



# The Australian CHRISTIAN



Vol. XVIII., No. 2.

Thursday, January 14, 1915.

## Victorian Home Missions.

£775

For Victorian Home Missions  
on February 7th.

£775

### WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAYS.

Reg. Enniss.

Owing to the financial depression caused by the outbreak of war and poor season prospects, the Home Missionary Committee has had an anxious year. Before the season was known or hostilities had commenced, we were virtually pledged to a big programme. To have immediately withdrawn from certain fields would have reduced our anxiety considerably, but it would have been an evidence of lack of faith both in God and the brethren. And so, while not undertaking further responsibilities, we have not withdrawn from anywhere, but have forged ahead with the work. We believe the brethren will approve this policy. Pursuing this course has, however, placed us in a bad position financially, and in this lean year we have to appeal for an even larger sum than has been raised in times of prosperity. How can it be done? We can hardly look for an increase from those who, through lack of employment, have earned scarcely sufficient to pay household expenses, and we fear that some of these may even have to reduce the amount of their offering. But it can be done, and we believe it will be done, by those whom the Lord has been prospering for years, and who to mark their thankfulness to God for enabling them to feel reasonably secure in these trying days, will be found adding to the sum usually given. We have heard of some who, to make up for those who simply cannot give this year, are adding 50 per cent. to their offering. We hear of others who think it as justifiable to raise money by overdraft in order that the Lord's work may not suffer, as to take that course to tide them over a business crisis. Brethren, let us honor God these days, and God will surely honor us.

### WHAT THE TREASURER SAYS.

W. C. Craigie.

The future of commerce and agriculture is at present clouded. Without being pessimistic, we have to admit that the outlook

is gloomy. With a combination of war and drought, it could hardly be otherwise. Yet our faith in our heavenly Father is unshaken. The Lord reigns. In ways that we may not understand, his divine purposes will ripen. Our part is to be faithful to the duties facing us. Let not the spiritual warfare be overshadowed, rather let us realise that the great struggle of right against wrong—of righteousness against sin—overshadows and envelops all other warfares.

Millions of treasure and thousands of lives are now being sacrificed in Europe to gratify the ambition of a small group of men. Will the followers of King Jesus respond to his call for means to spread the

towards entire self-support, and most of them are doing more than they were a year ago.

In addition to ordinary work in fields already occupied, special mission work has received some attention; but as our State evangelist became secretary, and Bro. Clay was located with South Melbourne, it has not been possible to keep up the former activity in this direction; still a few missions have been held by these brethren, and a successful Volunteer Mission Campaign was planned, and carried through.

The work among isolated members has also been continued, the possibilities of which are growing all the time.

A fair amount of new work has been undertaken. In conjunction with the Bible Schools' Union, and acting under the instructions of last conference, Bro. Reg. Enniss was appointed Bible Schools' organiser, and already results show that the outlay has been justified. This work is largely financed by the H.M. Fund.

Hospital visitation has been undertaken in a systematic manner by Bro. J. Pittman, and A. G. Bennett, with the kind consent of the Williamstown church, is acting as Hon. Immigration Agent.

Then at the suggestion of the Committee a number of the students at the Bible College were engaged as helpers by suburban churches; this only cost the H.M. Fund a few shillings per week in one or two cases, most of the money being found by the churches thus helped.

Four new churches have been organised under our supervision, viz.: Kameira, Lake Boga, Galah and Gardiner. The three in the country will each receive help from men already in the field, and there will be practically no additional expenses to the H.M. Fund. The church organised in the vicinity of the College should have a great career, as soon as she is able to build on the land that has been secured. This is a field we are pledged to help. It was the intention of the Committee to have entered Ararat in a big way, but war and drought combined to



W. C. Craigie,  
Victorian Home Mission Treasurer.

gospel of his kingdom and to extend his sway?

Surely the need never was greater, nor the time more opportune. In humble faith, let us do our duty. Let Feb. 7 be witness for our loyalty to our heavenly King.

### WHAT WE HAVE BEEN DOING.

Thos. Hagger.

Realising that to abandon any of the fields already in hand would be wrong, the Committee to which our Home Mission work was entrusted at last Conference has pursued a policy of "hold the fort" with regard to them, and the wisdom of doing so is manifest in a number of places. Each place thus helped has been urged to do more

compel a postponement of this effort, although the new mission tent which it was expected to use in opening the work there was secured, and has been used elsewhere.

Thus the Committee has been seeking to consolidate work already in hand, and at the same time to push into other fields. This is the true way to success. The work that has been done, to say nothing of the work that remains, should secure a very large offering on Feb. 7.

### THE UNTOUCHED PORTION OF OUR STATE.

S. H. Mudge.

My subject appears to invite geographical reflection, but if anyone will look at a map of Victoria and note the untouched portion, such will accede that to pursue the geographical requirements of this topic would be venturesome. Of the portion of the State in which we are not represented the following things are true:

1. There are many large and important centres. When I mention such places as Ararat, Hamilton, Casterton, Coleraine, Portland, Sale, Moe, Benalla, Wangaratta, Beechworth, Bright, Murchison, it will be understood that I do so only to suggest, not to enumerate the important places yet to be entered. Such places are centres of thickly populated districts, and are therefore to us strategic. In our campaign against sin we could not claim distinction for wisdom were we to disregard such positions. The importance of these places is greatly increased when we remember that in many of them we have isolated members. One characteristic of a field of opportunity for us is that there are already members in that field. These members act as a base for work.

2. That there are smaller towns which are open doors for New Testament Christianity. It seems but natural that we should think in large towns first, but we should do so only with the idea of making them the base of operations. Conquest should be our business, the field we enter should be but a detail of the plan for the complete restoration of the things which belong to God.

3. In the untouched portion of our State there are those who "labor and are heavy laden," there are the weary who need rest, the broken heart that needs binding. The requirements of these are fully met only in the gospel of Jesus. He came "to seek and to save that which was lost." As it was in the earthly ministry of the Saviour, so it is now, the suffering, oppressed, and tried say: "We would see Jesus." Follower of the Son of God, if Jesus has helped us in our hour of deep trouble, when the cloud was hanging low and heavy, and thick darkness was about us, when all other help failed and comforts fled; if in such moments he was all the world to us, should anything short of fervent endeavor characterize our efforts to bring others into touch with his gracious influences?

4. It will prove equally responsive to the gospel as the fields we are already in. There

are numerous prodigal sons. Many of them are ready to "come to themselves" and return home. One's depravity does not make pleasant musing. This is the time to lead them to the Word of God, which will lead them to say: "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son." Then we shall see the Father "meet him out upon the way" and welcome his weary, wandering child.

Lastly, we are answerable for the untouched portion of our State. It is very desirable that we should be as sensible of our responsibility as Judah was when Joseph wished to detain Benjamin. With a touch of desperation Judah pleaded, "How shall I go up to my father, and the lad be not with me?" Brethren, how shall we go up to our Father, with so much of our State untouched?

Our responsibility requires us to make an heroic effort on Home Mission Sunday.

### THE INCENTIVE OF THE PLEA.

A. G. Day.

Not one of us questions the scripturalness of the plea for the restoration of primitive Christianity in teaching and practice. We are zealous for the adoption of Bible names for Bible things, and the adherence to the divinely appointed way of salvation as revealed to us in the teaching of Jesus and his apostles. The Bible, we accept as our divinely appointed guide, and the Christ of the Bible as our only creed.

For the union of the followers of Christ upon the basis laid down in the New Testament we earnestly pray.

In the above we have a brief statement of the plea of the Churches of Christ, which is both scriptural and unsectarian.

A summary of the plea will be found in the first clause: "An unqualified restoration of primitive Christianity in teaching and practice."

It is possible that the teaching may re-

ceive more attention than the practice, for we may be scriptural in our teaching, which is important, but without due attention being given to the practice we would hardly be justified in calling the above "our plea" when two essential parts of that plea are teaching and practice.

To the extent in which we are true to the plea we have the justification for our existence as a religious body advocating the union of all the people of God upon the seven ones of Ephesians 4: 4-6.

If we preach and practise New Testament Christianity—in other words, if we are true to our plea—we will be working and giving even to the point of sacrifice, beginning at "Jerusalem," then in "Judea" and "Samaria" preaching the gospel of the grace of God.

Primitive Christianity presents to us a picture of the early Christians carrying out the "programme of Jesus," which was pre-eminently missionary. They were busily engaged in a "campaign for souls." When the church in Jerusalem seemingly neglected that work, and in a measure became self-centred, persecution was allowed to come upon her at the time of the stoning of Stephen. We read then that they were scattered abroad and went everywhere preaching the gospel.

We may rejoice in the fact that we have such a grand plea, and we may even glory in the plea, but they who rejoice must not expect the plea, or the preaching of the plea, to bring about that for which we plead.

Nothing short of this State of Victoria brought to the foot of the cross and gathered into one family, "holding fast the faith once for all delivered to the saints" and "growing in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ," will satisfy the requirements of the plea. We who make the plea are therefore called upon to see that in every community there is a church without denominational name or creed, that every individual in the State may hear the simple gospel of Jesus Christ.

In our preaching we urge the people to accept the Saviour as their only hope of sal-



GARDINER.

This is a view of part of Gardiner and Toorunga, and is in the vicinity of the College of the Bible. A few years ago there were practically no houses in this view, and so it is apparent that the population is growing fast. A church has been

organised on here, and land has been secured. The Home Missionary Committee is pledged to help locate a preacher as soon as the church is ready. There are many inviting fields like this in Victoria.

Other men who have labored during the year with the Committee include E. Davis, G. E. Chandler, S. H. Mudge, G. H. Oldfield,

## Men at the Front.

C. R. Brough, E. C. Sherar, R. Armit, W. F. Nantwell, A. J. W. W. H. Hunsicker, E. W. Spragg, and S. B. Hibbard.



Reg. Enniss, Bible Schools' Organiser, who is doing such a splendid work amongst Schools in the State.



Jos. Pittman, Hospital Visitor, who is brightening the hours of suffering for many in the Hospitals.



A. R. Benn, who labors in the West Wimmera District, and is loved by all.



J. R. Combridge, who is doing such fine work at Horham and Polkmet.



Lars Larsen, the energetic and successful evangelist in the Maryborough, Het Het, and Dunolly District.



J. W. Marrows, who has recently taken the work in Calce, and in whom the church and Committee have the utmost confidence.



A. G. Bennett, our Honorary Immigration Agent, who is trying to help new arrivals in our State.



W. G. Combridge, who is located in the Mallee Circuit, with Brim as headquarters. He travels many miles each month, and is doing good work.



W. H. Clay, the man who scatters sunshine by his bright singing, and who is doing so well at South Melbourne.



W. L. Jones, under whom the work at Warrnambool is reviving so wonderfully.



H. B. Robbins, one of the latest additions to our staff, who is hard at work at Stawell.



D. M. McCracken, who is highly respected in St. Arnaud, and is doing a fine work there.



J. E. Shinway, the hard-working evangelist in the Kyneton-Taradale-Drummond District.



H. M. Clipstone, who now labors well in Castlemaine. This place only receives help now to the extent of a small subsidy.



Thus. Hagger, Secretary, who tries to keep in touch with all the work in hand, and all the fields in which we should be at work.



D. A. Cockroft, who was giving week-end help in the Taradale district for the greater part of the year, but has now gone to Swan Hill Circuit, to which he will devote the whole of his time.



Wm. Wakefield, who has been the instrument in God's hand of reviving the work in Echuca.



H. G. Clark, another student preacher who has been toiling away at Warragul.



H. G. Henderson, who for some months past has been laboring each Lord's day at Shepparton.



L. Anderson, Student Evangelist, who has done good week-end work in the Dunolly District, and is now spending the vacation in hard work at Boort.



L. C. McCallum, Student Preacher at Malvern, who is doing splendid work. This place receives a small subsidy.



D. Wakely, who has just undertaken week end work in the Taradale-Drummond District.



J. E. Webb, who is now the student preacher at Wonga Park.



J. Coward, who has been doing splendid work as student helper at Collingwood.

vation, and to do so without delay, for time is, at best, uncertain. If this is true, and we all believe it is, let us preach not only to those who come within the sound of our voices, but true to our watchword may we carry the urgent message to the cities, towns, townships, and scattered districts throughout the State.

May we all, rich and poor alike, catch a vision of a united church in Victoria, the result of the restoration of primitive Christianity for which we plead, and then spare no sacrifice that the vision shall be realised as soon as possible.

In so far as we work to bring about that for which we plead may we rightly claim the plea as "ours."

That "the fields are white unto harvest" is true in a very special manner to-day. The plea calls for us to reap the harvest.

### THE BASE OF HOME MISSIONS— THE STRONG CHURCHES.

Jos. J. Franklyn.

The annual appeal on behalf of the Home Mission work reminds us that Christianity came into the world to save and unite the human family. This is the burden of the music of Christ's heart. He always goes after that which is lost until he finds it. When all authority on earth and in heaven was committed unto him, he said, "Go ye therefore and make Christians (marginal) of all nations." Christianity is a travelling religion; its mission is incomplete while one unreached "heathen" is existent, either at home or abroad. If you cannot rest until you have saved another man, you may be perfectly sure that you are under the inspiration of the Cross. Christianity as lived by the churches must always be judged by their magnanimity. The cause of the weak should always appeal to the heroism and sympathy of the strong. The call of the H.M. Committee must invariably come to the stronger churches, for upon these must devolve the responsibility of continuing the "base of H.M. supplies." It will be a wonderful day for the Church of Christ when apathy or antipathy dries up the springs of Home Mission generosity. The church grows out of the Christian large-heartedness of the missionary churches. The world has no use for a "Dead Sea religion"; it can never inspire a dead world. "The Dead Sea" of the East is so named because while it constantly receives the abundant waters of the River Jordan, it has no outlet. This means stagnation and death. The church that sacrifices its life for the truth it believes and teaches will not only bring redemption to the spirit of its brother man, but save itself—as one has well expressed it—

"A church that stays at home soon loses the home in which it stays. A religion that loses its life shall find it."

Our Home Mission work in Victoria is a splendid tribute to the virile life of our churches; notably the large ones. To whom shall the committee go, but again to these?

This new appeal is but the "hand of insistence" knocking at the door of the "base of supplies." "Freely ye have received, freely give." Although the times may be stressful and troublous, we must not permit any retrenchment in our Home Mission enterprise; rather let us recognise that the present condition of a hopeless world is a bigger and brighter opportunity for the church's message. Let us all loyally stand by the Home Mission Committee and our workers, and make this year's offering the record expression of our devotion to Christ and New Testament Christianity—remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." A last word to the strong churches of the State: You constitute the "base of supplies" for the Home Mission crusade. Don't fail to "ring true" on the eventful day.

### THE CHURCH'S ONE WORK.

Thos. W. Smith.

"The universal and perpetual proclamation of redemption is the duty of the church, by the commission and command of Christ." Having finished his work upon earth, before going to the right hand of his Father, he charged his disciples, saying, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature . . ." So it has been said that "the whole duty of the whole church is to preach the whole gospel to the whole world." This, then, is the church's "one work." Alexander Campbell said: "The Christian health and vigor of every church is to be estimated more by her exertions and success in bringing sinners home to God, than by all her other attainments." This great fact should never be forgotten or overlooked. The duty of the church is not merely to be a kind of moral cleanser in the community, but essentially a soul-saving institution. Certainly the church may be the source of supply for reforming influences of every kind; but its first business and duty is with *regeneration* and not *reformation*. It is quite a matter of secondary importance what part the churches shall take in moral reforms; and there may be doubts in the minds of some good brethren as to just what should be the position of the churches towards great social questions—and in fact there have been many bitter controversies raised on these very questions—but there can be no room for doubt—no room for two opinions—on the question of the church's *one* duty, which is to *evangelise*. Whether we do this as individual churches, or whether we co-operate with other churches, through the business-like and sane Home Mission Committee method, is immaterial, but we *must* "preach the word"! Most, if not all, of the Australian Churches of Christ have seen fit in the past to use the Home Mission Committees for the purpose for which they were brought into existence; and as this is the season of the year when all of our committees are making the special appeals for the work of evangelising the home-land, these few words are written

with the hope that the churches will continue to make a generous and liberal response to the call—every member of every church, as well as isolated brethren, making some offering, as behoves all obedient followers of our Lord.

"Brethren all, the field survey,  
Work it needs, and that to-day;  
Means and mind must there be spent,  
These to you by God are lent.  
'Not your own,' be wise, be true;  
Live to love, and live to give.  
All you may and all you can  
Vote to save your fellow-man."

### LARGER GIFTS.

H. E. Knott.

The Home Mission appeal this year has a special claim upon our liberality. We have attempted bigger things than ever, and have achieved greater results. Now, just at the time when our annual offering is to be taken, we are faced with adverse conditions. We will need all of the £775 asked for to balance the ledger for conference. Some will not be in a position to assist as much as last year. Those of us not seriously affected, however, should follow the lead of a brother who recently notified his intention of increasing his Home Missionary offering 50 per cent. "in anticipation of this year being a year when money would be scarce." With all the stress of the struggle in distant parts, and the disappointment in many country districts through drought, we who are left ought to gladly show our gratitude to God by larger gifts, and by our loyalty and liberality should see that the Lord's work does not unduly suffer. The kingdom of God no less than the Empire calls for sacrifice in this her time of need. For the church Christ gave his life, and the condition he places upon us is: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

The prospects of our fields were never better; at no time have we had a more concentrated and efficient band of workers, and never again in our history will we have a return of the opportunities now presenting themselves to us. Then

"Give as you would if an angel  
Awaited your gift at the door;  
Give as you would if to-morrow  
Found you where giving was o'er;  
Give as you would to the Master  
If you met his searching look;  
Give as you would of your substance  
If his hand your offering took."

### WHAT IS NEEDED.

1. A liberal response to this appeal by every member in the State.
2. Not less than £775 as a total offering, and as much more as possible.
3. Prompt remittance of the offering by isolated members, and church treasurers, as our books close for the conference balance on February 28th. Send to W. C. Craigie, 265 Little Collins-st., Melbourne, or Thos Hagger, 15 Walsh-st., Coburg.

## South Australia.

Our Aims: 1000 Souls for Christ; £2300 for Home Missions this Year.  
£750 Wanted on February 7.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

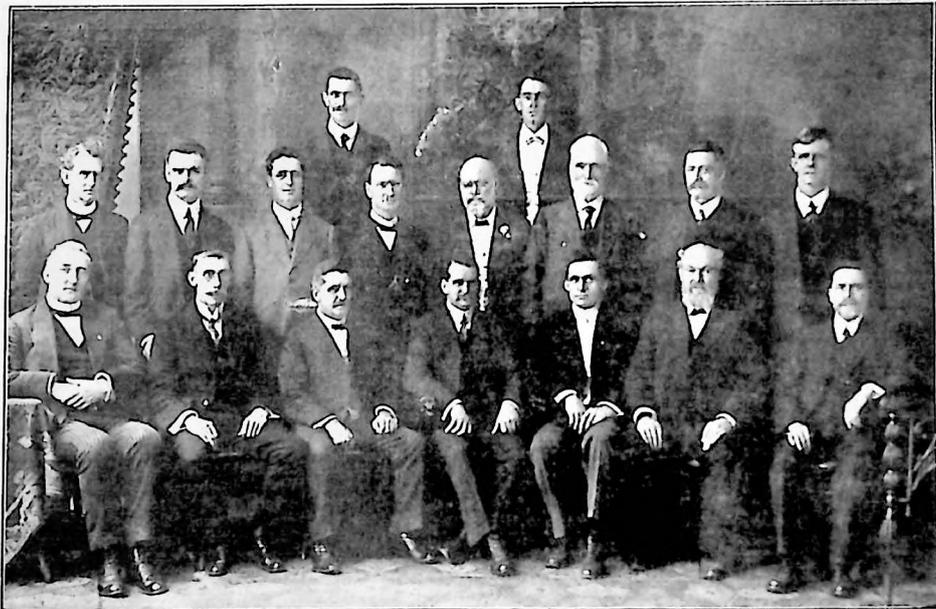
Geo. D. Wright.

The year 1914 will ever be remembered as marking the beginning of the greatest war in the history of the ages. During the same year a comparatively lesser calamity fell upon Australia in the form of one of the severest droughts yet experienced from which all the States have suffered. These disasters quickly produced a marked effect on the community. The buoyancy and prosperity following upon a succession of good seasons was rapidly followed by a depression and lack of confidence, resulting in much unemployment, with accompanying financial difficulties. A mild form of panic and a spirit of pessimism took hold of the community, the influence of which in many instances, extended into the religious life of the people. It is now pleasing to note that confidence is again being restored, and we are viewing the outlook with a calmer and

more optimistic spirit. While we cannot fail to realise the seriousness of the present position, and must face the fact that very many of our church members are feeling the effects of the conditions through which we are passing, is it not true that as Christians our temperaments are too easily affected and our judgments too readily swayed by the circumstances of the moment? Our outlook of the future is too often based upon the news of a temporary victory or defeat from the seat of war, upon the immediate weather conditions, or some passing event. Even our faith in God is often similarly affected. Yet history and our own experiences have repeatedly proved that the only men and women that God can effectively use are those whose faith enables them to see beyond the narrow limits of the passing events of the moment, and realise that God's great purposes are often accomplished through those circumstances which we call adversity. God's work must still go

on, though the harvest has failed and the war rages. The power of sin has not been weakened and man's need of Christ lessened by temporal difficulties and financial depression; and the question arises, Are we going to surrender any of our hard won positions in the Home Mission fields because of adversity? On the battlefields of France our brave soldiers are forfeiting their lives sooner than yield to the enemy the positions they have fought and struggled to win for their king and country. Are we as Christians going to show any less courage when the demand comes to prove our faith in our Leader and the cause with which we stand identified?

God will probably send us again the bountiful harvest. Some day the war will cease. God grant it may be soon, and prosperity again will be manifest. In the meantime it is imperative that at least we shall hold the positions we have won. This is not a hard task, if all will do what they can. Our Lord

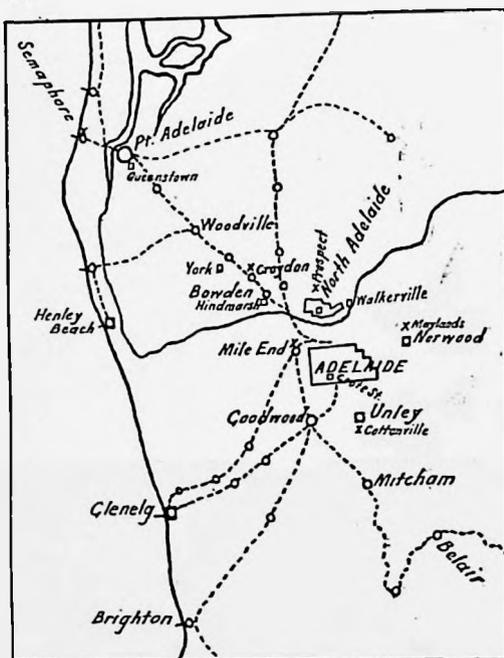


S.A. EVANGELISTIC UNION EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

Reading from Left to Right.

Front Row: J. E. Thomas, W. J. Manning, Asst. Sec.; E. W. Pittman, Vice-President; G. D. Wright, President; I. A. Paternoster, Past President; D. A. Ewers, Secretary; J. Manning, Treasurer.  
Second Row: T. Edwards, A. L. Reid, B. W. Huntsman, W. C. Brooker, W. Charlck, D. Wilson, R. Barr, Junr., A. J. Gard.  
Back Row: J. Fischer, G. P. Cuttriss. Absent: W. Burford and T. B. Verco.

## CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN ADELAIDE & SUBURBS. 1915.



Self-supporting Churches ——— □  
Assisted Churches ——— X

asks no more. All can pray, and most can give. We ask the continued prayers of the brethren for the Home Mission work, and have faith that the annual response to the offering for Home Missions will be such that there will be not only no need to surrender any of the positions that we occupy, but that we shall be able to strengthen these and make preparations for extending the Master's work into those places that are calling for help and assistance. May God help us all to rise to the increased responsibilities that the occasion demands, that it may not be said of any that we allowed the Lord's work to be the first to suffer because of the strenuous times through which we are passing.

### THE WORK OF THE LORD.

Jas. Manning, Treasurer.

All the committees who manage the Home Mission work of our churches have their minds on 7th February next, Money Day.

This may seem strange, as the Lord and his apostles say so little about money for gospel work. The gospel calls on the Christian to engage in and abound in the work of the Lord. The Lord's work is to save the world. We are laborers together with God. God saves the world by the preaching of the glad tidings. This great work is now being carried on by God through his servants. Having ourselves first become servants, gifts, time and money are all commanded by our Lord for prosecuting his work, so although no special mention is made of money, giving must be included in abounding in the work of the Lord.

The British nation, now engaged in a great war, calls for money for the work. Our Government are seeking money for great public works.

The work of saving souls is the Lord's doing. It also requires money. The work is not in vain or resultless. We therefore appeal to all the members to abound in gifts of money on offering day, 7th February.

### FIELDS AND PREACHERS.

D. A. Ewers,  
Conference Secretary.

#### Town Churches.

There are six of these receiving help from our Home Mission Funds. The figures are from conference report.

1. Croydon. Preacher, H. J. Horsell. Additions from all sources last year, 32. Members on roll, 149. Large school. New schoolroom built. Sunday School scholars, 179.
2. Mavlands. Preacher, H. R. Taylor. Total additions, 54. Membership, 223. Scholars, 218. Two rooms added for the school.
3. Mile End. Preacher, J. Wiltshire. Received into church last year, 17. Membership, 202. Scholars, 218.
4. Prospect. Preacher, I. A. Paternoster. Additions, 14. Membership, 155. Scholars, 150. Large room built for school.
5. Semaphore. Preacher, W. J. Taylor. Additions, 33. Membership, 179. Scholars, 165.
6. Cottonville. Preacher, B. W. Manning. Additions, 33. Membership, 76. Scholars, 88. Room added for school.

#### Country Causes.

1. Bordertown District. 2 churches. Bordertown and Mundalla, and Wamponny. 3 chapels. Preacher, E. Edwards. Additions, 11. Membership, 121. Scholars, 69. New chapel opened at Mundalla.
2. Narracoorte. Preacher, P. Warhurst. Additions, 8. Membership, 54. Scholars, 33. Schoolrooms added.
3. Goolwa. Preacher, J. W. Caines. Additions, 13. Membership, 63. Scholars, 91. Preaching station, Hindmarsh Island.
4. Murray Bridge and Lameroo. 2 churches. Additions, 14. Membership, 63. Scholars, 40. Preaching station, Hillside.
5. Wallaroo. Preacher, A. H. Wilson. Additions, 35. Membership, 118. Scholars, 129. New chapel opened.
6. Moonta. J. E. Allan. Additions, 18. Membership, 39. Scholars, 125. Preaching station, East Moonta.
7. Eyre Peninsula District. Preacher, A. J. Fisher. Churches, 4. Tumbly Bay, Butler, Ungarra, and Pillana. Additions, 25. Membership, 104. Scholars, 95. Chapels, 3. New chapel, Tumbly. Meetings also at Lipson, Carrow, Cummins, and Wadella.
8. Murray River District. Preacher, R. Raymond. Churches, 2. Berri and Pyap West. No chapels. Additions, 28. Membership, 28. No schools. Preaching stations: Renmark, Noora, Loxton, Veitch.
9. Lochiel. Preacher, T. Jones. Additions, 23. Membership, 81. Scholars, 103. Preaching station, Mt. Templeton.
10. Willunga and Mt. Compass. Additions, 2. Membership, 37. Scholars, 36. Summary: 16 assisted fields, with 22 churches, and 11 other preaching stations, 1716 members. Total additions, 360. Net increase, 217. 21 Bible Schools, 1764 scholars. Net increase of scholars, 440.

Some Changes.—The churches at Mile

End, Maylands, and Prospect now engage their own preachers, receiving a subsidy from the committee, the same as Croydon, Cottonville and Willunga and Mt. Compass. G. P. Cuttriss resigned from the service of the Committee to work at Hindmarsh, and J. E. Allan, of Doncaster, Vic., has taken his place at Moonta. J. Wiltshire accepted a call to Mile End, and A. H. Wilson, of Owen and Alma, has taken his place at Wallaroo. The Northern District, since last offering, has engaged T. Jones for Lochiel, and the general committee subsidises the Northern District for this work. The Murray River District has been taken up, and R. Raymond placed there with his headquarters at Berri. Two churches have been organised already. D. A. Ewers, formerly of Mile End church, now devotes all his time to conference work as organising and financial secretary, visiting and assisting the churches of the State.

To keep all the work going, at least £2300 will be required this conference year, and we make an urgent appeal for £750 on the 7th Feb. As many will not be able to give so much this year, our only hope is that those who can will give more than usual. If not —

**SOUTHERN DISTRICT.**

Theo. Edwards, President.

Our work has progressed steadily during the past year. Most of our churches are located in country districts, and working among a scattered population, and cannot report anything in the way of a sensational increase in membership.

The church at Strathalbyn, assisted during the year by supplies, reports a steady increase in membership. The services of an evangelist are now being arranged for. The Southern Conference has promised financial assistance.

The church at Goolwa, assisted by Bro. Caines, has had a successful year. Connected with this work was that of Hindmarsh Island. Owing to difficulties, this work was dropped for the time, but will shortly be resumed. The Southern Conference assists financially.

The churches at Milang and Pt. Sturt, assisted by Bro. P. Baker, are rendering good service. This district has been well worked. The brethren are waiting for new material to work upon. The special feature of the workwork is the Bible School. A number of scholars have taken their stand for Christ.

The new cause at Murray Bridge continues to prosper. Additions reported. Bro. Train assists the brethren there. A few of the faithful, owing to dry season, have moved away, but this does not affect the prospects of the church. A good school is being established, and the brethren look forward hopefully.

The churches at Lameroo and Parilla are holding their own. No cause in the State is fighting against greater odds than this at the present time. The brethren are looking

above and beyond present difficulties. Bro. Train visits once a month. Members and non-members speak very hopefully of our future. The Southern Conference will stand by this work.

The churches at Willunga and Mt. Compass, assisted by Bro. Weckes, report a good year. The prospects are bright. Willunga is now connected with Adelaide by rail. Mt. Compass will shortly open a new chapel. Outside interest is fine.

The work at Stirling and Aldgate Valley progresses steadily. Additions are few, but the work is solid.

Like other parts of the State, we are suffering from drought. We, however, realise the drought to be a blessing in disguise, and look forward to having at its close greater opportunities than ever before. Men are calling for work. The call has been responded to. New railroads are being made. New country opened up. New towns estab-

lished. The River Murray is being locked. Goolwa or Victor Harbour, we are told, must be a seaport town. Catch a vision. The future calls for more men and more consecrated money. Hear the call and go forward.

**NORTHERN DISTRICT.**

W. L. Ewers, Secretary.

At our last District Conference held at Balaklava in March, a forward step in connection with our district was taken. The cause at Lochiel had made such good progress, that it was felt the time had arrived for the stationing of an evangelist there, and the conference invited Bro. T. Jones to take up the work.

This step was made possible by the financial assistance of the State Evangelistic Committee to the extent of 10% per week and the increased contributions of the Loch-



iel brethren, and its wisdom is seen in the consolidation of the work and the progress made. There have been a number of confessions, and the Sunday School and Endeavor Society are both in a flourishing condition.

The Lochiel District has suffered so severely from the drought this season that the church has felt the necessity of asking permission to reduce its payments to the committee by 10/- per week, and we are glad to say that Bro. Jones has the work so much at heart that he has consented to continue at a reduced salary.

In connection with the cause at Lochiel a Sunday School has been organised during the year at Mt. Templeton. This has provided for a long-felt want in the community, and is proving to be a great blessing, and it should eventually lead to the organisation of a church. There are at present over 40 scholars enrolled.

Another sign of the year's progress is the organisation of a Sunday School at Ayon, 12 miles south of Balaklava. This school also has about 40 scholars enrolled, and the preaching services are largely attended. Bro. Victor Hollams, as superintendent, is doing a splendid work at Ayon.

In all probability missions will be held at both Ayon and Mt. Templeton. There are other places like Snowtown and Blyth, where we have members residing which present opportunities for the setting up of the table of the Lord and the proclamation of the primitive gospel.

### EYRE PENINSULA DISTRICT.

A. J. Fischer.

The work on Eyre Peninsula is carried on in one of the youngest districts of the State. Much of it is upon new ground, and even among agriculturalists virgin soil is still as plentiful as cultivated land. The churches here have now been helped by the committee for a few years, during which time extension has been the prominent feature. As a result of this, instead of a few brethren meeting in one district only, we now have periodic meetings in eight different places: Butler, Ungarra, Pillana, Tumby, Lipson, Carrow, Cummins and Wadella. At the first four places churches have been formed and throughout the whole region over one hundred members are scattered. Three of the churches are housed in their own chapels, the new building at Tumby being one of the best in the town, and forming a splendid climax to the three years' labors of Bro. R. Harkness.

Bible Schools are established at Butler, Ungarra, Carrow and Tumby, having a membership of about one hundred. In this way preparation is being made for the future of the church.

The present phase of work being carried on is that of consolidation. The first step was taken in January, 1914, when the churches formed themselves into the Eyre Peninsula Conference. Now, by working unitedly, they are trying to strengthen all the causes and to gradually make all self-

supporting. Through the conditions of the times, little has been done so far, yet we feel sure that as the land becomes more closely settled, and as the seasons improve, the committee (and the brethren supporting the committee) will rejoice in the knowledge that they were instrumental in sending the gospel to the people of Eyre Peninsula.

### THE UNION OF FORCES.

I. A. Paternoster,  
Sec., S.A. F.M. Committee.

It seems hardly necessary to state that when Christ gave his command, it was to "make disciples of all the nations." We can scarcely conceive of a disciple of Christ seeking to interpret that commission as referring to the work at home to the exclusion of work abroad or *vice versa*.

There is one mission. "The field is the world." The closer union of forces is bound to help the one great purpose of Christ.

Mark said of Jesus, "And he appointed twelve, that they may be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach." Mark, 3: 14. He sent them forth, and still sends them forth, some to the heart of Africa, some to the back blocks of Australia, some to the Isles of the Sea, and some to the crowded city.

One motive is behind this sending out, wherever it may be. It is not the building of a religious organisation, nor the fostering of division, nor simply the increasing of numbers, but it is to "open their eyes that they may turn from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive remission of sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in them." Acts 26: 18.

For the sake of better carrying out the work, we have formed two committees. This does not mean we consider the work divided. We are conscious that a successful foreign missionary work stimulates deeper interest at home, and for that reason we appeal to the churches at home to strengthen the home churches. Make it possible to continue building up the cause here that more may have a share in the great work abroad.

The one thing most necessary for us to realise is that Jesus Christ came to seek and save the lost. Unless men here in the home land are told, they are in danger, and the heart of Christ is sad as he sees our neglect. It is neglect on our part. We squander far more on selfish pleasure than ever we give to Jesus Christ. This year we shall need every penny. We appeal to every man and woman to deny themselves for one month, and the money they would have spent lightly give to Home Missions as a special thanksgiving offering.

Many of our most able workers to-day are those who have been won as a result of work made possible by the churches through the Home Mission Committee. It would be a wonderful testimony to the work of Home Missions if we could publish a list of those men and women, boys and girls, who during the past ten years have been won to Christ by a Home Mission preacher or in a Home Mission church. Brethren, this is a

paying work. It is the kind of work most cheering, as we read of the splendid success of some of our Home Mission fields, and as we realise the spirit of sacrifice manifest by the men who have labored in the isolated places.

These are the churches loyally supporting our F.M. work also, for they realise that it pays to think of others. We wonder sometimes just how long we as a nation are going to say to the nations we permit to fight our battles with us, and with whom we invite trade, that you shall not enter our ports or settle in our country. This cannot long continue. What are we doing to meet the situation? Now is the time to build up a strong virile church, that when that time does come we shall be able to do our part in helping evangelise them. They will come to us and remain perhaps for a few years, when many of them will return. Here is our opportunity. We are now just laying the foundations for a large work. This country, after peace is declared, will attract many people. The simple story of the Cross must be given them, and we as a people must do our part. Let us seek to prepare for it. As churches in South Australia we should be able to contribute this year more than the amount asked for. Do not let the work of the Lord suffer at this time of unbounded opportunity. We must go forward.

### YORKE PENINSULA.

A. H. Wilson.

We have two Home Mission churches on the peninsula—Wallaroo and Moonta. The work at Wallaroo was undertaken by the committee two years ago, and substantial progress has been made. Last year there was a net increase of thirty members, bringing the total up to 118 at the time of last conference. There are 129 names on Bible School roll, with a staff of eleven teachers. The C.E. Society is in a flourishing way, and the prayer meeting has an attendance ranging from 40 to 60 people. There is an average of 70 per cent. of members at the Lord's table; and the gospel service is well attended. During the summer months open air preaching is carried on with fair success. The amount raised last year for all purposes was £24. The contribution to the Home Mission funds has been increased from £1 to £12/6 weekly.

The church at Moonta has passed through a progressive year. Since being reorganised by G. P. Cuttriss, much permanent work has been done. The membership now stands at 45. A Bible School and kindergarten are being conducted with an average attendance of 60 scholars. Evening services are well attended, ranging from 90 to 120. A few months ago Bro. Cuttriss relinquished the work here. J. E. Allan, of Doncaster, has now settled down to the work, and we are expecting to see good success. There are also many large towns and prosperous districts on the peninsula where our plea is not known; and a great deal depends on the response of the brethren everywhere to this appeal for Home Missions.

## Western Australia.

Our Motto: "250 Souls for Christ and £1250 for Home Missions."

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

T. H. Scambler.

We recently heard an earnest plea for the Belgian people in their need. The speaker advocated a 5 per cent. tax upon all incomes, without exemptions. His reason for so drastic a proposal was that the Belgian people had placed themselves between us and the danger that threatened us, and by the interposition of blood had purchased for us a great deliverance. Had they declined to do this, the cost to our land would have been thousands, millions of pounds, and the loss to each of us, individually, would have been incalculable. And if anything were needed to make us realise the extent of our indebtedness, we were asked to place our homes, our wives, our children in the midst of Belgium's desolation, and realise how great deliverance these people had wrought for us. The situation is new—the argument is old.

One who loved us purchased our freedom. He interposed his blood, and saved us. Had he refused to do this, our condition would be lamentable indeed. When J. G. Paton lost his wife in the New Hebrides, he was surrounded by savage friends and savage foes. The condition of his work was depressing. He says: "If it had not been for Jesus, and the presence he vouchsafed me there, I should have gone mad, and perished beside that lonely grave."

If it had not been for Jesus! Let our mothers place themselves in the condition of the Indian mother who makes her child a sacrifice. Let our girls be placed among the heathen girls of China. Let our men stand among the oppressed hordes of Africa. Then may we realise the difference Jesus makes.

Our liberties, our opportunities, our hope, our homes, our joys—all that makes life worth while—we owe to him.

What shall we render unto the Lord on Feb. 7, for all his benefits to us?

### My Field: Its Task and Opportunity.

#### THE SOUTH-WEST.

H. Urquhart Rodger.

One of the mottos on the walls of the temple at Delphi was "Know thy opportunity." Surely the psychological moment has arrived in the history of the church for a forward move in this South-West district. May we all hear that thrilling order from headquarters, "Go work to-day in my vineyard," embracing, as it does, "the urgency of the task—the appointed place—the specified time." The field here is immense, one almost staggers at the contemplation of

it—if it were not for the dynamic promised by Christ for the success of the task we would feel discouraged at the enormity of it, but we know "our God will work for us" and therefore we "go forward" realising that "God is with us" in our great task of evangelising the "South-West." At the present moment there is only one evangelist in this section whose whole time is devoted to the work—this alone ought to be a challenge to the church to send more men to meet the need in this prosperous district. Only one man giving his whole time? Yes, that is so, my brother, my sister. I do not wonder at your heart being stirred. Bunbury is my centre: from Bunbury to Manjup, 80 miles; to Collie, 40 miles (this is the great coal centre in the South-West); to Pinjarra, 54 miles; to Busselton, 62 miles; then to form a triangle, sweep across to Greenbushes, linking up Nanup, a district just being opened up. Twenty fairly large towns could be conveniently reached and successfully operated if we had the men in the field to undertake the work. Brethren, stand by the "South-West." Send men and supplies—the greatness of the task demands urgency in compliance.

#### NORTHAM.

A. T. Eaton.

Northam is the largest and one of the oldest agricultural towns in W.A. It has a population of between five and six thousand. Besides being the largest agricultural town in W.A., it also has the second largest railway sheds in the State, where some five hundred men are employed. The first week we were here, we took a walk through the business thoroughfare of the town on the late night (Saturday), and were surprised at the number of men who parade the streets. On the Lord's day we were equally surprised at the very few men who attended our services, or for that matter any other church service. During the fifteen months we have been laboring with the church, we have made a special effort to get the men to attend the gospel meetings, and our efforts have been partly successful, for at least half the number who now attend are men. The plea we present appeals to men, it is the grandest plea the world has ever heard, because it is the truth from Christ himself. Of the thirty additions we have had during the year by faith and baptism, two-thirds have been men, but there are scores of men and women in the town who have never heard our plea, and to reach these people is the task before us. Never has the church at Northam had such an opportunity as that which now presents itself. We are better known, and consequently in greater favor with the people than ever be-

fore. The church is now united (not frozen together). The deacons meet regularly one evening a week for Bible study, and another evening for special prayer on behalf of the unsaved. Souls are being won for Christ; we are more than holding the fort, we're marching onward under a leader who knows no defeat, the King of kings and Lord of lords. The writer's term as evangelist of this church terminates on Jan. 10, 1915, he having decided to continue his studies in the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Northam, he believes, is the most promising field in W.A. What a glorious opportunity awaits the new evangelist!

#### WEST GUILDFORD.

Geo. Fitzgerald.

It is now nearly two years since the church in West Guildford came into existence. At that time a few disciples were meeting in the pretty little town of Guildford. This was central for them, and had many personal advantages, but they realised that the believer's duty was to preach the gospel. Guildford, one of the oldest places in Western Australia, was too conservative for progressive work. And so the idea of commencing in West Guildford was conceived. Soon this small band of workers determined to erect a fine chapel in a day. This scheme was brought to a successful issue; and in January, 1913, the church was inaugurated. The church was only sixteen strong, and they had 10 scholars in the Bible School. To-day there are 55 members in the church and 87 scholars, and 14 teachers and officers in the Bible School. Our morning meeting is un-surpassed for attendance. It is just



Chapel Built in a Day,  
Claremont, W.A., Oct. 31, 1914.



T. H. Scambler,  
Pres. W.A. Conf.



A. T. Eaton,  
Northam.



G. T. Fitzgerald,  
West Guildford.



H. J. Banks,  
Organising Sec.



H. U. Rodger,  
Bunbury.



W. Marsden,  
Kalgoorlie.



F. E. Alcorn,  
Brookton.

grand to see how the folk turn out to remember their Lord. It is just three months since I came to labor with the church in West Guildford. The church was alive and vigorous. I am proud to be associated with such a noble band of workers. It is a church without a "history." Nevertheless it must not be thought that the work is entirely immune from problems. There is not such a field, in West Australia at any rate. Perhaps it is as well there is not. Struggles develop moral and spiritual muscles. West Australia is noted for irreligion, and this particular portion of it is no exception to the rest of the State. West Guildford is a growing place. At present there are over 2000 people, and houses are going up every day. The church has a great future ahead of it. We but need to remain apostolic in doctrine and life, and the victory is ours. So much for my field of labor. We sow, but "God giveth the increase."

**BROOKTON.**

F. E. Alcorn.

The field for Christian evangelism is the world. In this short article the writer confines himself to one tiny portion of that vast field, that portion to which God has been pleased to call him to service—the Brookton circuit.

This field, however, affords ample scope for the outlet of one's energies. It takes in an area of some twenty-two miles in every direction. Brookton itself is almost central. It includes four preaching places, some of which are visited twice each month. During the month of September the writer paid 36 calls, and in order to do this, as well as keeping preaching appointments, he travelled a distance of 200 miles. The average distance travelled each month is about 170 miles.

The task is in many ways a difficult one. It is not contained in the size, so much as in the condition of the field. There is in many cases an apathy and indifference to religion that is unparalleled; and in some cases the people are totally ignorant, not only of the plea of the disciples of Christ, but of all matters of religion. To deal with these problems is indeed difficult, but we know that the gospel of Jesus is powerful and

able to pierce even the hearts that are ignorant and indifferent.

Notwithstanding the task of the field, there are wonderful opportunities for service. When one considers the opportunities of a field such as this the difficulties melt away to oblivion. In most cases the folk are glad to have the preacher come amongst them and converse with them of their future here and hereafter; especially is this so in the outlying districts. Truly the field is whitening unto harvest, and we are looking forward to a glorious reaping in the near future.

**KALGOORLIE.**

William Marsden.

A zealous temperance reformer once wrote on the door of a liquor shop, "Who enters here forgets himself, his country, and his friends." A slavish bacchanalian wrote beneath, "I have calculated the odds; none of the three are worth remembering." Sin is a terrible wrecker. When it reigns in the mortal body it crushes self-respect, and with that goes respect for country, friends, God. Such ending is a woeful calamity. It is the suicide of the soul. To fight sin and save men from it is the task and opportunity of the preacher.

The special difficulty in my field of labor is the love of frivolity and amusements among all classes. We are a good tempered, light-hearted, pleasure-loving people. We, may be, are not so peculiar in this as in the fact that the Sunday has been requisitioned and made to do chief service. For football and cricket this is the only day. It shares equally with other days the picture show, and concerts are allowed intermittently. Pleasure fills up the day. In consequence Christian services suffer among all classes, but especially among young men and women. How can it be otherwise? Do we not know what dissipation of mind attends on and follows these things, what insensibility to higher things. There is no wonder at all that they have no time for religion who allow pleasure to dominate. Herein is the peculiar task.

And yet there is much that is attractive about the people of these goldfields. They are kind-hearted, hospitable and gracious to a degree. There are many good Christian

workers among them. Opportunities are plentiful, but they have to be sought. Much patience is required. But our Lord will open doors to faithful and prayerful asking. We must remember love lightens labor, faith conquers, and hope maketh not ashamed. We press forward the work to the end.

**THE HOME MISSION OFFERING IN WEST AUSTRALIA.**

H. J. Banks.

A special offering for Home Missions in West Australia will be taken on February 7. Prayers have been uttered, addresses delivered, letters written, rallies held, printed appeals circulated. All that remains is to make our offering unto the Lord. It is hoped that the response will be liberal and hearty. We require £150, and can reasonably expect an offering from 1000 of the 1500 members in the State—an average of 3/- per member. A number have been giving regularly throughout the year. They have made possible the progressive steps that have been taken. Doubtless they will make the further effort and succeed, for it is a realised truth that those who have cultivated the grace of giving know a joy that is foreign to the person who withholds from God his due, and "There is that scattereth and yet increaseth." But this is especially the opportunity of the many on our church rolls who for various reasons have failed to contribute regularly. They should offer largely.

There are ten evangelists in this State to-day. All are loyal to the old Book. All are burning with a passion for souls. All of them long to see as many more moving out into the fields already white unto harvest. We ask you to do your best on Feb. 7 to enable the committee to clear the present overdraft of £150, and plan for further conquests for our King.

For 52 weeks in the year we seek in the mercy of God to guide the perplexed, to point upward to the things that cannot be shaken, to spread abroad the Saviour's love, to open up the pages of his Book, and guide the thoughts of all to the presence of God. Help us by your prayers and encourage us by sending others to help in this most glorious of tasks—the winning of men for God.

## Tasmania: The Island State.

Our Motto for 1915:  
"Onward, Tasmania!"

### THE WHITENING FIELDS. THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

H. Swain.

"The Field is White to Harvest."

Again, dear brethren, the annual appeal in the interests of Home Missions is brought before you. Again, your spirit of liberality in the interests of a further extension of Christ's kingdom is sought. Again you are urged to strain every effort to make the first Sunday in February an opportunity to consecrate your gold and silver to the service of God. As president of the Conference I do this because the time is opportune, and the possibilities greater than ever.

During the year the Home Missionary Committee has performed the tasks allotted at last Conference. Resolutions were carried at that gathering authorising the engagement of two evangelists, and this has been done. G. T. Black has already done good work in the Nubeena district, and G. Woolnough, by the time the H.M. number of the "Christian" is published, will be settled in the Huon, as the evangelist of the Geeveston and Dover churches. The members in these districts have responded splendidly to the calls made, and now the committee is anxious to enlarge our borders. This can easily be done if there is an offering by every member on Feb. 7. I am desirous that our churches throughout the State should have a large vision, and in spite of war and drought, do their utmost to ensure that not only shall the present fields be maintained, but two additional Home missionaries be engaged during the coming year. "There remaineth yet much land to be possessed," and with strong faith in God, associated with generous and large-hearted giving, there is nothing to prevent greater victories and greater success. "The harvest is great, but the laborers are few." Oh, brethren, will you not try and have a share in the joy of winning souls for Christ, and still further enlarging the interests of his church? I confidently appeal to you at this time, to prove your gratitude for what God has done for us in the past, to show that your service is not merely a lip service, to demonstrate your faith in the principles for which the restoration movement stands, by so contributing to our funds that your committee will be able to do greater work than ever for him. To us has been entrusted the sacred task of preaching the gospel of the grace of God.

The State of Tasmania is waiting for the simple message of God's Word. This want can be supplied; this work done, if we will but realise our privileges and remember our obligations. Again, then, do I appeal to my fellow members throughout this much-fav-

ored land, to make the coming offering one worthy of the church we love and worthy of the cause we plead.

### "ONWARD, TASMANIA!"

N. G. Warmbrunn.

Brethren,—It is with joy that I, your Home Mission Secretary, wish to give you a threefold message on behalf of "Home Missions," on this, the occasion of our special effort.

The message of the past, the present, and the future; each of which suggests three thoughts, viz: (a) Difficulties, (b) Opportunities, (c) Success.

#### THE PAST.

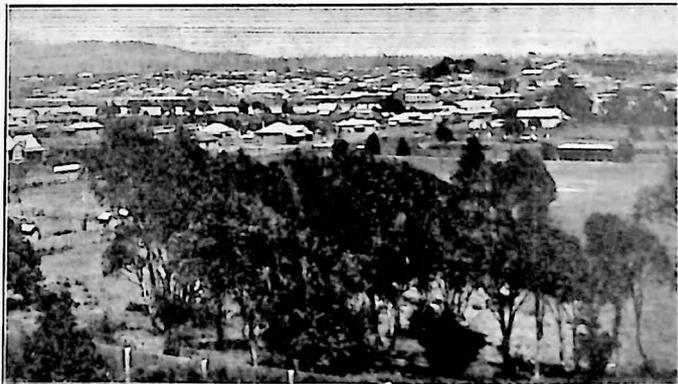
*Difficulties.*—As we look back over the past, we have to confess that difficulties have caused the appeal for Home Mission effort to be neglected, or go by unnoticed by many homes and churches.

*Opportunities* have been many, but have we risen to the calls? Has the great work of works been as successfully done as it should have been, or might have been?

*Success*, admittedly, has only been partial. Alas! What little has been done. What great things might have been done!

#### THE PRESENT.

*Difficulties* still confront us, but these very difficulties cause us to consider our position and generate new life in the churches, and such difficulties are being prayerfully overcome. Thereby we are developing and strengthening that desire "that they all may be one."



DEVONPORT,  
on the N.W. Coast of Tasmania, where the H.M. Committee hope to organize a church this year.

*Opportunities* are greater now than ever, appeals from all parts of the State are constantly reaching the committee. Large, prosperous towns on the North-West Coast, as yet are untouched, while many of our congregations are in a weak and languishing condition. It should be the special business of every church member, throughout Tasmania, to do his or her part towards helping the Home Mission Committee, not only to maintain such workers as we now have in the fields, but also open up new work.

*Success*, though slow, is surely forging ahead. Let me here invite my Tasmanian brethren to note the reports which appear in the "Australian Christian" from time to time; also note what splendid and solid work is being done by Bro. G. T. Black in the Peninsula district.

From the different fields, too, where regular and systematic work is being done, come reports that are most satisfactory and cheering.

#### THE FUTURE.

*Difficulties* will very quickly disappear if every member of the church throughout the State will prayerfully remember his or her obligation on the first Lord's day in February; thereby assisting the committee to help all the urgent calls that come from month to month.

*Opportunities* are rapidly increasing, but do we realise that increasing opportunities bring increasingly greater responsibility?

Already the committee has arranged with Bro. G. Woolnough, of N.S.W., to take up the work in the Huon district; and are also

planning for aggressive work in other fields early in the new year.

Success is assured, in the coming Home



N. Warmbrunn,  
Conf. Sec.

Mission offering, if the brotherhood will be true to God and themselves.

Let every one stand in his place, with firm faith and confidence, determined not only to maintain the workers now in the fields, but attempt greater and grander things.

Shall we not then listen to the voice of God, as he speaks to us to-day—and in his strength go forward to glorious victories for Christ and the church during 1915?

#### SOME TASMANIAN NEEDS.

W. C. McCallum.

Tasmania needs the plea for New Testament unity. Denominational competition is distressing in the smaller communities. Roman Catholicism is active and ambitious, Anglican presumption hinders unity in religious and social reform efforts. While the rough corners have been rubbed off to some extent between some denominations, there is a depressing lack of any deep desire after the unity for which our Lord prayed.

In order to quicken this desire our own churches need vision. They must rise above pettiness, and the straining at a gnat church life. They must feel that the Lord has brought us into being for such a time as this. They need leadership. Some of our small churches present examples of unselfish devotion. Brethren and sisters have stood by the work through tremendous difficulties. It has been heroic holding of the fort. If our mission is to be accomplished these churches must be given men who can lead them in aggressive work. Our H.M. Committee is laboring in this direction, but as yet only a beginning has been made. To reach the goal the churches need enthusiasm, an enthusiasm that gives, that gives liberally and gives regularly.

#### SATISFIED, OR DISSATISFIED—WHICH?

G. T. Black.

Tasmanians! "Lift up your eyes and look on the field!" Our fair island, and only three preachers devoting their full time to the proclamation of the primitive gospel. We have only one of our sons at the Col-

lege of the Bible preparing for the ministry of the Word.

We proudly talk of our thriving towns and growing districts, of their prospects and resources. We boast of our plea and our loyalty to the Word. We call to mind how long we have occupied the land and think of the towns we have not entered. We count our membership, and are—Which? Of the distant past we cannot but exclaim, "So little done, and so much to do."

If "Forward Home Missions" is the world, we must send more of our young men to our Bible College. We must rise to our sacred responsibility, and for the carrying on of the work contemplated we must keep the treasury supplied.

A new day is dawning, the work is beginning, laborers are entering the fields—funds are needed for "the forces of evil are not deferring their operations to the next generation."

Of the past we cannot boast; for the future we may plan; but, would we be satisfied, for the present we must act, and that on Home Mission Day.

#### LAUNCESTON UNITED TENT MISSION.

On Sunday evening, Nov. 15, the tent was in readiness, and the crusade began. Seated to accommodate 500 or 600 people, brilliantly lighted by electricity, with platform on which stood a splendid piano and organ, crowded with a bright and expectant congregation, the tent presented a fine sight. Pastors Jeffs (Baptist), and Swain (Church of Christ), had succeeded in creating a cordial spirit between the two congregations, and there appeared to be a general gratification that closer relations were being promoted.

The mission continued for exactly five weeks. Crowded on Sundays, the tent was

comfortably full every night, and with two or three exceptions, there were decisions for Christ every evening. Alexander's hymns were used, and many of them have become very popular. We were favored with an excellent pianist (Mr. Jack Stephenson) and a capable organist (Miss Maggie Duff) of the Baptist and Church of Christ respectively, Miss F. Swain acting graciously as emergency. The singing was further assisted by two instrumentalists. The cases of conversion included those of both sexes, and all ages, and old man of 70 and a small boy of 11 being among the number. A middle aged man and his wife from the country, who have a family of ten children, promised to tell their children of the confession they had made, and to introduce family worship. One of the fruits of the mission has been a large accession of church members to both communions, these being chiefly young men and young women who have been Christians for some time, but had not previously seen their privilege in this direction. The men's meeting, conducted by Pastor Jeffs, was most memorable and enthusiastic, many letters having been received from grateful hearers.

The most perfect concord prevailed from beginning to end. Many attended every night, and were sorry when the mission was over. Although no collection plate was passed round, excepting on the two final evenings for a thankoffering, the expenses have been met by voluntary contributions.

Never yet did there exist a full faith in the divine word which did not expand the intellect, while it purified the heart; which did not multiply the aims and objects of the understanding, while it fixed and simplified those of the desires and feelings.—*Calveridge*.



UNITED MISSION AT LAUNCESTON.

# Queensland: Our Northern State.

Wanted: A Gift from each of the 1200  
Disciples in Queensland.

## NOTES FROM THE SECRETARY.

F. A. Bignell.

Last year we prayed that a new era would open up for the cause of primitive Christianity in Queensland, and to a great extent our prayer has been answered. Although heavily handicapped at the beginning of the year by a debt of £88 left over from the Griffith mission, yet with confidence in the brotherhood and faith in our heavenly Father, we determined to plan for great things with that end in view. The H.M. Committee engaged the services of Bro. W. J. Way as State organising secretary, for the purpose of energising those churches that had become practically inactive. The result has been most gratifying. Many weak churches have been strengthened, and the Lord's table again set up in many places. Missions have been held at Wooroolin, Gympie, Bundaberg, Sunnybank, and Hawthorn, and souls won for King Jesus. Although our brother has had a most difficult task, yet he has accomplished a great work, and the committee have every reason to feel satisfied with the work done for the year.

Conference also decided to make an innovation by substituting the yearly Home Mission offering for a quarterly one. The result has been that our finances for the year will be a record; the debt of £88 has been removed, and the committee have been able to meet all expenses; the third quarter yielded over £60. It would appear from the above that the committee have discovered a solution to their financial difficulties. The prospects for the ensuing year are very bright, and if the same self-sacrificing spirit is maintained, the results for the next year should be still greater.

The results have shown the necessity of an uncompromising adherence to the truth as it is in Jesus. This is our strength. All the triumphs of the early churches were the triumphs of the word of God. "So mightily grew the word of God and prevailed." The loss of the church's power was when her members were turned "aside from the truth unto fables." Heaven and earth shall pass away, but God's word shall not in one jot or tittle fail. Sin and death are terrible results. No human philosophy can remove their terrors or destroy their power. Tempest-driven men come at last, when all else fails, to the blessed word of life and salvation for deliverance.

### "HOW SHALL THEY HEAR WITHOUT A PREACHER?"

W. J. Way.

The need of the primitive gospel in Queensland is more urgent to-day than ever. Much new country is being opened

up; new settlements forming; new arrivals from England and other parts of the world demand from us the good news of eternal life as revealed in the gospel. There are many large towns and areas in this State where the primitive pentecostal gospel has never been heard, and never will be unless we go to them with it. What is preached mystifies and puzzles rather than enlightening and inspiring. And so masses reach the conclusion that there is no clearly defined way of salvation; that one must do the best they can, and hope and fear, in the dark, they know not what. In many districts we have visited the services of the denominations are forsaken; the ministers cease to attend because there are no listeners. And the reason why there are no congregations is chiefly because there is so little positive primitive gospel preached. When we visit these districts we usually get a good hearing, and not a few express regret that our stay is necessarily so short. A great and effectual door is opened unto us in this State, and we must enter and possess the fields. We do not believe that these vast hordes are just hungering and thirsting for the gospel, but we do believe that a large number would accept a clear, loving, apostolic presentation of the plan of salvation. And such a presentation of the divine revelation of love would, we verily believe, awaken a desire in many who are indifferent. In Queensland we are a few and feeble people, but not so feeble but that we can do much more than we are doing for the cause of Jesus and our fellow men. Their very darkness, ignorance and danger should appeal to us to exert greater effort, sacrifice and love for them. It was our perilous and death state that appealed to the love and compassion of Jesus Christ, and brought him to the manger, the cross, the sepulchre; and now to the right hand of God for us. Oh, brethren, let the perilous and death state of the scores of thousands in this province appeal to our love, pure effort. May God help us, then, to help him in this great and blessed work of bringing men to Christ and salvation. That men and women are susceptible to the truth is proved by the fact that just recently from forty to fifty have confessed their faith in the Lord Jesus, and have been baptised.

### THE HEART OF HOME MISSIONS.

W. H. Nightingale.

As good physicians, let us feel the missionary pulse of the churches, and locate the vital forces available for State evangelisation. It is well for us to note that the heart of Home Missions is not the H.M. Committee. Failure to recognise this fact has led

to many failures in Queensland. The true heart of Home Missions lies deeply imbedded in the churches themselves. The H.M. Committee occupies an important position as representing the mind of the churches, being elected by them in conference for the purpose of planning, controlling, directing and using the vital forces placed at its disposal by the churches. It should be a faithful steward of an honored trust. But the great heart throbs of loving interest, spiritual fervor, sacrificial love for the lost, living faith, moving prayer and practical consecration of gifts must of necessity come from the churches. How then can we expect the H.M. Committee and the State evangelist to do great things if the heart is not right in the sight of God? Brethren, the source of missionary power and the responsibility of evangelising Queensland rests largely upon us, for with us are the issues of life, or death. Has the cause of Christ really gripped our affections? Do we love the people of Queensland sufficient to save them from sin?

### A CREED FOR CHRISTIAN STEWARDS.

1. My money is mine only in trust. It belongs to God, just as I do.

2. This money is not filthy here. It is not the devil's coin. It is stored-up human power. It is so much of myself which I can set at work in Japan or India, or New York or Colorado.

3. God is counting on this money for his work. It is to build his churches and preach his gospel, train his workers and send them out to teach and heal and save his children, and help bring in a new kingdom of righteousness and brotherhood and peace.

4. To spend my income rightly is one of my first tasks as a Christian. Until I settle this my prayers and confessions will be like saying, "Lord, Lord," and not doing the will of my Father.

5. I should set aside a proportion of my income for the church and the service of others. I must do this to guard against my own selfishness. I must do this because it is business-like. Giving by impulse and without system does not accord with the importance of this work.

6. I should give for these ends not less than one-tenth of my income, and should increase this proportion as I am able. The Jews started with one-tenth as a minimum. I am receiving far more from God than they did and the call of his work is far greater in this age. I cannot begin with less. I ought to give more if I am able.—Selected.

## A REVIVAL WE NEED.

W. G. Loucks.

The church has had many types of revivals. Revivals in evangelism, social work, men's work, boys' work, buildings, missions, teacher-training, Christian Endeavor, etc. But there is one revival that has not yet been able to claim the general, prayerful and systematic attention and interest of the church—that is "personal evangelism." It has been taught to an extent and effectively practised in a general way.



W. J. Way,  
Queensland  
Organising Sec.

but there has not been any movement that has made it effective among the general membership of the church.

The importance of this type of work is best seen in the life of our Lord. Not many great addresses are recorded; not many occasions mentioned upon which he drew great numbers to become his followers. But there are many occasions upon which he sat down and talked with the individual or with the few. Not long ago, while thinking over this wonderful phase of his life during his brief ministry, I began to wonder if I had overestimated his work with individuals. So I ran through the Gospels in search of instances of his personal work, either in short addresses or otherwise. The result of the research showed that Matthew mentions twenty-nine instances, Mark twenty-four, Luke twenty-five, and John twenty-two. Some of these are mentioned in all four of the Gospels, but it shows, to say the least, that the personal work of Jesus claimed the attention of those who were close to him, rather more than his public work. The men he chose to stand by him in his ministry were those whom he came into personal contact with, and into whose individual hearts he could look.

If we would notice the results of the Master's personal work, let us take his noon-day interview with the woman at the well, and there note that she was so interested in him and his message that she came into her own city of Samaria with the glad news of the wonderful Teacher: "and from that city many of the Samaritans believed on him because of the word of the woman, who testified, He hath told me all things I ever did." Recall his "right conference with Nicodemus—and then we lose sight of this ruler of the Jews, practically, until he springs into sight at the cross. His various interviews

and gentle rebukings of Peter only prepared that disciple for the surprising words, "I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven." And when this humble fisherman, transformed into a mighty preacher through the presence of his Divine Master, used the keys of the kingdom on Pentecost, three thousand persons came into personal knowledge of Jesus as their Saviour and Lord. Coming to him with a vision of service, many of these new Christians went out and tried to tell others the way. Much of the success of the early church was due to the personal touch of its people.

Many an individual Christian does not know the joy of his personal opportunity, nor his responsibility in winning the lost to Jesus, or in showing the weak and faltering Christian how he may find his real life by returning to the activities of the church. At the time of a revival many anxieties are manifested in behalf of those outside of the church. Mothers are anxious about their children, and wives about their husbands, and friends about their neighbors. But much of the enthusiasm wanes when the particular individuals are in the fold and are "safe." This is not the kind of evangelistic interest that avails in the sight of the Father, "who is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." But while trying to seek and save the "outsider" we must not forget that there are lambs within the fold who have strayed, who are worth bringing back. Is it not worth the church's while to hold within the fold of safety those who are already saved? But how can the church help when so many absent themselves from the Lord's house where the Word is preached? Only through the personal touch of the church through its consecrated members, who have studied how they may "reprove, rebuke, exhort, with all long-suffering and teaching."

If men and women in the church can be trained to teach, to lead, to pray, to preach, they can also be trained to do effective personal work. "They that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." Can we not have a revival in personal evangelism, that the church may both save herself and those who hear her?—"Christian Standard."

## QUEENSLAND SISTERS.

Aim—£100 for Home Missions.

Every sister in Queensland has the privilege and honor of helping to raise the £100. It is fitting that the women should have a big interest in Home work, guarding its safety, ensuring its sanctity, committing all to the Saviour's care.

The Sisters' Executive met on Dec. 4; the meeting opened with hymn and prayer. The president occupied the chair. Minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

Moved that a letter of thanks be sent to Sister Rosa Tilley for her very interesting paper on "The Women of India."

Letters of resignation were received with regret from Mrs. Haigh, children's mis-

sions; Mrs. Hall and Mrs. Hiles, hospital visitation.

A motion was carried that an account be opened in the Government Savings Bank in the names of Sisters Stabe and Green for the Executive.

Money received toward the £100 gift for Home Missions: Mt. Walker Sisters, £2 6/-; Wooroolin Sisters, £2/13/6; per Miss A. Hackett, Brisbane, 7/-; Mrs. Moffat, Brisbane, 5/6; Zillmere Sisters, £2/5/-; the State Executive, £4. A motion was carried extending the time in which to raise the gift for the Home Missions until the conference. The Executive would like to have the money in hand by the end of March in order to make the gift at Easter.

Reports: Home Missions.—At Sunnybank, twelve members meet together to remember the Saviour. We have purchased a nice piece of land for a building, and hope in the near future to follow the example of Hawthorne, by erecting a chapel in one day. Ma Ma Creek reports that Bro. Morton is doing a good work, and much interest is being shown. Received, 19/8 by penny per week collections, and 10/- from Miss M. Larsen. Boonah reports sisters meeting fortnightly. Received per Sister Hardcastle, £2/13/-. Bundamba work satisfactory. Brisbane, per Sister Slaggett, £1/4/-; Zillmere, penny per week, 13/-—A. M. Bignill, Superintendent.

Foreign Missions: Boonah, per Sister Hardcastle, £2; Albion, per Sister G. Helsdon, 3/8½. Mite boxes have been sent to a number of churches.—Mrs. Good, Superintendent.

Bible School Report.—Sixty-five new scholars added to the schools reporting, and six decisions for Christ.—Mrs. W. Suchting, Superintendent.



W. H. Nightingale,  
Brisbane.

The Treasurer's report was read and received.

Moved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Sister Byrne, of Annerley.

The collection amounted to 4/9.

Sister Miss M. Helsdon read a very helpful paper on prayer.

Mrs. W. H. Nightingale, Pres.  
Miss M. Stabe, Sec.  
Mrs. A. J. Green, Treas.

## New South Wales Department.

Conference Motto: "Soul Winning."  
At least £450 wanted on February 7.

### IS IT WORTH WHILE?

Alan Price.

President of the Conference.

Almost the last words spoken to me by a dear old brother recently fallen asleep in the midst of his labors were, "Is it worth while?" The poor old body was fatigued with the constant buffet against the financial and other difficulties of the little band with whom he toiled. He was beginning to fear that the expenditure of means and labor on this outpost was hardly justified.

Looking at our "war map" published in this issue, we notice that the second city in the State, Newcastle, is a point of great strategical advantage as a gospel centre. It is the nucleus of an enormous coal-field teeming with thousands of subterranean toilers. On these depend thousands of families, thousands of tradesmen and business men. The ships that touch this port circle the world, carrying light and warmth and power to less favored parts—yet our effort at sending the light and warmth and power of the gospel from that centre is a pound a week! A couple of hundred brethren in that district have upheld the name of a Christian church for a score of changing years. They need our help: shall we help them? It is worth while. Passing out of the coalfields in a north-westerly direction, through several townships, we reach our little church at Narrabri. The liquid name of Bro. Waters, the evangelist, has not been able to relieve the hold of the drought in that district. Funds have been short in consequence; but let us hope that the showers recently fallen are a foretaste of more to follow, and the church will enter into a more prosperous and aggressive stage. Moree, the next of our churches on this line, is in common with Narrabri at the junction of two lines, and is therefore doubly worthy of a vigorous gospel campaign. At present Moree is not in any way assisted by the committee, but on the other hand assists the cause at Narrabri.

Inverell, the terminal town, affords a model example of a mission station. Under the able guidance of Bro. Waters, it is the centre of a large circle of mission causes which, by their energy and persistence, are doing much to commend our plea to the people. This church is not at present receiving any assistance from the committee, but with further help in the way of a young man supported by the committee, Bro. Waters would be considerably relieved.

Striking for the coast, we meet Lismore, a similar centre of evangelistic effort. A few years ago the spirit of evangelism caught hold in this district, and after some exhilarating mission experiences, the cause there became a self-contained circuit, and

relieved the committee of any further burden. The efforts of the past have been worth while.

Turning southward, one's eye passes over Tenterfield, Glen Innes, Grafton, Armidale and Tamworth, all towns of importance, but without churches of Christ.

Further north we meet the busy centre of Taree, on which the committee has in the past expended considerable funds, but it has for some time been at its own charges. Its circuit is a model of country evangelism—its members are mostly workers, and Bro. Burns has proved a worthy successor to Bro. Williams. There is no doubt that the past expenditure in this part was worth while.

Returning to Sydney and running out westward therefrom, we see Lithgow, Bathurst, Orange, Blaney, Mudgee, Parkes, Dubbo, Cobar, and Bourke, still untouched. The field is great, its greatness is appalling, but it can be won, and it is worth while.

The southern coast and southern stretches of railway have no Lord's day resting places for the travelling disciple until he reaches Junee. Here he touches a slowly developing centre of Christian industry, including also Marrar, Winchenden Vale, and Wagga. The committee has largely helped this great wheat district. Bro. Alexander Brown and others have labored patiently and well—it has all been worth while.

Returning once more to the metropolis, in addition to the well-known and long-established churches, we have causes planted in the closely settled districts that will need constant effort and expense before they can be firmly rooted. Erskineville, St. Peters, and Balmain, present problems to be and being faced. The first two have the assistance of Bro. Pond, whose abilities need no commendation; the Balmain work is being conducted by volunteers with most cheering results. Circumstances point to a sustained effort by the committee in that quarter, if the financial assistance is forthcoming, and such an effort would be worth while.

Apart from these, the outer suburban churches of Lidcombe, Chatswood and Hornsby are assisted, while Hurstville is awaiting its turn. Our city of three-quarters of a million bids fair to be the full million at no distant date. Our cause should expand with the expanding city. It is always worth while to be first.

### FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT.

E. J. Hilder.

One of the outstanding features of the dire national calamities of the last few months has been the spirit of sacrifice that has been so much in evidence. Many have hearkened to the call of patriotism, and given their lives for the cause of freedom,

while others have poured forth service and treasure for the help of the poor and needy. The shock of war appears to have humbled our faculties to some extent, so that it seems an infinity since the peace of the world was so ruthlessly disturbed. We have had our dark days with their doubts, fears, and anxieties, and our prayers have been offered most earnestly to God that he would so overlook the affairs of men that the glories of peace might once again be ours. The golden rays of mercy have illumined the overcast sky to some extent, and the gloom of awful carnage and fraternal strife have been somewhat lightened by the practical sympathy so widely manifested. Never before has so much been done to relieve the wounded and to help the distressed, and this in after years will shine forth to the credit of the humanity of the nation. Whilst our hearts have been stirred by heroic deeds, they have been cast down by the recital of fearful wrongs and wide-spread mourning, and we have wondered how long the wrath of God would be withheld from the earth. It has been helpful to hear of the clarity displayed, and to read of the love of Christ manifesting itself in works of love and mercy. All this has tended to a more serious consideration of life by those around us, and the thick atmosphere of indifference has to some extent been penetrated by the nation's danger. This magnifies the importance of Home Mission efforts and the need of preaching the precious promises of God. There should be no thought of slackening our efforts; indeed, they should be doubled at this time of opportunity.

As we give on Home Mission Day, may we do so with a realization of the great needs of the human heart, and with a vision of the Christ standing knocking at the door.

### SOUL WINNING.

Thos. Bagley.

Soul winning is the chief business of the church. Every Christian should work with all his might for the salvation of men. There is something seriously wrong with any professed Christian who is not doing something to save others. Solomon says, "He that winneth souls is wise." James says, "He which converteth a sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death." Soul winning is the King's business, and the "King's business" requires haste. The life of the apostolic church consisted in its effort to spread the glad tidings. They intensely believed in the necessity for preaching the Word. Christ's commission to his disciples to "go and preach the gospel to every creature," etc., was not intended for the few officials only, but was intended for the whole church. There every



J. Clydesdale,  
Lidcombe.



A. Brown,  
Wagga.



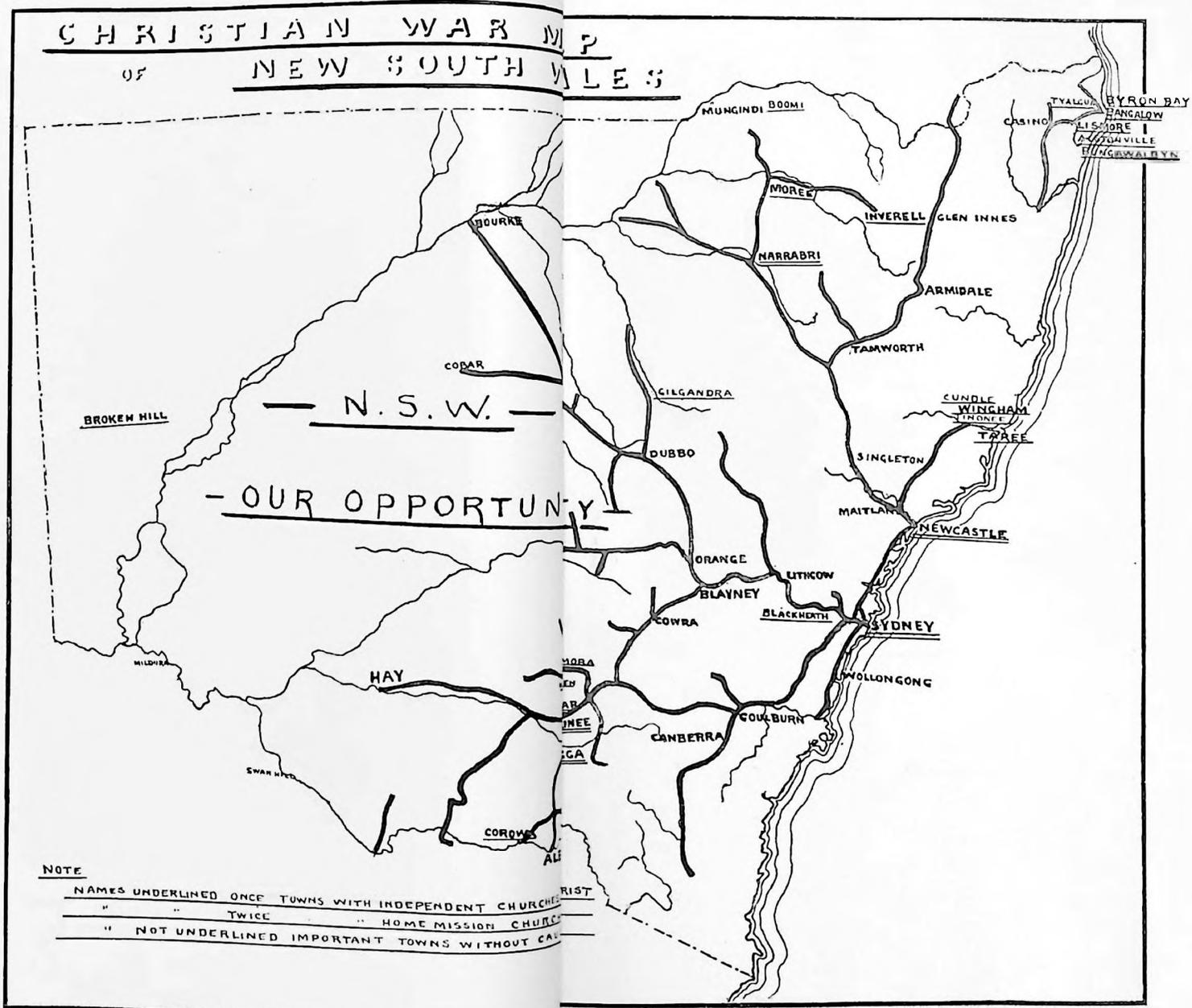
A. E. Forbes,  
Belmore.



W. Waters,  
Narrabri.



A. Price,  
N.S.W. Conf. Pres.



G. H. Browne,  
Auburn.



H. G. Payne,  
Hornsby.



P. J. Pond,  
Erskineville.



T. Bagley,  
Clatswood.



F. T. Sanders,  
Lilyville.

believer is a soul winner. The church was intensely missionary in spirit. In this respect they followed their Master. No one has a right to be termed a disciple who does not manifest a deep concern in rescuing the perishing. The work is hard, and it requires courage. We must not waver nor flinch in our effort. We must do our part and leave the result with God. We must ever remember the source of encouragement. "I am with you always." If we can't save the multitude we may reach some, and "he that winneth souls is wise."

In N.S.W. we have a great field for operation. Our Home Mission Committee is giving heed to the call for help from many quarters. New fields have been opened up. The work is good. It is productive of the best fruit. We come with the brightest and the best message of all. A message of hope for the sinner, comfort for the sorrowing, and a heaven for all who will enter. Nearly every church in our State at some stage in its history has been assisted by the Home Mission Committee. Large and successful churches have been built up. A great work yet remains to be done. The call for volunteers for service on the battlefield is heard throughout the Empire. Strong, able-bodied men from every quarter and of every class and condition respond nobly to the call. The Empire is at stake; our homes and freedom are at stake. Jesus Christ calls for the service and sacrifice of his children. Souls are at stake. Thousands are falling without God and without hope. If ever there was a time we should rally our forces, it is now. Let us loud proclaim the news of the glad Evangel. Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, gives to the world the only basis of permanent peace and goodwill among men. It is our privilege to assist in this glorious work. The annual offering is at hand. Heaven expects every citizen of the kingdom to do his or her duty. An offering worthy of the cause, and in keeping with our desire for the salvation of men, is our hope.

### THE NEED OF THE HOUR.

A. E. Illingworth.

"*Arise and be doing, and the Lord be with thee*—thus spake King David to Solomon his son, with reference to the building of the Temple. David also commanded all the princes of Israel to help Solomon his son, saying, "*Is not the Lord your God with you?*" This is the need of the hour. All our Christian activities are more or less impeded by the uncertainty created by the war. The danger is that we shall allow the unrest caused by these untoward circumstances to hinder the progress of the gospel. Our decisions concerning evangelistic work may be sadly influenced in the direction of sloth and indolence. We may raise the cry "Financial embarrassment," and unduly stress it as a reason for not "pressing the battle to the gate." This surely indicates weakness of faith. If there is any one department of the national life that is likely to meet with Divine approval at this juncture,

it is that which aims at turning to account the opportunity for bringing souls to Christ. We need to meet the situation by a resolute determination to advance the Redeemer's kingdom at all costs. If sacrifices are to be made; if retrenchment is necessary; if our means are insufficient to meet all calls; then we shall resolve NOT to cut down the Lord's portion, but rather take it out of pleasures or luxuries. Faith and self-sacrifice rightly blended will receive unmistakable evidence of God's favor. The British and Foreign Bible Society was founded "in troublous times," and amongst religious forces it is to-day without a rival as part of the advance guard of the army of the Lord of hosts. The men and churches who "nobly daring" venture to go forward undaunted just now will surely win God's blessing. In the light of our great opportunities, and in face of the moral and spiritual needs of the community, we must go ahead. Our British brethren at the last conference carried a resolution almost concurrently with the declaration of war to take over a new F.M. station in India at a cost of £500, and supply a man and his wife as missionaries. This example is worthy of imitation. New South Wales calls as loud as ever for earnest Home Mission work. The committee is looking confidently (and I am satisfied will not look in vain) to the brethren to give to the annual offering as generously as heretofore.

"Happy," said Dr. Raleigh, "is he whose action is as quick as the impulse that calls for it; whose daily obedience has in it the fresh colors of newborn convictions; whose feet sound the echo of God's "Arise."

### THE FINANCIAL NEEDS OF THE COMMITTEE.

W. H. Hall, Treasurer.

The annual offering for Home Missions will be taken in the State of New South Wales on the first Lord's day in February, and the committee is looking to the members of our churches to do the very best they can on this very important occasion.

For quite a number of years this State has enjoyed a large measure of prosperity, and consequently the offerings have increased from year to year. This year, however, we find the conditions without parallel in the history of the world. The State is suffering to an extent from the effects of a war in which the nation is engaged, and also from the effects of a drought. Looking beyond the State, however, we find the war is causing misery and ruin amongst the nations of the world that we in this State will not experience, while the effects of the drought are much more severe in other States than in this. These are, indeed, blessings to this State, and no doubt are regarded as such. Let us therefore show our thankfulness to our heavenly Father by making up the shrinkage in the receipts during the past few months, and providing sufficient for the needs of the committee. Let everyone be prepared to make a sacri-

fice, remembering that the opportunities in the present circumstances are greater than ever for evangelistic work. The committee should be able to maintain present work, and be able to meet some of the many calls that are received from time to time for assistance.

The actual receipts for the first nine and a half months of the current conference year amount to £691/3/8, to which has to be added £88/7/11, the credit balance from last conference year, making a total of £779 11/7. The expenditure for that period amounted to £1028/6/10, so that at the time of writing we have a debit balance of £248 15/3, which will of course be considerably increased by the time the offering is made. The committee is committed to salaries and subsidies at present amounting to £23 per week, and in addition some miscellaneous expenses. For the same period last year the receipts amounted to, including the credit balance from the previous conference year, £743/16/8, the expenditure to £636/9/8, the debit balance being £192/13/-. The offering last year amounted to £337/15/-. Let us do our best to reach £450 in February next. It is possible.

### THE BIBLE SCHOOL AND HOME MISSIONS.

W. Gale.

Associated with our Home Mission churches are numerous progressive Bible Schools. Without wishing to reflect on any by comparison, it is interesting to note that during the last two years of organised effort, almost without exception, the schools connected with Home Mission churches have advanced far beyond their proportion, when compared to the schools of the unassisted churches. For the district, size of church, buildings and equipment, the Home Mission schools at Narrabri, Belmore, Hornsby, Erskineville, North Auburn, and Merewether, are truly very creditable.

Nearly sixteen hundred scholars and teachers are enrolled in the schools of the Home Mission churches. Of these, about two hundred and fifty are in the country Home Mission schools. Bangalow, at the beginning of last year, one of our Home Mission centres, though not at present under the committee, has a school which came out of the recent examination with distinguished honors, having won the coveted "banner," and is now our "banner school." Undoubtedly, the brightest feature of our Home Mission work is the growing schools wherever our evangelists operate. So long as this continues, we have great hopes of each centre rapidly becoming a strong independent church.

"I know my hand may never reap its sowing,  
And yet—some other may;  
And I may never see it growing,  
So short life's little day.  
Still must I sow, and though I go forth weeping,  
I cannot, dare not, stay;  
God grant the harvest, though I may be sleeping  
Under the shadows grey."

# Auckland District, New Zealand.

£150 is asked for this year.  
The Committee aims at the establishment of another cause in the suburbs

## HOW TO INCREASE THE INTEREST IN HOME MISSION WORK.

C. Fleming McDonald.

This title pre-supposes two things: (1) That there is a lack of interest on the part of our church members, and (2) If this interest can be awakened throughout our churches many existing difficulties will vanish.

It is a regrettable fact that in each of our Conference districts the Home Mission Committee is hampered by a similar condition of apathy which is in each case evidenced by meagre financial support. But it is not only or chiefly of money that we



C. F. McDonald,  
President, N.Z. Conference.

write, being strongly of opinion that money is not the chief of the factors that make for success, and that when we have the right spirit and the true missionary interest, there will be no lack of necessary funds for carrying out the work.

Any measure of success gained in the past has by the blessing of God been fully commensurate with our rightly-directed effort, and it is our wrongly-directed effort and the microscopic dimensions of our *personal interest* in the work that has led to the present unsatisfactory condition. Oh! that grace might be vouchsafed to every individual disciple to lead him to a searching examination of his own heart, probing deeply to find the full measure of *personal interest* in any or all of the missionary work that we have undertaken and should undertake in the name of him who gave the commission, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel," and to measure the expression of his interest in *personal evangelism*, prayerful sympathy with those who are representing him in the mission field, and to weigh his offerings of sacrifice. This lack of *personal*

*interest* lies like a canker worm at the root of our church activities, sapping our energy and dulling the eyes of our understanding.

Sometimes we like to shift the responsibility, and blame someone else. Perhaps it is the Home Mission Committee, or the evangelist. Concerning the first, our committees are for the most part a profoundly conscientious but sorely tried body of men, and we cannot get rid of our responsibility by electing them to office, and then sitting back with folded arms till next election. And as for the evangelist, his position is not always the most enviable. We have placed him in the field where he might expect difficulties, and verily he has not been disappointed, but we have also sent him where, by every moral code, he should expect our prayers, sympathy, and practical support to go with him, and verily he too often is disappointed. By "practical support" we do not mean money and money only, but rather that whole-hearted co-operation, that burning zeal, that passion for souls and all that is wrapped up in the term "personal evangelism."

In our choice of evangelists for the mission field we should be particularly careful. No mere consideration of salary should stand in the way of getting the strongest, most capable and fitting workers, especially in new fields. We all know how difficult it is to do efficient work where the cause has been misrepresented, and where rigid law, ungraced by love, has been set forth under the heading of "our plea." In the new field we have to meet the onslaughts of sectarian criticism, and dispel accumulated prejudices, and if we are to proclaim the gospel in all its attractive simplicity and plant the church firmly so that converts will have a clear understanding of their position and obligations, and if we are to carry into effect the divine injunction, "Teaching them all things whatsoever I have commanded you," such work should be led by men of God, strong and unwavering, learned and capable.

An active personal interest! How is it to be created or revived? We know of no solution other than that which has existed since the dark tragedy of Calvary. If the transcending love of Christ and his sacrifice of suffering will not touch the hearts of his own people so that their chief desire will be to tell others the story of salvation, then no plan or scheme of human origin will melt us into rendering acceptable service.

As individuals we can help by *living Christ* and preaching him in our daily walk. We can assist by bringing others within the sound of the gospel and by prayer that the message might be used to their conversion

to Christ. We can *talk up* the church, the preacher, and our brethren. *Never talk them down.* The world is all too ready to do that. And we can give of our means according as the Lord has prospered us, not grudgingly or of necessity, for the Lord loveth a *cheerful giver*. If you have never realised the sublime joy of giving in the full and practical sense, not just that which can be easily and conveniently spared, just try it.

And as churches, it seems that our duty is clear. We should have our missionaries and their work constantly and prominently before us in the churches. Every effort should be made to keep members posted in the pro-



Wm. Page.

gress of the work, and prayer for success and for blessing on the workers should be regularly offered. Again we would say "Just try it."

With every disciple a soul winner and every church a recruiting station, we shall see many added to the church, which will grow in power as she sends forth the glad message, not only to the unsaved of New Zealand, but to those who sit in darkness beyond the seas.

## POSSIBLE CAUSES OF FAILURE IN HOME MISSION WORK.

William Page.

That man uttered a truism who said "Nothing succeeds like success," but had he said "Nothing fails like failure," he would have been none the less a philosopher. It is not our intention to prate about the failure of H.M. work, but to review the progress of the work, having special reference to the weaknesses thereof.

Success or failure in any organised scheme is largely dependent upon the faith-

fulness or otherwise of the units in discharging the various duties allotted to them.

One essential factor in the success of the work is a strong, business-like, level-headed, far-seeing, progressive committee capable of propounding, organising and putting into operation practical plans for the successful propagation of the work. If, however, as sometimes is the case, the zeal and enthusiasm of such a committee strikes no responsive chord in the hearts of the individual members of the various churches within its province, all the planning, propounding, and organising must inevitably fall short of realising that high degree of success, the expectation of which is fully justified by the great importance of the work. Success cannot follow where there is a failure on the part of the brotherhood to grasp the "supreme" importance of H.M. work.

In speaking of the "supreme" importance we do so advisedly, fully confident that no wrong construction will be placed upon our statement by those of our brethren who so unflinchingly and self-sacrificingly labor for the advancement of "Foreign Mission" enterprise. If failure in F.M. work is to be averted, success in H.M. work must of necessity be maintained. So long as F.M. work remains non-self-supporting, just so long must H.M. work be made to expand and develop, for therefrom must come the munitions of war. Decadence in the interest in the latter must necessarily mean the death of the former. This is self-evident, and hence our reason for speaking of H.M. work as being of "supreme importance."

A wrong conception of the importance of the work if harbored to any great extent will speedily bring failure within the region of possibility. How often do we hear the Saviour's words quoted, and methinks sometimes how little heeded, "Lift up your eyes and look on the fields, for they are already white unto harvest." A profound sense of individual responsibility must grip the brotherhood in order to ward off possible failure. The committee is not self-existing, but was chosen by a conference of churches composed of individual members, to manage on their behalf the work of Home Missions during the ensuing year. The committee thus appointed must be trusted to do the work, actuated by motives from which all personal interests are eliminated.

Then, brethren, by all the powers with which the good Lord has endowed you, help your committee to bring to a successful issue the work which you entrusted to it at last conference, remembering ever that you, with us, are co-laborers in the Master's service.

Some of the promises of financial help made at last conference have not yet materialised, and as money is urgently needed with which to meet the obligations incurred, in good faith of these promises being realised, the brethren are urged to rise to the occasion, and thus ensure success. The blessedness of giving is plainly set forth in the Scriptures; therefore, in the words of Paul, "As ye abound in everything, in faith,

in utterance, in knowledge, in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also."

### THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE.

R. J. Dick.

This year we have increased the amount of our prospective collection to £150, not because we have in former years reached the mark aimed at, but *because this year your committee is in dire necessity*, and must have the amount to complete the year's work. We commend to the churches our scheme for raising the £150 by allocation; if the churches will take up the matter heartily we can see a solution of our difficulties.



F. Evans,  
Pres. Auckland Conf.

After all, the raising of £150 is an individual and personal call, and we appeal to our brethren that each, according to his or her ability, may give a hearty response.

Note Treasurer's address: F. Evans, Esplanade-road, Mt. Eden, Auckland.

Secretary's address, R. J. Dick, Spring-st., Morningside, Auckland.

### A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT.

Frank Evans.

In the midst of the many calls on your finances for Foreign Missions, Belgian Relief, patriotic funds, and social reform, do not overlook the needs of Home Missions. In the Auckland district the goal the committee is striving for this year is the establishment of another outpost in one of our suburbs.

Greater Auckland has a population of upwards of 100,000, and in this vast community we have but six churches with a total membership of a modest 700.

The committee has now in progress the establishment of a church at Point Chevalier. So far the result of their efforts in this direction has been most encouraging, and gives promise of final success in the near future.

No other religious services are held at Point Chevalier at present, and the gospel meetings under Bro. Greenwood's guid-

ance are attended by from 25 to 50 non-members, many of whom we hope and pray will eventually be brought to Christ.

The committee requests the exhorters in the associated churches to take opportunity to lay before the members of the various churches at the Lord's day morning meeting the need for continuous expansion in gospel work.

Personal salvation is truly important, and the growth and development of each established church equally so, but the well-developed Christian thinks imperially. The salvation of a heathen Chinese or a dark-skinned Indian gives him as sincere joy as a scholar from his own Bible Class. On the same principle it is not sufficient for Christians to give attention solely to the supply of their own local needs, but should also take an active personal interest in the expansion work of Home Missions throughout the land.

In this country we have golden opportunities of planting churches in new localities where there will be little or no opposition from the denominations for years to come. Shall we avail ourselves of these opportunities?

Who is to do this pioneer work? You, reader, individually, or the church in which you hold membership? You say you have no funds, and if left to any individual church the work would probably never be done, but co-operation has become one of the leading factors in modern business methods, and while it would be impossible for a church to give £200 towards establishing a new cause, it can readily form one of ten to give £20 a piece. Thus the impossible is made possible by co-operation.

The committee wants £150 to carry on the work to conference. Will you help to make up this amount? A hearty response will strengthen the committee. It will act as an additional inspiration to the workers. It will make possible the full establishment of this new centre of spiritual influence from which will emanate the power of God for the salvation of souls. What will your answer be?

### ISOLATED MEMBERS.

Mrs. H. Downey.

There are at least 60 isolated members in the Province of Auckland, scattered about in 55 districts. Thank God for those who, separated from the joys and comforts of Christian fellowship are speaking to their neighbors and friends of primitive Christianity, loaning books or tracts, gathering the children and teaching them, praying for our missionaries, and contributing to the spread of the gospel. These are true home missionaries. Some who, perhaps, through lack of courage, knowledge, ability, or desire are hiding their light, are surely missing a great blessing. Let us not forget that we can from God's Word, and from communion with him, gain all strength, wisdom and power needed to shine in our own little corner, and that our faithfulness now may be preparing the way for a great effort and ingathering by-and-by.

## Middle Island, New Zealand.

Christ Wants New Zealand,  
and New Zealand Needs Christ.

### "THE 'PREACHER' IN THE VALLEY BY THE WILDWOOD."

William Phillips.

We are in debt to Dr. W. S. Pitts, for reminding us of "the church in the valley by the wildwood." He has caused us to notice once again, its unpretentious position;



W. Phillips,  
S. Wellington.

and hear, once more, the "clear ringing of the bell." We will not soon forget the "neath the willow," and the surrounding "wildwood." We are led by the doctor to appreciate more than ever the self-sacrifice of pioneer church members, in their noble efforts in erecting houses for the Father in the face of appalling obstacles.

I would ask, however, as to when are we going to sing about the preacher who made it possible for us to build the "Little Brown Church." We hear little these days of the man who was the radiating centre of Christian influence, in the wildwood of past years. Are we going to forget the man who "blazed the way"; and who "turned the world upside down"? For many years he stood alone with the Father, in the wildwood, during the early days of religious unrest, agitation and confusion, piloting and comforting the people as they broke away from their denominational associations. It is not a healthy sign for the church to forget such men as Alexander Campbell, on his farm in the backwoods, preaching to people within reach; nor John Smith, that mighty man with his wit, humor and pathos, starting out on a six months' journey with just a clean, spare shirt in the saddle-bag. We need to think of him spending many months away from his family, when he "baptised his thousands and capized as many more." The writer will not soon forget the sacrifices of Pro. G. Linkletter, who was, for over fourteen years, State evangelist for W. Va., U.S.A. I have seen him come into the city after a twenty mile tramp through the wildwood, and read his Bible by moonlight, till as late as twelve o'clock, refusing any other light, so as not to keep the city preacher awake. He would leave by six in the morning, and would soon be in the heart of the backwoods, cheering on some struggling church.

It is true that we need a strong, cultured, presentable ministry in our cities; but our work in the rural communities is almost decadent, because of the lack of the pioneer spirit of old. In the Middle District of New Zealand, we need more men who are not afraid of forced marches, swollen streams and the noon-day heat of controversy. We need more of the shirt-sleeve kind, who can adapt themselves to the rough work of the wildwood. This type of preacher has filled our colleges in America. They have become our leading workers in the Home Mission fields, and are the cause of the great progress in the rural districts.

Give us more of such men who made the "Little Brown Church" possible. We have isolated bands of Christians to be fed with strong food; children who know nothing of Sunday School life, to be brought together for instruction; and churches to be supplied with willing men. Our city churches must be inspired now and again by the sight of the travel-stained, warrior from the wildwood, as he calls for more money and more men. Our only chance in this district is a revival of the type of men who will realise that "the man who suffers the longest is the man who will win."

### HOME MISSIONS IN RELATION TO THE PRESENT WORLD'S CRISIS.

Lionel Johnston.

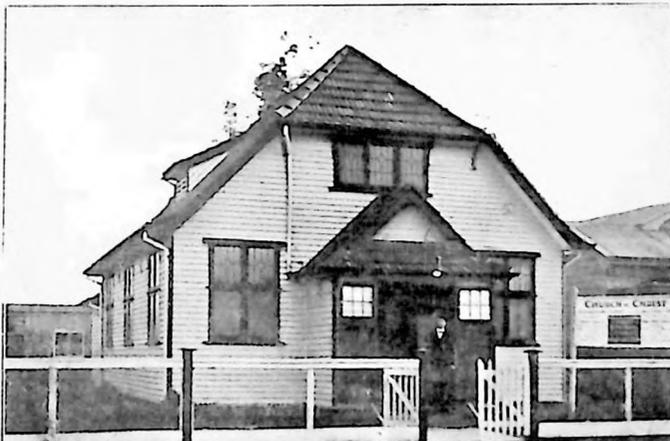
The writer of this short article entertains a growing conviction that this present world-wide war and its attendant circum-

stances forecast an approaching crisis in the world's history. To every diligent student of prophecy the question is bound to arise, "What do these things mean?" It would be impossible to conceive any more graphic fulfilment of the mission of the rider of the red horse to whom is given the great sword and power to take peace from the earth (Rev. 6: 4).



L. Johnston,  
Palmerston North.

A few reflections on the relation of Home Missions to the present crisis will not be out of place. It is especially so, as there is a strong tendency in view of prevailing conditions to conserve one's funds to spend on material possessions, and to withhold them from the work of evangelising the un-awakened. But a more foolish policy could not be conceived. The employment of man's most powerful engines of warfare for the destruction of earthly possessions is convincing many that money invested in worldly estate is very insecure. What, then, must it be, when God's power is directed toward the dissolution of the material universe. Our



New Chapel at Palmerston North.

the other hand, the Scriptures say, "They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever." There is therefore certainly no better outlay for a Christian's money than to invest it in the salvation of precious souls, and so lay up for himself treasures in heaven, "where neither moth nor rust can corrupt and thieves cannot break through and steal." It behoves us to enquire whether, in view of retrenchment in promising fields forced upon our Home Mission Committee, there are not some in this Middle District of New Zealand who are following the foolish policy I have mentioned above.

The present crisis is a warning that the night is approaching when no man can work. What, then, must be the lot of those who, in these enlightened lands, have not responded in obedience to the gospel? The coming of our Lord can mean only anguish to them. Therefore no sacrifice should be spared to save the lost around us.

The day of grace is still with us. The rider of the white horse with his bow of truth has still some triumphs to achieve for the gospel of Christ. Let us then with faith and sacrifice push forward the work of our Master.

#### "THIS GRACE ALSO."

M. O. Johnston.

The Corinthian brethren gloried over their many "gifts," but failed to adorn themselves with the true Christian *grace*. So Paul tells them "to covet the best gifts,"



M. O. Johnston,  
Vivian-st., Wellington.

but shows unto them "a more excellent way"—the way of love, and also says "as ye abound in everything. . . see that ye abound in this grace also."

The Lord knew our natures, and our needs; also the world's need. So he would have us cultivate the grace of liberal, generous giving, which is a part of true Christian living. He knew covetousness cankered the soul, so he would have us open hand and heart unto our fellows. The gospel of his love is their greatest need, and he would have us give it them. This would enrich our own hearts, and bless their lives.

This grace of generous giving adorns, beautifies, blesses in proportion as it comes from within. Thus it must be grown, cultivated. Can this be done properly when observed, or practised once, or twice a year? We are not scriptural, not in harmony with our own natures, nor the divine purpose until we as churches, and individuals, give weekly to evangelise the home field, and to

answer the world's call. By giving weekly we can thus make it part of our daily toil, purpose and plan. This way we can really cultivate this grace, be adorned by its beauty, and bless others by its influence. "Upon the first day of the week let each one of you lay by him in store as he may prosper."

This not for the few, but the many, for all. Paul sought to enlist all the churches in this worthy work of love. He called upon the churches of Europe and Asia to unite in this grace and make an offering worthy of their calling. This was co-operation on a large scale, and not in little sections. Not only is there to be this great co-operation so as to make it effective, but it is individualised: for "it is acceptable according as a man hath, so let each one of you lay by him in store as he may prosper." For "he that soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he that soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Let each man do according as he purposeth in his heart: not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver. For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he were rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might become rich."

Brethren, when we give, let us remember God's "unspeakable gift."

#### CO-OPERATION.

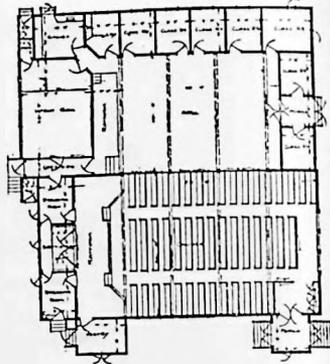
S. J. Mathieson.

Co-operative effort is one of the outstanding features of the present age. Like a great invisible force, it is silently revolutionising the conditions of our modern life. It has given birth to the lodge and the insurance company, to the business corporation and the trust. It has aroused the working man and has made his voice audible in the industrial world. It has entered into politics, and new and elaborate methods of organisation are being employed by the different parties.

The same spirit is holding our beloved Empire together, and even among the nations the great need has arisen for a closer union and a more definite plan of co-operation between peace-loving peoples.

In founding the church and appointing its body of leaders, Christ placed his own seal of approval upon co-operative effort. The primary purpose for which this union was effected was to render help to the weak, and so give practical effect to the great law of the gospel, that Christians should bear one another's burdens. But if this law holds good in our relationship as individual Christians, should it not be equally binding upon churches in their relationship one to the other? Surely it is the law of Christ that we should stand together as churches, and that the strong should bear the burdens of the weak.

The time has come in New Zealand for a larger co-operation amongst our people. One united conference representing the Dominion, or at the most, one for each island, should do more effective work than is being accomplished under the present arrangement.



Ground Plan of New Chapel and School Rooms,  
South Wellington.

Let us learn the lesson of our day and get together in a closer co-operation, that we may utilise to the best advantage all the resources at our command. The work in which we are engaged as a religious body is distinctive, and, I believe, essential to the vindication of a pure Christianity, worth living for, and if need be worth dying for. The question is, Have we zeal, the courage, the self-sacrifice necessary to guard the trust committed to us? We have reached a point in our history when this question must be met. We must make some definite sacrifice for our weak churches; we must do more to evangelise our own land. To save our Empire from destruction we would give our last penny, nay more, we would give our last drop of blood. But a loyalty that would render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's should not fail to render unto God the things that are God's. Let us put the kingdom of God first, and other blessings will be added unto us.

#### Showing Samples.

Nobody is interested in buying goods if the sample shown him is a failure. Customers are made when samples make them "want more." A really witnessing Christian is that sort of sample. J. Campbell White said recently: "That is where the church is falling down—in witnessing. I don't suppose one in one hundred among Christians is witnessing for Christ. I don't see how any one can effectively witness for Christ who is living a defeated life." The witnessing that wins comes from a life that shows the present winning power of Christ. Men will be more ready to believe that our Lord can save them from the death penalty of their sins in the next world if they see that he is saving a follower of his, in a way that they would like to experience, from the power of sin in this world. The victorious Christian is a witness whose samples of goods are in demand. Successful witnessing goes deeper than merely talking about Christ.—"S.S. Times."

## Southern District, New Zealand.

Wanted: A Gift from every Disciple to  
Evangelise the Home Land.

### HOME MISSIONS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

John Bewley, President.

For nearly thirty years as a Home Missionary enterprise we have been preaching and striving to increase our membership and to open new causes, and we have been successful only to a small degree.

Thousands of pounds have been expended in this effort, and there is very little to show for such expenditure.

There must be a vital change in our methods if our Home Mission work in the future is to be more fruitful.

#### Change I.

The first change necessary is that the members must contribute to the Home Mission funds more liberally and the different churches should adopt a more businesslike method of obtaining these contributions. Every member should realise that as the churches as a whole have made themselves responsible for the carrying out of Christ's command as far as the South Island is concerned, it is incumbent upon each one to give towards this end just as regularly as to their own local work. I strongly favor each congregation laying aside a fixed percentage of each Lord's day's collection, to be paid into a Home Mission account. In order to do this effectually I would urge that each church adopt the envelope system, wherein each member pledges a fixed weekly payment sufficient to cover local work, Home Missions and Foreign Missions.

#### Change II.

The second change necessary is for our Home Mission Committees to exercise greater care in the choice of evangelists.

I make no reflection on any committee, but am referring in a general way to the administration of past years. In very many instances brethren have been appointed to Home Mission fields, and they were not fitted for the work. In many cases these evangelists have been re-appointed when it has been made quite clear that no good is being accomplished. The feelings of the brother have been studied, but not the best interests of the cause, and another year is added and more money wasted.

#### Change III.

The third change needed is that sane business methods must be adopted regarding the continuity of new work opened up. A new cause should not be started by a Home Mission preacher unless there are fair prospects of success. Once started, however, the Committee should keep their preacher there until the new church is self-supporting. When this has been accomplished the preacher should be placed in another

field until a similar result has been achieved.

To half build up a church and then take the preacher away and allow the flame that has been lit to go out is an exceedingly retrograde step. Money has been wasted, the cause has been seriously injured, and confidence has in a large measure been lost in the Home Mission Committee.

To sum up, we want: 1st, Money, a continual and regular flow from every church. 2nd, More care exercised in the selection of Home Mission preachers.

3rd, Commonsense business methods applied to the carrying out of our Home Missionary enterprise.

Given these, and faith in God and in our plea, our Home Missions will prosper and our numbers in New Zealand will steadily increase.

### CAN WE FULFIL THE GREAT COMMISSION WITHOUT HOME MISSIONS?

T. H. Mathieson.

We might just as well ask, "Can the Allies conquer the Germans if their soldiers



P. D. McCallum,  
Pres. H.M. Committee,  
Southland.

won't fight?" It is necessary for the conquest of the Germans that the Allies should use their weapons, and strike hard, but it is just as indispensable that in the gospel plan for world-wide conquest Home Missions should have a prominent place. Failure to realise this fact must result in disaster that is twofold.

1. It will mean disaster to the home church. A selfish church cannot thrive. It robs itself of the air and food and exercise upon which churches grow. Its selfishness is of the basest kind, for while safe upon

the rock itself and high out of reach of the waves, it refuses to throw the rope to those who, within sight and hearing, are sinking to death. This selfishness becomes still more hideous, when it is remembered that almost all of our churches owe their very existence to Home Mission efforts in the past. Invercargill, Maitara, Gore, Kaitangata, South Dunedin, Mornington, Oamaru, Timaru, Ashburton, Christchurch—which one of our churches in this district has not received help from our Home Mission Committee? And shall we of these churches now say, "Yes, we have been redeemed by the precious blood of Jesus, we are heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, but we absolutely refuse to share these blessings with others"?

2. In the second place neglect to support Home Missions will mean disaster to our Foreign Missions. Doubtless there is a peculiar charm attaching to the work in far-off lands. The story of the conversion of half-naked savages makes a wonderful appeal to the Christian imagination. I sometimes wonder if such work would make as strong an appeal if some of these same savages were to take up their abode next door to us. The work in the home field may be shorn of much of this charm, but it is essential all the same. If we fail here we fail everywhere. Unless we attack new towns and establish new churches, in addition to strengthening the ones that already exist, we shall soon reach our limit in Foreign Missions. Going into all the world depends upon going into that part of the world that lies in the next street. The evangelisation of Judea was to follow that of Jerusalem, and then on to Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth. Nothing then could be plainer than this, that we cannot fulfil the great commission without Home Missions.

### THE HOLY SPIRIT AND HOME MISSIONS.

P. D. McCallum.

The Holy Spirit is to "convince the world in respect of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment." But God chose human instruments to communicate divine truths. Hence the Holy Spirit, an abiding presence, always speaks with human words or through the human voice. Pentecost comes. Peter, with the eleven, stands up and speaks "with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." The Spirit directs Philip, and he preaches the word to Canlacc's noblemen. "Know ye not that they are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?" The divine presence is the immanence of power. "Depart

not from Jerusalem"—"wait"—"ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me." If we are endowed with such a powerful guest within the church of God, whence then our feeble victories for the Son of God?

If the Spirit pervaded the church, it would be a holy, consecrated, active, energetic church, glowing with love to Jesus and the souls for whom he died. Money, time, ability, would be plentifully available for God's work. But because we have not taken to heart the words of God, "Ye shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy," and the still more decisive words, "Holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord," our efforts and means go unsanctified. Pursuits of profit and pleasure claim hours and days. God's work has but moments. Business and social joys have their pounds. The eternal things of God have their pence, or their "widow's mites" from us who have abundance. If we were filled with the gracious indweller, God's work would not go begging for support from those who, by their profession of faith in a Saviour and their relation to the church, say they believe in the salvation of souls.

"Now the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance." Whoever has these graces will know the mastery of Christ in his life, and his service and support will be willing, abundant, efficient. Deeply possessed, directed, and wisely influenced by these, there will be no room for anyone else but God.

That the apostles took the parting words of Jesus seriously is evident. For they waited in prayer for the promised power. We have the same word that was given to them, the same gospel, which is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth. Would that we had the same all-absorbing zeal and devotion. Then as their blessings were abundant in their witness, so would ours be.

Even though the disciples were to be Spirit-endued, Jesus indicated the fields which he wished his disciples to occupy and the order in which they were to receive attention: Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, then on to the uttermost parts of the earth. How much there is yet to be done in our Jerusalem! How the regions beyond are calling! Let us work here and now that there and then we may do more and yet more. The first disciples sought men at home for their own sakes, and when the great scattering abroad came coming largely because the earnestness of the home work had made the disciples so numerous, there were many more well-instructed brethren to go everywhere, preaching, hearing the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.

Let us seek to go forth in the fullness of zeal which is worthy of the gospel. Let us love and seek the souls of men at home for their own sakes, and let us seek with the vision of faith, knowing well now that our efforts work out for the speedier salvation of those that are afar off.

## HOME MISSIONS:

### A PARTNERSHIP WITH CHRIST.

N. G. Noble.

The subject's full significance is rooted in our conversion. We entered into sacred bonds with God to live as pure a life as possible with his aid, if he forgave our sins. We also agreed to render our whole body a living sacrifice. We took his word, and he accepted ours, and is now not ashamed to be called our God.

Yet we are elevated to a position of partnership by the condescension of God to recognise us as laborers together with him. God never makes mistakes. He knows our powers and possibilities. If he says "do,"



J. Bewley,  
Pres., Southern District Conference.

we "can" do. His omniscience needs no experiments.

Because of this remarkable elevation we become more worthy partners with Christ in the divine business of saving precious lives. Jesus asks us to join him in successful competition with the devil, who ever trades with and for the soul of man. He offers us tested securities, invites us to invest, and promises immense and legitimate profits. He is the greatest shareholder, because he invested most. We must remember too that Christ is not only a shareholder, but also a director.

That being so, what profits of eternal interest are possible! He promises partnership in our temptations—providing "a way of escape." He mites sympathetically in our sorrows, "for they shall be comforted." He asks us to "cast your burdens upon the Lord." And in our philanthropy, too, we shall "by no means lose our reward." When we lack wisdom we may "ask of God." And when we invest our lives for the gospel's sake we "shall keep it unto life eternal."

Now, in view of such Christlike concessions, should we anxiously hesitate to invest our wealth also? He that giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord." Yes, millions have given, and are giving daily. But have all given, and all they could venture with the Lord? Could we not give a little more, and regularly, every Lord's day morning, for "Jerusalem"—Home Missions? Also

much more to the Home Mission treasury for the "Judean," and the "Samaritan" fields?

We are not asked to speculate nor risk without reward. The power of God, the wealth of heaven, and the cross of Christ are our securities. Brethren, invest your "treasure in heaven." "As we sow we reap," Paul says in 1 Cor. 9: 23 (R.V.). "And I do all things for the gospel's sake, that I may be a joint partaker thereof." Let the love of Christ, with the fact of our friendship, sonship, partnership, and heirship constrain us.

### LET US HONOR THE LORD.

T. J. Bull.

A Christian is one who believes on the Lord Jesus Christ, who confesses with the mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believes in the heart that God hath raised him "from the dead." "Ye call me Master and Lord; and ye say well; for so I am. If I then the Lord and the Master, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye also should do as I have done to you."

"Ye say well: ye call me Lord." Do we call him Lord? or do we call him Jesus? Do we worship him? or do we patronise him? These are not intended to be sensational questions; they are questions which go to the root of present-day conditions in Christendom. There is widespread failure on the part of Christians to "honor the Son, even as they honor the Father." This failure has serious consequences, for "he that honoreth not the Son honoreth not the Father which sent him." The honor of the Father is bound up so inextricably with the honor of the Son, that we dishonor the Father if we fail to give to the Son such honor as belongs to God alone. The failure to confess the Lord as "our great God and Saviour Jesus Christ" is witness to the presence and influence of a subtle infidelity that would undermine if it could the very faith of God's elect. "Why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" This heart-searching and sin-convicting question comes to all who call Jesus Lord, but who do not obey his word.

"Honor the Lord with thy substance." Support by your means the proclamation in the Home Mission fields of the fact "that God hath made him both Lord and Christ," the same Jesus who was crucified. The divine decree is "that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father." Confession of that Lordship now means the salvation of the confessor, for "whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." But "How? How? How? How?" There is but one final answer to this fourfold question. Send the preacher (see Rom. 10: 13-15). If our purse is not at the Lord's disposal to secure this end, can we be quite sure that he is really our Lord?

## Missionary Messages.

### HOME MISSIONS AND TITHING. Wm. Burford.

When I cease to be interested in Home Missions, in those who have accepted the call of God to go into all the world to preach the gospel, and to preach in the cities and villages round about the glad news of salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord and theirs, then I cease to acknowledge him as my Exemplar, as my Teacher, and secede from the faith I once had.

Then to whom shall I go, and for what shall my life be given? Preachers, ministers, evangelists (there are no apostles now, they have gone to the promised place), these called of God and approved of the church are human beings, like ourselves, members of his body, the church, are always in need of those things provided of God for this present state of existence. These willingly giving themselves to the ministry of the Word must have those things provided for them by the church to which they are appointed. And whilst they may attain to that perfect condition in service, as to be content with such things as they have, our duty, nay, our beautiful privilege, is to see that those things which they have are just quite as good as we have ourselves, and as abundant. For why, are they not messengers of our own dear Lord, for our sakes, and would we be content to give Jesus, were he here with us, anything less costly or beneficial to his comfort and happiness than we obtain for ourselves? I think not. Then as ambassadors for our Saviour let us treat them as we would him, and then when we see him as he is, will it not be good to hear him say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father; inasmuch as you have done to these my brethren, ye have done it unto me. Enter in to the joy of your Lord."

When the brotherhood attend to the command of God and tithe themselves, and then of what is left give of their offerings to his service, they will wonder what on earth or in heaven is the matter, for the treasury will be so full, they will have to meet together and ask, Brethren, what are we to do with all this treasure? how shall we apportion between our preachers at home and abroad? This is God's promise. If ye do this you will not be able to contain all that your God will give you. Prove me *nunc*, God says, and see if it will not be so. Alas! Alas! my poor (in faith) brethren, is it not so? The son knows better than his father?

### SOME REASONS WHY.

William Charlick.

There are many reasons why Home Missions should be energetically prosecuted. It is a warfare of good against evil, and warfare demands vigilance, courage, and sacrifice. It is also a peace mission to weary hearts oppressed by sin, bringing the dawn of brighter days to gloomy souls, joy to the

sad, cleansing to the soiled, hope to the despondent, training, in God's ways, of the young bright life in your families.

This sacred work you are permitted to do, who have "tasted that the Lord is gracious"; "And you hath he quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins." Now then we are ambassadors for Christ.

The Christians of to-day are those who have been won by faithful and devoted souls of an earlier period, the same effort, discouragement, pain, and trials you now experience were long since felt and experienced by them in your seeking and training.

Every few years bring into your community new souls, either young or old, and these are to be taught and led to the Saviour by some one.

It is work, sacred work, the building of a kingdom which shall never pass away, as Isaiah says, "Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end." You are acutely conscious of incapacity, and say over your work, with blinding tears, "Who is sufficient for these things?" Yet the Lord's promise is better than a draft on the Bank of England, for he says "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy; he that goeth forth weeping, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing bringing his sheaves with him."

Only be sure to keep at work. "In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand, for thou knowest not which shall prosper, this or that."

Very often the most unlikely persons become very bright and true Christians, and shed much happiness upon others; so do you not begin to pick and choose. Ananias would have missed the honor of leading Paul had he been left to himself; no doubt he was very grateful that God prevented him. Even so you may have a similar experience. His grace is sufficient for you, and then.

Every church usually has small beginnings, like a young and tender plant, and requires constant and careful attention, help, and encouragement; for the workers are few, and the expense great; and unless help is given by other stronger communities the new church may fail to grow, or close up for want of strength.

The present year is one of trial, in which the Lord is, may be, an interested spectator, to see how you will bear your part in the work and responsibility of Home Missions at your own doors.

When things are prosperous, it is easy to help; when things are hard it is difficult, but emboldening. And the Christian worker is like gold tried in the fire.

To the faithful worker there is the reward spoken of in Daniel's vision: "And they that be wise shall shine as the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever."

May we hear our part in this great conflict as good soldiers of Jesus Christ.

### OUR AUTHORITY.

B. Jarvis.

The "Go ye into all the world" to the Christian is the call to arms. It means fighting "the good fight." That is conquest. The authority of Jesus is our authority, and without his voice being heard, or his example being remembered, our efforts will prove vain.

There are others also with different views to ours who hold, as we do, the Word of God for their authority, and this leads us to search diligently the sacred page to show ourselves "approved unto God."

The success with which we have met is attributed to our loyalty to the great commission and the Book.

The source of our authority gives us power to speak, as we deliver the message, whether in public places or in the quietness of personal talks. The knowledge that it is the will of Christ and not ours gives us this power. There is also to be remembered that after we have preached and won souls we must feed them. The instructions to Peter to feed my lambs was authoritative, and those who have been fed with the meat of the word must give of their strength that the weaker or lambs, in the faith, might become strong. Two things confront the Christian worker—the winning, and then the keeping of those we have won. We lose many of our new members because they are allowed to get out of touch with church work. Our efforts must be as great in the keeping of them as in the gaining; and so the making of disciples and the strengthening of the brethren cannot become obsolete until the original commission shall have been authoritatively revoked.

### WHY GIVE TO HOME MISSIONS?

Philip J. Pond.

Why give to Home Missions? Because not only for the Ephesian, the Roman, the Corinthian, is "the gospel, the power of God unto salvation." Come with me to this, the most thickly populated centre of the largest city of this spacious Commonwealth, and I will show you miracles wrought, "broken earthenware," renewed, surely reborn. The gospel is the only power which could do this, and the gospel was only possible to these lives, by Home Mission agency. Good work has been done by a noble band of workers, faithful preachers had labored with success, but a time of discouragement fell upon the church. Hope had gone, there was a crushing debt, R.C. falls were boasting the chapel would soon be bought by them as a guild hall. But the H.M. Committee stood by that church, and the flag was kept flying. During the last six months 250 new scholars have been added to the Bible School, a new school hall, 40ft. by 24ft., erected, 30 young lives have confessed Jesus as the Christ, a dozen of whom are from R.C. or mixed homes, and scores of homes have been made accessible to us. Men who have not been inside a place of worship for twenty or thirty years have come to listen to the gospel. This came had closed but for Home Missions.



Correspondents are requested to condense their reports as much as possible.

## New Zealand.

**NELSON.**—All meetings have been well attended. On Lord's day, 27th, the morning service was addressed by Bro. Knapp, several visitors being present. At the evening service the chapel was well filled, when Bro. Bolton preached his farewell sermon. At the midweek prayer meeting we were favored with a visit from Mr. Ennis, organising secretary of the College of the Bible. The Endeavor Society met as usual on Monday evening.—H.B.L.

**WANGANUI.**—We had quite a number present from other parts this evening together with a good attendance of local members. Bro. Downey presided, whilst Bro. H. Allan was the exhorter. The evening meeting was also well attended, Bro. Downey, as usual, speaking. The Bible School is enjoying a short holiday, being closed for two Sundays. The school presented Miss F. Munro—some of our textuists with a useful present, on the occasion of her marriage with R. Boddington. The meetings here are keeping up fairly well. We enter upon the new year with much hope.—H.S., Dec. 27.

## Tasmania.

**NUBEENA.**—For several reasons the meetings for the past month have not been as well attended as usual, the chief cause being an outbreak of diphtheria, which was responsible for the death of one of our Bible School scholars, Grace Nichols. Two of our members have been laid aside in the Hobart Hospital through accident. Bro. Harwood, we are glad to say, is making a speedy recovery, but Sister Woolley is still in a critical condition. Sister Woolley was on a mission of love, being driven to the home of Sister Nichols, little Grace's grandmother, who not only mourned the loss of her granddaughter, but also that of her son, Grace's father. When near the home of Sister Nichols the horse bolted, and our brother and sister were thrown out. We pray for a speedy restoration to health. The church has adopted the use of the individual cups, which meets with general approval. The Mutual Improvement Society gave a very enjoyable programme on Christmas evening.—G.T.B., Jan. 8.

**LAUNCESTON.**—Gifford Gordon continued his ministry on Sunday, 3rd inst. The morning service was well attended, and was a blessing to all present. Bro. Gordon exhorted. Among the many visitors was Mrs. S. G. Griffith, of Lygon-st., Carlton, Vic. The Sunday evening meeting was again crowded, as was last Sunday. Bro. Gordon's preaching commanded rapid attention through the service. Several visitors were present from some of the other city churches, and a spirit of reverence pervaded the meeting.—A. W. Heron, Jan. 9.

## Queensland.

**HAWTHORNE.**—The Christmas tree and entertainment was a marked success. The building was packed. The children rendered their items splendidly. Bro. Huntley and helpers deserve great credit for preparing them for the occasion. Five more people have decided for Christ under S. Trudgian's preaching. The matter of organising the church is being considered. At a special meeting held recently the erection of vestries was favorably discussed, chiefly for the purpose of accommodating the ever-increasing Bible School.

Several pounds were raised for the project. Special photographic souvenirs of the chapel in a day are now ready. Price, sixpence each. Write E. Suchting, High-st., Red Hill, Brisbane.—W. H. Nightingale.

## West Australia.

**BUNBURY.**—The work since the close of the mission conducted by H. J. Banks has been most fruitful. Very fine meetings were held on the 20th. After the gospel meeting Bro. and Sister Mauritz received the hand of fellowship. On the 24th the Literary Society held a most successful prior to Bro. Walter Moore fitted up the electric light outside the church building, and after the usual singing and reciting the young people and their friends adjourned to the outside, where an enjoyable time was spent. A number of visitors from Collic, Maylands, and South Australia were present at the worship service on the 27th. The gospel service was well attended. Bro. Rodger, in answer to a question, gave the story of his own conversion. At the conclusion the husband of Sister Mortimer confessed Christ. The Methodists and we have united in open air meetings in Victoria-st. on Saturday nights. A watchnight service was held on the 31st of December. Bro. Rodger gave a short address from 2 Kings 4: 26. Prior to this service a number open air meetings took place in Victoria-st. Bro. Rodger giving an address. On Sunday, January 3, for the Intercessory Day the building was draped with flags through the kindness of Bro. Moore, senr. Bro. Rodger conducted both morning and evening services. Both meetings were well attended, the subject for the morning meeting being Heb. 13: 18, 19, and for the evening, "Ezekiel as a Watchman." Confessions were taken at both services. At the close of the evening meeting Bro. Mortimer was baptised and received into the church Bible School picnic will be held as usual.—G.K.

**PERTH.**—A combined meeting arranged by the Home Mission Committee was held just recently. During a splendid tea in Bro. Bell's establishment speeches were delivered in appreciation of the good work that had been done by the sisters and the Home Mission Committee. An adjournment was then made to the chapel, where E. H. Sennler, Conference President, presided over a largely increased gathering. A. W. Connor spoke on "Our Debt to the Past," and a choir of over 80 voices rendered two anthems. Mrs. Scambler, in the absence of Mrs. Blakenore, handled the Conference Treasurer a cheque for £35/6/- collected by the Sisters' Conference. We set apart Jan. 2 as a day of prayer and intercession for the British Empire. Bro. Bell delivered a thoughtful address on "A Good Man," and our evangelist spoke at night from the text, "Let this eyelid look straight before thee." Our visitors have included Sister Phillips, Grote-st., Adelaide; and Bro. O. Redman, Norwood, S.A.—W.A., Jan. 6.

## South Australia.

**CHINESE MISSION.**—In the Grote-st. school-room on December 17, 1914, a most successful social service was held, about 150 Chinese and friends were present. Mr. Horsell occupied the chair, and heartily congratulated the teachers and helpers on their excellent work. Mr. Alfred Teare, on behalf of his fellow Chinese, thanked the teachers for the painstaking work. An excellent supper was provided, and all present were unanimous that it was the most enjoyable social yet held. The

following contributed musical items: Misses Wordy, L. Holmes, H. Holmes, Doley, Hunter and Mrs. Mudge; Messrs. Hiosan, Philips, Hunter, Quong Toor, Lew Wing, Ah Loung, Frank Goocy.

**PYAP WEST.**—The fortnightly services have been held regularly at this centre, with continued good attendances, both afternoon and evening. On January 3rd, Bro. Raymond gave a helpful address on Heb. 13: 5, in the afternoon. Bro. Curtis presided. In the evening Bro. Curtis preached a large congregation, special intercessory service being held.—L.S.D.

**UNGARRA.**—The meetings are keeping up well. Our Christian Endeavor is improving, more interest being taken in the meeting, also better attendance. The Sunday School is improving also. We are having good attendance at the meeting for worship. The brethren are looking forward for an inspiring time when we have our mission, which D. A. Ewers will conduct about the middle of March. The brethren are taking up the work marks the Captain made an earnest appeal for enlistment in the army of the King of kings. Throughout the whole day intercessory prayers for the Empire were offered.—Chas. Ferris, Jan. 4.

**GLENELG.**—We had grand meetings yesterday. R. T. Pittman, from Victoria, gave an excellent address at the morning service. In the evening we were favored with an interesting talk by Captain Metters, Senior Chaplain of the South Australian Military Forces, on "The Duties of a Military Chaplain," and at the close of his address the Captain made an earnest appeal for enlistment in the army of the King of kings. Throughout the whole day intercessory prayers for the Empire were offered.—Chas. Ferris, Jan. 4.

**RIVER MURRAY DISTRICT.**—The first gathering of churches in this district took place at Berri on Boxing Day, Dec. 26, when there were present representatives from Berri, Renmark, Loxton and Pyap West. Roy Raymond, who presided, extended a welcome to delegates, to which the following responded: E. J. Easley, Renmark; L. S. Davis and L. J. Curtis, Pyap West. The election of officers resulted as follows: President, Roy Raymond; secretary, L. J. Curtis; committee, E. J. Alesky, Renmark; A. G. Jarvis, Loxton; S. W. Edwards and A. Simon, Berri. The financial report given by Bren Dairds and Dairds showed the churches to be in a healthy condition, especially considering the crucial time through which the State is passing. Louis J. Curtis, Pyap West, read a paper on "The Church and Finance." This was well received, and freely discussed. An interesting discussion took place on the matter of future work. It was unanimously decided to hold a week night service at Renmark, and also to organise a church at Loxton, the first meeting to be held on Sunday, Feb. 28; the meeting for worship to be held at 3 o'clock, p.m., and at 7 p.m. in the large Institute Hall, a gospel service to be held at which an address relative to the plea of the Churches of Christ will be given. Special reference was made to the fine constructive work being done by our Bro. Raymond. At Berri there had been some additions by faith and baptism, and at Pyap West the confidence of the people had been gained. The future is bright. At 6.30 a public tea took place in the hall, and a splendid time was passed, the proceeds being devoted to the Belgian Relief Fund. In the evening Bro. Raymond presided over a large temperance meeting, at which addresses were delivered by Mr. Jew, Methodist, on "What the Liquor Traffic Causes," and by L. J. Curtis on "Our Relation to the Early Closing of the Liquor Bars." This ended a most successful gathering, through which the churches have been brought into closer touch.—L.J.C.

**NORTH ADELAIDE.**—Last Lord's day special prayers were offered for those taking part in the war, and also that hostilities might soon cease. In the evening at the gospel service the chapel was nicely filled. The writer took as his subject "Beginnings." A young lady accepted Christ as her Saviour.—R.H., Jan. 8.

**STIRLING EAST & ALDGADE VALLEY.**—We have had a number of visitors during the holidays, Bren. Willshire, Fischer, and D. A.

Ewers, being of the number. The assistance rendered by these brethren was greatly appreciated. An offering taken at the churches towards assisting the Belgians amounted to £47/5/-.

**LONG PLAIN.**—We were pleased to have with us this morning Bro. L. Baker, after an absence of over ten years. There was a fair gathering. Bro. H. Moyle presiding, and Bro. L. Baker delivered a good exhortation on Deut. 32: 11, 12. The evening service was presided over by Bro. W. McWhanna of the very large audience gathered, many of whom came a long way to hear Bro. Baker, who was well known in the district before he went to America. Bro. Baker spoke on "Love Betrayed." We were also pleased to see our old and respected Bro. R. D. Lawrie in his place this morning, whose illness has prevented him from meeting around the Lord's table for a good many weeks.—D. J. Daniel, Jan. 10.

**CROYDON.**—There were good meetings to-day. This morning E. Bartlett presided, and H. J. Horsell exhorted. The Bible School attendance was 170. At a good gospel service H. J. Horsell preached on "The Three Sweetest Words." One young woman and young man from the Bible School confessed Christ.—J.S.H.F., Jan. 10.

**MURRAY BRIDGE.**—During the writer's absence on holiday, Bro. Coventry, of Stirling East, supplied for both Lord's days, his efforts being very much appreciated. There were good gatherings at both services to-day; Sister Miss Goldworthy, of Kaniva, was present with us.—J.T.T., Jan. 10.

**COTTONVILLE.**—During the holidays the Endeavourers have been very active. They gave an evening of song to the Home of Incurables, Tullaghan, which was highly appreciated. Christmas Eve they devoted to carol singing in our own neighborhood. They also arranged a meeting for bringing gifts of cables, to be taken to homes as good cheer, and thus several families derived substantial benefit. A watchlight service was held in the chapel, to which a large number came. Bro. Manning gave an address suitable for such an occasion. Of late the meetings have been well attended, and this applies to the gospel meetings, which have been held in the open air.—J. McNicol, Jan. 10.

**PROSPECT.**—Bro. Roy Coventry addressed the church yesterday. We were glad to have him with us prior to his return to the College of the Bible. Our Bible School has been reorganised, with Mr. Bottrill as superintendent, and Mr. H. Burdon as secretary. Yesterday we had the largest school for some weeks. Our chief visitor yesterday was Miss Toke, who, together with Miss Tilley and Miss Cameron, leaves for India on Thursday.

**KADINA.**—This morning there was a large number around the Lord's table, when Bro. Verco gave an exhortation from Eph. 4: 13. This evening the chapel was filled to hear Bro. Verco deliver his farewell message; subject, "Jesus, my Saviour."—Jas. H. Thomas, Jan. 10.

**MOONTA.**—On Jan. 3 we had good meetings. In the morning Bro. Sargent presided, and E. Hollans exhorted. Bro. and Sister Allan were received into fellowship. At the gospel service a large number assembled to hear Bro. Allan. His address was chiefly to men; and he delivered a splendid address on "Play the Man." On Jan. 10 we had splendid meetings again. A good number had fellowship round the Lord's table. B. Marsh presided, and Bro. Allan exhorted; his subject being "What is the greatest sin?" Bro. and Sister Allan were present, and Bro. Allan gave a stirring address on "A Noble Desire." At the close two young ladies who had previously confessed the Lord were baptised.—B. Marsh.

**STRATHALBYN.**—On Wednesday evening the C.E. Society met for consecration meeting, and also the half-yearly business meeting. The finances are on a sound footing. It was decided to join the Church of Christ C.E. Union. On Friday evening the half-yearly church business meeting was held, and a considerable amount of business was transacted. The finances were found to be satisfactory. The local Early Closing of Liquor Bars Committee is working splendidly, and we are looking forward to a grand victory. We had

another good audience to hear the gospel last evening. W. C. Brooker is to be our anniversary preacher.—Arnold M. Whitebury, Jan. 11.

**STRATHALBYN.**—The church wishes to express its appreciation to those visiting brethren who have cordially assisted in the proclamation of the gospel during last year.—A. W. Passmore, Jan. 9.

**MAYLANDS.**—The F.M. Services for Children's Day were given during Christmas week. Over 43 was collected. On Thursday evening last, Miss Florence M. Cameron, who is about to leave for India and Australia. There was a splendid attendance of members and friends. W. Hunsman and I. A. Paternoster (F.M. Committee representatives), P. A. Dickson, Norwood; A. L. Read, Maylands church auxiliaries; and H. R. Taylor, church, spoke words of farewell. Presented in the form of a steamer trunk and a travelling rug from the church, and a handsome silver watch from an anonymous donor, besides gifts from some of the auxiliaries. Miss Cameron briefly and feelingly responded. A young men's guild was opened on Sunday afternoon in the pastor's house. The organisation will take effect from yesterday. The scholars and teachers in the school numbered 250. A married lady confessed her faith in Jesus at the close of the gospel address on "The Saviour's First Message from the Cross."—H.R.T., Jan. 11.

**UNLEY.**—This afternoon Miss R. Tilley gave an interesting talk to the school on missionary work in India. We are sorry to announce the death of our Sister Craddock, wife of T. Craddock, one of the deacons of the church, who passed away last Monday night. Both Mr. and Mrs. Craddock have been members of the church since its early days. The funeral was on Wednesday afternoon at the West Terrace Cemetery, in the presence of a large number of friends. Mr. Hunsman conducted the service, and T. J. Gore offered prayer, and spoke words of appreciation to our sister. Our sympathies are extended to Bro. Craddock and his sympathies.—P.S.M., Jan. 10.

**HINDMARSH.**—We had splendid services on Sunday, 10th. The attendance at the morning service was the largest since Bro. Cuttriss took up the work. The interest in the short talks to children is growing. It was encouraging to see such a large number of men at the Bible Class. The Men's Institute is arousing much interest. At the evening service Bro. Cuttriss gave an address to men. Two young ladies made the good confession. Bro. Jordan, of Melbourne, was present at the morning service.

**QUEENSTOWN.**—There was a fair attendance of members around the Lord's table. We were pleased to receive into fellowship Sister Edwards, formerly of Grote-st. We also had several visitors; Bro. Brooker presided; Bro. Aub. Wilson spoke on 2 Peter 1. We had a good school, with a good scholars and 8 visitors. Miss Woodhams gave a recitation entitled "The Bridal Cup." Bro. Brooker gave some remarks on the six o'clock early closing of liquor bars campaign. In the evening we had a crowded building, when Bro. Brooker preached on "Naboth's Vineyard."—H. Watkins, Jan. 10.

## New South Wales

**LIDCOMBE.**—This morning we had a splendid gathering, including four visitors. The writer presided, and Bro. Clydesdale exhorted, priority being given to the children's monthly address, the subject being, "The Silent Preacher." The Bible School was fairly well attended, each teacher and officer being present. The praise service was a success. At the gospel service the subject was "A Woman's Advice," based on the words, "Whatsoever he shall say unto you, do it" (John 2: 5). Bro. Clydesdale conducted the evening service at Railway Deviation Camp this afternoon, several sisters helping with songs, and E. Andrews speaking.—M.A.

**BALMAIN.**—Bro. Nicholson gave an encouraging exhortation. We had a good attendance of children at the Bible School. In the evening Bro.

Gorden gave a splendid address. The outlook is bright.—G. Newey, Jan. 9.

**CHINESE MISSION.**—The Lord's day services are well attended. Bro. John Sing is a very earnest worker for the cause of his Master. He and Mrs. Sing have been greatly blessed. They have a fine son, whom they have called Wei-Lee (Lover of the Gospel). The school has been in recess for the Christmas holidays, and will reopen on Jan. 12, when we expect a large number of our brethren coming to help us. During the past year fifteen of those men professed Christ.—E. J. Priddeh.

**HURSTVILLE.**—On Lord's day, Jan. 10, we had an increased attendance at the worship meeting. Bro. Green exhorted. Bro. Clarke is doing good work amongst us. A singing class held at home on New Year's day. On Jan. 10 the morning service was largely attended, several musical items being contributed by visiting sisters, which were much appreciated; also violin solo by Bro. Webb. On Jan. 10, the gospel service was again largely attended, when Bro. Clark delivered an interesting address. Our Mutual Improvement Class opened its second year with a social gathering on Wednesday last. The appointment of officers for the coming twelve months resulted in Bro. Buckley again being elected president, Bro. Payne vice-president, Sister Hoaman treasurer, and Sister Cunningham secretary. We have a good programme arranged for the coming quarter.—E. J. Winks, Jan. 10.

**ENMORE.**—We had a good meeting in the morning, when Bro. Harward spoke on "Is Christ Real?" We were pleased to have fellowship with several visitors. We had a fine meeting in the evening, and an earnest address by Bro. Billingworth on Matt. 28: 22. He followed his usual custom of starting the new year by setting forth the plea of the Churches of Christ for the restoration of New Testament Christianity.—E.L.

**HORNSBY.**—There were fair meetings on Lord's day, Jan. 3. In Bro. Payne's absence, I. Crawford spoke at morning and evening services. At the morning meeting, Lord's day, Jan. 10, Bro. T. Morton, from Belmont, exhorted on "Daniel—a Bible Hero." All are preparing for a revised Home Mission offering on Feb. 1. The Senior School has increased its numbers by thirteen scholars promoted from the kindergarten department, and has secured two new teachers, Sister Day and Bro. Long. The N.S.P. Club is still in recess. W. Gale gave a fine address on "Sin received and I died," last Sunday evening. The Young People's Union are commencing a six months' teachers' training course, taking Bible study and S.S. work alternately—a very helpful course for all Sunday School workers and others.—L.J.P.

**PADDINGTON.**—On Jan. 3, at the morning service we had a good attendance, with several visitors, including Bro. and Sister Christie, from Bendigo. We. Bro. Collins spoke at the worship service, and conducted the gospel service at night. On Jan. 10 Bro. Collins presided, and W. Averell gave the address at the morning meeting, several visitors were present, including two Sisters, Reilly, from Hobart, and a brother from Victoria, who has enlisted for the front. We were pleased to see some of our members present who had been laid aside.—D.W.S., Jan. 10.

**SYDNEY.**—We had an uplifting address on Jan. 9, 3 from A. E. Hayward, at the morning service. Sister Cowell has received into fellowship from Peterham. Prayer services were held every night last week, when Bro. R. Arnold, Hill, Clark, and Oldfield, students from the College of the Bible, gave very acceptable addresses. Evening service was the usual regular meeting to men. At the conclusion of H. G. Hayward's address on "The Challenge," Mr. McGee, one young man came forward. Two good open air services were held to-night.—J.C., Jan. 10.

**BELMORE.**—This came in a good example of Home Mission effort. Started a few years ago with a handful of faithful witnesses, heavily subsidised by the committee, and with a host of Zion, they are to-day free of debt, nearly self-supporting.

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## Letter from W. E. Macklin.

Dear Friends.—We are just approaching Manilla, and have had good trip. The sea has been mostly like a mill pond, often smooth and glassy. I had dreaded the return trip through the tropics for fear we should lose all the good we had gained in Australia, but thank the Lord for a smooth sea and no sickness.

Many things could be improved on the steamers to China. Most of all, there should be the main food for health, but also the milk seems almost transparent, and the eggs stale or musty. In this Japanese line the second class deck is not reserved for second class passengers, but at night coolies, stewards, engineers, occupy the chairs and much deck space talking or even singing. The passengers, stifled by the heat down below, come up to see sleep, but are kept awake by this condition of affairs. Our good trip is not due to the company's efforts, but to the Lord giving us calm weather.

There is nothing to dread on this trip if one selects a boat allowing passengers amidship carrying lots of rugs to sleep on deck, and a supply of tinned milk and fresh fruit, as the steamer's supply is decidedly deficient. We have a pleasant memory of our trip. It was a great epoch in our quiet lives. We did nothing "great" on our trip to Australia, but we attempted, and hope succeeded, in giving more knowledge of China conditions and of the problems of mission work. In the ideal state of Confucius "all are one family." We were surely kept awake by this.

Christian love and best wishes to all of the good friends.—Sincerely yours,—W. E. Macklin.

## New South Wales Home Mission and Bible School Notes.

W. Gale.

Belmore Bible School has made splendid strides during the last year. It now has an enrollment of 228, with an average attendance of 197, or 86 per cent. The school has altogether outgrown the capacity of the chapel, and is held in a public hall opposite—the primary department alone filling the chapel. The superintendent of the primary department, Miss Smith, is worthy of special mention, as being one of our most successful primary leaders. Never have we seen the secretarial work and records of the school better kept, with attention to details, than at Belmore. Thus at Belmore we have three famous Smiths—Bro. W. A. Smith (or Bible School Smith), general superintendent; Bro. A. A. Smith, the energetic and capable secretary; and Sister Smith, able primary superintendent—Smiths all! This last month Belmore reached its record, having 216 present, out of a record enrolment of 228, or ninety-four per cent. This is one of our Home Mission centres.

Bro. A. Morton, of Zillmere, Queensland, will shortly take up work for the committee in the June-Marrar circuit.

The Erskineville Bible School is to be heartily complimented on the completion of their splendid new primary room. It is no more match-box, measuring, as it does, 40ft. by 20ft. The primary department here has been ably conducted in the past by Sister Miss Taylor. Sister Taylor is now on her way to America, where she hopes to remain at least twelve months there, if it be her intention to take a special Bible School course to fit her for further usefulness upon her return. We trust that her holiday will be a very enjoyable one.

One has been added to the church at Marrar. There is a likelihood of several others being introduced in the course of the next few weeks. Five decisions are reported from Winchenden village.

Four were received into the fellowship of the Belmore church last Lord's day morning. Bro. Forbes is meeting with marked success in this field. Belmore has raised close on £100 in the last couple of weeks, with a view to the commencement of a new building. All that has been received in direct gifts from the members.

Bro. G. H. Browne, of Auburn, is on holidays in Victoria. Bro. H. G. Payne is also on vacation.

## Obituary.

STEELE.—Full of years (aged 77) and faithful, Bro. Steele, of North Fitzroy, passed peacefully into the divine presence on the 8th of December.

Our brother made the good confession, and was baptised by our late Bro. A. E. Hingworth, at South Melbourne twenty-nine years ago. Through all the changing circumstances of these years his faith in and service to Jesus Christ held good, and was with him at the last. He was a quiet, unobtrusive man, but full of goodness and gentleness. Generous and devout, he lived out his faith, and did his best to adorn the doctrine and gospel of his Saviour. His membership alternated between Maryborough and here, and he will be missed by a large circle of friends in both places.—J.W.H.

CRADDOCK.—On Jan. 4, after a few days' illness, our Sister Mrs. Priscilla Vega Craddock fell asleep in Christ. She was the wife of Bro. Thomas Craddock, who has been for some years a deacon of the Church of Christ in Park-st., Unley. Sister Craddock was born in this State at Parside, and had reached the age of 43 years. She became a member of the church in 1889, and was thus in that church 26 years. She was left six children, some of them members of the church. She has been a faithful Christian, and always felt a warm interest in the welfare and progress of the church. She truly loved the Saviour. She was a devoted and loving wife, a kind and loving mother. She went into a hospital for an operation, feeling that though a risk was run, her life might be prolonged, and thus her husband and children would be blessed. She only lived about one week. She was resigned, and prepared for her departure, which soon came. The writer of this has known this family for many years, and esteemed them very highly. At West Terrace Cemetery Bro. Huntsman and the writer stood beside the grave, and in the presence of a large number of members of the church, and relatives and friends, laid away the body of our good sister in the hope of the glorious resurrection. It is sad when, in the prime of life, the wife and mother is called away. Yet in the glorious power and blessing of the Word of God we can realise what it is to be submissive to his will. To be absent from the body is to be at home with the Lord. We tender our warmest sympathy to our brother and his children.—T. J. Gore, Henley Beach, S.A.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

## N.S.W. HOME MISSION FUND.

Churches, per collectors: Enmore, £1/6/-; Inveroh, 16/-; Faree, 13/6; Lilyville, £2/10/-; Paddington, £2/17/-; Lismore Missionary Committee, £5/10/-.

Individuals: Bro. Campbell Edwards, £10 Miscellaneous. Return of Loan by Church, £1. Total receipts for the month, £25/3/1; expenditure, £102/3/2; Overdraft, at date, £90/9/8. Dec. 15, 1914. W. H. Hall, Treas. Messiter-st., Canterbury, N.S.W.

## VICTORIAN HOME MISSION FUND.

Churches, per Collectors: Lygon-st., per Miss Armstrong, 10/1; Burnley, per Miss Rutledge, 18/3; French Island, per Bro. F. R. Broderick, 12/-; North Carlton, per Miss Patrick, £1/2/8; Moreland, per Mrs. Lennox, £2/9/10; Doncaster, per Mrs. Smith and G. Fully, £3/2/-; Surrey Hills, per Mrs. Allen, £4/1/11; Blackburn, per Miss Tindall, 15/3; Wedderburn Bible Class, per Miss Barge, 7/6; South Melbourne, per Mrs. Clay, 18/1.

Churches, per Duplex Envelopes: Brighton, £1 14/-.

Individual Gifts: South Melbourne Brother, for new tent, £1; "Isolated," Queensland, 4/6; Two Sisters, quarterly, 2/2; Taradale Sister, 1/-; E. Eastlake to post "Christians" to isolated members, 6/-; Mrs. Edwards, Hawthorn, for new tent, £1.

Mission Thank-offerings: Burnley, £2/11/-; Fernald, £1/10/-.

Assisted Churches, towards Evangelists' support: South Melbourne, £8/13/4; St. Arnaud,

£4/1/6; Warrambrook, £5/10/8; Shepparton, £4 12/6; Kaneira, £1/1/8; Taradale, £1/6/1; Dun- 10/1; £2/14/2; Gordon, 10/-; Warracknabeal, £3 12/2; Horsham, £6/5/8; Belueta, £3/8/4.

Miscellaneous: Year Books, 18/6; Women's Conference Executive, £23/10/-; C. E. Union, £10 7/1.

Total, to Dec. 31, 1914, £103/16/11.

Treasurer, W. C. Craigie, 265 Lit. Collins-st., Mell.

Secretary, Thos. Hagger, 15 Walsh-st., Coburg.

## Personal Contact with Some of the Work.

J. F. Gibbins.

Being a recent visitor to some of the Churches of Christ in the country districts of Victoria, may I be permitted to say how greatly the visits of city preachers are enjoyed. No servant of God can visit these churches without being struck with the Christlike character of those who are laboring so manfully to extend the Master's kingdom, and to bring comfort to his own children.

Some are laboring under much greater disadvantages than others; yet one and all are most appreciative of the assistance rendered by the Home Mission Committee. As a preacher I esteem it a glorious privilege to meet with these brethren to speak a word of encouragement, and so help them in their work of love. These churches are struggling hard to meet the monetary demands made upon them in this seeking to meet the spiritual needs of their various communities. Assistance is imperative in many churches. Our opportunity to help, by providing the necessary funds that will enable the Home Mission Committee to assist these churches and open new fields of labor, is here. Let us make February 7 a day memorable by casting into the treasury of the Home Mission Committee an amount equal to its demands for 1915.

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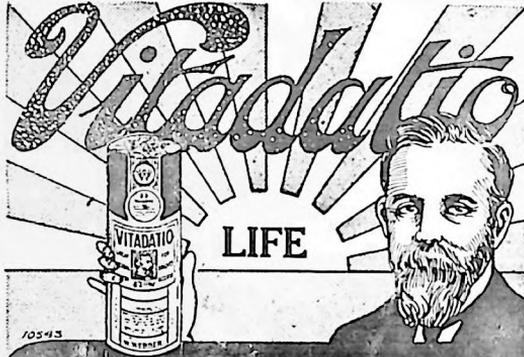
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## From the Field—Continued.

ing, and looking forward to a new building worthy of the cause, and sufficient for the growing needs. The membership is now 130, and increasing weekly. Yesterday the writer had the pleasure of welcoming into fellowship Bro. and Sister Jarvis. Bro. Cecil Hall, from Carnegie, preached the gospel to a good congregation. His effort for Broo still lacks 42/10.—In Rodger, Jan. 11.

**NORTH SYDNEY.**—Our meetings on Jan. 3 were well attended. At the morning service Bro. Oldfield compared the systems of evangelisation of the present day churches with that of the apostolic church. Our Bible School was extremely well attended. At the gospel service Bro. Tingate sang an excellent solo. The address given by Bro. Oldfield was entitled, "The Secret of the Empire's Greatness." One of our primary department teachers took his stand for Christ. Today at the breaking of bread, Bro. Gale presided, assisted by Bro. Jespersion and Oldfield. Bro. James, of Petersham, gave a helpful address, his text being, "Abide with us, for it is towards evening." The gospel was well attended, and Bro. Oldfield delivered an invigorating address on "Sins of Hypocrisy." One of our Bible School scholars took her stand for Christ. The work is steadily progressing. Last Sunday our Bible School established a record in attendance, reaching 81. Our mid-week prayer and praise services average about 25.—Cyril T. Garrett, Jan. 10.

## Victoria.

**BRIM.**—We commenced the year with well-attended meetings. Last Lord's day several of the members journeyed from Warragul, and were present at the gospel meeting, at the conclusion of which the son of Bro. Reynolds was buried with Christ.—Jan. 6.

**KANIVA.**—We held our Sunday School picnic in Bro. Goldsworthy's paddock on the 6th. The best thanks of the church are due to Bro. Goldsworthy, superintendent, and Sister Dorrie Benn, teacher, for conducting the school throughout the year. The following day, Thursday, we held our annual church meeting, which was well attended. The officers for the ensuing year were elected; the only changes effected were the election of K. Williams to be secretary in lieu of J. Goodwin, who has held the position for seventeen years, and the inclusion of H. Whisson in the diaconate. The conference was fixed for Feb. 28 and March 3. At the conclusion of the usual business, Bro. Goldsworthy, on behalf of the church, presented Bro. and Sister John Goodwin with a silver teapot, suitably inscribed. Bro. Goodwin is one of our deacons, and has been secretary of the church for seventeen years, and is now leaving us, to reside at Port Fairy. We are very sorry to lose them. They have been amongst our most staunch and consistent members. Brethren expressed their regret at their departure, and wished them well for the future. Bro. Goodwin suitably replied.—R.M.W., Jan. 8.

**WINDSOR.**—A large number of our members have been away for the holidays, and our meetings are smaller than usual. Since last report Bro. and Sister Smith have been received by letter from Burnley. We have Miss Bice, of Adelaide, visiting us; she uses her voice in singing the gospel. We had Bro. A. M. Ludbrook and Gladysworthy, from S.A. Miss Hilda George has left for Toowoomba, and Bro. McLeod and family are leaving for Darling Downs next week. We shall miss these friends.

**GEELONG.**—The church here has made a good start for the new year. Two were immersed at the watchnight service, and three more made the good confession. The service was very impressive. Our organist, E. Brownhill, after eight years' service, was presented by the officers and members with a pair of sovereigns. At the morning meeting two were received into fellowship, and a splendid new year's address was given by Gilbert Chandler. The church was crowded at night, and an eloquent address was delivered by our brother on "Love."—W.B.

**DANDENONG.**—Bro. Thomas gave his farewell addresses this morning and evening, when there were good meetings. After the evening meeting a watchnight service was held, and opportunity was taken to say farewell to Bro. and Sister Thomas. They leave for Geelong on Tuesday, after a year's residence here.—J. Proctor, Jan. 10.

**HARCOURT.**—We had a good meeting this morning, and several visitors. One of these, Bro. Edwards, spoke, and was listened to with great attention. We have had Bro. Crisp, one of the College students, with us for five or six weeks, who has filled Bro. Schwab's place while he was on holiday. We expect the latter home next Sunday, when he commences on full time work, when we expect to go forward in the Master's work.—F.P., Jan. 10.

**MELBOURNE (Swanston-st.).**—Amongst our visitors on Sunday were Sister Wright and her daughters, from West Australia. We had a fair meeting in the morning, a good Bible Class in the afternoon, and a splendid meeting at night, with a fine address by Bro. Franklyn, on "A Great Transformation." At the end of the present month, Bro. Franklyn will be leaving for Adelaide, S.A., for a few weeks, to conduct a Temperance Campaign under the auspices of the South Australian Alliance, his services being our S.A. brethren's gift to the Alliance.

**FOOTSCRAY.**—Last Sunday we had the pleasure of listening to Bro. Wilson, of Glenferrie, both morning and evening, when we had very good meetings. To-day we had with us A. E. Knight, of Coburg. At the evening service Bro. Allan Stewart took charge. We are greatly indebted to these brethren for their kindness in assisting us in this our season of looking for a preacher, for up to the present nothing definite has been decided upon.

**FAIRFIELD PARK.**—Our meetings have been good all through the holidays. Bro. Coward preached the gospel. We had the joy last Lord's day evening of witnessing the confession of the second daughter of Bro. Hayes, who was received into membership a few weeks ago. We have heard from Bro. Hibbert, and during his stay in New Zealand he is preaching for the church in his homeland. Our midweek prayer meeting for the commencement of the year was encouraging.—F.P.

**WILLIAMSTOWN.**—The holiday season is now ended for a time. Our meetings have been fairly well attended. We had the pleasure of Bro. Hagger's company, and a feast of good things from him, in an eloquent address on "His hour and ours."—E.M.H.

**ST. ARNAUD.**—At the close of the gospel address by Bro. McCrackett this evening, from Rev. 3: 18, two young men came out and confessed Christ, one of these being a brother of our esteemed Bro. Arthur Hurren; the other has been a believer for some time, and has now learned the way of God more perfectly, and promises to be useful. He was baptised at the close of the service.—D.M. McC., Jan. 10.

**BRUNSWICK.**—Our new evangelist, W. D. More, is settling down to his labor here. We held a nice prayer meeting on Christmas morning, and the usual watchnight service. The preacher was separately welcomed by the C.E. Society. The church has been edified with addresses from J. G. Barrett, W. More and L. Shirt. Good audiences attended the gospel services, and two confessions have been taken. A baptized believer was received in last Lord's day. A. Knights has returned from a visit to Adelaide, and conveyed greetings from W. Uren, late evangelist here. Wm. Tariff has enlisted for the front. Our evangelist is conducting a "casual and lapsed" members' campaign this quarter, which we believe will have good results. On the 1st inst. we purpose holding a new year's service (members' roll call) at the morning meeting.—W.T., Jan. 11.

**CARNEGIE.**—Things are moving with us. On January 10 Sister W. Keble was received into fellowship from South Yarra, and Bro. Ray and Thomas, by faith and obedience. H. Drake, who has been in the morning, and R. C. Edwards took

the gospel service. Both were greatly appreciated. The commodious kindergarten hall is being erected by voluntary effort at the rear of the chapel, and it is proposed to have this officially opened on the 25th inst. We hope to see a representative gathering.—D. Goudie.

**STAWELL.**—Meetings have been fairly well attended. Bro. Gilbert, one of our young men, has volunteered for active service, and has gone into camp at Broadmeadows. We wish him a safe return. We are holding our annual business meeting on Jan. 21.—W. J. Williams, Jan. 10.

**BALLARAT.**—During the holidays we have had many visitors from the city churches, and our meetings have been well attended, bright and helpful. We have had two weddings during the festive season. Bro. John Cockburn, secretary of our Bible Class, was united to Sister Fanny Stodden; and Bro. John Allan, one of our officers, has taken Sister Alice Sampson as his life's partner. On December 23 we held our Christmas tree for the children, and had a happy time. Yesterday morning the church had a rare treat from Bro. Wilkie, who read the essay with which he gained first prize at the South Australian competition "Paul's Teaching on the Christian Ministry."—H.P.L., Jan. 11.

**MONTROSE.**—During the past month our meetings have been fairly well attended. Some of the meetings in the evenings were specially good, owing principally to a large number of visitors being in the district. The new year has opened well with us; good meetings, and fine addresses by Bro. Moysay. Last night, Jan. 10, one of our Sunday School lads decided for Christ.—Robt. Langley.

**HAWTHORN.**—Our meetings were good yesterday. Sister Gray, of Port Fairy, and Bro. Tewkesbury, of Sydney, were present. The writer gives his farewell addresses to the church next Lord's day.—A. C. Rankine.

**SOUTH MELBOURNE.**—The meetings have been exceptionally well attended on the last two Lord's days. One young lady confessed her Lord. Our Bible School picnic is to be held at Upper Fern Tree Gully on the holiday, Feb. 1. A special train has been engaged, and the occasion promises to be a huge success. We would heartily welcome any visitors from churches or schools. Tickets, which must be purchased at least one week in advance of the date of picnic, are: Adults, 2/; with provisions included, 3/. Children, from 1/6 to 2/-, according to age. The train will call at Flinders-st. to pick up. All information can be obtained from the secretary, F. Copeland, 260 Bridport-st., Albert Park.—Jan. 12.

**DRUMMOND.**—On December 22 a very pretty wedding took place in the chapel, the contracting parties being Miss Effie Mudford, daughter of Mrs. F. Mudford, and Mr. William Beveridge, of the district. The chapel was nicely decorated. J. E. Shipway officiated. Bro. Wakely, who has taken Bro. Cockroft's place in this circuit, preached the gospel to a crowded house on December 10. To-night we had another good meeting; subject, "The Pillow of the Dying Thief." Sister Sheehan and Sister Shipway sang a duet very sweetly. From the end of January Drummond will, for a while, have fortnightly gospel services. Bro. Wakely will be the preacher.—J.E.S.

**KYNETON.**—We held our annual business meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 7th. There was a fair attendance, and the condition of the church was found to be healthy, with spiritual tone high, and finances sound. Since July we have reduced the debt on the land from £50 to £15. Through an alteration of the work in this circuit, Kyneton will receive the evangelist's presence every Sunday evening. We feel that this will do good, as it will increase its contribution to the base. The church will increase its contribution to the Home Mission committee. We feel that too much praise cannot be given to Bro. Harman and Gibbs, for their consistent labor in preaching the gospel alternate Sunday evenings for some years past. There was a nice meeting this morning, with several visitors present. The exhortation was from 2 Peter 1: 5-8.—J.E.S.



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 The supplier of need. Matt. 7: 7-12; 10: 29-33.  
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