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NEW CHAPEL FOR ULVERSTONE, TAS. (See page 4)



Jewish fanatics open war on missionaries

JEWISH fanatics have apparently declared an open war on missionaries in the Holy Land.

Seven persons entered a shop on the Mount of Olives three weeks ago and overturned a kerosene stove causing a fire which destroyed copies of the Bible and New Testament as well as old manuscripts. The shop was the International Centre for the Holy Scriptures.

Three yeshiva (Jewish religious seminary) students and a girl—said by police to be linked with the Jewish Defence League—were remanded in custody in connection with the arson.

A few days later unidentified persons attempted to set fire to the printing press of the Christian missionary "Mount Zion Reporter" in the Bak'a quarter of this city. The fire fizzled out before causing damage a police spokesman said.

The following week a bomb went off under the window of a house belonging to a woman member of a missionary sect.

At a government level extreme orthodox Jews have been trying to pressure the Israeli administration into outlawing Christian missionaries outright but so far the government has not given in. Apparently the country's leaders do not want to tarnish their image as guardian of the holy places.

Nevertheless, two Christian missionaries have been expelled from this country in the past few months accused of endangering the peace by trying to convert Jews.

The local council of Zichron Yaakov (a resort town near Halfa) so violently opposed the sale of a vegetarian pension to an alleged German Christian group that when all other delaying tactics failed, lied to the would-be seller and told her that she had not paid her back taxes on the property. In order to make the claim stick they cancelled a rebate which had been previously granted.

A district court judge reprimanded the local council for its underhand tactics when the pension owner took the case to court. The judge could not argue with the

council's right to cancel the rebate however.

School books in the early grades here do not carry the normal plus sign (a cross) but a version which does not include the bottom vertical. An education ministry official claimed that this was to prevent the child from being confused between the "x" of multiplication and the cross of addition.

A barbecue machine installed in a large supermarket in Tel Aviv was refused a Kosher (ritually clean) certificate by the resident Kashrut supervisor until a part of

the machine's trademark was blanked out. The offending portion showed a crown surmounted by a Maltese cross—the trademark of "Barbecue King".

The Hevra Kadisha Burial Society refused to permit a bereaved relative put a Gregorian date on his father's tombstone. "The secular date is counted from the year of Jesus' birth", a representative of the society claimed. This was deemed sufficient reason for the ban.

So far no lives have been lost—Jewish or Christian—in the witch hunt for missionaries.

The attacks have been condemned by responsible Israeli officials both secular and religious but this does not stop them happening.

While Jewish Defence League leader Rabbi Meri Kahane denied that his organisation was behind the arson and bomb attempts he did claim that the perpetrators were "good Jewish boys".

—Peter Allen—Frost in "British Weekly".

INNER SPRINGS

Do you believe in the burning bush?



Was it real? Or was it the figment of a fertile imagination? In a sense it was neither. We have all seen it many times. It takes place each year at a given time when some wondrous chemistry transforms tree and shrub into a blaze of mingled red and gold. Whether it was such that Moses saw, or a certain bush caught by the rays of the sun and turned to living fire we cannot be sure. Certain it was that in the normal course of his duties as a shepherd he came upon something that caused him to stand still—and in that moment of hushed expectancy the Will of God was made clear. Sweeping aside all his doubts, his sense of inadequacy, that will would dominate his life from then on. Heaven and earth met together! Little wonder then that it was Holy ground!

Whenever God enters into the heart of man, it must always be considered Holy ground. It is a time when the heart kneels in reverent awe, and Moses must take off his shoes! Thus, whatever form it took, the burning bush stood for a conviction. And a humble shepherd would lead, not sheep, but a nation, forty years through the wilderness in the strength of it! "My ways are not your ways, and my thoughts are not your thoughts," God reminds us, and we know they are not.

One closer to our own day, George Frederick Handel in 1741 said this, "I think I did see all heaven before me and the Great God himself." And out of that revelation was born the profoundly beautiful music of the Messiah, still beloved the world over more than two hundred years later! God has His own way of coming to each.

No sound, no stir, no sign
How couldst Thou cross my
threshold all unseen?

He can and does, and whether it be burning bush, earthquake, or still small voice, matters little—

The wonder of it is the same. We thank You, Our Father, that you still come to us in ways both surprising and delightful. Help us to follow joyously where

Love, Thou didst enter very softly
in

To hold this heart of mine

Exodus: Chapter 3

Amen.
FLORENCE ROSIER

The Church —roadworthy or just a bomb!

By GORDON STIRLING

An analogy proves nothing and should not be pressed too far. Nevertheless an analogy does sometimes help to illustrate a point. I want to use the analogy of the motor car for the church.

For some of my friends the analogy of the church and the car goes something like this. The car (the church), while rather old, is in excellent condition. All its parts (members) are in good running order. The only trouble is that it stays in the garage all the time. It never goes out into the world to give any one a lift, or to "deliver the goods," or to go on any message of goodwill or service, or to advertise its Maker. It has a driver-mechanic (pastor) who spends all of his time polishing it up and seeing that the parts are in good condition. Every Sunday morning he gives it a weekly tune-up, and on Wednesdays oils the moving parts. On other days and nights he has a routine of attending to certain parts according to age and shape and size. On Sunday nights the doors of the garage are open to sinners, and they can come and look at the car and sit in the seats. Not many sinners take advantage of this, being involved with other museum pieces in the community. This is a pity because a sinner by a wonderful process of metamorphosis could become a part. The driver-mechanic never takes the car for a run in the world, lest it be soiled with mud and dust. He is content to keep it in the garage in a state of excellence. As it is going nowhere, there is no point in it being filled with Spirit. So there it sits with all that potential for mission, waiting for the Maker to come to the garage and take it Home.

While that analogy may contain some slight elements of truth, I believe that the following analogy fits the facts better:

The car is certainly a vintage model. In some ways she is an "old bomb". Some of her parts are in excellent working order. Some are a bit worn out and one day will have to be replaced. Some have stopped working. Many are "fair to middling." But she goes, and that is the main thing! She is hardly ever in the garage. Nearly all the time she is chugging

round the world giving people a lift, distributing goods and services, and giving information about her Maker. She is seen more often than any other vehicle at various institutions, and at the homes of the needy, the lonely, the sick and the troubled. She does not work as fast and as efficiently as her Maker intended. (Some one has said that a car is as good as its weakest part.) However the "old girl" is doing more by way of service to need than any other vehicle round the town!

As she is not an automatic job, she needs driver-mechanics. Strange though it may seem, those drivers who have come to love "the old bomb" seem to get more out of her than others. Driver-mechanics are always on the look out for new parts. Some of these do not work so well after the newness wears off, but the old car pushes on regardless. She is a bit slow up the hills, runs like a bird down hill, and gets along reasonably well on the flat. But she has never broken down yet and she is not likely to.

Two or three times a week she goes back to the garage for an oil change and grease and a bit of a tune-up. Some driver-mechanics are better at it than others. It depends on what oil they use and how hard they work at getting the best out of a pretty mixed lot of parts.

The car goes best on Super-Spirit. The fact that she does not go faster and work more efficiently and do more miles to the gallon is that even with the best Spirit, you cannot get more out of a car than the parts can cope with.

There have been all sorts of schemes for doing her up and streamlining her. In fact lots of amateur mechanics and duco artists have had a go. You can see the evidence. Some of the changes have improved her performance and her image; some have not. At present she looks as though she will last the distance. This will involve constantly fitting new parts to replace the old and worn ones, and doing a lot of maintenance on some of the weaker parts, but that's motoring!

The old car comes in for a lot of criticism. She is criticised by the public

who are glad to make use of her when it suits them. She is criticised by those who do not believe in her maker, by some who hang around the garage and specialise in pointing out weaknesses, and by some passengers she carries most of the time. Her style, her colour, her parts, her performance, her drivers, are all criticised.

She is even criticised for the way she blows her horn in public, depending on whether the sound comes out of the right, the left or the centre. And if she does not blow her horn at all she is criticised. Even some of her drivers, when they get together, have real hate sessions about her. But let anyone else say such things and they are ready to give them a holy punch on the metaphorical nose!

Driver-mechanics sometimes become a bit disenchanted with her because she is a bit slow, or a bit "vintage," or because they feel that she has let them down too much. So some of them get jobs driving a variety of band-wagons, all of which are very much needed. Other driver-mechanics stay with the "old girl." They have developed a real affection for her, in spite of everything. They know very well that not only have drivers had to put up with some of her funny little ways, but that she has had to put up with all sorts of drivers . . . the learners, the erratic ones, the gear strippers, the horn blowers, the ones who think that they have to kick her to start her, and the temperamental ones who drive on the accelerator and the brakes. And it looks as though as long as the old car keeps going there will be idealistic young men and women who will want to learn to be driver-mechanics.

Perhaps the Maker could have provided a V8 super stream-lined automatic job, to get his work done in the world. But this would have meant discarding as worthless, most of the parts in the "old bomb." And there would not have been many driver-mechanics fit to drive it. So the Maker is still using the old model. He seems to have developed an affection for her too!



Ulverstone opens a new Church Centre

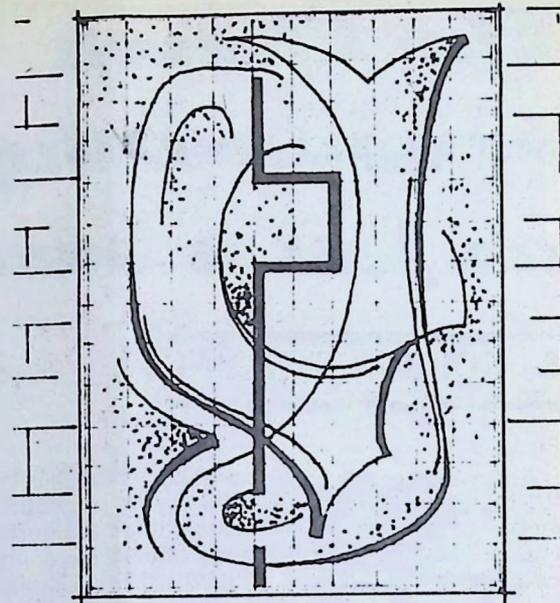
G. J. FOOT OPENS NEW BUILDING

Three hundred and fifty people participated in the opening services of the new Ulverstone Church Centre on April 14, 1973. Prior to the opening the Ulverstone Municipal Band entertained guests. G. J. Foot, Chairman of the Tasmanian Building Extension Committee, opened the new building in the presence of visitors from most Tasmanian churches and local civic leaders.

Representatives from the Vic.—Tas. Home Missions' Department and the Properties Corporation were also present.

The work has been undertaken over a two year period by voluntary labour and sub-contract. C. J. Orr, the work's supervisor, estimated that 7,000 man hours had been put into the project. Over 240 attended an official tea on the Saturday evening and at the three special services on the Sunday at least 140 attended each meeting.

R. B. Elbourne, minister of Glen Waverley church, was guest preacher. C. P. Clayden is minister of the Ulverstone church which is a major developmental project of the Vic.—Tas. Home Missions' Department.



Drawing of Mural

"THE MEETING PLACE OF CHRISTIANS"

From New Testament times the symbol of the fish has been intimately associated with Christian thought. Jesus called upon his disciples to become fishers of men.

The Greek word for fish (ichthys) was used as a confession of faith about Jesus. The letters in turn represented the titles of Christ—"Jesus Christ, God's Son, Saviour." The sign of the fish became a simple declaration of faith in Christ.

In water, fish are always moving. As Christians we are moving and changing according to the circumstances of life. Within the church this same movement is evident. The mural suggests this theme, with the understanding that the Cross is our fixed point of reference.

Christ is the centre of our life in a changing world, our meeting place of faith and the inspiration for our calling as fishers of men.

Through the eyes of a Journalist

"The Cross looks as though someone could be nailed to it."

Nothing more penetrating could be said about the dark brown wooden cross used as a motif for the East wall of the new Ulverstone Church of Christ, and the designer of this finishing touch may feel amply justified as the comment came from a woman more interested in sport than organised religion.

While the cross and its pile of rocks are the most striking feature of the building, there are quite a few other things to make an impression on an outside observer.

This must surely be one of the most awkward building sites in Ulverstone, with little to recommend it on the way of

attractive surroundings or peace and quiet, but a feeling of space and order has been achieved without resort to avant garde forms that will be very "dated" in a few years' time.

Inside the use of natural wood tones, warm light from the red feature glass in the vestibule windows and the almost informal proximity of the pastor to the congregation, at least at the opening, make this church a welcoming place.

To me, used to writing reviews of art exhibitions shown in galleries, it was an encouraging sight to see the ceramic mural designed and made by Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Drayton and Don Smith

incorporated as a part of the church—not just added as an afterthought. To those who will stop and see, rather than just look, pictures in any mood and in any medium can provide a closer link between people than an hour's argument.

Perhaps the most vivid characteristic of the opening and dedication services was the elation of all concerned with the building of the church. A very difficult job had been successfully concluded.

A sense of achievement like this is most necessary to everyone's life, and its value is increased when the exercise is a community project.

—Barbara Lamberton.

N.S.W. 88th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The 88th Annual Conference gatherings were held from May 2 to 8 under the presidency of C.G. Taylor, whose theme during the year, as he has moved among the churches, has been "Who says Impossible!"

The guest-speaker was Dr. Keith Bowes, principal-elect of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Melbourne, Victoria. Dr. Bowes addressed the Ministers' session, at Auburn, on Friday, the Inspirational Rally, at Enmore, on Saturday evening, and the Witness Service, in Scots' Church, Sydney, on Sunday afternoon.

WOMEN'S DAY

Conference really commenced on Wednesday, May 2, with the 78th Annual gathering of the Christian Women's Fellowship in New South Wales, held all day in the Enmore Tabernacle. Mrs. C.C. Wakely, of Belmore, was president, and Don Butler, Director of the Federal Aborigines Mission Board, W.A., promoted the new C.W.F. "Special Effort" for the coming year, which is to be devoted to the Norseman Native Mission renovations.

The special play, entitled "Women to be Remembered", and originally written for presentation at Federal Conference in Perth, was produced by Mrs Ray Baker, of Belmore, with a number of local women taking part.

The incoming president, Mrs. R. Bent, of the Caringbah church, introduced her theme — "We would see Jesus — That He might be Pre-eminent".

BUSINESS SESSIONS

Business Sessions of General Conference were conducted on Friday evening and all day Saturday. A highlight of the Conference Executive report was the visit of Dr. & Mrs. Chae, of Korea, and the impression they made on the churches they visited. Reference was also made to the printing changes and new format of the "Christian Messenger". The newly formed church at Coff's Harbour and also the church at Port Macquarie were duly accepted as affiliated members of the New South Wales Conference.

It was noted that the Stanwell Tops Christian Conference Centre is becoming

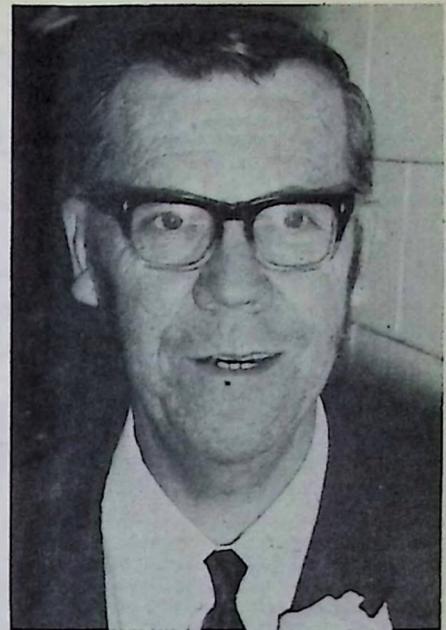
more and more popular, not only with groups and churches from our own Brotherhood, but also with various fellowships representing other Christian bodies. The Committee of Management ended the year with a total surplus of \$11,242.

The Bible College Board report caused considerable concern on account of the critical financial position and the need of the churches to review their giving in order to maintain the training programme at its present level.

The Department of Men's Work reported on the splendid success of the "Fix-it" project, and the sending of a team of eight men to the New Hebrides under the leadership of Mr. Bagley (Bexley North) and Mr. McElvenny (Chatswood) to carry out necessary building activities.

The Social Service Department introduced Miss Jan Nutt who is taking up part-time work as a social worker, while the Overseas Mission Committee featured Mr. & Mrs. George Elliott (New Hebrides), Miss Margaret Horne (New Guinea) and Mr. & Mrs. Barry Zambra (workers-elect for New Hebrides), and gave them an opportunity to speak to Conference. Likewise, in the Aborigines Mission session Don Butler, Federal Secretary, presented an interesting and challenging resume of the future activities of the Board.

The Department of Home Missions and Evangelism featured the newly-developed field at Coff's Harbour, and also indicated the possibility of future Home Mission areas eventually being opened up in such places as Berowra, Toronto, Macquarie Fields and Baulkham Hills. Particular mention was made of the fine ministry of R.C. Dixon in the growing activity of the "Church for All Nations" at Enmore, where recent contacts and decisions, together with the installation of equipment for simultaneous translation, have been most encouraging. In addition special evangelistic efforts by Jack Bond, at Guildford, Caringbah, and Penrith, and a number of similar efforts by Eddie



CLIFFORD G. TAYLOR
PRESIDENT 1972-1973

Gabbert in other areas of N.S.W. have been fruitful.

The Boys' Home Committee announced Talbot Smith's first year as Manager to be a very good one.

The Department of Christian Education also reported an excellent year with Ron Kallmier as Director. Features of particular interest were Teacher Training and Camps, together with the ongoing work of the Bookroom and "Australian Standard" Lesson Materials and the ministry of "Youthquake".

FELLOWSHIP

Apart from the opportunity for fellowship around the meal tables and the splendid provision in this regard of the C.W.F. Catering Superintendent, Mrs. Kath Armstrong, there were many other occasions during the course of the meetings of Conference in which folk were able to share together.

Once again, the Country Ministers met in session at Enmore and entered into discussion on matters of specific interest and concern for those who are labouring in churches in our large, far-distant rural areas.

CONFERENCE OFFICERS:

For the Conference years 1973-74 the following were elected to office:

President: R.C. Hewitt.
President-Elect: J.G. Shaw.
Vice-President: K.L. Baker. Secretary: F.J. Stephenson. Associate-Secretary: J.V. Ellerby. Treasurer: I.J. Torode.

On the Saturday night of Conference, during the Inspirational Rally, Ron C. Hewitt was introduced by C.G. Taylor as the incoming President. In a brief message to the assembled gathering, Mr. Hewitt indicated that he had chosen as his theme for the year: "I do believe".

—A. G. Elliott.

• 108TH CONFERENCE

VICTORIA— TASMANIA CHURCHES



MURRAY J. SAVAGE

THE PRESIDENT

Murray J. Savage, minister of the Church at Hartwell, climaxed a year of serious and active involvement with the churches and departments by presiding with gracious firmness over the business sessions of annual conference and by a probing address on the strengths and weaknesses of our churches.

AT THE TOWN HALL

Many churches closed their evening services to enable their members to make a united witness at the Melbourne Town Hall on April 29. There were 2,400 present.

Musically, it was one of the brightest rallies for years. The Lowana Singers from Cheltenham sang songs that appealed to all ages. Ted Keating was leader of song and the crowded City Hall responded with enthusiasm to songs new and old. He was assisted by Peter Burnham and Geo. Warren. Shirley Radford was again at the electronic organ and this year her brother, Mark, gave a trombone solo.

The message was given by A. E. White, Editor of the "Australian Christian" and Federal Secretary of Churches of Christ in Australia. The theme was "One Way-Or None!"

FINAL APPEARANCES

This Conference marked the final appearances of some of the best known men in our brotherhood who have occupied top positions of leadership. They have either retired from official positions or are soon to retire.

E. L. Williams was present for the last time as Principal. E. W. Roffey and R. P. Morris have resigned from the College Board of Management. The former is Secretary-Elect of the S.A. Conference, and the latter's withdrawal was made necessary because of change of residence.

Victor L. Cole was a Trustee of the Properties' Corporation for 24 years, 16 of which were as deputy-chairman.

W. A. Thompson left the Advisory Department after 14 years. He was chairman for ten. Arthur Haskell and Arthur Pigdon also resigned from the Advisory Department. Mr Haskell was there for 16 years and for much of that time he was minute secretary.

John Alabaster served ten years as Treasurer of Conference. Perc. Jordan after ten years on the Overseas Committee and five as chairman did not stand for re-election.

HOME MISSIONS CENTENARY

1973 marks the one hundredth year of service of the Department of Home Missions and Evangelism.

"The Australian Christian Pioneer" of May 1, 1873 recorded this resolution of the 1873 Victoria Conference: "that a committee of brethren be appointed by the meeting, to be called the Missionary Committee, for the purpose of carrying out all necessary arrangements as to the engagement and support of evangelists; to decide as to the disposition of their labors."

Inner Areas Ministry with Barry Jenkins as full time staff officer; a centenary Evangelistic Programme on a regional basis; and a Centenary Public function later in the year are some features marking the Centenary.

BROTHERHOOD CENTRE

A surprise motion presented and passed empowered the Conference Executive together with the Trustees of the Properties Corporation to dispose of the Brotherhood Centre at 217 Lonsdale Street, and to relocate the Centre in another suitable position if and when the opportunity arises.

It was made clear that there was no specific offer under consideration and no firm decision to dispose of the property, but it

was necessary to have the approval of Conference for such freedom of action if this was in the best interests of the Brotherhood.

THIS WAS SAID

By Ralph Lee Churches contemplating building operations in the next 12 months will find costs as much as 20% greater than 12 months ago. The Properties Corporation urges churches not to overextend themselves financially. Guidelines: 1. Churches should have at least 25% of the cost of the project before commencement. 2. Repayment of interest and capital should not exceed 25% of the church's income. 3. Long term loans are approved on the basis of 15 years maximum for repayment. 4. Church members are required to lodge investments in the form of five or ten year debentures.

By Richard Lawton The Federal Board of Christian Education had issued a call that the local church should involve young people in the life and work and witness of those congregations, but as I look around I don't see many representing that very large strata of our churches. I wonder why. We are impoverished by their absence. The Board had also asked the local congregations to answer the question "What are our goals and objectives when we come to youth work." We've been running youth groups on Friday nights because we've always done it. But what are we trying to do? When we know what we are trying to do, then we shall find some answers on how we should do it. There is surely no more urgent area than this before our churches.

By E. W. Roffey In our church we use women presidents, not because of shortage of men, but in our strength we are delighted to use those who have a ministry to give.

By E. F. Patterson 21 ministers have left the full-time ministry in the last two years. Four retired, five transferred to school chaplaincy, one entered missionary service. Nine have gone into secular employment, the sort of thing you and I do every day, two are full-time university students.

Some people get a bit uptight about men leaving the ministry, and look upon them as drop-outs. We have no right to think of these men in this way. Two would have continued in the ministry if they had been called by a church, but the others exercised a legitimate right to shape their own future as they were guided by God and their own circumstances. But there is a real concern for us as these men make the change from the full-time ministry, and we are asking if we should probe the churches and ministers to learn their attitude to the Advisory Department becoming more of a placement department.

By Dorothy Geyer: Miss Vawser said that the present famine is the worst she has known in almost 50 years in India. For three years there has hardly been any useful rain. Villages are being deserted because there is not even drinking water. Almost miraculously, the mission compound at Shrlgonda still has a supply, but the town of 13,000 people has to bring in all its water including that for washing. Our people are in very great distress.

By E. F. Patterson There was a lot of talk at our church about a garden that became overgrown. The Fuchsias had become straggly and anything about it, Mum turned up the other day and said, "I want you to take me down to the church." She had her secateurs, and borrowed a saw, and away she went. She fixed that garden. You should see it! There's hardly anything left. And she enjoyed it. My father was also a practical man—and worked with joy. This is the sort of thing I hope has rubbed off on me. My mother and father learned the art of doing what they did with enthusiasm and joy.

(See page 12 for resolutions)

Open Day at Woolwich

OPEN DAY, on Saturday April 7, was again a time of rich and rewarding fellowship for all who were able to visit the College. A display of Rare Books and Bibles in the College Library and a Missionary display and Films in the No. 1 Lecture Room proved attractive. Those present were also indebted to Allan Crouch, of Auburn church and also the Home & Leisure Centre, Lidcombe, for his much appreciated Organ Recital on the recently donated Yamaha Electronic Organ in the Chapel. During the afternoon many people were also able to meet and speak personally with this year's "new students". Special thanks are due to Mrs. Single and her helpers from the C.W.F. College Committee for their part once again this year in serving afternoon tea.

Missionary Graduates, some of whom have recently been in contact with the College, are making a notable contribution in distant places. They include Mr. & Mrs. Dick Powell, Mr. & Mrs. John Main and Miss Dorothy Holstein on our Indian field. Also Mr. &

Mrs. Bob Whan and Miss Noela Mobbs who continue their fine contribution in New Guinea. John Liu is serving splendidly at Banmatmat, New Hebrides, and Mr. & Mrs. Graham Warne have settled in very well in their temporary location at Ranwadi. Miss Margaret Horne and Mr. & Mrs. George Elliott are at present on furlough in N.S.W.

In addition it is good to receive word concerning the faithful ministry among

our Aborigine folk maintained by Miss Edna Lincoln, Miss Gail Thornton, and Mr. & Mrs. Roy Aitken in W.A., and by Mr. & Mrs. Lyle Morris in Qld.

General: Sporting activities are in full swing at Woolwich. Although the Ministers defeated the Students this year in the Annual Cricket Match, College teams are nevertheless giving a very good account of themselves in the Churches Association Soccer Football and Basketball competitions.

We are pleased to have Mr. Pieper serving on the College faculty as lecturer in the field of Pastoral Theology and Practical Church Work, and George Elliott, during his brief stay in N.S.W. and as time permits, is lecturing in Anthropology & Linguistics.

ASSISTANCE TO TUNISIA

Flood aid valued at US \$2,000 has been given by the World Council of Churches to flood victims in northern Tunisia following a request from the Governor of the worst-affected province. 53,000 people have been made homeless by the floods which have also killed many livestock and destroyed crops over 50,000 acres.

The Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service of the World Council of Churches has ongoing service

programmes in both Tunisia and Algeria, which have also been affected by the flooding. The Ecumenical Service Office in Tunisia was responsible for the channeling of food aid to the Government. Pastor Jean-Marie Lambert, who heads the office, is in close touch with Tunisian Government officials, and will report on possible rehabilitation projects.

—E.P.S.

WORD TALK NO. 73

A.B.C. OF THE BIBLE

Incarnation is not a Biblical word but it describes the most important Biblical doctrine. Incarnation comes from the Latin translation of John 1:14 "to be made flesh," and it refers to a divine being come upon earth as a person.

The concept of the incarnation of a god on earth is found in many religions. The Egyptian Pharaoh was the incarnated sun god. Hindus have incarnation after death in varying animal forms. The Greek gods Zeus and Apollo came to earth as men frequently. Buddhists can be incarnated on earth.

But Christianity joins together the divine and human as in no other religion. Christ was not man inhabited by God or influenced by God—Jesus Christ was God in human form at a carpenter's bench. The Nicean Creed (325 A.D.) clearly expressed the divine-human encounter. God is now understood not only as creator and judge but as "the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ." In him the mind of God was fully expressed (John 1:14).

There are some great passages on the incarnation: John 1:1-18, where the eternal enters history in a single life and the mind of God is fully expressed in the mind of a man; Gal. 4:4-5, where the revelation of God was linked with the purpose of man's redemption; Phil. 2:5-8 where the emptying of God into the form of man is expressed as an insight creed of the early church; Col. 1:15-20 where the eternal nature of Christ in his significance and purpose is outlined by Paul in what is the most mature statement of the incarnation in the N.T.; Heb. 1:1-4 where God is spoken of as revealing himself in many ways but finally and fully in Christ.

INCARNATION

DICTIONARY

"The incarnate Deity: our God contracted to a span, incomprehensibly made man"—Charles Wesley (Hymn 874).

FOR TODAY.

Karl Barth stresses that we can only understand human nature and the truth of this world if we start with the highest truth, the incarnation of God. Everything else can only be truly understood if we start from this truth perspective.

In Kingston, Jamaica, workmen refused over a long period of time to clear the city's drains. It became a national health hazard. Prime Minister Michael Manley concerned with the growing health risk did not plead or argue. In August 1972 he stripped for action and went down into the foul ooze and started digging. "All sorts of people who refused to work later joined alongside me. If I had gone down in my jacket and tie, made a great speech about the dignity of labour they would have said "that is for the birds", and they would have been right". Jesus came alongside man identifying himself with them in their sin, ("For our sake he made Him to be sin who knew no sin" 2 Cor. 5:21), and in their search for righteousness through His baptism ("It is fitting for us to fulfil all righteousness" Mat. 3:15). His incarnation led to His death in the ooze of man's sin.

Augustine expressed it more beautifully than any: "The Son of God became a son of man that we sons of man might become Sons of God."

If we understand incarnation nothing, nothing, is ever the same again!

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.

FINANCIAL APPEAL

To the Editor,

I take exception to the letter and statement under the title "Financial Appeal" "A.C." April 21. Surely Mr Willis was just appealing for funds for two struggling causes in North Qld! Why should he have to notify the hierarchy of Federal or State Executive? Since when is a local congregation under the jurisdiction of State or even less Federal control?

As for asking who will choose the teams to go to England, I am praying that the Holy Spirit will choose them and that also he will exclude those who would seek to scuttle this venture.

Can't you trust Doug Willis?

Andrew Cumberland, W.A.

Further comment: Nothing in my note on this page on April 21 indicated that the local churches were bound by any direction by State or Federal Conferences, or that there was distrust of Mr Willis.

Local churches did ask Mr Chivell if the appeal was endorsed by the Qld. Conference Executive or by the Federal Conference Executive. They were entitled to be told that there was no such endorsement. Nor was there a rejection. The appeal was apparently a personal approach by Mr Willis, and the churches who asked had a right to know this. Local churches asked other Conference Secretaries, including me, for information, and this was given. We understand the great need that exists in many places and there are struggling causes in every State. It would be unfair to expect every local church to be able to measure the claims of the many causes needing assistance. That is why we come together as conferences of churches to consult and share and to make recommendations, and that is why we appoint Home Missions committees to care for the needy churches in every State. It is expected that members also pray that the Holy Spirit will guide the selection of such men and women and that the Spirit will continue to inspire their judgment.

—A.E.W.

ECUMENICAL SERVICE

To the Editor,

Many Bible-loving Christians would join in expressing disappointment with the presence of one of our ministers in sharing in the recent Ecumenical Service. We are a movement which 50 years ago stood for Christian Unity based on a return to the N.T. pattern with unswerving loyalty to the Word of God.

Can such an association promote biblical truth and show the way to N.T. unity, when, in fact, Roman Catholicism has within its movement at least 30 erroneous teachings?

Admitting all is not bad, and that we need to love all people, at the same time we must despise, abhor and reject error. There is a grave betrayal today both of the Reformation and the Restoration Movements. There can be absolutely no satisfactory or lasting union on error.

The Bible alone is the final authority. Nowhere does it enjoin us to "go into" but to "come out" of error. The Campbells would never welcome unity with such a conglomeration of human inventions, superstition, and idolatry. (See Campbell-Purcell debate).

C. W. Jackel, Vic.

CONTRAST

To the Editor,

There were two contrasting reports in the "A.C." April 21. The Geo. Wood Mission in South Perth, W.A. reported packed gospel meetings, preaching of the word, and 34 changed lives.

The Ecumenical Service in Melbourne, lauded by Frank Robinson, was voted a success because a Church of Christ minister was on the platform, but there was no mention of a call for committal.

If this had been done, would the converts have been called on to affirm Papal infallibility, mediation to Christ through Mary, and infant baptism?

Such ecumenism is humbug and it makes me want to vomit! I hope the editor will not cut this phrase because it scriptural. "So then, because thou art lukewarm and neither cold nor hot, I will spew thee out of my mouth." (Rev. 2.16). This refers to church of Laodicea—the final great apostate politically oriented united Church under Satan himself in the guise of Antichrist. All the great evangelical revivals have followed division and not union. When Satan is thrown out of a Christian group only then will revival take place.

A united Church of Christ yes, but let us not forget that "Satan is alive and well on Planet Earth."

Dr. Geoff Hall, W.A.

To the Editor,

My wife and myself find it wrong that the clergymen of the Diamond Valley Electorate should speak so dogmatically on the subject of abortion. They move from the topic of Abortion on Demand to an outright condemnation of abortion in general — surely two different matters.

In January of this year, my wife found she was pregnant, much to our surprise, and to the surprise of the doctor. We are both in our late forties, and have a near grown-up family. Initially we accepted the fact, although rather stunned. We told our close friends, and our family, and began to make plans, but we also placed the matter before God in prayer and meditation. To this stage neither of us had considered termination of the pregnancy.

As we were on holidays, my wife spent her daily time in prayer and meditation by the ocean. She prayed to God that only he knew if this child would make a contribution to the world, or would wander through life a lonely waif. She prayed God (as I did too) to direct our thoughts and our action.

One Sunday night there was no church service, and my wife spent the hour in prayer in the empty church. I was completely surprised when she returned and with conviction told me she felt she should see about having the pregnancy terminated. More than ever in her life she felt the confidence of God's guidance in coming to this decision, a decision that was a complete reversal to what we had honestly thought would be God's will, and what, indeed, we felt we wanted to do.

Arranging the termination was not difficult. My wife returned to Melbourne, visited her own

(Continued on next page)

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

KEEPING GOD AT BAY (5)

To the Editor,

One of the best ways to keep God at bay is to wish him away. It won't get rid of God because he has an uncanny knack of coming back when you think you've finally rid yourself of him. But at least wishing him away will keep him out of your life for lengthy periods.

The way to go about it is to find another explanation for everything God does. Sometimes you'll find that these explanations are a bit phoney, but if you wish hard enough you'll convince yourself.

For instance always point out that answered prayer is just co-incidence. If some one is obviously getting some sort of power for living from prayer, remind yourself that it's only auto-suggestion. And if the preacher says something about practising the presence of God, you can get out of that by saying that it's all in the imagination. Any experience of God can be explained psychologically. If some one assures you that God speaks to his mind, ask him how he knows it wasn't one of his own bright ideas. And if you are ever filled with a restless urge to do something for some one or to phone some one who might need you; forget it. It isn't God, it's guilt feelings.

I think that they call this sort of wishful thinking rationalising. It's very smart. And any time when your defences are down and God seems to be coming into your experience, it's the easiest and quickest way to slam the door in his face.

When God was calling Samuel to the ministry he thought at first that it was Eli calling. It was a pity that Samuel didn't stick to his story. He led a pretty rough life for God and he didn't get much money out of it!

Hoping you are the same,
Tertius.

OPEN FORUM

© Continued from Page 8

doctor who recognized medical reasons for termination, (she was Rh negative) and referred her to a city gynaecologist.

Unlike the stereotyped abortionist, our man was in fact a very highly qualified gynaecologist, and a kindly, understanding man, who put himself out considerably and came into the city hospital on Saturday morning especially to perform the operation.

When he visited my wife in hospital the following day, Sunday, prior to her discharge, he was very interested that she had "Good News for Modern Man" beside her. He told her how he grew up in the valleys of Gippsland, and never went to Sunday School, but he loved the beauty of the King James version. He then, with much reverence and feeling, recited the 23rd Psalm and other scripture.

We grew very attached to our kindly abortionist. He was warm, understanding, God-fearing.

Robert Nelson, Vic.

INFALLIBLE

To the Editor,

Recently the "Christian" reviewed a book by Hans Kung. A later book by him has the above title.

Many people say that "Rome will never change its dogmas". Kung is a well informed Roman Catholic who believes that this assertion will be proved wrong. He says that God alone is infallible and that he is leading his church through her many errors. He repeatedly makes it clear that the Church is all those who have faith in Jesus Christ.

Quotes: "The Pope must not set himself up as overlord either of the church or the Gospel." "No imprimateur will be sought for this book." "It is impossible to deny error." "The late Pope John demonstrated that the Pope could be different." "In the true sense a Christian does not believe in the Church or the Bible. He believes in God and in Christ." "The proclamation of the word is entrusted not only to a few, but to all Christians."

It is a book well worth reading, though not easy to read. It is refreshing in its constant appeal to scripture and its recognition of the importance of all believers in Christ, their rights and their responsibilities.

Frank Griffiths, W.A.

GIVING THE CHURCH AWAY.

To the Editor,

Many people today are ready 'to give the church away.' We don't expect Conference committees to follow this pattern. The Victorian Properties Corporation however, has decided to give away the church building at Emerald (Vic.) to a local Historical Society.

The Emerald church was established from the East Emerald congregation (now Avonsleigh) in 1914, and ceased to exist in 1964; when nine of the twenty members transferred back to the Avonsleigh church. In recent years the building has been leased to the Methodist-Presbyterian Circuit.

The Shire of Sherbrooke, of which Emerald is a part; is one of the fastest growing areas in Victoria. But while people are moving in, we are giving away the church. How can this come about? Under the Act of Parliament No. 4818 (Vic.)—(hands up those who have ever seen a copy)—the Properties Corporation has absolute power to use or dispose of property registered

in its name. Members of the Victorian Properties Corporation are appointed for an unlimited term. Vacancies are filled by invitation not by nomination.

We have through the years been informed that "appointing the Corporation as trustee . . . is in the best interest of both the local church and the Conference . . ." I have difficulty in believing that giving away a church can be so.

A. B. Titter, Vic.

ROMAN CATHOLICISM

To the Editor,

"The work of Ecumenism is to return separate brethren to the Catholic Church. This union will be effected when our separated brethren become one in faith worship and government with Catholics."

"The fullness and purity of the Catholic Faith are not to be impaired in any effort to bring about this return." These quotes are from a book "The Catholic Religion" published in Melbourne in 1970 and highly commended by R. C. authorities.

Very often today anyone who has firm convictions against the unchanged fundamental doctrines of the R.C. church is branded as a bigot.

The writer feels that there would be many hundreds of members of churches of Christ who would not want to be represented at a celebration of the mass where it is claimed that the actual flesh and blood of Christ are eaten and where it is also claimed that there is the re-sacrifice of our Lord.

Dialogue we must have, but not a countenancing of unscriptural teachings.

H. E. Greenwood S.A.

JESUS WAY '73



CRUSADE FOR EASTERN SUBURBS

K. D. Horne is chairman of a group of twenty five co-operating churches in Melbourne's Eastern Suburbs. The churches have chosen the theme "Jesus Way '73" for their participation in the Home Missions Department Centenary Crusade.

Here K. D. Horne shows Department Director, D. H. Smith, a poster prepared by the regional group to advertise the programme. G.K.M. Moyes will be the evangelist for meetings to centre on the Box Hill Town Hall, September 21-23, this year.

Special features of the preaching focus will be youth meetings, a Men's Breakfast

at Coles Cafeteria, Doncaster Shoppingtown, and two meetings on Sunday evening in the Town Hall to accommodate the expected crowd.

Preparation for the project is spread over a number of months with a special series of house group meetings prior to the preaching focus.

Churches in all Melbourne suburbs are co-operating in four separate regions. Other regional groups are at Ballarat, Geelong and in Sunraysia. Numerous country churches are involved in separate evangelistic programmes as a part of the Home Mission's Centenary project.

C.C.E.I.S. APPOINTMENT

The Chairman and members of the Council for Christian Education in Schools are pleased to announce that the Rev. Ian Brown, B.A., Dip. Ed., who has been Chaplain to the Heidelberg High School since the beginning of 1971 has been appointed as Assistant Director (Secondary).

As Assistant Director (Secondary) Mr Brown will assist with school chaplaincy, secondary work generally and some literary work.

Mr Brown is a Presbyterian Minister aged 37 and is at present engaged in studies for his Bachelor of Education degree. Before joining the service of the Council he had eight years parish experience as a Student-Minister and Assistant Minister and two years teaching experience at the Princes Hill High School.

It is expected that Mr Brown will conclude his service as Chaplain to Heidelberg High School at the end of the second term, 1973, in order to undertake his new duties.

PRAYER FOR IRELAND

At Pentecost, 1973, Christians in all parts of the world are asked to unite with their fellow Christians in Ireland to pray for peace in that conflict-torn country.

BAPTIST CONCERN FOR MINISTRY

Increasing numbers of Baptist ministers are leaving the pastoral ministry in N.S.W., a startling new report has revealed.

Only 53 per cent of ordained ministers are at present in full time pastoral work in local churches.

The report predicts a continuing decline in the number of men entering the pastoral ministry.

It also says that, on the figures, many churches soon will not have a full-time ordained minister.

The report has been prepared by Rev. Denis N. Johnston, at the request of the State Union's ministerial ordination and acceptance committee.

It paints a gloomy picture of the future of the pastoral ministry, with graphs to back up its predictions.

The graphs show a widening gap between the number of men being ordained and the number of men entering the pastoral ministry.

The report draws two basic conclusions:

- o It is no longer the normal course for a man to proceed from theological college into a permanent pastoral ministry.

- o Within a few years it does not appear that it will be the normal thing for Baptist churches to have a full-time ordained minister.

The 1971-72 year book listed 241 ministers on the accredited list — but of these only 131, or 53 per cent, are serving as pastors of accredited churches.

Within a few years, the report claims, only 40 per cent of the listed ministers will be in pastoral work.

By then, only 43 per cent of churches will have a full-time minister.

The 110 men not serving as pastors are either retired, serving in Baptist mission work, living interstate or overseas, or engaged in part-time ministries, Union administrative work or specialist ministries within the church.

However, the biggest single number are involved in work that is altogether outside the churches of the Baptist Union — 41 of them.

Two factors involved in the declining number of churches with full-time ministers are the rising cost of maintaining a full-time pastor, and the financial situation of local churches.

Both of these appear to be heading towards crisis point in the years immediately ahead, if present trends continue.

The report says that it is unlikely a church can maintain a minister at the current stipend, allowances, long service leave, superannuation, and allow even minimal costs for administering the church with less than \$6000 a year.

At present only 140 of the 254 churches and fellowships in the Union report an income of that amount.

"It seems that within seven years the

cost of maintaining a minister will rise much further, and that the number of churches with sufficient income will decrease appreciably," states the report.

"Also, over that period many churches must ask the question whether it is good stewardship to spend 90 per cent of income in support of a minister."

It notes that in 1966-67 eight per cent of churches had lay ministers and part-time ordained ministries.

By 1971-72, however, this had risen to 15 per cent.

—"Australian Baptist"

MEMBERSHIP IN V.C.C.

(Melb.) Cardinal Knox announced today that Catholics would study the possibility of applying for membership in the Victorian Council of Churches. The Cardinal, who is the first Roman Catholic Leader to address the Assembly of the Council said that co-operation achieved over the past years had led to the possibility of closer relationships. He would ask the Ecumenical Affairs Commission of the Melbourne Archdiocese to prepare material for study on the issues involved in the V.C.C. application.

Cardinal Knox stressed the importance of the dialogue faced by Christians in today's Western society. There is a need to stand together, he said. In this way we will be able to stem the tide, and enable the Gospel to penetrate Western society. We need to work on questions of morality with greater intensity, he said, studying and finding out how close our programmes can be.

In responding to Cardinal Knox's address newly re-elected Chairman of the Council, R.N. Gilmore said that he was delighted with the indication of closer co-operation. He hoped that the issues involved in an application by Catholics for membership in the V.C.C. might also be studied by member churches.

The Council celebrates its 25th year of existence later this year and has eleven member church bodies. Roman Catholics have membership in only one other comparable body in Australia — the Tasmanian Council of Churches.

This is a Victorian Council of Churches' press release which may freely be reproduced in any form. Acknowledgement would be appreciated.

—V.C.C.

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

WHAT LAND?

1. When Christianity began it was not long powerful but its influence was felt all over the then known world.

2. The books of the New Testament were written in its language.

3. Paul preached one of his greatest sermons in its capital city. (see page 18)

YOU TELL ME!

Why do you always put on your left shoe last?

When you put one on, the other is left.

MOTHER'S DAY

Mother spoons the cereal,
Mother squeezes juice,
Mother changes nappies,
Mother ties up shoes,
Mother picks up rattles,
Mother brushes hair,
Mother mops up puddles,
Underneath the chairs.
All day baby gurgles,
Or, in silence, dreams,
But when Father enters,
"Da-da, Dada!" she screams.

Geneva Halliday.

"What's this about your uncle?"

"Oh, Uncle Jack ran away with a circus, but the police made him bring it back."



BOOKS IN REVIEW

PHOTO GUIDE TO THE NEW TESTAMENT (ANZEA Publishers, Sydney) \$3.95

The photographs by David Alexander are in colour and are magnificent. At this price, it is a real bargain. His accompanying notes combine Biblical selections with helpful comments. Here is just a sample of things that catch the eye—oil lamps, ruins of a synagogue at Capernaum, millstone, the road from Jerusalem to Jericho, the pool of Bethesda, the Temple, the temple and theatre at Ephesus, the temple to the Emperor at Pergamum.

Parents will find this book invaluable for their children and so will Sunday School teachers with their classes. It brings alive the events of the New Testament in their historical setting.

—K.R.B.

The United Church in Papua-New Guinea and the Solomon Islands: The Development of an Indigenous Church By Ronald G. Williams (Trinity Press, Rabaul, 1972; \$2.00)

In November 1972 the United Church celebrated the centenary of the arrival of the first missionaries on the Papuan coast. Part of the celebration was the publication of a 320 page book with maps and illustrations, entitled "The United Church in Papua-New Guinea and the Solomon Islands." The author is Ronald G. Williams, Principal of Rarongo Theological College.

Because the United Church inaugurated as recently as 1968, was the end-result, Dr. Williams has told the story by tracing the developments in each of its seven Regions.

Although there has been a century of evangelistic endeavour in Papua-New Guinea, Australia's nearest area for overseas mission, we have hitherto lacked any comprehensive account of what has been done.

In a sense we still lack such a survey. This is not to detract from Dr. Williams's work, for he set out only to record such activity as led to the formation of the United Church. This did not permit description of the results of the ministries of Catholics, Anglicans, Lutherans and others.

For the first time, an assessment is made of the New Guinean activities of the London Missionary Society, of Methodist missions based on Australia and New Zealand, and, more recently, of the Presbyterian Churches of the Commonwealth and the Dominion.

—Dr. Lindsay Lockley.

ON THE MOUNT

By Robert C. Weatherlake (C.L.C.) 25c

The latest of the Books of the Bible series have five study sessions covering Matthew 5-7, otherwise known as the Sermon on the Mount.

The study material contains helpful comments on the passages, discussion questions, and stimulus for personal reflection.

The Books of the Bible series is designed for adults and senior youth.

—R.W.L.

A DICTIONARY OF ILLUSTRATIONS by James C. Hefley (Zondervan)

We have never seen a book of illustrations which will please everyone. Many speakers prefer to find their own illustrations from their general reading and observations.

But there is much to commend this collection. It has such a wide range in its collection 900 that most speakers will find many that will be usable.

The comment on some of the illustrations and the use to which they are put are conservative in tone and evangelistic in intent. There is a freshness about many of them that will appeal.

The author is a free lance journalist and much of the material is based on his own experiences and interviews. Some of it is factual, with fairly recent quotes. For example: Time magazines tells us that Americans each year junk 7 million cars, 100 million tyres, 20 million tons of paper, 28 million bottles, and 48 million cans. The U.S. spews out 50% of the world's industrial pollution.

Some of it is imaginative, as the "submersible parable": by a Baptist "Once upon a time in the 20th century there was a church that became a submarine. It wasn't as difficult as it might seem. One day it just shut the hatch on the outside world and submerged in its own sea. Occasionally it ran up a periscope to see where it was going.

"Once the captain got a real vision through his periscope and when he demanded that they get back to the surface and fast, the crew quickly developed the bends and the sub stayed down.

"While submerged there was a lot for the crew to do. In fact they were kept on the alert and asked to make maximum efforts. They tinkered with machinery constantly. They overhauled their kitchen. They inventoried their ammunition at least once a week but they never used it. They paid salaries to officers and went through endless drills occasionally interrupted by prayers that no depth charge would disturb their isolation."

After more of the same, the parable concludes: "The last entry in the captain's log read 'Have probably set a new record for being submerged and maintaining predetermined course. See no reason why we should change direction. Crew continues to give maximum effort. We did sight an enemy and appointed three committee members to study the situation!'"

It would be a good idea if, after the scripture reading at the Board meeting, the officers also read the parable to see if they are still in the real world.

Starting off with a bit of a prejudice against books of illustrations we found that the further we went in this one the more we liked it.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Did your little sermon about the perils of greed help any with the bill?"

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Federal Director not to extend term

Richard Lawton, Director of the Federal Board of Christian Education, has indicated to the Board that he will not be available for a further engagement upon the expiry of his present term at the end of 1974.

The Executive received Mr Lawton's decision with deep regret. During the time he has been Director, the Board has passed through one of the most important phases in its history. The present healthy state of the Board's work and ministry is in no small way an expression of the splendid leadership of Mr Lawton, and the regard and trust in which he is held across Australia.

The Annual Conference of the Board will be held in Melbourne on June 20 - 24. All States will be represented at the Conference and the Executive seeks the prayerful support of the churches as it seeks to find a suitable successor for Mr Lawton.

This month Richard Lawton will be in New Zealand conducting an intensive programme for the Dominion's D.C.E. in a number of strategic centres.

VIC.-TAS. C.W.F.

The next Council meeting will be held in the Brotherhood Centre on Friday, June 1, at 10.30 a.m. Speaker—Mrs Lance Fisher.

KEITH JONES RECOVERING

While attending the College of the Bible Club reunion in connection with the Vic.-Tas. Conference, Mr Jones suffered a slight heart attack.

He is making a good recovery. A former Secretary of the College Board of Management and College Housemaster, Mr Jones is secretary of the C.O.B. Club.

STUDY TOURS IN INDONESIA

Two special study tours in Indonesia are being arranged by Community Aid Abroad, in association with Freedom From Hunger, to enable Australians to gain a better perspective of one of the nearest neighbours.

One tour is from July 26, 1973 to August 16, and the other for the period January 3-24, 1974.

The 3-week tour will provide the opportunity to learn of the variety and contrast of life in Indonesia. Tour members will visit Djakarta, Bogor, Bali and a number of other centres in Indonesia.

Further information is available from state office of Community Aid Abroad or the Australian Freedom from Hunger Campaign, or by writing to: Community Aid Abroad, 75 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy, Vic. 3065.

WALTER LISTER DIES

The death is announced at Derby, England, of Walter Lister. He was well known in church circles and was a former President of Churches of Christ in Great Britain.

He was famed as an elocutionist, especially for his recitals from Dickens' works. He gave a much appreciated performance at the Christian Guest Home, Vic., when he visited here in 1972. His married daughter lives in Newcastle, N.S.W.

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

Ronald W. Graham, Professor of New Testament at Lexington Theological Seminary, U.S.A., has been chosen as an Outstanding Educator of America, 1973.

The selection is made on the basis of professional and civic achievements and those chosen are featured in the national awards volume, "Outstanding Educators of America."

Professor Graham is an Australian and a graduate from the College of the Bible, Glen Iris.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

SECRETARY

WARRACKNABEAL: Mrs. Evelyn Harmer, 16 Gould St., Warracknabeal, 3393.

ROCKDALE: The Secretariat, Church of Christ, 3-5 Bryant St., Rockdale, N.S.W. 2216.

MINISTER

COLLINGWOOD: S. Downie, 196 Nicholson St., Abbotsford, 3067, Vic.

T-V CENSORSHIP DEBATE

At 9.30 p.m. on ABC T-V in N.S.W., Vic., and A.C.T., on June 3, there will be a debate on the topic: "THAT ADULTS SHOULD BE FREE TO SEE, HEAR AND READ WHAT THEY WISH."

Taking the affirmative is Phillip Adams, well-known television critic and journalist, and the negative is the Rev. Gordon Powell, Minister of Scots Church Melbourne.

The programme was recorded with an audience of students and others in the Undercroft Theatre at the Latrobe University, Melbourne.

VICTORIA MINISTERS' WIVES

Victorian Ministers' wives will meet at the Brotherhood Centre, June 18, 10.30 a.m. Please bring lunch, a cuppa will be provided. At the annual meeting held at Kew Town Hall last month, Mrs. O. Clarke was elected our President for the next two years. A warm invitation is extended to all, especially those who have come from interstate and the country.—Iris Page, Sec.

PASTORS' CONFERENCES

Pastors in India, Bangladesh and Burma are expected to attend Pastors' Conferences in their countries this month sponsored by World Vision International.

The meetings — the 87th, 88th, 89th since 1953 — are designed to help local church leaders achieve more effective pastoral care and fruitful evangelism. Nearly 60,000 men and women in 31 countries so far have taken advantage of this opportunity financed by Christians this opportunity financed by Christians in the United States, Canada and Australia.

The Pastors' Conferences were planned for Hyderabad, in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, in Barisal, Bangladesh and in Rangoon, Burma.

MINISTER IN BRITAIN (Forestville, M. Munyard) Mr. Munyard is assisting with missions in Britain and is now at Ulverston, Lancashire, S. Riches is conducted a six weeks interim ministry . . . L. Lovell is visiting mission stations in New Guinea and New Hebrides with Ron McLean, O/Seas Missions Secretary . . . Members assisted with weekend mission at Maylands . . . F. G. Walkley died after long illness.

IT WAS ABOLISHED AT VICTORIA-TASMANIA CONFERENCE

*To recommend an increase for a minister's car allowance from \$12 to at least \$15 a week from May 1, 1973.

*To urge the churches to improve the quality of the Christian life in their congregations.

*To ratify the appointment of John Bailey as a Trustee of the Properties Corporation.

*To affirm the opposition of Conference on moral grounds to all forms of gambling.

*To minute the deep appreciation of Conference of the outstanding service rendered by E. Lyall Williams.

*To congratulate and express appreciation to Colin J. Orr, of

Ulverstone, Tas., for 21 years membership of the Dept. of H. M. & Evang., as Tasmania representative.

*To draw the attention of the churches to the need for relief aid to India and the Mali and urge the churches to make an immediate contribution of, say, 10c per member.

*To ratify the appointments of J. E. Eisey and J. W. Winkler as Trustees of the Christian Building Trust.

*To express its opposition to the proposed Medical Practice Clarification Bill and stress the need for the Federal Government to subsidise increased sex education and the establishment of more family clinics.

WHITE PAPERS

ON LIFE AND FAITH

WATERGATE It is appropriate for us to weep for the United States and its President. Richard Nixon seems almost certain to find his place in history stained by suspicion that he inspired, permitted, or concealed some of the worst incidents in all the long story of American politics.

President Nixon ended the war in Vietnam (at least he took out the ground troops!), made new and successful overtures to bridge the gaps between western and eastern leaders, and so pleased his own people that last year he was re-elected to a second term by a crushing majority. But he is not likely to be remembered most for his international successes or for his social policies at home. He will be best, or worst, remembered for the Watergate affair.

This is not to judge him guilty. He has not even been charged by his peers, let alone found guilty of any wrongful act. But he did too little, too late, to prevent the public from using his silence to make their own judgments against him, and truth, even if it were still on his side, would find it almost impossible to overtake the rushing waves of public condemnation.

There is no joy in this business for anyone, even Nixon's political enemies. Democracy has been dishonoured in the home of the champions of democracy. The President, the most powerful man in all the world, has been diminished by those around him who cheated and lied. The very office where the weak and the ill-treated should at last find justice, has been found to be the very source of arrogant injustice.

This is not just an American tragedy. The U.S.A. has been the leader of the western nations in a divided world, and its leaders often spoke as Christians against materialist and atheistic communism. We are all embarrassed to the point of shame.

Of course, it is not too late, it is never too late, to change. Watergate, bad though it is, could even do us all good if its lessons were learned, if it was the last of the evil, if it gave way to genuine attempts to build a new order on truth and fair dealing. But, so far, there has been no sign of real repentance or even an appreciation of what has been done. Certainly, there has been distress in those whose reputations have been ruined. There has been sorrow for their families. There has been anger at those who have revealed bits of the truth. There is real regret that political advantages have been irretrievably lost. But there has been no evidence yet of any genuine repentance for the acts of wrong-doing; only regret that some of the guilty have been caught.

There is some talk of changing laws and regulations to prevent from being repeated some of the worst acts conjured up by the word "Watergate", but bad men can always find ways around the laws. Better laws may be helpful, but what is essential is better man.

Old-fashioned though the sentiment may be—we feel that there is no hope for the United States or for the rest of the world unless men who are chosen to govern acknowledge a responsibility to the God who created the world, and who seek the mind of Christ in order to do his will.

GOOD GRIEF!! What would the fashion shapers do without religion? Some time ago the fashion page of the "New York Times" commented; "In the age of Aquarius, the cross is becoming a high fashion symbol . . . worn by mannequins, socialites and other stylish pace-setters. By spring, the cross should be a mass fad." When asked why the crosses, these were some of the responses: Boutique designer Halston: "The noise of it is fun. It clanks. . . . I'm not a jewellery nut, but I think the cross is such a sweet idea." Designer Thomas Robbins: "I've been making them for a year. I made them out of greed because I knew they would sell." Bill Smith, designer for Richelieu jewellers: ". . . the cross looks absolutely marvellous worn down on the tummy."!!!

PHOTOGRAPHS OF CHURCH ACTIVITIES WELCOME IF THEY ARE INTERESTING, CLEAR, BLACK and WHITE, GLOSSY FOR PREFERENCE.

Happenings

Concern is mounting for the well-being of missionaries and other Christian workers in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh, scene of violent clashes over government policy in which dozens have been killed and hundreds injured.

Latest findings in the National Fertility study show that two-thirds of the nation's Catholic wives between 18 and 39 are using contraceptive methods disapproved by the Church.

Drug-related deaths continue to climb. They reached 1,350 in 1972 in New York City, a record high, according to official sources. The figure is 1,000 higher than in 1960 and an increase of 100 over 1971.

The Anglican Church of Canada House of Bishops has decided to review the denomination's membership in the Canadian Council of Churches. There is resentment over the council's alleged tendency to "railroad" items through without referral to member denominations. Meanwhile, the bishops issued a statement welcoming baptized members of other denominations to receive communion in Anglican churches, a move similar to that taken by Church of England bishops last year.

Churchgoing in the U.S. levelled off in 1972 after a rather steady five-year decline in attendance, according to a Gallup poll which found that 40 per cent of adults attended church or synagogue in a typical 1972 week.

A Czechoslovakian court sentenced Jareoslav Studeny, a Roman Catholic priest, to more than four years in prison for illegal production and sale of religious textbooks. The priest, a Christian art expert, was reported to have received \$4,000 for the books.



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• OVERSEAS MISSIONS

At school in New Guinea

By Rodney Feldhahn

I have been in New Guinea for over three months and I want to say thank you to all of you who wished me God-speed and gave me the assurance of your prayers.

My house here is built almost entirely of bush timber—the walls are of plaited bamboo, the floor of limburn (the bark of the Areca palm), and the roof of the leaves of the sago palm. It didn't take me long to settle in because the other missionaries made me feel right at home.

The Pidgin English school at Bunam commenced on Feb. 26. The school is divided into 4 sections: the trainee teachers who at the moment are taught by Rosalie Rofe; an advanced literacy class taught by Nepa, a New Guinean teacher; and two other literacy classes taught by myself. I finally plucked up enough courage to start speaking Pidgin and teaching half way through the second week after school started. I still have a lot of Pidgin to learn but know enough to teach the two literacy classes who are themselves beginners, at least in writing. When I become more proficient in Pidgin, I will be teaching the trainee teachers in some subjects as well.

The three R's (Reading, Riting and Rithmetic!) are something entirely new to these people and consequently they are very slow to catch on. This is true of the first class in particular because they are starting from scratch. Recognition of words and numbers is very difficult for them at this stage. This class is comprised of four teenage girls and one young man. The admission of girls is a new feature in the school this year. Traditionally, women played a minor role in society, and so we are pleased at the way the men in the school have accepted that these girls are in the school learning to read and write the same as they are. As these girls become literate, they will be able to play a vital role in the leading of women's meetings in the church.

If the New Guineans are going to be able to read the Word of God for themselves, then naturally they need to learn to read. This is the basic aim of the

schools that have been set up in many of the villages aimed at teaching the children. One of the purposes of the school at Bunam is to train New Guineans to teach in these village schools. As more teachers are trained, then more schools can be started. As from this year, the teacher training course will run for two years instead of one year as previously.

For the first time also, we have given an invitation to any of the older people who want to learn to read to come to school in the late afternoon for an hour each Monday to Friday. There has been quite a good response to this; many have indicated that they would like to come. Because the women have family responsibilities during the day, the afternoon will be a good time for them to come along with the men. It will be a few weeks yet before we will know just how many will come.

The school at Bunam operates independently of the government. It receives its running expenses from the mission budget and we are free to make any innovations we feel will be of benefit to the people. The village schools also are not government-sponsored. Writing books, reading books, etc. for the schools are supplied by the mission, but the teacher in each village is paid by the village itself. Each father pays a fee for each of his children who goes to school, and this money pays the teacher.

Outside of school hours, I hope to do some linguistic work. This means learning and speaking the mother language (Baaaro) of the people of Bunam and several other villages on the Keram River, and reducing the language to writing. There are approximately 3000 who speak in this language group.

We are contemplating commencing Bible Translation. This means translating at least the New Testament into a native language after it has been learned and reduced to writing. This matter is to be discussed in depth at our annual meeting in May; so would you please pray with us that we will be able to discuss this intelligently and know what God's will is.

Rural exodus in reverse

(TOKYO) — While most Asian youth continue to migrate to the big cities, attracted by the prospects of jobs and exciting life, many Japanese youth have begun to leave the urban centres, frightened by tension, pollution and high-powered advertising.

The skyrocketing cost of living and the critical housing shortage are driving others to the remote but more relaxed atmosphere of the rural countryside. Half the residents of Tokyo have said they would gladly move to villages if they could.

What might be termed an "urban exodus" actually started in 1967, but has become much more evident in the seventies. Recent figures indicate that thousands of young people employed in the cities are migrating to villages. In one municipal area alone some 17,000 people, more than half of them between the ages of 20 and 24, have moved to the rural areas in the last two years.

The statistics become even more startling when one looks at the educated youth. About 50 per cent of all junior and senior secondary school graduates who take up jobs in the larger towns leave them within the first three years. This is a dramatic reversal of the situation in the early sixties when an estimated two million young people flocked to the cities to find jobs. Encouraged by this unusual new trend, the Government has embarked upon an ambitious scheme to shift many industries to the rural areas in an effort to remodel the Japanese archipelago." — E.A.C.C. NEWS.

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VIETNAM'S MISERY IS NOT OVER

In the provinces of South Vietnam there is one doctor for every 20,000 people. The World Health Organisation's minimum standard is one to every 1000. Half of all South Vietnam's doctors are in Saigon, giving the capital a doctor-patient ratio of one to 4000, still far below the recommended standard.

These facts are given by Barry Kramer in an article in the "Wall Street Journal." He says that of the 800,000 babies that will be born to South Vietnamese mothers in the next 12 months, 240,000 or 30% will die before their sixth birthday. Some experts put the death rate as high as 50%.

South Vietnam spends only 2.4% of its budget on health. Although there have been some improvements in the health system, "they are still 30 to 40 years behind the rest of the world," says a soon-to-depart American doctor. Four years ago, as many as 2,500 foreign doctors, nurses and other health technicians served in Vietnam under contract or as volunteers. Now most of these have gone.

The hospitals are crowded, Nhi Dong (Children's) Hospital in Saigon's Cholon section is one of the best. It has 350 beds but Nhi Dong has a so-called bed-utilisation rate of 200% to 300%—meaning that there are normally

two or three children in each crib-size bed. This is common to all Vietnamese hospitals. At times Nhi Dong has as many as five children to a bed.

An American AID official says, "It will be a long time before the economy and tax collections reach a point where the Vietnamese can support the social services they need."

And he warns that it would be folly for wealthy foreigners, motivated by compassion to help the Vietnamese by supplying modern hospitals and other advanced medical technology too quickly. "Assistance from abroad has no sense unless the Vietnamese can afford to keep it going," he says.

At Nhi Dong Hospital, for example, a large room filled with advanced X-ray equipment has been unused for two years because there is insufficient electricity; other broken X-ray equipment goes to waste because there aren't any repairmen.

INDIA APPEAL INCREASED

(Geneva.) The World Council of Churches has increased its appeal for the victims of drought in India to \$475,000. Member churches and their related agencies have already contributed more than \$125,000 in response to the earlier appeal on Jan. 23.

Food shortages are still prevalent in 14 of the 21 states, and affect 200 million people. A major relief operation is being carried out by CASA, the Indian churches' relief agency, in Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan. Extra food supplies have been distributed and tube wells have been sunk in some of the worst-affected areas.

CASA has a three-point relief programme covering food—for-work projects in co-operation with local and state government; a nutrition programme amongst children and mothers and short-term, self-help development programmes. These programmes reach nearly 200,000 people in Maharashtra where the drought is at its worst.

The results of the new appeal will enable these programmes to be enlarged to meet what Dr. Alan A. Brash, director of the Commission on Inter-Church Aid,

Refugee and World Service (CICARWS) of the WCC, has called a "life and death situation".

The expanded programme will cover the distribution of seeds, fertilizers and farm implements. Some help will also be given with medical programmes.

Experienced local and international personnel have strengthened the staff team at CASA to provide the maximum assistance for the emergency period.

—EPS.

CANBERRA CHRISTIAN CONVENTION

The 7th Annual Canberra Christian Convention will be held at Queen's Birthday Weekend, June 8-11, at Telopea Park Assembly Hall.

Speakers will be Bishop Kerle of Armidale, N.S.W., and Bruce Townsend, Director of Campaigners for Christ, S.A.

Further information and registration forms may be obtained from The Registrar, Canberra Christian Convention, P.O. Box 507, Canberra City, A.C.T. 2601.

OBITUARY

FERGUSON, Ethel Hannah.

Mrs Ferguson was born at Mathoura, N.S.W. in 1891. Her family came to Warrnambool, Vic., about 10 years later. She joined Church of Christ and was a Sunday School teacher before her marriage in 1919. Her husband died in 1929. She was a deaconess in the church for a few years and was a regular churchgoer almost to the time of her death in Jan., 1973. B. Duff, minister of Portland church, conducted the funeral service.

WRIGHT, Violet Millicent.

It was with sorrow that the church learned of the sudden death of Mrs. Violet Millicent Wright on March 28. Mrs. Wright was in membership with Churches of Christ for over 40 years, many of which were spent in Oakleigh. She served in many ways. Mrs. Wright will long be remembered by many in this district. During her association with the church cricket club, she gained the affection not only of our players, but also of those we played against. Her scoring was perfection and our scorebook the envy of other clubs. Mrs. Wright will be missed, not only by her family who were very close to her, but by the friends with whom she worshipped and the people who would exchange conversation with her as she did her shopping in Oakleigh.

To Mr Wright, her marriage partner for almost forty years, Lois, Graeme, June, Keith and their families, we express our loving sympathy.

—J.M.

YATES, Mrs. Hilda Augusta.

Mrs Yates died on March 9 at the Will, H. Clay Nursing Home, after a long illness, during which time she maintained a vital and bright Christian witness with quiet patience and strong faith.

She joined the Bayswater church in 1923 as a result of an E.C. Hinrichsen mission and was baptised in the Stud Road chapel, which was built by her grandfather Thos. Clements. For a number of years she was assistant organist at Bayswater and maintained her involvement in the life and work of the church there.

29 years ago, she married Bill Yates and they took their membership to Surrey Hills church. Mrs Yates actively participated in the life of the Surrey Hills church. She was a practical woman working in the background because of her retiring nature. She excelled in catering and cooking and had a wonderful ministry with flowers. She would spend hours in preparing and arranging flowers and decorations for anniversaries and harvest festivals.

For over 12 years she was responsible for posting out the church paper, "the Friendly Word" to isolated and sick members and shared in the work of the C.W.F.

Our christian love and prayers are with Bill, her husband, and Lyle, her son at this time.

The minister E.O. Stevens shared the service in the chapel with the writer and at the Box Hill cemetery.

—K.J.C.

YOUNG, Malcolm J.

Malcolm Young died in hospital after a long illness on April 4, 1973, in his 78th year. Following baptism at Torrensville in 1940, he served his Lord faithfully. Until two years ago he was a deacon of the church, a teacher in the B.S., a maintenance worker about the church property, a church auditor, and agent for "the Australian Christian."

Eighteen months ago he was admitted to hospital and given only days to live. By the grace of God he recovered sufficiently to return home and to again attend the church services. Deteriorating again he was re-admitted to hospital and knowing that his illness was terminal, continued to witness to all of the faith that was in him. As a past minister of Torrensville and a friend, S.E. Matthews assisted in the service in the home whilst the writer conducted the service at the Centennial Park Crematorium. Malcolm Young will be missed at Torrensville where he was loved and respected as a gracious Christian gentleman by all. We commit his wife and family to the Lord of all comfort.

—A.E.B.

PHOTOS FOR USE IN THE "AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN" SHOULD BE CLEAR BLACK and WHITE GLOSSY PRINTS



**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

"AMAZING GRACE ECHOES" (Harvey, H.A.G. Clark) Bill Gaunson of Northam conducted "Amazing Grace Echoes", April 27-29. Attendance average over 80 . . . Byford young people shared in April 22 service. 12 young people made decisions . . . Mrs. I. Jones and family have been farewelled to Perth . . . Ten young people have moved to Perth and Bunbury for studies . . . It was decided to cease using the original church building for B.S. . . . Mr. Clark has accepted an invitation for extension of ministry.

YOUTH LEADER VISITS. (Kalgoorlie, R. Taylor), Kelvin Parry, Youth Director, shared with B.S. teachers, conducted workshops and a Teacher Dedication service and met with church officers . . . Coral Durbridge passed nursing exams with credit has gone to Sydney to further her studies. She gave appreciated help in B.S. . . . Mrs. Taylor is teaching in Junior Dept. and Mrs. Tinetti in Primary . . . Members attended Methodist Church for presentation of Stainer's "The Crucifixion." We have combined with Baptist Church for Good Friday service . . . Church has expressed sympathy to minister, R. Taylor, on the death of his father in Perth . . .

MISSION PLANNED (East Victoria Pk., W. Thornton) The church is planning for a mission in October . . . The church recently had fellowship with Thornlie where Mr Thornton also ministers . . . Prayer meetings are held each Wednesday evening at the manse . . . Mrs Pearl Brown has a fractured knee cap which will be in plaster for at least six weeks . . . Three of our young people attended Easter Camp . . . The South Club functions well each Friday evening . . . C.W.F. meetings are held in different homes twice monthly.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR (Bunbury, G. B. Carslake) Alan Morris has taken up his new position as administrator of Elanora Lodge . . . House groups and morning services have used an "A.B.C." programme of Faith, Prayer, Stewardship, and Witness . . . Boys Brigade has strongly supported a project to make six kayak canoes . . . 35 girls attend Girls' Brigade . . . Local men and Busselton men have been assisting Bill Pitt lay bricks at Busselton camp site . . . The film "The Ultimate Adventure" has been screened.

TWO MISSIONS (Maylands, F. Rees) Children's mission with Michael Lush had average of 102 attending. Church mission was led by K. J. Duffy and Scarborough church team . . . Liaison with Collie was implemented with exchange of ministers . . . The church congratulates our members Dr. G. Hall and Mrs. O'Meara, both Presidents—Elect of Conference . . . Seven S.S. teachers and relatives are being farwelled on leaving the district.

VICTORIA—TASMANIA C.W.F.



LESLEY STIRLING
President



PAT. HILBIG
Secretary

**87TH
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**

The 87th Annual Conference was held in the Kew City Hall with Mrs. F. Morgan presiding. Pianist: Mrs. P. Thomas. Theme of Conference: "Love in Action."

Attendances were approximately 475,570 and 600. Visitors were welcomed from all states with a special welcome being given to Mrs. G. Faulkner, Federal C.W.F. President. 74 visitors represented 25 country churches.

Mrs. Alys Beasy of St. Arnaud led in the morning devotions with Mrs. Verity Cormack as soloist and Hilary Polglaze accompanist. Executive and Committee reports were received. Mrs. M. D. Hamilton, Launceston, spoke to the Tasmanian Report.

Mrs. J. Preston introduced Superintendents and their Committees for 1973/74. Recognition was made of the following on their retirement, Mrs. R. Haden, Supt. Dorcas Committee; Mrs. B. Ferguson, Supt. Missionary Committee; Mrs. I. Wells, Auditor, and to Mrs. J. Sharp for mailing missionary letters and C.W.F. literature. Mrs. G. Stirling led in prayer of dedication.

Delegates voted that the Golden Bag Project 1973/74 be shared by the Federal Aborigine's Missionary Board, and the Dept. of Home Missions and Evangelism for the 'promotion of the Inner Areas Ministry Project.'

A Service of Dedication and Commitment prepared by Mrs. B. Lord was presented at the afternoon session by Mrs. F. Morgan and Mrs. J. Dow. Duetists were Mrs. B. Quaife and Miss Merlyn Quaife. During this Service Mrs. Ludgater received the 1972/73 Golden Bag Offering for the building of a house on Lugainville, on the island of Santo, New Hebrides. Total amount received was \$2,484.01. Cheques were presented to representatives of the following departments: College of the Bible \$683.65; Overseas Mission Dept. \$1,367.30; Home Missions and Evangelism \$1,367.30.

Greetings were brought by Mrs. G. Faulkner, Federal C.W.F. President, and M. Savage, President of General

Conference. Miss D. Nelson spoke on the "Inner Areas Ministry." Miss D. Geyer told on the situation in India today. Prayer of Remembrance was given by Mrs. N. Haines. Reports were received from the following—Mrs. D. Strack; Australian Church Women; Mrs. D. Gordon; Inter Church Council; and Mrs. Netta Newham; Aust. Representative, World C.W.F.

At night the President, Mrs. F. Morgan, introduced incoming members of Executive. Prayer of Dedication was given by E. Patterson, President Elect of General Conference. Mrs. G. Stirling introduced her theme for the year: "A Faith to Share" and, on presenting a Bible and sheath of flowers to Mrs. Morgan, thanked her for her leadership during her term of office. The Rev. P. Hollingworth, Associate Director of the Brotherhood of St. Laurence, urged the churches to widen their dimension of pastoral care and to think nationally and internationally.



JUNE ST. AUBYN
President-Elect

Officer Bearers 1973/74: President, Mrs. G. Stirling; President Elect, Mrs. W. St. Aubyn; Junior President Elect, Mrs. G. Joyce; Secretary, Mrs. K. G. Hilbig; Asst. Secretary, Mrs. R. Nelson; Treasurer, Mrs. D. Russell; Past President, Mrs. F. T. Morgan; Members, Mrs. J. Dow, & Mrs. D. Smith; Tasmanian Reps., Miss D. Allen, Mrs. L. Moore.



VICTORIA

SWAN HILL MISSION (R. E. Pritchard) In a 17 day Evangelistic Mission with J. K. Bond and M. Munyard there were two Decisions and one Baptism. A Thank-offering on closing night of \$635, more than covered expenses . . . The church was saddened by the death of Archie Jeffrey during March . . . A generous bequest from the Estate of a deceased member has enabled the church to pay its building debt and become debt free . . . The Junior Football Team (under 15) is again competing in local association.

LAY WITNESS MISSION (Manifold Heights, A.E. Stevens) Several members joined Lay Witness Mission teams on two weekends . . . L.H. Mountjoy has been discharged from hospital after eye surgery . . . There have been two decisions . . . Miss Dorothy Geyer, missionary from India, was a recent speaker . . . Twenty young people with Mr Stevens, attended Easter Camp at Hall's Gap . . . House parties are being held to enable members to become better acquainted.

DEATH OF H. G. RASMUSSEN (Camberwell, R. V. Longthorp). Church saddened by sudden death overseas of H. Rasmussen . . . Plan for closer working relationship with Hartwell Church has been approved by Camberwell . . . Encouraging growth in B.S. numbers . . . Explorers' Club under R. Porter has begun activities . . . Mrs. Jobson and Mrs. Mitchell are still too ill to attend services . . . Combined Camberwell Churches of Christ held a family picnic to Wandin East. R. Brough, Chairman and V. Longthorp, Secretary are the co-ordinating leaders of the group.

MINISTERLESS (Thomson) Being without a minister, the church is grateful to other Geelong churches, especially for the help of Malcolm Pitchford. Attendances are being maintained . . . 35 attended casserole luncheon on May 6 . . . C.W.E.F. have given \$100 to the building fund as a result of a mini-fete . . . Helen Croft showed slides to C.W.E.F. and spoke of her trip with painting work party to "Fairhaven," Esperance, W.A.

MINISTER DIES (Belmont) The church was deeply saddened at the passing of Pastor R.A. Banks on April 15 . . . Pastoral work is being undertaken by deaconesses and elders . . . L. Barker, Chaplain at Geelong West Technical School, is doing the bulk of the pulpit work . . . Senior Cricket team was runner up for fifth time in eleven seasons . . . Four netball teams have entered Y.W.C.A. competition . . . 65 persons attended Hall's Gap Family Camp, Mar. 30 - April 1. Adult studies "Living in Families," were prepared and presented by Dr. G. Whiting of the D.C.E. Adult Committee. David Allison, Chairman of the Committee attended.

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BIRTHS

REED (Bassett) To Rosslyn and Geoff., a son (Duncan Craig) on 26th April, 1973. Brother for Stuart and Russell. Both well.

SMITH (Sherriff) To Dawn and Doug., our second addition, at Loxton, S.A., on March 25th., Marney Kate, a sister for Travers.

SCAIFE (Ayton) Pam and Alan announce with pleasure the arrival of their 4th son, Ward Christian, at Greensborough, on May 5th, 1973. Brother to Murray and Craig and Matthew. Four beautiful gifts. Sincere thanks to Drs. E. & D. Corder and staff of D.V.C.H.

MARRIAGE

BURNHAM-COLLINS Mr. and Mrs. Alan Burnham of 5 Kitching Street, Indooroopilly, Brisbane, are happy to announce the marriage of their eldest daughter, Julie Ann, to Terence Charles, younger son of Mrs. M. Collins of 43 Cronin Street, Annerley, Brisbane, which will be solemnised at Annerley Church of Christ on Saturday, 19th May at 4.30 p.m.

DIAMOND WEDDING

MR & MRS E. W. HORNE of 96 Haverfield St., Echuca, Vic., are pleased to announce the 60th Anniversary of their wedding, May 17th, 1913, at Church of Christ, Swanston St., Melbourne. Mr. J. Allen (America) officiating.

DEATHS

CHALMERS, Jessie, of 17 Larwill Ave., Northgate, Qld., on May 4th, at Sandgate Masonic Hospital. Loved wife of Stanley and mother of David John.

FEATHERSTON (nee Sampson) On April 4th at her home, 3 Hastings St., Hampton, Vic., Doris Beatrice (Daisy), loved wife of the late John, loved and loving mother of John (dec.), Betty and Otto de Jager. Dearest Nan of Raymond and Coralie. "Our loved one at rest."

THOMSON, Harold Eastwood. At his home, Lincoln, England, on May 3rd, beloved husband of May, eldest son of the late Samuel & Elizabeth Thomson. Loved brother of Wilkie, Aisa (Mrs R. Prince, dec.), Lola (Mrs D. Adam), Chloris (Mrs M. Nunan), Valerie (Mrs P. Shannon). "Forever with the Lord."

IN MEMORIAM

HILL, Robert Hugh, 5 Harry St., Thornbury, passed away on the 10th May, 1968. "Safe in the arms of Jesus." Your memory is with us always. From your loving wife and family. E. M. Hill.

THOMPSON. In loving memory of Roy, passed away May 20th, 1970. Loved husband of Elsie, loving father of Doris and Alice. "One year comes, another goes, but the gates of memory never closes."

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11 a.m. Communion

7 p.m. Gospel Witness

ENGAGEMENT

MONSON-SMITH It is with much pleasure that Rose and Neil Monson, 50 Purdom Rd., Wembley Downs, W.A., with Hazel and Les Smith, 14 Watt St., Swanbourne, W.A., announce the engagement of Anthea and Phillip.

JAY'S QUIZ

The answer to the quiz, "What Land?" is Greece. (see page 10)

SEMINAR ON COFFEE SHOP EVANGELISM

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will be held on

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MEETINGS

Hear Dr. Lloyd Jones at opening Rally
Friday, 7.30 p.m.

SHARE SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY TEA
Saturday, 5.00 p.m.

ENJOY Bible School Anniversary
Sunday Afternoon, 3.00 p.m.

ATTEND SPECIAL SUNDAY SERVICES —
Communion 11.00 a.m.
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ANNOUNCEMENT

TO THE BROTHERHOOD

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Building at
106 Cranbourne Road

Meetings will be at the usual times of
8.45 a.m., 11 a.m., 7 p.m.

(Unless otherwise announced).

May 20th — What the Bible teaches about —

"Death or Eternal Life."

The beginning or the end?
Interview with a Funeral Director.

May 27th — What the Bible teaches about —

"The Judgement"

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Minister: Mr. Allan Avery
(Phone 783 8565).

Secretary: Mr. Geoff Reed
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CENTENARY YEAR — 1973

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Enquiries regarding any or all of these fields of service will be treated confidentially. Further information will be supplied by the

General Secretary,
Australian Council of Churches,
P.O. Box 111, Brickfield Hill,
SYDNEY, 2000.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT

110th ANNIVERSARY

DONCASTER CHURCH OF CHRIST

OCTOBER 7th, 1973

For the convenience of past members and friends the Doncaster Church makes special announcement of its 110th Anniversary Services. Details of the special "Home Coming" will be released later.

Further information may be had from the Secretary, John C. Berry (850 2902) or the Minister, Keith Horne (848 1546).

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

P.O. Box 101, Essendon North
Vic., 3041

Telephone: 379 1219

EDITOR: A. E. WHITE

Associate Editors:

- W.A.—J. K. Robinson,
11 Almondbury Rd., Mt. Lawley, 6050.
S.A.—"The Australian Christian," 104 Grote St.,
Adelaide, 5000.
Tas.—W. J. Flett,
Church of Christ Manse,
Nubeena, Tas., 7184.
Vic.—Stanton H. Wilson,
217 Lonsdale St., Melbourne, 3000.
N.S.W.—Dr. A. G. Elliott, M.A., Ph.D. (Lond.),
B.Sc., Dip. Ed.,
57 The Point Rd., Woolwich, 2110.
A.C.T.—C. H. J. Wright, 88 Limestone Avenue,
Ainslie, A.C.T., 2602.
Qld.—Allan C. Male, Dip.R.E.,
428 Ann St., Brisbane, 4000.

Issue:

May 19
June 2

Deadline:

May 10
May 24

— PERSONAL —

DISCIPLESHIP

- Robert Ratcliff, Castlemaine, Vic.
- Sue Munie, Ian Munie, Inverell, N.S.W.
- Ed deRidder, Pendle Hill, N.S.W.
- Jim Wallis, Frank Turner, Albany, W.A.
- Pauline Murphy, Julie Bentley, Margaret Keen, Sharon Keen, Mandy Amor, Ballarat, Vic.
- Mrs. A. Langley, Miss Glenice McCasker, Bendigo, Vic.
- Mrs. Ruth Smith, Joy Goudie, Chris Enzie, David Male, Chelsea, Vic.
- Kathy Hancock, Christine Hancock, Janine Crowhurst, Maxine Kirby, Beryl Kirby, Suzanne Hickman, Sandra Gillman, Anne Berry, Bill Munro, Mark Kirby, Jamie Potter, Magill, S.A.
- Ron Phillips, Geoffrey Adams, James Adams, Fremantle-Hamilton Hill, W.A.
- Mrs. Lynette Woodhall, Devonport, Tas.

MARRIAGES

- Margaret Coad to Bruce Dahlenburg, Maureen Sawyer to Brian Roberts,
- Raynour Higgins to Bruce Giddings, Nailsworth, S.A.
- Wendy Morgan to William J. Whale, Horsham, Vic.
- Judy Webber to Fred Peters, Lila Filsell to Edward Marzec, Brighton Gardens, S.A.

DEATHS

- Stanley Gardner, Brighton Gardens, S.A.
- F. G. Walkley, Forestville, S.A.
- Mrs. Olsen, Footscray, Vic.
- Mrs. Phyllis May, Bayswater, Vic.
- Mr. Jessup, Maryborough, Vic.

WOMEN OF THE WEST

The President, Mrs D.M. Hughes, welcomed 67 ladies from 23 C.W.F.'s to the first Auxiliary meeting of new Conference year. "Fellowship" will be the central word for Auxiliary meditations. Mrs E.B. Clapp led in prayer of intercession.

68th Women's Auxiliary Conference Impressions were prepared and presented by Mrs R. Richards. She placed the business of the day under "Six R's" headings: "Reticence, Resignations, Recognitions, Response, Recommendations and Requests." After announcing that Mrs J.J. O'Meara had been appointed President-Elect, Mrs Hughes led in prayer for guidance.

POINTS FOR PRAYER & PRAISE

- The appointment of Mr & Mrs Ken Birch to Norseman Mission; also Mr & Mrs Ken Edmondson returning to Carnarvon Mission where they served some years ago.
- For the Chapel erected in a central village in the Schrader Ranges, N.G.
- For the Discipleship Classes conducted

by Bill Buli, missionary from New Hebrides to N.G.

- For Miss Dorothy Geyer on Deputation work in W.A. June 3 - July 8.
- For Mr & Mrs Paul Williams and the young developing work at Warwick.
- For Home Mission churches preparing to welcome new ministers at Manning and Dianella.

Faith without works is dead - Send donations to C.O.C.O.A. to alleviate those in distress, especially those in the severe drought stricken area of India.

-Dora Gordon, Secretary

SEMINAR ON HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Entitled "What About the Handicapped Child and His Family?" a seminar will be held at the Methodist Centre, Brougham St., North Melbourne, Vic. on June 10, 2.30 to 8 p.m.

The seminar will explore ways of doing more for the handicapped child and

his family. The principal speaker will be Dr G. Keys-Smith, Director, Handicapped Children's Section, Royal Children's Hospital. Teachers and other experienced resource people will attend.

The project is sponsored by the Methodist, Presbyterian, and Congregational Departments of Christian Education. Further details may be obtained from Miss Nancy Anderson, Dept. Christian Educ., 156 Collins St., Melb. 3000.

JESUS FAMILY TEACH-IN

A Jesus Family Teach-In was held last June with 400 registrations. A second will be held next Queen's Birthday week end, June 8-11, at Vision Valley, Arcadia. Sydney.

Speakers include John Smith of the God Squad (Melb.); Dr Athol Gill of the Qld. Methodist Bible Training College; Rev. John Hirt and Rev. Trevor Hulme, and Rev. Alan Walker.

Further information from Rev. Fred Nile, 4-16 Francis St., East Sydney, N.S.W. 2010.

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Brisbane-Fri. June 8

7.30 p.m., at 327-335 Ann St. (CLC)

Perth-Fri. June 15

7.30 p.m., at S.A. Fortress, 47 Murray St.

Melbourne-Fri. June 22

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o S.A. WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Best for years

260 women met at Grote Street on April 12, for the best attended annual conference for some years. Mrs. Barbara Dillon presided.

Morning devotions were conducted by Mrs. May of Northern District Conference, and in the afternoon, opening thoughts were brought by the president's daughter, until recently a missionary in the New Hebrides.

Miss Eggmolese was accepted as a Living Link in place of Mrs. Marie Harrison who has now returned from the New Guinea field. Miss Skuce is our other Living Link.

Greetings from the Aborigines Mission fields were brought by Don Butler, Federal Organiser.

An unusual and interesting address was brought by Miss Norma Hall, minister of

our church at Elizabeth, who spoke about her experiences as our only lady minister.

Solos by Miss Jackling from Strathalbyn were greatly enjoyed.

General Conference president Mr. W. Bartlett conducted the dedication of new officers, as follows: President— Mrs. R. Pederson; President-Elect— Mrs. J. Middleton; Vice presidents— Mrs. J. Long and Mrs. D. Heard; Secretary— Mrs. H. Morrow; Assistant Sec.— Mrs. B. Holmes; Treasurer— Mrs. L. Packer; Leaders of Departments—Overseas: P. McLean, Aborigines: M. Wehr, Hospital: D. Kent, Christian Education: A. Saunders.

Visitors from churches and interchurch organizations were welcomed and later entertained to afternoon tea by the Executive.

Meeting famous women

At the South Australian Women's Conference meeting, Mrs. Pederson presided for the first time as President, Devotions were led by The-President-Elect, Mrs. Middleton assisted by soloist Mrs. Shirley Noble. Devotional theme was "Faith" . . . Faith is confidence in God who is absolutely trustworthy, absolutely reliable . . . Faith that does not walk may become too weak to stand . . . Faith and love do their best work together as a team . . . Faith works by Love.

Main feature of the meeting was the talk by Mr. S. Russell Baker who spoke about famous women he had met during his travels in Australia and abroad as General Secretary for Australia of the Bible Society.

He mentioned the Misses Mildred

Cable and Francesca and Eva French, pioneer missionaries in the Gobie Desert who stated that God's word is the key and solution to every problem in the world; Mrs. Martin Niemoller whose husband was in German concentration camps for eight years, affirming that God's book was to him the hand of God stretched out, Mademoiselle Rio, public relations officer to the General Secretary of Bible Society in France who spent most of her lunch hours distributing copies of the Scriptures; Helen Cadbury, wife of Charles Alexander, of Hymn book fame, the founder of the Pocket Testament League, and Catherine Marshall, writer of "A Man Called Peter," the story of her husband; and briefly mentioned three outstanding South American Christian women.

—A.M.S.

TWO NEW FILMS

"666—THE MAN" is a new (Gospel Film Ministry) film which dramatizes the final days of world history.

A select group of professionals and army personnel are sealed underground to safeguard a computerized informational memory system which has been fed with the best of what man has learned through the centuries. They know how to program the computer with 3-dimensional art so that it is even protected from the destruction of the great war at the end of days. Their lives are suddenly altered as the terrible holocaust of the end times does occur and they realize they are trapped deep underground. Each man is forced to make a judgment concerning this impending death and eternity beyond. It runs 82 minutes in color.

"CHANGING FACES" is another new

film produced by Ken Anderson Films, U.S.A. The purpose is to help today's Christians who may not be familiar with youth in the sub-culture, to better understand the opportunities and responsibilities of evangelistic outreach to these young people.

CHANGING FACES shows how people in the established church can relate to a world foreign to them, but a world desperately needing the reality of Jesus Christ.

The Australian Premieres of 666—THE MAN and CHANGING FACES will be held in 5 capital cities during May and June. Adelaide—May 25, Sydney—May 29, Brisbane—June 8, Perth—June 15 and Melbourne on June 22. The Premieres will be presented by The Gospel Film Ministry Ltd., after which both films will be available for hire from their libraries.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CHURCH LOSS. (Torrensville, Albert E. Brown). The death of Mal. Young has taken a very active member from the church. Glen Pearce has assisted at the organ whilst Mrs. Young had temporary leave of absence . . . Following his baptism E. Bobrowski was welcomed into fellowship together with his wife transferred from Cheltenham . . . Mrs. Grenville Sr., injured in an accident before Christmas, is still in hospital . . . Mr. Brown has commenced his seventh year of ministry with the church.

RENEWAL AT THE CHURCH. (Nailsworth, P. De Wildt). A renewal week-end was conducted by the Institute of church renewal. 32 people rededicated their lives to the Lord, including first decisions. 145 people participated, 65 being under the age of 21. There was a 24 hour prayer vigil at the church . . . The coffee shop is reaching young people from the Street. One definite decision has come through the coffee shop ministry . . . The Easter play "The Man's House" was presented.

FINAL MESSAGE (Blackwood, L. G. Cooke) Bruce Coventry's final message before transferring to Stirling awoke the church to the urgent need of India. Two women were inspired to set an appeal in motion and in six days the amount of \$1500 was raised. This completed the \$3000 required for a consignment of milk to India. Further plans are considered for further assistance through C.O.C.O.A.

ADMISSION BY CUSHION! (Brighton Gardens, K. J. Harvey, C. E. Curtis) Admission was by "cushion" at a recent youth service when a young doctor was baptised. 30 older members spent a weekend at Retreat House . . . Ten informal group experiences used to inform and stimulate thinking for review planned giving programme. Offerings lifted by \$100 a week . . . Both ministers have accepted further terms of ministry. 100 young people attend regular Friday night open structured programme . . . Primary Hall being extended and renovated as new Activity Centre. \$2000 loaned interest free for two years to cover capital cost . . . 40 young people hired a bus and spent a weekend with Doncaster Church, Vic.



TASMANIA

SIX BAPTISMS (Hobart, D. E. Stewart) Six young people were baptised recently. . . Dr. Knight is organiser of a "Communion for Shut-Ins" programme. Many young people will participate . . . The evening service begins at 4.30 p.m. from May 20 . . . Our first Coffee House has been held and another is planned . . . Jim Hohnke, minister at Copping, was recent speaker . . .



VICTORIA

CONFERENCE FLOWERS. (Preston-East, J. Manallack, G. Warren). Preston ladies were responsible for floral arrangement on Women's Conference Day . . . East Preston ladies catered for Tertiary Students' Dinner at Brotherhood Centre . . . Mrs. Joan Humphries was back at church after her long illness . . . Mrs. Jean Manallack presided at the Combined Pre-Easter Communion Service at Northcote Church . . . Mr. Manallack had a bread baking night with the Explorer Boy's Club . . . Fourteen young people from our Combined CYF attended Easter Banksia Camp . . . George Warren played guitar and assisted in song leading at Opening Night of Conference.

PASTORAL CARE (DONCASTER Keith Horne) Rev. Tom Keyte spoke to Pastoral Care Team on "Handling the Grief Situation" . . . Barry Draper has been elected to the "Doncare" Board . . . Associate minister Graham Lord was speaker at all services when minister was guest of Qld. Conference . . . Good Friday and Easter Sunday theme was "Christ in a Tangled World" . . . Dr and Mrs Don Mansell have been farewelled for three years to Lae (PNG) where Don will join the staff of the Institute of Technology . . . YAF programme "Fancy Tram" received unexpected but highly commendatory interviews by 3UZ.

FIVE BAPTISTS. (Horsham, R. Roberts). Elder M. Carter baptised five young people on April 27 . . . first year of Missionary Project realised \$378 . . . "One Way" Coffee Club has recommenced. Clubbers held a Coffee Shop at Dimboola on April 28 and two young people made decisions . . . A meeting was held at Stawell to consider an inter-church Coffee Shop . . . Several members attended North-West Dist. Conf. at Stawell on April 29. Mr. Roberts was speaker. The new President is P. Finlayson of Horsham . . . Stall in aid of Cystic Fibrosis Assoc., raised \$35 . . . Y.P. visited Kaniva on May 6 to promote "Calvary Encounter" Youth Convention.

MINISTRY APPOINTMENT. (North Williamstown, K. H. Pitt). Mr. & Mrs. Ian Mullen have accepted the invitation of the church to commence a ministry during February 1974 . . . S.S. scholars assisted at gospel service on Palm Sunday with special Easter presentation . . . United Good Friday Service held at Baptist Church. A sunrise Easter Sunday Communion Service was held at dawn in the manse garden . . . A bus load joined in United Gospel Service in Melb. Town Hall for State Conference . . . On May 6 a J.E.W. "Tribute to Israel" commemorated the 25th anniversary of Israel's Declaration of Independence . . . Senior Explorers won Senior Champion Pennant for second year in succession at Explorer outdoor sports.



NEW SOUTH WALES

LADY BAPTISED. (Tweed Heads-Coolangatta) Mrs. Welsh was baptised on April 29 . . . Mrs. Chris Howes is in fellowship from Caringbah. She is a Sister in the newly opened hospital across from the chapel. Mrs. Lindforth is an inmate there having recently returned from a trip to Japan . . . A. Barnes is S.S. secretary . . . Geo. Elliott from New Hebrides was recent speaker . . . C.W.F. joined with Southport for pre-conference women's prayer meeting. Ladies conducted a street stall and raised \$100 for manse fund.

B.A. FOR MINISTER. (Inverell, R. Craig) The church congratulates Mr Craig on gaining his B.A. degree . . . For the first time the annual meeting elected a deaconess. She is Miss Joyce Barry . . . Sue and Ian Munie have been baptised . . . The film "The Challenge" has been screened . . . Principal Frank Ewers of Kenmore Christian College, led a Teaching Mission, April 6 - 8. Mr & Mrs Geo. Elliott, missionaries from New Hebrides showed slides and told of their work . . . Miss V. Callanan of Southport Church of Christ was guest speaker at the Christian Women's Convention in Salvation Army Citadel . . . C.W.F. sponsored a slide evening and stall. Mr. Doust showed slides of his N.Z. trip.

HORNSBY'S REPRESENTATIVES (D. A. Oldfield) State Conference elected the following Hornsby members to service: Mrs. R. Bartholomew, Ashwood House Committee; R. Batholomew, Ed. Newton, and D. A. Oldfield, Boys' Home Youth Hostel Committee; J. V. Ellerby as Associate Secretary of Conference and to Social Service Committee . . . 19 of our young people attended D.C.E. Easter camp at Stanwell Tops . . . B.S. picnic was combined with Pendle Hill B.S. on April 28 at Moorebank . . . A Church Fellowship lunch was held after morning service on April 29. Mr and Mrs Bell were farewelled on leaving for Coffs Harbour . . . A teenage girl made her decision on April 29 and a young lad was baptised on May 6 . . .

FIRST BAPTISMS (Port Macquarie, J. Sedman) Our first baptisms were witnessed in March when a husband and wife obeyed in this way. Another couple have also been welcomed into fellowship. The mother of a S.S. scholar has made her decision . . . Church still meets in school hall at Hibbard. Plans for a new building have been presented to the local council. S.S. still expanding, taxing accommodation to limit . . . Geo. Elliott spoke recently and showed slides of work in New Hebrides . . . Monthly barbecue was held at Mortons' home at Lake Cathie.



VICTORIA

OPERATION FOR MINISTER. (York St. Ballarat, B. McMurtrie) Mr McMurtrie made a satisfactory recovery after surgery for nose and throat . . . Planned Giving review under the direction of E.C. Keating resulted in 24% increase in giving . . . Over \$100 was raised when the B.S. staff arranged a Garden Party at the home of Mr & Mrs Inglis . . . Members shared in a combined service at Peel St. on Good Friday . . . Bill Buli was guest speaker on Easter Sunday . . . Many shared in a youth camp at Hall's Gap in Easter holidays . . . G. Feary's health is causing concern . . . Some older members are not able to meet with us because of the strain of advancing years . . . Geoff Harrison has replaced Len McNiece on the Deacons' Board. There was a baptismal service on April 29.

ORPHAN SUPPORTED. (Footscray, F.B. Alcorn) The church supports a Vietnam orphan through World Vision and the B.S. supports an Indian schoolgirl. . . Ron White was leader for Youth 2 & 3 study weekend at Warburton . . . Mr Poupard, Baptist minister, was preacher at Good Friday service in our chapel . . . Young people conducted Easter Service, "Objects of the Cross," led by Ron White, associate minister . . . Church is preparing for Lay Witness mission.

FATHER & SON BAPTIZED. (Peel St. Ballarat, Vic. W. Mills) Father and son, Ray and John Wines, were baptized on April 29 . . . A successful Mini-Mission was conducted with R. Barnes. Backing groups were Impact, Kedron Judies, B'rat West, Salvation Army Singers, and David Jones . . . New deacons are W. Anstis and L. Murphy who is also secretary . . . Miss B. Kirsch, Missionary from Alaska, spoke to C.M.F. and C.Y.F. groups, and also at gospel service . . . Ann Walker made her decision at Easter Camp at Halls Gap.

SECOND COMING CONVENTION (Warburton, C. W. Jackel) The Easter Second Coming Convention was a thrilling experience, both from the attendance and the inspiring messages. Those attending came from over 50 areas, both in and beyond Victoria. Pictures screened showed recent developments in Palestine. The book and tract stall was well patronised. Offerings amounted to \$270.

CHURCH RENEWAL. (Maryborough, I. Adams). A renewal programme with Geo. Matheson was held May 4-6 . . . Goods from Harvest Festival were forwarded to C.O.B. . . . Young folk joined in Easter Camp at Eppalock . . . Y.W.L. now have an evening session . . . Two young people made decisions . . . Sympathy is extended to Mrs. M. Sewell and family in the death of her father . . . Mrs Keating, W. Sewell and R. Mathews have been hospitalised . . . Young marrieds meet for fellowship.

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11 a.m. — Communion Service

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QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



At a church I attended, the offering plates were placed beneath and not on the communion table. After the offering was received, the plates were replaced under the table. When I asked the reason I was told that the Table "was reserved for the emblems of the Lord," and that it was not appropriate to place the offering plates there. What do you think of this view?

It may not matter that much where the offering plates are kept, but in my view it is not inappropriate for them to be placed upon the communion table alongside the bread and cup.

Those who think differently are probably trying in their own way to exalt their Lord. That is not a bad motive. It is certainly a good thing to do everything possible in the arrangement of the table and the order of the service to concentrate upon our Lord and upon his ministry. But I think that the offering adds to rather than detracts from the worship and inspiration of the service.

The bread and the cup are symbols of our Lord giving himself to us and as we receive him he is much more than the emblems. The offering is the symbol of our giving ourselves to him, but we are much more than the offering we give.

Some churches place the offering plates upon the Table but divorce the offering itself from the central act of

worship. Sometimes the offering is received prior to the hymn before communion, and sometimes it is taken after the hymn which follows communion.

I like to see the offering received almost immediately after the bread and cup are dispensed. The giving of the members is in response to the giving of our Lord. Someone has said: "The other emblems on the Table are in trays that leave the Table full but return empty. The offering plates go out to the congregation empty but return full. This speaks of a mutual sharing. It lifts up the fellowship of Christian sacrifice. It helps the sacrificial giver to accept the Master's gift."

The significance of the service is made even deeper when we see through the bread and the cup our Lord giving himself and when we see through the offering our surrender in response.

The presence of money does not taint the Lord's Table. The offering we make enables the gospel to be preached, missionaries to be supported, the ministry developed, and churches to be started, strengthened, and maintained. A hundred and one other ministries of the church are also extended.

In other words the offering exalts Christ, and that is also exactly what we try to do through the bread and cup. The offering plate certainly belongs on the communion table.

One word of caution—if the congregation is happy, worshipful, and active with the offering plates beneath the Table, and some would be unhappy if they were lifted to a position beside the bread and cup, then leave them beneath the table. Some people have a tradition that is precious to them and the communion table is no place to fight a battle over the order of service. No matter who wins, Christ and the people will both lose.

THE LAST WORD . . .

" . . . dangers beset any organization which lives long enough to grow old. It gets accustomed to traditional ways of doing things, and to manners of living and acting which are not necessarily what is required for the future."

—John Gardner

PRAYER

Grant to us, O Lord,
To know that which is worth knowing,
To love that which is worth loving,
To praise that which pleases thee most,
To value that which to thee seems most precious,
To hate that which is in thy sight unclean . . .

And above all

To be ever searching after the good pleasure of thy will, Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Thomas Kempis,
15th century.



Wars are never caused by the little man, just fought by him.



Busy Signal

The children are so quiet
I can't believe they're home,
Until I try conversing
On the telephone!

DOLORES PLACE MACKEY



The fellow who say's he's going to call
a spade a spade is probably getting ready
to dig up some dirt.



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