

# The Australian Christian

CIRCULATING AMONGST CHURCHES OF CHRIST in the AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH and NEW ZEALAND

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Thursday, May 4, 1916.

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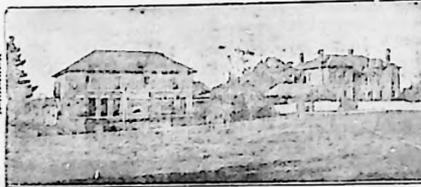
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# The Australian CHRISTIAN



Thursday, May 4, 1916.

Vol. XIX., No. 18.

## The Temperance Issue.

Never in the history of our Commonwealth was the temperance question such a live one as now. Temperance arguments were never so numerous, so forcible, or so generally accepted.

The churches and temperance organisations of the States are in South Australia and Tasmania rejoicing in a signal victory, and in other States preparing for a conflict which entered into whole-heartedly will undoubtedly mean victory.

Of Victoria particularly we now write. It would seem that ere long an opportunity will be given to the people to vote on the question of the hours of closing liquor bars. By legislative act some time ago the trading hours were reduced; but still the worst of businesses is carried on for three and a half hours after the businesses which are for the good of the community have closed their operations. An increasing demand is being made for a referendum at an early date. The churches have passed resolutions and joined in deputations to the Premier. Temperance societies are active. The Council of Churches is giving much time to the consideration of the matter, and has already done good service.

Last week the Anglican bishops of Victoria issued a "pastoral letter" to the members of the Church of England in the State. It is an interesting document, and reads as follows:—

"We, the Metropolitan and other Bishops of the Province of Victoria, send greetings to all the members of the Church of England within the Province. Grace, Mercy and Peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

"After careful consideration of the question of the use and abuse of alcoholic drinks, and in view of the question of future restrictions in the regulations for its sale in licensed houses, we are addressing to you this letter, and we ask for your most careful consideration of its contents. We are impelled to speak because of a full knowledge of the present evils, and from a desire to appeal to all that is best in the minds of the members of our Church. When the battles of right and wrong are being fought, we must all choose our sides. 'He that is not with me is against me.' There is no more self-deceiving drug in nature than alcohol, and only the truth about it can set us all free from the traditions of centuries and the thralldom of habit. The nations of the world have now, for the first time, be-

come awake to the evils of its abuse. Great Britain, whose true greatness has been retarded throughout history by the abuse of alcohol, has taken drastic measures to deal with its national folly. France and Russia have taken still more decided steps to put a stop to national degradation. The conscience of the world, is, in fact, aroused, and the nations which deal most effectually with this evil will alone prosper in the future. There must be no place henceforth in true national ideals for the misery and lass caused by excessive drinking. The drink-shop, as distinguished from the place for food and drink, must be stigmatised as a plague spot to be stamped out like every other injurious disease. The diocesan synods of the Province of Victoria have spoken with no uncertain voice on the subject of temperance reform, and the best of our Church of England opinion is ready for further action. We rejoice over the work done by the Licensing Reduction Board, and over the present earlier closing of public-houses. This latter is, however, only a temporary measure which terminates with the war. The need at present is for something permanent, and we appeal to all our people throughout Victoria to take their part with courage and faithfulness in demanding that this shall be provided. We ask you to join in the request for a referendum to be taken on the subject without delay, and our hope is that every member of the Church of England will help in giving to Victoria the evening closing hour of six o'clock. We consider that the present hour for opening in the morning should be maintained, as urgently needed in the interests of an honest day's work."

It is good to see the leaders of this great church in Victoria ranged on the side of temperance reform. This has not been the case with Anglican leaders the world over. Dean H. Henson, of England, has been lashing out at "Bishops, Nonconformist ministers, politicians, college dons, soldiers, journalists, and others of all sorts and conditions" who "press the King's example and the Primate's advocacy on the public with a persistency which has become monotonous." English people, he says, have a "noted distrust of total abstainers as politicians." "It is very doubtful whether an immense revolution in popular habits should be attempted when the public mind is obsessed with a great war"; and "there is a very widely distributed resentment against the methods of

the agitation for total abstinence." The main encouragement of drunkenness—as distinct from moderate drinking—arise, he declares, in its conditions, social and economic, which have long been our bane and shame. Temperance "agitators" may reply, says the "Christian World," that they have all their lives been warring against such conditions, while Deans have been meditating in the seclusion of their cathedral cloisters.

The manifest fear on the part of the liquor advocates, and the interesting change of demeanour on the part of the Premier, Sir Alexander Peacock, are most significant. The change in the tone of the "Argus," and in its methods of opposing temperance reform, is a splendid tribute to the strength of the temperance cause and the way in which it is gaining ground. But victory is not yet won; and it would be a terrible misfortune if efforts were now slackened through a belief that special action is unnecessary.

Two plans for helping have the recommendation of the Council of Churches, and are very simple. One is that every member of the church entitled to vote write a personal letter to the member of Parliament for his district, asking him to support the referendum proposal. Another, and supplementary, proposal is that the office-bearers of each congregation write an appeal addressed to the Premier, and forward it through the local member. These can both be done with practically no expense.

Our Temperance Committees should this year be amongst the most active of our Conference committees. If they will draw up a definite programme of work, and prove to be strong leaders in the cause of reform, they need not doubt a faithful following. Churches of Christ are sound on the temperance question, and only need to be rightly directed. The Victorian Temperance and Social Questions' Committee is making an effort to raise £200 as a "campaign fund." Doubtless the money will be forthcoming if such work be inaugurated as will in the opinion of the brethren justify the expenditure.

One thing may be emphasised. At present it may be well that we unite to secure a referendum which will almost certainly issue in six o'clock closing; but our ultimate aim can be nothing less than the total prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor. In 1917 we hope to take a long step forward in this direction.

# Prayer Changes Things.

M. Oldfield.

Prayer changes things. How I would like to have these wonderful words blazoned forth all over the city in those letters of light—the electric signs. I would like to see them in every church building, in every Bible School, and in every individual Christian's room and heart! Prayer changes things! It is true, prayer does change things. We have proved it. When things have gone wrong, and seemed impossible to be righted, when you were discouraged and disheartened, and utterly weary in body and spirit, prayer has changed things. Haven't you realised the truth of these words:—

"For when we kneel and cast our care  
Upon our God in earnest prayer,  
With strengthened souls we rise."

Some time ago in our Bible School there were two little lads who caused endless trouble, and it was wondered whether it were wise to let them remain in the school, because they were influencing others. So the teacher decided to pray for them specially for a month, and see if there was any difference before taking further steps. And oh, how gladly we record the fact, that before the month was up, they had changed, and are still in the school, not perfect yet, but better.

Another time the church was greatly in need of money, so a certain week was set apart for prayer and self-denial. We asked the Lord to send us money for his work, and, praise his name! he did. Some of us only had faith for under £10, and he sent us over £40. Prayer changed things there!

Have you ever prayed specially for certain persons, and then seen the change come over them? if not, try it. There is no joy like seeing prayer answered, but if you want an answer, remember the Lord's own words: "When ye pray, believe that ye receive it, and ye shall have it."

What an opportunity for us, the sisters of the church, to help change men and things! There are so many things we can not do, but, oh! we can pray; we can set aside a certain time in every day and pray for the church, for our own Conference, and especially for our President and other officers, and that the Lord may give us a great work to do for him; we can pray that every hindrance to his work may be removed, that souls may be won, and that he will cleanse us, and then use us to lead others to him. We all realise our own unworthiness of being used by him, and would say, as many others have said:

"Take us, Lord; oh, take us truly,  
Mind and heart and soul and will;  
Cleanse us, Lord; oh, cleanse us thoroughly,  
Then with all thy fullness fill."

All that is the secret of real service, being filled with him, but there must be the emptying of self first.

There are so many, many spheres in which prayer changes things that one scarce knows where to begin to enumerate them. We have touched on the church, the Bible School, our own Conference, and the un-

saved, but there are the evangelists who need our prayers. We are always looking to them for help, but are we always as ready to render help? They are for ever giving out to others. How is their own spiritual life to be maintained, unless they are upheld by prayer, which will keep them as "sparkling rills" for our Lord and Master? It is just as true of them as of any other Christian; they can never lead another soul further than they have gone themselves, and may not some of the responsibility lie with us?

Then suppose we get up in the morning fretful and irritable from overwork and strain (and I think that these two things—fretfulness and irritability—in his children, either men or women, hinder his work of personal sanctification more, almost, than anything else), let us spend half an hour at the feet of Jesus, and see how he can change things for us. We shall rise bright and joyous, saying:

"Let me show forth thy beauty, Lord Jesus,  
Like sunshine on the hills  
Oh, let my lips pour forth thy sweetness,  
In joyous sparkling rills!"

And isn't that just what we want to do?

Prayer can change and has changed things in regard to the drink question. Who would have thought a year ago that Tasmania would have six o'clock closing established, or that even New South Wales would be fighting so hard for it? Keep on praying for it, sisters, for "prayer changes things," no matter what opposition there may be from the enemy. Remember Nehemiah, and how he built the wall (even in troublesome times) with enemies all around trying their utmost to hinder the work, but his resource was always prayer, and didn't it change things for him?

And what about the war, and the many, many dear ones who have gone from this sunny land? It seems to me that if every Christian prayed as Asa and Hezekiah and Jehoshaphat did, this fearful loss of life would soon be stopped. Listen to Asa's prayer: "Lord, it is nothing with thee to help, whether with many or with them that have no power, help us, O Lord, our God, for we rest on thee, and in thy name we go against this multitude. Oh, Lord, thou art our God, let not man prevail against thee," and what was the result? "Things were changed, for, "The Lord smote the Ethiopians. . . and the Ethiopians fled." Now hear Jehoshaphat: "Oh, our God, wilt thou not judge them? For we have no might against this great company, that cometh against us, neither know we what to do; but our eyes are upon thee," and God answered by telling them not to be afraid or dismayed, for the battle was not theirs, but God's, and further, he said: "Ye shall not need to fight." So they went forth to meet the enemy, singing, and praising the beauty of holiness, and the enemy commenced to fight each other, and were exterminated.

Don't you think that if we, as a nation,

relied more upon our God, as these men did, and less upon our men and guns and ammunition, things would be changed?

Now let us take a peep at the missionaries, and see if things can be changed for them. Listen to the cry which comes from one of them:

"We do not ask, dear friends, that while we live  
Praise shall be given,  
We do not ask that o'er our grave  
Tears shall be shed;  
We do not ask that you shall say 'How brave!'  
When we are dead.

"But we do ask, dear friends, that here and now  
Help shall be given.

Hold up our hands, dear ones at home, that we,  
Out at the front,  
Disheartened, lonely, encouraged be  
To hear the trumpet.

"We ask, dear friends, that you for us shall pray  
To God and plead

That Satan's unseen hosts, to us so real,  
Vanquished may be,  
And heathen souls, so long enslaved, may feel  
That they are free."

This writer thinks that "prayer will change things," doesn't he? Shall we disappoint him, and the hundreds of others who are longing for the same help?

We need funds to carry on this great work in other lands, but how can you give as the cause deserves until you have learnt to pray, and how can you pray intelligently until you know the needs of both the heathen and the missionaries? and how are you to know the needs unless you study them? and how can you study them in such a way that things will be changed as far as you are concerned, except you join a mission study circle?

I find that there is a feeling abroad that these circles are just the right thing for the young people, but that older ones don't really need them, or have no time. But, believe me, we all need them; none of us are too old to learn, or too weak to help, or too poor to pray. I heard of one circle of old ladies, all of whom were over 60 years of age, and one of 80 said how sorry she was not to have known the needs before, but that in the days remaining to her she should certainly pray as never before. Don't you think that her prayers will help to change things?

The power to change things is unlimited; not only the united prayer of several, but the individual prayer of only one. Do you remember Mrs. Macklin reciting these lines to us?

The weary ones had rest, the sad had joy  
That day; and wondered "how."  
A ploughman singing at his work had prayed  
"Lord, help them now."

Away in foreign lands they wondered "how"  
Their single word had power.

At home the Christians two or three had met  
To pray an hour.

Yes, we are always wondering, wondering "how,"  
Because we do not see

Someone, unknown perhaps, and far away,  
On bended knee.

And now in closing, may I emphasise the fact once more that "prayer changes things," and urge that we as a sisterhood give ourselves more fully to this great work of intercession for others, and helping to change the things that are wrong?

## Notes on Current Topics.

Jas. E. Thomas.

### Chaplain-Captain G. P. Cuttriss.

We were glad to see the splendid welcome our beloved brother received on his visit to the Victorian Conference. This has been followed in a most practical way by an offering of over £6 by the Lygon-st. church toward the £25 required for his equipment in the great work to which in our name he has committed himself. He is a man worthy of the esteem of our brotherhood. He is not so well known as our beloved Chaplain Geo. T. Walden, but is in every way worthy of the honor of being a co-worker with him in the work of caring for the spiritual needs of our brave men at the front. He has shown his splendid organising ability by establishing a fine band in the 43rd Battalion, and with the aid of generous citizens, equipping them in a way that will make them of great service. We are sure our brother will receive the hearty support of our brotherhood as he goes forth on his mission of loving service, and that nothing he needs for his work will be lacking. Most of all, we shall follow him continually with our prayers that he may be led of our heavenly Father and kept in the midst of danger. We pray that he may be abundantly used to the comfort of the sick and dying, as well as the help of the strong who go forth on our Empire's righteous cause. We will feel that for our sakes and for Christ's sake our brother is going forth to minister to men that are brave, but need strength to overcome in the day of testing. He will, we are sure, be used of God in helping men not only to face bravely our nation's foes, but to be victors at last over the greater enemy of sin through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### The Supreme Sacrifice.

The memory of our brave and gallant heroes who fought at Anzac and scaled the heights of Gallipoli, just one year ago, has been deservedly honored throughout the Empire. It has not been a time of gloating or bombastic glory, but a day of fond memories for the dead who are buried on the shore where they nobly fell, and in grateful appreciation of the honored men who still remain with us to tell by the injuries and scars and their modest word of reminiscence of the deeds of unfading glory that have made them to be for ever remembered. The one great note that has been sounded is that of sacrifice. How pathetic have been the memorial notices in our papers from sorrowful yet proud mothers and fathers, as well as companions and dear ones, of the brave departed. One thoughtful hero who has returned invalided inserted a paragraph to the memory of thirteen companions from the "glorious 10th" who made what he fittingly terms "the supreme sacrifice." How appropriate it seems for us to reflect on this great deed at the Easter season. It has inclined our hearts and inspired us to greater things for our country to remember these

brave men, many of whom will come to our homes no more. Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Surely these gallant sons of our Commonwealth have shown that they are not one whit behind those who have gone before them. They have been willing to die for their country, and have shown the greater love. We are as well reminded in these days of another who showed the greatest love, He who not only died for His country, but who died for His enemies. He died for us all. As we remember our dear and brave boys who have given their utmost for their nation, shall we not as well remember One who, not far from Gallipoli, in days of long ago, died that we might live? If from our love for those we honor and our fond memory of them we learn the true meaning of sacrifice, and remember as well the Christ through whose supreme sacrifice we hope to come with our dear ones at last into the eternal glory, we will be the better for remembering that after all the greatest service we can render as well as the greatest that has come to us is by the way of the Cross.

### The Austral Publishing Company.

A very interesting discussion on "The Christian" and our literature at the Victorian Conference reminded us again of the debt of gratitude we owe to the Company that so successfully and unselfishly control our publishing house. This great work has been conducted by brethren who 26 years ago voluntarily subscribed £1200 as the nucleus capital of our one printing concern. They have never made one penny charge for interest, nor have they received any dividend or bonus whatever. They have simply allowed the profits to go into the capital fund, and this now amounts to about £3300. It is purely an unselfish Christian work, and has only as its object the dissemination of Christian literature that will help this great Restoration movement. We have not yet used this Company as we might. We ought to send considerably more of our literature out as a splendid means of assisting in the setting forth of our plea and the preaching of the gospel. We have two sainted editors who have given their best to the building up of this work—our beloved brethren A. B. Maston and F. G. Dunn. All has been done by these brethren that could be done with the means at their disposal. It remains for us to considerably increase the usefulness of this organisation. We may do this by considerably increasing the circulation of our fine paper, "The Australian Christian," and by spreading more largely the literature that so clearly sets forth our position and message. We should do our utmost to increase the sphere of usefulness of this our one brotherhood publishing house. We have much to learn from some of our neighbors on the efficacy of the printed word.

### The Infection of Temperance Reform.

There never was a time more opportune for pushing on the battle against what has been recently termed the treasonable drink traffic than the present. We are coming to our senses as a nation. The day will come when we will no longer tolerate a business that claims too many of the brave men of our Empire, and cures so many of our mothers and children. We are coming to the day when we shall look upon a traffic that unites with our treacherous enemies to overthrow our nation for the sake of a selfish commercialism as a menace to our national life. Hon. W. Morrow rightly referred to the successful efforts of vested interests in thwarting the patriotic efforts of Rt. Hon. Lloyd George to suppress this deadly evil as a sickening spectacle, unworthy of our national ideals. But England will yet listen to foremost statesman, and his labors will be deservedly rewarded. We may even hope with pardonable pride that the present wave of temperance reform now sweeping over our Commonwealth may pass with even greater effect to the mother land. We are certainly living in days when business men and those of public life are coming to realise the nature of the evil we are facing, and the need of combining to combat its deadly influence. New South Wales is in the midst of a great struggle for six o'clock closing. Victoria is pressing for a referendum that should certainly be given. West Australia and Queensland will surely get the opportunity that educated and persistent public opinion will never cease to demand. There is nothing that stimulates workers like this holy and spreading enthusiasm encouraged by God-given victories. We will not sheath the sword till this enemy of our nation's manhood has been driven from our land.

### We Thank Thee.

For all life's beauties and their beauties growth;  
For Nature's laws and Thy rich providence;  
For all Thy perfect processes of life;  
For the minute perfection of Thy work,  
Seen and unseen, in each remotest part;  
For faith, and works, and gentle charity;  
For all that makes for quiet in the world;  
For all that lifts man from his common rut;  
For all that knits the silken bond of peace;  
For all that lifts the fringes of the night,  
And lights the darkened corners of the earth;  
For every broken gate and sanded bar;  
For every wide-thung window of the soul;  
For that Thou hearest all that Thou hast made;  
We thank Thee, Lord.

For perfect child-like confidence in Thee;  
For child-like glimpses of the life to be;  
For trust akin to thy child's trust in me;  
For hearts at rest through confidence in Thee;  
For hearts triumphant in perpetual hope;  
For hope victorious through past hopes fulfilled;  
For mightier hopes born of the things we know;  
For hope of powers increased ten thousand fold;  
For faith born of the things we may not know;  
For that last hope of blessing to Thyself,  
With quickened hearts,  
That find Thee everywhere,  
We thank Thee, Lord.

—John Oxenham, in "Bea in Amber."

## Tasmanian Conference.

The twentieth annual Conference of the Associated Churches of Christ in Tasmania was held at the chapel, Margaret-st., Launceston, from April 21 to 24, inclusive.

The Conference was opened by a devotional meeting, at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, April 21, by F. Ashlin, of Geveeston.

The President, Bro. A. G. Day, of Launceston, took the chair, and extended a hearty welcome to the visitors. The following churches were represented by:—Geveeston, F. Ashlin, H. Sharp; Dover, A. Owens; Caveside, J. Byard, junr., C. Pearn; Mole Creek, J. D. Byard, J. Byard, senr.; Tunnel Bay, F. E. Smith; Nubeena, F. Burden; Kellevie, W. Clifford, J. Richardson; Hobart, W. R. C. Jarvis, G. Woolnough, C. Hale, H. Woolley; Launceston, W. Tyson, C. Nicholls, P. Orr, E. Nicholls, R. C. Tole.

Greetings were received from Victorian, West Australian, Queensland, South Australian, New South Wales, South Island of New Zealand, and Federal Conferences, also Federal Foreign Mission Executive, Bro. Swain of Victoria, and Bro. Reynolds of Northdown.

Minutes of the last Conference were read and confirmed.

Reports from the Home Mission Executive, Home Mission Secretary, and Treasurer, were received, discussed and adopted. The delegates spoke in eulogistic terms of the good work accomplished by the Committee, Secretary and Treasurer.

### HOME MISSION COMMITTEES' REPORT.

**Finance.**—Owing to the war, depression, and other circumstances, we have had anxiety on the financial side of our work, and therefore have been unable to undertake all the work recommended as "future work" by last Conference. We are glad, however, that the finances have proved a record this year, and come before you again with a credit balance of £9/13/4.

**Statistics.**—The statistical table now shows a membership of 776, with 15 churches, thereby showing a decrease of 12 members. The Bible School shows an enrolment of 624 scholars and 64 teachers, which is a gain of 42 scholars and 3 teachers, while some 13 scholars have been added to the church by faith and obedience, during the past year. The isolated member, now number 39, which no doubt would be largely increased, and the work made more effective, if all members would co-operate by sending the names and addresses of isolated disciples to the Conference Secretary.

**The Fields.**—(a) Peninsula District.—Bro. Black labored on in this district for some three months after last Conference. During this time services were continued regularly at Nubeena, Tunnel Bay, Oldwood, Carnarvon. The committee, having entered into arrangements with Bro. Seymour of Victoria, decided to send him to the Peninsula District at the conclusion of Bro. Black's engagement. The work seemed to be brightening, when, owing to financial reasons with the peninsula churches, the committee had to make other arrangements and transfer Bro. Seymour to Dover last November. The additions since last annual report have been: 2 restorations; 1 baptized.

(b) Haem District.—This field enjoyed the labors and leadership of Bro. Woolnough up till November 17th last. During that time our brother proved himself to be the right man in the right place, and it was with exceedingly deep regret we accepted his resignation, which he tendered owing

to having accepted an invitation to labor with the church at Hobart.

The prospects in this district appeared so bright just after last conference, that it was deemed wise to place a co-worker with Bro. Woolnough, in order that this great and growing district could be more effectively worked, as well as having as our aim the planting of the cause in Franklin, and extending in other directions. Sufficient funds having been promised for this special effort, Bro. P. J. Byard's services were secured. The united efforts of Bro. Woolnough and Byard were blessed, and their work greatly appreciated. Two new preaching outposts, Hopetoun and Milton, were opened up, and at the former place a Bible School has been commenced, which speaks well for the future.

On the receipt of Bro. Woolnough's resignation, and the lack of financial support in the peninsula district, it was thought advisable to send Bro. Seymour to the Haem till conference; then Bro. W. J. Way is expected to take up this work for a time. The Bible School at both Geveeston and Dover have grown since last year, while the school at Hopetoun now numbers 42. Additions since last annual report: Dover, 10; Geveeston, 4; Kellevie, 2. The vice-president, Bro. Woolnough, paid this district a short visit to see what could be done to further the work. It was considered wise to link this field with the peninsula district for the time being, and make a special effort to make it possible for the committee to place a worker in this united effort. We are glad to be able to report that arrangements have been made for Bro. J. D. Byard to take up the work in these two districts directly after conference. We believe a good work will be done here in the near future.

(c) Ulverston.—Your secretary, at the kind invitation of the church at Ulverston, visited this district, and desires to thank all for their welcome and hospitality. The churches at Ulverston, South Road, and Preston, are desirous of uniting forces to try, with the help of the committee, to secure a suitable worker to unite with them in an effort to push forward the claims of the gospel in this large and growing district. This is a fine field, which, when organized, should prove one of wonderful possibilities and opportunities.

**New Fields.**—Every possible consideration has been given towards opening up a new field at Devonport, which no doubt presents great possibilities, but owing to lack of finance our hands were so tied that this work had to be passed by for the time being; but we hope and pray that the incoming committee will receive such support this conference year that at least this promising town shall be entered and a strong cause planted.

**Reports.**—During the year monthly reports of the work done have appeared in the "Christian," which have been greatly appreciated by members of the church, and also brought the work of Home Missions more prominently before the brotherhood.

**Summary of Additions.**—The additions for the year through Home Mission work are as follows: by faith and baptism, 11; by restoration, 4; baptized believers, 2; total, 17.

### AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional meeting was led by Bro. P. Duff, of Launceston.

Conference proceeded to appoint its officers for the ensuing year:—W. W. Ling, President (Launceston); G. Woolnough, Vice-President (Hobart); Secretary, N. J. Warmbrunn; Treasurer, P. Duff; Committee, P. Orr, E. Nicholls, R. C. Tole.

Foreign Mission Committee:—President, G. Woolnough (Hobart); Vice-President, A. G. Day (Launceston); Secretary, H. C. Woolley; Treasurer, H. C. Rodd. Committee of nine.

Temperance Committee: W. R. C. Jar-

vis, G. Woolnough, C. Hale.

Auditors: C. Nicholls and J. Foot.  
Conference Sermon, 1917: W. J. Way.  
Reports from the workers in the fields were read and received.

### EVENING SESSION.

At the Home Mission rally, A. G. Day, chairman, spoke for a few minutes on the past work of the Home Mission Committee, also about the prospects of work in the future, which appear bright and encouraging. During the evening Miss Stevens sang a solo, and Mr. T. Arnot favored with a violin solo. Both items were much appreciated by the large audience. Addresses on Home Mission work were delivered by Bro. J. D. Byard, J. P. Seymour, and G. Woolnough. Each speaker dwelt on the different phases of Home Mission work as adaptable in their several districts. Offering for Home Mission work in cash and promises amounted to £31/10/-. The choir sang an anthem very pleasingly, after which the meeting was brought to a fitting close by the singing of the doxology.

### SATURDAY.

Morning session was opened by a devotional meeting led by Bro. Clifford, of Kellevie.

Business resumed at 10 a.m., and the following motion was carried: "That the incoming Home Mission Committee take into consideration the question of affiliation with the Victorian Home Mission Committee, for the purpose of Home Mission work, and obtain all available information on the subject. The question to be a matter for Conference, 1917."

The following brethren were elected as delegates to the Federal Conference: W. R. C. Jarvis, N. J. Warmbrunn, C. Hale, A. G. Day, G. Woolnough, T. G. Prior.

Hobart was fixed as place of next Conference, at Easter, 1917.

Church reports were submitted by visiting delegates.

At this stage the "Australian Christian" was brought prominently before the Conference, and a motion was carried recommending to the churches in Tasmania the advisability of urging all to subscribe to this fine paper.

The Conference carried the following resolutions:—

1. "That the 'Daily Post' of Hobart be tendered the best thanks of this Conference, for the grand support given to the six o'clock movement; also the Northern daily papers for the impartial reports of all meetings."

2. "That we in Conference assembled emphasise the urgent need of prayerfulness, deep spirituality of life, and earnest co-operation in the work of God, among our people during the coming year."

3. "That the Conference expresses its sincere sympathy with all, especially those of the Churches of Christ, who sorrow on account of the loss of relations through this dreadful war."

4. "That this Conference assembled congratulates the Early Closing League and all

temperance workers on the splendid success achieved in the carrying of the Referendum, and trusts that no effort will be relaxed until victory is achieved; also that members of Parliament be urged to give full effect to the will of the people."

5. "That we in Conference assembled express our sympathy to the South Australian brotherhood, in the great loss sustained by the death of Bro. D. A. Ewers and W. Manning."

6. "That the greetings from this Conference be conveyed, by the President and Secretary, to the sisters in Conference assembled."

7. Votes of thanks were passed to the Launceston church for the use of the building during the past year; the President, Treasurer, and Secretary, for their faithful services and supervision of the work during the past year.

#### FOREIGN MISSION RALLY.

Devotional meeting led by F. E. Smith (Nubeena). Bro. G. Woolnough, of Hobart, in the chair. Bro. Day, of Launceston, and Bro. Hale, of Hobart, addressed the meeting on Foreign Mission work, urg-

ing the Tasmanian brotherhood to greater zeal in Foreign Mission work during the new year.

#### EASTER SUNDAY.

Sunrise meeting, at 7.30 a.m., led by J. Byard, junr., of Cave-side.

11 a.m., worship, Bro. Kelly, of Geelong, Vic., presided over a large meeting, all delegates being present. A happy and most profitable time was spent around the Lord's table. Bro. J. Byard, senr., exhorted the church on "Christian Homes," to the edification of all present.

3 p.m., Conference Sermon was delivered by Bro. Day, of Launceston; subject, "Programme of Christianity."

Gospel service (preceded by a prayer meeting led by Bro. Burden, of Nubeena) was largely attended; Bro. Woolnough, the speaker, delivered a most telling address.

#### EASTER MONDAY.

Conference picnic was held at the Cliff Grounds. Most of the delegates and visiting friends were present. A most pleasant and enjoyable time was spent together; and a most successful Conference brought to a fitting close.

## Queensland Conference.

The 33rd annual Conference was highly successful, the attendance being better than usual, and keen interest manifested in the business, the desire to go forward, establish and extend the borders of the church being paramount.

The recent copious rains had altered the anxious feeling which was prevailing, owing to the State having experienced the severest and most wide-spread drought perhaps known in her history. However, the climatic advantage, the wonderful fertility of the soil, together with that staid confidence so inherent in Queenslanders, makes it possible for farming pursuits, commercial enterprise, and the State generally to make such rapid recovery and assume normal conditions as would be unknown among our less favored neighbors. This is destined to be a great State. The church is called to a grand task in evangelising and winning for Jesus Christ such a precious jewel. We believe there are evident signs that she is awakening and responding to that call. Shall we not go forward, having our vision fixed on "Queensland for Christ"?

The Conference was held in the Brisbane chapel during Easter, and following the customary practice, was preceded by a great temperance demonstration on Wednesday evening. The "six o'clock closing" movement having now taken definite shape, the attendance was very good. Bro. A. C. Rankine occupied the chair, and addresses were given by the Hon. E. W. H. Fowles, M.L.C., and Mr. H. E. Saunders, the Organising Secretary of the Citizens' Six o'clock Closing League. An offering was taken up for expenses by the Temperance Committee.

#### BIBLE SCHOOL UNION.

The Bible School workers' conference

was held on Thursday, the president, W. H. Nightingale, being in the chair. Addresses were delivered as follows: "The Bible School Defined," C. R. Graham; "Bible School Buildings and Equipment," A. V. Heather; "Child Nature," W. E. Reeve; "The Teacher: His Qualifications," C. H. Pratt; "Principles of Instruction," W. Trudgian; "Methods of Instruction," W. H. Nightingale.

#### BIBLE SCHOOL DEMONSTRATION.

In the evening Wm. Suething was in the chair. The building was full, quite a representative number of scholars being present from the adjacent schools. Selections were given by the Sunday School choirs of Albion, Annerley, and Hawthorne. A most interesting kindergarten demonstration was presented by the Brisbane School under the supervision of Sister Miss McCosh, who explained the various exercises and methods adopted to interest and educate the little scholars. The items were highly creditable, and much praise and commendation were expressed at the close. Opportunity was taken by the Brisbane teachers to show their appreciation of Miss McCosh's services. Bro. H. C. Stitt, superintendent, who made the presentation on behalf of the teaching staff, said that the secret of Miss McCosh's kindergarten work was that she knew her business, willingly sacrificed her time, loved the work, and the children mutually loved her. During the evening an address was given by W. H. Nightingale on "The Bible School and the Christian Conquest of Queensland."

The officers elected were: President, W. R. Graham; vice-president, A. Ricek; secretary, S. Trudgian; treasurer, H. W. Hermann; Committee: Sisters Misses M. Hells-

don and A. McCosh, Bro. W. Eagle, R. Haigh, and H. C. Stitt. The thanks of the Conference were extended to Bro. Wendori and Nightingale for their services last year in organising the Bible School Union. On the motion of J. B. Ash, the matter of purchasing land and opening a Bible School at Nudgee College was referred back to the incoming Home Mission Committee.

#### BUSINESS OF CONFERENCE.

Devotional service was led by A. V. Heather, and the Conference President, W. A. C. Wendori, took the chair at 10 o'clock, and welcomed delegates and visitors. Preachers who came to the State since last Conference were: A. C. Rankine, Russ Graham, V. Heather and W. Eagle. There are now ten evangelists working with the churches in the State. One new church, Russell Island, was admitted. The writer was appointed Press reporter.

#### GREETINGS.

Greetings were read from South Australia, Bible College and Students, Federal Executive, West Australia, Tasmania, Australian Christian, Victoria, and Federal F.M. Committee. An apology was read from E. Davis, preacher of Tewinomba, who was away on sick leave; coincidentally, Bro. Davis was ill last year.

The minutes of last Conference were read by the secretary, W. H. Nightingale, and adopted.

The Home Mission report showed that there were 27 churches in the State, with a membership of 1125. The total additions were 210, of which 62 were received by baptism, the net increase for the year being 79. Some of the churches do not make a pretence at returning statistics, and so our secretary is forced to carry forward figures from previous years. The Bible School secretaries appear to be more up-to-date, as their statistics do not show such weird monotony; therefore it may be concluded that their figures are fairly accurate. There are more scholars than church members, being now 1107, with a gain of 269 for the year. The report does not reveal the number added to the church from the Bible School. This item should be most important.

#### FINANCIAL.

During the year £260 was raised for Home Mission purposes. This is very satisfactory, considering the war and the severe drought through which the State passed. The "quarterly offering" appears to have settled the financial position and assured a steady and reliable income. This year the Committee will require a revenue of at least £300. Some of the churches are to be commended for their substantial financial assistance. Hawthorne and Annerley churches received subsidies.

#### LITERATURE.

The report of "The Christian Idea," which was presented by the business manager, J. B. Ash, showed that the paper was in financial distress. After the consideration Conference decided to discontinue its publication.

Continued on page 282.

## Reports from the Field.

### New Zealand.

**WANGANUI**.—The local auxiliary to the C.W.B.M. observed the annual week of prayer and self-denial during the second week in April. Each evening from Monday till Thursday was devoted to a short Bible study on prayer, followed by a prayer season, when prayers were offered for some phase of our national life, for the church and its auxiliaries, for the Easter Conferences, and for the work of the C.W.B.M. The subjects for Bible study were as follows: Monday, "Invitation to Pray"; Tuesday, "Christ's Example in Prayer"; Wednesday, "Faith the Source of Power of Prayer"; Thursday, "Communion with God in Prayer." Each evening a very helpful essay was read on the topic by an appointed sister. On Thursday the self-denial offering was received, the meeting taking the form of a special consecration service. On Friday evening the children of the Mission Band rendered a programme to an appreciative audience. The attentances at the Lord's day services are fair. The local brethren are still doing their best to maintain the cause. Bro. J. Bill, who has been in camp lately, was up on final leave last week. He sails for the front on April 29. We wish him God-speed and a safe return.—L.A.T., April 20.

**NELSON**.—Keen interest still manifested in gospel meetings. It is good to see so many strangers coming along. "A Model Preacher" proved an interesting address on Lord's day, April 16. Bright singing by the choir tends to make the meetings helpful. Owing to an epidemic of sickness amongst the children we find a decrease in our average attendance at Bible School. Mid-week prayer service well attended. A farwell evening was given to another of our Old Sunday School scholars, Bro. Ashley Page. We are all sorry to part with Bro. Ashley, and hope while on active service he will be the means in God's hands of leading others to the Christ.—Z.

### West Australia.

**SUBIACO**.—Three received into fellowship on April 16 by faith and baptism. Splendid Sunday evening meetings. Bro. Berry was a tower of strength in our special meetings. Our aged Bro. Halls was called home, after four days' illness, at 86 years of age. He was only one Sunday away from the Lord's house. Bro. D. R. Striding, of Northam, was with us Easter Sunday morning, and gave a stirring address. He preached at West Subiaco in the evening, and had a good meeting. The work there is full of promise.—April 24.

### Queensland.

**BRISBANE**.—The Bible School anniversary was celebrated on Monday evening, there being a number of parents and others interested present. H. C. Stitt occupied the chair, and a very pleasing programme of recitations, etc., was carried out by the children. The prizes were handed to the winners by A. C. Rankine, who in a few well-chosen words gave each child some kindly greeting. The kindergarten, under the control of Miss A. McShane, gave a demonstration of their exercises during Conference, which received very favorable comment and appreciation by those present. At the close the arbor on behalf of the school made a presentation to Sister McCooly, as a token of appreciation for her devotedness to the work of her department. Yesterday morning a large assembly met around the Lord's table, there being a number of Conference visitors present. W. A. C. Wendt, A. W. Carey, President, presided, and Bro. W. J. Wray exhorted very acceptably on "Christ, the same yesterday, to-day, and forever." An offering to the Bro. J. G. G. fund amounting to £1/1/2 was taken up. In the evening A. C. Rankine preached the gospel, his subject being "The Resurrection." The building was well filled, and Bro. Rankine's points were well reasoned and delivered with great power. At the close a girl

from the Bible School confessed the Lord Jesus. Bro. Rankine's active interest in the six o'clock closing movement, and his platform ability, are now being felt in our city.—H.C.S.

**ALBION**.—Bro. Ross Graham, who has accepted an engagement with the church at Albion, was accorded a welcome on Saturday, April 22. A large, representative gathering assembled, and numerous speakers culgised Bro. Graham's previous work in Brisbane suburban area. The services on Easter Sunday were bright and helpful, and the church looks forward to a time of advancement. One decision this month.—H.W.H.

### South Australia.

**WAMPOONY**.—Our S.S. anniversary was held on Sunday, 16th, and picnic on Good Friday. The meetings were all good, the address was good, and everything went off as it should do. Bro. H. Carter and his staff are doing a faithful work in the school. Bro. Edwards was the speaker at the anniversary service.—E.R.D., April 22.

**S'RHING EAST & MIDGATE VALLEY**.—Fair attendance at all services to-day. Reports presented to the quarterly business meeting of the church were satisfactory. Finances good. Sisters reported that the churches had forwarded 1174 articles and 48 pairs of socks for Red Cross purposes, and had raised £1/1/2/2. Sorry to report that Bro. Coventry has been removed to the Adelaide Hospital. His condition is critical.—T.E.

**GROTE-ST**.—We are indebted to Bro. E. R. Manning and K. W. Duncan for taking the place of Bro. Thomas on Easter Sunday during his absence in Victoria. At the close of the evening service after Bro. Duncan's sermon one man confessed Christ and was baptised straightaway. To-day we had very fine meetings, when Bro. Thomas preached morning and evening.—April 30.

**KADINA**.—On Tuesday evening last members of the church and Bible Class met to say farewell to our Sister Mrs. Jones, who is leaving for Queensland. A pleasant evening was spent in songs, etc. Bro. Neill spoke a few words of farewell on behalf of the members of the church, and the writer spoke on behalf of the deacons. Bro. Wedd presented Mrs. Jones with a beautiful Bible. Mrs. Brown, president of the Bible Class, presided. Bro. Percy Olley and wife at the same evening received many useful presents for kitchen use. On Good Friday the Bible School had their picnic. On account of the day being rather damp, it was held in the Show Grounds, and was very successful. This morning Bro. Neill gave the exhortation, many visitors being present from the city. The Bible Class started a study this afternoon on the Life of Christ. We are celebrating this evening, topic, "The shedding of blood."—J. H. Thomas, April 27.

**CROYDON**.—April 23, morning, G. Hatpen presided; W. James gave an excellent address on "The Resurrection." Bible School attendance was good. P. Jeffrey preached the gospel, his subject being "The Risen Lord." April 30, morning, J. S. H. Ferris presided; G. Duncan exhorted on the New Testament lesson. Received into fellowship Bro. J. Manning, from Norwood. Bible School attendance, 131 scholars; 2 new scholars. At the gospel service E. R. Manning preached on "The Hour of Darkness and Dawn." Bro. H. J. Horsell, our preacher, is on holidays at Port Elliot.

**QUEENSTOWN**.—Q.Y.P.M., Bro. A. G. Hinde gave an interesting talk to the young people on the subject, "Playing the Fool." Worship, good attendance. Bro. J. Fittorff presided. Bro. Hawkes delivered a splendid exhortation on the Resurrection evening, large attendance. Bro. sent a copy of the New Testament and Psalms, preboud in khaki to Pre Walter Cecil Weir, on the eve of his departure for the front. Bro. A. Morphet sang a solo, "Does Jesus Care?" Bro.

Brooker's address was inspiring, and will be long remembered. He made special reference to the Anzac heroes and their courage, the subject being "If God be for us, who then can be against us?"—D.L.W., April 30.

**BERRI**.—Our second anniversary services were held on Sunday, April 23. Splendid meetings. Bro. Wiltshire, from Mile End, gave his inspiring addresses at each meeting. There was a good attendance at morning worship, when the roll was called. Four members were received by letters of transfer. A special collection for the Church Extension Building Fund amounted to £15/1/2. Afternoon service for the young people. Bro. Wiltshire spoke on "Show me a penny." Sister Doley very sweetly sang to us. Evening, good attendance. Bro. Wiltshire's subject proving most helpful. Monday, April 24, we held our conference. The attendance was fair. Bro. Raymond was in the chair. A welcome was extended to visitors from Mile End and Renmark. Business was discussed, papers read, and addresses given. Miss Doley, from Mile End, sang a solo. An enjoyable and helpful afternoon was spent, after which we had a members' tea and a public meeting.—T.C.H.

**COTTONVILLE**.—Half-yearly church business meeting was held last Thursday evening. A large attendance. Reports of all branches of church work very encouraging. £1 added to the church roll, 23 by confession and cleanse, and 18 by letters of transfer. Over 90 added to the school. Church membership, 123, school, 216. A special feature of Y.P.S.C.E. is visit to Adelaide Hospital every Saturday by large number of members, whose singing is greatly appreciated by the inmates. Finances in all departments satisfactory. Bro. John McNeil and Semners were appointed the first elders of the church. The number of deacons was increased to seven by the election of Bro. E. B. Bishelton, W. J. Hardy, J. O'Brien, and Pappin, and the reelection of Bro. R. Thomson, whose term of office had expired. To-day's meetings splendid; the largest attendance at morning meeting since chapel erected. Extra seats were required. A large attendance at Bible School; one new scholar. To-night's gospel service crowded. Splendid sermon by Bro. Manning. Three young ladies and a young man made the good confession. New building expected to be ready for occupation in five or six weeks. To date, £120 has been received in cash and promise. We hope to reach a total of £200 by the date of opening.—H., April 30.

**PROSEPT**.—Several visitors have been with us of late, among them being Sister Miss Hand, from Brim. They have helped brighten our meetings. Yesterday Bro. L. Curtis was with us. Last night, after an address on "The Last Words of Jesus" (great commission), six young people confessed Christ. The work here is decidedly encouraging. We have great hopes for our mission on June 11 with W. C. Brooker. Bro. Emma, on-in-law of our Sister Paulsen, left under his own steam last week, and as a result has lost his left hand.—I.A.P.

**NORWOOD**.—Last Lord's day we had good meetings. L. W. Baker speaking at both services. In the evening a special prayer offering on behalf of two of our young men who are proceeding to the war zone.—H. V. Jenner and T. A. Mitchell. One lady confessed Christ. To-day A. M. Ludbrook gave the exhortation. Bro. Baker presided. The vice-president of the Brotherhood, G. E. Collins, led a discussion in the afternoon on "Our Future Method," with much success. In the evening a large congregation listened to a powerful sermon by L. W. Baker; theme, "Impregnable Wash-basin." The service was most impressive, and there was one confession.—G.H.J., April 30.

**BALAKLAVA**.—On Easter Monday the Bible School held their annual picnic at Brightwood. Although rain fell during the day, an enjoyable time was spent. Bro. G. Bridgman as president, and Bro. Bowden as secretary, and a fine band of teachers, are doing good work in the school, which is on the upgrade. To-day we had a good attendance at our meeting for worship. Bro. Whiting presided. Bro. Taylor exhorted on

# Victorian Women's Conference, 1916.

The thirty-first Women's Conference was held in the chapel, Lygon-st., on Wednesday, April 19, 1916.

An interesting service was conducted by Mrs. Chown. Mrs. Ludbrook offered prayer on behalf of "Our Empire," Mrs. Walker, "Our Soldiers"; Mrs. Dickens, "Our Sailors"; Mrs. Pittman and Mrs. Trimnick, "Our Conference."

Minutes of last year's meeting were read and confirmed. Apologies received from Mrs. Clay and Mrs. Wilson, absent through illness.

Decided to hold next Conference in Lygon-st. chapel on Wednesday prior to Good Friday. Essays appointed for 1917 was Mrs. W. Dickens.

Resolved to have Conference reports printed in the "Christian" as usual, and the thanks of the sisters be conveyed to the Editor for printing the monthly reports.

The Obituary told of 39 sisters fallen asleep. Secretary was instructed to send greeting to our English sisterhood, the C.W.B.M. of America, and our missionaries.

Reports presented and received were as follows:—Executive, Treasurer's, Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Dorcas and Church Aid, Temperance, Prayer Meeting, Isolated Sisters, Obituary, Hospital Visitation, Benevolent Asylum, Women's Mission Bands.

Resolved, That we place on our minutes a record of the work done by the late Mrs. A. K. Thurgood.

Also our appreciation of the faithful work done by Mrs. Chown during her four years of office as President. To Mrs. E. C. Thurgood for her untiring efforts as Superintendent of Hospital Visitation. To Mrs. Martin, for the able manner she supervised the work of the General Dorcas, and Mrs. Trimnick, for useful service as Prayer Meeting Superintendent.

Miss Daraley's notice of motion: "In view of the approaching Local Option Poll, and the somewhat altered conditions of the Temperance movement, the Temperance Committee representing the Women's Conference suggest that instead of the existing arrangements a number of sisters (2) be appointed to act on the Committee representing the Temperance and Social Department of the Churches of Christ in Victoria." Received and carried unanimously.

Afternoon session opened by a short devotional meeting, conducted by Mrs. Scambler. Mrs. S. G. Griffith gave the welcome greeting, and Mrs. Ewers (S.A.) responded on behalf of visiting sisters. Bro. Taylor (Maylands, S.A.) being present, an opportunity was given him to say a few words. Mrs. J. Pittman spoke on the life work of our Hon. President, the late Mrs. A. K. Thurgood.

"Women's Mission Band" was the subject of an excellent paper given by Mrs. F.M. Ludbrook; this was open for discussion, several taking part, including Bro. J. W. Webb (who conveyed greetings from C.W.B.M., California) and Bro. Thos. Hagger. Mrs. Ludbrook was accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

Bros. Cambridge, our living link in the Home Field, sent greetings.

Country sisters were given an opportunity to speak. Miss McCullough (Warrnambool), Mrs. Ewart (Dandenong), Mrs. Lucas (Ballarat), gave short talks.

Mrs. Ewers led the evening devotions. 39 churches responded to the roll-call. The Conference Essay, "The Call to the Heroic," by Mrs. Baker, was much appreciated. Mrs. McLeod, President of W.C.T.U., gave an address on "No-Logicism." Thanks and resolutions were proposed by Mrs. A. J. Hagger.

Mrs. Beiler spoke of Mrs. Chown's work as President, and presented her with a floral bouqer. Mrs. Chown returned thanks.

Mrs. R. Lyall in a happy manner introduced the new officers, and presented the secretaries and treasurer with bouquets of flowers.

We were pleased to welcome Mrs. D. A. Ewers (S.A.), Mrs. Stephens (N.S.W.), Mrs. Taylor (Strathalbyn, S.A.), Miss McCullough (Warr-

nambool), Mrs. and Miss Ritchee (Gippsland), Mrs. Lucas, Mrs. Lillburn (Ballarat), Miss Wallace (Taradale), Miss Burden (Maryborough).

Greetings were received from the C.W.B.M., America; New Zealand, West Australia, Queensland, South Australia, N.S.W., and Tasmanian Sisters' Conferences; Dawson-st., Ballarat, Dorcas Society, and J. I. Mulford, Secretary Victorian F.M. Committee.

The officers elected for the year were:—President, Mrs. T. Hagger. Vice-Presidents, Mrs. Chown, Mrs. Ludbrook. Treasurer, Mrs. Hagger.

Secretaries, Miss Romitsh and Miss Huntman (re-elected).

Home Mission Superintendent, Mrs. R. Thompson; Committee, Sisters Craigie, Millie, Forbes, Bray, Haddow, A. Lyall, A. J. Hagger, Lee, F. A. Kemp.

Foreign Mission Superintendent, Mrs. D. Pittman; Committee, Sisters R. Lyall, Miss Baker. General Dorcas Superintendent, Mrs. McGeilly; Committee, Sisters Martin, B. J. Kemp, Hill, McCoy, Hill, Illingworth, Ray, Connor, Haddow, Zelius, Johnston.

Prayer Meeting Superintendent, Mrs. Baker; Committee, Sisters Walker, Kelly, Sharp, Wilson, Benson, Hunter.

Temperance Superintendent, Miss Daraley; Committee, Mrs. Sharp, Mrs. Brown.

Hospital Visitation Superintendent, Mrs. J. Tully; Committee, Sisters Myers, Ennis, Jackson, Petelley, Cameron, Ray.

Isolated Sisters Superintendent, Mrs. McIntosh. Benevolent Asylum, Mrs. Chapman. Obituary, Miss Hill.

The sweet singing of the soloists and the Ladies' quartette was much enjoyed. Collection, £5/10/6.

## THANKS.

Resolved that the thanks of this Conference be given to Mrs. McLeod for her address; to the soloists, Mesdames Thompson, Mitchell, Eaton and Miss Jessie Jolly; the ladies' quartette (Lygon-st.), pianist, organist, essayist; those who acted as scrutineers; the ladies at the door, and to all who helped to make this Conference a success; the officers of Lygon-st. and Swanston-st. churches for the use of buildings during the year, and the Austral Publishing Co. for printing monthly reports.

## RESOLUTIONS.

Resolved, that this Conference grieves over the calamity of the great European war, and desires to convey its deepest sympathy to all who have lost loved ones at the front. It prays that a speedy and righteous peace may come, and urges all on peace being proclaimed to work for the settling of international disputes by arbitration, believing that such would be more in harmony with the word of the Master.

Resolved, that this Conference, believing it to be unjust for the liquor trade to have more hours in which to do business than any other trade, is firmly convinced that all liquor bars should be closed at 6 p.m., and earnestly requests the Premier and his ministers to arrange for a referendum of the electors of the State as to the hours of closing.

Resolved, that realising the great help the mission hands have already been to the Home Mission Committee, we urge those churches who have not started to try in the new Conference year to begin, and to those already in existence we would suggest that they try and double their membership.

## EXECUTIVE REPORT.

We are privileged once again to give a brief report of the Victorian Women's Conference Executive.

The year has been a sad one. Many of our sisters have been called to part with their loved ones. Several mourn the loss of sons through

this awful war. May our heavenly Father comfort each heart.

On March 31, 1915, our loved Hon. President passed to the higher life. A resolution has been placed on our minutes, expressing our deep regret at the death of our organizer and permanent Hon. President, the late Mrs. A. K. Thurgood, and our appreciation of her work amongst the sisterhood of Australia, especially her work in Melbourne.

Eleven meetings have been held, when addresses and papers of a very high order have been given. In this connection we desire to thank Bro. J. Pittman, A. P. Wilson, and J. W. Webb.

We have been pleased to welcome our old friends, Sisters Mrs. Stratton (India) and Mrs. Telemus (N.Z.).

Greetings have been sent in your name to the English sisterhood, South Australia, West Australia, N.S.W., Queensland, and Tasmanian Sisters' Conferences, and our missionaries.

In June of last year we decided to form Women's Mission Bands, our aim being to raise £500 per year to help support missionaries in the Home and Foreign fields, and to fund in the College of the Bible. Our representatives are, Sister Rosa Tilley (India), and Bro. J. R. Cambridge (Horsesham, Vic.). A syllabus has been drawn up, giving interesting topics for 12 months. As far as we know at present, 20 bands have been organised. We are anxious that this work amongst our sisters shall extend to all our churches.

We give our best thanks to all those who have helped to make our monthly meetings pleasant and profitable, and to our beloved President, Mrs. Chown, who has more than fulfilled her obligations. We pray that with renewed health and strength she may enjoy many years of service.

With hearts full of gratitude to our God for all the blessings of the past year, we press on to greater activities in the year which lies before us. —I.R.

## CHURCHES OF CHRIST, VICTORIA WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, 1915-16.

Receipts.	
Balance, March, 1915	£ 13 8
Collection at Conference	5 11 5
Proceeds, Sale of Tickets, Sisters' Tea	9 1 0
Pennies Received from Churches	4 5 7
<b>Total Carried to Executive Statement</b>	<b>26 12 1</b>
Expenditure.	
Catering Expenses	£ 7 6
Austral Co., Printing Expenses	6 18 0
Secretary's Expenses	2 10 0
<b>Total Carried to Executive Statement</b>	<b>18 15 6</b>

EXECUTIVE STATEMENT.	
Receipts.	
Conference Receipts, as per previous Statement	£25 12 1
Collections at Executive Meetings	11 12 0/9
Special Collections	2 17 0
Pennies Received from Churches	6 7 6
Bank Interest	0 0 0
Special Donations for Home Missions	7 17 9
<b>Total</b>	<b>£55 12 10/9</b>

Expenditure.	
Conference Expenditure, as per previous Statement	£18 15 6
Hospital Comforts	3 0 0
Secretary's Expenses	2 10 0
Paid to Mr. Thos. Hagger for Home Missions	12 17 9
Expenses, Women's Mission Band	4 18 9
Presentations	3 5 0
Printing and Calendars	0 17 10/9
Sundry Expenses	2 15 11

Balance in Hand	49 0 9/5
	0 12 1
<b>Total</b>	<b>£55 12 10/9</b>

## GENERAL CONFERENCE

## Receipts.

By Sale of Dinner and Tea Tickets ..	£31	9	3
By Sale of Goods ..	1	0	0
	£32	9	9
Expenditure.			
Catering and Cost of Provisions ..	£28	8	9
Balance in Hand ..	1	1	0
	£32	9	9

## WOMEN'S MISSION BAND.

## Receipts.

Contributions from Sisters of following Churches—			
Brighton ..	£16	2	5
Swanston ..	15	0	0
Egmont ..	10	0	0
Hawthorn ..	6	8	11
North Fitzroy ..	4	1	0
Middle Park ..	3	13	0
Williamstown ..	3	8	0
Meredith ..	2	7	0
Gre-st ..	2	4	0
Carnegie ..	2	3	0
Milburn ..	2	1	0
Norcliffe ..	1	9	0
South Melbourne ..	1	18	6
Carlisle ..	1	18	0
Brim ..	1	10	0
Melton ..	1	5	0
North Richmond ..	1	4	0
Ascot Vale ..	0	10	0
Emerald ..	0	18	6
Burnley ..	0	17	6
A Sister ..	0	2	0
	£80	4	10

Total since inauguration, July 1, 1913.

## Expenditure.

Expended for Mission Work as under—			
Paid to Mr. Thos. Hagger, Home Mission Secretary ..	£10	2	5
Paid to Mr. Robt. Lyall, Foreign Mission Treasurer ..	34	2	4
Paid to Mr. Reg. Ennis, College of the Bible ..	8	0	1
	£52	4	10

## G. HAYWARD, Treas.

J. E. HUNTSMAN, Fin. Secy.

Audited and found correct,  
Melbourne, 9/4/16. ROBERT LYALL.

## President's Address.

In the good providence of our loving heavenly Father we have been spared to see another Conference. Since we last met there have been many changes, even in our own circle of friends, while at our last Conference gathering, and amidst it all the time when her loving message was read to her beloved Homeary President, Mrs. Thurgood, passed away to be for ever with her Lord, whom she loved and served so faithfully.

I need not here speak of the beautiful life lived by our dear sister, and of all she was to us, but permit me in passing to say that it is due to her loving effort and influence that we to-day meet in this assembly as a Women's Conference, and through death, she still speaks. The influence of her sweet, unselfish life, still lives, for she did not live for herself, but for her Saviour who died for her and others.

After all, life is made up of little things—the kindly smile, the gentle word of sympathy or encouragement, little acts of kindness and of love. They may slip by unnoticed by the world, but their record is written in heaven, and God has said that even a drop of cold water given in His name will give them their reward.

I read a short time ago in one of our magazines that inscribed on a very humble gravestone was a very beautiful epitaph. It was only a short sentence, and yet a great biography: "He remembered others." Only three words, but what a world of meaning in them! To remember others

is to very truly follow in the footsteps of our Divine Master, who came to this earth of ours "not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a redemption price for all"; and if we are to be true followers of our Lord, we must have a deep concern for others. If there is one thing more than another taught in the Scriptures, it is that the first law of a Christian life is the law of sacrifice. Do not let us centre our thoughts in ourselves. We have been saved to serve, and while we seek our own salvation, let us be willing to sacrifice something for the salvation of the world. Every day let us do something for the Lord by ministering to the Lord's children. Let us stamp upon our own selfishness and by the help of God trample it out. Let us have the mind of the Lord Jesus, and always give others the first place at the feast.

We cannot choose our lives, but we can choose our manner of living them, for are not our lives put into our hands as a trust for others, beside ourselves? Whether we will or not, we have a great power for good or ill, and the lives we live have a great influence upon those around us. We are truly our brother's keeper. The Apostle Paul knew this when he said, "The life I now live I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Are there not many of God's children in the world in loneliness, in sorrow, and need, and sadness? Let us help to comfort them. Sympathy is one of the most beautiful and Christlike things in the world, and in what a large degree it was exhibited in the Lord Jesus. He felt the pain of his creature's diseased bodies, and the sin of their sinful souls, the tears of the penitent and the grief of the bereaved ones. "Surely he hath borne our sins and carried our sorrows."

Never in our lives, nor in the history of the world, has there been such need for sympathy as at the present time; when we read our daily papers, and see the long list of the fallen and the pitiful one of the wounded, maimed, and blind; when we think of our brave men on the deep, the men of our navy who for over twenty months have kept their watch in the North Sea, and again of our boys in the battle line, and then think of our women who have given up sons and husbands in this service that flows from it. "There are lonely hearts to cherish," there are pitiful lives to cheer and help and save from falling into temptations which await the despondent and cheerless.

Very beautiful is the prayer of Robert Louis Stevenson, who said, "Give us strength to encounter that which is to come, that we may have in peril constant in tribulation, temperate in wrath, and in all changes of fortune, and down to the gates of death loyal and loving one to the other." I pass this on to you, that in these days of stress and strain we should think of this beautiful application, and repeat it whenever opportunity affords.

Again, "Jesus saved others, himself he could not save," and he says to you and to me, Go and tell the story of my life and death to others who perchance have never heard it, tell them I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life, that they can be saved eternally if they accept the great salvation which I have wrought out through my death on the Cross, and with these thoughts in our minds, let us seize the great opportunity of service for our Master that is within our grasp. Let us see that we are missionary women. Let us see that we are missionary hands in all our churches, and let us daily supply our brethren who are willing to tell the story of God's Love to perishing sinners. Remember this is our time, and today is the day of opportunity. Let us seize it and use it, for if neglected, we may never have the opportunity again, for time is fleeting and life is short, but to do the will of Jesus, this is best.

For this is the time for being kinder and nearer to one another, to live each other better, a time which will make a long to help those who are sadder, wavier and more in need than ourselves. The days are passing so rapidly, so let us not miss a chance of doing good, and let us, May Love brighten our path and soothe our days, and may God in His infinite mercy grant that before another Conference shall dawn for us we

may echo the angels' song, "On earth peace, and good will towards men."

"Others, Lord, yes, others,

May this my motto be;

Help me to live for others,

That I may live with thee."

## Reports.

## HOME MISSION REPORT.

(1) Although the past year has been one of trial and difficulty, we are very thankful to be able to report progress of the Lord's work in our Home Mission fields.

The additions under Home Mission workers for the Conference year just closed were as follows:—By faith and baptism, 245; as baptised heathens, 19; by restoration, 32. Total, 296.

(2) Two new churches were organised by Home Mission effort, and four new Sunday Schools.

(3) Good work has been done in the hospitals by our faithful Bro. J. Pittman; in military camps by several brethren under Bro. J. Mackay; also among hundreds of our isolated members, and many efforts have been made to make our churches and our plea more public.

(4) The living link of the Women's Mission Band, Bro. J. R. Combridge, is doing excellent work. The cause in Horsham was never in such a good state as now. There have been 24 additions, a new preaching station opened, which yielded great results since the Conference report closed; and a fine new site secured and practically paid for in Horsham. The work still goes well for during March (the first month of the new Conference year) there were no less than 99 confessions in that field. It is to be hoped that the Mission Band idea will grow so that the whole of the money necessary for the living link's support will be found.

(5) The income for the whole year was £327 19/5, and the expenditure £288/12/1. This expenditure includes a debit balance from the previous year of £62 4/2. The year closed with a debit balance of £16 5/0. During the past year we financed the work and reduced last year's debit by £31/19/11. The income is the largest on record for any one year.

(6) The Women's Mission Bands, and the Women's Home Mission Committees and Conference have contributed £47/2 for the year. The sister collectors in a number of the churches have done a good work, and their efforts, together with the amount mentioned, have yielded £52 2/3. This is £16/10/6 less than the amount raised the previous year, but that year included the splendid results of the 1/- appeal which the Women's Executive made. For all these blessings we thank our heavenly Father, and look forward with courage to the future.—L. L. Hagger, Superintendent of Home Missions.

## FOREIGN MISSION REPORT.

We have not quite as much to report as we had last year, as we have not been able to send out any new lady workers into the Foreign field. Still very thankful that we have not needed to withdraw, but have been able to retain all our workers in the various fields.

We have our beloved Sister Mary Thompson in Harla, India, who was here with us last Conference; Mrs. Stratton, of our Australian Station, Barrambit, India; Mrs. Watson, Miss Tilley, Miss Cameron, all at Shirigonda, India, and Miss Waters, all at Shrigonda, India, and Miss Waters, all at Oba; Miss Tonkin, in China; Mrs. A. Davey, Japan; also several in China, Mrs. Percy Pittman at Delhi, we are all interested to know of their welfare and continued success in their mission. Miss Tilley is the missionary set apart for the Mission Bands to support; so that our sisters can call her our own missionary.

I think this is the first time that we have had to keep in back of funds. We have several who are trained and ready to go out, but cannot be sent. We need to have the difficulty in finding those who were willing; but now we have them

not only willing, but trained and ready. Sisters, let us do our part. If each one gave their pennies we would have enough and to spare.—L. Lyall, Superintendent.

#### PRAYER MEETING REPORT.

Another year of service has passed. We thank our heavenly Father for the love and goodwill which have been our lot where we have visited. We pray that the incoming committee may meet with the same gracious spirit that has been vouchsafed to us.

We thank our President, Mrs. Chown, for her help, and trust that the Prayer Committee will continue to receive the support of all the churches, that the spirit of prayer may permeate all the members, with the desire to further the cause we love. May God's richest blessing be with you all.—M. Trimick.

Our first meeting was held at Foulcray. The weather was rather unfavorable, but notwithstanding, we spent a very helpful time together.

South Yarra.—The attendance was fair, several sisters taking part.

Box Hill.—This meeting was well attended. The sisters have realized that their coming together for brief devotional seasons has been a source of much strength and comfort amid the dark days.

Northcote.—Here a bright meeting was held, and was marked by the fervent prayers of the sister.

Brighton.—This meeting was good, the attendance fair.

Swanston-st.—This was a good meeting, a grand spirit prevailing, giving each one an impetus to go forward in the work.

South Melbourne.—There was a large gathering; a bright and happy spirit throughout speaking well for the future.

Hawthorn.—A very enjoyable meeting was held, a goodly number attending. We felt a lift heavenward.

Ascot Vale.—This was one of the most successful meetings held during the year. The papers and short talks were most helpful and encouraging.

Middle Park.—This meeting was well attended, being the anniversary. The Committee and President of the Conference were present. Papers were read and addresses given, which were much enjoyed.

North Fitzroy.—This meeting has been fairly attended, other meetings intervening. The Women's Mission Band has occupied a part. The Red Cross work has been taken up with spirit, and did splendid work throughout the year.

#### TEMPERANCE REPORT.

During the year the Committee have held nine meetings. Churches visited are as follows:—Preston, North Richmond, Windsor, Northcote, 79; Altona, South Yarra, Brighton, Brunswick, South Richmond, 250; Papers for Think- ing People and other temperance literature, has been distributed: 700 bottles sent to our soldiers in camp at Broadwood, Ballarat and Seymour. Our thanks are tendered to Mrs. Barton, Mrs. Francis, Bren, Franklin, Ewers, Bennett, Wilson, T. Haeger, Peacock, for instructive addresses to Mrs. Wills and Mrs. Thompson for solos, and the Misses Winsor and Brown for recitations. Collections for the year amounted to £4/3/0; of this, £2 was donated to the Victorian Alliance Fighting Fund, £1 to Churches of Christ Fighting Fund, and 17/6 to Brighton W.C.T.U.

Sisters, we are able to engage in a great warfare, greater even than the mighty war now raging among the nations of the earth. For strong drink, the deadly enemy to mankind, not only kills the body, but also ruins the souls of its victims, both now and in eternity. We have God and truth and righteousness on our side, for God's greater and stronger weapons than any the adversary can bring forward to fight with. Then let us, as women, each do our utmost, in God's strength, to overthrow for ever this giant evil alcohol, and let us not grow weary in the fight for God and home and humanity.—Lucy Darnley, Superintendent.

#### GENERAL DORCAS REPORT.

During the year 11 meetings have been held, with an average attendance of 15 sisters. 307 garments have been cut out and made up, and with others distributed among Austin, Eye and Ear, Children's, Melbourne, and Women's Hospital, Old Folk at Cheltenham Benevolent Asylum, Miss Wilson's Free Kindergarten for poor children, Melbourne City Mission, Sister Grace's Home for the Friendless and Fallen, containing 811 garments, and 11 parcels of groceries. A parcel was sent to the Base Hospital, also a box containing 500 garments and comforts was sent to Capt. Chap. G. T. Walden in Egypt. Altogether 438 garments were sent out during the year. The receipts for the year were £9/11/8½; expenditure, £8/7/1; balance in hand, £1/4/7½.

We have received from the Trustees of the Margaret Gould Fund £5 for material, also £10 which was distributed among members of Northcote, Moreland, Balmnast, Lygon-st., Richmond (Cappan-st.), Fitzroy, Collingwood, Richmond (Hurrely-st.), and Windsor churches; also a sister. Total distributed, £6/5/-, leaving a balance in hand of 15/-.

We again thank all the brethren and sisters, also Trustees of the Margaret Gould Fund, for help received during the year, both in gifts of clothing and socks, as all sisters and members of the Committee for their help and loyalty in the cause. May they go ever onward, and long be spared to continue in the work.—L. R. Martin, Superintendent.

Red Cross Work.—Garments sent from various churches: 187; General Dorcas (sent to Capt. Chap. G. T. Walden, Egypt), 90; socks, 62 pairs: Total, 279 articles.

#### DORCAS REPORTS.

Ascot Vale.—22 meetings were held during the year, with an average attendance of 9 members. Garments have been distributed to needy cases, Red Cross work helped, and Christmas cheer and comforts sent to returned soldiers at Base Hospital.

Balmnast.—Meetings held fortnightly, with an average attendance of 8 members; 42 garments were made. Received from Cheltenham, and General Dorcas, 150 garments, groceries to the value of £2/6/6, and £1/10/- was distributed to needy cases. Cash from concert, £4.

Ballarat.—The sisters met fortnightly, with an average attendance of 10. Our Vice-President, Sister Williams, has been called home. 121 garments sent to Red Cross Society, and 203 new garments and 11 parcels of slightly worn ones were sent to needy cases. Receipts, £11/10/11; expenditure, £6/3/11; balance in hand, £2/13/-.

Cheltenham.—Several needy cases have been helped, and clothing sent to General Dorcas and Balmnast, also 10/- to a needy case, and 10/- for Christmas cheer for our soldiers in camp.

Dandenong.—12 meetings have been held, with an average attendance of 7 and 2 home workers. 80 garments made up and mended; 2 parcels sent to General Dorcas, and local case assisted. Receipts, £9/10/-; expenditure, £2/14/8; balance in hand, £7/2.

Hawthorn.—49 garments made, and 152 pair socks, also a large box containing 62 pair socks and comforts sent to Bro. G. T. Walden in Egypt, 100 visits paid to sick and needy, and help given where necessary. Church Aid: The sisters held an American tea, and the proceeds were given to the officers for church work.

Lygon-st.—The Class has not been so well attended as in former years. The meetings are held weekly, many needy cases assisted, also in conjunction with Women's Mission Band 90 garments, and 301 articles have been sent to Base Hospital. Receipts, £5/11/5; expenditure, £50 1/2; balance, £10/9. Church Aid: A sum was donated from proceeds of sale for remounging lecture hall.

Moreland.—Six months ago a Dorcas Class was formed, 10 sisters being enrolled, a number of parcels were sent to needy cases. Church Aid: The sum of £8 was collected, and wisely spent in church work and needs.

Middle Park.—Meetings are held monthly; many needy cases, both in district and country, helped, also General Dorcas, 140 garments and 53 pair socks made for Red Cross, also socks and scarves presented to our boys before leaving for the front. Sick visited, and Old Folks at Cheltenham, books and comforts distributed. £4/12/- was collected for Mission Band work, Church Aid. A weekly collection is taken up by one of our sisters for building fund.

South Yarra.—Meetings are held fortnightly, with an average attendance of 10. 68 garments sent to needy cases, 51 children's garments to Helgoland, 27 garments made and 11/1/- collected for Red Cross, and £1/10/- for Women's Mission Fund. Old Folk at Cheltenham and sick visited, and comforts and magazines distributed.

Swanston-st.—18 meetings were held, all needy cases assisted. 200 garments made, and sent to Red Cross.

#### WOMEN'S MISSION BANDS REPORT.

Lygon-st.—A Women's Mission Band was organized in May, 1915. The syllabus prepared has been followed. Interesting addresses have been given by Sisters Chown, Mary Thompson, Griffith, Craig, Emma, Ludlow, Pittman, Benson, and Bro. J. W. Webb. Letters from our living links much appreciated. Money contributed, £10 9/2.

Northcote.—Very helpful meetings. Addresses have been given by Mary Thompson and Miss Bonwell, of Zenana Mission (India). Collected for Mission Band, £2/4/-.

Brighton.—This class does a great work. Very helpful meetings are held. Donated by Mission Band, £1/14/7½.

Mildura.—Girls' Mission Band was organized in June, 1915. Interesting meetings are held. The letters written by our missionaries on the Home and Foreign fields are much appreciated. Donated, £1/4/6.

South Melbourne.—Good meetings are held; average attendance, 20. Collected, £1/8/6.

Swanston-st.—Regular meetings are held in which reports from the fields are read. During the year £15/6/- has been contributed by the 60, per month plan.

#### BENEVOLENT ASYLUM REPORT.

Through the departure from this State of Sister Mrs. A. P. Wilson, the Superintendent, we cannot give a full report of this branch of our work. The meetings were held regularly to their turn in the usual way. In January of this year the old people gathered in the great hall to hear the words of life, but they were disappointed of the expected treat, the visitors not being forthcoming.

In February, the South Yarra sisters visited the Institution. They were accompanied by Bro. J. Pittman, whose appropriate address was greatly enjoyed by his aged hearers.—C. Jerrens.

#### ISOLATED SISTERS' REPORT.

A number of letters have been forwarded to isolated sisters during the year, but, as on the previous occasion, I have again to state that so far as I am aware there has not been any response to our little messages.

The work would have been more easy, and perhaps meet with apparently better success, if addresses of those known to sisters were given to me. Although the Home Mission Secretary furnished me with quite a large number of names, those whom I selected and wrote to appear not to have made any response. No doubt it was looked upon as being merely of the nature of a link from this end, and not requiring a reply, and probably many may be expecting further letters, but the disadvantage is that we cannot be sure the messages have reached those to whom sent. It takes experience in the art of letter writing to obtain responses, and maybe those forwarded have not been equal to the object we desire, but perhaps among the sisters present there may be some suggestions that would help those who prefer to

work in the future to secure more gratifying results. In the meantime the little seeds sown may—unknown to us—be bringing just a little comfort to some one in a far away corner who may feel a big heart-throb from the city.—K. McIntosh, Superintendent.

### HOSPITAL REPORT.

As in other years, our visitors have faithfully fulfilled their duty in hospital visitation. The sisterhood is under a debt of gratitude to them. We are glad to have our Bro. Pittman in this good work. His kindly presence must be a comfort to those who are laid aside. 239 visits have been paid, and 2659 books and papers distributed. Fruit, flowers and home comforts have been given, and clothing where necessary, all of which have been gratefully received. We thank the Sisters' Executive for the sum of £3 towards expenses. The General Dorcas Committee for new flannels and garments for needy cases, various brethren and sisters for literature.—E. C. Thurgood, Superintendent.

### The Call to the Heroic.

Essays by Mrs. W. Reiler.

The wives and mothers of France and our own loved Empire have rivalled those of Sparta. This is confirmed by letters found upon the officers and young soldiers. One of the most thrilling letters I have read was written by a Parisian woman, whose son, only 17 years old, volunteered early in the war, and was killed in action. He had never been a strong lad, and his health had been her continual concern. Sublime were the words she wrote to the officer who, in announcing the death of her boy, awkwardly did his best to soften the blow:

"Monsieur, I thank you most sincerely for the letter you were so kind as to write to me. I thank you especially for the delicacy you showed in conveying to me the terrible news, which crushed me."

"During seventeen years I have fought over my son with all kinds of sickness. I have been held by constant pain out of the circles of death. It makes me very proud to have succeeded in saving him to give him a chance to die for *La Patrie!* That is my great consolation!"

"Saved to sacrifice! What a wonderful combination of heroism in action and in suffering."

To each to-day, soldier or civilian, comes the clearest call to the heroic that has ever been sounded in any era of the world's history. A crisis awaits us—nationally, individually, spiritually. Our sons, our brothers, have left in the home land, aching, mother hearts that swell as the deeds of their sons are recorded with guarded hand now, that in the years to come will be written by unswerving pen, in the fullest chapter that history will contain. In the heart of every man, woman and child is felt a responsive thrill as our men in khaki go by to the top of the drum. We are patriotic and sympathetic to a degree. We sing—

"Oh land of lands, to thee we give  
Our love, our trust, our service free;  
For thee thy sons shall nobly live,  
And at thy need shall die for thee."

This is as it should be. We are answering the call to the heroic that our King and Country are sounding in our ears.

In the realm of Science, too, the call has been heard, and answered. Scientists have spent their means, their intellects, sometimes their very lives, in the service of the human race.

Can we forget such heroes of science as Robert Hooke, who harnessed the powers of steam for us? and Thomas Edison, who started life as a newsboy, and by the cultivation of his God-given faculties, patented no less than 502 inventions, among which are the much-used telegraph, phonograph, and telephone?

Sir Ernest Shackleton, in his Antarctic Expedition, is showing the courage that will willingly undergo privation, wending his way across the endless monotony of white in pursuit of his am-

bitious to add to the knowledge of science. Such men have answered this call, and have given of their very best.

We recall the heroic in the realm of suffering. Nightingale, who with a noble nurse went to the Crimea to relieve on the battlefield the suffering caused by inexperienced nursing, and glorified the office of nursing by women, and promoted their usefulness and efficiency. Many such noble women are similarly responding to-day in the present conflict.

The heroic in the service of God has been preserved throughout all ages in accomplishing his divine purpose. Such servants of God as Moses, Elijah, Queen Esther, Daniel, the courageous Peter before the Sanhedrin, and others subsequently down to the martyrs whose heroic blood was truly the seed of the church.

Men of modern times as Thomas and Alexander Campbell, and their associates in the great Restoration Movement, have stood before modern Sanhedrins with the courage of a Peter, and have been instrumental in giving back to us a closer adherence to the teachings of the Bible and the Bible only. Instead of the emotional following of a sensational preacher, the people whom these good men influenced were literally afraid they would be led, and consequently studied their Bibles, Berean-like, to see whether these things were so. This produced a generation of clear-sound, thinking people who took for their motto, "Where the Bible speaks, we speak; where the Bible is silent, we are silent," and the determination to stand four-square in all its principles. Such noble men then, as these, have obeyed the call to the heroic, and demonstrated to us their successors that true courage in action which has characterized the world's greatest heroes.

Heroism in battle, courage as acts in the time of danger, the rescuing from fire or water, the laying down of a life for another, are all worthy of our admiration and emulation, but to the moral, social, and spiritual I am of heroism, I make an appeal to the womanhood of to-day, the appeal that comes to us from the Home, the State, and the Church.

The home is, has been, and ever will be, the nursery of the human race, and to the influence of our individual homes can be traced the calling of our national life. Their influence is not a passing, but an abiding one, and all-powerful for good or evil, peace or strife, happiness or misery. Dr. Talmage says: "Better be in your home, old woman, than carry the purse of a princess. There may be no carpet on the floor—no pictures on the wall, no silks in the wardrobe; but by your faith in God, your cheerful demeanor, your heroic self-sacrifice, you may make it a veritable Eden." To the mother, wives, sisters, the call to the heroic in the practical and moral realm comes very distinctly to-day. Wives, heretofore of their breadwinner. Mothers, deprived of their sole support. Truly God's heroines as they answer this call in facing the double burden alone:

The words of Jean Ingelow:

"I am glad to think  
I am not bound to make the world go right,  
But only to discover and to do  
With cheerful heart, the work that God appoints."

have in their comprehensive meaning the elements that call for purest heroism in the circle of the home.

In the social realm, this call is coming every day. There are battles to be fought other than the one against our national enemy. There are battles pending that call for heroic action from every daughter of the British Empire, that its social status may be raised. Women! you are come to the Kingdom of your nation for just this time, and God has a worthy part ready for you to play (however insignificant you may think yourself) in some reform or advance.

National life is a pond, and its surface is equally high everywhere; it is no higher in public morality than in private life, and it is the bounden duty of every woman to do her share in raising the level of the social water-mark—raising it by personal participation in every battle against the

wrong and the loyal championing of every cause for the right. Truly,

"They are lovers who fear to speak  
For the fallen and the weak."

Our duty to 1917 is very transparent as Christian women. The message is on drink in this State is a call to individual action. We are living in a time of unusual opportunity, for the influence of Kitchener, with unprecedented success, has made temperance reform more popular than it ever has been. This does not grant us leave of absence while the fight is on, but should hearten us to take advantage of our privileges.

"In God's own might

We grid us for the coming fight.

Strong in him whose cause is ours,

In conflict with unholty powers."

Women! arise in your might and follow the noble lead of your sisters in other States, who, by their voice and vote, helped to win the day.

The final appeal I make to you is in the church's name. Our interest in the Red Cross work, our attendance at Patriotic concerts, our tireless efforts to help those whom the ravages of war have injured, and destitute, are legitimate and necessary. Even more necessary is the earnest intercessory prayer of our church life to end the cause that calls the other things into existence. Our Empire does not strive in independent difficulties, with God as an onlooker. Our nation's strength is not in its wealth, ships or army, but in its God. Our very safety lies in our being not our own, but His. Religion and patriotism appear to be separate sentiments, and seem to be largely regarded as such; they should be inseparable. Patriotism! What does it mean? Standing for the highest good of our country, and insisting less than the function of the church is successful in fulfilling such a sublime purpose.

We should not be spoken of as patriots and Christians, but Christian patriots.

God and his church call to you this day, for heroic support of his work in the church; for a prayerful humbleness of spirit to the Father who holds the nations in the hollow of his hand; and for an acknowledgment of his Lordship over lords, and of his Kingship over all the kings of the earth. Only so can we be worthy of the name of Christian patriots.

At the coronation of Queen Victoria, the last of the festivities was the rendition of Handel's "Messiah." The young queen had been told that though it was the custom for the audience to rise when the notes of the "Hallelujah Chorus" were struck, it would be a violation of her Imperial dignity if she should rise with the multitude, as it is the Royal prerogative to sit when others stand. As the chorus opened, and the multitude arose, the young queen yearned to rise also, and thus confess her loyalty to the Messiah. But recalling her instructions, she kept her seat as the sublime words sounded forth. "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Chorus!" were the last part of the song. "King of kings, and Lord of lords," she forsook her instructions, and rose to her feet and folded her arms across her breast, bowing her head with the crown of Empire upon it. This heroic example of the timid young Queen is calling to each unit of the Empire of her noble grandson for an expression of the highest heroism, in a like acknowledgment of the Lord of Hosts as King of kings. The day will dawn, though distant to our vision, when the kings and princes of this world will have passed, and their earthly grandeur and magnificence shall have vanished away; when the Empires of man shall no longer obscure their human wisdom and self-will, and their institutions be no more. Then, alone, will stand the church, redeemed, purified, glorified; purchased with precious blood. For her glory her own lives be laid out for the hastening of that day let us labor and pray.

Then light will break on the day when

"The tumult and the shouting dies,

The captains and the kings depart,

Still stands Thine ancient sacrifice,

An humble and a contrite heart.

Lord God of Hosts, he with us yet,

Let us not forget, lest we forget!"

**1 Cor. 10: 12.** At the gospel service Bro. Taylor's subject was *1 John 1: 9*. We were pleased to have Mrs. S. Pickering with us, who beautifully sang "Abide with me," and "O Rest in the Lord." The choir rendered the anthem, "Seek ye the Lord." Bro. R. Shepherd met with a nasty accident, being kicked in the face by a horse. We are glad to report he is progressing favorably towards recovery.—P.H.R., April 30.

### Victoria.

#### Bible School Day and Annual Bible School Offering, Sunday, May 7.

**NORTH MELBOURNE.**—Another young man from the Bible Class confessed the Saviour on Sunday night.

**EMERALD (Township).**—The meetings are being well attended. Last Saturday evening we held a social to bid God-speed to Bro. Patterson, who is leaving to take up the work at Harcourt, and, as a token of esteem in which he was held, we presented him with a gent's dressing roll, and wish him every success in his new field. Bro. Haddon commences to labor with us next Lord's day.—W. Bolduan, May 1.

**WINDSOR.**—Easter Sunday we had a fine exhortation from Mr. W. Morrow. Two received by letter. At night Mr. J. E. Thomas preached. At our mid-week service we had Messrs. Robbins and A. Fischer, who gave helpful talks. This morning a sister has received. Five addresses from Mr. Heier to-night. Next Sunday we celebrate Bible School Day.

**PRESTON.**—Signaller Cox, home on final leave, was immersed on Wednesday last with the young lady who on Sunday week confessed Christ, and yesterday both were received into fellowship. The day's meetings were decidedly encouraging. Bro. Schwab preached at each service, the night meeting being an "A. E. F." commemorative service. The subject discussed was "The Unretiring Soldier." During the service Bro. Schwab unveiled an honor roll containing names of four of our members in the A.E.F. The chapel was filled at this service, and appropriate national hymns were sung.—W.A.S., May 1.

**ROCHESTER.**—Our "Australasian Christian" agent is a live wire. She has enrolled every available member as a subscriber, and the paper is looked for eagerly each week. All church activities are moving nicely. The mid-week meeting, although held in a private home, is well attended. We are commencing a study of Acts of Apostles under Bro. Shipway. Last Lord's day we had nice meetings, with new scholars in the Bible School, and many strangers present at the gospel meeting in the Shire Hall, which Bro. Shipway spoke impressively of "The Pre-eminence of Christ."—A.J.W.

**BURNLEY.**—It was a red letter day in our Bible School work at Burnley to-day; 17 new scholars for the last two Sundays, with several others. Bro. Young's address this morning was a spiritual treat. We had a splendid temperance service this evening, the chapel being nearly full. Bro. McClean spoke enthusiastically of "Beat Abstinence." A large number of the Order of Good Templars were present. Beryl Grindle's singing was enjoyed by all.—J.A.C.

**ELCHUCA.**—On Easter Monday we held our Bible School and church picnic at Bowser's Bend. A party drove over from Rochester, including Bro. and Sister Shipway. Bro. Killmer also spent the day with us. All enjoyed themselves. On Tuesday the annual business meeting was held. The following officers were appointed:—Deacons: Iren, G. Freeman, W. King, T. Darlow; deaconesses: Sisters Mrs. Laury, Mrs. O'Connor; treasurer, Sister Mrs. Simmonds; secretary, Sister Miss Darlow. Bro. Shipway held a short mission for three nights; at the close of Friday night's meeting two were baptised. Bro. Killmer was farewelled. Meetings were well at-

tended all day. We expect Bro. Wilson, of Rochester, with us next Lord's day.—E. Darlow, May 1.

**NORTH RICHMOND.**—Splendid gatherings at both services last Lord's day, April 30. In the morning H. A. Procter spoke on "The Purpose of Christianity in Relation to our Life." Our Bible School is on the increase, and good work is being done. At the gospel service Bro. Procter took as his subject, "The Conversion of Cornelius," and made a great impression upon the hearers, many strangers being present.—A.H.T.

**STAWELL.**—Attendances during the past fortnight have been fair. Bro. Robbins being absent at the Conference, Iren, Peters and Robb conducted the morning and evening services respectively on April 23. Bro. Robb gave an address on "What will your answer be?" and Sister Mabel Payne also contributed a nice solo, which was much appreciated by all. Bro. Robbins was with us again yesterday and conducted both services. In the morning he discoursed on "Plants and Corner Stones," and in the evening eloquently preached on "The Grace of God." In the morning our brother gave an interesting account of the recent Conference. We regret to report that Corp. H. Payne is still present in the Base Hospital, Melbourne. He is undergoing a rather serious operation, but we are pleased to hear that he is making excellent recovery. Members generally are determined in making Bible School Day, May 7, a financial success; and no doubt we will exceed the amount allotted to us. The children of the Bible School are earnestly rehearsing for an entertainment, which is to take place shortly, and which we all trust will prove a great success.—Arnold Sheppard, May 1.

**NORTH FITZROY.**—Good meetings all day. To-night Bro. Baker addressed a large audience on "The Majesty of Divinity." A young lady from the Bible Class made the good confession. Interest is being well maintained in every department of church work, and our gospel services continue to attract a large number of strangers. Our Junior Endeavor Society is being organised into a powerful influence for good, and contains some very promising young people. Last Lord's day this society held an "apple day," the result being a fine collection of fruit, which was handed to a local creche.—A.E.S., April 30.

**HARCOURT.**—The church at Harcourt have had the pleasure of listening to Bro. Haddon, from the Colleege, who has been with us until we set a permanent man. We enjoyed his addresses very much, and the folk at Harcourt have learned to love him, for he is a sterling young man, and feel he will make a name for himself in the Lord's work in the near future. We are to have Bro. Patterson with us next Sunday, who starts week-end work with us. We hope to make a push forward then, as our meetings have already improved with Bro. Haddon.—F.P., April 30.

**ST. ARNAUD.**—At the close of Bro. Johnson's stirring address on Sunday night, a woman made the good confession, and was baptised the same hour. There was a good attendance.—H.B., April 30.

**GEEFONG.**—Since last report we had one baptism, a young lady. Lord's day, fine meetings. Bro. Young exhorted, and welcomed one lady from the Baptists, and one young man from a sister church. The chapel was packed in the evening. Bro. Chandler preached in excellent sermon. At the close we witnessed nine confessions.—W. H. Lum, May 1.

**CHELTENHAM.**—Bro. W. Judd addressed the church this morning. Bro. E. T. Penny delivered the gospel message in the evening. Good meetings at both services. Sister Nellie Bobley, who conducted Christ recently, was welcomed into fellowship. To-night, Bro. Penny and the church were gladdened again with the confession of a lad, the son of the church treasurer, and a member of Bro. Penny's class. During the past week a kitchen tea and social was tendered to the church organs, in honor of her approaching marriage. Miss Ida Judd has faithfully and very efficiently labored for us here for many years, past Sunday, May 14, will be associated with the

church anniversary, and the meeting on Wednesday, the 17th, is expected to be an extra special. We will rejoice in the following of any friends favoring us at either of the meetings.—F.W.M., April 29.

**BRUNSWICK.**—On Tuesday, 18th, the Y.P. S.C.E. was visited by the Methodist Society, which conducted the meeting. Last Lord's day, 27th, Bro. White, from Brim, presided. One brother was received in an letter from North Melbourne. W. Moore spoke on "The Christian's Attitude towards Easter-tide." This morning, 30th, our visitors included Bro. W. J. Way, our late evangelist from Queensland, and Bro. White, who again presided. One young lad was received in an immersion. W. Moore exhorted on the parable of the fig tree, and at night, to a good audience, dealt with the topic, "Modern preachers' attitude towards the doctrine of eternal punishment and eternal consequences for action." Next Sunday week (12th) the honor roll of the C.Y.P. Bible Class will be unveiled in the class room, Barkly Hall, Barkly-st., West Brunswick, by an officer from a military camp.—W.T., April 30.

**WOTSLEY.**—Last Sunday we had Bro. G. E. Moore with us, who addressed the church, all being invited to hear him. To-day we had Bro. Bennett, from Williamstown, who changed with Bro. Whelan. Bible School and Bible Class are still going ahead. Combined practice for coming anniversary proves helpful. To-day at the close of practice Bro. Whelan in a few words mentioned the departure of Bro. Cameron, and Sister Ivy and Edie Woodward, who for some years past have played a prominent part in the choir. Bro. J. B. Gray, on behalf of the choir, presented Mr. Woodward with a handsome pocket wallet. Miss Edie Woodward with a jewel case, and Miss Ivy with a fancy brush and comb. Bro. Whelan on behalf of the Bible Class presented Mr. Woodward with a thermos flask, and Miss Ivy with a hand mirror. Bro. and Sister Woodward for some years past have been violinists in our choir. They will be greatly missed, they leave for West Australia. A great day is expected next Sunday, as we intend unveiling the honor roll, bearing 23 names of representatives of our churches, serving with the colors. Chaplain Colonel Mackay has promised to come along.—A.J.T.

**SOUTH YARRA.**—On the morning of April 23 Bro. Clipstone, from Castlemaine, gave a very fine address. Bro. Hall, from Williamstown, presided. In the evening Bro. Gekker, from Swan Hill, preached to a good audience. Sister Miss Wallace sang a solo, which was appreciated. Last Lord's day we had Bro. and Sister R. G. Cameron, of Mildura, with us. Bro. Cameron exhorted. We regret that Bro. Mudge has tendered his resignation as evangelist. This was accepted with regret. He closes his ministry with us on the 14th inst. The attendances at the meetings are improving largely. The young men of the church with the club has won the pre-eminence in its particular grade. On April 29, a social was held by the club, when there was a good attendance. The trophies won were presented. Three more of our young men have enlisted, and are joining the Expeditionary Forces. The Women's Guild is doing well. At last meeting the election of officers, hearers took place. Sister Mrs. Sneyd was re-elected president; Sisters Mrs. E. Lewis and F. Lee, vice-presidents; Sister Mrs. Cook, treasurer, and Sister Tucker, secretary (re-elected). The sisters have given a further donation of gold to the church funds.—F.M., May 1.

**BLACKBURN.**—On April 26, Bro. and Sister Edwards' little girl passed away. Our loving sympathy is extended to them. Last Lord's day we had 17 new scholars in the Bible School, when Bro. Emms was with us, and spoke on the graded lesson system. Bro. Emms gave a powerful address at the gospel meeting, and one lady responded to the invitation.—Jas. E. Webb.

**MIDDLE PARK.**—During the past twelve months 23 have been added to the church, most of these being young men, many of whom are proving good workers. We were sorry to part with some of our best workers, who have gone to

Continued on page 284.

## Foreign Missions.

All correspondence regarding this page should be addressed to Ira A. Paternoster, Organising Secretary, Prospect, S.A.

### Death of a Comrade.

W. E. Macklin.

Last night (February 15) Dr. Butchart passed away, and we have lost a strong man that it will take many years to replace.

Dr. Butchart came to China about 25 years ago, studied the language in Nanking, and during Dr. Macklin's furlough took charge of the Christian Hospital. On Dr. Macklin's return, he still took part in the hospital work. Dr. Butchart was a homeopath, but the doctors mutually studied their respective literature, and were able to work in unison by getting rid of prejudice. By-and-bye Dr. Butchart made up his mind to open up that large city of the province of Ngunliu, Luchowfoo. The doctor started in modestly, and gradually the work grew till he had a large hospital built by the church people of America. Dr. Butchart used to have a clinic of out-cases of from 30 to 40 thousand, and a large in-patient clinic; but one of the important features of the work was the house visits. He became the family physician for a large number of the citizens. His reputation in the city and in the surrounding country grew from year to year. In travelling from Nanking to Luchowfoo people along the road asked me if I knew Dr. Butchart, and at once a good understanding was started.

A physician of repute at home has a wonderful influence, but in a heathen land where they have no scientific knowledge of medicine he is looked upon almost as a magician. You do not hear of the blind receiving sight in a heathen land. Dr. Butchart removed many cataracts and did other operations on the eye which made the blind to see. The heathen knew nothing of opening the abdomen and removing tumors. Dr. Butchart did this to their great wonder. He is not always the great surgical feat that does the good work. There are many cures in the use of simpler treatment and even in the prevention of disease.

This work manifests the love of the gospel, and it makes the people desire a religion that has such manifest relief from suffering. A patient cured is a friend to the physician and his religion. Many come into the church as a result of the medical work. What have the Chinese in the way of cure for disease? They have systems of philosophy such as the Buddhist Nihilism that makes out that nothing exists, and so no disease has existence. This is the so-called Christian Science, which is heathen and not Christian. If nothing exists ("all phenomena are an illusion") then science, the study of phenomena, is non-existent. Another system is that of the dual powers of nature. One kind of disease is hot or belongs to the male element, the other cold or female. Diet and medicine are also male or female. Again, disease is often considered due to demons or fetishes, and there is god, demon, or hobgoblin to appease. Dr. Butchart's work tended to correct these foolish systems.

The love of the gospel seen in healing disease won men for Christ. Rich and poor were treated with kindness and love, and the rich were expected to contribute to the expense of the poor, which they did, not only enabling Dr. Butchart to buy drugs and remedies, but to put up extra buildings as needed.

The doctor not only treated patients himself, but trained up many capable assistants. These are able to go forth to carry the gospel of healing far and wide. Under Christ the power of a good man has a certain limitlessness. Dr. Butchart not only relieved suffering, and helped the poor, but he had a more effective remedy. He early accepted the philosophy of Henry George, and desired to see the unemployed secure land and opportunity, realizing that the system that enables one class to monopolize God's gifts, makes slaves and paupers of the rest. Alas! God has taken him from us, and where can we get another such man to ent.

fill his place? If we had the makings of such a man it would take many years to fit him for service with the language.

### Itinerating on Oba.

A. T. Waters.

Am just on the edge of leaving for an extended trip around the island, going as far as Wauruki by boat, and covering the rest of the distance on foot. My original plan was to visit Wauruki and Lamblai only, but on getting word from Bro. Clappell that he has volunteered for Army Medical work, which will make his return to the islands somewhat indefinite, I thought it advisable to go on to Longana, especially as it is reported that there is much sickness in the Longana district, and many have died from dysentery. Then, as it is a comparatively easy walk (no big hills to climb) from Longana to Lohwale and Lokokoro, I finally decided to include them also in the itinerary, thus making a complete tour of the island. Although it is the hurricane season, and unusually hot this year, yet most of the paths are shaded, and one is not exposed to the hot sun as when travelling by boat.

There is still much sickness among our people here, in the form of low fever and dysentery, principally the latter. We ourselves, however, are keeping quite well, considering we are in the midst of an unusually hot hurricane season. Mrs. Waters' knee seems to be improving nicely, though very slowly. But with continued care and prayer, we are hopeful of the results.

We have recently started an instruction class for enquirers, who desire to be baptised at Easter (D.V.). Yesterday nine gathered in the tent. By the way, the tent is a great comfort and convenience, as it is out of the sun, and also for the smaller services during the week.

The "Sunrise School" is being fairly well attended at present, owing perhaps to some change in the method of teaching. We are reading through Genesis (in English), which the missionaries is now fairly well able to interpret into the Oba language, verse by verse.

We are very anxious for our mail this month, as we are about to get some important news of the war this time. Our latest news dates to about December 22, at which date the outlook was anything but bright, with the enemy in possession of Serbia, and the Allies pressing into the Balkans insufficiently reinforced, with the ground not safe in Greece. Altogether it presented a dark picture to the mind. "When the outlook is not good, try the outlook," is a timely injunction for those of us who "live by his appearing," and our hope anchored "within the veil."

### Getting the Language.

H. Watson.

You will be pleased to hear that Miss Cameron passed her first examination in Marathi this month, so that brings her a step nearer to the work her heart is set upon. I will be glad that in another year she will be able to help me in the medical work here. I am glad that she is able to have two full years at the study of Marathi to fit her for the work, because without the language one is a barbarian in the eyes of these people.

Mr. Coventry, I think, will make a good plodding worker. Of course he also has to go two years at the language. It is a great pity that missionaries could not get the language at once, so that there is not one tongue and one language, or that God has deemed it best to have it as it is, and how can preachers preach except they know the language?

We have just had word from Miss Tole that she is applying for a position on a hospital ship. This means she will be leaving India for the pres-

## FEDERAL FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

President, J. E. Thomas, Wayville, S.A.  
Treasurer, J. W. Cosh, Henty Beach, S.A.  
Secretary, I. A. Paternoster, Buller-st., Prospect, S.A.

OFFERINGS FOR FOREIGN MISSION WORK IN EACH STATE MAY BE SENT TO  
South Australia.—Treas., T. Colebatch, 470 Mt. A. H. Dobbie, Hayward Avenue, Torrenville.  
Victoria.—Treas., Robert Lyall, 39 Leveson-st., North Melbourne.

New South Wales.—Treas., J. O. Holtz, Starkey-st., Dulwich Hill.  
Queensland.—Treas., H. W. Herriman, Railway Parade, Nundah.

Western Australia.—Treas., C. A. G. Payne, Guildford.

Tasmania.—Treas., H. C. Rodd, Murray-st., Hobart.

All correspondence and money for the Federal Committee should be sent to the Organising Sec. S.A.

### Queensland Conference.

Continued from page 279.

A. C. Rankine spoke on the wisdom of heartily supporting "The Australian Christian," which is characterised as being the very best religious paper in the Commonwealth. There is only one reason, he said, to excuse any disciple from subscribing to it, and that is, "that he has not got the money to buy it." Bro. Rankine moved, and it was carried unanimously, "That this Conference earnestly recommend the members of the Church of Christ in this State to subscribe for the 'Australian Christian,' feeling sure that such a paper coming into the houses of the brotherhood will help them in their spiritual growth."

A motion by H. C. Stitt, "That all churches securing preachers from other religious bodies first get the approval of the Home Mission Committee," provoked considerable discussion; finally an amendment was carried that the matter is a "strong recommendation."

### STATE EVANGELIST'S REPORT.

W. J. Way reported that during the year he had held special missions at Rosewood, Gympie, Zillmere, Kingaroy, and Bomal, besides having visited all the churches and a number of home-visited families. 300 addresses had been given, including a number in the open air, factories, etc. Ten had been added to the church.

### FUTURE POLICY OF THE HOME MISSION COMMITTEE.

A lengthy discussion took place on the work to be pursued for the future year, the general feeling being that a more concentrated policy should be carried out, and that the whole energy of the work be given towards establishing the church, where good opportunity presented in population centres, rather than covering the whole State with spasmodic effort. Finally a motion was carried unanimously, "That to carry out such a policy a special evangelist be engaged by the Executive Committee, and that full control be entirely left in their hands."

Hasthorpe and Annerley churches made application, and it was approved, to come under the control of the Home Mission Board.

The President, Bro. Wendorf, gave a very interesting and inspiring presidential address.

A. C. Rankine was appointed to write a "Monthly Queensland Letter" to the "Australian Christian" on Home Mission and other matters.

A motion was carried, moved by J. Olsen, "That the Conference recommend to the churches that an address on the Missions be given every quarter, also impressing on the members their obligation to support the extension of God's Kingdom."

## MOTION OF LOYALTY.

The President moved, and it was carried by delegates rising and singing the National Anthem. "That this Conference representing all the Churches of Christ in Queensland desires to express its sincere loyalty to our King and country in this our time of stress and trouble, and pray for the blessing of His C. S. on the cause of our Allies and nation, and that He will guide our rulers to act in accordance with his divine will!"

The Home Mission Committee elected for the following year as follows: President, W.A.C. Wendorf; Vice-President, A. C. Rankine; Secretary, Wm. Suchting; Asst. Secretary, H. W. Hermann; Treasurer, H. C. Stitt; Committee, C. H. Pratt, W. R. Graham, S. Trudgill, J. B. Ash, G. Green, R. Haigh, W. Berlin.

## HOME AND FOREIGN MISSION DEMONSTRATION.

A great rally was held on Friday evening, the President being in the chair. W. J. Way spoke on "Vision," and A. C. Rankine on "Commission." An offering amounting to over £30 in cash and promises was received.

## CHURCH EXTENSION BUILDING FUND.

The above report was presented by the treasurer, J. B. Ash, and showed a credit balance of £7. An amount of over £20 had also been obtained in liquidation of the '03 flood relief account.

Churches generally were not supporting the fund, which was disappointing to the Committee. Past officers were again re-elected. Secretary, H. C. Stitt; treasurer, J. B. Ash; Committee, Iren Gole, Stubbing, Stabe and Berlin.

On Hawthorne church making application for a fan with which to hold a vestry, A. C. Rankine asked, "Could not such a small amount be raised here in the meeting? (Laughter and ironical voices: "Go on the platform and try it!") Walking on to the platform, Bro. Rankine made an appeal to delegates to help this church. He knew the vestry was absolutely necessary for convenience, and particularly Sunday School work. After £2 was handed in, the incident closed, Bro. Rankine remarking that Conference was happier (as was Hawthorne).

## COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE.

Addresses were given by Bro. C. H. Pratt, who said the College was worthy of the very best support. He spoke in highest terms of Principal Main and staff. Bro. Ross Graham also spoke. The College was a safe place for boys and the best theological school in Australia.

## CHURCH PROPERTY TRUST DEED.

A model deed had been drawn up by the Home Mission Committee for approval under instruction from last Conference. Bro. E. A. Bignill moved, "That the deed be adopted, and that we earnestly recommend the churches to accept it." The mover stated that Sunnyside church land would immediately come under the deed. The following members were appointed trustees: T. E. Stubbing, J. B. Ash, W. A. C. Wendorf, and E. T. R. McE. A vote of thanks was passed to Bro. Bignill for his interest in bringing the deed to successful fruition.

## FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The chair was taken by H. W. Hermann, and the report was read by the secretary, I. Gole. The financial statement was presented by the treasurer, H. W. Hermann, and showed that £104 was subscribed, including a balance of £28 carried forward from last year. Although donations had fallen short of last year, this might be expected, but now, however, rains having fallen, no doubt Queensland will make up for its old mark again. An address entitled "India," was given by Bro. W. Eagle, who was at one time a missionary in that place. I. Gole spoke on "F.M. Methods."

Letters were ordered to be sent to the missionary stations, expressing loving Christian greetings and best wishes, on the motion of A. C. Rankine. The F.M. C. committee elected are: Secretary, I. Gole; treasurer, H. W. Hermann; Suchting; A. C. Rankine; W. Eagle, J. B. Ash, W. Suchting, H. C. Stitt, W. Berlin, C. H. Jackson.

## TEMPERANCE.

A. C. Rankine occupied the chair, and reported work being done in connection with the six defilement closing, deputations to the Government, etc. Next to the war, this was the greatest public question just now. The following members were appointed: President, A. C. Rankine; secretary and treasurer, W. R. Graham; Committee: H. C. Stitt, Wm. Suchting, W. Eagle, W. A. C. Wendorf and I. Gole.

## MILITARY CHAPLAINCY.

Captain-Chaplain W. H. Nightingale stated that he was desirous of proceeding to the front, and asked for a recommendation from Conference, which was readily granted. He also asked for financial assistance for the Chaplains' Fund.

The President congratulated Conference on its successful sessions, and a comprehensive vote of thanks was moved by W. R. Graham to all who assisted in bringing about such a happy and successful Conference, including Messrs. King and King, who kindly lent a piano free of charge during the sessions.

During Conference devotional meetings were conducted by Bro. E. Rosenberg, W. J. Way, A. V. Heather, S. Trudgill, W. R. Graham, and E. A. Bignill. The following contributed to the musical part, and considerably brightened Conference by their assistance: Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Pratt, Miss M. Stabe, Brisbane choir, W. Trudgill, Misses Wendorf, Miss May Moffat, E. Wendorf, and Suchting family orchestra.

The President closed the Conference with the Benediction.

## SUNDAY SERVICES.

A number of country visitors remained in town and worshipped with the nearest church. Quite a number attended Annet-st., where Bro. W. J. Way spoke; W. H. Nightingale was at Annerley, and Ross Graham at Abidin. In the evening W. J. Way preached for the Hawthorne church.

## EASTER MONDAY.

A number of country members joined with the city and suburbs, and journeyed by train to Sandgate, where a very enjoyable day was spent by the seaside.—H. C. Stitt.

## New Zealand Military Camp.

## FEATHERSTON INSTITUTE.

I have pleasure in notifying the brethren that so far I have received £5 from Hastings, and £4 from Tadmor, Dominion Road, and West Auckland are taking up collections on Sunday evenings, so are Spring Grove. I hope all the churches will show their real sympathy in this matter. The more comfort and attraction there is at the camp the less will our young men be tempted to the public houses, and the blues of ill-fame that simply abound in Wellington.

In reply to a query from Australia, please permit me to say that the military camps in New Zealand are absolutely "dry," and were before the man that takes liquor inside. The Commandant recently said he would not take a wet canteen at any price. The boys have made tremendous sacrifices for your sakes. Show your gratitude by providing them with a real chance in camp before going abroad. There are tens of thousands of men in New Zealand, but there are no funds to which we can make appeal for institute purposes.

Lieut. Nimmo is at Awapoti, not Rangitoto—my mistake.

All contributions to the Featherston Camp fund to be sent to Mr. H. Grinstead, Captain Chaplain (Hon.), Church of Christ, Petone.

## "This is the Gospel of Labour."

This is the gospel of labour—ring it, ye bells of theirk—

The Lord of Love came down from above to live with the lowly and the poor.

This is the song that he planted here in the thorn-cursed soil—

Heaven is that with perfect rest, but the blessing of earth is toil.

## In the Religious World.

## A Waste of Politeness.

"It's a waste of politeness," said William Lloyd Garrison, "to be courteous to the devil." Billy Sunday and his imitators need no such injunction to economy of speech, but the number of Christian people who for the sake of keeping the social peace will admit that black is perhaps only grey, that vicious plays and dances are legitimate forms of artistic expression, seems to be on the increase. "Christian Advocate."

## Indian Recruits.

For the first time Indian Christians have been recruited to form distinct companies of Indian regiments. This step has been taken in response to the earnest desire of young men belonging to Christian families in the Punjab to serve in the war. Three double companies have been formed accordingly, consisting of Punjabi Christians. One of them, comprising Anglicans, has been put in a light regiment now on service, while two double companies of Presbyterians have been attached to a regiment of light infantry at Bangalore.

## A Philosopher on Prayer.

Professor Royce, of Harvard, has written some words on Prayer:—"When things are too much for me, and I run down on my back, and everything is dark, I go alone by myself, and I bury my head in my hands. I think hard that God must know it all, and will see how matters really are, and understand me; and in just that way alone, by understanding me, will help me. And so I try to get myself together, and that, for me, is prayer."

## A Missionary Biography.

The biography of Mary Slessor, the late African missionary, written by Mr. Livingstone, the editor of the U.E. denominational magazine, says "Christ in W. I. I." is being widely acknowledged as a record of the finest missionary life since David Livingstone, and many South missioners are making it the subject of addresses and sermons. It is cheering to hear that the way is now clear for proceeding with the creation of an appropriate memorial to Miss Slessor. Nothing was nearer her heart than the establishment of a home for women and girls in which those who needed it would receive protection and Christian training. The Calabar Mission Council, Government friends there, and the church at home are uniting to erect such a Memorial Home at Ikot-Ekong. A sum of £2000 will be required. The women of the United Free Church are already well forward with a similar movement on a smaller scale in memory of the late Dr. Christian Moffat. Funds are coming in for the endowment of a bed in Bawar Hospital, Rajputana, to be known by her name.

## The Tyranny of the Collection.

We are glad to see that an Eastbourne vicar has been speaking out on the tyranny of the collection. It is a fact that numbers of poor people—the term is not quite synonymous with working people—are not seldom kept away from our church services through a shy pride that will not forward with a similar movement on a smaller scale in memory of the late Dr. Christian Moffat. Funds are coming in for the endowment of a bed in Bawar Hospital, Rajputana, to be known by her name.

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## Reports from the Field.

Continued from page 281.

the front; we miss them. We have enlarged our building at a cost of £550, all of which money was raised. The treasurer's report shows a credit balance of £50. During last month the Swanston-st. choir favored us with a concert which was much appreciated by all. Bro. Knott will shortly be commencing his third year with us. We all love him, and appreciate the great work he is doing.—W.J.C.

**PITZROY.**—April 23, fair meetings. Bro. Aurbach exhorted at the breaking of bread. Our preacher took the gospel service. April 30, good meetings. Bro. Clark, from Box Hill, gave a good talk on being steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord. Bro. McCallum spoke at the gospel service to a fair audience, taking for his topic, "Choose ye this day whom ye will serve," and offering special prayers for our boys at the front.—G.E.

## New South Wales.

**ERSKINEVILLE.**—Good meeting, and good address from Bro. C. S. Rush, in the morning of April 23. One new convert to fellowship. In the afternoon five new scholars were enrolled. Bible School anniversary celebrations on April 30. S. Stevens' address in the morning was enjoyed by all. In the afternoon, W. Gale held the attention of children and adults. At night the writer preached. Two boys from the school confessed Christ. Four new scholars to the school. Attendance at breaking of bread for the past month was nearly double that of the corresponding month last year.—P. J. Pond.

**PETERSHAM.**—April 23 was a fair meeting. Bro. Arnott gave a splendid address from Exodus 14. Among our visitors were Bro. and Sister Marley, from Woomuna, late of Bedfordington, England; Bro. Corlett, from Adelaide; and Sister Gerdes, from Newmarket, Victoria. Miss Flora McKenzie was received in. There was a good attendance in the evening, when Bro. Arnott gave the gospel address on the conversion of Saul. Our meetings are increasing in the practical and spiritual addresses of Bro. Arnott.—A.G.T.

**INVERELL.**—Meetings last Lord's day were very good. At the meeting for breaking of bread Bro. Waters presided. Several visitors were with us. One of these, Bro. Graham, exhorted. His words were interesting and beneficial. In the evening the gospel service was conducted by Bro. Waters, who spoke on "The Risen Lord." Bro. Bell conducted a gospel service at Spencer's Gully in the afternoon. Good interest was shown in the Bible School. Today, April 24, we held our Bible School picnic, which proved a success. There were some very useful prizes to be raced for, and every scholar received something. A good day was spent.—G.D., April 24.

**NORTH AUBURN.**—Meetings on April 23 were very interesting. Bro. Saxby, from Tarce, gave a beautiful exhortation. Bro. Morton, from Belmore, gave the gospel address. At the close one young man was baptised. We were rejoiced to hear that Sister Gwynne was very much better. Bro. Rossell, from Strathfield, gave a beautiful exhortation on April 30. Bro. Morton, of Belmore, gave the gospel address. Bro. Lovet was received into fellowship.—C. A. Horsfall.

**HURSTVILLE.**—Meetings are well attended, although we are still without a preacher. Bro. Jones, of Bangalow, conducted the services last Sunday, taking as his theme at the gospel meeting "The Glorious Christ." Bro. W. Green gave one of his splendid addresses at night on "The Prodigal Son."—H. E. Heasman, April 30.

**HORSBURY.**—The writer presided, and H. G. Harward exhorted on "The Second Advent," and was much appreciated. At the gospel service Bro. Lisle Gordon gave us of his heart, his topic being "A Twentieth Century Crusade against Alcoholism." The whole church are determined to have six o'clock closing, and are all working to that end.—Thos. E. Roff.

**LIDCOMBE.**—Delighted to report one more confession, Bro. Brown, of Wagga, preaching.

This morning Bro. E. Andrews preached, and our evangelist in the evening. It being Temperance Sunday, his subject was suitable for the occasion. A ballot has just been taken re our preacher remaining for another year on the same terms as before. Fifty voted. Result, 42 for continuance; 6 against; 2 informal. Another confession to-night, Bro. Clyde-dale preaching.—W.B., April 30.

**PADDINGTON.**—We had a good attendance at the morning service on April 23. Several visitors, including Sister Smith, from Tasmania. Bro. Collins presided, and Bro. Taylor gave a night address. Bro. Warhurst preached at eight and a half. On April 30, we had several confessions, including Sister Brodie, Richmond, Victoria. Bro. Collins gave the address on "Gleanings from the Conference." As this was "Alliance Sunday," Bro. Collins at the gospel service spoke on "A plea for six-o'clock closing." A collection was taken for the Alliance funds. In the afternoon Bro. Collins immersed a young man, Mr. G. F. Roberts, from Wyalong, who is in camp at Liverpool, shortly proceeding to the front.—A. W. Shearston, April 30.

**ARBURN.**—Bro. F. T. Saunders presided at the B.C.'s table on April 30. Bro. Clyde-dale exhorted. This evening Bro. F. T. Saunders delivered to a splendid gathering of people the gospel message in a most impressive manner. This afternoon the writer and Bro. Saunders visited our aged Bro. Archibald Smith, who has been seriously ill, and broke bread with him and his wife. We were very pleased to find our brother, who is just on 72 years of age, much better.—G. Stieh, April 30.

**ENMORE.**—On Easter Sunday it was our pleasure to listen to Bro. G. Chandler, from Geelong. He gave us a most helpful exhortation. A large number of visitors were present from the country districts. At the gospel service, Bro. Hingworth preached upon "The Resurrection of Jesus Christ." One confession. On Sunday, April 30, Bro. Rush was the speaker at the morning service. His thoughtful address was much appreciated. Fine attendance at the gospel service. Bro. Hingworth's references were "The Rich Man and Lazarus." References were made to the liquor traffic, and a strong appeal to vote for six o'clock closing of the liquor bars. At the close, four made the good confession, and there was one baptism.

**SYDNEY.**—Bright and helpful meetings on Easter Sunday, many visitors being present. Bro. Taylor, from Lismore, gave a fine address at the morning service, and Bro. Chandler, from Geelong, preached the Conference Sermon during the afternoon, and the gospel service at night. Today's services well attended. Bro. L. Gordon, from Hornsby, gave a fine address on "Ye deers of the Word." Among our visitors present was Sister Robertson, of Grote-st., Adelaide. Our hearts were saddened by the news of the death of Miss Kitty Macanley, one of the active Lord's day School workers. Visited her home at Tarce, and was drowned while surfing. Farewell social evening to our organist, Bro. Les Warner, on Thursday evening. Presentations made to him and to Bro. Gordon, who is also leaving in a few days from the front.—J.C., April 30.

## BIRTH.

**PATERNOSTER.**—On April 20, at "Indiana," Buller-st., Prospect, S.A., to Mr. and Mrs. Ira A. Paternoster—a daughter (Gene Ethel Mary).

## MARRIAGE.

**HEARD—MASTON.**—April 12, 1916, at the City Temple, Sydney, by H. G. Harward, Harry Laing Bruce, fourth son of the late Samuel Bruce, and Mrs. Briece Heard, Cromulla, N.S.W., to Melba, younger daughter of the late A. B. Maston and Mrs. Maston, "Milford," Bancroft Avenue, Roseville, N.S.W.

## WANTED.

Lady, young, member of church, and a student of the College, desires board in return part service. Address, W., c/o College of the Bible, Glen Iris.

## Here and There

The first terminal examination of the College of the Bible will begin on Tuesday next, May 9.

The address of Bro. Ross Graham is now "Purrlife, Whytecliffe-road, Albion, Queensland." "How much more than" to the Bible School. Let your offering for this work on Sunday, May 7, express your indebtedness.

The Moreland home anniversary on Sunday, May 14, is to be a "home coming day," when all former members and friends are invited to be present.

In addition to the famous Billy Sunday America has an evangelist called Billy Friday, who is now conducting a revival at Allegheny-avenue Baptist Church, Philadelphia.

At the Adelaide preachers' fraternal on Monday last, R. Harkness, B.A., gave a very suggestive and helpful paper on "Expository Preaching," which gave rise to a profitable discussion.

The monthly Council meeting of the Victoria Churches of Christ C.E. Union will be held in the Swanston-st. lecture hall, on Monday, May 8, at 8 p.m. Will all delegates make a special effort to be present?

The Victorian Bible School Department is asking the churches for £250 on Sunday next for Bible School work. This amount should easily be raised, and will be if every member will give a worthy offering.

Conference approved of the plan of the Temperance and Social Questions Committee to raise £500 for the 1917 No-License Campaign. Will members throughout Victoria keep this in mind and help? All money should be sent to G. D. Verco, Doncaster, promptly.

In the absence of Bro. W. Gale, N.S.W. Home Mission and Bible Schools Organiser, on vacant it, all correspondence re Home Missions should be addressed to Mr. C. J. Lee, Raleigh Park, Kensington, Sydney, N.S.W.; all B.S. matters to Mr. Cecil Hall, Messier-st., Canterbury, Sydney, N.S.W.

W. H. Hall, of Messier-st., Canterbury, New South Wales, treasurer of the Aged and Invalid Evangelists' Trust, begs to acknowledge receipt of the following with thanks—Remittance from the Churches of Christ Evangelical Union, S.A., re Bro. T. J. Gore Jubilee Fund, £100/7/7; Bro. J. Tully, £1; Sister H. W. Crouch, £1; New Contributor to the Endowment Fund, £5.

Text books for the Australian School of Methods should reach all centres this week, and will be in good time to commence study the second week in May. One of the books, "The English Bible" (Milligan) is not yet available. It is suggested that in the Bible Course the lectures on First Principles be given first, thus leaving several weeks longer for the missing books to arrive. The examination will be held simultaneously during the first week in August. Lectures may be given at times convenient to lecturers and students, but candidates must be ready for examination in August.

Nurse Florence Bevilacqua and Miss Evelyn Gully, who are earnest workers in the church at Grote-st., Adelaide, have been invited by the Minister of Health, on behalf of the New Zealand Government, to visit the Dominion in order to help in the recovery of the many children who have been afflicted by the sad epidemic of infantile paralysis. There have been over 400 children affected in the Auckland district alone. Our sisters have both been very successful in treating such children in the hospitals and at their home in Adelaide. We congratulate them on the success bestowed upon them, and wish them every going in the Christlike service on which they are engaged. They left Adelaide by the express on Monday. We know they will receive a welcome among the churches wherever they go.

We are indebted to Bro. R. T. Pittman for valuable help in preparing the report of the Victorian Conference which appeared in last issue.

Next week we hope to be able to publish a report of N.S.W. Conference. The copy had not come to hand when we went to press this week.

Good meetings at Kyneton, Vic., the last two Sunday nights; there were two confessions last Sunday week. Bro. J. R. Combridge was the preacher. Bro. E. W. Sprigg preached last Sunday.

G. E. Chandler has resumed work at Geelong, after his visit to N.S.W. Conference. He had a great day at Geelong last Sunday. In the evening there were ten confessions, while one was received from the Baptists.

Bro. W. C. Thurgood, of Swanston-st., a well-known deacon of Lygon-st. church, has been quite ill, and confined to bed for a couple of weeks. His many friends will be glad to learn that the last report is rather favorable.

Bro. F. M. Ludbrook very sincerely returns thanks to all kind helpers as to his well-being. We are glad to learn that, by the time this paragraph will be before our readers, Bro. Ludbrook hopes to be back at business.

We call attention to the Rochester, Vic., report in this issue. It would be good for the "Christian" and in the interest of the church if in every congregation an earnest endeavor were made to put our church paper in every home.

Bro. Alan Price, B.A., late of Sydney, is now residing in Coolamon, N.S.W. He would like to get in touch with any isolated brethren in his district. If this meets the eye of any such, or of any reader who knows of such brethren, will they please write to Bro. Price?

In a business note, Chaplain-Captain G. T. Walden writes:—"To try and get my mail more regularly I have decided to have my letters and papers, in fact, any mail matter, sent c/o Y.M.C.A., Cairo, Egypt. Wherever I am, I can send to Y.M.C.A. and they will forward to me."

Last week Bro. Hall, of St. Arnaud, one of our college students, met with an accident which might have had serious results. On his way home to the College after one of the Conference gatherings, he fell from a bridge a distance of fifteen feet or so. Though much bruised, and still confined to his room, our brother, we are glad to report, is progressing favorably.

The writings of the late D. A. Ewers are evidently much appreciated, for the 1000 copies of "Chips" were sold in less than one month, and orders for two more are in hand. Will all church secretaries and others who have not sent orders in, please do so at once, and if there is sufficient demand, a second edition will be printed at the earliest opportunity. Send orders to W. L. Ewers, 44 Moreland Road, Brunswick, or to Austral Co.

The Efficiency Training Class, that meets every Tuesday night, in the Swanston-st. lecture room, is entering upon its second quarter. Any young men or others who desire to increase their power for public usefulness, will be heartily welcomed. Bro. J. W. Welch, having finished his lectures on the Acts of Apostles, was highly commended, and presented with a very useful writing outfit as a memento and a mark of esteem for his helpful work.

With all loyal subjects of our King, we read with feelings of horror the account of the rebellion while we are grieved to oppose him; it is the enemy within the gate, the traitor who uses the privileges of citizenship to seek the downfall of the State which supports him—the sniler who comes, as Chaucer would say, with his knife under his cloak—who merits and receives our indignation and our scorn. With pleasure we note the fact in which the greater number of Irish societies have expressed abhorrence of the act of the treacherous minority. At the very time of the outbreak, an Irish brigade at the front was proving its bravery and its loyalty in a gallant and brilliant feat of arms.

The last meeting of the Victorian Conference was held on the evening of Wednesday, April 26, at Lygon-st., in the interests of "church efficiency." H. E. Knott took the chair. A Bible reading was given by L. McCallum, and Bro. Taylor, of Mayfield, led in prayer. Two excellent addresses were delivered by W. L. Ewers, on "Church Officers and Their Duties," and A. J. Fischer, on "Order in Church Finance." A free and helpful discussion followed each address, and votes of thanks were passed to the speakers. The programme was enriched by a solo from W. F. Nudford.

Dr. Harrison, an American missionary among the Arabs, in a recent address said that in his work a spiritual chart of each inquirer was kept, just as a physician registers the changing experiences of a patient. After a year's experiment in trying various methods, he had found that the type of Christian truth which appealed most to the heathen was what he called the mystical—such passages as "I am the true vine and ye are the branches"; "I am the bread of life," etc. People of the East seem to grasp with comparative ease the deeper statements of the Bible, as might be supposed in an Eastern book.

"Our apparent ineptitude to deal effectually with the drink traffic showed our unworthiness. Let them say straight out that they wanted total prohibition of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor. It might be that the only possible way would be through State purchase, but it would be better to spend millions to buy out the drink trade than that it should be allowed to continue its soul-destroying work. We should not be worth the blood that had been shed if the sacrifice was not sending us to our knees, and to self-annihilation before God."—From an Anzac commemorative address by Col. Chaplain A. T. Holden, in Wesley Church, Melbourne.

A number of the Victorian Home Mission preachers and their wives are being entertained at Point Lonsdale for a week by Bro. and Sister R. Lyall, and Bro. and Sister A. R. Lyall, assisted by Sister F. G. Dunn. All were invited, and Sister Mrs. Chandler, senior, had placed her home at the service of the brethren, so that room could be found for all; but some were unable to avail themselves of the kindness. Daily conferences are being held by the men, when problems of the work in the Home Mission fields are being discussed, and so the time is proving restful to the body and beneficial to the soul, and each will return to his field of labor strengthened. On Sunday morning last a helpful meeting to break bread was held, and at night the Methodist service was handed over to the brethren, each of the men taking some part therein. The kindness of those who made the holiday possible is being appreciated much by those who are the recipients thereof.

Bro. Gifford Gordon writes: "I frequently hear it stated that the Prahran church is in the habit of taking up public collections at the gospel meetings, and that that is the secret of her financial success. As the idea has been circulated practically throughout the Commonwealth (for it has reached me from almost every State), I think it only fair to myself and my self-sacrificing band of members to give it a most emphatic denial. It is true we have taken up a few special collections for renovating purposes, but it has never been a habit, and we haven't taken up one such collection for over six months. Of course we may have to resort to the public collection during our Town Hall meetings, because expenses will be heavy, but several of our leading men in Melbourne to whom I have spoken are of the opinion that under the circumstances we could hardly do better. At the same time I will explain to the audience the brotherhood's position upon public collections.—Yours fraternally, Gifford Gordon."

For the last two Sunday nights at Newmarket one of our long front staves, too often the despair of the preacher, has been filled by a family that is new to our district. This is how it has come to pass: Several years ago a party of our church folk had a holiday, camping in the country. On breaking up the camp, they left behind them a

copy of "The Australian Christian." This was picked up by a local resident, who read it, and was "very much taken with it." On the camping party's return at a later date, he made further inquiries regarding the churches represented by the "Christian," and was still more favorably impressed. He was himself a longed-for believer, though not a member of a church practising immersion. He resolved that if ever his lot was cast near by one of our churches he would attend its services, and pursue his inquiries further. The result (so far) is given above, the man and his family having come to Newmarket. We are hopeful that they will all come into our fellowship. I need hardly "point a moral" regarding the good influence of the "Christian"—J. I. Mudford.

"The Australian Baptist" has a hint which we would like to appropriate. "Excuse writing on both sides of paper. I understand there is to be a paper famine, so I am getting in early." Thus a church correspondent. We hope it will not become a practice either with this correspondent or any others, as we have a habit of only reading on one side of the paper. A better exercise would be to send concise reports that they should not need to run over from the front to the back of the paper.

"This war has been the subject of much poetry," Miss H. A. C. Penruddocke writes to the "Times," "but I do not know of any verses that give the cause and effect of war so clearly as these quaint lines, which I have recalled to mind many times during the last sixteen months. I do not know who wrote them, nor have I seen them in print. Perhaps some of your readers can tell their origin.

War begets Poverty,  
Poverty peace;  
Peace begets Plenty,  
Plenty riches;—  
Riches bring Pride,  
And Pride is War's ground,  
War begets Poverty,  
So goes the round."

Healesville.

Come to "Denholme Farm" for a nice holiday. Splendid scenery, fern gullies, mountain air, good table, bath and piano.—Mra. Chaffer. Tariff: Adults, 27/6 per week, 5/- per day. Children: 15/- per week, 3/- per day. Trains met when advised.

BOOKS WORTH BUYING.

Posted. Among the Gospels and Acts—Ainslie . . . 4/3 Moral and Spiritual Aspects of Baptism— . . . 6/3 Aylworth . . . . . 6/3 Lights on Scripture Truth—Hester . . . 3/3 Gospel Plan of Salvation—Brooks . . . 8/6 Preparation and Delivery of Sermons— . . . 8/6 Broadus . . . . . 8/6 Religious Delusions—Combs . . . 4/3 Evidences of Christianity—Campbell . . . 4/3 Orthodoxy in the Civil Courts . . . . . 3/2 Romanism—Crowley . . . . . 6/9 Seventh Day Abstinence Renounced—Carrington . . . . . 4/3 How to be Saved—Davis . . . . . 2/3 Outline of Bible History—Dean . . . . . 3/3 Bolence—Dye . . . . . 3/2 Hermeneutics—Dungan . . . . . 4/0 The Queen's Drawers—Erett . . . . . 6/3 Bible Readings—Erett . . . . . 6/3 The Sunday School and Citizenship—Fraser 2/3 The Old Faith Restated—Garrison . . . . . 8/6 A Vision of the Ages—Johnson . . . . . 5/6 The King's Keys to His Kingdom—Kerr . . . 4/6 Commentary on Luke—Laurier . . . . . 6/3 Commentary on Acts—McGarvey . . . . . 6/4 Authorship of Deuteronomy—McGarvey . . 8/4 Training for Teachers—McLellan . . . . . 4/3 Memoir of David King . . . . . 4/0

AUSTRAL PUBLISHING CO., 528, 530, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

# The Family Altar.

## HAPPINESS.

Happiness belongs to the inner, rather than the outer, kingdom; it is spiritual rather than material; it is not a thing of geographical location, but a condition of heart; it consists not in what we have, but in what we are. Paul and Silas were happy in the Philippian jail, though their backs were bleeding from the lash, and their feet were fast in the stocks, but Nero was miserable on his throne. Happiness is a sunbeam that pierces the darkest clouds, and is all the brighter because of the darkness. In fact, its rays, like the rays of light, are colorless until broken. It is good for us everywhere and at all times. It is good for the body, for it aids digestion and is conducive of sleep; it is good for the mind, for it chases gloom away and lightens our burdens; it is good for the bank account, for it enables us to do good work and a great deal of it. It is good for man, whatever his condition, and it is woman's best cosmetic. But it is absolutely essential to Christian usefulness, for a sad face and gloomy words drive men away from God; but a happy face and cheerful words draw them to him.

Not more of light, O God, I ask,  
But eyes to see what is;  
Not sweeter songs, but power to hear  
The present melodies."

## SUNDAY, MAY 14.

Genes of Thought.—Happy is the man that understandeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding" (Prov. 3: 13).

Whatever I am, wherever my lot,  
Whatever I happen to be,  
Contentment and duty shall hallow the spot  
That Providence orders for me.

—Tupper.

Bible Reading.—Prov. 3: 13-18: True happiness.

## MONDAY, MAY 15.

Genes of Thought.—"Pray without ceasing" (1 Thess. 5: 17).

I have to steal awhile away  
From every chattering care,  
And spend the hours of setting day  
In humble, grateful prayer.

—Mrs. P. H. Brown.

Prayer is not overcoming God's reluctance, it is laying hold of his highest willingness.—Archbishop Trench.

No soul can preserve the bloom and delicacy of its existence without lonely musing and silent prayer, and the greatness of this necessity is in proportion to the greatness of the soul.—Farrar.

Bible Reading.—1 Thess. 5: 14-23: Prayer.

## TUESDAY, MAY 16.

Genes of Thought.—"Waxed valiant in fight, armed to fight the armies of the aliens" (Heb. 11: 34).

I love to believe that no heroic sacrifice is ever lost; that the characters of men are moulded and inspired by what their fathers have done; that counted up in American souls are all the unconquered influences of the great deeds of the Anglo-Saxon race, from Aincourt to Bunker Hill.—J. G. Garfield.

It is when we have borne submissively some crushing sorrow that we see the golden ladder stretched upward, as did Perpetua from the darkness of the dungeon; when we have given ourselves to some great work and wrought it, by God's help and the inspiration of his Spirit, triumphantly to the end, that the vision is granted.—R. S. Storrs.

Bible Reading.—Heb. 11: 34-40: Valiant service.

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 17.

Genes of Thought.—"Prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4: 12).

As the good mariner, when he approaches port, furls his sails, and with slow course gently enters it, so should we furl the sails of our worldly affairs and turn to God with our whole mind and heart, so that we may arrive at that port with all sweetness and peace.—Dante.

Nothing in his life became him like the leaving it; he died as one that had been studied in his death to throw away the dearest thing he owed, as "were a careless trifle"—Shakespeare.  
Bible Reading.—Amos 4: 9-13: Solemn warning.

## THURSDAY, MAY 18.

Genes of Thought.—"The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all" (Psa. 103: 19).

If God has made all these things, he guides and governs them all, and all the things that concern them; for the power that could make all things must certainly have power to guide and direct them; if so, nothing can happen in the great circuit of his works, either without his knowledge or appointment.—Daniel Defoe.

Bible Reading.—Psa. 103: 13-22: God over all.

## FRIDAY, MAY 19.

Genes of Thought.—"Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein" (Mark 10: 15).

The gateway of the kingdom  
It handleth very low,  
Within the reach of every place  
Where common people go.  
'Tis grand, but grandly simple,  
'Tis great, yet very small,  
Though wide enough that ever  
There's passage-way for all.

The gateway of the kingdom  
Is not of common gold,  
Its pearl is far more precious  
Than earthly realm can hold.

It has no rusty hinges,  
No marble steps are piled,  
The gateway of the kingdom  
Is the spirit of a child.

—Clarence F. Flian.

The smallest children are nearest to God, as the smallest plants are nearest the sun.—Richter.

Bible Reading.—Mark 10: 13-16: The gate to heaven.

## SATURDAY, MAY 20.

Genes of Thought.—"Behold, the half was not told me!" (1 Kings 10: 7).

"A finger's breadth will mar  
A world of light in heaven afar;  
A mote eclipse a glorious star."

There is a story from the French Revolution that one day a mob broke into the Tuilleries, seeking the life of the queen. Led by a mad, half-wild girl, they burst through room after room until they came to a locked door. She in front was driven against the door with all the force of the crowd behind, and fell bleeding and fainting into the room of the queen. When she came to herself she found a white arm under her head, and a handkerchief mopping up the blood of her wounds. Tears came into her eyes as she saw tears in the eyes that looked down upon her. It was the queen; and the girl said: "I never knew you were like this." Thus also has exclaimed many a rebel, brought face to face with the living Jesus.—John Kelman.

Bible Reading.—1 Kings 10: 1-9: Impossible to fully tell the story.

—From the American "Christian Standard."

The city of Philadelphia, U.S.A., through Mayor Smith, has ordered the dismissal of any of its 12,000 employees who may be known to use liquor while on duty. This is another indication of the growth of temperance and sobriety throughout the world.

## Scriptural Instruction in South Australian State Schools.

In connection with the campaign for a referendum on the question of State Schools, the Methodist Conference a few weeks ago re-affirmed the resolution passed at previous Conference, and also appointed a committee of six ministers and six laymen, to co-operate with the League in the effort it is making to obtain a referendum. The Committee is already making its influence felt in the Methodist Churches. Other churches are appealing to their people to assist in the movement. Canvassing has been going on for several months throughout the State for signatures to a petition to both Houses of Parliament praying that the question may be submitted to a referendum of the electors of the House of Assembly. The aim is to obtain not less than 50,000 signatures. The petition is to be presented as soon after Parliament meets as possible. Public meetings have been organised and will shortly be held in the suburbs and in many country towns for the purpose of still further arousing public opinion on the question, and also to complete the number of signatures aimed at. This campaign will be inaugurated on Sunday evening, April 30th, at close of the church services, when public meetings will be addressed in the town halls of Unley, Norwood, and Hindmarsh. Addresses will be delivered by leading ministers and laymen—R. Taylor, General Secretary.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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

From Churches, per Collectors: Enmore, £ 1/6; Marrickville, 8/6; Mosman, 19/1; Gilgandra, £1/10/4; Lidcombe, 45/1/1. Annual Offering: Sister Miss Collins, £1: Back Blocks, £1: North Auburn Church, £1/1/7; Byron Bay, 5/-; Sister Mrs. S. Butler, £3 Individual Contributions: Avon, (March and April), £20; Bro. L. Russell, £10; Bro. Avenell, £1. From Churches on account of Conference Expenses: Chatswood, 10/-; Marrickville, £1; Marrar, 5/-; North Auburn, 10/-; Chinese Church, 5/-; Inverell, 10/0; Lidcombe, 10/-; Merewether, 10/-; Plan Money: Chatswood, Marrickville, and Lidcombe Churches, 3/- each. Miscellaneous: Cash Offering, Home Mission Rally, 21st April, £12/5/-; Prizes, £339/15/-. Total cash receipts since last list 465/11/7.

W. H. Hall, Treasurer.  
April 22. Messiter-st., Canterbury, N.S.W.

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## Obituary.

CUNNINGHAM—On April 14, our Sister Mrs. J. Cunningham passed into the great beyond, aged 74 years. For some weeks she suffered with an internal disease, from which medical skill could give no relief in the way of a cure. Sister Cunningham was one of the pioneer members of the cause in Brisbane, she having been associated with the church for 28 years. She was a good, sincere Christian, and a staunch defender of the truth, as it is in Jesus. To her Jesus was a living, bright reality. She was submissive to the will of her heavenly Father, and found great joy in the promises of her Saviour. We extend our Christian sympathy to the loved ones she has left behind, some of whom are members of the church in Brisbane, "for so he giveth his beloved sleep."—A. C. Rankine.

### The Society of Christian Endeavor.

May 14 to 20.

#### DOES GOD RULE IN OUR LIVES?

God's Direct Rule Rejected

1. Eli, Honor God. 1 Sam. 2: 27-36.
2. Samuel. The call to serve. 1 Sam. 3: 1-19.
3. A king demanded. 1 Sam. 8: 4-19.
4. Saul granted. 1 Sam. 9: 15-10: 1.
5. Saul rejected. 1 Sam. 13: 5-14.
6. David chosen. 1 Sam. 16: 6-14.
7. David and Jonathan. 1 Sam. 23: 9-18; 2 Sam. 1: 17-27.

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