— PERSONAL —

MARRIAGES

Vicki Burnett to Frederick Dally;
Lynette Amos to Grant Lewis,
Magill, S.A.
Faye Stevenson to Ian Willett; Lor-
raine Barnett to Ian Letchmere,
Cheltenham, Vic.
Jennifer Tee to Terry Ryan, Nth.
Williamstown, Vic.
Janice Spackman to David West,
Ringwood, Vic.
Margaret Freemantle to Dennis
Whitehead, Maryborough, Vic.
Kathleen Inskip to John Deighton,
Rockhampton, Qld.
Christine Bottrell to Ian Charlton;
Louise Kelly to Robert Klingberg,
Tumby Bay, S.A.
Cherylyne Becroft to Les Wheeler,
Balwyn, Vic.
Jenny Vouldon to Kenneth Moore,
Hobart, Tas.

Janet Heal to Peter Mackie; Janet
Hawkins to Bruce Cox, Inverell,
N.S.W.

Jennifer Ann McDougal to Henry
James Taber, Southport, Qld.
Barbara Hovey to Allan Nicholls,
Horsham, Vic.
Margaret Plumb to Bruce Wilmot,
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Frederick Hensel, Kensington Park,
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Victoria . . .

DECISIONS AT MARYBOROUGH

(Vic., Ian Adams). There have been five decisions over recent weeks . . . "Meet the Minister" programme has met with much acclaim . . . Good Companions held "Western Night." They held a week-end camp at "Adekate" led by Mrs. Burton and Mrs. Rowland . . . Mrs. Adams is president of Mission Band. Mrs. R. Bursill, after 17 years as treasurer, is succeeded by Mrs. F. Davies . . . Arthur Kennedy has resigned as Supt. of the B.S. after nine years' service. Hank Bastra replaces him.

HARCOURT BAPTISMS

(Vic., Jim Spiker). Robyn and Jim Merritt were baptized on March 12 . . . The C.E. recently held their second birthday . . . On March 11, the Youth Club held a car rally which was well attended and enjoyed by all . . . From: March 5, 1972, Sunday services are held at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. B.S. is at 10 a.m.

ELDER'S NEW RESPONSIBILITY

(BRIAR HILL, Vic., R. Baxter). Our elder F. Combridge has been appointed as secretary of Social Service Dept. . . . Explorers led by J. Haines held a camp at Lake Nagambie, Labor Day week-end. . . . Both cricket and tennis teams reached the finals—the cricket team competing in grand final . . . Recent speakers represented the Bible Society, Aborigines' Missions and Overseas Missions . . . Three weeks' training sessions for morning services are being conducted by G. Mathieson of D.C.E. . . . Discipleship classes for young people are being conducted by minister.

DEDICATION SERVICE

(DONCASTER, Vic., K. D. Horne). 42 teachers and staff of the B.S. shared in a service of dedication conducted by Mr. Horne. 400 scholars are enrolled . . . After recent morning service, 250 people gathered at Wattle Park for picnic lunch and fellowship . . . The minister to youth, Geoff. Wilcott, led the special monthly youth service. Guest soloist was Lorraine Bertram, from West Preston . . . Following Harvest Festival service on March 5, goods were distributed to College of the Bible and Social Service Homes . . . Margo Morris recently owned Christ as her Lord and was baptised.

YEAR'S PROGRAMME

(WEST PRESTON, Vic., A. J. Storar). The 1972 programme was presented by four conveners (Community Service Outreach, B.S., Family Week and Youth Worship Services, and Evangelistic Emphasis Group). Regular prayer sessions are planned in support . . . Two community singing sessions for "elderlies" were led by Mrs. Joan Green . . . B.S. teachers held a Planning Camp, and a Dedication and Graduation Service. Youth 3, led by Lorraine Bertram, combines with Methodist young people . . . Student minister, Ron. White, joined the Young Disciples' Camp at Hall's Gap. Mr. White will be involved in the Adelphos Coffee Shop work as well as preaching and visiting . . . Jeanine Flint will convene the Janefield visitation . . . Mont Park outreach re-commences with an outing to Warringal Park.

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REVIEWS

DISCIPLE DOWN UNDER

By Allan W. Lee. (Exposition Press).

Dr. Allan Lee was minister to the First Christian Church, Seattle, Washington, U.S.A., when he set off for the World Convention in Adelaide, as leader of twenty-seven conventioners on a South Pacific tour. He did not know that he would soon be called to serve as General Secretary of the Convention in succession to Dr. L. V. Kirkpatrick, but he now holds that office. As he says in the introduction to this book, "Then I was only a local parish pastor. Today I am a global minister. The world is my parish."

The world beyond his homeland has been Allan Lee's hunting ground for things new and old for many years. He has travelled extensively in Mexico, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Hawaii, and easily found material for five books. His pen and his typewriter are the first items he packs when setting out. This book, "Disciple Down Under" is a collection of eighteen incidents on his journey to and from the gathering of the Disciples.

He was not down this way very long but he witnessed Fiji's day of independence, interviewed Alan Walker in Sydney and Gordon Powell in Melbourne, and met with a host of "ordinary" people of every walk of life. The quotation marks are ours for it is evident that for Allan Lee there are no ordinary people. He finds folk everywhere intensely interesting, and, as like as not, having a story worth the telling.

Will Rogers said, after travelling, that he never met a man he didn't like. It is probably true to say that Dr. Lee never met a person who didn't like him. Maybe you met him. If so, with a bit of luck, you may find yourself in this lively visit down our way.

(Obtain from Federal Board of Christian Education, 217 Lonsdale St., Melb., 3000).

LAURIE, THE HAPPY MAN

By David Winter. (Hodder & Stoughton). 90c.

The little book, "The Practice of the Presence of God" has been an inspiration for Christians since the 17th century. It was the collection of conversations and letters of a simple layman who worked in the kitchen of a Carmelite community. Known as Brother Lawrence he demonstrated a faith so serene and dynamic that even bishops turned to him to learn the secret of his life. David Winter relocates Brother Lawrence in the kitchen of a modern London hospital and through letters and conversations seeks to recapture the secret of victorious living with Christ.

CROWDED DETOURS

By Don. Mallough. (Baker Book House).

Opening and turning over this book of sermons, one was surprised to notice that the writer is pastor of the First Assembly of God in Kelso, Washington. In ignorance one had presumed that the Assemblies (Pentecostal and Apostolic) would not be much interested in publishing books of sermons. Their manner is rather towards the extemporaneous, the emotional and the ecstatic.

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None of Mr. Mallough's sermons deal with his church's distinctive message. They are just such preaching as any sound gospel preacher in any church would preach.

The author also sets forth his philosophy of preaching, and solemnly warns against "The Dangers of Good Preaching."

Good preaching, declares this preacher, may become a veritable fetish. The minister may work diligently to produce good preaching but makes that the ultimate end.—J.E.B.

MONKEY OFF MY BACK

By Jack Brown. (Zondervan). \$2.40 (Paperback).

The incredible story of an ex-convict and drug addict who found a new life in Christ. He seemed to be an incurable criminal who had mixed with others who had the same disease like Bonnie and Clyde, Al Capone and Machine Gun Kelly. Johnny Cash's song "Cocaine Blues" is about Jack Brown. His Christian experience was a genuine conversion and his testimony to young people has made him an inspiring speaker at churches and schools.

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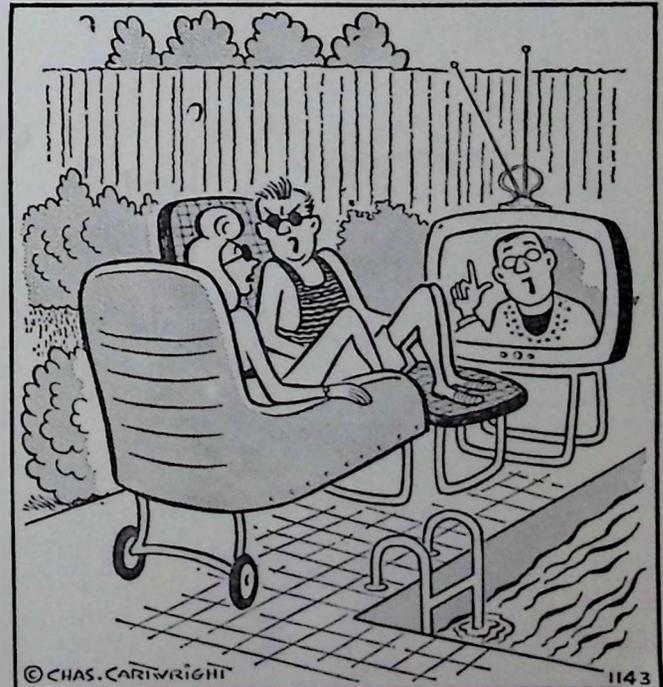
"If we are not taking an active part in Christian witness, we are not just ineffective we are positively in revolt against Christ."—John Stott.

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"Somehow it doesn't seem appropriate to watch church services in a Bikini!"

Victoria

OAKLEIGH FOR STRATEGY

(Vic., T. V. Weir). The church annual meeting decided to enrol and participate in the "Strategy for the 70's" programme. It was also determined to give to some mission project beyond present giving—such as New Guinea or a new Home Mission church. 20% of weekly offerings will be devoted to brotherhood work . . . 41 teachers and scholars attended the week-end camp at Toolangi. The rewarding result was a better understanding between teachers and scholars . . . New hymns are being learned in after-church social evenings in homes . . . Ngair Fraser, Jan and Kerry Hutton have returned to Carnarvon after their vacation.

CAMPAIGN SUCCESSFUL

(PARKDALE, Vic., D. Stow). The Stewardship Programme conducted by E. C. Keating of the Dept. of H.M. & Evang., has concluded successfully. 85 were catered for at the church family dinner. Mr. Keating also addressed the church . . . A series of pre-Easter films on the Holy Land, narrated by Malcolm Muggeridge, are being screened.

YOUTH LEADERS

(CROYDON, Vic., A. B. Clark). Brian Spencer is new C.Y.F. Pres., and Jan Lawson is Sec. . . . Mrs. Holloway of Social Service Dept., was speaker at first C.W.F. meeting, and at C.W.E.F. a Bessemer Ware party was held. Syllabuses were presented to both fellowships . . . Boys' Club now meets on two nights each week . . . Prayer meetings will continue to meet in the church.

EXPLORER LEADER

(ORMOND, Vic., L. Barker). Peter Kilgour is the new Boys' Explorer Club leader . . . 62 attended C.M.F. progressive dinner. Three homes were visited before returning to the church for the screening of a film . . . C.W.E.F. held a successful cake stall in Bentleigh Shopping Centre.

THANKSGIVING DECISIONS

(BENDIGO, Vic., M. D. Keatch). Two boys made decisions for Christ at the Harvest Thanksgiving service on Feb. 27 . . . Mrs. Holloway was speaker when the Women's World Day of Prayer service was held in our chapel . . . The church is saddened because of the deaths of Mrs. Phillips and Mrs. Owins who have been faithful members for many years. The church offers sympathy to their families. . . . Bendigo was well represented at the Cent. & Nthn. Dist. Conf. at Castlemaine. . . . V. Symes of Gideon's International was a recent speaker.

"MOODS" FOR SWAN HILL

(Vic., R. E. Pritchard). "The Changing Moods", Melbourne's young singing group, visited Swan Hill, March 11-12. The visitors gave a two-and-a-half hour concert in the High School Assembly Hall on Saturday night and conducted the evening service on the 12th . . . Sixteen men from the circuit attended the C.M.F. Rally at Bendigo on March 18 when men from Melbourne and country churches shared in a dinner and variety programme.

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BANMATMAT BIBLE COLLEGE

Beginning our third year in the New Hebrides we see more than ever the immensity of the task that God has given us—but we also thank him for the ways in which he has graciously used us. You might imagine that things have been very quiet here without the students, but in the two months following graduation we had three cyclones, and one came twice! Most of our time seems to have been affected by cyclones—preparing for them, meeting minor emergencies during them and various time-consuming occupations resulting from them.

Walking along our foreshore and around the College grounds surveying the situation, I couldn't help feeling that this year would be O.K. if we were either rebuilding or lecturing, but not both! All the permanent buildings have fared well, but the men's dormitory, kitchen and boatsheds all need replacing. Some are completely demolished and others are looking very "sick" with leaf roofs badly damaged, bamboo walls partly blown out and posts leaning sadly. They're old and not worth repairing but both manpower and finance

By C. McCOSKER

are a difficulty in providing a long-term answer to the problem. Some villages have lost many houses and most have had damage to their copra and food gardens, so we feel very much for them at this time.

One night after the first cyclone I tripped on a branch of a fallen tree and ended up at Ranmawat about midnight to collect four stitches in my forehead.

The second cyclone came in the night, the tide was exceptionally high and the big seas washed well up among the trees and houses in many places. I was at North Pentecost and our dinghy was up on the grass at Ranputor ready to pick me up the next morning. In the middle of the night it and two other boats there were washed by the waves and we lost our windscreen and canopy before they were dragged to safety. (Even my tools were swept away!). Trips are pretty hot and wet for Win and the children now as a result.

Santo had a lot of damage in the last cyclone and as they received the worst of the big earthquake last October, they are having an eventful few months. We spent a week there over the New Year mainly to visit the dentist, but it was also a break from the "usual." Win, and I were more than ever impressed with the great spiritual need of the town. So many young people there away from their homes seeking work and excitement—and so many finding themselves in trouble. Even the Police Commandant earnestly asked me if our churches could send a pastor and a missionary to serve there. Little has been done to help those who come from the other islands, even though there are so many of them. This is being discussed and we're hopeful that there will be positive moves soon. Santo should serve as a centre for reaching into many new areas with the gospel.

It has been good to share with August and Maeline Ben while on furlough from New Guinea. Their work at Mui, together with that of Bill and Janet Buli, in the Keram River district, is an exciting story of souls being stirred by the gospel—peoples unknown to most, but precious to God. August and Maeline's time here should do a lot of good in the local churches. We would be sorry to see them heading off to New Guinea again if we didn't realise how God is using them there.

Many of our students have now arrived from their scattered islands after delays due to lack of boats. We have ten here at present but another four are still waiting for a boat. They seem a keen group. We ask for your prayers for these young men and women as they commence their study of the Word of God and its practical side in Christian service.

JAY'S COLUMN IS FOR Juniors

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

A little girl was taken far away to be a slave. At first unhappy, she was kindly treated. Her mistress was the wife of a general who was a good man but, unfortunately, he had leprosy. No doctor could cure him, but the little slave girl said that she knew someone who could cure him. The general and his wife took notice of her and messengers and presents were sent to the king of the little girl's country asking the king to arrange to have the general cured. (What happened next? See 2 Kings, chapter 5, or next issue).

LAST HAPPENING (see last issue).

Abraham's servant saw Rebekah with a water jar. She gave him water and seemed just right for Isaac. Strange as it may seem, Isaac and Rebekah married, and she became the mother of Jacob and Esau.

A KIND old lady on a holiday cruise showed great compassion for a fellow-passenger who was a poor sailor. "They say," she remarked to him, "that a good novel can distract one's thoughts from sea-sickness. Would you like to read this one?"

"What's the title?"
"The Great Upheaval."

LOOK, NO COMPASS!

"White Ants" are only distant relatives of the ant, and belong to a different order in nature. A better name is "Termites." The Northern Australian termites are the largest in the world and measure 1 1/3 inches in length. They build fantastically large homes. 12 miles south of Darwin there are the famous "magnetic" anthills, covering a 30-mile wide area. They look like grey stone monuments and the place is called "Cemetery Plain." The huge slabs face north and south and this is why they are called "magnetic." It is thought that being face on to the sun the termites inside move to the eastern side and they build a larger area on that side to catch the extra warmth. In the afternoon they follow the sun to the western side. At midday, when the sun is hottest, the termites' homes are edge-on to receive less heat. They're pretty smart!

"MY brother-in-law is the laziest man in the world. Have you ever met him?"

"I'm not so sure. How tall is he?"

"I don't know — I've never seen him standing up."

Contributions invited — Send to Jay, The Australian Christian, 119-125 Hawke St., West Melbourne, Vic., 3003.

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See the fascinating Far East during the glorious cool Spring Season, travelling in congenial Christian company, under experienced Christian Leadership.

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Travel will be by Modern White Yacht Liner of the R.I.L. Shipping Line. All cabins will be outside, air conditioned, portholed cabins.

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For complete details send stamped addressed envelope to Pastor Eric Walsham, 6 Victoria St., Mayfield, N.S.W., 2304.

THE LAST WORD...

CHANCE

Was it Chance whose fumbings brought
Life from the burning cloud, and wrought
On Earth's cold crust
And lifeless dust
A living world with Beauty fraught?
Chance? Then in life and death we must
In Chance's wisdom put our trust.
—R. C. Macfie

And the same again!

THE TARGET FOR 1972 IS
5,300

We did get within 45 of our aim in December. But the end of the year is a bad time. Representatives bring us up to date with subscribers who are deceased, those who have left their churches, and those who have just plain cancelled! (We don't know how they could do it!). At 14.3.1972 our subscription list was 5,197, 103 short of our target.

So we aim again . . .!
SAME TARGET 5,300

| | March 1971 | March 1972 | We Need |
|--------|------------|------------|---------|
| W.A. | 382 | 395 | 12 |
| S.A. | 1,058 | 1,046 | 20 |
| Vic. | 2,377 | 2,482 | 24 |
| Tas. | 142 | 137 | 10 |
| N.S.W. | 543 | 555 | 15 |
| A.C.T. | 43 | 36 | 10 |
| Qld. | 400 | 427 | 12 |
| O/S | 96 | 119 | |
| | 5,041 | 5,197 | 103 |

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IT LOOKS EASY!

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"In an increasingly intricate society some traditional freedoms become absurd. The traveller by automobile or airplane submits to regulations unknown to the cowboy on his stallion. Our acceptance of intricate systems that control our behaviour for our own good makes it all the more important that we maintain freedom and initiative somewhere near the heart of the self."
—ROGER L. SHINN.

Without God, we cannot,
Without us, God will not.
—Augustine.



A thought escaped from me today,
And floated idly on its way;
Just where, I cannot tell—but then,
I didn't want it anyway.

—Paul Armstrong.



When success turns a person's head, he
is facing failure.



It is better to live rich than to die rich.

Definition

Orator: One who makes loud noises from the throat sound like deep messages from the brain.



One trouble with the portable T.V. is
that you can take it with you.



The bridegroom put his hand in his pocket at the end of the marriage ceremony and asked the vicar, "How much do I owe you?"

"There is no set charge," was the reply. "I always ask for payment according to the beauty of the bride."

"That's a good idea," said the groom, and he handed the vicar 10 cents.

The minister took the money, lifted the bride's veil, then said, "Here's 5 cents change."

107th VICTORIA—TASMANIA CONFERENCE

APRIL 30 — MAY 5, 1972

COMMENCES WITH

UNITED EVANGELISTIC RALLY

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 7 p.m.
MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

Speaker: ALAN A. AVERY (Dandenong)

Subject: "JESUS MY SUPERSTAR."

Song Leader: E. C. KEATING

Launching of "Strategy for the Seventies."

CHORAL GROUP: "FOUR SURE"

Offering for Conference expenses and "Strategy for the Seventies."

METROPOLITAN CHURCHES COMBINING

A GREAT CONFERENCE FOLLOWING—May 1-5

Evening Business Sessions in Nicholas Hall, 7.15 each night, on
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

WEDNESDAY IS WOMEN'S DAY AT KEW TOWN HALL—

10.30 a.m.: Business Session.

1.40 p.m.: Service of Commitment
and Dedication.

Speaker: Miss Diana Catts (New
Guinea).

Spotlight: Deaconess Terani Aisake
(Fiji).

Note: Day-time Creche, 10.30 a.m.—
12.30 p.m. & 1.30-4.00 p.m.

7.30 p.m.: Evening Session. Intro-
duction of Incoming Officers.

Speaker: Senator Margaret Guil-
foyle.

MAKE THIS AN INSPIRING TIME OF FELLOWSHIP

PRAY FOR DIVINE DIRECTION AND RICH BLESSING

BE PRESENT TO SHARE IN THESE GREAT MEETINGS