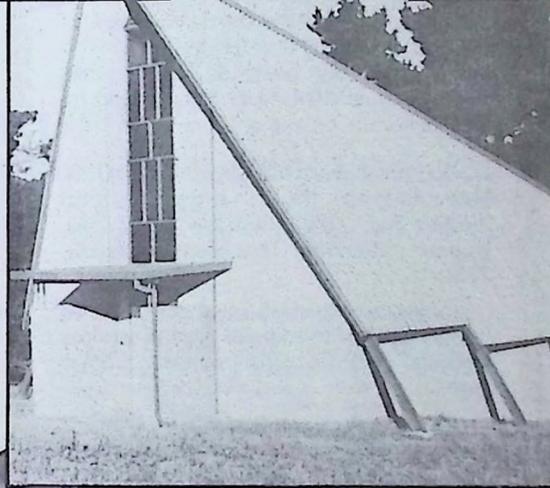


BIBLE  
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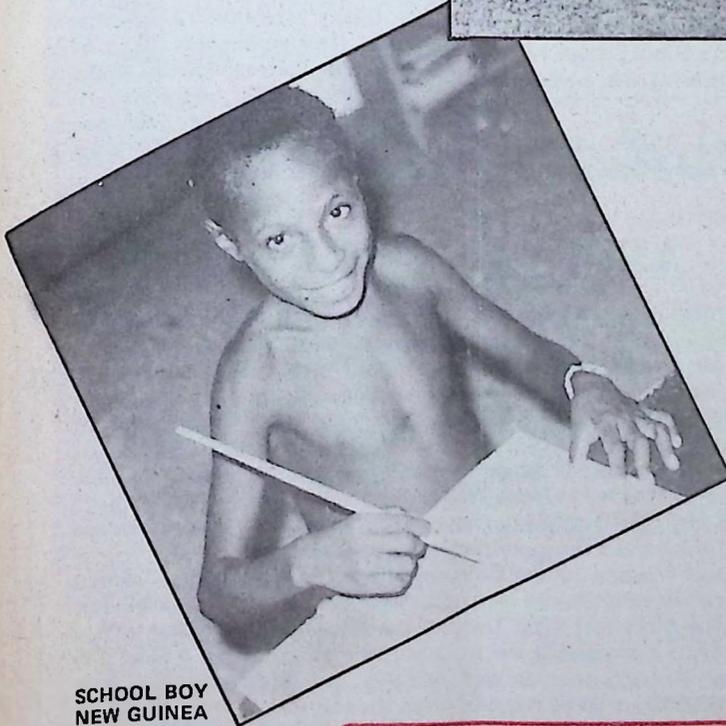


MISSIONARIES  
JOHN & EVELYN  
FRIEBEL  
WITH  
LINDA  
& HELEN

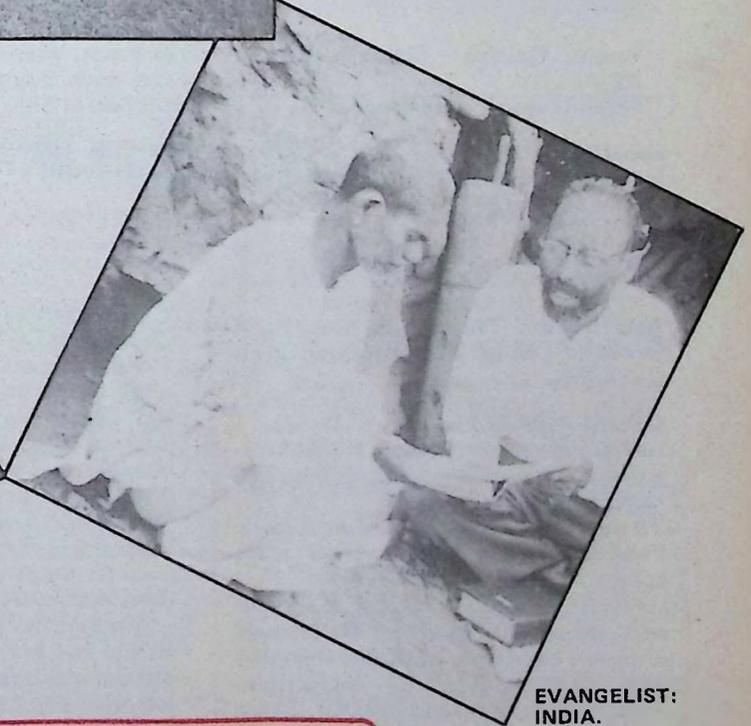
**OVERSEAS  
MISSIONS  
REQUIRES  
SUPPORT  
FROM**



**THE HOME  
CHURCHES  
ESPECIALLY  
ON  
JULY 1, 1973**



SCHOOL BOY  
NEW GUINEA



EVANGELIST:  
INDIA.

THE AUSTRALIAN

**CHRISTIAN**

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF  
CHURCHES OF CHRIST

Vol. 76—No. 11

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## • OVERSEAS MISSIONS

# NUMBERS ARE PEOPLE

"Without statistics it is very difficult to diagnose the health of a church. It is like a physician attempting to diagnose a sickness without being able to use a thermometer."

From 'Frontiers in Missionary Strategy' By Wagner.

The following are extracts from the Statistical Report presented at the Annual Meeting of the Overseas Mission Board last March, for the year 1972.

### CONCERN FOR PHYSICAL NEEDS.

#### CARING FOR CHILDREN

**India:** 269 boys and girls who are orphans or come from destitute families, receive loving care in our Children's Homes.

#### EDUCATION

**India:** One Primary School, enrolment 142.

Two Secondary Schools, enrolment 562.

**New Hebrides:** Eleven Primary Schools, enrolment 791.

One Secondary School, enrolment 32 (first intake 1972).  
Business Course, enrolment 11.

**New Guinea:** Two Primary Schools (English), enrolment 169.

Eight Pidgin English Schools, enrolment 300.

Teacher Training - Pidgin, enrolment 20.

Pidgin Literacy, enrolment 12.

#### MEDICAL

**India:** One hospital - in patients 8,604.  
Out patients 21,057.

**New Hebrides:** Three hospitals - In patients 928. Out patients 14,444.

**New Guinea:** Three small hospitals, 4 clinics - In patients 543. Out patients 11,135.

#### RELIEF PROJECTS

**India:** Famine Relief Kitchens - commenced February 1973, approx. 300 receiving one meal a day.

Baramati Development Trust Report: Food for work projects; Two roads approx. 10 miles.

Percolation Tanks completed, 62. Wells sunk (all have struck water) 50. Number of people employed, 6,000 continuously, each receiving rations for five persons. Total who receive food, 30,000. (Joint venture between State Government who provide engineers, C.A.S.A. who provide food, Conference of Churches of Christ in Western India who provide general Administration.)

**FINANCIAL AID** provided for Relief January - December 1972: Bangla Desh \$2000 - New Hebrides cyclone \$216.95 - New Guinea Famine \$200 - Korea, Relief and Child support \$4,456.48 - New Guinea Medical \$2,700 - New Hebrides Medical \$4,856 - Famine Relief and child support India \$8,860. (Note: \$2,633 sent to India since January 1973 for famine relief and \$127 to New Guinea)

#### CONCERN FOR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

If I love my neighbour I will want to see him possessing new life in Christ, who said, "I am the bread of life, he that cometh to me shall never hunger, and he that believeth on me shall never thirst."

#### EVANGELISM AND CHURCH WORK

**New Guinea:** Eleven churches, total membership 461. Baptisms 1972, 80. Number attending Discipleship Classes, 233.

In addition to established churches, 48 villages are contacted and regular services held and periodic visits are made to other places.

**Training Classes** - Pastor's Course, 2 week courses held 3 or 4 times a year. Bible Schools, 2 week courses held 3 times a year. Women's Bible School held for one week. Evangelist's Class, a weekly class is held at Asau.

**Theological Training** - Two students at Christian Leader's Training College.

**New Hebrides:** Sixty churches, total membership 2,800. Baptisms 1972, 60. In addition to established churches, regular services are held in remote villages in new areas, also in Vila and Noumea.

**Theological Training** - Banmatmat Bible College, 12 full time, two part time students.

**Sunday Schools** conducted in most villages with many school age children attending. Teachers are all New Hebrideans.

**Girls' Brigade** - One Company, 70 enrolled.

#### Bible Translation

**Central Pentecost Language** - Published portions of Matthew, Mark, John. Being checked in Canberra by Bible Society, Matthew, Luke, Acts.

**Duindui Language** - Published portions of Matthew, John. Being checked, Acts, John, Luke.

**Lombaha** - (North Aoba) Published Mark, Portions of Matthew and John. Being checked, John and Acts. Bible Passages concerning the Birth of Christ being published in all three languages.

**Literature** - A \$2000 grant was given by the Overseas Mission Board for purchase of Christian Literature and development of a Literature programme.

#### India:

Six churches, total membership 956. Baptisms 1972, 53. Sunday Schools 5, total enrolment 435. Christian Endeavour, 2 Societies, 126 members. Bible Correspondence: Total Enrolments English 6,065, Marathi 12,488, Hindi 275. Total New enrolments 1972, 862. Twelve Bible Correspondence students baptized during 1972. Literature: 1972 Publications - one book, two tracts. Radio: One weekly 15 minute programme in Marathi.

## APPRECIATION

The Overseas Mission Board expresses sincere appreciation to all members of Churches of Christ for the encouraging support given during the past year.

Such support has enabled ministries such as medical care, refugee and disaster relief, education, caring for orphan and destitute children, pastor training, town and village evangelism, Christian Radio programming, Bible Correspondence Courses, Christian Literature, Scripture translation and established church activities such as Youth work, Christian Women's Fellowships, Short term Bible Schools, etc., to be maintained in India, New Guinea and the New Hebrides.

As you prayed and gave, you participated in this extensive ministry, and we praise the Lord of the harvest for everything accomplished.

At the Annual Meeting of the Overseas Mission Board in March, careful consideration was given to estimated expenditure for the 1973/74 financial year.

Missionaries allowances and field budgets have been increased and with a general rise in costs in maintaining the work and the possibility of a radio and literature ministry in Indonesia, as well as other new outreach work, it is estimated that \$165,000 would be required from the churches.

To make this possible, will you prayerfully consider increasing your missionary giving this year?

May the magnitude of the task inspire the magnitude of our giving.

**ANNUAL OFFERING OVERSEAS MISSIONS SUNDAY JULY 1.**



Sister Maeline Ben, Missionary from New Hebrides to New Guinea, treating a "mountain man" suffering from tropical ulcer.

# NEW VENTURES

New ventures in Overseas Missions are listed for prayer and financial support, as well as thanksgiving:

**+ Bible Translation, New Guinea —**

Surveys in depth have been made this year concerning the potential for Scripture translation in the area where we serve in New Guinea. The first survey of several weeks was made by Sister N. Mobbs and Miss D. Catts. They covered an extensive area along the Ramu and Keram Rivers, the Grass Country toward the Sepik River, and into the foot-hills of the Schrader Ranges.

The two main languages in this area were the Rau language, spoken in 38 villages, and the Banoro language, spoken in sixteen villages. Pidgin is also used by both language groups. Recently Miss Catts went on another survey, this time into the Schrader Ranges. She found that these 'mountain people' were eager to have someone come and teach them. Amongst the 'mountain people' we are now reaching, there is not one literate person.

Miss Catts' report will be presented at the Annual Meeting of the Mission in New Guinea, when important decisions will be made concerning linguistic work with a view to Bible translation.

**+ Radio, Bible Correspondence Ministry, Indonesia —**

Prayer is requested for all involved in preparation of sample radio programmes for Indonesia. This involves staff on our Indian field, required to translate programmes from Marathi to English.

If these programmes are accepted, we will have a whole series of scripts which will need to be translated in English, and then into Indonesian. It is expected that follow-up work will be through Bible Correspondence. Some of our Bible Correspondence Courses used in India have already been translated into Indonesian.

**+ Bible Correspondence and Literature, New Hebrides —**

The Missionary Committee in the New Hebrides has expressed the need to establish a Bible Correspondence Course because of the interest of the people in this type of ministry.

The demand for literature is increasing, and the Overseas Mission Board made a grant of \$2000 to enable the bookroom at Duindui to increase its stocks and purchase a wide range of literature.

There is a need for Christian literature especially written and prepared for people in the Pacific Islands.

**+ Town Evangelism —**

Until recent years our work in New Guinea and the New Hebrides was concentrated in the villages. As people move to the towns for employment and study, there is an increasing need and opportunity for Christian witness.

In the New Hebrides it is expected that work this year will commence on the Vila Christian Centre, Vila is the capital of the New Hebrides, and is growing rapidly. In Lugainville, the main port on Santo Island, our New Hebridean brethren have purchased land, and are raising

finance for the erection of a church building. New Hebridean pastors and elders will be responsible for this work as they are in Vila.

For the first time we will locate missionaries on Santo, who will be responsible for the business interests of the mission and be available to the New Hebridean churches. They are Mr. & Mrs. M. Humphries from Norlane, Victoria.

In New Guinea there is a growing need for a ministry in the towns of Angoram and Madang. Angoram on the Sepik River is the nearest town for people living along the Keram River, and at any one time a large number of people from villages that have accepted our mission may be found in the towns.

**+ Village Evangelism —**

In New Guinea, villages throughout an extensive area are asking for our help. The recent linguistic survey made by Miss Catts in the Schrader Ranges confirmed the opportunity and responsiveness among these people. Right on our doorstep in New Guinea there is an

**PLEASE SUPPORT THESE NEW VENTURES AND THE ESTABLISHED WORK BY GIVING SACRIFICIALLY TO OVERSEAS MISSIONS ON SUNDAY, JULY 1.**

extensive unevangelised field. We are amazed as contacts made with one group, who have not heard or have little knowledge of the gospel, inevitably lead to contacts with another, and from them contact is made with another, and so the opportunities to spread the Word of God multiply.

In the New Hebrides, the work continues to expand into villages on Santo and Malekula, and invitations have come from people on Tanna, one of the islands in the south of the group.

**+ New Relief Project — India —**

A new rural health and education programme is being pioneered by Sister Dorothy Holstein in poverty-stricken villages in the Shrigonda area. The programme includes immunisation of children, family planning, detection of T.B. and leprosy, and teaching concerning hygiene and general health. Included in the team that will assist Miss Holstein are Indian medical and evangelistic workers. It is estimated that this new project will cost \$4000 p.a.

## 3rd World Missionaries

Third World Missionaries are supported very largely by their home churches. Sometimes an individual congregation sends the missionary. Sometimes a group of congregations form a sending organisation. Exceptions are India and the Philippines, where the missionaries who leave the country are often supported by western funds. Some mission agencies reported that their missionaries are being supported by the inviting Church. One missionary from Japan is supported by a government grant from Japan!

What does all this mean? Obviously, Third World Missions are using many patterns of missionary sendings. It is also clear that many unreached ethnic units are still unreached—and appear likely to remain so. Most third world missionaries are not engaged in evangelising across marked culture gaps. Many of them go to their own culture area. They do not learn a radically new language. This is particularly true in Africa.

Do Third World Missions mean a diminution of western missionary outreach? Third World leaders do not think so. For example, a Filipino wrote: "If we got a hundred thousand more western missionaries tomorrow, we Asians must still obey the Great Commission written in our own languages." He recognised two things. First, that the task

remaining to be done is immense. Second, that the gifts of the Spirit are bestowed on Christians of different lands in order that the world-wide Body might propagate the Gospel. All Christians are together responsible for the work, and this necessarily includes Christians from Europe, North America and every other land.

Seeing prayers answered through Third World Missionaries entering lands closed to westerners is one of today's blessings. For example, in the province of Nagaland in India, Ao, Lotha and Angami, Christians are now going as missionaries to the border tribes in that province where no westerner is allowed to work. These Asian missionaries have been the key factor in the mighty spread of the Church in this one province of the great nation of India. Half the province is now Christian and soon three-fourths of it will be. Each of the fourteen ethnic units in Nagaland will have a strong Church in it.

The will of our Lord, expressed in the Great Commission, is being recognised today as mandatory for Christians everywhere. The message of salvation has long been recognised as to all the world and for all the world. Now it is being recognised that it is also from all the world."

Church Growth Bulletin,

# IS EVERY LIFE WORTH SAVING?

*Dr. T. Taylor,  
Duindui, New Hebrides*



DR. TAYLOR  
AND FAMILY

Do you ever pause to thank God for life itself and your good health? Most of us only recognize these blessings of God when we are faced with sickness or death itself. In an affluent society such as we find in Australia, we have the comforting assurance of medical aid close at hand at all times, and seldom is there any risk to life through lack of medical attention.

In the New Hebrides, things are a little different. There are times when life is seriously threatened through lack of medical attention for one reason or another. Some of you must be thinking to yourselves, "That's their misfortune for living where they do. It's a pity, but too bad!"

But does God place a higher value on the life of a person in Australia than on a

life in New Hebrides? Scripture says quite clearly, "No." I will mention two cases where life was endangered through the lack of medical aid, one through ignorance and another through isolation.

Simon was a young man of twenty-one who was fit and strong. He developed a chest cold which, after two weeks, became pneumonia. He did not recognize the severity of his illness, and soon he developed a very high fever and became delirious and eventually unconscious. Although he lived quite close to the hospital at Duindui, he was not brought to the Hospital till next morning, having been unconscious at home all night. A

diagnosis of meningitis was made and the appropriate treatment given, but infection had progressed beyond control and he died 24 hours after admission. This life would surely have been saved had he come for medical aid several days earlier.

The second case is that of a one-year-old baby called Thelma. She developed a high fever, probably due to malaria, and began fitting and became unconscious. This continued for eight hours overnight. She lived in a village quite distant from the hospital and it was not practical or safe to make the journey along the narrow jungle track in the dark at night with the child still fitting. When she eventually arrived, the fit was controlled very quickly once the appropriate treatment was given, but there are likely to be permanent after-effects as a result of this prolonged period of fitting and unconsciousness. The child made a satisfactory recovery, but her future mental and physical health is quite uncertain, due to the long delay in treatment.

Had there been no hospital at Duindui, both of these patients would have died. As it is, one is alive and the other could have been. These lives are precious in God's sight, as these people are precious to their families and friends. It is surely a great privilege for us to be able to offer medical aid to these people. God is primarily concerned with our soul but in most cases, he also has a good plan and purpose for our living bodies as well.

As medical workers, it is our privilege and responsibility to provide the best conditions to allow God's healing power to have effect. As Christians at home, it is your privilege and responsibility to pray and to give financial support to the programme of Overseas Mission, which includes medical work.

Why not thank God right now for your own health and strength? Why not decide right now to pledge more practical and prayer support, to give others like Simon and Thelma a chance to live and enjoy the life God has given them?

(Dr Trevor Taylor, with his wife Glenys, is serving for twelve months at the Duindui Hospital. The Taylors come from Elizabeth, Sth. Aust.)

## PROGRESS AT BANMATMAT

*By John Liu  
Acting-Principal*



BANMATMAT GRADUATE PREACHING IN VILLAGE CHURCH: NEW HEBRIDES.

I am giving eleven lectures a week plus tutorials, and marking weekly tests and assignments. I am very pleased that the Lord has provided us with two strong men who are doing most of the manual work. Pastor Hosea Bule is one of them, and he is also giving two lectures a week.

We have eight students in the College already and we are expecting two or three more. We have at the moment one student from Malekula with the possibility of two more coming, one from Mavea on Santo, two from Malo, two from Maewo and two from Pentecost. They are all 2nd year students with the exception of two.

I hope and pray that the Lord will touch the hearts of more young men and women in the New Hebrides, and lay on their hearts the desire to serve him in these islands. What our churches in the New Hebrides really need at the moment are some good Spiritual leaders who can really lead in this time of great transition. I hope and pray that what we have here in the College at the moment, even though many of them are young, timid, semi-educated and have many problems, will really be touched by God. It is very encouraging to see many of them are now undergoing an experience with the Lord.

Thank you for all your prayers, the Lord is certainly answering them, and I would ask you to continue to pray for the work here.

(It is expected that Mr. & Mrs. G. Warne will move from Ranwadi to Banmatmat in June, but John Liu will continue to do most of the lecturing for the remainder of 1973 to enable Mr. Warne to become further orientated as far as general church work in the New Hebrides is concerned.)

# Preparing for Self-Government and Independence

By R. WHAN

With the inevitable coming of self-government and independence to New Guinea we missionaries need to review our strategy of mission and to consider new and effective ways of preparing our national churches for this eventuality.

The whole question of independence is a rather traumatic proposal for many New Guineans. Because the process of educating the people up to a right understanding of what it all involves has often been either ineffective or completely neglected, primitive minds are left to deduce what they will from rumours, snippets of information passed by word of mouth and news broadcasts which are often way over the heads of the average New Guinean.

Naturally, many feel they are far from ready and also are beginning to feel that it is going to be thrust upon them whether they want it or not — and this could very well be the case.

Many also see a great disadvantage in losing the leadership of the white community. The presence of the Europeans ensures the continued flow of goods and services which they feel they may lose with the coming of independence. Much of this thinking is tied up with 'cargoistic' attitudes of mind.

The need in our churches is to stress the necessity of eventually handing over leadership into the hands of our national workers. There are problems here too. Ours is an infant mission having been operative in the Territory for only fifteen years as against others like the Lutherans, Anglicans and Catholics who've been active for almost 100 years. So we've got to get to work.

Only now are we seeing a handful of fully trained pastors joining in the mutual ministry. These are graduates from the Christian Leaders

Training College at Banz who have concluded an invaluable and highly practical course of preparation for the ministry. But these local Christians returning to the work fully trained are not enough. If we are to keep up with the growth of our churches we need to be training men for the work of the ministry right here in our local situation.

To this end we have been conducting for some time short term Bible Schools and Pastor Training sessions. At present we have 35 younger men drawn from all over our mission area. This augers well for the future.

Another feature has been the starting of a women's Bible School, the first held over Christmas being attended by close to 70 women.

With discipleship classes being held in some 9 or 10 villages it is essential to provide for their follow up and nurture in the Lord. These Bible Schools are going to go a long way towards fulfilling this need.



NEW GUINEA SCHOOL CHILDREN—  
POTENTIAL LEADERS OF A NEW NATION

## "I HOPE THE GENERAL FUND IS SOLVENT!"

Miss Rosalyn Williams is Business Manager for our New Guinea Mission. In this position she realises the importance of there being sufficient finance in the General Funds of the Mission, not only to meet daily routine expenditure but emergencies as well.

"Guess what they forgot to put on the 'Maneba', when it left Madang to go to the Ramu, Rosalyn?" It was Ted Gray our technical worker speaking on the radio from Madang. I told him I hated to think what they had left behind. All of our cargo is precious and urgently required, but it seems that something is forgotten and left behind each trip.

"They forgot to load our ten forty-four gallon drums of petrol", said Ted.

"Oh, no," I said, "Not the petrol. Our supplies are just about exhausted now. What will we use to send Margaret Horne on her Infant Welfare river patrols? What will we use to go to the villages for Sunday meetings? What will we use to go to meet the plane each week? How can we travel down river to meet the ship next month?"

What do you do when, at the Madang wharf, the workers forget to load your very important petrol on the ship? You can't get the ship to

come for another month. There is always Bogia, the small town about 35 miles along the coast from the Ramu mouth. But the petrol there costs \$20.80 for a drum whereas in Madang it only costs \$14.60. The hire of the ship from Bogia would further increase the cost. But Bogia is our only way of getting this important commodity.

As I ring Bogia on our transceiver, I can't help counting up the extra dollars we will have to spend just because of someone who was careless in Madang. I hope there is sufficient finance in the Overseas Missions General Funds to meet this problem.

Our "telephone" up here is a Transceiver set. We keep in daily touch with all of our Mission Stations on the Ramu and Keram. When we bought a couple of our radio sets, they did not have a special part installed to protect against lightning. The set at Bunapas which I use, unknown to me was one of these sets. We try

not to use our sets when we know a storm is approaching. On one occasion during a storm we were forced to make an emergency call to contact a doctor and request him to authorise a plane to come to Bunapas to take a critically ill woman to hospital. Our conversation had just concluded when an incredible flash of lightning struck the wires and burnt out the radio. It cost us \$47.00 for the repair. Another wireless at Mui also was burnt out in a storm. Another \$47.00 for the repair. \$94.00 all because of sudden flashes of lightning.

Who can pay for this repair? Once again our thought runs along the same line. "We hope there is enough money in Overseas Missions General Funds."

Please continue to do your part for his work by keeping this fund solvent. "So we built the wall . . . for the people had a mind to work." Nehemiah 4:6. Let's build together for His Kingdom!

Says  
Rosalyn Williams



—HUNGER LINES

# DROUGHT IN INDIA

By Ray Veal

Just before the meeting started the old lady took me aside and said quietly, "Please don't tell us about the famine and the relief projects. We know all about that. Tell us what the Church is doing to bring souls into the kingdom."

This was at a meeting I attended just before returning to India, and stepping back into the famine situation, I do appreciate the feelings of that person. She wanted to know what is being done to fulfil our Lord's Commission, and famine or no famine, this must be always our primary task.

Here in India there has developed over the years a psychology of scarcity to which the missionary and welfare worker has become prone. I am now writing from within the situation and to some extent must be affected by what I see and feel. But I am trying to be as detached as possible and to present a balanced evaluation of the present crisis here in India.

Three years of cloudless skies have reduced Maharashtra to a veritable dust bowl. Famine's greedy hand has reached out and snatched away practically all of the farmers' crop, leaving millions to suffer the pangs of hunger. This is India's most recent disaster, for famine 1973 is the worst in the history of the country both in extent and intensity.

There are many exaggerated stories being spread about of distress and death. "People are dying like flies" we were told in Madras. This statement is true perhaps of animals, but not of people.

It is noteworthy that in spite of the intensity of this drought, no outside help, either in the form of concessional imports and gifts of food grains, or in the shape of funds has been sought by the Government of India.

This absence of an International S.O.S. and the effective measures being taken by the Government of India to deal with the crisis leads me to feel that the situation is manageable. Inevitably there is much distress, and many are suffering. The people mainly affected are the marginal farmers and the landless labourer. The poor farmer cannot obtain for eating the food he normally produces on his own holding, and he has no money to buy it elsewhere.

Those who have money are not suffering from hunger. To meet this situation the Government is doing all that it can to give people alternative work.

You ask, "How can we help?" Perhaps in reading this you may feel that no help is needed. My suggestion is that the major relief measures should be left to the Government. But there are other ways in which we can put our shoulders to the wheel.

At present, in each centre of our Conference there is a feeding programme being run by our churches. Hundreds are being fed one meal per day. At Shrigonda a supplementary feeding programme is being commenced this week through our S.H.E.P. project and with the help

of OXFAM which is supplying foodstuffs. (S.H.E.P. is a socio-medico-evangelistic project directed at the needy village areas, seeking to make men whole in body and in spirit.)

Here again you can help by your prayer and practical support. And generally, you can help by contributing to C.O.C.O.A., the relief arm of

Overseas Missions. Already we are doing all that we can to alleviate the hardships of people at this time. We can do much more, as the Lord moves you to respond to this time of need, "When Jesus lifted up his eyes and saw a great company come unto him, he said . . . "Whence shall we buy bread that these may eat?"

## THE LORD GUIDED US

B. C. Bhonsle — Bombay

During September 1964 when Mr. Veal and I were searching for a flat for our work in Bombay, the Lord in a very wonderful way showed us the very place we needed.

We were travelling by taxi in the Chembur area when we had a puncture. There was no alternative but to wait until the tyre was changed. Since 1960 we had tried to purchase land, but were somehow prevented.

I felt that Chembur was the most unlikely area to begin new work, but Mr. Veal said he felt with the construction of the new bridge which was being built to connect Bombay with the mainland, the city would expand in this direction.

We decided that while the tyre was being changed we would take a closer look at some new buildings. One in particular caught our attention and as we were viewing it, there was a heavy shower of rain which forced us into the building for shelter.

We decided to inspect some of the flats, and while we were doing this, the owner, who had just arrived from the City, asked us whether we were impressed with the building. We advised him that we were. We discovered that the owner was prepared to write down the full amount on the document. On other occasions, builders were not prepared to list the full amount, to avoid tax.

We were not prepared to participate in dishonesty, and were therefore encouraged

when we knew this man was prepared to put in writing, the full amount being paid.

The next few days were spent in hot pursuit of verifying ownership papers, plans and permits etc., with the help of our solicitors.

Finally our solicitor advised that the sale was genuine. We came back to the owner's office to reserve our flat with the initial payment of \$960.00. Mr. Veal signed papers on behalf of the Conference, and handed over the cheque.

It took us four years of troubles and pain, search and sweat to find a place for worship. This was the Lord's time for us. The church was very happy with the news.

It was Palm Sunday when we had our first service in the new flat. It was the day which reminds us of the Lord's triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We also entered the new flat and into a new situation with the triumphant Lord.

We were convinced that it was the Lord's doing that the tyre of our taxi was punctured, the shower of rain drove us into the building, and the owner presented himself at the right time.

Three years ago we purchased two plots of land for our church building. All these purchases were done under the direction of the Lord and for the glory of God. We greatly appreciate the help given by the Australian Churches of Christ for the development of the work in Bombay.



PASTOR BHONSLE AND  
BUILDING BRICKS.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

# ALAN WALKER FOR HOME MISSIONS CENTENARY DINNER

Alan Walker, Superintendent of the Central Methodist Mission, Sydney, has accepted the Victorian-Tasmanian Home Missions Department invitation to be the guest speaker at its Centenary Dinner on 24th August, 1973.

Mr Walker is probably Australia's best known churchman. His views on a wide range of subjects are frequently sought and quoted in the press, radio and on television. During 1970-71 Mr Walker led N.S.W. Methodist churches in an evangelistic outreach known as "Newness: N.S.W." He is constantly in demand as an international lecturer and is the founder of the telephone counselling service "Lifeline."

Invitations to the dinner at the new Masonic Centre of Victoria in Victoria Parade, East Melbourne, will shortly be available representatives to all Victorian churches and committees.



## Links with Timor criticized

The joint Roman Catholic-Australian Council of Churches agency, Action for World Development, has called on the Australian Government to sever commercial links between this country and Portuguese Timor.

The announcement followed the release of information indicating commercial and economic ties between at least two Australian groups—B.H.P. and T.A.A.—and Portuguese Timor.

The Australian Government has voted at the U.N. for resolutions condemning the activities of foreign economic interests in Portuguese territories.

The national secretary of Action for World Development (Vaughan Hinton) said:

"All Australian Churches have expressed concern at economic ties between this country and foreign governments implementing policies of continued colonialism or blatant discrimination against developing peoples.

"Australian economic and commercial links which support the continuation of colonialist policies must not be sustained.

"Action for World Development therefore urges the Australian Government to indicate publicly the full nature and extent of such ties between Australia and Portuguese Timor.

"It also seeks their severance in accord with the principles of justice and self determination enunciated so clearly by all Christian Churches and embodied in U.N. resolutions which the government affirms."

## INNER SPRINGS

### TRY A LITTLE TENDERNESS



It was bitterly cold at the bus terminal and we smiled shiveringly at each other. I guessed him to be one of the boys from the special school nearby. He took his place beside me in the bus and we talked of simple ordinary things that have their own importance for each of us in the common round.

Suddenly he left his seat to pick up something from the floor. His quiet words were lost in the noise of travel as he offered his find to the driver. The reply that came reached to the father-most corners of the bus, coldly abrupt, bringing a chill to my heart that had nothing to do with the weather. "How do I know whose cent it is? Do what you like with it!" In silence the lad resumed his seat. At the next stop I left the bus but before doing so I turned to smile and wave goodbye. Perhaps a little warmth crept back into the cold corners of his heart as he lifted his hand in shy response. Yes, he responded that time. Someday because of the carelessly ignorant he may not!

How merciless we are sometimes, in our unkindness. Have we the right to assume that because a mind is less developed the heart is also, and therefore feels nothing? "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Wasn't it for such as these and those tortured in mind and body and buffeted by life's hurts that His tenderness shone the brightest?

O, Thou tender Christ, fill this heart of mine  
With compassion such as Thine,  
Whose quick perception saw the need  
Ere words were spoken, performed each deed

Of love that lifted, cleansed, renewal brought  
Surpassing human hope or thought,  
O, may that tender touch of Thine  
Be found in every act of mine,

Our Father, remind us amid all our busyness, to keep the touch of tenderness, without which life becomes a burden.

Ephesians 4:23-32

Amen,  
FLORENCE ROSIER

# The Jesus People were also at Nimbin

JESUS PEOPLE formed part of the scene this month at the controversial Nimbin festival of Acquarius, in the far north of N.S.W.

Young people from a number of different Christian groups took part in the Nimbin festival, as a way of presenting the alternative values of Christianity.

There were groups from Teen Challenge in Sydney and Brisbane, the House of the New World in Sydney and the House of Freedom in Brisbane, the Evangelical Union in Brisbane University, and Anglicans from Armidale, as well as other groups like the Seventh Day Adventists and the Children of God.

Other religions were also represented such as the Divine Light Mission and the Hare Krishna groups.

The impact of the Christian groups was not large, though they formed an identifiable part of the total scene.

However, there was little overt

hostility to Christianity, though there was equally little enthusiasm for it.

"Most of the kids were not terribly interested," said one of the "Jesus people" this week.

"Most of them were into a pantheist trip, with God being in nature and in everything—or they'd say God was within them."

Some of the Christian groups had produced literature for the occasion, but there was not a large response to this.

At one stage, some of the residents got together a "Hare Gumboot" procession, in mock imitation of the Hare Krishna people—and also aimed partly at the Christians.

One group had spent \$900 on producing a 24-page newspaper called "Nimbin truth" and tried to sell it for 20 cents a copy. But there were few sales.

Another group, from the House of the New World, had produced several broadsheets, numbers of which were taken by people visiting the geodesic dome housing the "Jesus tribe".

However, many were reluctant to take any literature.

The Jesus groups tried to get together for an open air service on the first Sunday of the festival, but the program was poorly organised and failed to attract many non-Christians.

However, there were many opportunities for personal contact, and many members of the "Jesus tribe" engaged in serious conversation with Nimbin participants.

Nimbin was a "do-it-yourself" festival, with emphasis on self-reliance and on groups teaching each other.

The "Jesus people" took part in these activities, with pottery exhibitions, and staging of street theatre presenting the Gospel in modern idiom.

Paul Hopkins, of the House of the New World, said this week Christians were accepted as part of the scene generally.

The House of the New World teamed with the House of Freedom to form a tribe of some 20 people, who were active throughout the festival.

"We had a number of visitors," he said.

"Kids came down and sat down, and did some of the pottery work, and we talked with them.

Some of them took our literature and we had some good conversations."

—"Aust. Baptist".

## WORD TALK NO. 75

### A.B.C. OF THE BIBLE

The Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of Heaven are synonymous, the latter term being used exclusively by Matthew.

There is no direct O.T. usage, but in the later books of the O.T. and in the Apocalypse writings, the Kingdom of God was identified. Jesus held the Kingdom of God as central to His teaching. For him it meant literally "the reigning of God". He began his ministry announcing the Kingdom (Mk. 1: 15), and there are 115 further references to it in his teachings. The Kingdom stands central in the Lord's Prayer (Matt. 6: 33) and in the parables (Matt. 13:24 etc).

The Kingdom of God is seen in three senses: It is present amongst us now (Lk. 17:21), it is an eternal fact, and it will be completed in the future. The Kingdom is here now in a small way (Mk. 4:30-32), but it will grow and be recognised by all. His coming Divine rule will be spectacular (Lk. 21:5-36). The Kingdom is mentioned six times in Acts and about twenty times in the Epistles, finishing with a view of the triumphant Kingdom in Revelation.

DICTIONARY. The Kingdom of God represents the reign of God in the hearts of people. It is a reality for all who proclaim him King, but it is yet to be realised by others.

FOR TODAY. Augustine in the "City of God" stresses the separate realm of the kingdoms of man and the Kingdom of God, but we live with the fact that while the Kingdom exists in our world because of our impurity of commitment the world also exists in the Kingdom. Too few of us allow God to rule completely. The Kingdom is wider than the Church for it includes all who obey God but it includes the Church.

## Kingdom

C. H. Dodd tries to solve the tension between the existing Kingdom and the coming Kingdom. He places the future fact as being in existence now—"realised eschatology". Even if Dodd's view is not completely acceptable, the implications are tremendous: "God is alive and at work in the world, in you and me and in . . . Wow! . . . everything!" as the TV ad. says.

We work best for the Kingdom when we start working within ourselves "You sweat too much blood for the world," Leo Tolstoy told an enthusiastic young reformer. "Sweat some for yourself first . . . If you want to make the world better, you have to be the best you can . . . You cannot bring the Kingdom of God into the world until you bring it into your own heart first".

Regardless of what the world does we must live within the rules of the Kingdom of God. As a student replied to the Russian judge who imprisoned him for refusing military service on the grounds that he belonged to the Kingdom of God, "Sir, the Kingdom of God may not have come for you but it has come for me, and I can live no differently."

"Future Shock" is the physical and psychological illness that is affecting people who cannot bear the rate of change in our world. Alvin Toffler indicates that with the increased rate of change more and more people will suffer from future shock. Citizens of the Kingdom of God stand secure even though the Heaven and the Earth be shaken "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken."

Gordon Moyes.

# OPEN FORUM

Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the management or editorial panel. Correspondents are requested to say only what is true, kind, necessary, and Christian, and to say it in no more than 250 words.

## IN DIALOGUE

To the Editor,

As one who has been involved over a number of years in dialogue and in sharing in worship with Roman Catholics and other Christians, may I offer a few words of reassurance and explanation to those who express their fear and resentment at such ecumenical encounter.

The first requisite for any Christian in such encounter is to know clearly what he believes and why he believes it, and then to be prepared to share it openly and lovingly with others of different persuasion. If he expects to be listened to he must also be prepared to listen in like manner. Neither party expects the other to be "converted" to his own particular understanding of scripture but the true ecumenical spirit rejoices in the love shared for a common Saviour and seeks the illumination of the Holy Spirit upon shared insights and differences. In this spirit there is much that can be shared in worship and prayer together.

Part of the gain is that one discovers what others really do believe and is not left with a series of half truths and false information about such doctrines as the presence of Christ in the eucharist and the sacrificial aspect of the mass. Strange as it may appear to some, it is quite possible to know in detail what others believe and to respect their sincerity and still remain firmly true to one's own beliefs.

Speaking from my own experience I can only affirm with gratitude to God that in ecumenical encounter I have found abundant evidence of the fruits of the Spirit and a complete negation of that spirit which sits in self righteous judgment upon others and brands them as superstitious, idolators, apostate and worse.

If the fruits of the Spirit are ample evidence of his gracious presence I have seen enough to convince me that the living Christ moves amongst his people as they seek to be reconciled toward each other through the ecumenical movement. K. G. Dawson, S.A.

## LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

### KEEPING GOD AT BAY (7)

To the Editor,

This is my seventh letter about keeping God at bay. Your readers can try a different one every day of the week.

Perhaps the best way of keeping God at bay is to become an amateur theologian. This means reading the latest paper back and newspaper theology, and whether you understand it or not, talking profoundly about it. Particularly impress your friends with name dropping of authors and book titles. Collect theories about God and religion.

But all the time you are doing this, it won't do to pray. You will go to church of course; but don't get caught up with the worship. Just check out on the theology of the hymns and prayers and sermons. Don't read the Bible . . . read what other people say about the Bible. And in all of your theological delvings never try to work out what it means to love God. You have to stay quite academic about God if you want to keep him up in the clouds where your head is. Let him near your heart and you've had it.

Amateur theology enables you to take God to pieces and analyse him; and as every one knows when you take something living to pieces it dies. This is why some amateur theologians talk about "the death of God." The only trouble is that God has a disconcerting habit of manifesting himself just when the experts tell us that he isn't round any more. But at least it's worth a try.

Another thing that being an amateur theologian does for you is to provide you with authorities. Whatever queer or wonderful theology you come up with, you'll find some one who's written a book about it supporting your views. And whatever theological position you take as a refuge against the urgings of God, you will find a theologian to support you. So whether you get your theology from Bullick or Tiltman or the Jehovah's Witnesses, you can use it to keep God from real issues such as what are you going to do about letting him really change your nature.

In other words you can be so busy learning about God in the abstract, that you can forget all about loving him. That's the best way to keep him at bay.

I won't write any more on this subject.

Hoping you are the same,

TERTIUS

## JUDGE NOT

To the Editor,

The three letters concerning the Ecumenical Service, - (A.C. May 19) made me wonder if I have joined the "church of judges." Do we think we are so right in doctrine that we can judge others? Surely this is for God to do. We can only see what is an outward expression of worship. Can we judge men's hearts? I think not. All one in Christ Jesus. This statement does not mean in worship, but because we all, regardless of denomination, worship and love God as our Saviour. Surely this is unity. A biblical quotation is 1 Samuel 16:7 or from New Testament, Matthew 7:1-29.

Rhonda Chapman W.A.

## TWO MRS. MORRISONS

There was a letter in the last issue of the A.C. "from a Mrs. V. Morrison." The author of the letter was not Mrs. Vera Morrison from Hartwell church, Vic. - Editor.

## HELP FOR ALCOHOLICS AND DRUG ADDICTS

A Counselling and Referral Service is provided in the premises of the Victorian Foundation on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence by the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne with the encouragement and support of the Inter-Church Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, which is affiliated with the Victorian Council of Churches. The Director of the Service is Rev. A.N. Appleby.

The Counselling Service is providing a worthwhile facility in relation to this community problem. There have been 174 cases in touch with the Service up to the end of March since it began to operate at the beginning of November, 117 of these presenting during the January - March quarter.

In most cases of contact with the Service it is not the person in the grip of the alcoholism or drug addiction who makes the first contact, but a close relative (usually the wife) of that person. Nevertheless there have been many exceptions to this rule. Almost all cases have been problems with alcohol although the Service is available to deal with problems of drug abuse.

The Counselling Service seems to be fulfilling a function of enabling help to be given at an earlier (and more favourable) stage than otherwise seems possible.

The Director has established liaison with Alcoholics Anonymous and the Al-Anon Movement as well as with the Treatment Agencies.

## NO CHRISTIAN PRESIDENT

(Syria)-The people's Assembly has agreed to President Lt. General Hafex al-Assad's request to amend the national constitution to require that the religion of a president of the republic "shall be that of Islam." The Arab republic is 87 percent Muslim, 13 percent Christian.

-World Vision.

# CASINO OPPOSED

There are plans for the establishment of a casino at the popular seaside resort of Victor Harbor, S.A., 56 miles from Adelaide.

The proposal is being strongly opposed by the Baptist church. The church secretary, Rev. M. Francis has written to the State Premier, and Federal and State parliamentarians about the planned casino.

Mr Francis said that the scheme would destroy the character of the town which was a tourist attraction in itself. The economic gain would be minimal as the casino complex was designed to be

self-contained to keep customers to its own attractions. Mr Francis said that the casino was also making a "take-over bid" to monopolise and modernise local amenities.

However, he said that the greatest objections were moral. "The obvious co-vice gambling are prostitution and drink. The less obvious, hence the more insidious, is corruption on all levels.

In his letter Mr Francis called on councils, the chamber of commerce, the State government, and local citizens to resist "this impending flood of moral sewage."

# CENSUS FIGURES MISLEADING

The Grand Secretary of the Loyal Orange Institution of Victoria, John Morris, said that "figures published recently concerning the religious affiliations of Australia's population are misleading."

He said "that the total number of people calling themselves 'Roman Catholics' and 'Catholics' have been considered by the Commonwealth Statistician as simply belonging to the Roman Catholic Church in Australia. Many people calling themselves 'Catholics' have no connection whatever with the Roman Catholic Church and it was totally misleading to consider them as such."

Mr. Morris said "a sizeable proportion of Church of England people only refer to themselves as being 'Catholic'—meaning of course a believer in the 'universal' Church of Jesus Christ, as contained in the Apostles Creed." Methodists, Presbyterians and most other Protestant Denominations, which adhere to the Apostles Creed, also consider themselves as 'Catholics', he said.

It was wrong for the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church to advise their congregations to consider themselves as the one and only Catholic Church. On the other hand, Mr. Morris said, "the media are to be congratulated for using the term 'Roman Catholic' when referring to news' items pertaining to that Church."

"On studying the Census' figures it is clearly noticeable that the number of Australians stating their religious affiliations as simply 'Protestant' have

increased by over 130% to a record 235,658 persons. These figures are separate from the figures given for the other Protestant Denominations. This sizeable increase can be attributed to the growing dissatisfaction amongst Protestants against the Rome-ward trend of the ecumenical movement," Mr. Morris said.

## Thinking of moving?

Every year a significant number of our church members shift house. The core group of church members at Traralgon is looking for members who will join them in an outreach ministry to their community.

In 1969, the Vic-Tas. Home Missions Department undergirded a major developmental thrust in this growing Latrobe Valley town. D.E. Stewart was appointed as first full time minister. After a pioneering four years he has been succeeded by W.D. Hamilton. The church is keen to grow, but needs help if it is to adequately meet needs in the area.

Teachers, public servants and others are invited to consider a move to Traralgon. Information about the town, church and employment opportunities can be obtained from the church secretary, M. Gray, of 23 Banks Street, Traralgon, 3844, or Department Director, D.H. Smith.

# JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

DO YOU KNOW THIS STORY?

1. It is a fable, a bit like those of Aesop.
2. The "characters" are an olive tree, a fig tree, a grapevine, and a bramble.
3. The one who told it had to run for his life as soon as he finished. (see answer on page 18).

PRIZES  
FOR 10's & UNDER.

Write to Jay, Box 101 Essendon North, Vic. 3041, and tell him what were the "Seven Wonders of the Ancient World." With your answer, send in a drawing of one of them. There is a book prize for the first three correct answers. There is still time!

Sign in barber shop' Why get clipped somewhere else?

Keep going! When you seem to fail, Don't linger to deplore it. Your luck is always better if It has a "P" before it.

Joe: "I sure feel like telling the boss where to get off again."

Moe: "What do you mean—again?"

Joe: "I felt like it yesterday, too."



"... and I don't intend to be regarded as a mere figurehead!"

# Teachers call ban on TV ads: Drugs, Alcohol, Cigarettes

A Victorian teachers' conference on drug education has called on the Media Minister, Senator McClelland, to consider banning all advertising of drugs, alcohol and cigarettes.

The 450 teachers at the conference overwhelmingly endorsed the resolution expressing concern at the increasing use of alcohol, cigarettes and other drugs by students.

A recent survey in Victoria showed that at least fifteen per cent of secondary students had experimented with drugs at some time and that drinking and smoking among school children had reached a

serious level, and that health programs were largely nullified by national advertising.

The two-day conference will prepare a report on health education for the Victorian Education Department.

Victoria's Assistant Director-General of Education, Dr. Shears, told the conference that health education should not become solely the responsibility of schools.

Dr. Shears said the problem had to be tackled in the home, by the church, and by the media.

A first requirement for an effective health education program should be the inclusion of teacher education and the techniques and materials which would enable teachers to develop an attitude to health problems.

"They should also be provided with a knowledge about health problems which will result in a dynamic, practical and relevant health program in the schools, associated not only with a health course but also with all teaching," Dr. Shears said.

The conference on drugs and society was held at Monash University.

## BOOK SECTION

### EVANGELISM IN THE EARLY CHURCH

by Michael Green  
(Hodder & Stoughton) \$4.95.

Michael Green says that most evangelists are not interested in theology and most theologians are not interested in evangelism. He is deeply committed to both and has produced a book characterised by careful scholarship and love of the gospel.

In one sense, everything the church does is evangelistic and there are many books being written about the breadth of the church's mission. Green, however, keeps to evangelism in the strict sense of proclaiming the good news of salvation to men and women with the purpose of converting them to Christ and making them a part of the Christian church.

Primitive evangelism was, he says, by no means mere proclamation and exhortation; it included able intellectual argument, skilful study of the scriptures, careful, closely reasoned teaching and patient argument. If it had an inadequate intellectual basis it would not have lasted.

Green, then, seeks to show what evangelism is, what is the heart and core of the gospel, the different emphases given by the various New Testament writers, and evangelistic methods, motives and strategy.

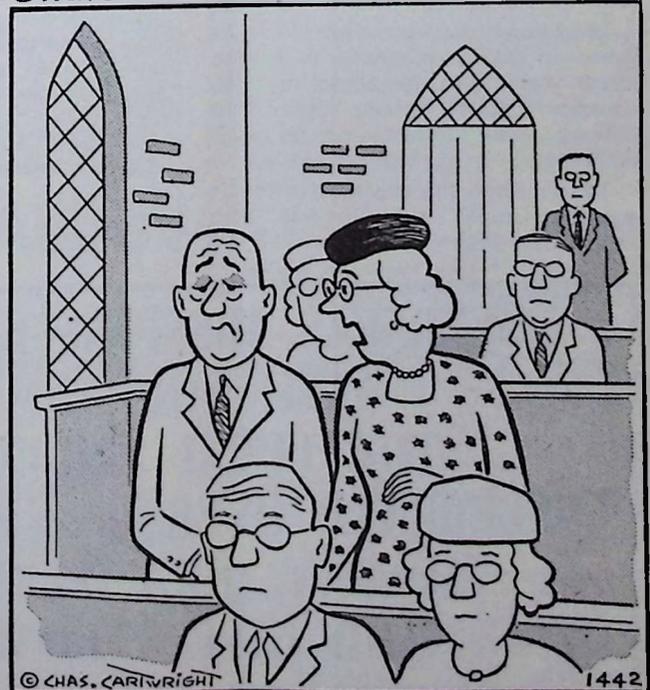
The gospel is for all mankind, but tradition and background can make it harder for some to accept it. Both Jews and Gentiles would have to be baptised into the church of the Messiah, but this demand would be a much greater shock for the Jew, who would have to renounce all claim to be God's elect on the grounds of birth and circumcision.

There is a fine statement on baptism where he is concerned with the significance of the act but does not even mention the later controversies over the form of it. "The main point so far as we are concerned is the universal and quite unselfconscious link in the early church between the invisible encounter of man's faith with God's grace, and its outward expression in baptism . . . baptism and conversion belong together; it is the sacrament of the once-for-allness of incorporation into Christ."

The study looks at evangelism in the first two hundred years of the Christian Church as well as in the New Testament itself. The many notes and references for those who wish to follow up and check sources are in a special section of more than fifty pages and there is, as there should be in every good book, subject and author indices.

Although the study is of the early church there are useful reflections from the modern standpoint. Indeed the whole purpose of the book is to affirm that evangelism is, or should be alive and well on planet Earth. The final words of the book are, "Evangelism is the very life-blood of the early Christians: and so we find that 'day by day the Lord added to their number those whom he was saving'. It could happen again, if the Church were prepared to pay the price."

### Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Are you in pain, or is it the sermon?"



## LAMINGTON SQUAD

Rather than write a cheque for \$9 as their "quota" to the Department of Christian Education, the Doncaster C.Y.F. did it the hard way! They made 1500 lamingtons and had a lot of fun at the same time. Those putting on the finishing touches are Ross Cornell, Bruce Farmer, Geoff Wilcott, Warren Cutler and Glen Standing.

## BIBLE IN PIDGIN

The first of a series of short Gospel selections in Pidgin has been distributed throughout Papua New Guinea by the Bible Society.

The Society's Translation Secretary for Australia and the Pacific, the Rev. Euan Fry, said the Pidgin translations were adapted from the Pidgin English New Testament, produced in February, 1969.

The format used for the selections was based on similar selections in English which had been produced by the American Bible Society under the designation of "Jesus teaches in words and works."

Ten thousand copies of each of the six separate Gospel selections had been printed in Pidgin, with about 6,000

already distributed in the past three months, necessitating the likelihood of a further reprinting soon.

The Bible Society's representative in Papua New Guinea, Miss Bev Burke, said she believed the new literacy selections would meet a very real need among the indigenous people who were just learning to read Pidgin.

They were under the headings of the Pidgin-equivalents of "Jesus calms a storm", "Jesus makes 10 lepers clean", "Jesus talks about love," "Jesus blesses little children", "Jesus teaches about giving", and "Jesus makes a leper clean."

The six selections issued were taken from group A of the selections recommended for new readers by the United Bible Societies.

## W.A. GRADUATES

The State Organiser, K. J. Patterson, received the Western Australian Institute of Technology's Graduate Diploma in Administration at a graduation ceremony at the Institute on May 11. Other church members known to have received Associateships are: D. Edwards and Mrs. Nova Farriss (both in Social Work) and M. Shreeve (in Accountancy). Margaret Sewell recently received her B.A. degree at the University of W.A.

## ANTI-CONVERSION LAWS

(India)—Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has told members of parliament that here government does not plan to introduce "anti-conversion" laws to curb the activities of Christian missionaries. Mrs. Gandhi said the government welcomes "non-conversion activities" by missionaries and other groups. Although some state governments in India have enacted "anti-conversion" or "Hindu protection" laws, she pledged that the Indian government "will not do anything to curtail or impair the constitutional provision guaranteeing an absolute right to preach and propagate religion."

—World Vision.

"CALVARY ENCOUNTER" (Horsham, R. Roberts) "Calvary Encounter" Youth Convention on June 1-4, conducted jointly by "One Way In" Coffee Shop (C of C) and Noradjuna Methodist Coffee Shop. More than 100 registrations from young people who came from places as far away as Melbourne, Bordertown, Hamilton. All meetings were held in Horsham Youth Centre . . . A "Walk-N-Witness" was held in main street, and an open air meeting in May Park. Mr Roberts led morning Bible studies and afternoons took the form of a Film Festival. A Gospel Song Festival featured the "Maranatha Sound," "The Way and Hidden Treasure," also "Lyn and John" and "Bugs and Blessing"—an informal workshop. Evenings had Robyn Pocklington (O.A.C.) as speaker. There were a number of initial decisions. Each session attracted more than 200 people, with John Mereweather as leader.

**OVERSEAS MISSIONS STARTS  
WITH YOU AND  
THE LOCAL CHURCH  
CELEBRATE OVERSEAS MISSIONS  
SUNDAY, JULY 1, 1973  
AND GIVE STRONG  
SUPPORT ALL YEAR**



John Somerville, President, 1973-74  
Western Australian Conference,

# WHITE PAPERS

## ON LIFE AND FAITH

**GIVING A HAND TO THE HANDICAPPED** It is good news that the Federal Government will set up a national advisory council to overhaul programmes and services for the handicapped. We welcome every attempt made to treat the handicapped as real people, and to give them their rightful place in normal society.

A recent church report from Canada is indicative of the growing concern everywhere for the needs of such persons, whatever their disability. The United Church of Canada sponsored a special Sunday to highlight the needs and potential of handicapped children; and the Roman Catholic bishops of Canada has as the theme of the 1973 Respect for Life Day "the handicapped in the family of man." Their programme fostered respect for the dignity, rights and needs of persons who are mentally or physically handicapped and the only way to foster respect for them is to become directly involved in their lives.

We do not often realise how little provision there is in our cities for the physically disabled. The Victorian Association of Occupational Therapists issued last year a little book called "Melbourne for the Handicapped, 1972" in which the city's transport, buildings, and services, are graded according to their accessibility and use for the handicapped. Category "A" means that there is complete access by wheelchair, "B" means there is difficulty, and "C" means impossible.

The railways take wheelchairs free of charge in off peak periods, shipping lines are not keen to take people in wheelchairs and Melbourne ports are difficult to negotiate even with assistance. Airlines are most co-operative, and Tullamarine Airport is rated "A" for entrance, interior, toilets, and cafeteria.

The churches do not rank as high as theatres and cinemas in entrance, interior, and toilet facilities. Some of the churches are inaccessible to the handicapped. But even many of our hospitals received a poor rating.

There are about 2500 disabled persons in Victoria and we cannot expect that all facilities and services will be tailored to their needs, but they are persons and they have a reasonable right of access to and enjoyment of life in our community.

Church people are playing their part but we could be doing much more to make the world of the disabled a more meaningful place in which to live. By chance we came across the 1972 report of the Victorian Society for Crippled Children and Adults. It gave honourable mention to the West Preston Church of Christ which organised a "Miss Multiple Sclerosis" contest which raised \$500 to be given to the Society for the purchase of a motorised wheelchair.

Incidentally, the name of the Society's headquarters is "Ability House"—a happy choice, and a challenge to us to do all in our power to remove the "dis-" from the disability of our friends and neighbours.

**"WORLD CALL" + "CHRISTIAN" = "DISCIPLES"** In January, 1974, the two magazines of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), U.S.A., will become one. The monthly "World Call" and the weekly "Christian" will become "Disciples" a fortnightly journal with an expected circulation of 200,000. James L. Merrell, presently editor of "World Call" will head up the new paper.

**GOOD GRIEF!!** U.S. federal agents ignored labels warning that four film canisters contained unexposed film and should not be opened, and opened them anyway. Inside was forty-four pounds of semi-processed opium (street value when refined into heroin: \$2.5 million). The film cans arrived in New York from Thailand by surface mail bearing mailing labels of the Evangelical Alliance Mission (TEAM). TEAM officials are at a loss to know how anyone in Thailand got their mailing labels. (TEAM has no work there). Mission leaders say they are confident none of their people are involved, but nevertheless are doing some checking of their own.

## IRISH CHURCH PRAYERS FOR PEACE

Geneva/Rome, May 24 (EPS)—Irish Protestant and Roman Catholic Church leaders have expressed concern about the harm that has been done "to the cause of Christianity throughout the world by an oversimplification of the nature of the terrible conflict" in Ireland.

In a letter addressed to the Vatican and the World Council of Churches, the Irish church leaders described their nation's conflict as based on "political and social issues with deep historical roots" and deplored the fact that it is usually depicted as "primarily religious in character".

The letter was sent in response to a joint call for prayer for Ireland on Pentecost Sunday, June 10, issued recently by the Vatican Secretariat for Promoting Christian Unity and the World Council of Churches.

The signatories to the letter were William Cardinal Conway, Archbishop of Armagh; the Rev. E. R. Lindsay, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland; the Rev. R. V. A. Lynas, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland; and the Rt. Rev. George O. Sims, Anglican Archbishop of Armagh. They expressed appreciation for the initiative undertaken by John Cardinal Willebrands, President of the Vatican Secretariat, and Dr. Phillip A. Potter, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches.

Irish leaders said that "only a fraction of one per cent of the population" is actively engaged in violence and "the overwhelming majority of people in Ireland, of all religious beliefs, passionately desire peace."

The letter expressed the hope that the Day of Prayer will lead to a better understanding of the problems that have led to the present tragedy. It closed with a wish that Christians everywhere will be inspired to continue to pray for peace and justice among men everywhere.

—E.P.S.

**GOING TO WORLD CONVENTION? MEXICO CITY, 1974**  
HOWEVER YOU TRAVEL  
WHATEVER YOUR PLANS  
OR EVEN VAGUE IDEAS  
TELL I. J. CHIVELL FIRST,  
104 GROTE ST.,  
ADELAIDE, S.A. 5000.  
HE CAN SAVE YOU TIME, MONEY AND WORRY

# U.S.A. Church Union Report

By Robert F. Friedly, Director of Communication for The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Church union in the United States, following the 11th plenary meeting of the Consultation on Church Union, can best be summed up as full-speed ahead on everything except structure.

Delegates from eight denominations representing some 22 million Protestants took steps to bring to a vote in their churches what appears to be strong agreement in matters of faith, worship and ministry.

But after listening long and hard to three years of responses to the proposed Plan of Union, they found an "unreadiness" on structure. Thus they decided to engage in a variety of experimental relationships, particularly at the local level, from which suitable and more flexible structures for a united church might emerge.

Among the steps taken at the plenary meeting were:  
—authorizing a committee to formulate all parts of the Plan of Union relative to

faith, worship and ministry, so that a vote can be taken by next year's plenary with subsequent action by the denominations individually;

—encouraging the churches at all levels to explore "alternative models of church life," with particular reference to middle judicatory, or regional, structures;

—initiating a task force to make a theological and sociological study of the forms of the Church at the local level, where church members had greatest difficulty with the Plan of union;

—approving the creation of 30 "generating communities" to work at church union at the local level under basic principles of "wholeness" developed by the Consultation on Church Union;

—approving a report of the Commission of Structures for Mission including a

series of models for local united action; —commending to the churches the proposal of Dr. Paul A. Crow Jr., general secretary of COCU, that some regular practice of sharing the Lord's Supper across denominational lines be initiated ("interim eucharistic fellowship").

—E.P.S.

## Vic.-Tas. C.W.F.

Mrs G. Stirling presided at the first Council meeting of the new Conference year, June 1. 143 delegates represented 59 churches.

Mrs J. St. Aubyn led in devotions and prayer of intercession was given by Mrs F. Morgan.

Because of her close association with aborigines Mrs Enid Fisher was able to give a very informative address on "The Aborigine problem—are they or are we the problem."

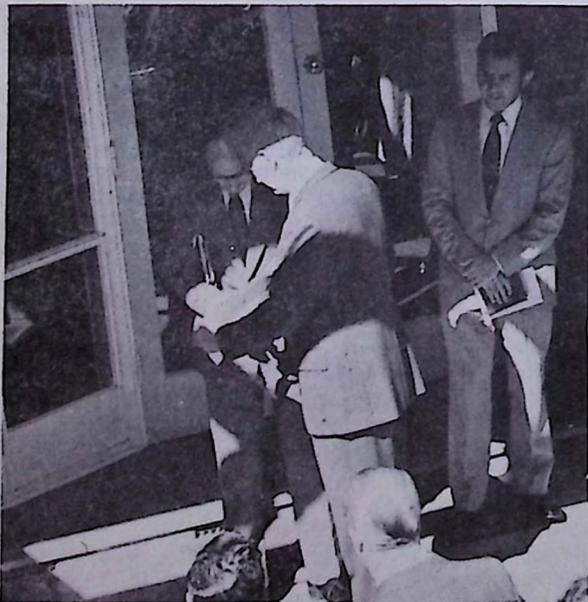
The Golden Bag project for the building of a home for missionaries on the island of Santo has reached the record amount of \$2552.76.

Mrs Freda Morris was congratulated on her election to the Conference Executive. Mrs Beth Humphries has been appointed as Living Link in place of Mrs Win. Beale.

Next Council—July 6, 10.30 a.m. Speaker—Sister Shirley Sedawie. Hospital Visitation Committee will conduct a "Bring and Buy" day.

—M.N.

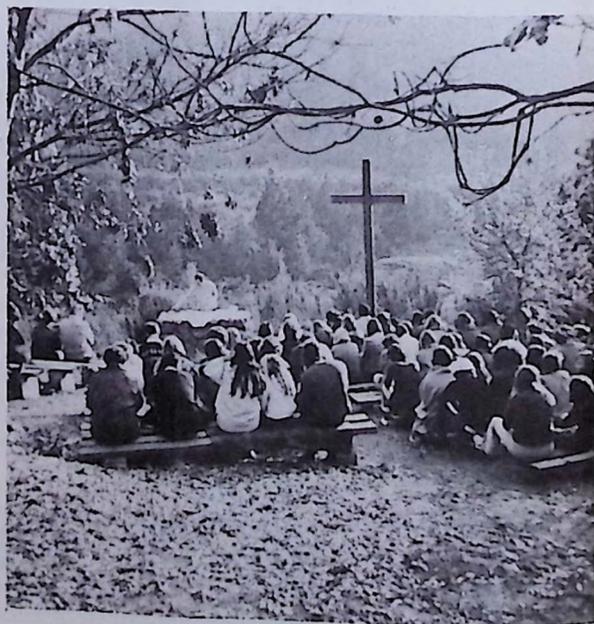
## Canberra Churches Celebrate



On May 6 the congregation at Ainslie Church, Canberra, A.C.T., met to celebrate the clearing of the Building debt (see "A.C." June 2, 1973.)

Shown above, left to right, are Ray Stephens, Treasurer of the church and Vice-President of Federal Conference; C. H. J. Wright, minister; and Graham Gilmour, Federal Conference President. They are burning a copy of the letter acknowledging final payment.

The next Federal Conference will be held in Canberra, Oct. 21-27, 1974.



The Canberra churches of Ainslie and Lyons shared recently in a family camp in the Y.W.C.A. Camp on the bank of the Murrumbidgee River, a few miles from the Capital.

The photo shows the Sunday morning communion service. The minister of Lyons church, Colin Dredge, is presiding at Table in the Memorial Chapel overlooking the valley.

## AT 60, MURRAY BRIDGE OPENS NEW MANSE

G. R. Stirling, Vice-Principal of the College of the Bible, was guest speaker at the church's 60th anniversary services.

A family tea was followed by meetings for the ladies and the youth.

On Sunday afternoon the new manse was opened and celebrations concluded with a family tea and service. The old manse has been sold for \$7500.

Recently the C.W.F. conducted a meeting at "Resthaven" and presented biscuits to the ladies.

The Presbyterian church joined us for a recent Sunday evening service when the Church of Christ Youth Choir from Adelaide took the service.



—"The Standard" photo

The official party standing at the door of the new Church of Christ, Manse, Murray Bridge, S.A., at the opening. From left to right are: M. Thompson, secretary; H. Long, chairman of the Board; W. Harper, church elder; G. R. Stirling, Vice-Principal, Churches of Christ College of the Bible; and the minister at Murray Bridge, A. H. Coleman.

## ANGLICANS CRITICIZE SCHOOL SEX COURSE

The Anglican church claims a proposed sex education course in NSW condones pre-marital sex.

The course was prepared by the NSW Education Department.

The church's criticism is in a written submission by its diocesan board of education in Sydney.

The Education Department sought opinion from all Sydney churches.

Although the church commented favorably on most of the proposed course, it claimed the department intended to teach sex in "a moral vacuum".

The board said that one section called "Men and women show their love for each other in many ways" had been written "with 12-year-old children in mind".

### 'ACTION'

In this section an illustration of sexual intercourse appeared beside photographs of public and approved methods of demonstrating affection commonly seen by children.

The board said the section implied that intercourse was just another action open to any man or woman to express love.

This would puzzle children who had read in the same passage that many people had good reasons against pre-marital sex.

There was no reference to the fact that a moral basis existed for such an attitude.

The board said it would be better to maintain the more conservative norms which characterised parental attitudes in many homes.

These norms would be, in the main, based on religious beliefs and a Christian moral code.

—"HERALD"

**MISSIONARY OUTREACH** (Hurstbridge, Gary Wake). Missionary Outreach to Church speakers for May included T. Broderick, Leprosy Mission; R. Callaghan, Asian Pacific Christian Mission; F. Ambrose, Missionary Aviation; J. Walker, Japan Evangelistic Band; N. Thomas O.M.S. International; E. Hand, Borneo Evangelical Mission. Missionary Giving project has reached \$591 and has now been distributed to these and other Missions . . . For the winter months services will commence at 5.30 p.m. . . . C.W.F. Street Stall prior to Mothers' Day yielded \$87.

**EARLY PRAYER** (Box Hill, K. R. Bond). Prayer meetings are held at 6.30 a.m. and 10 a.m. each Wednesday, also 1 p.m. prior to C.W.F. meetings . . . Regular family gospel services have commenced, the first with film "I was ashamed." . . . C.W.F. were hostesses at the B. and F.B.S. Autumn meeting. Speaker was F. Levett . . . Speakers at C.W.E.F. Birthday meeting on Missionary Outreach were Alan Fletcher, returned missionary from New Guinea, and Ron Muller, also recently returned from N.G. . . . Warmbrunn family from Blackburn presented musical items . . . Mrs. Street welcomed back after recent illness . . . Mrs. E. McFarlane is ill in hospital.

### ALCOHOLISM AND GENES

Evidence that children of alcoholics may be born with genetic damage that produces a tendency toward alcoholism has been reported by Dr. George Winokur of the University of Iowa School of Medicine.

He and two associates studied the children of alcoholic parents who were raised in homes where one or both parents were alcoholic and compared them with those removed from such an environment and raised in homes where alcohol was not present.

The psychiatrists discovered that 48 per cent of the children of alcoholics raised in alcoholic homes themselves became addicted to liquor upon reaching adulthood. But they also found that 50 per cent of the children of alcoholics raised in non-alcoholic homes fell victim to the disease.

Surprised by this finding that home environment did not seem to be as significant a factor as had been thought, they checked it by studying children of non-alcoholic parents who were raised in homes where alcoholism was present. They found that only 14 per cent had become alcoholics as adults. The rate for those raised in non-alcoholic homes is said to be 8 per cent.

Other studies, says Dr. Winokur, strongly indicate some kind of hereditary factor is present, raising serious questions about the long-standing belief that a bad home environment is a principal factor in alcoholism.

—"Christianity Today"

## CHURCH NEWS

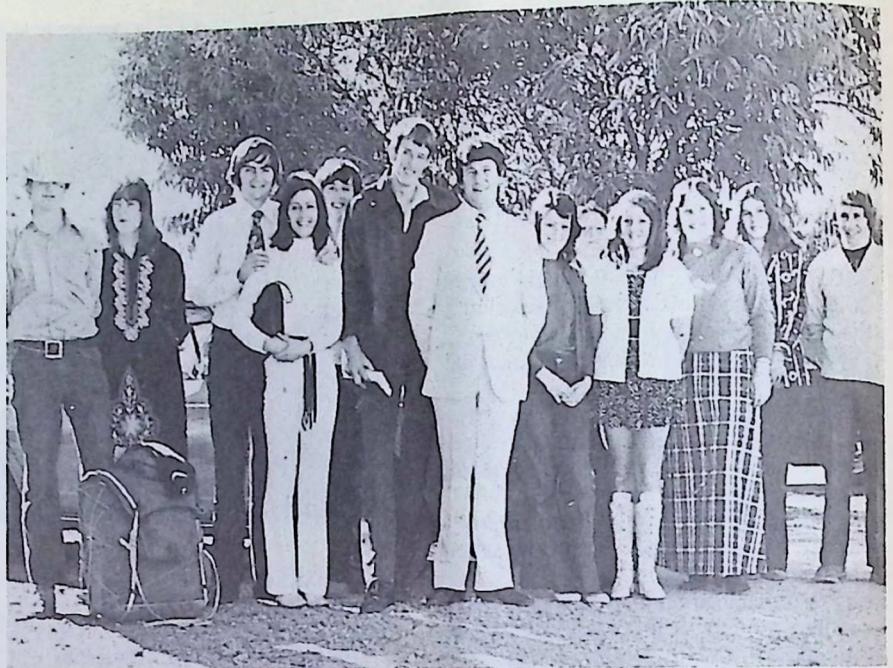
**CAMP DEBT TARGET.** (Rockhampton and N. Rockhampton, B. M. Nowitzke) Rockhampton churches have undertaken to eliminate the debt on the Emu Park Camp Site over the next five years . . . Churches are co-operating with H. M. Dept. and other churches in the ministry at Gladstone. Church men played host to the ladies at Fellowship Tea on Mother's Day. Ladies reciprocated by taking part in the Gospel Service, with assistance from S.S. A.J.C.E. will commence shortly and a Youth Council has been formed to co-ordinate youth work . . . Recent guest speakers included E. T. Hart and Roy Cheeseman.

**B.A. ANNIVERSARY** (Adelaide, Grote St., H. M. Long). Speakers for anniversary included . . . Miss D. Bird, (C.E.F.), Frank Archbold, Brian Cranney (B.S.Supt) and minister. Children were trained by Murray Lindsay. Pianist was Lawrence Hughes . . . Unique for Grote St., "Mother's Day" morning service was conducted by the ladies of the church: sermon, president's talk, prayers, Scripture readings, giving of thanks, distributing emblems . . . At sporting clubs church parade the captains of the six teams participated.

Miss Judy Hadley, about to go to Japan with T.E.A.M. visited us to solicit our prayer-support . . . The death occurred recently of both husband and wife (Mr. and Mrs. L. Olds) after more than a quarter-of-a-century of service to Grote St., as resident caretaker/cleaners . . . C.W.F.'s anniversary took the form of providing an evening programme for the residents of the Salvation Army institution in the city "The Bridge" . . . Over 40 of our C.Y.F. attended the Cliff Richard concert at "Apollo."

**RETURN FROM INDONESIA.** (North Sydney, A. Murphy). Noel Flint, our former pastor (for seven years), returned to Sydney in May after six months on the mission field in Indonesia. The church board is still seeking a replacement . . . The lack of a full-time minister has increased the responsibility of each member to work. Many have responded and led our worship and gospel services, and a number of young people are currently training in sermon preparation.

**THREE BAPTISMS** (Mt. Evelyn, D. K. Kernick). Three young people were baptised and welcomed into fellowship. Several others are taking instruction prior to baptism . . . Most of the young people have attended the Easter camp at Cheshunt and the Inter C.E. camp at Hall's Gap . . . Recent speakers have included G. Jackson, on furlough from Borneo and B. Betts. . . The amount of the 1972/73 faith missionary offering was higher than the original promise. The final figure is \$2600 . . . The 1973/74 promises stand at \$3900.



**600 MILES TO SEE A FRIEND** When Lyn Baxter moved from Stawell-Ararat, Vic., to Minister to the church at Lirie, S.A., the young people of his former churches decided to visit him at the first opportunity. Twelve of them made the long trip and are seen above with Mr. Baxter (centre, in white suit).

**EXPOSITORY SERIES** (Swanston St., Melb., A. L. Webb). The Winter Preaching programme features expository sermons from Romans (Sunday A.M.) and Revelation (Sunday P.M.) . . . Friday evening visitation evangelism classes continue to be well supported . . . The One Way Coffee Inn fulfils a vital ministry every Saturday evening. Up to 100 young people come in from off the Street for coffee and conversation . . . Missionary giving of the church is at the highest level for many years. The church is heavily committed to the support of eight members who serve in New Guinea and Asia . . . Up to 80 Asian students are in regular attendance at the various services of the church.

**STEWARDSHIP CHALLENGE** (Berri, K. Fechner). Church is entering a "Challenge in Stewardship" programme with all the Riverland churches . . . S.S. has hired a bus at \$10 per week to bring children from outlying districts. This has resulted in an accommodation problem and the Board is seeking to increase the B.S. area . . . Girls' Brigade took part in parade service . . . Boys' Brigade have purchased a set of drums . . . A church family camp in tents and caravans is planned . . . The Riverland churches Officers' Board met for a weekend at Barmera camp site led by Brian Stanford from Victor Harbour church . . . Camps every 2 months for different age groups are held . . . Sunshine Citizens (Senior Citizens) provided afternoon entertainment at St. Catherine's Home for the Aged.

**CHORAL VISITORS** (Caulfield, K. W. Berston). At church anniversary, Churches of Christ Choral Society rendered "The Glorious Appearing" at morning service. There were fewer former members than usual at the "Home

Coming" . . . Ray McKenzie, D.C.E., led discussion groups at evening talk on "Understanding Our Teenagers" . . . New, modern open-type S.S. has commenced with Mr. Risson as leader. Kindergarten Dept. and Bible Class will continue present system . . . Merv. and Beth Davies recently returned to the work with Wycliffe Bible Translators in New Guinea.

**GRAHAM CRUSADE QUERIED.** (Washington, D.C.)—The Council of Churches of Greater Washington has refused to endorse a planned 1974 Billy Graham crusade here. Instead, the Council has asked its 500 member churches to decide individually whether to endorse it. A statement adopted by the Council said that a majority of its 48 directors believe that Mr. Graham's participation in civil rights' efforts has been "less than adequate" and that "the basic religious forces of the community are being ignored by the organisers" of the crusade in that the Council was not invited to attend a local ad hoc committee planning meeting.

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## VICTORIA

**GOSPEL IN WOOD** (Gardiner, L. S. Dewberry). Young people conducted a communion service through a script called "Gospel in Wood" with church decor dressed appropriately . . . S. W. Corlett prepared choir and narrators for "Gospel in Music" when Stainer's music was presented . . . Mrs Anderson and Mrs E. Buckmaster were speakers on Mother's Day . . . Mr and Mrs S. W. Corlett took whole of evening service on May 27 with "Walking in God's World" in music, slides and narrative . . . Principal Williams has begun a series of addresses to morning services . . . Three of our men gave messages at recent evening service, supported by male choir.

**EQUAL TIME** (Cheltenham, G.K. Moyes) Evening interviews this month were from industry management in comparison with earlier interviews of union officials . . . New manse is beginning to look like a building, the framework being completed and brickwork started . . . Recent speakers have been Conference President, Eric Patterson, on one of his first official visits, Ian Corlett, and John Purves.

**BIBLE FEATURED** (Berwick, K.J. Clinton) Focus on Bible reading was featured for Literature Week. "When You Read" leaflet was distributed and bookstall of modern translations of scripture and S.U. notes worth \$36.00 were purchased . . . B. & F.B.S. films, "How we got our Bible" and "Penzotti Pathways" have been screened . . . "Pause a moment with Charlie Brown" with appropriate theme music has been used for children's segment in morning services . . . C.Y.F. entertained ladies at tea for Mother's Day.

**JAVA SCHOOL AIDED** (Ivanhoe, J. McCormick) The church is conducting a Poverty Luncheon and proceeds are for student housing at the Sekolah Farm School, Central Java . . . Mr & Mrs Bert Anderson have moved to Mount Evelyn after thirty years with the church . . . Rev. Roy Bradley, leader of the Pastoral Care Clinical Training Program at the Austin Hospital, was guest speaker at 8 a.m. breakfast at Mrs Conning's home on June 3. Proceeds of \$40 were in aid of hospital equipment in the New Hebrides . . . Bruce Hammett returned after two and a half years in London.

**VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY** (Bentleigh R.W. Marshall) George Mathieson, D.C.E., held meetings with S.S. teachers recently. Two main points made by Mr Mathieson were that we should spend time in a concerned discovery of others and that we need to listen creatively to allow people to communicate their needs . . . Ninety senior citizens from local organisations and the Oakleigh Guest Home, were entertained in the hall on May 27. At 5 p.m. the Woodroffe family provided messages in song.

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### BIRTHS

**CLARK** (Cockroft). Elizabeth, Harvey and John welcome Katherine Elizabeth, born May 11th at Harvey, W.A.

**LEWIS** (Kenneally)—Rhonda and Brad welcome with love a son, Andrew David at W.A. Hosp. Ferntree Gully on 1st June, 1973.

**RENFREE** (LENG) To Janice and Phillip, a daughter, Andrea Jane, on 21st May. Sister for Jillian.

**ENTICOTT** (Keatch). On May 21, 1973 to Aileen and Michael, a son, Iain David.

### ENGAGEMENT

**ALABASTER-HEATH** Bet and Bob Alabaster together with Olive and Bob Heath announce Helen and Colin's decision to have a life partnership with Christ as their head.

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**TATE**—Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Tate of 65 Williams Road, Blackburn, Vic., are pleased to announce the 55th Anniversary of their wedding on June 8, 1918 at the Raleigh Street, Footscray Church of Christ by Jos. Whelan.

### SILVER WEDDING

**CHALK-NEUMANN** June and Graham at East Ipswich Church of Christ on June 19, 1948 Mr. L. G. Burgin officiated. Congratulations on your 25th Anniversary! Love from Bev., Graham, Jenny and Denise.

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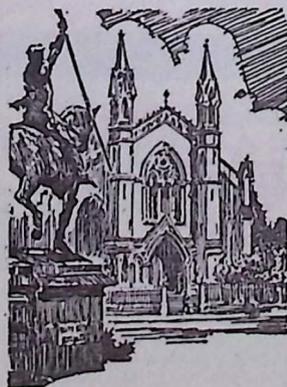
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### 75th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

Sunday, July 8th	—	11 a.m.:	Worship of Communion. Speaker — Colvil Smith.
		7 p.m.:	Marriage Re-affirmation Service. For all couples married in the Church.
Tuesday, July 10th	—	7.45 p.m.:	C.W.F. "Back to Hawthorn".
Saturday, July 14th	—	7.45 p.m.:	Inspirational Rally. Speaker — Dr. Lloyd Jones.
Sunday, July 15th	—	11 a.m.:	Worship of Communion. Speaker — Dr. Lloyd Jones.
		1 p.m.:	Luncheon.
		7 p.m.:	Evening Service. Speaker — Dr. Lloyd Jones.

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7 p.m.—Exposition of Revelation.

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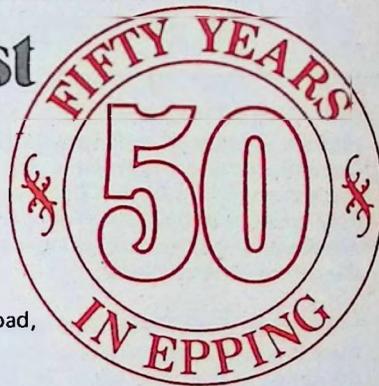
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CLIMAX OF FIFTY YEARS — Speaker, Keith W. Farmer (Present Minister)



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● Stanley Oldfield, Neil Hawes, Hornsby,  
N.S.W.

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● Joyce Brown to Geoff Clark, Dandenong,  
Vic. ● Gail Williams to Ken Barnard, West  
Preston, Vic. ● Lois Symes to John Pertill,  
Harcourt, Vic. ● Faye Chislett, Red Cliffs, to  
Walter Chapman at El Paso Texas, ● Kathie  
Leng to Alan Middleton, Red Cliffs, Vic.  
● Dianne McMillan to Raymond Dunk, Glen  
Waverley, Vic. ● Alison Clark to David Watts,  
Tamworth, N.S.W. ● Dianne Steele to Neil  
Whiteside, Box Hill, Vic. ● Amanda Cox to Ian  
Hockey, Fremantle—Hamilton Hill, W.A.

### DEATHS

● C. Gruhl, Victor Harbor, S.A. ● Pearl  
Crawford, Tamworth, N.S.W. ● Christina Mary  
Wilmshurst, Murray Bridge, S.A. ● Albert  
Haslemore, Mrs Amy O'Neill,  
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By Robert C. Larson

If you were given the honor of being made a "hero" in today's China, you would have instant fame and your fans would number 800 million. Your photograph would be displayed on walls throughout the country, and the masses would be encouraged to follow your example of selflessness and revolutionary integrity. The message would get across quickly and all without assistance from Madison Avenue.

In recent years, "heroes" of the People's Republic have come from solid stock: Party stalwarts, humble peasants who have "feared neither hardship nor death," and outsiders who have given support to China's revolution.

Now we have a twist. Digging deep into history, Peking theoreticians have come up with a new hero to help prove the authenticity and infallibility of Materialism. His name is Nicolaus Copernicus.

The Purple Mountain Observatory of

the Chinese Academy of Sciences recently produced a lengthy article on Copernicus to commemorate the 500th anniversary of his birth. Copernicus, you may recall, was the Polish founder of the heliocentric theory establishing the sun as the centre of the universe.

The article said Copernicus' heliocentric theory was the materialistic concept of the universe that had been "in struggle" against Ptolemy's "idealistic" geocentric theory for 300 years.

In attempting to put "divine power" in its place, the article said: "Copernicus' heliocentric theory was developed in the struggle against the reactionary influence of the Church. No matter how twisting was the road and how hard was the struggle, the irrepressible power of science could prevail over the power of God, and the materialistic concept of the universe could prevail over the idealistic concept of the universe."

In case the reader still didn't get the point, the theoreticians spelled it out clearly in the conclusion: "History moves forward all the time and we have entered the great era of socialist revolution. The responsibility is now on the shoulders of the proletariat and its political party to correctly understand and reform the world. In the very good circumstances of today, we must have the heroic will to seriously study Marxism and Mao Tse-tung's thought, to criticise metaphysics with dialectics."

This is heady jargon for a country whose population is 85% rural. Whether the average farmer in China really understands or cares about "idealist," "metaphysics," and "dialectics" is open to question. Comments from recent swimmers to Hong Kong make us wonder how much the average man-in-the paddy really cares.

But with the way China is becoming open to outside influence these days, who knows? Perhaps the every mention of Copernicus will be a reminder to the Chinese masses that all the "brilliant thoughts" of history have not come from the Chairman.

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## VICTORIA

TO EXTEND MINISTRY (Dawson St. Ballarat) F. C. Hunting has accepted the church's invitation to extend his ministry for a further three years, beginning Jan. 1974 . . . Mothers' Day service was led by the ladies at Mount Clear. Mrs Lylia Hocking presided at the Lord's Table, Betty Hatley helped with communion. Maude Smith and Claire Elms sang a duet, Maude Smith told the children's story, Howard Trezise gave the address . . . Mrs Joan Suttie is progressing after illness . . . May services were on the "Family and Home" . . . Recent speakers were Colin Hocking and Albert Graham.

TO SUPERSTAR (West Preston, A. J. Stora) Ron Nash organized a theatre night to "Jesus Christ Superstar," followed by discussion . . . Church bus and several cars conveyed large group to Town Hall to unite in the witness service of Conference . . . Merle and Bert Watson are missed now that they have moved to North Croydon . . . 25 "elderlies" appreciated informal evening arranged at the Walters' home . . . Youth 2 camping at Monbulk were visited for breakfast and worship by Youth 3 . . . Kay Nash and Mrs Ray Hall made decisions for Christ.



## TASMANIA

NEW FOR BOARD (Margaret St. Launceston, M. D. Hamilton). At the annual meeting Colin Allen and John Masteeman were elected to the Board together with all retiring elders and deacons . . . 14 Good Companions and their leaders spent a week-end in camp at Sidmouth . . . Sympathy is expressed to Mrs. J. Harrison in the death of her father . . . C.W.E.F. funds profited by \$40 from a used clothes sale.

TOUR OF W.A. (Devonport, E. W. Taylor). Twenty-three girls and leaders of Girls' Brigade from various companies left on May 28 for ten days' tour of W.A. B.B. Sections 1, 2, and 3 and G. B. have all attended church parades . . . On May 13 at "family night" several mothers spoke of their aims in teaching children . . . The church expresses sympathy to Mrs. Bannon, Sr., Mrs. Lade, and the McCulloch family in bereavements . . . Miss T. Buxton was farewelled on entering W.E.C. college. She is the eighth young person from this church who is in full time service or in training . . . Missionary speakers have been Miss H. Smith, Mr Mitchell, R. Buckland, and G. Hanson.

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## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**SCARBOROUGH MINISTRY (W.A.).** A news item in the May 5 issue of the "Australian Christian" was incorrectly shown. The report from Scarborough church stated that the minister, Ken Duffy, had accepted an extension of ministry until the end of 1974, to be reconsidered annually. We apologise for the error.

**GOLDEN WEDDING (Mundulla, R. Combridge).** The church gladly shared in the celebration of the Golden Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Milne . . . Ladies arranged Mothers' Day service. Speaker was Mrs. Yvonne Hogarth . . . During "Back to Mundulla" Centenary celebrations were combined with Methodist and Anglican churches for a P.S.A. in Mundulla Hall. Guest speaker was Sir Douglas Nicholls. Items were given by Barry Williams of Kaniva, a combined choir and a young people's group . . . A nursing sister told C.W.F. of her experiences as an English "Nanny".

**WEMBLEY DOWNS BAPTISM (G. Chapman).** Robyn Cant was baptized on May 6, at our Scarborough church . . . Kelvin Parry, Director, D.C.E. in W.A. visited the church to explore with us the subject of Human Relationships and to assist in our educational programming . . . Senior Youth Group held a camp at Mahogany's Creek . . . One Senior and two junior netball teams and two senior and two junior basketball teams are in winter competitions . . . Alan Matheson was interviewed on his work amongst migrants in our adult education class . . . The church is represented in "Task Force" by church treasurer, Graeme Black, who is also Task Force treasurer. Our minister is Administrator of Task Force and our young people are involved in the volunteer work force . . .

**CRADLE ROLL DEDICATION (Dianella)** A Cradle Roll Dedication was held on Mother's Day with a good response from many parents. K. Parry led the meeting . . . Girls' Brigade held "Mother and Daughter" evening with every mother of the 30 girls attending. Mrs. Lauris Kidd was guest speaker. Most girls received awards. Miss M. Sewell received Officer's commission at April Church parade . . . Four boys attended Senior Boys' Brigade Training camp. Some young people helped in junior camps over school holidays . . . C.W.F. Mother's Day stall realised \$60.

**LOSSES FROM CHURCH (Fremantle-Hamilton Hill. H.R. Fitch.)** Church saddened by the deaths in one week of two elderly members. Mrs. G. Briddick, long-time member, now resident in new unit at Joondanna Conference project. Recent speakers were E. Smith and B. Stitt . . . Fremantle C.W.F. June meeting featured cake stall for Overseas Missions funds and cushions for Joondanna Homes.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

**GABBERT MISSION (Lidcombe, P. A. Pitts).** The Mission with Eddy Gabbert brought inspiration for Lidcombe and Auburn with a number of decisions for Christ. . . . Missionary Month speakers were from Aborigines Inland Mission, Sudan Interior Mission, Leprosy Mission, and Child Evangelism Fellowship, with a donation of \$20 going to each. Wycliffe Bible Translators, Regions Beyond Mission, and Miss Margaret Horne from our own field were featured as well, and \$316 was donated to Woolwich Bible College as part of the venture for this year. Mrs Grace Millen has been baptised . . . A C.E.F. Five Day Club was conducted over school holidays. . . . The new Inter. C.E. is growing. . . . The church men installed a hot water service in the manse . . . Mothers' Night Service was taken by the church ladies . . . A special "Open Kindergarten Dept." attracted a lot of mothers.

**MOSMAN MINISTRY (D. Smallbone)** Mr and Mrs Smallbone have decided to terminate their ministry at the end of this year. They will move to Baukhams Hills to commence a new work there . . . C.W.F. have provided new carpet for the platforms . . . A working bee was held on May 19 to improve the building.

**TERM EXTENSION (Hornsby, D.A. Oldfield)** Annual business meeting of the church was on May 31, all nominated were elected. D. Bishop was added as a deacon. Mr Bell did not seek re-election as Elder because of transfer to Coff's Harbour. The meeting called Mr. Oldfield for a further two years as minister as from January, 1974, which he accepted. J.V. Ellerby was re-elected as church secretary and Mrs. E.R. Bishop as treasurer . . . The Gospel Crusaders conducted the June 3 gospel service.

**TEACHING MISSION (Tamworth, C. Crago).** At recent teaching mission, "Preview of Eternity", seven commitments were made to Christ . . . Visit from Gospel Crusaders' musical team was a wonderful weekend . . . Young people presented the programme at the C.W.F. Mothers' Day meeting. . . . Outreach to Armidale, supported by Tamworth and Inverell churches, is bringing young people face to face with Christ's demands for a closer commitment . . . Thank offering from Easter Camp was donated by the young people to Mr. Ferguson for his work at Armidale. Bob. Ferguson travels from college to Armidale each weekend.

**BOWRAL CRUSADE (Bowral, C.G.V. Thomas).** The church received real spiritual uplift from the ministry of Eddy Gabbert and John Timms in a Crusade from May 13 to 26. There were five who made Confession of faith, three baptisms and six welcomed into membership, three by transfer and three by faith and baptism in 15 days. There have been many new scholars added to the S.S. The

Officers' Board has elected a committee to guide the visitation of church members so that the work begun in the time of Crusade may continue. The thankoffering amounted to \$360.45.



## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**ABORIGINAL PASTOR (Christies Beach, C. A. Jones).** J. Brayside, Aboriginal Pastor, spoke at rallies on May 5 and 6 aimed at involving our Aboriginal Community of the district . . . Mr Thomas of O.M.S. International was speaker on May 13. Mothers of younger Church School pupils were invited to attend their lesson . . . The ladies held two street stalls simultaneously on May 12. They yielded over \$300, a portion of which will be donated for the purchase of carpet for the minister's study and forward area of the church . . . The church united with Christies Baptist on Good Friday morning and on Easter Sunday evening for the film "Sound of the Trumpets" at Christies Woolworth's Mall. 220 were present.

**44TH GUEST SPEAKER (Victor Harbor, J. Luff).** I. J. Chivell was guest speaker at our 44th church anniversary . . . Christian family week featured B.S. staff and scholars in the 11 a.m. service . . . On Mothers' Day the evening meeting was conducted by the Womens' Christian Fellowship with special singing and film "Worship, a Family Heritage" . . . W. Stumpf, from Yemen, recently showed slides and spoke of his work. . . . At the Quarterly Combined Mens' Fellowship Tea at Adare Methodist Church, the guest speaker was Rev. A. G. Nancarrow, Managing Editor of "The Central Times".

**ELDER FAREWELLED (Blackwood, L. Cooke).** Ed. and Esther Ratcliff were farewelled on leaving to live in the Flinders Ranges. Their unsparing love and strong influence for good for old and young people has always been evident. We will miss their wise counsel and concerned caring for people. Ed's years as elder, deacon, B.S. leader and teacher and Esther's work in B.S. and women's work will long be remembered . . . The fund for Indian Famine Relief has grown to over \$2500.

**OLD GIVES WAY (Lenswood, A. E. Cremin).** The final service in the chapel was held on May 20 when 86 were present to hear an address by A. J. Ingham, past minister. Luncheon was prepared by the ladies. The following day work was started on demolishing the timber framed building built in two weeks, 38 years ago, at a cost of £109.0.0! The site is now cleared and foundation work will start very soon. The church is meeting in the Methodist Church, with S.S. in the local school . . . The C.W.F., S.S., and C.Y.F. are functioning well. There have been three recent decisions . . . Winter series of Bible study had commenced meeting in various homes.



## VICTORIA

**DISTRICT MISSION** (Red Cliffs, C. R. Perkins). The church is preparing for a District Mission with Allan Avery . . . Bible study meetings are being conducted in members' homes . . . Young people held a barbecue on May 27, and then conducted evening service . . . C.W.A.F. street stall realised \$95 for main fund raising effort.

**HAPPY HOURS** (Peel St. Ballarat, W. Mills). Happy Hour programmes for children have been conducted by Harold Whyatt of Sydney . . . Two girls' teams coached by Mrs Coates have been entered in S.S. competition. . . . Junior Girls' Club leaders are Elaine Warner and Helen Graham . . . C.W.F. and Badminton Club combined for bus trip to "Jesus Christ Superstar" . . . Coffee Shop was led by Harold Whyatt and "Impact" . . . Two Woolwich students, Daryl McLeod and Kevin Rankin, led recent gospel service.

**"FESTIVAL OF FAITH"** (Glen Waverley, R. Elbourne). A "Festival of Faith" in the High School Assembly Hall has been arranged by Burwood, Chadstone, and Glen Waverley churches, August 12-19 . . . Pastoral groups arranged social evenings during May . . . A singing group led by Sandra Gibson and a drama group led by Dawn Henshaw are assisting with services . . . Mrs Elbourne is congratulated on the presentation of the Brotherhood Audio-visual . . . Officers arranged evening services for month of June at Oakleigh Guest Home.

**21ST FOR C.W.F.** (Harcourt, Jim Spiker). 60 ladies attended 21st Birthday of C.W.F. including many former members and other visitors. Bendigo ladies gave items and Mrs. Milligan told of her trip to England . . . The Bendigo Quartette took the whole service on May 20.

**HOME AND FAMILY WEEK** (Dandenong, C. E. Watson). "Home and Family" week was held May 6-13. There was a time to "chew and chat". Films were shown and focus was on "Communication in the Family" . . . Keith Marshall, Commonwealth Industrial Registrar, was recent speaker. Our minister's son, Ken Watson, was a recent soloist . . . Mrs Dorothy Allison, our youth minister's wife, spoke to the church on her work teaching deaf children . . . Four parcels have been sent to India, mainly consisting of rice and milk to help with famine relief . . . 32 travelled by bus to the Melbourne Town Hall for the United Evangelistic Rally . . . Junior C.E. meets at 11.30 during Sunday morning service . . . A luncheon was held on May 20 to celebrate Mr. and Mrs. Cawthorpe's 50th Wedding Anniversary . . . Members of the C.W.F. took the evening service on Mothers' Day.

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# QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



What are ways in which we can make the church board more effective? (Part 2).

In the last issue we tried to make the point that the church board meeting is often so cluttered up with trivial matters that the more important business is relegated to the "tired" end of the meeting, is hurried through, or postponed.

Priority should be given to the church's quality of life—and to the more important business of the church: evangelism, pastoral concerns, community and world outreach, Christian education, etc. Lesser items should be delegated to individual or small groups or dealt with by the full board only after the "big" matters are given adequate attention.

Some practical suggestions:—

1. Hold the board meetings when members will be at their best. Some churches hold their meetings on Sunday afternoons because they feel that on a week night after a full day's work, folk are not able to give long and sustained attention to important church matters.

2. If meetings are held on a week night, limit them to two hours or two and a half hours at the most. It is unlikely that the members will be at their most creative and effective after more than two hours. Talking about the business of the kingdom. Especially after what has already been a full working day.

3. Deal with the most important items first. Forget about the formality of the minutes of the previous meeting—over a year they can waste hours!! Tackle the big business of the church while the spirit is fresh. Deal with the routine matters after the important items have been dealt with. If time runs out these can usually be left without damage to the church. Items of importance carried over from the last meeting should be on the agenda anyway.

4. The board members should know the starting time—and it must be the starting time, with members expected to be there. They should also know the ending time. Unless a matter of urgent crucial significance has still to be resolved, the time of meeting should not be extended.

Quite often, board meetings run late simply because of bad habit. The consistent late arrival of folk at board meetings (and they have no trouble being punctual at church services!) has been attributed to subconscious resentment at the trivial items that clutter up the first part of the meeting, and to the feeling that the meeting will be a late sitting.

(Next issue: A suggested agenda.)

## THE LAST WORD...

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