

The Australian Christian

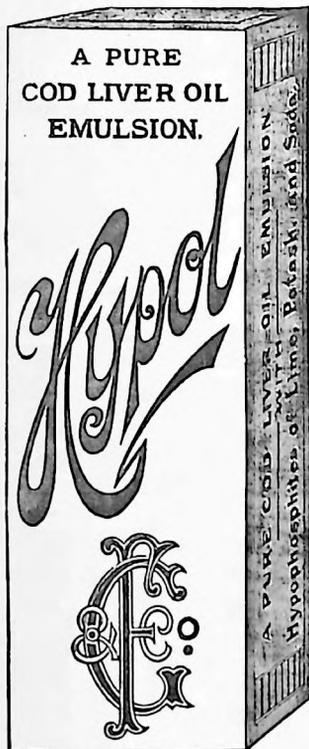
CIRCULATING AMONGST CHURCHES OF CHRIST in the AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH and NEW ZEALAND

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by Post as a Newspaper.

Vol. XIX., No. 20.

Thursday, May 18, 1916.

Subscription, 6/- per annum: Posted, 7/-



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Six o'clock Closing.

Some Practical Reasons
Why Every Patriot Should Favor
Six O'clock Closing of Liquor Bars.

MILITARY EFFICIENCY.

From the evidence of the Royal Commissioner and Military Experts, alcohol impairs the physical fitness and mental alertness of the soldier, and renders him susceptible to infectious diseases, and was the cause of large numbers of soldiers being discharged from camp.

ALCOHOL A LUXURY.

National leaders urge that to win the war every citizen must conserve the national resources by doing away with useless luxuries. Alcohol is a luxury, which, on the evidence of experts, is allied with the Huns in opposing our armies; therefore, while men are giving their lives to defend our national cause, citizens should unite in restricting alcohol.

ANTI-SHOUTING.

As the "shouting" habit is largely confined to the evening hours, 6 o'clock closing will be an effective stop to "shouting," admitted on all sides to be an evil which should be got rid of.

ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE.

A lessened expenditure on drink will increase the spending power of the community in other reproductive ways, creating more work for the workers, a sounder market for the producer, and will strengthen the credit of the country.

IMPROVE MORAL TONE.

Drink and immorality go hand in hand, especially night drinking. Six o'clock closing will increase the moral tone of the community and save from disaster and disgrace many who, apart from drink, would be able to resist subtle temptation.

REDUCE DRUNKENNESS.

Increased facilities produce increased drunkenness. The lessened facilities for drinking must tend to more sobriety. Drunkenness is deplored by all. Six o'clock closing is a practical step and will enormously cut down our volume of intemperance.

FOR EQUAL TRADING.

All who stand for equality in trading hours, should recognise that inasmuch as shops supplying the necessities of life close at 6 o'clock, it is unfair that hotels which supply a luxury—and a harmful one at that—should remain open until 11 o'clock at night.

Tailored Christianity.

G. M. Anderson.

The king presented them with the flag of the new kingdom. It was a seamless flag, rich in texture, spotless in whiteness, the admiration of all the people.

But it was not allowed to remain seamless. Critics began to suggest improvements, then they cut out bits here and there and replaced them with more gaudy pieces. Other tastes required the cutting out of still other pieces and the insertion of colors and designs.

And so the process of cutting out and filling in went on indefinitely till there remained only patches and colors.

And so, too, in course of time, the seamless white flag faded from memory and the patchwork thing fluttered in the breeze as the flag of the kingdom.

Then time, that righter of all things, came along casting doubts on the genuineness of the flag. He read out of a little book and explained it to the people. It appeared to be a complete, authoritative account of the original flag.

The little book divided the people into two camps: The Fors and Againsts.

Then began a systematic search for the pieces that had been cut out and lost, and soon they had the joy of finding and restoring them all, they thought.

But, later, other pieces were found purporting to be parts of the original and others and others about which they could not agree.

So confusion entered, breaking them into as many parts as there were pieces in their flag, each marching by itself down the big road of time with its own "only and original" flag floating over it as its own distinguishing mark.

Then entered strife and jealousy and hate and double-confusion—sure ally of factions—till they hung their heads in shame and humbly prayed for bigness enough to break up their little systems and make them one, as at the beginning.

And, as they prayed, strife and jealousy and hate sank away, and their factional flags waved uncertainly, and their shibboleths died down to an apologetic whisper, and the needle took the place of the scissors, and—well, they are sewing their flags together, guided by the Little Book.

The glow is on the western sky. Tomorrow's sun will usher in a glorious day, and the new sun will salute the new-old flag, the battle-scarred flag, as it floats at the head of the united, all-conquering columns, and the king, come back to his own, will smile at the procession.

Hyphenated Christianity.

The "Northwestern Christian Advocate," a Methodist paper, says the "Christian Evangelist," is concerned over hyphenated Christianity. It follows the now almost universal attitude of the Protestant churches in deprecating the evils of denominationalism. It says:

"Denominational-Christian. Yes, the hyphen obtrudes here, much to the humiliation of all true lovers of righteousness. We have Methodist-Christians, Baptist-Christians, Christian-Christians (which despite its appearance is in the same category with the others) and Catholic-Christians. We have seventeen varieties of hyphenation in the Methodist family alone, and more recent attempts to cancel the separating line between the two largest divisions of our church meet with strenuous objections by those who do so love a hyphen. We do not know when the day will arrive to do away with denominations. Certainly we will not see it, nor will a few generations yet to come; but that fact should not prevent our exercising every means to minify the denominational end of the hyphen to the glory of the Christian end.

"The demoralising effect of an overzeal for denomination is more real than apparent, for efforts here are usually put forth in the name of the Lord, though the Lord does not always respond to the salutation. We know of communities where intense denominationalism has doubled or quadrupled the number of church organisations, but bisected or quadrisedected the power of righteousness. We never go into a new community without immediately inquiring as to the number of churches there, the strength (or weakness more often) of each, only to discover an overchurched and underfedding. Such a deplorable situation is due directly to the hyphen of denominationalism. When, in the interests of true communal spirituality, the proposition is made to unite two or three of these fractional congregations, which have been lying asunder like scattered parts of a dismantled machine, immediately all agree, but at the same time insist that their particular denominational name and church polity be retained. The hyphens bristle like threatening spears, and the movement dies by the perversity of its advocates. It seems unthinkable that Christianity should be pitted against denominationalism, but such it is, too often.

"Christian. Life in its truest relations will admit of no hyphen. Christ is all in all. Our first seeking should be the kingdom of heaven. All else (the hyphens) must follow in their order."

Notes on Current Topics.

Jas. E. Thomas.

Christian Union.

There is a remarkable report in circulation among religious leaders of this and the old land, signed by many distinguished Anglican and Non-conformist ministers, dealing with the subject of Christian union. It contains a statement setting forth as concisely as such a report can the points of agreement as to faith and order of all Christians, and then a statement of the disagreements. The points of agreement are sound and generally accepted. The Fatherhood of God, the Sonship and Divinity of Jesus, and the inspiration and authority of the Word of God, are accepted. Then as to order, there is the most interesting statement that "our Lord ordained in addition to the preaching of his gospel the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper as not only declaratory symbols, but also effective channels of his grace, and gifts for the salvation and sanctification of men, and that these sacraments being essentially social ordinances, were intended to affirm the obligation of corporate fellowship as well as individual confession of him." We can heartily endorse this as a sane statement. We are quite sure that infant sprinkling cannot be called a declaratory symbol, nor a means of grace or of confession of Christ. It is simply an act that cannot be entered into by the recipient. The ordinance is only effective as it is consciously entered into by the subject. This is in harmony with the admitted intention of the ordinance as set forth in the report. Dealing with matters of disagreement there is emphasis laid on the difference between unity and uniformity. There is an acknowledgment of the fact that unity is not necessarily uniformity on matters of reunion, but also a confession that there is not as yet unity in interpreting fundamental matters. Particularly upon the subject of the ministry is there division as to whether it derives its authority through an Episcopal or Presbyterian succession, or by a combination of both. We believe this always will be a matter of contention till all are willing to seek the New Testament idea of the Christian ministry. We know that Barnabas and Paul were set aside by the church at Antioch. This was evidently the practice in the early church. They sought guidance of God, and called men whom they were led to believe were fitted for the work of the ministry. This should still be the practice. The traditional and erroneous doctrine of apostolic succession has no place in Scripture. As long as such teaching is insisted upon it must cause division. The Scripture teaches the priesthood of all believers, with a distinction in office that only pertains to the work of God. There is no inherent right based on false assumption of superiority given to the Christian minister. We cannot advance toward unity till we reject these humanly conceived ideas. We trust the report may stir up men to greater diligence and prayer, and that some more

practical advance to Christian union may soon be made.

The Reverse at Kut-el-Amara.

The news of the enforced surrender of General Townshend and his brave army of 9000 came as a great shock and sorrow to our nation. For many months our eyes have been turned to this ancient country to this little place on the junction of ancient rivers, near the ruins of old Nineveh and Babylon. Undoubtedly some one seriously blundered in sending this wise general against his will on such a reckless and almost impossible journey. The capture of Bagdad even then almost seemed within his grasp, till for want of water we are told he had to retire with his noble hand. It seems a sad irony that now it has been the abundance of water that has prevented his relief. For 145 days these men have heroically held on. They have doubtless been weakened by starvation and disease, and at last, in spite of brave attempts to release them, they had to surrender. We must not forget the 6000 brave Indians who shared with the 3000 Englishmen the glory of this resistance. It has had the effect of encouraging Turkey and Germany for a time, and they need all they can get of an encouraging nature. Our belief is that soon the redoubtable Russians will be at the back of this army, and Sir Percy Lake and his troops will press on and probably the prisoners will again be released. We cannot but admire the humanity and manliness of the Turkish general in exchanging wounded and sick men with the British. We only hope those captured will receive just as humane treatment. While the loss has been discouraging, we must not allow it to be too depressing, for the whole outlook leads us to believe that the days of Turkey and of German domination in the East are numbered.

An Historical Conference.

It is well that we do not allow even the tremendous calls of the great world war to shut out from our vision the greater war in which Christ, our King, seeks to conquer a world. One of the most notable movements toward the winning of Latin America for Christ led to a remarkable Conference in the Canal zone at the city of Panama, which lasted from January 10 to 20. Twenty-one nations were represented at the conference. There were 481 delegates and visitors. From Latin America there were 145 delegates and visitors, while from the United States, Canada, England, Spain and Italy there were 159. The rest were local delegates. Sixty missionary organisations were represented. These men and women were some of the most prominent religious leaders in North and South America. The sole object of this great conference was to co-operate the religious forces of these two great continents in order to win South America for Christ. The invitation was given to both Protestant and Catholic to attend. That great leader,

John R. Mott, was president of the gatherings. Our own A. McLean and G. W. Mueckley, along with many others, represented our brotherhood at the Conference. Perhaps the most remarkable speech was that given by Senor Ernesto Lefevre, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama. He spoke first in Spanish, then in English. Though he was a devout Catholic, he gladly recognised the lofty and comprehensive purposes of the congress. He said, "I desire to express my deep appreciation of this honor conferred upon me, not because of formalities of etiquette, but because I wish with all sincerity, to contribute to the success of meetings like these, which help to bring to my country the elements of the highest civilisation to which all good citizens aspire. Since we are guided by the ideals of righteousness preached by Jesus Christ our Lord, we, the peoples of America, should do all in our power to keep away strife and bring about a lasting peace among the nations now at war. Your purpose is to unify the moral and religious forces of North and South America. For this reason, and with great foresight, you have selected for this congress the soil of Panama as a central point from which its influence will radiate." This from a confessed Catholic is certainly a most commendable spirit, and one that gave great heart to the conference. There were no resolutions carried, save those of thanks and appreciation to commissions who had prepared reports on conditions that existed, but suggestions were taken to pass on to various societies and churches that will doubtless inspire thousands to greater zeal in this great work of winning long-neglected Latin America for Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Sorrowful Christ.

The Man of Peace came back again one night
Passed slowly down a shell-torn battle height,
Whereon a noise of victory,
A whirl of war, had scarcely ceased to be.

And harried homes had sent their piteous yeld
Of brother hating brother to that field,
His, choking fumes across the hillsips swept,
Where late the little hands of flowers had kept
An open bower for friendly, wandering bees,
While leaves had kept gossip in the trees,
And wild, wet bloodmarks splashed the broken ground.

And birds with knowing eyes were circling round,
Praising and cheering in their skirling reel
These men who die, that birds may have a meal,
Bleared bodies stretched them at the white
Christ's feet:

N. I men bent there the living God to meet,
But beaped and hurled in hurricane of rage,
And in their mouths a bite of dust-for wage.

And they had starved and sweat and cursed and
died

To soothe some swaggering lordling's huffy pride,
For some poor plume 't the cap, some whiny
chance.

Some braggart's boast, some strutting circum-
stance.

Yea, homes must feed the vultures, and must feed
The luck-strewn statesmen in their crawling greed.

And then I heard the tender Christ make moan,
The Mothering One who makes all grief His own,
His face was drawn with pain; I heard Him say:
"And after all the ages, this to day!

Bloodshed and blare and blaze of battle flame,
Ravage and Rage, and yet they take My Name!"

—Catherine Marshall.

Our Plea and the Restless World.

C. Fleming McDonald.

We meet for Conference at this quiet hour, in restful surroundings. Brethren from distant towns have come together, and into the sacred presence of the Master himself with little, at the moment, to indicate that this is really a period of great national stress; a time of terrible and ghastly warfare unparalleled in the world's history.

Great Britain, in common with her Allies, is paying an awful, but sacred, price for the defence of righteous principles, and it is difficult at times to see, through the smoke of battle, the dark, treacherous waves of poison gas, the fiendish Belgian and Armenian atrocities, and to look down through the long catalogue of crime and see that this is the age that is said to surpass every other in civilisation. But men to-day are saying that "Civilisation has broken down." "The church has collapsed!" Is it not true that the world is just finding that the foundations of the things in which men trusted are being swept away? The world, apart from the present war, is, and has been for many years, in a condition of unrest. This restlessness has been particularly manifest in the industrial world, where the workers have been more and more strongly asserting what they believe to be their rights. Britain, the Continent, America, and even New Zealand, have experienced devastating strikes and lock-outs. Socialism, pleading for a community of interests, has proved to be another contribution to the universal unrest.

Then there has also been an increasing restlessness in the political world. Mexico has been a scene of bloodshed. Matters in English politics relative to Ireland had almost resolved a crisis; the nations were watching each other distrustfully while carrying on the most stupendous military preparations, then the war cloud burst and spread its crimson stain over Europe, and to-day, as we seek the cause of all the strife and unrest, we find it summed up in the selfishness of man. I do not mean that every person engaged in this conflict is there for selfish motives, but I do say that there would have been no conflict at all if it were not for the world-damning sin of selfishness and greed. Civilisation? Yes, civilisation is good, culture and learning are desirable, wealth and power may be excellent possessions, but any or all of these will prove a curse to the individual or nation that makes them their religion or their god.

The world has not entered into its Christian heritage. It has not caught a vision of the Christ rising majestically in the centre of world history, the Light of life, the Lord and leader of mankind.

The Nazarene has a message for the troubled world to-day:

It is the message of the regenerated life. It is the message that tells of a joy found; not in "getting and being served, but in giving and serving."

It is the message that declares the spir-

itual value of material possessions which are transitory and must pass away, and shows the everlasting value of the possessions that are eternal.

It is the message that reveals the fact that a nation's true greatness is found, not in the extent of its dominions, but in the righteousness of its people.

It is the message that pleads for justice in the industrial, commercial, social, and political worlds; and it is the message that holds before the nations the uplifting ideals of Christ's sermon on the Mount.

But why has this message had so little effect?

No one can gainsay the fact that the religion of Jesus has had a wonderful influence upon the world's progress. While that is so, the question has been asked, and will be asked: "Why has the religion of Jesus been powerless to prevent this war?" Why has the religion of Jesus not done more to prevent the awful battles in the industrial world? We cannot possibly avoid the following conclusions:—

Considering:

1. The numerical strength of the professed followers of Christ;

2. The vast material possessions of Christians;

3. The wonderful power in intellectual and social leadership of the Christian Church;

Considering these facts, for some reason or other, the voice of the Christian Church has been very feeble, and that reason is found in a divided church.

Just consider for a moment the condition of the religious world with its multitude of "isms" and differences in doctrinal teaching. Some glorying in this particular dogma, some in that. Many ignoring the simple teaching of Christ and his apostles, and some even denying the divinity of our Lord.

Our attention has recently been called to a striking phenomenon of an army praying to high heaven for success on their arms, and then turning those same guns upon a house of God! Evidently there was little connection in the minds of those men between the cathedral of Rheims and the God of heaven. What has caused such a divorcement? Evidently a church centring its life in art and architecture is destined to have its cathedrals esteemed only as art museums. A church which bases its appeal to superstitious credulity by legend and relic and image is destined to lose its sway when intellectual development passes the age of imagination. Infidelity and agnosticism supplant a superstitious faith, and men turn to philosophy to seek life's verities. Any church which bases its appeal upon things that are unreal, or that declines to tell out the whole, glad message of our wonderful Redeemer; or which places a mechanical observance of ritualism before devout, heart worship, is destined to decadence and ultimate collapse. "But God forbid," says Paul, "that I should

glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Our Plea and the Restless World.—This plea, as you know, is a plea for the union of all the people of God. Dr. Ker-lmer, the editor of "The Christian Evangelist," and one of the sanest thinkers of the day, recently said: "If the Christian people of this world had been united, there would have been no war." It requires no special mental endowment to see that a united church taking in the followers of Jesus in every land could, and would, create a sentiment so powerful, and speak with a voice so strong, that such a war as is now raging would be an impossibility. We have said that we are paying a sacred price that we might gain the victory, but victory will come to us shorn of much of its glory unless we emerge from the war purged and dedicated to the purposes of God.

What significance have these statements for us as a people in New Zealand? What can we, a mere handful of disciples, do to remedy the existing divided condition of Christendom?

1. We must deliver our message of union to the Christian world, remembering that we are not anywhere commanded to be successful, only "Be thou faithful unto death." Remembering also that the only church against which the gates of Hell shall not prevail is that founded upon the Rock, Christ Jesus. The crystal life of the Christ and his inimitable teachings alone can furnish the basis and the method of the church which will not collapse.

2. We must confine our best efforts and direct all our energies towards the proclamation of the simple gospel of Christ, striving earnestly to win men and women for him, and refrain from profitless discussion of matters of mere opinion, and those things which have no weight with the eternal destinies of men.

3. As we plead for a union of all God's people, we must give a practical demonstration of that union among ourselves.

Though weak in numbers, God can make our message so powerful that in his own time the followers of Christ may be one; and with that glorious result the world will be led to know Jesus, and be at rest. A statement by Alexander Campbell, in "The Christian System," is one that condenses the whole problem to a few words. Would that we could find them across the heavens: "Letters of gold that all may read." Nothing is essential to the conversion of the world but the union and co-operation of Christians. Nothing is essential to the union of Christians but the apostles' teaching and testimony. Neither truth alone nor union alone is sufficient to subdue the unbelieving nations, but truth and union combined are omnipotent. They are omnipotent, for God is in them and with them, and has consecrated and blessed them for his purpose."

The existing conditions are unique, but the world's extremity is the church's opportunity, and they who will have the greatest success in winning men back to God are those who will go forward in his strength

Continued on page 312.

New South Wales Conference.

The thirty-first annual Conference gatherings were held from April 18 to 26.

The first day was devoted solely to the work of the sisters. This was the sisters' twenty-second annual gathering.

INTERSESSION SERVICE.

A particular feature of this year's Conference was the united intercession service for the Empire, held in the City Temple on April 19. Bro. H. G. Harward, President of the Conference, presided at the gathering. A list of over 200 names of members who have enlisted was read by Captain Chaplain F. Collins. It was remarked that about one-twentieth of our actual church membership were at present serving in the Expeditionary Forces. Capt. Chaplain H. E. Forbes gave an address on the necessity for earnest prayer and intercession for our troops and victory. Corporal F. Morton detailed his experiences in Gallipoli.

FOREIGN MISSION MEETING.

On Thursday evening, April 20, Bro. J. Clydesdale presided over the Foreign Mission gathering. The Foreign Mission Secretary, C. C. S. Rush, B.A., gave an address, emphasising the responsibility of the church to those in heathen lands.

A. B. Chappell, missionary to the New Hebrides, told in an admirable and interesting way the story of his work, at the same time giving us an insight into the customs and characteristics of the people with whom he labored.

FRIDAY'S SESSIONS.

Friday, April 21, saw the commencement of the general business session. Each session was opened by an half-hour devotional service. At 9.30 a.m., Bro. S. Stevens, of Mosman, led the devotional service, and gave a quiet talk on "With Christ in Prayer." The President, Bro. Harward, took the chair at 10 a.m. Greetings were received and a welcome extended to visitors and evangelists. Among the visitors present were G. E. Chandler, of Geelong, Victoria; H. R. Taylor, of Maylands, S.A.; H. G. Browne, of Wagga; P. J. Warhurst, of Narrabri; and T. J. Jones, of Bangalow.

The Obituary Report, read by Capt. Chaplain Collins, showed that a number of our young men had fallen at Gallipoli. Reference was made to the good work of Capt. Charles T. Walden, now in Egypt. Reports showed that every effort was being made to rater for the men in the Expeditionary Forces. Upon the motion of Bro. Webber, it was decided that the greeting of Conference be sent to Bro. G. T. Walden. Mention was made by Bro. T. E. Rofe of the equipment necessary for Capt. Chaplain Collins.

Upon the motion of A. E. Illingworth, seconded by J. Stimson, it was resolved that we place on record our high sense of appreciation of the labors of the late D. A. Ewers, and a message of consolation be conveyed to his wife and family. Mention was also made of the book to be published by the sons of our late Bro. Ewers.

Bro. F. Collins spoke in appreciation of the work of the "Australian Christian," and emphasized the reading of this paper.

Cl. Beze of the Bible—Bro. D. Wakeley, J. Clark, J. Nankivell, were at present serving in the Army Medical Corps. Bro. Harward spoke in appreciation of the raising of the College standard. Bro. J. Hindle pointed out that we had a very valuable property at Glen Iris.

Evangelism.—The report from Inverell was read by C. J. Lee. P. J. Satchy spoke of the good work of Bro. Miller at Erree, who had recently been called to Milbroo, Victoria. The Home Missionaries, A. Brown, T. J. Jones, and P. Warhurst, told of their work at Wagga, Richmond, Tweed, and Narrabri, respectively. Bro. Brown emphasized the importance of the town of Wagga.

Mosman was endeavoring to reduce the debt of £50 on the building. Bro. Stevens gives religious instruction in the public school. He hopes by next Conference to be self-supporting. They are willing to release Capt. Chaplain A. E. Forbes

for disciplinary duties if required. Bro. P. J. Pond said that there had been 50 new members added to Erskineville. Bro. E. T. Saunders spoke of the possibilities of work west of Sydney. He suggested that a cause at Orange be in mind for the near future.

Finance.—W. H. Hall, the Treasurer, stated that the annual receipts amounted to £1503/0/5. A compliment was paid to Marricville and Sydney churches upon their splendid offerings. The annual offering for Home Missions came to £551/16/11, an advance of £225 on the previous year.

J. C. Holt requested the brethren not to wait until Conference to patch up any deficiency, but that they would subscribe systematically during the year, and thus prevent paying the interest upon a big overdraft.

The very best appreciation of Conference was given to W. Gale, for his work in connection with the printing.

Erskineville was congratulated upon her splendid recovery.

The afternoon session was opened by a devotional service, led by R. P. Arnott. The topic under consideration was "With Christ in Bible Study." Capt. Chap. A. E. Forbes rendered a solo. The Executive and Home Mission reports were continued.

Resolutions.—During the afternoon, upon the motion of A. E. Illingworth, the following resolutions were carried:—

1. That the Conference of the Churches of Christ in New South Wales affirms its loyal allegiance to the throne of His Majesty the King;

2. That we deplore the continued existence of international strife and carnage;

(3) That we urge the members of the churches and congregations generally to be earnest in prayer and supplication for the blessing of the Almighty upon our nation and our Allies in their grave crisis;

(4) That we beseech them to make increasing intercession for the termination of hostilities in a righteous peace that will be to the glory of God, and open the door for the future evangelisation of the world with the gospel of his grace.

(5) That, as a measure of social reform that we believe will be for the moral and spiritual welfare of the whole community, and tend also to military efficiency, we strongly entreat them to vote for the six o'clock closing of the liquor bars.

(6) That we thank the newspapers for the publicity they are giving to these and kindred subjects of social reform.

A sub-committee was appointed to enquire into the working of a nominating committee. This committee consists of Bro. H. G. Harward, A. E. Illingworth, T. E. Rofe, C. C. S. Rush, J. Stimson, and E. J. Hilder.

Section (c) of Clause to of the Constitution was amended as follows:—

"A Committee of Reference and Credentials, consisting of five members, shall be selected annually by the Conference. This Committee shall be entrusted with the work of examining the credentials of preachers seeking work amongst us, of advising preachers concerning fields of labor, and churches concerning preachers, and of arranging the registration of preachers to celebrate marriages. The Committee appointed for this purpose were Bro. F. Collins, H. G. Harward, A. E. Illingworth, E. J. Hilder, J. Stimson. The other committees elected for 1916 were as follows:—

Home Mission Committee: President, F. Collins; Vice-President, L. Russell; Committee, A. E. Illingworth, Dr. Bardsley, J. Stimson, G. Arnott, H. G. Harward, E. J. Hilder, T. E. Rofe.

Foreign Mission Committee: President, J. Clydesdale; Committee, L. J. Thompson, C. C. S. Rush, W. Avenell, R. Arnott, J. J. Taylor, J. C. Holt, S. Stevens, H. James, S. Wong.

Bible School Committee: President, G. Stimson; Committee, H. G. Payne, T. Edwards, C. R. Holt, H. Smith, W. Gale, F. Steer, P. J. Pond, and W. Gordon.

Temperance Committee: President, G. Logan; Committee, J. Fox, J. Garden, H. Murton, I. Brown, W. D. Lang, and W. Stowe.

HOME MISSION RALLY.

This meeting was held at the Enmore Tabernacle at 7.30 on April 21. An inspirational song service was conducted by J. Clydesdale. The retiring President, Bro. H. G. Harward, delivered an address, a report of which will appear in a subsequent issue. W. J. Taylor, of Lismore, emphasized the need of advocating more earnestly the plea for the union of God's people. An offering in cash and promises was taken up.

SATURDAY.

A Preachers', Officers', and Speakers' Session was held in the City Temple at 11 a.m. Addresses of high order were given by A. E. Illingworth and Chas. C. S. Rush, B.A. On the afternoon of Saturday, 22nd, the general business of the Conference was resumed. The session opened with a quiet talk by F. T. Saunders, "With Christ in Service."

The report of the Bible Schools Committee was adopted. A discussion concerning the training of the teachers was entered into with enthusiasm. Mr. G. E. Chandler, Mr. Taylor, of Maylands, and P. J. Warhurst contributed to the discussion. W. Gale reviewed the work of the past year.

Foreign Missions.—Bro. S. Wong, of the Sydney Chinese Mission, was present, and in a few well chosen remarks pointed out the obligations of Australia to China. Miss Baker, of the Melbourne Chinese Mission, was welcomed to the gathering. The report of the Mission Study Circle was given by Miss Oldfield. The consideration of the work in the New Hebrides called for considerable time and discussion.

BIBLE SCHOOLS' FESTIVAL.

The Protestant Hall was well filled on the occasion of the children's festival. Mr. G. Stimson, chairman of the Bible Schools Committee, presided. Educational and interesting items were contributed by the various suburban schools. A particular feature of the evening's programme was an address by G. E. Chandler, of Geelong, Vic. In his charming way he interested the children, and afterwards spoke to the adult portion of the audience. He very vividly and convincingly laid before the members of the church their duty and responsibility to the Bible School. Mr. Chandler urged every member of the church to attend the Bible School.

CONFERENCE SERMON.

The Conference Sermon was preached in the City Temple on Sunday afternoon, at 3 o'clock. Bro. Chandler took as his topic "The Glorious Church." The sermon was well worthy of the occasion.

PICNIC.

On Easter Monday the Conference Picnic was held at Wentworth Park, Van Nuys.

TEMPERANCE MEETING.

The Conference gatherings were brought to a close with a great meeting in the City Temple, in the interests of the six o'clock closing of hotels. Mr. H. G. Harward was in the chair, and vigorous addresses were delivered by Linley Gordon and R. B. S. Hammond, of the N.S.W. Alliance. An offering was taken up on behalf of the lighting fund of the N.S.W. Alliance.

R. P. Arnott.

The Value of Prayer.

If thou shouldst never see my face again,
Pray for my soul. More things are wrought by prayer

Than this world dreams of. Wherefore, let thy voice

Rise like a fountain for me night and day.
For what are men better than sheep or goats

That nourish a blind life within the brain,
If, knowing God, they lift not hands of prayer

Both for themselves and these who call them friend?

For to the whole round earth is every way
Bound by gold chains about the feet of God.

Dominion Conference, New Zealand.

The Conference that should have been held in 1915 was opened in South Wellington chapel on Tuesday morning, April 25, 1916, at the close of the District Conferences. There was a fine attendance of delegates and representative brethren and sisters from all parts of the Dominion, a fine spirit prevailed throughout the discussions, and the brethren were specially glad to see Bro. Fleming McDonald well enough to preside over the Conference. The proceedings were fittingly opened by a devotional service led by Bro. Phillips of South Wellington. At 9.30 Bro. McDonald took the presidential chair, when a warm welcome was given to the visiting brethren by Bro. Duncan Campbell. Bro. Langford read greetings from the brethren in District Conference, and also from Australia. These were warmly received and appreciated.

The churches were represented as follows:—
 Auckland: Pomsonby-road, Moyle, E. Vickery, Dominion road, R. J. Dick, F. Evans, C. F. McDonald, W. Potter; North Albertland, T. Powell; Richmond Hill, A. Edwards, W. Donald, Christchurch: R. Gebbie, H. Langford, W. J. Mason.
 Nelson: F. V. Knapp, F. J. Phillips.
 Spring Grove: P. Boddington, T. W. Lane.
 Wakefield: T. Griffith.
 Dunedin: Tabernaek, T. Brown, S. G. Griffith, C. Sandstrum.
 South Dunedin: W. H. Palmer.
 Kaitangata: N. G. Noble.
 Gre: M. Bell, W. G. Ladbroke.
 Ashburton: B. Jarvis.
 Wellington: Vivian-st., R. Hall, T. Hunter, A. V. Williams, F. Lawrence.
 Palmerston North: H. R. Callan, D. Campbell, W. Phillips, M. Vickery.
 Petone: Mrs. T. Ashby, H. Grinstead, and H. Wifflington.
 Lower Hutt: D. Cairns, H. Owen.
 Kilmorie: H. Coombe, Mrs. Atkinson.
 Palmerston North: P. Bolton.
 Pahiatua: J. Hay.
 Levin: T. Dawson.
 Wangarua: Mrs. Hussey, G. Purnell.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

The message from the chair was one of considerable interest, as it dealt with the work of the church in the peculiar and distressing circumstances through which we are passing. Dealing with the question of civilization and culture, Mr. McCall pointed out that civilization is good, culture and learning are desirable, wealth and pride may be excellent possessions, but any or all of these will prove a curse to the individual or nation that makes them their religion or their god. The Nazarene had a message for the troubled world to-day. It is the message that reveals the fact that at a man's true greatness is found not in the extent of his dominions, but in the righteousness of his people.

CHURCH EXTENSION.

The report and balance sheet was presented by Bro. A. V. Williams, and spoken to by Bro. Hunter.

On the motion of the Lower Hutt church it was resolved that churches be recommended to give at least one per cent. of their annual receipts. It was also resolved that the Board be incorporated, and resolutions were passed accordingly. The following are the Church Extension Committee: Bro. Hunter, Williams, Campbell, G. Day, M. Vickery, F. Evans, and E. Vickery.

The Conference reassembled at 2 o'clock, Bro. Gebbie presiding over a very large attendance. A special service had been arranged in memory of the sons of New Zealand who had fallen at Gallipoli.

News had just been received of the "falling away" of our aged Sister Downey. The Conference expressed its sympathy with the relatives.

The service over, the Conference again got down to business, and the following resolutions were adopted:—

1. The Temperance Question.
 Bro. Grinstead moved, That this Conference assembled hereby record its strong opposition to the Drink Traffic as being one of the greatest agencies for evil and the degradation of the human family, and urges its members to co-operate with unflinching determination in the movements for its abolition.
2. The War.
 Bro. Langford moved, That this Conference view with horror the awful ravages of the present war, and urge all members, with one accord, to daily present their supplications to Almighty God, praying that He will give wisdom and power to the rulers and leaders of the Allied Nations, and imploring that the time will soon come when righteousness will triumph, and peace with honor be once more restored.
3. "The Australian Christian."
 Bro. S. G. Griffith moved, That the members of the various Churches be urged to more loyally support the "Australian Christian."
4. The Chaplaincy of the Camps.
 Bro. Vickery moved, That two brethren residing in Wellington be appointed a Committee to confer with similar representatives from the Baptist and Congregational Churches, such to have power to act for the Conference in the appointment of Chaplains to the Camps and Expeditionary Forces.
- Bren, M. Vickery and H. Grinstead were appointed.
- Protestant Alliance.
 Bro. Grinstead moved, That this Conference unite with other religious bodies in the formation of a Protestant Association, for the safeguarding of our liberties, and the promulgation of Protestant principles, and for such purpose appoint four representatives.

The following were elected: Bren, Vickery, W. Phillips, A. F. Hardham, and R. A. Wright.

CONFERENCE PAPERS.

The first Conference paper on the work of the church in regard to the training of its membership was presented by Bro. Grinstead. Bro. Grinstead called attention to the great need for training; gave a series of practical methods, but insisted that the tendency towards the one man ministry must not be supported or disaster in New Zealand would result.

The first essential to a trained church is a trained ministry, and by the ministry he meant particularly trained evangelist, elders, and deacons.

Bro. Phillips followed with an able paper on "Militant Evangelism." It was a plea for the spirit of our forefathers in the carrying forward of the work in New Zealand. Full and free discussion followed.

Tuesday evening was spent in the consideration of Sunday School work, under the presidency of Bro. F. V. Knapp. Bro. M. Bell led the devotional service. We had the pleasure of hearing a paper read by Bro. Langford, which had been specially written by Bro. J. L. Scott (late local master of Purnell). The subject was, "Bible School Essentials." Needless to say, it was a real contribution to the subject whether the Bible School be held in a barn or an up-to-date school room. There were certain essentials; Bro. Scott named them.

After the report of the Bible School Union by Bro. Boddington, a long discussion took place on the appointment of an organizer. Several of the brethren wanted a Bible School organizer and State evangelist combined, but our enthusiastic teachers would not agree, and at last it was agreed "That we should try and secure a Bible Schools organizer." A Dominion Executive was elected in the hope that the three district Bible School Unions would agree to work together in connection with examination work, organising new schools, etc. The following were appointed:—President, F. V. Knapp, with Bren, Boddington, Ames, P. A. Dickson and F. J. Phillips.

Wednesday morning found the delegates again assembled, Bro. Noble conducting the devotional service. The first matter of real importance was the question of setting up an annual Dominion Conference. The idea is not to do away with our local conferences, but that we shall have a Dominion Conference which will take over the responsibility of general evangelistic work. The resolution was as follows:—

"That the churches hold an annual Dominion Conference, which shall center in Home and Foreign Mission work and Bible Schools, and any other activities of the churches of the Dominion; the incoming executive to draft a constitution and present it to the three district Conferences."

South Island brethren thought it was desired to take up Home Mission work also included, but after considerable discussion, the proposal was carried, and the Dominion Executive were appointed.

Continued on page 310.



DELEGATES AND VISITORS, DOMINION CONFERENCE, N.Z.

Front Row—Bren, J. I. Wright, Grinstead, Phillips, Gebbie, McDonald, Langford, Mason, Griffith, Evans, Sandstrum, Brown, A. V. Williams.
 Second Row—Bren, M. Vickery, McJames Knapp, Langford, Griffith, Atkinson, Rowell, Ashby, Henry, Vickery, Cox, Powell, Irens, Wifflington, A. Purnell.
 Third Row—Bren, P. Boddington, Edwards, Callan, Palmer, Griffith, Coombe, Lane, Williams, Knapp, Phillips, Bolton.
 Back—Bren, Cairns, Campbell, Jordan, Powell, Bell, Jarvis, Ladbroke, R. J. Dick, R. Hall, Hobbs, Donald, M. Vickery, Noble.

Reports from the Field.

South Australia.

GROTE-ST.—We had splendid meetings on May 7. One welcomed by letter in the morning. Bro. Thomas spoke. In the afternoon we had visitors' day, when Bro. Thomas spoke to the Sunday School on "What it means to be a church member." In the evening we had a young people's service, when our brother preached on "The Child in the Middle." At the close of a helpful service we were pleased to see three come out and confess Christ. We sympathise with Bro. R. G. Vaughan in the death of his aged mother. On the 14th, we were favoured with a helpful and thoughtful address at our morning service by the Hon. W. Morrow, who kindly took the place of Bro. Thomas, who was indisposed. Three were received into fellowship. At night Bro. Thomas preached a sermon appropriate to Mothers' Day. At the close one lady confessed Christ.

KADINA.—On Thursday week we held our church quarterly meeting. The treasurer reported a shortage for the quarter. On Sunday morning, May 7, Bro. Weild gave the exhortation. In the afternoon the Bible School went to the Children's Centre in the amount of £1/1/2 will be forwarded. On Tuesday last the Junior C.E. Society held a psalm social and concert. Bro. S. Bartle was in the chair. At the meeting the members of the Bible Class and Bible School presented many useful presents to our Bro. and Sister Sam. Trenwith. To-day is Mothers' Day, when Bro. Weild gave the exhortation. We met with us this morning Bro. Lunn, from Adelaide. This good brother has collected an enormous sum of money for the wounded soldiers' fund. A good meeting this evening. Topic, "Jesus Walking on the Water."—Jas H. Thomas, May 14.

MAYLANDS.—Irene G. H. Jenner and A. M. Ludbrok kindly spoke at the Sunday services during the absence of the writer in Melbourne and Sydney. We had a rich experience yesterday in connection with our decision day services. Last night sixteen young people from the Bible School and two others confessed their faith in Christ. During the month of April we conducted a special class of instruction, the scholars meeting with the minister, in lieu of their regular teachers. Most of those who decided had been carefully taught in the chief matters relating to the Christian life. Over £2 was given by the children at the school service for the Hospital Cot, and £10/6 was contributed by the church members towards the forward movement fund of the Central State Executive.—H.L.C.T., May 8.

HINDMARSH.—Sunday, May 14, special services. The J.C.E. had 37 members present; subject, "Mother." At the morning service Mr. Lechart Morton addressed the church. The collection for Sunday School Extension Fund amounted to £1/8/6. Afternoon was Children's Hospital Sunday. There were an item by the kinders, a short address by Mr. Lechart Morton, and a hospital scene. The duty and arrangements were prepared by one of the teachers. Bright singing was given. A collection was taken in aid of C.E., amounting to £1/1/6. After the service flowers were taken to the Children's Hospital by several members of the J.C.E. Evening service was well attended, when Mr. Morton spoke on "Come."

UNLEY.—Mothers' Day was observed at our services to-day. Good attendances at both meetings. Bro. Hunter gave appropriate addresses. At the close of the evening service five young people made the good confession.—O.V.M.

NORWOOD.—To-day was school decision day. Special addresses were given. I. W. Baker in the morning spoke on "The Origin of the Sunday School." In the afternoon a practical demonstration was given on the care of young people. In the evening the subject was, "A Child of the Temple." Ten made the good confession, whose ages

varied from 12 to 18 years. The Bible School superintendent, Bro. G. D. Wright, is to be congratulated on the flourishing condition of the school, whose presence we never better than the day. Offerings were taken for Sunday School extension, and for Children's Hospital.—G.H.J.

MOONTA.—Splendid meetings to-day. Large attendance this morning. Fine address by Bro. Allen. Record attendance at our Bible School. The gospel service was well attended. Bro. Allen's subject was "The Building of Character." One man made the good confession.—H. Nancarrow, May 7.

GLENELG.—We had a most impressive service this morning. Bro. Burford presided, and E. W. Pittman gave the address. During the service Captain Hemming, of the 43rd Batt., was immersed, and, with his wife and two others, received the right hand of fellowship. For some time Bro. Pittman has conducted a Young Christians' Class, which has proved a great help to the young people. This class will now be formed into a teacher training class. Another successful organisation is the Choral Class for young people, which is also conducted by our preacher.—Chas. Ferris.

COTTONVILLE.—Every seat occupied this morning. Nice address by Bro. Bowen. Four new scholars at Bible School; total on roll, 225. Fine meeting to-night. One young woman confessed Christ. The church recently decided to have a vestry added to the new chapel. This accommodation was very necessary. It should be ready for occupation on the date of our opening services, June 4—11, May 14.

MILANG.—We had nice meetings on Bible School Day. Bro. Baker spoke in the afternoon and preached at night. There were a fine lot of young men at the gospel service last night. Bro. Stanley Allison sang the piece entitled "Nobody Knows but Mother."—S.H.G., May 13.

PROSPECT.—Four who were baptised last Sunday were received into fellowship to-day. We welcomed Bro. and Sister Howard by letter from North Adelaide, and Bro. R. S. Love, from Murray Bridge. Bro. Love addressed the church last Sunday morning. One more confession last night. Mothers' Day was suitably observed yesterday by the J.C.E. and kinders. A farewell social was given eight of our boys who expect to leave shortly for the front. They were given a Capt. Testament and Psalm with their initials on Capt. Chap. Mortimer, of the Methodist forces, gave a very fine address, while Bro. Reynolds spoke on behalf of the Bible School.—P.

QUEENSTOWN.—Wednesday, May 10, the choir rendered a service of song entitled, "Reclaimed," which was much appreciated by a large audience. Much praise is due to A. Morphet, the leader. Sunday, May 14, Q.Y.P.M. Bro. J. Mitchell spoke to the young people on "Ambition." Worship, Bro. P. Jeffries exhorted splendidly. Evening, splendid attendance. Bro. Brooker, on behalf of the church members, presented Pie. R. J. Husbidge, Pie. J. W. Challinder, and Pie. C. R. Thompson, with a copy of the New Testament and Psalm bound in kaffi, on the eve of their departure for the front. Bro. Brooker delivered a powerful sermon on "The Probation Son." Bro. Morphet sang "My Mother's Prayer" sweetly. £4 has been collected for the T. J. Gore fund.—D.L.W., May 14.

NORTH ADELAIDE.—On May 7, it being Cot Day, a special session of the Sunday School was held. Bro. C. Verro, B.A., gave an interesting talk on "The Work and Needs of the Children's Hospital," and the writer spoke on "What it Means to be Christian." The collection for the churches of Christ Sunday School amounted to £1/10/12. Yesterday was observed as Mothers' Day. In the evening there was a good meeting, when the writer preached on "Home and Mother." One of our aged sisters, Mrs. Presgrave, has lately been called home. She had in

recent years been living at the Semaphore.—R.H., May 15.

YORK.—We have had fine meetings. Bro. Swain and Cliff have been elected deacons. Anniversary of Bible School has been held. Morning, H. W. Manning was at his best. Afternoon, Bro. Moscop, our superintendent, presided; the departments gave items very creditably. Evening, the writer spoke on "Light," giving an illustrated address. The candles used were afterwards sent to needy cases in the district. Bro. Fiedler conducted the singing. Soldiers' farewell has been tendered to Bro. N. Ford, A. Dawling, C. Teague, M. Parham. Presentations of Bible, fountain pen, and woollen goods were made to each. Girls' Friendly met the woollens; they are doing a good work. Bro. and Sister Parham were invited to Gawler. We will miss them. Last Lord's day good meetings. Four confessions at the close of the address by the writer. Bro. W. Fiedler home from Glen Iris on vacation. To-day Bro. Moscop exhorted. Evening, good meeting, baptism at close. Sister S. Young received word to-day of the death of her brother at the front. We extend to Bro. and Sister Young our deepest sympathy.—E. J. Paternoster, May 14.

New South Wales.

PETERSHAM.—May 7, we had a beautiful morning service. Bro. Arnott exhorted. Among our visitors was Sister Gerdes, from Newmarket, Vic. We had a splendid meeting in the evening, with a gospel address from Bro. Arnott. One young sister was immersed.—A.G.T., May 8.

NARRABRI.—On Sunday last we commenced a scholars' library. For a month the children have been preparing for this; many of them have taken their school prizes. We have 62 volumes. I would appeal to any reader who may have upon their bookshelves books suitable for boys and girls up to 16 years of age—and are not using them. We would gladly pay postage; any donation in money would be highly appreciated. P. Warhurst, May 9.

HORNSBY.—L. J. Thompson presided; Bro. Bagley, of Chatswood, gave us a splendid exhortation. At night Bro. Gordon spoke to a large and appreciative audience on "The Harp that rocks the cradle." We took up a special collection for the Captain Clapham Cuttriss Fund, and raised £15/3. Our anniversary services take place on June 4 and 7.—T. E. Rofe.

CITY TEMPLE.—Fine address on the morning lesson from H. G. Harward. Sister Billingham received by letter from Taree. Glad to have Sister Cooper back after prolonged visit to West Australia. At being Mothers' Day, Bro. Harward gave a good address at night gave a most appropriate address. A number of our members are laid aside with various illnesses.—J.C.

MARRICKVILLE.—Fair meetings to-day. Bro. Jeffery presided this morning, and feelingly referred to a mother's love (this being Mothers' Day). Bro. Holt gave us a very helpful address on "Be thou faithful." We were pleased to have Bro. and Sister Way, from Queensland, with us. To-night Bro. Rusli gave a splendid address on "The greatest of all sin" (ambly). An offering taken up in aid of temperance work amounted to £37. We are making an effort to raise £100 by special donations of wipe off last year's deficit. The greater part of this is already promised.—J. J. Taylor, May 14.

ENMORE.—Lord's day, May 14, Mothers' Day. Bro. Hunter presided in the morning, and Bro. Billingworth addressed the church, with a short preliminary talk to the young folks. Bro. and Sister Jacob Saxby have returned to Sydney. We had as visitors, Sisters Misses Tully and Crouch, from Doncaster, Vic., and Bro. Cannon, from Lameston, who is on his way to the front. We celebrated Mothers' Day in the afternoon in the Bible School. Bro. Billingworth conducted the evening meeting, which was our monthly special service. The choir rendered a suitable anthem, and Miss Hayes sang a solo. Bro. Billingworth had the pleasure of receiving four confessions, three of which were from lady from our Bible School.—May 14.

NORTH AUBURN.—Morning meeting on May 7 was well attended. Bro. Crawford exhorted. We had Sister West from Victoria, with us, also had Sister West, after her illness. We are pleased to say that Sister Wynnie is also much better. Bro. Morton, of Helmore, gave us the gospel address, which was much appreciated. On Mothers' Day we had beautiful meetings. Bro. Frank Morton, of Helmore, gave a most beautiful exhortation. We had special meetings for the Sunday School children and the mothers. Bro. Shaw gave us an appropriate address, which was much enjoyed. A. Winton gave us the gospel address.—A. S. Horsfall, May 14.

BROKEN HILL. (Wolfram st.).—On the 10th a farewell social was tendered to Bro. W. L. Collins, who has been a constant, earnest, and enthusiastic worker, as secretary of the Bible School, superintendent J.C.E., member of the choir, etc. Bro. Cremer presided, in the absence of the writer, through bronchitis. Sister Rough made a presentation of a safety razor, from the J.C.E.; Sister Tyson an illuminated Testament, from the Y.P.S.C.E.; and Sister Litchfield, a radium wristlet watch, suitably inscribed, and fountain pen from church and friends. Bro. Skewes spoke words of appreciation on behalf of the school. Bro. Collins feelingly replied. A nice programme of songs, quartettes, etc., was arranged by Mrs. Gehring. Bro. Collins left for camp on Thursday, with his brother, and wife's brother. Last Lord's day, the two sisters who were baptised the previous Thursday, were received into fellowship.—E. J. Tuck.

TAREE DISTRICT.—Bro. Marler, who for the past nine months has been assisting the writer in this district, has removed to Merbein circuit, Victoria. Arrangements were being made for farewell meetings, but the sad drowning fatality caused all that to be cancelled. On Sunday, April 30, Bro. Marler preached his farewell sermon at the morning meeting, when a fine congregation gathered. At the conclusion of the evening service the writer presented Bro. Marler with a purse containing money as a token of regard for his work. Bro. J. Walker did the same on behalf of the Wingham brethren, who also included a pair of gold inscribed sleeve links in their gift. Bro. Marler is one whom we all have learned to esteem most highly for his worth. The writer paid a pastoral visit to Wingham this week. Sister Miller, I regret to report, is ill. We pray for her restoration. Wingham brethren are grateful for financial help received, and hope for further donations to their building fund. They have the land and £60 in hand. Will brethren who have not helped please think of our need.—G. Burns.

BROKEN HILL. (Railway Town).—All meetings are being sustained. Bro. Helleur has assisted in some services. The writer preached last Lord's day evening, and had the joy of taking the confession of six men. We hope for more of these men who were present, but they put it off, we trust it will not be for long.—E. J. Tuck.

Victoria.

NORTH MELBOURNE.—Good meeting on Sunday evening. Another young man from the Bible Class confessed Christ.

BRIGHTON.—Excellent meetings on Sunday evenings; two confessions lately. These were from two young men about to leave for active service; one was baptised a week ago, and the other at the close of to-night's service. Bro. Moore spoke on "Baptism and Immersion." Bro. Reg. Emiss extended the invitation during the preparation for the baptism. Bro. Moore will be with us on only two more Sundays.—R.P.C.

MELBOURNE. (Swanton st.).—Bro. J. W. Baker, of North Fitzroy, gave an excellent exhortation on Monday evening, May 14. In the evening Bro. Franklin spoke on "A Vision and a Volunteer," and there were three baptisms. Bro. Franklin conducts a Bible Class at the Y.M.C.A. Buildings st., every Tuesday evening. There is tea at 6.15, and study from 6.45 to 7.30. All men are cordially invited.

NORTH RICHMOND.—On Wednesday last our C.E. Society visited Carnegie church, and had

a pleasant time. On Thursday a Mission Band was formed by the ladies. Two of our members are in training at Glen Iris for the mission field, and others are preparing to enter the College next year. Last Lord's day meetings were well attended. Bro. Procter conducting both services.—H.A.T.

MWAITHORN.—One decision for Christ at the mid-week prayer meeting last week, and three received into fellowship by letter this morning. Bro. Scambler being absent to-day, Bro. W. Wilson exhorted the church at the breaking of bread meeting and Bro. A. R. Mann took the gospel service. Both addresses were much enjoyed.—R.R.

NEWMARKET.—Meetings were very fair yesterday. A Bible School had confessed Christ at night. We were pleased to have Miss Tilley with us in the morning, from India; also Bro. and Sister Sims (returned from Camperdown), and H. White, from Queensland. Bro. Alfred left on Wednesday for a holiday in Queensland. Bible School anniversary falls next Sunday.—J.M.

BOX HILL.—Recently two members of the Bible School made the great confession. On May 7, fifth anniversary of church celebrated. Splendid gatherings. Bro. H. A. Procter delivered a splendid exhortation in the morning. Bro. H. Clark gave a fine practical address to the scholars and parents at the meeting of the Bible School. At the evening service Bro. Thos. Hagger preached. May 10, the anniversary services were concluded with a public meeting. Musical and eleventh-century items were rendered, and Bro. J. W. Webb delivered the address. The report showed that good progress was being made in all departments. A coffee-supper was provided by the ladies. We thank all who contributed to our success.—H.H.

NORTH FITZROY.—Our outlook was never so bright as at present. This morning 214 broke bread, and a young lad, who was immersed during the week was received into fellowship. To-night Bro. Baker gave an impressive address to a splendid audience. Two responded to the invitation, one a lad from the Bible School, and an elderly gentleman. To-day Bro. Baker completes the 14th year of his ministry in this place. It has been decided that the offices of the church that is being recognised shall be made of this further period of devoted service, and a public meeting will be held in the chapel on Wednesday evening, June 7. After this long period of service, it is gratifying to find that Bro. Baker's influence is increasing, and that strangers are being attracted in large numbers to our meetings.—A.E.S.

CHELTENHAM.—Splendid gatherings at each service to-day. F. E. Thomas, who was present to help in the anniversary celebration, gave two very fine addresses. At the morning meeting the son of Bro. Barnett was received into fellowship. In the evening the service was brightened with two fine anthems beautifully rendered by the choir. On Wednesday evening a public welcome meeting will be given to Bro. S. H. Mulgrew, who is completing a term of service with the church next Lord's day. We are anticipating a bright time for the future.—F.W.M., May 14.

PRAIRIAN.—Last Lord's day morning we were able to have a fine address from Bro. Geo. Moore. We were also glad to have Bro. W. Gile, from Sydney, with us for the day. Our morning meeting was a good one, and at night the attendance being about the same as last Lord's day. The singing of Miss Ely was much enjoyed. Bro. Gordon preached on "Who is to Blame for the Empty Pews?" Much interest was manifested in the address. One confession was taken.—A.E.M., May 15.

ESSENDON.—We continue to have good meetings, and the general tone is uplifting. April 30, Bro. Robbins, from Stawell, exhorted the church, and his helpful and instructive gospel addresses are the means of bringing many strangers to the hall. Lord's day, 7th, being Bible School Day, Bro. W. A. Kemp spoke on the subject. Our collection was £5. Bro. and Sister A. P. A. Burden, from Maryborough, were amongst the visitors. The kindergarten and Bible School show a steady increase; Bro. Snyer

has started an adult Bible Class; the outlook is bright. 14th May, W. A. Kemp presided, and Bro. Snyer exhorted. We were pleased to have with us Corp. Bro. W. Payne, from Stawell, who is recovering from an illness. Bro. Pte. Sumner left last week for the front. Our membership is now 96.—A.B., May 15.

GEEHLONG.—A fine attendance at the mid-week prayer meeting on Thursday night. Six who recently confessed Christ were baptised on Sunday. Bro. Chandler exhorted in the morning, and extended the right hand of fellowship to three who were baptised during the week, and welcomed from the Baptists, and one from a sister church; one elderly lady took her stand for Christ at the close of the service. Our evangelist preached a great sermon to a packed house at night, his text being, "Now they stand at the cross of Jesus; his mother"—W.H.L.

CARLTON. (Lygon st.).—Two received into membership by obedience. Bro. R. Brown, from Glenaele, S.A., followed ship with us. We had a fine meeting in the morning, though somewhat saddened by the news of the death of our erstwhile Bro. W. C. Thurgood, who has been a faithful, generous Christian and a familiar figure in Lygon-st. for over 30 years. A. R. Mann, the speaker for the morning, delivered the address, which he purposed giving for another that was very appropriate. The congregation feelingly sang "Asleep in Jesus." Good meeting at night, when J. W. Webb gave a special address "To the Young." Miss Anne Scott made confession of her faith in Christ, and was baptised the same hour of the night by Bro. Webb, and welcomed to the fellowship of the church, at the evening breaking of bread. She went to Broadford, where we have no church. On Monday J. W. Webb gave a lecture on "Jokes and Joking," under the auspices of the Adelphean Society. An offering amounting to £17/7/6 was taken up for the Y.M.C.A. for its work amongst the soldiers.—J.M.

ROCHESTER.—Fine interest maintained in the work. Week night meetings well attended. On last Lord's day A. J. Wilson spoke in the morning and night. I. E. Shipway being at Helmore. On Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of this week, we held a short mission at Nunawading, where Bro. and Sister Williamson and family, formerly of Trawool, have been doing their good work. This is preliminary to occupying this field, to which we have been cordially invited by some local residents. Bro. J. E. Shipway will conduct the mission.—A.J.W., May 15.

STAWELL.—Collecting cards in aid of the Children's Hospital have been forwarded to our Bible School with the hope that the scholars would do a little in assisting to provide for that institution with a gift. The young folks have gone whole-heartedly into the matter. The first card was distributed to Bro. Robb's class of girls last Lord's day, and they have alone contributed the sum of ten shillings. The scholars are to be commended for this action. At our mid-week meeting held last Thursday, the young lady who recently confessed Christ was baptised. Bro. Robbins gave an enjoyable address. The services yesterday were conducted as follows: 11 a.m., Bro. Robb presiding, and Bro. Robbins exhorting; 7 p.m., Bro. Robbins spoke on "Sweet, Soft, and Soiled." A duet was also nicely rendered by Sisters Mrs. Bert Perry, and Miss May Wood. Our preacher is to conduct a social meeting next Lord's day evening.—A.H. Shoppard, May 15.

WINDISOR.—Much interest was taken in Bible School Day, and an offering made, several addresses delivered. A gift social held on 17th resulted in a number of useful gifts being donated for the church and kindergarten. Presentations were made to Bro. Munro and H. Keshwin, superintendent and secretary of Sunday School, who are both in camp. On the 17th the I.C.E. had a tea party, when all enjoyed themselves. Lady Mother's Day was celebrated. Bro. Black gave a helpful exhortation in the morning. To-night Mrs. Everard gave a solo. Mr. Bell's subject was "Ideal Motherhood," the attendance Sergeant McLeod and good house it was his last meeting before leaving for the front.

Continued on page 312.

Dominion Conference, New Zealand.

Continued from page 307.

pointed a committee to draft a constitution and present it to the District Committees.

The election of the Dominion Executive followed, with the result that Bro. Ralph Gebbie is President, Bro. Langford Vice-President, and Bro. W. J. Mason Secretary.

During the conference the illness of our Bro. and Sister Turner was spoken of, and tributes were paid to them both for their labors for the Master.

Ponsambly-read, Auckland, were highly commended for their generous treatment of Bro. Turner, but it was felt and strongly expressed that no one church should bear the burden, and within a few minutes a resolution was moved and seconded, appointing a committee to set up right away a fund for aged and infirm preachers, the brotherhood in the meantime to be asked to make voluntary contributions, the committee to put the scheme on a proper business footing. I have not a note of that committee, but amongst them are to be found Bro. Hunter (Wellington), Bro. Frank Evans (Auckland), and Bro. Capt. Sundstrom (Dunedin).

It was decided to hold the next Conference at Christchurch.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Wednesday afternoon was devoted to the question of Foreign Missions, the first part of the proceedings being a devotional service led by Bro. S. G. Grinich.

Bro. Inglis Wright presented the report and balance sheet, which showed good work being accomplished for the Master. He regretted that the income was not up to the standard this year, but hoped for better things. After a full discussion of the work, the following motion was moved by Bro. R. Hall:—

"That the constitution of the Foreign Mission Union, Clauses 4 and 5, be amended as follows:—That the Executive be composed of two members of each auxiliary, the chairman of the Dominion Conference, and a general secretary. Such Committee to have full control and direction of all matters in connection with Foreign Missions. This Committee to meet in Wellington periodically to transact any business of importance. Travelling expenses only to be paid out of the general funds." That Bro. J. I. Wright be appointed General Secretary."

Bro. Hall, in speaking to the motion, said the Middle District Committee felt the time had come when the Council should be enlarged, and the work to be undertaken should be thoroughly discussed by the Council before being presented to the District Foreign Mission Committees. Auckland Foreign Mission Committee and the South Foreign Mission Committee expressed their satisfaction with the present arrangements, but there was a very strong feeling in the meeting that a change should be made, and the resolution was carried.

I take it that if the North and South F.M. Committees agree to the change being made, it will take immediate effect. High appreciation was expressed of the services of Bro. Wright as secretary by Bro. Hall and several others, and the secretary of the Conference was asked to send a message of thanks and confidence to Bro. and Sister Hadfield, and Bro. and Sister Anderson, and their native helpers at Bulawayo.

Resolved, that the "F.M. News" and the "Evangelical Messenger" be merged into one N.Z. paper. This was carried by a small majority.

P. D. McCallum, B.A., read a fine paper on "A Missionary Church."

The report of the College of the Bible was agreed to, and the following were elected as the N.Z. Advisory Board: Bro. Gebbie, McDonald, L. Scott, Rutledge, J. I. Wright, F. V. Knapp. It was regretted that the Conference could not see its way to advise that the date of the collection be changed to October.

The Conference was brought to a successful close by a Foreign Mission rally. In the early part of the proceedings Bro. Langford, on behalf of the Conference, presented Bro. McDonald with

a Bible as a memento of his Presidential days. Bro. McDonald very feelingly responded.

Instead of waiting to the last few minutes, thanks to the hosts and hostesses were now passed and to those responsible for the Conference tea, to outgoing committees, to secretaries, etc.

Bro. Inglis Wright presided over the rally, and the inspiring addresses were delivered by Bro. Edwards, of Auckland F.M. Committee, Bro. Grinstead, of Wellington F.M. Committee, and Bro. S. J. Griffiths, of South Island F.M. Committee.

Bro. Thomas, choirmaster, of South Wellington, had made special arrangements for anthem singing by a united choir. The Conference specially thanked him.

Bro. Percy Bolton led the meeting in concluding prayer.

—H. Grinstead.

Conference Echoes.

"Officers, generally speaking, get all the thanks and respect that is due to them."

"If you would get hold of your scholars for God, you must yourself get hold of God."

"What we need in this Committee (Old and Infirm Preachers) is a few men with a little common sense."

"We have no right to pay our preachers such small salaries." "Quite right," said Bro. M. Vickery. "Send more money along, and we will see they get more."

Middle District Conference, N.Z.

The 20th annual Conference in Vivian-st. Church of Christ opened on the evening of April 20 by a Conference of sisters. Sister Murgatroyd, Vice-President, presided over a good attendance. A report of the year's work was submitted by Sister Vickery, which was adopted. It was resolved that in the coming year united sisters' meetings should be held each month, and that the sum of £50 should be raised if possible for the purpose of Home Mission work. The officers for the coming year were elected as follows: President, Sister Murgatroyd; Vice-President, Sister Stone; Secretary, Sister Vickery; Treasurer, Sister Hardham.

A most interesting address was delivered by Sister J. Battersby, on Women's Work in the Churches of Christ of Australia.

The Conference was continued on Friday morning by a devotional service led by Bro. John Griffiths, of Nelson.

Bro. Milton Vickery, President of the Conference, took the chair and gave an interesting account of the work of the churches during the last twenty years. The churches were appealed to that had been Home Mission churches, but were now self-supporting, to remember their obligation to the Home Mission Committee.

The following delegates answered the call (there was also a good assembly of representative brethren and sisters, amongst whom was Bro. Fleming McDonald, of Auckland, the President of the New Zealand Conference, who received a special welcome).—Delegates and Churches: Kilbirnie, Bro. G. Burnell; Levin, Bro. Thomas Dawson; Lower Hutt, Bro. Owen; Nelson, Bro. F. V. Knapp; F. J. Phillips; Pahiatua, Bro. J. Hay; Palmerston North, Sister Carter, Bro. Bolton; Poneke, Bro. Grinstead and Murgatroyd; Spring Grove, Bro. P. Beckington and Lane; Wakefield, Bro. J. Griffiths; Wanganui, Bro. Burnell; senior, Sister Hussey; Wellington, Bro. Hall, A. H. Eaton; Wellington South, Bro. D. Campbell, M. Vickery, W. Phillips, and H. R. Callam.

THE HOME MISSION REPORT

was moved by the President. The report spoke with good appreciation of the work done by Bro. Grinstead in Petone and Hutt districts, and the Conference strongly supported the keeping of an evangelist in the district.

Bro. Bolton, laboring in the Palmerston district, was thanked for his work, and the Conference also

"Far better that the natives should be digging post holes in the mission compound than doing nothing."

"You have nothing to gain by the work in foreign lands, they cannot repay you; it is the most disinterested of all Christ's work."

"It is amazing when you are having a feast of good things to get a bone sticking in your throat." Discussion about the use of the aspirate.

"What a splendid chairman Bro. McDonald made—not too strict, not too loose, but just right. All the business through, and through to time."

Bro. S. G. Griffiths' presence at the Conference was looked forward to, and his interest in the questions as they related to Dominion work made some of us hope that the Edinburgh of the South might make its presence more felt for the bringing about of bigger and better things for N.Z.

"If I were guilty, I would not mind the castigation." Things were looking rather dangerous when a brother chimed in, "But, Brother, you are to rejoice when you are not guilty"; at which the angry frown gave way to the pleasant smile, the Conference laughed, and the storm blew over quickly.

The Conference showed its satisfaction and pleasure in the work we are trying to do in the camps by heartily approving of the Featherstone Institute scheme. Up to date £40 has been received. The Auckland churches are taking up collections, and many others throughout the Dominion. Why not yours?

approved the continuance of this evangelistic effort. The statistics showed an increase in the number of members of the co-operating churches. The report showed collections having been made for the Y.M.C.A. funds.

The afternoon session was opened by a devotional service led by Bro. Phillips, of Nelson. A useful discussion on the appointments of preachers and on finance took place.

A proposal to amalgamate with the Auckland Conference was carried by a large majority.

A Home Mission rally was held in the evening, presided over by Bro. Herbert Grinstead. Special addresses were delivered by Bro. P. Bolton, R. Hall, W. Phillips.

A fine musical and elocutionary programme had been arranged by Bro. A. Thomas.

THE BIBLE SCHOOL SESSION

was opened on Saturday morning, Bro. F. V. Knapp, the President of the Bible School Union, presiding. A useful talk was given on the qualifications of a successful teacher. The teacher, said the President, must be consecrated to Christ and his church—one who is to be found regularly at the meetings for worship and prayer, one who is well informed on Bible truth, and also well informed on the nature and characteristics of the pupil.

The report of the Committee and balance sheets were adopted.

THE FOREIGN MISSION SESSION

was presided over by Bro. R. Hall. The report presented to Conference showed forward work in South Africa, under the charge of Bro. F. L. Hadfield and Bro. T. Anderson and their respective wives. The work at Bulawayo and Intini and two native stations was very satisfactory. Belingwe, the place where Bro. Wm. Mansell, of Wellington, gave his life, is now a successful out-station under the charge of Bro. John Tokwe.

During the year 1875 had been raised in New Zealand for this field, and the churches have every reason to be gratified with the success of the mission.

A Bible School rally was held on Saturday afternoon, Bro. F. V. Knapp presiding, when addresses were delivered on "The Bible School as an Evangelising Agency," by Sister Mrs. Callam, and "The Bible School as a Means of Training

Church Members," by Bro. Wm. Phillips, of South Wellington.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Home Mission Executive.
 President, Bro. M. Vickery, 244 Rintoul-st., Wellington.
 Vice-President, Bro. R. A. Wright.
 Treasurer, Bro. Duncan Campbell, Constable-st., Wellington.
 Secretary, Bro. George Farnell, Miramar.
 With Bro. H. Callan, R. Hall, J. Hunter, Wm. Phillips.

Foreign Mission Executive.

President, Bro. R. Hall, c/o Hall & Co., G.P.O., Wellington.
 Vice-President, Bro. H. Coombe.
 Treasurer, Bro. H. Owen, Nai Nai, Wellington.
 Secretary, Bro. H. Grinstead, 27 Riddler's Cres., Petone.
 With Sisters Mansill and Pratt, and Bro. D. Campbell and Sinclair.

Bible Schools Executive.

President, F. V. Knapp, Nelson.
 Vice-President, F. J. Phillip.
 Secretary, Bro. P. Hoddington, Spring Grove.
 Treasurer, Bro. Ames.
 With Bro. Hill, Inglis, and P. A. Dickson.

Sisters' Conference Executive.

President, Mrs. Murgatroyd, Britannia-st., Petone.
 Vice-President, Mrs. Stone.
 Secretary, Mrs. Milton Vickery, 244 Rintoul-st., Wellington.
 Treasurer, Mrs. Hardham, Lower Hutt.
 Superintendent of Temperance Work, Mrs. J. Battersby, Petone.

Special services were held in the churches on the Sunday, collections being taken up for the Y.M.C.A. work at Featherston Camp.

—H. Grinstead.

South Island Conference, New Zealand

The thirty-first annual Conference of the Churches of Christ (South Island District) was held in the Eden-st. church, Oamaru, April 21 to 24. There were forty delegates, representing fourteen churches.

T. J. Bull welcomed the Conference delegates to Oamaru. The following representatives were present:—Aldhurton, B. Jarvis, J. Olsen, senr., and Sister H. Williams. Burnside, J. L. S. Wright. Christchurch and St. Albans, R. Gebbie, H. Crowe, H. Langford, W. J. Mason, B. S. Nelson. Dunedin (Tabernacle), S. G. Griffith, C. E. Sundstrum, J. W. Stokes, and J. Brown. Dunedin—South and Gore, W. H. Palmer, J. Reid, J. M. Routledge. Kew, M. Bell, W. G. Ladbroke, L. F. Shave. Invercargill and Avenal, J. Bewley, H. Stokes, T. Pryde, T. Todd. Kaingaitanga, T. Cairns, N. G. Noble. Mataura, G. Osborne, W. Pryde, C. Richmond. Mornington, H. Holmes, H. Wood, J. I. Wright, N. E. Valley, Beadle, Sister M. Lowe. Oamaru, T. J. Bull, S. Clarke, senr., J. Gebbie, W. A. Veray. Roslyn, W. H. McKenzie, C. Watt. Timaru, J. M. Innes, W. L. Taylor.

On the suggestion of J. L. S. Wright it was agreed to sing the National Anthem at all the meetings of the Conference.

Greetings were received from the Executive of the New Zealand Christian Women's Board of Missions; from the Conferences in N.S.W. and Victoria; the District Conferences in Auckland and Wellington; also from the Executive of the Dominion Conference to be held in Wellington. Personal greetings were also received from C. F. McDonald and P. D. McCullum, of Auckland, both of whom had been formerly associated with the South Island District.

The President of the Conference, W. J. Mason, of Christchurch, in his address, stressed prayer, power and path as three essentials in the progressive and efficient church. There must be diligent seeking of the Lord in prayer, connection with the living storehouse of power must be maintained, then there must be push, or zeal and energy in applying the power.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Foreign Mission report was presented by J. Inglis Wright, secretary of the Foreign Mission Union, and President of the Foreign Mission Committee. Including the balance in hand at the beginning of the year, the Committee's income had been £387/5/8, and the credit balance when the year closed was £527/14/-. The Foreign Mission account for the whole of the Dominion showed an income of £287/8/8, and a credit balance at December, 1915, of £60/11/-. The work in South Africa was making steady progress, the results from the trained natives being specially gratifying. Good work among the children aged well for the future development and good influence of the Mission. The white workers, F. L. Hadfield and wife (at Inini), and Thos. Anderson and wife (at Bulawayo) were very devoted servants of the

Lord, and full of good works. John Sherriff and his wife had charge of a mission at Forest Vale, which, though not supported by the New Zealand churches, was helped by them to a certain extent. There were all devoted workers, as were also the native teachers. The work was hampered through lack of funds necessary for certain developments which seemed eminently desirable. There had been a considerable drop in the financial support of the mission in this district. Money was required for a native school in Bulawayo—more money ought to be provided for Bro. Hadfield to relieve him of some of the physical labors involved in doing work that might be done by native labor.

The discussion on the report turned largely upon means for securing a regular income to maintain and develop the missionary work, and the envelope system of contributions was strongly recommended to the churches, but it was pointed out that no system would succeed unless it was worked.

The Foreign Mission Committee was elected as follows: J. I. Wright (chairman), T. J. Melville (secretary), J. L. S. Wright (treasurer), M. James Powell and Christensen, and Messrs. Holmes and S. G. Griffith.

On the motion of S. G. Griffith, resolutions of appreciation, confidence and good cheer for Bro. and Sister Hadfield, and Bro. and Sister Anderson, and their fellow-workers in the African field, were unanimously adopted, and God's blessing invoked upon them in earnest prayer.

A tea meeting, arranged and provided by the Oamaru church, was well attended on Friday evening, and was followed by

THE FOREIGN MISSION RALLY.

J. Inglis Wright presided, and, in his opening speech, said the heart of the missionary problem lay in our devotion to Christ. God wanted men who were zealous and not afraid to do things. A more progressive spirit was required. The time had arrived when a forward movement should be made. The appeal from the mission field was strong for lack of funds, and until the church was prepared to make sacrifices, the work would drag. T. J. Bull said it should be the ambition of every church to be well-pleasing to God—that must be the aim of the individual also. Devotion to Christ was impossible apart from personal affection. The church had undertaken Foreign Mission work for apostolic reasons—because the command had been given to "go into all the world and preach the gospel." Bro. Bull referred to the work of Bro. Hadfield in the church's mission field in Africa, and eulogized the devotion that characterized his work and the work of the missionary agents.

R. Gebbie, B.A., referred to the despicable conduct of Ephraim, who, as the leader of Israel's armies on one occasion "turned back in the day of battle," and compared the church's attitude to its missionary work to that of Ephraim. In Africa there were great opportunities offering the

church, and if the church did not grasp them, she was turning back in the day of battle. Foreign Missionary work was essential to the Christian church and the Christian individual. If the church had no work in South Africa, it would still be necessary to take some part in Foreign Missions. If they had no interest in Foreign Missions, they were out of touch with God. No church could exist without the Foreign Missionary spirit. What the church needed was a new vision of Calvary to inspire it to devotion and self-sacrifice.

S. G. Griffith also gave a brief address, instancing the devotion of Dr. Susie Kijihari, leaving both husband and child in Tibet, and yet pleasing to be sent back to the missionary work in that country. Bro. Griffith contrasted such devotion with the spirit of those who with ample incomes and homes of comfort and luxury gave a meagre pittance to the most urgent work of the church.

W. H. McKenzie and J. Bewley sang solos with much feeling. Bro. Mason presided at the organ. The meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

HOME MISSIONS.

The Home Mission Committee's report and balance sheet was presented by the chairman, Capt. C. F. Sundstrum. The balance sheet showed a debit balance of £46/9/5 in an expenditure of £375 3/6.

S. G. Griffith made a strong appeal to the Conference for the Home Mission Committee to make a forward movement during the coming year.

Appeals for help in the Home Mission effort were received from the churches at Gore, Ashburton, South Dunedin, and Timaru. These appeals were referred to the Committee to be dealt with at its discretion.

On the motion of Bro. Griffith it was agreed that a suitable brother be engaged by the Home Mission Committee, whose duties should be to organize the work of Home Missions in all the churches, to conduct missions and do such other work as would further the cause of New Testament Christianity in the Dominion, and to arrange for visits from the ministers in the district to the churches now receiving financial assistance to conduct volunteer missions, so that the burden on the Conference might be lessened.

The Home Mission Committee was constituted as follows: President, C. F. Sundstrum; Secretary, L. C. J. Schulerking; Treasurer, J. M. Beutler; and J. W. Stokes, W. H. Palmer, Chas. Watt, and S. G. Griffith.

HOME MISSION RALLY.

The annual rally was held on Saturday evening. There was a large gathering. Captain C. F. Sundstrum, chairman of the Committee, presided.

The meeting was opened with devotional exercises.

The chairman stated that the Home Mission Committee was anxious to urge upon delegates and churches the necessity for earnestness and co-operation.

C. Watt spoke on the subject of "For Home, for Christ and His Church." Home Mission rallies had been held at every Conference, but the speaker said by the thought of the danger of them developing into the commonplace. Church members were fighters together with God in the greatest conflict. God always required human instruments in carrying out his work. The liability of the Committee was approaching 6 per week, and the speaker appealed for the work on behalf of the weaker churches that needed assistance for their evangelizing.

S. G. Griffith said that Home Mission work was vital to the interests of the whole church. It was the base of all other church enterprise. The speaker appealed for the Home Mission work from a patriotic standpoint. The speaker said that he hoped to put some emphasis into the Home Mission Committee, and that at the next Conference there would be a report of great progress and a vigorous forward movement.

Solos were given by J. Bewley, W. J. Mason, and W. H. McKenzie, quitted by a male quartette party, anthems by the choir, and a recitation by Miss Glazier. Miss Clarke presided at the organ. Miss Gray played the pianoforte accompaniments.

Continued on page 314.

Reports from the Field.

Continued from page 309.

Tasmania.

TUNNEL BAY.—To-day, Sunday, May 7, we had several visitors. Our meetings continue good both morning for breaking of bread and afternoon gospel meetings. We are now an organised Church of seventeen members, with Bro. F. E. Smith secretary, and Bro. W. A. Spaulding treasurer.—F. E. S.

HOBART.—Last Lord's day Bro. Chappell was with us; his talk was inspiring. Bro. Dale's, a very old member of the church (a pioneer), and a diligent worker, recently passed away. The sincere sympathy of the church has been expressed for the bereaved ones. Our Bible School is steadily growing, and a full staff of teachers available. The year has closed with a net increase of 27. Gospel cottage meetings have been started with bright prospects. G. Woolnough, our evangelist, is an indefatigable worker, and along with Bro. Jarvis, did vigorous work in the six o'clock closing campaign. The church here is noted as an anti-liquor people.—Chas. Hale.

West Australia.

SUBIACO.—Easter Sunday morning gave us a host of visitors. D. K. Stirling gave us a fine address. At night Bro. Connor preached on "If Christ be not raised" and referred to the passing of our Bro. Halls. Bro. Henry Millar has left for Kalgoolie. He has been one of our finest helpers. Bro. Alcorn addressed the church last Sunday morning, Bro. Connor being away at the service at the camp.—May 4.

WEST SUBIACO.—Work still going on. The brethren are holding the fort well. On the 23rd Bro. Stirling preached. On the 30th Bro. Alcorn, who once confessed Christ. These brethren were highly appreciated.—May 4.

Queensland.

BRISBANE.—On Monday evening a Young People's Society was formed by A. C. Rankine as president, and Miss Laura Johnson as secretary. The society will meet weekly. Yesterday morning Mrs. Wilkinson, Hawthorn, and Mrs. Bakley, Lygon-st., worshipped with the church. Bro. Rankine preached the gospel, there being a good attendance, including a number of elders. One of the Bible School scholars, confessed Christ. Bro. Harold Guggin has been appointed secretary of the Bible School.—H. C. S.

MA MA CREEK.—No preacher at present. We are liquidating the small debt on the manse. Eight young brethren have gone to the front, and several young sisters have gone to the town, so it has reduced our numbers. Much sickness has prevailed. E. Rosenberg and Bro. Hale preach alternately. A young sister was received in last Sunday. Gospel meetings are fairly well attended, alternate Sunday nights, E. Rosenberg preaching. Bible School: B. E. Rosenberg is getting in favor with the parents, and they take a good interest in the Bible School.—T. A. C., May 11.

New Zealand.

WELLINGTON SOUTH.—We were glad to have a number of delegates with us last Lord's day, among whom were Bro. T. J. Phillips, from Nelson, who presided at the morning meeting, and Bro. Lane, of Spring Grove, who gave a splendid exhortation on "Christian Friendship." In the evening Bro. A. Wright delivered a powerful address on "The Gospel of Christ" to a large congregation. All the meetings are being well attended, and keen interest is being manifested by a number of strangers attending the gospel services.—A. L., May 9.

OMARU.—We have been blessed by the Christian fellowship of visiting Conference brethren, and by many helpful and stirring addresses. Bro. Noble spoke on Decision Day, when two from the Bible School came forward. Two more confessed Christ at the gospel service conducted by S. G. Griffith. Another from the school came forward last night. Bro. Hull preaching.—K., May 1.

CHRISTCHURCH.—"Walk worthily in your calling" was the text of Bro. Gebbie's exhortation last Sunday morning. At night he preached on "The Ark of the Covenant," showing its counterpart in the new covenant. On Wednesday the reports of the delegates to the District and the Dominion Conferences were given to the church, while on Thursday the Women's Conference report was put before the C.W.I.M.—P.S.N., May 6.

WELLINGTON.—A very enjoyable social evening was held on Thursday, April 27, to bid God-speed to Sergeant R. H. Knapp, Sergeant H. H. S. Compton, and Sergeant W. J. Cunningham, who are leaving with the 12th and 13th Reinforcements. On behalf of the church Bro. R. A. Wright, M.P., presented each with a fountain pen and knapsack Bible, and gave a short appropriate address. The boys each expressed their thanks for the gifts and well wishes. A roll of honor was also unveiled by Bro. Wright, on which are inscribed the names of ten members of the Vivian-st. church, who are on active service. Knapsack Bibles are to be sent to all on the roll. Bro. R. H. Davis presided over the meeting, and gave a very appropriate address. Musical and eulogistic numbers were rendered. Many of the Conference delegates were present.—M. Philp, May 5.

Our Plea and the Restless World.

Continued from page 305.

alone, taking his message alone. The grand old Book is still supreme, and we must take it plus nothing, and minus nothing. "The book which," as H. L. Hastings quaintly says, "has been refused, demolished, overthrown, and exploded more times than any other book you ever heard of. Every little while somebody starts up and upsets this book; and it is just like upsetting a solid cube of granite. It is just as big a cube as the other; and when you overturn it again, it is right side up still." The all-sufficiency of this book is the beginning, middle part and end of "Our Plea." Upon this we have taken our stand, and God helping us, we shall still stand firm. Our feet are planted upon a Rock, and that Rock is Christ.

Our prayer is that the warring nations will see Jesus as the Prince of Peace, and realise that by atoning sacrifice is the panacea for sin. As he spoke 2000 years ago to the multitude, so he speaks to the restless world to-day:—"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls."

OBITUARY.

MACAULAY.—It is with the deepest regret that I have to chronicle the death of Sister Kitty Macaulay from drowning on Wednesday, April 26. Our young sister was a girl of great promise, and one that will be greatly missed in the kindergarten class of the City Temple, Sydney. She was one of several who put on Christ under the ministry of Bro. D. A. Favers when visiting three some nine years ago at the opening of our school. She became an active worker in our Christian Endeavor and Bible School, being organizer for the latter for several years. Some two years ago she entered the Education Department, and removed to Sydney for her training. There she became a teacher under Bro. Harward's leadership, and more recently became superintendent of the kindergarten. Kitty was home for Easter holidays when the end came. She and her mother, with other of her friends, were at the seaside on the day mentioned above, and in company with her sister Marion, her cousin, and Miss Elgie Hopper, was in surfing, when she and Miss Hopper were carried out by the undertow. A brave lad, Edly Morris, son of Bro. and Sister Morris, of the City Temple, went immediately to the rescue, but while he succeeded in bringing the body of Miss Hopper to shore, and afterwards going to help another lad to bring Kitty's body, all efforts at resuscitation proved vain. Quite an unequalled gloom spread over the district, and much sympathy has been

expressed for Bro. and Sister Macaulay in their great and irreparable loss. It is doubtful if ever there has been a larger funeral in this district. Quite three-quarters of a mile of vehicles followed the bodies to the cemetery, and more for the interment. Both coffins were laid in the one large grave, and a united funeral service was held at the graveside, Adjutant Symington and the writer conducting. On Sunday night the chapel was packed to its utmost, when the writer conducted the in memoriam service. The church has been deeply moved by the sad calamity. Kitty was loved by us all, and the call home of one so young (she was only 19) and one so promising has caused us to think more seriously of the lives we live, and the services we render our Lord and Master Jesus. We pray that God may graciously console the dear sorrowing parents and brothers and sister. May his precious promise become more real in the hour of their great loss.—G. E. Burns.

FEDERAL FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

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

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South Australia.—Treas., T. Colebatch, c/o Mr. A. H. Dobbie, Hayward Avenue, Torrensville.

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

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Here and There

A. H. Wilson is doing good work as evangelist with the Mildura (Vic.) church.

J. E. Thomas will commence his work with the 188-st. church on Sunday, June 18.

Brighton church correspondence should be sent to Reg. P. Clark, 3 Male-st., Middle Brighton, Vic.

The first terminal vacation of the College of the Bible is now in progress. Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 30.

Large audiences the last few Sunday nights at Maryborough, Vic. Lars Larsen is rightly popular as evangelist there.

Victorian church secretaries are asked to forward Bible School offerings, as soon as complete, to Reg. Ennis, Scott Grove, East Malvern.

A large number of contributions submitted for publication have had to be held over. We regret this, but hope to find room for most items in due course.

About 65 confessions were reported at the S.A. preachers' meeting on Monday morning. Most of these were the result of the efforts put forth on Decision Day.

Another large audience in the new Prahran Town Hall last Sunday night, and one confession. Bro. Wilfred Diamond is conducting the singing with great success.

The address of Chaplain Captain Cuttriss, who goes to the front representing Churches of Christ, and Baptist and Congregational Churches, will be 43rd Battalion, 11th Brigade, A.I.F.

"Our Pies and the Restless World" was the subject of the presidential address at the Dominion Conference, N.Z. A report of Bro. McDonald's speech appears on another page.

The openings for the extension of our cause in Victoria are many and great. The Home Mission Committee is entrusted with this work, and the more funds the brethren place in their hands the more such work will be done.

A. E. Marler passed through Melbourne this past week on his way to Merbein, where he takes the work of evangelist. In conjunction with brethren of the Mildura and Merbein churches, work will be carried on by him at Merbein, Carwarp, and Galah.

A No-License League was started recently in Lygon-st. chapel for the electorate of Carlton. The adjourned meeting will be held in the lecture hall, on Thursday, May 18, at 8 o'clock. A large attendance is desired, as officers are to be chosen, and other business transacted.

An all-day meeting for the deepening of spiritual life will be held in the Swanston-st. Melbourne, chapel on Monday, June 5 (King's Birthday). This will be a fitting way to spend this day in view of world conditions, and the request of the King that the usual way of celebrating the day shall be abandoned.

We regret to hear of a slight accident which occurred to Chaplain Captain Cuttriss last Friday afternoon, during the march of the troops through Adelaide. His foot was badly crushed and his leg injured. Fortunately no bones were broken. Bro. Cuttriss is making satisfactory progress, and should soon be about again.

A Word of Explanation.—Lest someone has run away with the idea that the Victorian Temperance Committee intends to pay some man a far larger salary than any of our preachers are receiving, because they are asking for £500, let me say that this is a working fund for the campaign of 1917; but has for its main object the placing of a man in the field to represent our churches. If the brethren will give the committee this money to work with, I am sure it will be used wisely.—Geo. D. Vetter, Doncaster, Vic.

R. T. Pittman has commenced a course of lectures on the life of Paul on Tuesday evenings at the Melbourne Church Efficiency Training Class, which meets in Swanston-st. Those who have been present so far are loud in their praises of them. It would be well for all the men of the churches around Melbourne to hear the rest.

Regular subscribers to the funds of the College of the Bible are asked to forward contributions as early as possible. The cost of maintaining this work, with the extensive property, is considerable, and just now a large extra expenditure is necessary. Donations of small or large sums for this work will be gladly received by the Treasurer, Bro. Craigie, or by the Organiser, Bro. Reg. Ennis.

Early members of the church at Maryborough, Vic., or others able to do so, are requested to write the secretary of that church in respect of any interesting historical matter in respect of the said church. The reason for this request is that the early records of the church have been lost, and it is desired that this matter be made good while yet some of the pioneers are spared to us. Please address to A. J. Burdett.

Lionel Johnston has arranged a literature exchange in the St. Arnaud (Vic.) church. A number of books and pamphlets on Christian Evidences and our distinctive mission have been secured, and members take them home to read, returning them again in two weeks' time. "Give attention to reading" of the right kind, is an exhortation needed much to-day. At St. Arnaud an effort is being made to induce the members to do this.

Victorian Bible Schools desiring to introduce Graded Lessons with the quarter commencing October, should place order with Austral Publishing Company at an early date. Graded Lessons are arranged to commence first Sunday in October of each year, and while the system can be introduced at the beginning of any quarter, October is the best time to make a start. Write for full printed information to the Bible School Organiser, Bro. Ennis.

On the first page of this issue appears a short article from the pen of Bro. G. Anderson. This appeared some time ago in the American "Christian Standard." Bro. Anderson, who is a Victorian, has been for a good many years in U.S.A. As a preacher he is very highly spoken of. He hopes to return to Victoria shortly, and to remain for a year or so ere returning to America. There is thus an opportunity for some church to secure his services.

Although he was known to have been in precarious health for some weeks, the death of Bro. W. C. Thurgood, early on the morning of May 13, came as a shock to his many friends. He had attained to the ripe age of forty-one years; and over fifty of them he had been a very active and successful worker for the Master, especially in the Bible School, having been superintendent in Lygon-st. for a long time. He was also a deacon. Although there were no morning papers published in which to give notice between his demise and funeral, a very large company of friends and sympathisers gathered in the Melbourne General on Sunday afternoon. J. W. Webb and J. J. Franklin, who had previously held services at the residence, did the same at the grave, Bro. Webb making an impressive address. As the cortege passed Lygon-st. chapel, the Bible School, in a body, headed by Bro. F. McLean, assistant superintendent, and teachers, marched in front to the resting place, where they sang an appropriate hymn.

The Acting Secretary of the S.A. Home Mission Committee writes as follows.—Our Home Mission offering is over. The amount contributed was £600, a little under last year's total; nevertheless, we are not undisciplined or discouraged with our effort. It would be a grand achievement if the Committee could go to Conference with a credit balance, but I regret to say that our expenditure over and above our receipts will leave the Committee with a debit balance of roughly £200. May I suggest one way to help us over this difficulty? We have a membership of over 6000

members; the greater number are not in a position to give, but there are at least 100 of our members who could no doubt make additional offering, by donating the sum of 45 to the funds of the Committee by the 31st July next. If we succeed in this request we shall have a credit balance of about £400 to start off the next year's work with, with its working as a depository, and at the same time would probably have evened the cost of making the usual appeal at Conference. Remittances should be sent to Walter J. Manning, National Mutual Buildings, King William st., Adelaide.

The "Hut of Silence" at Claremont Camp has been erected, and is now in use. The cost of this building is being borne by the various Protestant bodies other than Anglican. One fact that we as a people in Tasmania are asked to contribute is *tax*. We should have paid up a month ago, but as far as I know not fall the amount is in hand yet. I regret to say that we are not nearly as forward as some others in this matter. The building is the only one at camp which is set apart for religious services, and at the complete disposal of the Chaplain in charge. When I attend camp in my official capacity, I will have a right to the use of the building as others do. Notwithstanding the courtesy of the Y.M.C.A., it has not been possible in past days to give the lads in camp all the spiritual help that we should have. But now we have a splendid chance. God bless the hearts of our boys while they are with us. I sincerely hope that our churches in Tasmania will rise to this occasion, and send on the needed cash. I do not know that in this matter contributions need be confined to members. Remittances will be thankfully received by the undersigned, or by Bro. Warranunga, Day or Duff, of Launceston.—Geo. A. Woodhouse, 22 Fitzroy Place, Hobart, Tas.

COMING EVENTS.

MAY 28 (Sunday).—Fitzroy Bible School Anniversary. 10 a.m., Bible School workers take the meeting. W. C. Fisher speaks. 1.30 p.m., Special meeting, prize distribution, and address by W. L. Ewers. 7 p.m., Chas. Schwab speaks on "What we owe to mothers." Special anthems and collection for "Talbot Epileptic Colony." Tuesday, 2nd, Scholars' Concert night. Splendid musical programme. Admission, 6d. Come and bring others.

MAY 28—June 5.—Jubiliary Meetings, Mount Vale. May 28, Church Anniversary Services, May 31, Public Meeting. June 4, Bible School Anniversary Services. June 5, Public Demonstration and distribution of prizes. All past members are specially requested to attend these gatherings.

JUNE 5 (King's Birthday).—All Day Meeting in Swanston-st. chapel. Reserve the day for this event.

IN MEMORIAM.

HOLDERNESS.—In loving memory of our sonnet mother and grandmother, Fanny Holderness, who departed this life on May 22, 1915, after a week's illness.

"Sovered only 'till He come"
—Inserted by her loving daughter and son-in-law, J. T. and L. Bull, and grandchildren, Bruce, Norma, and John.

WANTED.

Young Christian girl or middle aged woman as mother's help. Two little children in home. Good Christian help, offered to suitable person. Mother preferred. Apply, Mrs. E. Burnett, "Bellbird," Winchester, Vic. 624 June, N.S.W.

Domestic help wanted. Apply by letter to Mrs. E. A. Lawson, "Olmida," Hunter's-road, East Camberwell.

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Come to "Delonhe Farm" for a nice holiday. Splendid scenery, fern gullies, mountain air, good table. Bath and piano.—Mrs. Chaffer.

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The Family Altar.

AN ERECT BODY.

An erect body is the desire of every one, and it is within the reach of most of us. It is conducive both to health and to an attractive personal appearance. But to one who is always looking toward the ground, it is an impossibility. Such an one, before he realises it, will become "round-shouldered." And even when we form the habit of keeping the eyes on objects on a level with them, the same result will largely follow. But when it is the custom to look at things above us, then the shoulders are broadened, the chest is deepened and expanded, and the whole body is erect, strong and graceful. Even so it is spiritually; when we look too much at the things beneath us or about us, we can not be strong and beautiful, like our Lord; but when we are constantly looking to the hills from whence cometh our help, we grow more and more like him every day.

SUNDAY, MAY 28.

Gems of Thought.—"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help" (Psa. 121: 1).

"Fear not the windy tempest wild,
Thy barque they shall not wreck;
Lie down and sleep, O helpless child!
Thy Father's on the deck."

The poorest man in London is as welcome to look up as the richest, and he is just as able to do it. The stars will not come to us. We have to look to them and greet them and get their message.—McNeil.

Bible Reading.—Psa. 121: 1-8: Looking up.

MONDAY, MAY 29.

Gems of Thought.—"I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot hear them now" (John 16: 12).

The story is told of a young theological student who one day came to the great evangelist, Mr. Spurgeon, telling him that the Bible contained some verses which he could not understand, and about which he was very much worried. To this the great man of God replied: "Young man, allow me to give you this word of advice: you must expect to let God know some things which you do not understand." The student took the words of wisdom to heart.—Robert V. Malone.

Bible Reading.—John 16: 5-12: More light in store for us.

TUESDAY, MAY 30.

Gems of Thought.—"Consider the lilies of the field" (Matt. 6: 28).

"Daisies for thoughts"—for thoughts of thee, O God,
Who decks the tiny flower so gaudily;
Whose love and care in every hue I see;
Whose gold and crimson of the common cloid,
Make ground too holy to be lightly trod.
With head bowed low above the mystery,
I bend the knee in holy ecstasy
And trembling rise, to walk with feet unshod
The paths made sacred by thy presence, Lord.
God of the pany, faith looks up anew,
The heart aglow with love. If sun and dew
Can thus transmute the clay, I'll trust thy word.
Thou Sun of righteousness, with light divine,
Do what thou wilt with this poor life of mine.
—LuLu Gaines Winston.

Flowers are words that even a babe may understand.—Bishop Cox.

Bible Reading.—Matt. 6: 24-36: Lessons from the flowers.

WEDNESDAY, May 31.

Gems of Thought.—"If thou wilt walk in my ways, I will lengthen thy days" (1 Kings 3: 14).

Choose well; your choice is
Brief and yet endless. —Goethe.

Righteous living is the best recipe for a long life. The longest lives are those who live by the Book. There are fewer grey heads at a liquor-dealers' convention than at any other gathering of men who sell goods or skill. There are lots of old fellows among the bankers and the wool-men and the cotton-men and the iron-men and the leather-men and the millers and the merchants and the teachers and the engineers and the lawyers, the railroad men, and all the other vocations. These old fellows are everywhere, and full of life and ginger.—W. H. Ridgway.

Bible Reading.—1 Kings 3: 10-14: Choosing.

THURSDAY, JUNE 1.

Gems of Thought.—"By him were all things created" (Col. 1: 16).

The kindness and generosity of Robert G. Ingersoll won for him many friends who deeply regretted his opinions. Among these was Henry Ward Beecher. In the study of the famous preacher was an elaborate celestial globe which had been sent him with the compliments of some manufacturer. On its surface, in delicate workmanship, were raised figures of the constellations and the stars which composed them. The globe struck Ingersoll's fancy. He turned it round and round with admiration. "This is just what I want," he said. "Who made it?" "Who made it?" do you say, Colonel?" repeated Beecher. "Who made this globe? Why, nobody, of course. It just happened."—"The Youth's Companion."

Bible Reading.—Col. 1: 9-16: The Creator.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2.

Gems of Thought.—"It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20: 35).

Tourists in Southern California were looking at the wonderful flowers which grew about a fine residence. The lady of the house came out, spoke cordially to the visitors, and, taking a pair of scissors, snipped off a fine handful of flowers, which she gave them. They noticed, however, that the flowers she cut were all past ripe, and when they turned away they gently shook the bouquet, and the petals nearly all fell off. That is the kind of gifts too many give to Christ. We dishonor him when we bring him our fading flowers. We should bring to Christ the best—the most precious of our time, the finest gold of our youth, the sweetest fragrance of our hearts' love. Nothing less than the best is worthy of him.—J. R. Miller.

Bible Reading.—Acts 20: 33-38: Giving.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3.

Gems of Thought.—"If we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it" (Rom. 8: 25).

The Lord is very patient,

And long he waits for fruit;

He tends his tree in quiet,

And digs about the root.

His husbandmen, a-weary

With working but a day,

Go seeking other labor

And throwing their tools away;

While He who sees the ending

When work is but begun

Still sends refreshing showers,

Soft dews, and heat of sun.

Till one day, all in wonder,

The husbandmen behold

The tree they left to perish

Bending with fruit of gold.

—Anon.

Patience and fortitude conquer all things.—Emerson.

Bible Reading.—Rom. 8: 18-25: Patience.

—From the "Christian Standard."

South Island Conference, New Zealand.

Continued from page 311.

CONFERENCE ESSAY.

"Our Greatest Need" was the subject of the Conference Essay, read by R. Gebbie, B.A. Bro. Gebbie, in a very able and interesting manner, said that efficiency was the greatest need, and

showed how it was to be attained, and the results of efficient service. "Efficiency is the watchword of the twentieth century." To do its work efficiently, the church must accomplish completely and satisfactorily the great work for which she was called into being. For such efficiency three things were needed—first, a definite understanding of the work; second, a proper disposition of the means by which the work was to be done; and third, a proper utilisation of the available power.

The task was the union of all God's people by the restoration of primitive Christianity in faith and practice. The object of the task was to convince the world of the reality of Christ—so to promote union by the restoration of the ideal church of the New Testament. The essayist referred to the history of the Churches of Christ, and their plea for the practice of primitive Christianity. And though in the changing times those truths for which they stood might be presented in a different manner, yet in principle they were permanent and abiding.

The next proposition dealt with the disposition of the machinery for the accomplishment of the task. Every individual in the church was an essential part of the great mechanism. When the church lost sight of its central purpose, dissensions occurred, and men drifted away from her care.

The third great essential to efficiency was motive power to propel the machinery, and that power was divine. "Without me ye can do nothing." For the full use of that power lives of consecration and sacrifice were needed.

NEXT CONFERENCE.

It was agreed to hold the next Conference (Easter, 1917) in Dunedin, the Conference Executive to be S. G. Griffith, President; J. M. Routledge, Vice-President; L. C. J. Schulerburg, Secretary; and T. J. Bull to be the essay writer. The suggested subject for the essay was "The loss of spiritual power in the individual, and in the church, and how it may be regained."

RESOLUTIONS.

On the motion of the President, the incoming Conference Executive was recommended to consider the possibility of organising campaigns for deepening the spiritual life, increasing the membership, and adding to the contributions of the churches in the district.

The following resolution in reference to the war was carried by a standing vote:—"That this Conference assembled desires to place on record the devotion to God, King and Country, of those brethren who have at the call of His Majesty King George V. taken up arms in defence of national honor, and the causes of liberty, righteousness, and justice; and further, that this Conference views with horror the awful ravages of the present war, and urges all members with one accord daily to present their supplications to Almighty God, praying that he will give wisdom and power to the rulers and leaders of the Allied nations, and imploring that the time will soon come when righteousness will triumph, and victory be accorded to our arms, and peace with honor be once more restored."

That this Conference assembled place on record its strong opposition to the Drink Traffic as being one of the greatest agencies for evil and the degradation of the human family, and urges its members to co-operate with unflinching determination in the movements for its abolition.

"EVANGELICAL MESSENGER."

W. H. Palmer presented a report regarding the "Evangelical Messenger," which was adopted. It was agreed to continue the paper, with Bro. Palmer as business manager, and Bro. T. J. Bull as editor.

A motion of sympathy with J. R. Clarke, formerly an evangelist under the Home Mission Committee, but who had to resign the work owing to ill-health, was carried on the motion of Bro. J. M. Innes.

An excellent luncheon was provided free for the delegates by the Oamaru church on the Friday and Saturday.

On the motion of Bro. Gebbie, a comprehensive vote of thanks was carried to all who had helped

to make the Conference a success. This vote included thanks to the crews for publishing reports of the Conference, to the Luncheon and Tea Committees, and to all the brethren and sisters for cordial hospitality extended to visitors.

The Church Conference was followed by a Conference of the

THE BIBLE SCHOOL UNION.

The President, Bro. J. W. Stokes, occupied the chair.

The annual report showed that twenty-three scholars had been baptised during the year. It was urged as very desirable that a Bible School organizer should be appointed as soon as possible, and the delegates to the Dominion Conference were authorized to support the appointment when the matter was reviewed there. The statistics showed that there had been a slight falling off in the number of scholars, there being 991 now on the roll as against 1031 last year. The financial statement showed a credit balance of 17/6.

The arrangements for the ensuing year were as follows:—Lecale of Executive, Christchurch; Executive President, R. Gebbie, B.A.; Vice-President, John Rhind; Secretary and Treasurer, P. S. Nelson; Committee, Iren. Langford, H. Crowe, J. McLeod, W. J. Mason.

An address was given by N. G. Noble, of Kaitangata, on the development of Bible School work. He urged the formation of a Young Worshipers' League in every church, composed of senior scholars of the Bible School. An address was also given by S. G. Griffith, of Dunedin. He deplored the lack of earnestness on the part of church members generally in regard to the Bible School. Missionary methods should be utilized to interest the children. A hearty vote of thanks to the speakers concluded the Conference.

ON SUNDAY

there were large congregations throughout the day. In the morning the Lord's Supper was observed, and the address was given by Bro. B. Jarvis, of Ashburton, on the subject of "Whom Jesus Loved." In the afternoon a Bible School rally was held. Bro. N. G. Noble, of Kaitangata, was the special speaker, and Miss Nell, of Dunedin, also gave some sand-table lessons. At 6.30 p.m. the church was crowded by a large congregation, when the Conference Sermon was preached by Bro. S. G. Griffith, of the Tabernacle, Dunedin, the subject being "A Corrected Vision."

There were four congregations of Christ during the day, three being members of the Bible School, and one a visitor from Dunedin.

C.W.B.M.

The Christian Women's Board of Missions also held its annual Conference at Oamaru at Easter, commencing Saturday afternoon, continuing all day Monday, and concluding with a rally on Monday evening. Thus to our good sisters belongs the honor of bringing the Conference season to a close. The Lord blessed us with glorious weather, and to him be the praise for the gracious fellowship we have all enjoyed.—E. J. Hill.

The Society of Christian Endeavor.

May 28 to June 3.

IS THE ARK IN ITS RIGHT PLACE?

David as King.

1. Avasin to the Thru. 2 Sam. 5: 1-13.
2. The ruthless Jews. 2 Sam. 4: 23-29.
3. The ark brought in. 2 Sam. 6: 1-15.
4. Absalom's rebellion. 2 Sam. 15: 13-20.
5. David's sin. 2 Sam. 24: 8-18.
6. His charge to Solomon. 1 Chron. 22: 5-16.
7. His prayer to God. 1 Chron. 29: 14-23.

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rheumatic fever for twelve months, constantly using the
best treatment without success. I was cured by a bottle
of Wright's Rheumatic Cure. After I had taken
four bottles I was returned to perfect health and have since
enjoyed perfect health. I have since had four more
bottles of Wright's Rheumatic Cure. I ordered four to take
for twelve years and I am now 75 years of age."
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