

The Australian Christian

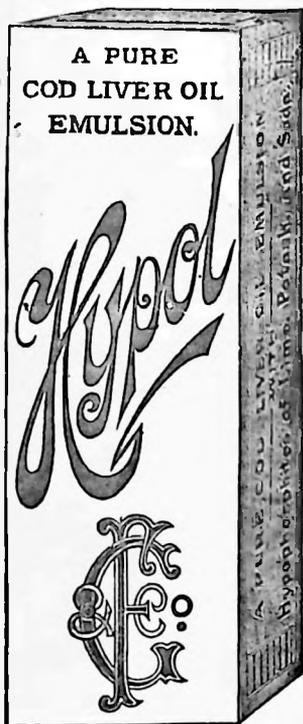
CIRCULATING AMONGST CHURCHES OF CHRIST in the AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH and NEW ZEALAND

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The Ideals of the Brotherhood.

A. E. Illingworth, President of Federal Conference.

[In the course of his presidential address, after an introduction dealing with general matters, Mr. Illingworth gave a striking deliverance on the above subject. We have pleasure in presenting it for our readers' consideration.]

I. Loyalty to the Word of God.

What gave birth to this movement for the restoration of the ancient order of things? Was it not a strong desire to be true in every particular to the precepts, commandments, and ordinances of Jesus Christ, as revealed in the New Testament? Thomas and Alexander Campbell and other noble men of God of like faith and passion raised the standard of Christianity, *pure and simple*. "What saith the Scriptures?" was emblazoned on the banner they unfurled. They asserted "all that is necessary to the happiness of Christian men and women is to return to the Book." We shall have no other revelation, no other New Testament, no other Saviour, no other religion than Christianity. "To understand, believe and practise the doctrines of Christ and his apostles should be our chief aspiration." "Where the Scriptures speak, let us speak." Let the words of Christ and his apostles be the only creed, the only formula, the only directory of faith, worship, and Christian practice. This was the essence of the plea of the pioneers, the men whose names we revere. It of necessity made them students of the *Word*.

They are judged to have been in advance of their time.

Are we still loyal to the Book?—I would say we are; though I am conscious of a very noticeable change in our emphasis due I presume to "the spirit of the age." Things that were stressed a great deal in my youth are now sometimes thrown into the background. The *doctrinal* aspect of our message then received chief consideration. *First principles* (so-called) were dogmatically taught. There were endless, and sometimes heated arguments concerning the "Fundamentals of our faith." A change of emphasis has taken place. The *practical* side of the gospel and its application to the social and spiritual needs of the churches and the community is more in evidence. In all religions circles a similar change is manifest. The righteousness of God, the grace of God, man's ruin, redemption through the blood of Christ, the forgiveness of sins, the justification of the believer by grace through redemption and the obedience of faith,

eternal life as the free gift of God, the resurrection of the just in the image of the heavenly, and of the unjust to appear at the last great judgment seat—not a trace of these foundation doctrines remains in some pulpits.

The stress is on topics more like God's personality and character, the Saviourhood of Christ, the kingdom of God, the worth of life, and the blessedness of service and sacrifice. A cleavage is thus clearly marked. The old conceptions of the guilt, ruin, and bitter fruits of sin, and the necessity of the atonement, the doctrines of the future life and retribution, the terms and conditions of salvation, are not, as I read the times, as zealously made known as in by-gone days.

Questions arise.—Amongst them, these: Is the sense of sin declining? Is this change of emphasis the outcome of a mistaken spirit of compromise? Is it the result of a desire for conformity to popular ideals? Is it a subtle form of unbelief? Is it due to the weakening of faith in the inerrancy of the sacred Scriptures? The Bible is once again in the crucible!

We all know that there is in the present world a current of keen thought running through all modern religious literature. A tendency is to belittle the integrity, inspiration, and authority of a large portion of the living oracles.

I do not think we have shown any marked disposition to put "query-marks" and "signs of interrogation" here, there, and everywhere, throughout the Bible as evidence of scholarship. But I will say this, if our change of emphasis is due to the influence of "high thought" criticism, then we may rest assured that the fundamentals of our faith and plea will soon cease to be regarded as of vital importance. If the last word upon the question of authority is to rest with the critic rather than the Book criticised, we can no longer quote its teachings and promises as certitudes, or rest our hope and faith upon its precepts and commandments as being a "Thus saith the Lord." For myself I can see only one path of safety, namely,

"Cling to the Bible,
Though all else be taken"

A writer in the "Bible Witness" of May, 1916, under the caption, "Britain's Greatest Need," boldly declares, "Side by side with the rise of Prussianism—the deadly force which has not only devastated Europe, but

regions far afield—we have to note the development of a rationalism, largely emanating from the same source, which has virtually destroyed the religious character of our own and other nations. It has been an easy matter for the blatant infidelity of the street corner to demolish the weakened structure of a 'faith' that has no book to rest upon. *Britain as a Bible-knowing and Bible-loving country has ceased to exist.*"

Hear another voice: the late Rev. C. H. Waller, D.D., Principal of St. John's Hall, Highbury, shortly before his death, made this trenchant statement: "If people did but know their Bibles—but they don't. One of the reasons why preaching for more than 15 minutes is useless in England, is because not one person in a hundred knows the book you have to preach. While you are telling them the story the time is gone. *They want to get away from the Bible, not to learn it.* A new sowing must be sown, and a new crop reaped. It isn't yet in the ground. The ploughshare has been cutting deeply into the soil these months past. Still the horrors and the sorrows of these days be unavailing?"

Brethren, I think this makes an argument well-nigh irresistible in favor of Bible-teaching in the State Schools. Anything that will create within the mind of the young and rising generation a desire for scriptural knowledge and encourage them in the pursuit of the truth as it is in this Word deserves our utmost support.

The literary value, to say nothing of its high ethical and spiritual teachings, cannot be over-estimated. Man's reverence for the old Book is now waning fast. Few sing sincerely,

"Holy Bible, Book Divine,
Precious treasure, thou art mine"

I am, I say, of opinion that we as a people are loyal still to the Book, and any alteration in our advocacy of its main doctrines is due to our burning ambition for its practical and spiritual out-working in the midst of the problems of the hour.

In the Mooreau Lectures, 1913, by Dr. L. E. Radford, D.D., "Ancient Heresies in Modern Dress," in the opening chapter "Things New and Old," says: "Our Lord speaks of things new and old. The order of experience is from old to new; the sequence of history is from ancient to modern; we move forward from the past to the future. Yet experience easily runs off at a tangent in the direction of a tempting experiment. Experience has to be tested by continual reference to the original norm; the new is kept true by comparison with the old. Past,

present, future, all are his, who is the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever." This leads me to another of our ideals, an ideal akin to that of a prophet of the French Revolution for higher freedom and higher justice, in religion and in thought as in politics, summed up in the phrase, "Elargissez Dieu," that man's soul, dowered with the "unfettered use of all its faculties, may set towards the lodestar of its being, harmony with the Divine, whether it be through freedom in religious life, or in political life, or in any other form of life.

2. Liberty of thought.

This word has been highly prized amongst us. It, too, was prominently displayed upon the banner of the pioneers. They rejoiced to be free from the bondage of man-made creeds and human traditions. They said firmly, for freedom Christ has made us free; whomsoever the truth makes free, he is free indeed. Stand fast, therefore, in this liberty, and be not again entangled with the yoke of bondage. Alexander Campbell used to quote Benson's words, "What a splendid freedom of thought do the apostles recommend. How contemptible in their account is a blind implicit faith. May all Christians use their liberty of judging for themselves in matters of religion, and allow it to one another and to all mankind. 'Prove all things; hold fast that which is good.' The fetters of the creeds were broken by direct appeal to the New Testament Scriptures.

This liberty was oftentimes more imaginary than real.—An affirmation of one of the pioneers, "Where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent," was made co-equal to the teachings of an inspired apostle. Many wise suggestions were thus strangled at birth. This was particularly noticeable with reference to methods of work. The silence of Scripture afforded shelter for hard-pressed controversy-fighters. Up-to-date, aggressive plans for doing things were again and again vetoed simply because "chapter and verse" could not be produced for the matter in hand. I need not enumerate.

In the realm, too, of Biblical exegesis and exposition, liberty was often taken away, because the discourse seemed to clash with some unwritten law. Take as an illustration theories about the kingdom. An address upon the pre-millennial advent of Jesus Christ was dangerous doctrine. If I judge the brotherhood rightly, few persons to-day will attempt to put another man's interpretation up as a standard to which all must assent. Though we still hold and speak, as one man, upon things that are positively taught as doctrines, commands, precepts, or ordinances (Lord's Supper, baptism, etc.) from our Lord or his holy apostles, and demand strict conformity thereto, we are prepared now to exercise greater tolerance with one another and with fellow-believers on matters of opinion.

This is a transition period.

"The old order changeth, yielding place to new,
And God fulfils himself in many ways."

Did our great Tennyson voice the spirit of the age when he said that? I think he did.

This being so, we want to give our younger men in the ministry credit for sincerity of heart and purpose when they suggest methods which seem unfamiliar, or even explain passages of Scripture in new terms. I say, though we may differ from them, we must not allege that they are therefore disloyal to our common Master. The words of Rev. W. Mathieson, B.A., are to the point, and worthy of calm consideration: "Without disparaging the work of past ages, and without exalting unduly the accomplishments of our own, the human mind has won for itself an emancipation, a freedom to enquire, such as it never enjoyed before. In the past it was hampered and hindered by prejudices and superstitions, which grievously limited its scope and curtailed its power. Earnest enquirers were too commonly regarded as dangerous men. Those who turned aside to see why a thing was so, were denounced as impious, impertinent, intruders into forbidden realms. They were shunned by respectable people, and persecuted by ecclesiastical and civil authorities. Those who were determined to discover truth were often driven into scepticism by the stupid conservatism and misrepresentation which they had to encounter, but now the human mind rejoices in freedom to follow the leading of its curiosity, its passion to know."
"Truth," said John Henry Newman, "is wrought out by many minds working together freely."

Brethren, that is conference. That is what we are here for. With the great Lowell we can say:

"New occasions teach new duties,
Time makes ancient good uncouth;
They must upward still, and onward
Who would keep abreast with truth."

Perhaps a word of caution may not be out of place.

A tolerant spirit may lead to laxity. Freedom of thought does not mean that we are at liberty to become religious free-lancers. We cannot be permitted to go through the churches attacking cherished customs, established usages, deep-seated opinions and what not as though we were commissioned, like Don Quixote, to straighten out all real or imaginary evils. There are proper officials to look after the home-hold of faith and attend to church discipline and safeguard the purity of the assemblies. The times call for fixity of convictions. Our eyes must not be closed to commercial dishonesty, industrial selfishness, political corruption, civic wrongdoing, national or international injustice. If men amongst us happen to have social, financial, or educational advantages, we must not fawn or flatter them simply because they are held in repute for their influence. We need strong Daniel-like decisions. Never let us shrink from the confession that in some respects, scripturally, we are a peculiar people. Far too many Christians, like Lot of old-time, have pitched their tents towards Sodom. A large percentage of professing Christians are more or less entangled in the affairs of this world, and make poor soldiers of Jesus Christ.

Licence to sin and worldliness are not

amongst the ideals for which I plead when I talk about our liberty of thought. Ah! No! No! "Feigned holiness is a double evil."

"Be what it seemest; live thy creed;
Hold up to earth the torch divine."

(To be Concluded.)

A Call to Prayer.

I have pleasure in presenting to the readers of the "Christian," and especially to Victorian subscribers, the request of the Council of Churches in Victoria as set forth in the following letter:

The President of the Churches of Christ, Melbourne.
Dear Sir,—At the last meeting of the Council of Churches, the following resolution was passed: "That the Council issue a request to the Heads of the Churches, urging them, in view of the widespread sorrows of our times and the grave crisis of our Empire occasioned by the war, to call their congregations to earnest and united prayer for help and guidance."

I am, yours faithfully,

Robert Phillp, Hon. Secty.

Every Christian will surely recognise that this is a time for special intercession. Our nation needs God. It can only prosper as it pleases Him. In this time of national crisis, this hour of the Empire's trial, we should seek Divine guidance. The consciousness that our cause is the cause of justice, freedom and humanity should make us the more ready to invoke God's blessing and help. Let not that very consciousness prevent us from a realisation of the need of a national awakening to repentance and faith in God.

On a recent day Christian women throughout England prayed for God's blessing on our men now fighting for humanity, civilization and freedom. Many English wives and mothers are continuing the prayers.

At a service in Westminster Chapel a little time ago, Dr. Jowett read a list of subjects for intercession. His list included the following: "Our country; our soldiers; our navy; our wounded; the maimed, the broken, the blind, the dying; our doctors, our nurses; chaplains; wives of our men; their children; fathers and mothers of our men waiting in constant fear; the widows and the orphans; our Allies, our King and our Government; our Cabinet; our statesmen; the settlement of the Irish problem; and that the good Lord will give us victory." This list is suggestive of the opportunities for public intercession and private petition which are now presented to us. It could easily be extended. There are the needs of our favored Austral land, as it faces the question of conscription, and as its well-wishers seek to free it from the bondage to the liquor traffic and other national sins.

Dr. G. H. S. Walpole, Bishop of Edinburgh, made some striking remarks on prayer and the Empire's needs. "It may be," he said, "to quote Admiral Beatty's words, that England still remains to be shaken out of the stupor of self-satisfaction, and it is only when she can look out on the future with humbler eyes, and with prayer-national prayer—on her lips, that we can begin to count the days towards the end of

this struggle." The bishop referred to "the interesting and important fact that when Admiral Beatty took his cruiser fleet to the Dogger Bank to defeat the Germans, someone who knew of his venture sent round to the three cathedrals and to all the churches in the city of Edinburgh begging for our prayers; and prayer, earnest prayer, was made by thousands of people whilst the battle, which ended in decisive victory, was being fought." Towards the close of his address Bishop Wapole suggested that we need an organiser of prayer, someone to do for prayer what the Minister of Munitions has so successfully done for our "equipment." He concluded with the following words: "During the next twelve months will be solved one of the greatest questions that man has ever had to solve. Well, then, will this war end in some glorious peace in which nothing will be decided, or will it end in a righteous settlement, bringing liberty and opportunity to all nations of Europe? How shall we answer that question?"

Much will depend upon our stern resolution, much will depend on our spiritual character, much will depend upon our guns, but much more will depend on our prayers. Much will depend upon the loyalty of our men, but more upon our co-operation with God. Much will depend on our leaders and our confidence in them, but more will depend on Jesus Christ and our loyalty to Him."

It should be possible for us to rely on the co-operation in prayer of every church and every disciple. We would throw ourselves upon God, coming to him with the prayer that his will may be done, in us and in all the world. We shall pray for our own enlightenment and the forgiveness of our own sins, for our country and Empire, that they may be prepared by righteousness to be used of God in the cause of humanity and justice, for the world that it may have peace and healing, and that its kingdoms may soon become the kingdom of our Lord Jesus.

"Men ought always to pray, and not faint." A. R. MAX.

Notes on Current Topics.

Jan. E. Thomas.

The College and Its Needs.

It has been most encouraging to see the splendid interest manifest by our business men in the College of the Bible. It was a great inspiration to be at the memorable session in Adelaide at the Federal Conference on September 13, and hear the splendid appeal by Mr. John Hindle, and see the generous response. By this means the debt on the building has been reduced to £900, and it is hoped that others following this fine example will make it possible for us to have our College buildings free of debt. If this is so, it will release all that is contributed to the direct work of the institution, and enable the Board to carry on this essential work with less financial anxiety and embarrassment. It is very evident, however, that if we are to retain the efficiency of the College, and carry on the work of preparing young men for the work of the ministry, we will have to have an assured income. The lifting of the mortgage has been accomplished by the fine gifts of a few brethren. We trust that the whole brotherhood will combine on the first Sunday in October in making a generous offering to the funds of the College that will be a grateful tribute to the faithfulness of these large-hearted donors, and a welcome uplift to the work of the College.

A Great Federal Conference.

The Federal Conference following the State Conference recently held in Adelaide, was in many respects the most inspiring gathering ever held in connection with our brotherhood in this Commonwealth. There were larger delegations from Victoria and New South Wales than have ever journeyed West before, and much useful business was harmoniously enacted. The public meetings continued for four nights in the splendid

City Hall, and the attendances were worthy of the occasion. Fine interest was manifest and the excellent addresses given were all in keeping with the conditions under which we met. There was a spirit of deep humility and prayerful waiting before God. All seemed to realise that we must wait earnestly upon God for guidance throughout the war and after it. Many came with hearts touched with sorrow through the memory of loved ones wounded or fallen, and many with the fond thoughts of dear ones out on the battlefield or travelling upon the ocean. These brave men were constantly remembered by all that gathered. There was no evidence of relaxing our energies. Just as all realised we must do our best for the Empire in this great crisis, so we planned to do our utmost for our Saviour and King. Fine gifts were made to the College of the Bible, splendid offerings to the Home and Foreign Mission work, and the work of our Aged and Infirmary Preachers' Sustentation Fund was put on a more permanent basis. We trust the inspiration of these mountain-top days may be taken into our churches, and move us to greater things for our Lord in the days to come.

The Future and Our F.M. Work.

All that went to the Federal Conference seemed to be one in the desire that we should prepare ourselves for more aggressive and fruitful work in the great field upon which we have entered as a brotherhood in the regions beyond. It was agreed that if necessary a visit should be made to India by one or more appointed in order to consult with our missionaries there, personally, with the view of strengthening our base and making an advance into fields as yet unoccupied. It was felt that after the war greater opportunities will be presented,

and we must be ready to respond to the call. There were also arrangements entered into for the consolidating of the work in the New Hebrides, and a closer co-operation between those on the field and those in the Home land. This will lead to the conservation of working expenses, and as well to greater efficiency in our Foreign Mission work. It was most encouraging to receive a gift of £200 from one brother toward this great work, and to know of his wish to support a missionary personally on the field. Many brethren in America do this, and find a great joy in having a representative in the lands that need Christ so much. We trust others of our brethren may be led to become living links, and support a worker in the great harvest field beyond the seas.

Will We Call a Halt?

The Federal Conference helped among other things to answer the objections of some who felt that it was unwise to try and hold a conference in war time. This reasonable objection is founded upon the assumption that calls are too numerous and conditions too depressing to allow us to hold a successful conference. The fact was, of course, clear that those who gathered were quite conscious of the gravity of conditions in the world to-day, but these very circumstances only make a conference more necessary. Whenever the Allies untily face a new and difficult problem, a conference of leaders is held. This assures harmonious preparation for concerted action. This was the spirit in which God's people gathered, and all were determined that we must do our part in preparing for the advance the church, if it is faithful, will surely make when the war is over. Even now the Bible is being circulated more than ever in the world's history, and it behoves us not to halt or retreat, but to press surely forward till at last God will give us a great victory, and use us to win thousands for Jesus Christ our Lord.

Shall We Change Our Ideals?

The address of the President of the Federal Conference, Bro. Blingworth, was a masterly, timely, spiritual message. Our brother raised the question as to whether we were remaining absolutely true to the ideals of our movement. There was possibility of us doing so much to get the good-will of all, and to be charitable in our every action towards our brethren in other religious bodies, that we may forget the plea that gives us our separate identity. The matter of our preaching certainly differs with that of half a century ago. Changing conditions in society naturally call for a different method of presenting the message that is adapted to the changing needs of all men and all ages. This was admitted by the President, but he made an earnest plea for us to bear in mind the old unchanging verities and to have ever before us that our reason for existing is to present the gospel in all its fulness and primitive simplicity, and back the union of God's people on the basis of the New Testament church. The word is well spoken.

Ninth Federal Conference,

Adelaide, South Australia.

WEDNESDAY, 13th SEPTEMBER.

The Conference began with a devotional service led by J. Clydesdale, of N.S.W. The afternoon devotional service was cared for by A. T. Waters, of Oha, New Hebrides.

Conference President, A. E. Hingworth, was in the chair.

Greetings were received from the N.S.W. Conference Executive, from the students of the College of the Bible, and from T. W. Smith. The inter-state visitors were welcomed by A. J. Gard, S.A. Conference President, in one of his characteristic and happy speeches. Just as happily J. Hindle, of N.S.W., made reply, followed by W. C. Craigie, Victoria, and S. G. Griffith, of N.Z., for the rest of Australasia.

The address of Bro. Hingworth as President was a superb and timely effort, which stirred the Conference profoundly. It will be found printed elsewhere.

The following representatives of the various States responded to the roll-call:—
N.S.W.—A. E. Hingworth, F. Collins, T. E. Rofe, L. Russell, J. Stimson, C. R. S. Rish, F. T. Saunders, H. G. Payne, J. Hindle, J. Clydesdale.

Victoria.—W. C. Craigie, R. Lyall, F. Payne, W. L. Ewers, Reg. Emiss, Thos. Hagger, A. Mills, J. E. Thomas, W. B. Blakemore, T. H. Scambler, A. R. Main, J. Tully, H. A. Procter, T. Mitchell, F. McLean.

W.A.—H. Manning, Dr. C. A. Verco, T. H. Brooker, E. G. Warren, J. W. C. Sh.

Tasmania.—W. Magarey, R. Harkness, B. W. Manning, W. Beiler, J. E. Allan.

Queensland.—R. Graham, Hon. W. Morrow, P. D. McCallum, H. G. Harward, S. G. Griffith.

S.A.—W. C. Brooker, B. W. Huutsman, K. W. Duncan, I. A. Paternoster, G. D. Wright, E. W. Pittman, W. J. Manning, W. Charllick, W. Burford, H. J. Horsell, A. L. Read, E. J. Paternoster, J. J. Franklyn, A. J. Gard, A. G. Saunders.

After some discussion, especially with reference to the needs and opportunities of Queensland, the report of the Federal Executive Committee was adopted.

The widely-felt need for a new hymn-book found expression in the appointment of a Hymn Book Committee. The following Committee was appointed:—

Victoria.—J. E. Thomas, R. Lyall, Thos. Hagger, W. B. Blakemore, N. Haddow.

N.S.W.—A. E. Hingworth, J. Clydesdale, Dr. E. A. Bardley, F. T. Saunders, E. J. Gard.

S.A.—A. J. Gard, E. W. Pittman, B. W. Huutsman, W. M. Green, L. W. Baker.

Similar committees are to be formed in the remaining States. The Victorian Committee is to be an executive, to see that the work is proceeded with. It was decided to seek the co-operation of the New Zealand brethren in the undertaking.

The following brethren were elected to the Federal Committee:—

President: W. C. Brooker.

Vice-President: A. R. Main.

Secretary: I. A. Paternoster.

Assistant-Secretary: B. W. Manning.

Treasurer: W. Charllick.

State Executives:—

Victoria.—Thos. Hagger, J. E. Thomas, R. Lyall, W. C. Craigie, A. Mills, W. B. Blakemore.

N.S.W.—A. E. Hingworth, H. G. Harward, L. Russell, T. E. Rofe.



A. E. Hingworth,
President, Federal Conference, 1916.

W.A.—H. J. Banks, C. A. G. Payne.

Queensland.—C. R. Graham, H. C. Stitt.

Tasmania.—W. R. C. Jarvis.

S.A.—H. J. Horsell, W. T. Magarey, K. W. Duncan, A. J. Gard, B. W. Huutsman, G. D. Wright.

In connection with the report of the College of the Bible, one of the most impressive events in the Conference developed. After a solo by Mrs. C. R. Graham, Bro. J. Hindle appealed for £100 gifts for the College. The result was remarkable. Within an hour £850 was promised or given, thus reducing the £2000 mortgage by £1500. Several gifts of £100 were forthcoming. In two cases a brother and his wife each gave £50. The enthusiasm that prevailed was lifted to a climax by the congregation rising and singing the Doxology. The balance left at the close of the session was reduced to £600 by next morning.

The Bible College Financial Statement was adopted.

The present Board of Management of the College of the Bible was re-elected.

It was decided that the Federal Foreign Mission Executive be established in Adelaide, and the following brethren were chosen to carry on its work:—

Hon. W. Morrow, President.

I. A. Paternoster, Secretary.

J. W. Cosh, Treasurer.

Wm. Charllick, John Fischer, A. L. Read, A. G. Saunders.

A motion of appreciation of the Victorian State Committee for preparing a year-book was carried.

The following resolution of loyalty to King and country was adopted:—

"That this Conference, representing the Churches of Christ in Australia, expresses its loyalty to King and Empire in this time of national crisis, and its profound conviction in the justice of the cause of the Allies, and prays that God will grant a righteous victory and a lasting peace."

Also, a resolution was adopted as follows:

"That this Conference, representing the Churches of Christ in Australia, sends its hearty greetings to the members of the Churches of Christ who have enlisted in the service of the Empire; also to Chaplains G. T. Walden, G. P. Cuttriss, and the Congregational and Baptist Chaplains who are also representing us at the front."

FOREIGN MISSION DEMONSTRATION.

A large and enthusiastic audience assembled at the Town Hall, to the Foreign Missionary demonstration on Wednesday evening, at which Mr. Hingworth took the chair. Inspiring singing, led by the Hindmarsh church choir, formed a feature of the meeting.

W. B. Blakemore, B.A., spoke on "The Church and the World Vision." He said the vision of Christ was not confined to His native land, nor was it circumscribed by the provincialism of His race. A Jew by descent and training, he was a cosmopolitan in thought and vision. He was the first citizen of the world. Neither time nor space could bind his spirit. He looked out to the uttermost man and to the man who was lowest in the social order. He declared the spiritual oneness of the race, and looked forward to uniting discordant humanity into one great brotherhood, which should recognise one God and Father of all men. It was this vision that led him to give his life in sacrifice for men. And this world vision he bequeathed to his disciples, and to his church. It was a vision similar to his that had been the inspiration of every great Christian enterprise. Whenever the church had kept this vision clearly before it, it had moved forward grandly to its world task.

J. E. Thomas took as his subject "The Church and the Present Task." It was for the people of to-day wisely to divine the signs of the time and to look for the days when the Year should have accomplished its purpose in the chastisement of the wicked, although it would fail to bring men to bro-

therhood and peace. Then the church should enter in and undertake the task it alone could accomplish. The task was almost overwhelming. But they must help the nations to find in Christ the means by which the nations might be uplifted. The war was bringing to them many open doors. There was the disintegration of Mohammedanism. India would never again love the Turk. The fraternising of the Indian troops with the British men had helped to break down caste. Fields were opening up for work in India, Africa, China, and other heathen lands. Their task was great, but not too great if they would enter more wholly into its discharge. They must do their work in the spirit of Christ, their Sovereign Lord.

The Hon. W. Morrow paid a tribute to the missionaries on the field and to others about to leave for foreign work. This was responded to by Miss Caldwell and Mr. Waters.

On the motion of Ira A. Paternoster, it was resolved that a message of greeting be sent to the workers in the foreign fields.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Devotions were conducted by A. G. Saunders, after which, with A. E. Illingworth in the chair, proceedings were resumed. After a good discussion, the Foreign Missions report was adopted. The notices of motion presented by N.S.W. Foreign Mission Committee and the Federal E.M. Committee represented differing suggestions to rectify an obvious deficiency in our E.M. control. It was reported that as a result of conferences, amendments to the motions had been evolved.

R. Lyall moved, and T. E. Rofe seconded, "With regard to the administration of the mission work in the New Hebrides, the Federal Conference recommend that matters should remain as at present, but that the duties now delegated to the New South Wales Foreign Mission Committee be clearly defined by the Federal E.M. Executive and satisfactorily adjusted with the New South Wales Committee."

This was carried.

As an amendment to the motion notice of which was given by the Federal Foreign Mission Committee, R. Lyall moved, and T. E. Rofe seconded, "That it is resolved that



W. C. Brooker,
the newly elected Federal Conference President.

the time has arrived that the administrative department of our Foreign Mission work shall be reorganised and consolidated on a more efficient basis, that the Federal E.M. Committee appointed at this Conference be instructed to specially consider the matter of reorganisation, confer with the various State Committees, and submit report to the next Federal Conference." Carried.

It was resolved on the motion of R. Lyall "That the Federal Conference suggest to the Federal Executive Committee, subject to convenient arrangements being made, to send a suitable representative or representatives to India, to arrange about all properties there owned by the Federal Committee on behalf of the brotherhood, also to inspect and enquire fully into the work of the missionaries there, also other fields if necessary."

A resolution was passed expressive of the Conference's appreciation of the past services of Bro. W. Jane, our beloved Chinese evangelist, in Melbourne, also of sympathy with him in his illness, praying that he may soon be restored to health and strength.

A special vote of thanks was passed to the British and Foreign Bible Society for printing A. T. Water's translation in Sinhalese.

Thursday afternoon's session, which was begun with a devotional service of great spiritual value, led by Bro. Gore, was a session of great length, and required concentrated effort on the part of those present. This was occasioned through the constitution of the Preachers' Provident Fund of the Churches of Christ in Australia, which constitution, ultimately, was adopted. Until this session the fund has been known as the Aged and Infirm Evangelists' Fund. At the close of the long discussion a vote of thanks was passed to the brethren who so admirably drew up the constitution, special reference being made to Bro. W. H. Hall and T. E. Rofe. Another related resolution was this: In view of the importance of providing for the aged and infirm ministers, this Conference recommends that every church shall give to the Fund at least threepence per member annually, and that every minister be recommended to join the Endowment Fund.

It was further resolved to ask the State Committees of Tasmania, West Australia, and Queensland to appoint brethren to the Hymn Book Committee.

The place of the next Federal Conference was left for decision with the Federal Executive in Adelaide.

A notice of motion calling for a permanent Federal Evangelistic Committee in a fixed location, was allowed to stand over till next Federal Conference.

Prior to the business part of the session, H. G. Payne and T. H. Scambler discussed, from widely divergent viewpoints, the subject, "Things Wanting in the Churches—How may they be Supplied?" Bro. Payne said we need more devotion, more self-denial, and more faith in the Word of God. Bro. Scambler said we are exceedingly peculiar; we do not appeal to the wealthy and influential as a rule; we are not well known. We need wise leaders, and we need higher standards for our College. We should persuade young men to leave the ministry. The men who aspire to lead our services should prepare definitely for the holy privilege. Self-assertiveness is not sufficient qualification.

CLOSING MEETING—THURSDAY NIGHT.

ADELAIDE TOWN HALL.

The meeting was devoted to "The Church and Public Questions." A good audience was in evidence. Songs were sung by Miss Minnie Lee-Dean and Mr. S. Alexander Cooper. The preachers' vigorous rendering of "Stand up, stand up for Jesus!" brought down the house. The choir persistently asserted itself. No chairman could say it. The preachers therefore obliged with "Hail the good night."

The announcement of the great new gift referred to elsewhere, and a statement of the total gifts at the Conference, added to the deep spirit of enthusiasm and thanksgiving that prevailed.

A. E. Illingworth gave an illuminating discussion of "The Bible in State Schools."

Continued on page 588.

"The English Debate."

North Carlton, Sept. 8, 1916.

The Editor, "The Australian Christian."
Dear Bro. May—

Early in July, the writer of "Current Topics," made reference in his "Notes" to an article published in one of our influential American papers (the "Christian Evangelist") in which the English race was somewhat adversely criticised and commented upon. On reading the two articles referred to, I at once wrote to Mr. Frederick A. Kershner, the editor of the "Evangelist," protesting against his apparent partiality, which was, in my opinion, most unbecoming in a religious paper published in a so-called neutral country. Bro. Kershner has personally acknowledged my letter, and states that he is going to publish my letter and Bro. Thomas' article in an early issue of the paper. In fairness to Bro. Kershner, and because hundreds of your readers will perhaps never see the "Evangelist," I trust that you will kindly publish his letter to me, which will show that he has been misunderstood in the matter.

Fraternally yours,

Thos. W. Smith

[Copy.] St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 10, 1916.

Mr. Thos. W. Smith,
North Carlton, Victoria, Australia.

My Dear Brother Smith—

Your letter of enclosing clipping from the "Australian Christian" is just to hand upon my return from the California Convention.

I regret exceedingly that the brief article published in the "Evangelist" some months ago should have been so much misunderstood. There was no thought whatever of reflecting upon the bravery of the English soldiers, and especially on the Colonial troops who have certainly borne a most gallant part in the great struggle. As Mr. Thomas has noted at the close of his article, what we had in mind was to call attention to the fact that certain moral and social evils, both in England and America, have lessened the stamina of the people, and on this account there is need for very serious reformation, especially with reference to the drink traffic.

Certainly the criticism which was made in the "Evangelist" was milder than what had been made in the House of Commons and the English press. It was intended in a kindly way, because the sympathy of the writer is very pronouncedly Pro-American, and that the entire editorial staff of the paper. It is rather amusing to me to note the manner in which you are misled by the apparently Tenthic quality of my name. It may interest you to know that my maternal ancestors were French Huguenots, and that some of my relatives are now fighting on the French side of the war. My paternal ancestors were German, but emigrated to America long before the year of 1776, so the fact they were enlisted in the American Army of Independence, and fought against the Hessians employed by King George III. to crush American independence. I have personally, a kindly feeling for the German people, as I have for the English and all other people. I am unalterably opposed to militarism, as well as to the editorial column in the "Evangelist" will apply properly. I feel, therefore, that your criticism, as well as that of many others in the Colonies, is somewhat like wounding a man in the house of his friends. Here in America we have no hesitancy about criticising an administration of any sort, or conditions which we think deserve criticism; although we are heartily loyal to the cause. As I have said, I will be very glad to publish your article, as well as the outcome from Mr. Thomas, at an early date, in order that our readers may benefit by your criticism.

With assurance of my regard, and again expressing regret that the good intentions of the "Christian Evangelist" and of myself personally with reference to the Allied cause have been so misunderstood. Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Frederick D. Kershner.

[It is a pleasure to us to publish the above. Had the "Evangelist's" very objectionable article on "The English Debate" been in harmony with the foregoing, there would have been no need of this correspondence.—Ed.]

Reports from the Field.

Victoria.

College Annual Offering,
Sunday, October 1.
Let Every Member Help.

BRIM CIRCUIT.—Our aged Sister Chivell is slowly improving after her recent illness, and may be leaving the hospital in a few days. We had Sister Mrs. Everett with us from Prospect, S.A. last Sunday. Splendid meeting at Brim, when Bro. and Sister H. Everett, of Maylands, Bro. Gale, and Iren A. and M. Chivell were present. Bro. Giles conducted a meeting at Sheep Hills, and reports a satisfactory attendance. We are hopeful of results in this district later on.—W. G. Cambridge, Sept. 20.

SWAN HILL CIRCUIT.—Good attendance at Swan Hill on Sept. 17. Bro. Conbridge presided, and one young lady responded to the invitation. Sister Ansell recently received word that one of her sons at the front was missing, and another was wounded. Sister Carrie also received word that another of her brothers has been killed. We extend to them our deepest sympathy. The Swan Hill Bible School is practising for the anniversary. Meetings at Woorewin are good. Increasing interest in the Bible School. On Sept. 10 an enjoyable picnic was held. Splendid meeting at Ultima on Sept. 1; best on record for some time. We have not yet been able to secure an evangelist to succeed Bro. Coochraft. We hope in the near future to be able to report his place being filled.—P.A.

BERWICK.—On Wednesday evening last at a very pleasant social evening, we said farewell to Sister Ethel Warmbrunn, who shortly sails for India to become the wife and helpmate of Bro. Roy Govearty. After listening to an interesting programme, interspersed with several eulogistic speeches by the Sunday School superintendent, assistant superintendent, and minister, regarding Miss Warmbrunn's faithful service to the church, she was made the recipient of a handsome travelling case on behalf of the church, and a travelling ring on behalf of the Sunday School. At the close of Bro. Ingham's address on Sunday evening, August 13, one young man (Bro. Hasey) made the good confession. On Saturday he was baptised, and was received into church membership the following day. Next Sunday we commence practising for our Sunday School anniversary.—H.H., Sept. 24.

BRIGHTON.—The hand of death has visited our church three times during this month. Bro. Hunter was called upon to lose his wife; Sister Mrs. Corrigan her little child; and Bro. and Sister Mills have suffered the loss of their son. The sympathy of the church is extended to all of the sorrowing ones in this their hour of sore trial. As far as our meetings are concerned, the outlook is indeed hopeful. Bro. Anderson is throwing his whole energies upon the work during the week, and giving us an excellent address on the Lord's days.—R.P.C., Sept. 24.

COLAC.—On the 19th we held a very successful meeting in the U.O.U. hall, about 150 adults present, beside children. Yesterday's meeting, were good. At the evening service last made the good confession. Week generally is on the upgrade.—E.H.L., Sept. 25.

EAST CAMBERWELL.—On Sept. 17 Bro. W. Haggard, Prahran, presided. Bro. Northcote, of the C.E.T.C., spoke on "We shall receive power," 24 books read. Sunday School, total attendance, 47. Sept. 24, Bro. Holton, Surrey Hills, presided. Bro. R. Pittman gave a fine exposition of "In him we live, and the life was the light of men." Sunday School, total, 45. Success of our scholars at the Union Examination. We have hope of a favorable result. Bro. Anderson, from

South Yarra, who have recently come to live at East Camberwell, will attend the meetings.

STAWELL.—Yesterday three present enjoyed Bro. Johnston's evening address on "The Unknown God." During the week Bro. Thos. Peter (superintendent of the Bible School) received word from Bro. Will Payne to the effect that he was forwarding two prizes from abroad for the Sunday School. One is to be presented to the lady, and another to the girl, who gathers the largest number of scholars during the year. It has been decided that our evangelist commence a mission in the chapel, extending over three weeks. At the conclusion of the meeting next Thursday night, members will be invited to participate in a half-night in prayer at Bro. Robb's residence. A similar night was held at the residence of Bro. Johnston, about a month ago, and those present received a great blessing.—Arnold Sheppard, Sept. 25.

CARLTON (Lyzant-st.).—On Sunday last, notwithstanding the heavy rain, a goodly number met to remember the Lord's death. Sister Hurley, from Gympie, Queensland, was received by letter. Sister Moseley, from Hobart, was amongst the visitors. Bro. S. G. Griffith, who has just returned from the morning, and who was to return to New Zealand was prevented from leaving on account of the weather. J. E. Thomas gave three splendid addresses during the day to interested audiences. "The Monthly Messenger," which was so popular, and ceased for a time, is to be re-issued. On Thursday evening Bro. Thomas gave his fourth "Lord's Day" lecture on "Through Europe Before the War." Miss May Holloway and Miss R. Drakeford each sang an illustrated solo.

ASCOT VALE.—Our preacher, Chap. Capt. J. C. E. Pittman, was recently granted four months' leave of absence by the church on account of his engagement with the Defence Department on board a troopship, which left these shores on 22nd inst. On the 24th inst. Lord's Day, our brother delivered his final messages to good audiences. At the close of the gospel service a collection was taken up for the benefit of the troops, which amounted to £1/11/2; this was handed to Bro. Pittman. Wednesday evening following a goodly number of the congregation gathered to wish him God speed. This meeting was presided over by Bro. Perry. Brief addresses were given by Bro. Thos. McCallum, R. W. Payne, Wm. Flood, D. R. Moncur, and the secretary, on behalf of the church and her auxiliaries. Bro. Jordan, of the Morland church, referred to the pleasure of being present as the representative of many in that church. The secretary, on behalf of the church, presented a war preacher with a token of love and esteem. Bro. Pittman suitably replied. Sisters were well represented by Miss Pedersen and Mr. A. E. Hillcock. Last Lord's day Bro. Perry exhorted, and the gospel was proclaimed by Bro. D. E. Pittman. During the absence of our preacher the church has secured the services of Bro. P. D. McCallum, who will commence his labors with us next Lord's day.—J.V.P., Sept. 25.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.—Under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society, a very successful American tea was held on the 13th inst., and resulted in netting a fair sum toward the building fund. On Sept. 17, our mission began. Bro. Clay presided at worship, and Bro. Hagger gave an inspiring exhortation. During the week Bro. Hagger's mastery and effective series of addresses has been delivered. On Sept. 24, the writer presided, and Bro. Thos. Cosgriff, of Morland, gave a very instructive and helpful exhortation. Splendid attendance. At the gospel service, splendid address by Bro. Hagger; one young lady decided for Christ. Two confessions to date. We regret the sad news received by our esteemed Bro. and Sister Bennets, that their youngest son, Bro. Oliver, had died of wounds received in France on August 25. The sincere sympathy of the church is extended to the bereaved family. We regret also to report the death of Bro. Alex. Paulin, who died

suddenly on the 14th inst., and was laid to rest in the Melbourne General Cemetery on the 16th. Bro. Day conducted the service. Bro. Clay, on behalf of the brethren and the Board of Hope, presented a set of brushes to Bro. Cyril Craig, prior to his leaving for the front. Bro. Lon Thomas leaves to-day. The church wishes them God-speed.—P.C., Sept. 25.

BENDIGO.—S. H. Mudge, of Cheltenham, has been holding special services during the past week. They have been very comforting, and the outlook for his work is encouraging. The sermons have been forceful and inspiring, and the church has benefited much by these and by the preacher's personal work. The mission will conclude on Sunday, and the offerings for the day will be given to Home Mission Funds.—W. Mitchell, Sept. 25.

HORSHAM CIRCUIT.—Seven years ago a dying woman requested her husband to become a Christian, which he promised to do. Last Sunday night at Hursliam he confessed Christ and was baptised straightway. We are still waiting for that next donation to our building fund.—J.R.C.

South Australia.

**College Annual Offering,
Sunday, October 1,
Let Every Member Help.**

NARACORTE.—On Sept. 16, in the absence of Bro. Oram, at Adelaide Conference, Bro. Hawkes, who was home on long leave, presided at the Lord's table, and exhorted. On Sept. 15, the members held a social to say farewell to Bro. Hawkes, who is shortly leaving for the front in the A.M.C. Bro. Oram, on behalf of the church, presented him with a pocket Bible. Much sympathy felt for Bro. Hawkes, who, although that evening had learned of the death of his youngest brother. We were pleased to have with us to-day Bro. A. R. Farrow, from Seymour Camp, home on final leave.—T. Farrow, Sept. 17.

PROSPECT.—At the close of to-night's service a young man who has enlisted for service confessed Christ, and was baptised the same hour of the night.—P.

GLENELG.—Yesterday morning we had the privilege of receiving into fellowship Bro. Leonard and Dave Inverarity, the former having recently made confession, and the latter by transfer from the church at Unley; also Mr. Houston, his daughter, and son, from the church at Hindmarsh. Our aged Bro. Gore exhorted, Bro. E.W. Pittman presiding.—Chas. Ferris, Sept. 25.

KADINA.—Bro. Roy Raymond, of Berri, was the speaker here to-day. At the gospel service to-night our brother had the pleasure of speaking to a large audience. Bro. Raymond sang a solo, "The Stranger of Galilee." The choir rendered the anthem, "Divine Compassion." On Sept. 23, the young people of the church held a social at the close of which Bro. W. Webb, on their behalf presented Bro. and Sister Raymond with a very pretty oak occasional table. There were several speakers, and each spoke of the high esteem in which Bro. Raymond was held by the people of Kadina.—C. E. Larcombe, Sept. 24.

HENLEY BEACH.—Since last report we have had our additions to the church from Mr. W. Williams, Mrs. A. Watson, from the Baptist church at Gawler; Mrs. S. Anderson, from Maylands; and Mr. Perry, from Grange Baptist Church. Lord's day, Sept. 17, Bro. Ross Graham, of Queensland, gave a nice exhortation in the morning, and in the evening Bro. P. D. McCallum gave an address that was much appreciated. Our meetings to-day were well attended.—H.H.

CROYDON.—The work here goes along nicely. Bro. A. T. Waters, our missionary from Obivague, a description and some account of the work in the Islands. We enjoyed our brother's visit. Bro. E. Mason preached the gospel. We regret to say our usual reporter, Bro. Ferris, is very ill, and that he may soon be recalled. To-day we had good meetings. Nice address by Bro. Geo. Wilson at the morning meeting. The writer con-

ducted the evening service, and spoke on the topic "The Marks of the Lord Jesus." A lad from the Bible School made the good confession. We baptised two women and two boys from our school of the service. Annual report services of the Bible School will be held on Sunday, Oct. 1 and 8.—H. J. Horsell, Sept. 24.

QUEENSTOWN.—Q.V.P.M., splendid attendance. We had a grand paper from Bro. A. H. Clippell, on "Island Experience." Worship, good meeting. Bro. C. E. Lawson presided. We had a large number of the young boys from the Cheltenham Camp present with us; among whom were Bro. H. Burdon, of Prospect, and several other members from Norwood and Unley. Bro. Brooker delivered a glorious exhortation on the morning lesson. Evening, Bro. Brooker's sermon was interesting and impressive, subject, "Where art Thou?" Bro. Brooker presented a copy of the New Testament and Psalms, bound in khaki, to Bro. Joe Martin, on behalf of the members of the church, on the eve of his departure for the front. We are proud of the fact that Bro. Brooker has been elected Federal President of the Churches of Christ—an honor he richly deserves.—D.L.W., Sept. 24.

NORWOOD.—Fine meeting to-night. I. W. Baker preaching. Six adults, four women, and two men made the good confession, great interest being manifest in the meeting.—G.H.J.

Tasmania.

**College Annual Offering,
Sunday, October 1,
Let Every Member Help.**

LAUNCESTON.—On Sept. 10, Bro. P. Orr exhorted. At the evening service Bro. A. W. Heron preached. Fair attendances. On Sept. 17, there were large attendances both morning and evening. Pleased to welcome Bro. J. W. Webb, who has come to labor with the church for one month. His addresses were excellent, and one young lad made the good confession. We regret that Bro. Lance-Corporal J. Christmas has fallen in action in France. Our sympathy and prayers are extended to his parents and friends in their sad bereavement.—J.P.F.

Queensland.

**College Annual Offering,
Sunday, October 1,
Let Every Member Help.**

BRISBANE.—Bro. A. C. Rankine exhorted yesterday. Several new scholars came to the Bible School. Last evening two confessed Christ, one being a soldier from the military camp. Bro. Rankine preached. The Y.P.S. are having good meetings. Miss Jessie Webster is now secretary of the Bible School. Owing to the Government's repeated refusals to grant a six o'clock referendum, there is a probability of the movement being made a political one in order to carry the fight into the elections.—H.C.S.

BUNDABAMA.—The cause has been maintained by the local brethren, and speaking brethren from Brisbane. On Sept. 17 we had Bro. Stitt with us, who ably exhorted and preached, when two young women from the Bible School made the good confession.—G. Green, Sept. 18.

HAWTHORNE.—As a result of Bro. A. C. Rankine's appeal at our last conference, we have been able to erect a vestry (cost by gift) on to our chapel. This enables us to accommodate our Bible School nicely. Bro. S. Trulligan recently conducted special services for the young folk, resulting in four confessions. The work generally progressing. Attendances of late have improved.

BOONAH.—A very large and sympathetic audience met to meet Bro. J. L. Moore on Sunday night. Praise is due to Sister Mrs. Scubbin for artistic taste displayed in decorating the platform. Two brothers of de-

ceased are preaching the gospel—Frank, of Bunbury, W.A., and Will, of Hot Springs, U.S.A. The church anticipates with pleasure the coming of Bro. Ennis with the preachers and Bible School workers to the conference, October 9 to 12. Plan to be present.—W.H.N.

ANXERLEY.—We were glad to have Bro. P. J. Pond meet with us at the table for the past two Sundays. He met many old-time friends here, who rejoice with him in his restoration to health. He gave a very helpful message at the morning meeting last Lord's day. Bro. Pond also assisted Bro. J. Coward at the baptismal service at Eklin Creek. Both gave suitable messages to those who witnessed the ordinance. Bro. Coward baptised the candidate (Bro. Gray). He received the hand of welcome at the close of the gospel meeting, when the table was spread. Spirited spirit prevails at all meetings. Bro. J. Coward is presenting the Word with earnestness and simplicity.

New South Wales.

**College Annual Offering,
Sunday, October 1,
Let Every Member Help.**

PETERSHEAM.—Sept. 24, in the morning Bro. Arrott gave a very uplifting address on "The Trials of Faith." Bro. Len. Funnell, from Erskineville, was received into full worship. As night fell Bro. Arrott gave a stirring address on "A Great Woman." A sister who had previously confessed Christ was baptised. Our Bible School anniversary is being held on October 8th and 9th, and the Bible School picnic to School Gardens on October 14th.—E. V. Sointy.

AUBURN.—Fair meeting. At the breaking of bread the writer presided. Bro. Lenny spoke acceptably. This evening we had with us nearly 1000. Samplers, who told us of the good times all had enjoyed at Conference. He spoke on the parable of the sower in an attentive congregation.—G. Stieh, Sept. 24.

HURSTVILLE.—Our hearts were saddened to-day, when news was received that Bro. Morgan Santwyk (who had previously been reported missing) has been killed in action. The church extends its loving sympathy and prayers to the bereaved ones. Prior to his death, our brother had a class in the Bible School, and helped in the gospel meetings by singing solos. He was loved by all who knew him. Our new evangelist, Bro. Payne, was with us to-day for the first time, and gave much appreciated addresses at both services. A social evening is to be given as a welcome to our brother on October 12. We are looking forward to great things in the future.—B. E. Houston, Sept. 24.

ERSKINEVILLE.—P. J. Pond has returned from Queensland convalescent. W. G. Gale attended the meetings, during his absence. Spiritual refreshment and grace is manifest in the morning and evening yesterday. Bro. Gale preached, and Bro. Pond spoke appreciatively of the work done during his illness, and gave stirring addresses. A welcome home social is being held to-night. The church, Bro. and Mrs. Pond, are very grateful to the Home Mission Committee for Bro. Gale's valuable assistance.

HORSBLY.—Bro. Colmer presided, while Bro. L. J. Thompson exhorted. To-day was the anniversary of the Lord's day School, and special services were held. L. J. Thompson presiding in the afternoon and evening, while Bro. Stevens, of Mosman, addressed the scholars in the afternoon, and Bro. John Fox gave an inspiring address at night. The picnic is to be held in the grounds of Bro. Rife, at Watsonsong, on Eight Hours' Day, and all are welcome.—T. E. Rife.

CITY TEMPLE.—Splendid meetings to-day. Fine address from Bro. Harward at morning service. Visitors present included Sister S. G. Griffith and daughter, from Leicester, Bro. Wright, from Lygon-st., was received into fellowship. At the Bible School anniversary service in the afternoon Bro. Harward delivered an address on "Eti-

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Ninth Federal Conference, Adelaide.

Continued from page 585.

as seen from the New South Wales point of view. He said, "Theoretical Christianity is not enough. We must apply the theory of Christianity to the details of life. The text book of Christianity is the Bible. Side by side with the text books of the arts and sciences should be the text books of Christianity—the Word of God." He gave statistics showing the number of lessons given by ministers of the gospel in New South Wales Schools. These included 1850 lessons by Roman Catholic priests.

Bro. Blingworth, whose uplifting addresses and wise work as President greatly impressed the Conference, then vacated the chair and welcomed Bro. Brooker as the incoming President. Both brethren spoke most happily words appropriate to the occasion. Bro. Brooker, on behalf of the delegates, then presented to Bro. Blingworth a gold medal and the Bible as a token of appreciation for his excellent services.

Captain-Chaplain Peter Fleming (Baptist), speaking on "The Church and Social Problems," said, "All must feel a moral obligation to do all we can for the returning soldiers. If war be the foundation of all art, some of us would say, let art perish." He pointed out to the problems of the church. The church has largely created the social problem, because the church has created the conscience which has discovered the social problem. Then there is the principle of religious equality. That principle at work has gone beyond the confines of the church, has permeated society, and has helped to create the social problem. A man's claim to honour in the church is not through the weight of his purse, but through the warmth of his heart. It is the renewal of the soul which makes for the renewal of society. The church must make its contribution to the social problem—it is the only solution. "It was in the year, let it men pray that God may touch this earth with his mercy." So also if there be no solution for the social problem. You can get along with very little legislation if men's hearts are right. There was a time when temperance reform was entirely in the hands of the church. We want, not a new theory, but a new conscience. The only satisfactory basis for society and human life is the church and Christianity. The church will never be able to save the world if the church itself needs saving."

L. W. Baker closed the proceedings with an address on "The Church and the War." He said the war has rebored every speech of the Convention. Not only will the war change the map of the world, it will change the life of the world. There is a real interaction between the church and the war. The church has never yet been found wanting in the crisis. No institution is more indispensable than the church. E.g., the ministry of intercession, the unique privilege of the church. Also there is her ministry of comfort and consolation. The church has been trying to interpret the higher spiritual values which are at stake. In the temptation to run outward for peace, joy, and comfort we should have fallen had we forgotten conscience and let go of God. Some day men will awaken to the work accomplished by the church in the crisis.

And now the effect of the war upon the church itself. There are signs which are more portentous for good or evil than the war itself is for evil. We have grown rich in outward possessions, but lean and hungry of heart. Men are asked, "Has Christianity failed?" They don't ask that now. They know Christianity has not made the war. The war is exposing the nature of the parasite. It has sentenced to death King Alcohol. The war has created in the hearts of men a magnificent hate—the hate of war itself. War is unmasked. The war is giving us the greatest revelation of the splendid in ordinary men and women the world has ever seen. It should make us ever reverent toward all mankind. This ought to be a prominent impulsion to the church. God will never let us go to pieces on the rocks.

CONFERENCE PICNIC.

Friday, the Conference Picnic was held at Long Gully. A special train was crowded. Weather

conditions were perfect. The bills were at their best. A delightful day was spent. Before the brethren for the East took their departure a little specializing was done. Bro. Gore led in prayer, and all joined in singing, "God be with you till we meet again." This came to a close a Conference which has drawn us closer in brotherly love, and which should surely advance God's kingdom.

Flashes from the Federal Conference.

"The Bible College is managed on Scotch principles."—J. Huddle.

"The official representatives to the Conference numbered fifty-five."

"In Australia and New Zealand, we have 104 brethren who do nothing but preach the gospel. 59 are Glen Iris men.—R. Emms."

"At Easter in Sydney the preachers sat on the platform and sang—and the audience remained while we sang."—H. G. Harward.

"One of my consolations when I was leaving Adelaide was that I would be back in three months, if the Lord spared me."—J. E. Thomas.

"Unobtrusively Splendid"—It was stated that Bro. O'Brien, of Chartres Towers, had forfeited his prohibition in order to stand by the work in that town.

Of the thirty-six students in the College of the Bible, three are young ladies. Bro. Emms declared there would be seventy-five students if it were not for the war.

Adelaide's ideal climate, most of the Conference, was at its best. The Queen City of the South gleamed amidst its beautiful setting of grassy plain, blue mountain, blue sea, and blue sky.

£500, roughly, was given or promised during the two Conferences. This included £50 for a church at Herris, River Murray; £120 for S.A. Home Missions; £200 for Foreign Missions, and £120 for the College of the Bible.

Federal President W. C. Brooker electrified the crowd in the Town Hall at the closing meeting, when he announced that an anonymous brother and sister, more than 70 years of age, had decided to give to the cause in South Australia £100 for every year of their life.

Thursday afternoon J. E. Thomas announced a brother wished to give £200 to the Foreign Mission work, and to follow the gift each year with sufficient to support his own missionary. At the evening meeting I. A. Paternoster announced he had received the £200 cheque.

An interesting discussion occurred as to the best name for our preachers. Many favored "minister," and this title seems likely to increase in favor. It is apparent that the name "evangelist" is being dropped on all hands. "Preacher" was agreed on finally. Wherefore we have the title "Preachers' Provident Fund."

Much comment was passed on Bro. Rode's fine spirit. His work brought him prominently before the Conference. He also found himself obliged to raise a few points of order. Consequently he received some gracefully severe attention from the chair. But he came up smiling every time. This was as helpful as his generosity. In fact this spirit ruled. All the proceedings were marked with a spirit of harmony, good-will, brotherly love, and mutual trustfulness.

These Conferences have made an impression. It is hardly necessary to say they were a source of great joy and inspiration to the brethren present. But, also, their influence was felt beyond us. The newspapers gave prominence and liberal space. We have caught the public eye most certainly. Big things were done. They must impress our fellow citizens we are a force to be reckoned with, and are in earnest with our God and our work. It would seem almost as if a new day were dawning with us. The significance of much that was said and done, the clanging spirit of the brethren, the rare and splendid giving, the devotion and enterprise, were such that it needs little of the prophetic spirit to discern the trend of things to better and grander achievements for the sake of our Lord Christ.

South Australian Sisters' Conference.

The eleventh annual Conference of Sisters of the Associated Churches of Christ, South Australia, was held on Friday, Sept. 8, 1916, at Grossett chapel. President, Mrs. Dumbrell, in the chair. The devotional meeting was led by Mrs. E. W. Pittman.

Minutes of last year's meeting were read. Roll-call of delegates:—to responded.

Greetings were received from Federal Foreign Mission Committee; Victorian and West Australian Sisters' Conferences; Berri, and Kerribrook.

Reports were received from the following country churches.—Wallaroo, Kadina, Nararoon, Murray Bridge, Balaklava, and Berri.

Obituary Report, prepared and read by Mrs. R. Caldwell, told of 22 sisters called home during the past year.

Notice of Motion, by Mrs. E. W. Pittman, "That at the last meeting of the Executive of the Conference a nomination for Vice-President for the ensuing year be agreed upon." This was seconded and carried.

The officers elected for the coming year were: President, Mrs. D. A. Ewers; Vice-President, Mrs. Harding; Secretary, Mrs. A. M. Evans; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. A. Gard; Treasurer, Mrs. Bond; Pianist, Mrs. Hart. Obituary Superintendent, Mrs. Caldwell. Home Mission Superintendent, Mrs. Cherry; Committee, Mesdames Riches, Selway, Bond, and Hart. Foreign Mission Superintendent, Mrs. I. A. Paternoster; Committee, Mesdames Huntsman, Harkness, Rich, and Miss Whitfield. Temperance Superintendent, Mrs. Manger; Committee, Mesdames Collins, Warren, Cook, Morphet, J. Brooker, T. H. Brooker, M. Selway, D. Wilson, Tompitt, Thomas, Young, Manger, Black, Harkness, Warren, and Rich.

The afternoon session opened with a devotional meeting, led by Mrs. Huntsman. The welcome to the visitors was given by Mrs. E. J. Paternoster. The following sisters responded:—Miss Jerrett, Mrs. Tully, and Mrs. Hayward, from Victoria.

Minutes of morning-session were read and confirmed.

The President's address was delivered by Mrs. Dumbrell.

Roll-call of Churches, 23 responded.

A very interesting address was delivered by

FEDERAL FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE.

President, Hon. W. Morrow, M.L.C.
Treasurer, J. W. Cosh, Henley Beach, S.A.
Secretary, I. A. Paternoster, Buller-st., Fremantle, S.A.

OFFERINGS FOR FOREIGN MISSION WORK IN EACH STATE MAY BE SENT TO

South Australia.—Org. Sec. I. A. Paternoster, Prospect, Phone 432. Treas. T. Colclath, c/o Mr. A. H. Dabbie, Hayward Avenue, Torrensville.
Victoria.—Sec., J. I. Mudford, 75 Munro-st., Ascot Vale; Phone, Ascot, 767. Treas. Robert Lyall, 30 Leveson-st., North Melbourne.
New South Wales.—Sec., C. C. S. Rush, 43 Roberts-st., Marrickville; Phone, Penrith, 183. Treas. J. O. Holt, Casleragh-st., Sydney; Phone, CO3 710.

Queensland.—Sec., L. Gole, c/o MacRobertson's, Brisbane. Treas., H. W. Herrman, Railway Parade, Nundah.

West Australia.—Sec., H. E. Cole, Higham-st. Fremantle. Treas., C. A. G. Payne, Gullford.
Tasmania.—Treas., H. C. Rodd, Murray-st. Hobart.

All correspondence and money for the Federal Committee should be sent to the Organising Secretary, South Australia.

Mrs. Powell, a returned missionary from China, on her work in that land.

Resolutions, proposed by Mrs. Bond and Mrs. Harrington.

That this Conference of Sisters of the Church of Christ in South Australia view with favor the prospects of a referendum for Scripture reading in State Schools, and do all we can to bring this to a successful issue.

(2) In view of the fact that there are storekeepers in our State who have wire licenses, we propose ourselves to refrain from purchasing from such storekeepers.

(3) That the Sisters' Conference do its utmost to raise the necessary amounts for the support of Miss Cameron during the coming year.

(4) Seeing that art unions, raffles, and lotteries are being conducted for patriotic purposes, we as a sisterhood pledge ourselves to refrain from taking any part in them, as they are morally wrong, and therefore we should not have anything to do with them.

(5) That this Conference urges the sisters to use their influence in any direction of a stricter censorship of pictures; that we realise the injurious influence it has on the young life of our nation.

During the afternoon a solo by Miss Daley, and a duet by Nurse Nankinell and Miss Brandesome on the pleasure of the meeting.

During the afternoon a cheque for £55 was handed by Mrs. I. A. Paternoster to Mr. T. Colclath for Foreign Mission work, and a cheque for £85 was handed to Mr. W. Manning by Mrs. Cherry for Home Mission work.

The evening session took the form of a Grand Temperance Rally. Mrs. Dumbrell, retiring President, introduced the new President, Mrs. D. A. Ewers. The report of the Temperance Committee was prepared and read by Mrs. Mauget. Interesting addresses were delivered by Mr. J. J. Franklin and Mr. W. C. Brooker (President of the A. S. A. Society). A solo was rendered by Miss Landon, and a trio by Mrs. A. J. Gard, and Misses M. Elliott and Leedham. A recitation was given by Mrs. Bartlett. A vote of thanks to all who had helped to make the Conference such a success was proposed by Mrs. Mauget.

Conference closed with singing two verses of the National Anthem, and the Benediction.

—Miss A. M. Evans, 11 Balld St., College Park, Secretary.

EXECUTIVE REPORT.

It is with feelings of great thankfulness to our heavenly Father that we present another year's record of work. With the great and terrible war that is still being carried on on the other side of the globe, we are keenly feeling the effects of it here, and we are glad that so many can still find time to come together to do God's work, and we are sure that in doing so they have been greatly blessed.

The past year has been one of steady progress, improvement in attendance, and greater responsibilities undertaken.

At the February meeting, it was decided to ask each Committee to take charge of the devotional meeting in turn, the superintendent to be in charge, and as far as possible each member to take a part. This has been a decided improvement, and will prove a very helpful and inspiring time to all.

To our retiring President, we extend our most sincere thanks for the splendid way she has carried out her duties, and especially for the great love she has so constantly shown her fellow-workers, and we pray that she may long be spared in our midst.

Ten meetings have been held during the year. We have 46 delegates on the roll, the average attendance being 28.

Our December meeting was presided over by the Home Mission Committee, when we were aided by a splendid paper by Mrs. Cherry, and solos from Misses Hart and Turner.

One upward step that the sisterhood has undertaken this year has been the support of Miss Cameron in India, at £50 per year, and for this we feel very thankful that the sisters, with the ever-present monetary calls in so many directions, have shown so much practical enthusiasm for the work of the King of kings.

The various committees have all been hard at work, as shown by their various reports, and at the August meeting the sisters again showed their liberality in bringing along many useful gifts to be distributed by the Hospital Committee to those in their care; 17/- in cash was also sent for the same good work.

Greetings have been sent to the Sister State Conferences.

The going home of Ellen Ewers and Manning was a great loss to us, as both these gentlemen had always given the sisters much help and encouragement in our work. While we will miss them very much, we are thankful we had their fellow-ship, and to whom they had left here, we extend our sympathy.—Rosa M. Invararity, Asst. Sec. [Other reports will be inserted later.]

The Family Altar.

THE TEMPERATE ZONE.

Men naturally look out healthy places for their homes. That is the reason why the region halfway between the Poles and the Equator, known as the Temperate Zone, is so densely populated. Here, as in no other region under the sun, conditions are most conducive of healthy lives. Near the Poles it is too cold, and near the Equator it is too hot. Here, as everywhere, the golden mean is the place of safety, happiness and the greatest good. Even so it is in the matter of money. Neither the frigid regions of abject poverty, nor the enervating realms of luxurious wealth, are the ideal place for the development of the spiritual life, but in the rich valley between these extremes, known as the land of a competency.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8.

Gems of Thought—"Give me neither poverty nor riches; feel me with food convenient for me" (Prov. 30: 8).

Without fraudulency, none can be rich; and with it, very few would be poor.—Dr. Johnson.

Bible Reading—Prov. 30: 1-9: The golden mean.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 9.

Gems of Thought—"Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith?" (Matt. 8: 26).

It broad daylight should never be yours on this side of the grave. He will hold your feet in the twilight, that they shall not stumble, and at last, with all the more love and all the more speed as well, He will lead you to his bosom, who is himself the Light Eternal.—F. W. Faber.

Bible Reading—Matt. 8: 23-27: Little faith not despised.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10.

Gems of Thought—"A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger" (Prov. 15: 1).

Cold words freeze people, hot words scorch them, bitter words make them bitter, and warlike words make them wrathful. Kind words make people good natured. Though they do not cost much, yet they accomplish much.—Pascal.

Bible Reading—Prov. 15: 1-11: A wonderful instrument.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11.

Gems of Thought—"Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Gal. 6: 2).

Many have burdens too heavy to bear, Help somebody to-day!
Grief is the portion of some everywhere!
Help somebody to-day!

Bible Reading—Gal. 6: 1-10: Helping others.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12.

Gems of Thought—"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5: 8).

For where God built a church, there the devil would also build a chapel.—Martin Luther.

Bible Reading—1 Peter 5: 1-11.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13.

Gems of Thought—"He that loveth pleasure shall be a poor man" (Prov. 11: 47).

But pleasure is like a bubble's foam,
You seize the bow, it's broken is shown;
Or like the snowflake in the river,
A moment white—then lost for ever;
Or like the bread-crust's race,
That fits ere you can part, their place;
Or like the game of a lady's fan,
Evanishing amid the storm.—Harris.

Bible Reading—Prov. 21: 1-17: Dangerous pleasures.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14.

Gems of Thought—"War a good warfare" (1 Tim. 2: 18).

"Stand like an avvil" when the strife
Of salt-war men falls deep and fast;
Seems but more deeply root the soil,
Whose brassy arms embrace the blast.
The tendency to per-verse, to per-act, in spite of hindrances, discouragements and impediments—it is this that, in all things, distinguishes the strong soul from the weak—Carlyle.

Bible Reading—1 Tim. 1: 13-20: Enduring hardness. American "Christian Standard."

The Bible College.

The Means of Meeting the Needs of the New Future.

J. Inglis Wright,
Chairman, Bible College Advisory Board, N.Z.

The call for efficient preachers of the primitive gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ is greater to-day than ever. There is every prospect that in the near future that call will become still more insistent. The return from the war of great numbers of men who have been face to face with death in its most awful forms will provide a new type of hearer. Men, whose experiences have enabled them to discern the great ultimate of existence, will have little patience for the vagaries of ecclesiasticism. The glorious simplicity of the gospel of Christ as revealed in the New Testament possesses the only power of appeal that will reach the hearts and minds of the great majority of these battle-scarred soldiers. To carry this message we shall need evangelists of a strenuous masculine and virile type, whose faith is unshaken by doubts and whose transparent earnestness and sincerity are emphatic and self-evident. We shall need men whose temperament is similar, whose presentation of the Truth moves along lines of thought that are common with those of the Australian citizen-soldiers. To supply this need we look in great measure to our College of the Bible. From this institution, and from our churches we must find preachers who are able to awaken response in the hearts of men who have suffered deep and long for the maintenance of those principles of righteousness and justice which during long centuries have been associated with the British character, and become ingrained in its nature. The truths of religion must be interpreted in terms of the national temperament, and for this, if for no other reason it is a bounden duty, obviously in harmony with sanctified common-sense, that the College of the Bible should be accorded the most whole-hearted support of the brotherhood throughout Australasia.

The past two years have taught us much. A new era lies closely ahead—God grant it may be even earlier than present conditions at the front permit us to hope. When it comes, primitive Christianity will have its greatest opportunity since the days of the post-apostolic era. Preachers of the merely "professional" type, the hand-waving, wicker-plumed platform declaimers, and those of the hypocritical, self-righteous, and the effeminate sensationalist, will in great measure be relegated to the realms of oblivion—as far as the people of the British Empire are concerned, and that, none too soon. To supply evangelists of the needed type is the task of our College of the Bible. Many God bless our Institution, keep it free from the hypocrisy of clerical "professionalism," and from the property, success, and continued fidelity to the simplicity of New Testament Christianity, is our heart's sincere desire.

REPORTS FROM THE FIELD.

Continued from Page 587.

the "Things." At night the superintendent, Bro. T. McLean, presided over large meeting; the scholars, under Bro. W. Keam, leader of song, sang splendidly. Bro. Harward's address on "The Building of Character," much appreciated. With sorrow we report the death at the front of another of the young men of the church, Bro. Horace Stenison, son of Bro. and Sister Shearston, well known among the brotherhood. The church is indebted to Bro. J. Fox for conducting the mid-week service, and the splendid word of exhortation, during the absence of Bro. Harward at the Federal Conference.—J. C., Sept. 24.

ENMORE.—On morning of Sept. 24, E. J. Hilder presided and welcomed home Bro. Hlingworth, who gave a review of the Federal Conference. There was a nice school, and we were glad to know that five of our scholars had won prizes at the recent competition, and fifteen had gained certificates; as comparatively few entered, this result is considered satisfactory. Bro. Rupert White, teacher of our senior boys' class, has enlisted for service abroad as a Y.M.C.A. field secretary. At a social on Sept. 20, he was presented by his class with a wrist-let watch. We missed him to-day from the senior department. At the gospel service Bro. Hlingworth preached on "Fixity of Purpose." It was an in memoriam address for our late esteemed Bro. S. Whately. The choir sang "Vital Spark," and Miss H. Bains sang sweetly a solo entitled "Not Engaged." Two of our boys have won distinguished honors in France.—Mr. Eric Sashy, the D.C.M., for rescuing mates under fire; Mr. O. Davies, the Bronze Medal of the Royal Humane Society for conspicuous bravery at Calais.

NORTH AUBURN.—Meetings all day were very good. Bro. Saunders, of South Auburn, exhorted helpfully. Bro. W. Morton gave the gospel address, which was very much appreciated. On Wednesday, Sept. 27th, the Sunday School gave a book and basket social, which was well attended. The school received no books towards their library, which they are just starting.—A.S.H., Sept. 24.

MARRICKVILLE.—We are glad to have Bro. Rush home again. He spoke at both meetings to-day, and was much appreciated. We were specially pleased to see Bro. Walter Thomas with us. He has been on active service abroad for sixteen months, and has just come home on a hospital ship. He expects to leave again shortly. The young people are giving him a welcome on Tuesday evening. Bro. Tom Timmings is recovering from his accident, and was at church this morning. Bro. Beard, from South Australia, was with us again to-day.—J. J. Taylor, Sept. 24.

New Zealand.

RICHMOND (Auckland).—On Sept. 10, we had an inspiring time. In the morning we had a roll-call meeting, when 55 broke bread, and three were received into fellowship. This was a record meeting. We have decided to have a roll-called every quarter. At night the chapel was crowded, when Bro. Greenwood preached a stirring sermon, and at the close one more made the good confession, and two—husband and wife—were baptised.—A. E. Edwards.

ASHBURTON.—Meetings continue good, and there is an improvement in numbers at our gospel services. Special addresses are being given by Bro. Brimon Jarvis, evangelist; Bro. O'Brien, and Bro. Baxter, dealing with the need of more faith, prayer, and labor, as a preparation for our coming mission. A "working bee" was called for on September 9, when concrete paths were put around the new building. The ladies provided afternoon tea. We are all looking forward to Bro. Gebbie's special visit with us.—E.K., Sept. 14.

INVERCARGILL.—Heard to report fine attendances at all meetings since Bro. Moore came amongst us. Our mid-week prayer meetings are very well attended, as many as 68 having been present on Thursday week past. Last night Bro. Moore delivered a thoughtful and eloquent ad-

dress on "The Stoning of Stephen," to a packed building. Six confessed their faith in their Savior. Next Sunday evening we hope to have with us Bro. Gifford Gordon, and expect him to occupy the platform. The Bible School is doing good work. Anniversary social on Sept. 27.—P.

KAITANGATA.—Beside the November Children's Day offering for Foreign Missions, an offering of £22/2/6 was made by the Bible School and Bible class on August 28. On the 25th our president, Bro. Noble, opened the long prepared Mission Circle sale of gifts, which realised £47/9 to help two native evangelists. These two offerings will be added to one of £16/0, taken on Aug. 20 to help our straightened and beloved missionaries in South Africa. Bro. Arthur Cockcroft will succeed our evangelist, Bro. S. G. Noble, who is under engagement to the Wanganui church. The church is busy preparing the customary functions, which will be divided by a mission jointly held by the two evangelists. Bro. Noble will preside over the New Zealand C.W.B.M. welcome to Bro. and Sister Cockcroft in Dunedin on Sept. 14. Our meetings maintain high average attendances and interest, and the church's prospects are better than ever.—John Hay, Sept. 13.

KILBIRNIE.—On Lord's day, 20th August, at the conclusion of an excellent gospel address by Bro. M. Vickery, Sister Thelma Tasker made the good confession. She was baptised the following Tuesday evening at Newtown chapel, by Bro. Phillips, evangelist. Our Bro. Hugh Dalgleish recently left for the front as a member of the Army Medical Corps. Before his departure he was presented by the church members and Bible School teachers with a handsome pocket book and fountain pen. The lighting of the chapel will soon be improved by the installation of electric light in lieu of gas.—G.P., Sept. 17.

WANGANUI.—Our gospel meetings have improved considerably during the last few months. Our morning meetings for breaking of bread are about the same. In connection with the death of Sister Simpson, Bro. Rice conducted a memorial service on 27th August, when our late sister's husband came out on the Lord's side, and was baptised the following Sunday night.—A. Thomas.

DUNEDIN.—The anniversary of the Bible School was celebrated by tea meeting and children's entertainment on August 30. G. Gordon was the preacher at the Tabernacle on Sept. 3 and 10, and D. A. Cockcroft on Sept. 17. Bro. Cockcroft arrived in Dunedin on Thursday, and he and Mrs. Cockcroft were welcomed at a social arranged by the C.W.B.M. on the Thursday evening. We regret the loss sustained by one of our members, Mrs. John Kennitz, whose husband died suddenly.—L.C.J.S., Sept. 19.

CHRISTCHURCH.—At the close of Bro. Gebbie's address on Sunday evening, two young ladies went forward. One of the girls was on her way to the cathedral, but being late, she came into our church for her first visit. Bro. Gebbie leaves for Ashburton this week to conduct a mission in connection with the opening of the new chapel down there.—Sept. 20.

NELSON.—The personal work of the "Each one win one campaign" is making noticeable progress in our Lord's day meetings. Sunday, 10th, Bro. Dickson gave an earnest address on "Preaching Jesus." One young woman confessed Christ. The following Tuesday this sister and her brother were baptised. The splendid advantage of using the duplex envelope was shown when, after an urgent appeal, we have been able to forward £12 9/- to Foreign Missions, and £8/14/6 to Home Missions. These envelopes have only been in use a very short period, and this amount is entirely free from our ordinary collection. Keen interest and enthusiasm is manifested by our S.S. scholars in the Bible Searching Department. Misses Masters, assisted by Mrs. Phillips, have charge of this important work.—Z., Sept. 20.

HYGIENE HOME.

Nantawarra, via Pt. Wakefield, South Australia. All diseases are perfectly cured—not every case—in this institution, without drugs or operations.

COMING EVENTS.

OCTOBER 6 & 7.—North Melbourne Sub of Work will be opened at the Freemasons' Hall, Curzon-st., by Alderman A. L. Crishton, on Friday, 3 o'clock, and continued Friday evening and Saturday afternoon and evening. All welcome.

MARRIAGE.

CAMERON—TULLY.—On August 21, at the Church of Christ, Doncaster, F. W. Cameron, son of Mr. F. G. Cameron, "Hillcrest," Box 119, to Nellie, daughter of Mr. John Tully, Doncaster, Mr. G. D. Verco officiating.

DEATH.

ON ACTIVE SERVICE.

LLOYD.—Killed in action in France on Aug. 4, 1916, Signaller Frank W. Lloyd, fourth son of W. and S. Lloyd (late of Kaniva), aged 20 years.

Somewhere in France, dear Frank,
Is your name that we cannot see;
Your duty is done, you are sleeping in peace,
And our thought will be always of thee.
—Inserted by his sincere friend, Henry H. Dair, Lillimar.

HARVEY.—Killed in action in France, on September 4th, Company Sergeant-Major Arthur Harvey, eldest son of Martin and Harriet Harvey, Northcote, brother of Mrs. A. G. Bennett, of North Williamstown, Stanley and Ernest, and the loved father of Ruby (Warburton).

He never shunned his country's call,
But gladly gave his life, his all;

He died the hero's death in deed;
An Australian soldier's noble end.

—Inserted by his loving sister.

IN MEMORIAM.

MORRISON.—In loving memory of Richard Morrison, who entered his eternal rest July 29, 1908.

—Inserted by his ever-sorrowing family,
"Ellburton," Dulwich Hill, Sydney.

HEALESVILLE.

"Denholme." Superior accommodation for visitors. Splendid scenery, fern gullies, mountain air, good table. Bath and piano.—Mrs. Chaffer.

Tariff: Adults, 2/6 per week, 5/- per day.
Children: 1/5/- per week, 3/- per day.
Trains met when advised.

Master Bradshaw's
Shorthand Course

and you'll be master of the situation when you apply for a situation. Master Bradshaw's Shorthand Course is complete in easy lessons, and you can develop a word of 100 to 125 words a minute under 2 months. It is the easiest of all to learn, write, and read, there being only 52 simple signs in the entire system. Numerous letters have been received from delighted students telling an amazing story of success. You can have copy of a some of them.

FIRST LESSON FREE to all sending in this advertisement. It is the easiest and best extra help, and 3 penny stamps to cover postage. Ask for pamphlet P4.

Bradshaw's
BUSINESS COLLEGE
P. 2.

218 FLINDERS ST.
MELBOURNE, VIC.

Here and There

College Annual Offering next Sunday.

For the report of the Federal Conference we are indebted to Bren. A. G. Saunders and J. Wiltshire.

Bro. H. B. Robbins has recently been on a tour among isolated members in the districts surrounding Colac, Vic., and the visits paid were much appreciated.

Meetings for breaking of bread were started at Oakeleigh on Sunday morning last. The weather was most unfavorable, still 22 gathered, and a good meeting was held.

The Home Mission Committee of the Victorian Sisters' Executive will visit Lygonist. on Tuesday afternoon, October 3, at 2.30 pm., and Middle Park on Wednesday afternoon, at 3 pm.

On another page appears a letter from Chaplain Captain G. P. Cairns. Correspondents are asked to note that his address now is Headquarters, 11th Brigade, 3rd Division, A.I.F., On Active Service.

Will secretaries and preachers of Melbourne churches please send cash for men's banquet tickets sold, and unsold tickets, promptly to Thos. Hagger, 15 Walsh-st., Colburg, so that the account can be closed?

One confession last Sunday night at South Melbourne, where Thos. Hagger is assisting the church, and Bro. W. H. Clay, with two weeks' special meetings. In spite of the bad weather there were over 100 people present.

J. E. Thomas gave a most interesting address on "Utilising the Membership," at our Victorian Men's Quarterly Meeting at Swanston-st. on Monday evening last. The address was highly appreciated. A discussion on the theme will take place at the next meeting.

We have pleasure in announcing that A. G. Saunders, B.A., of Semaphore, S.A., has kindly consented to conduct our "Family Altar" department. Our brother's first article will appear in next issue. We greatly appreciate his kind help, and are sure our readers will be much benefited.

Victorian church secretaries are asked to bring the College church offering before members again next Sunday, and to keep the offering open for the following Sunday. It is feared that, owing to the bad weather last Sunday, some of the members may not have secured printed matter and envelopes.

Graded Lessons for October-December quarter are sending in Melbourne late this week. It will be impossible to supply them to schools in time for the first Sunday in the quarter. It is suggested that next Sunday the lessons of the last few weeks be reviewed. Every dispatch will be used in getting the supplies to schools.

P. D. McCullum, B.A., has agreed to fill the place of Chaplain Captain J. C. F. Pittman, who has left on transport duty. Bro. Pittman will probably be absent for a few months. We do not know of Bro. McCullum's movements after his short period at Assot Vale. Churches seeking help would do well to get in touch with him.

The sympathy of many brethren will be extended to Mr. and Mrs. A. Mills in the death they have sustained through the death of their son. Bro. and Sister Mills were recalled from Adelaide, but ere they reached home their loved one had passed away. We pray that the consolation of God the all-wise Father may be with the sorrowing hearts.

The Victorian Women's Conference Executive will meet in the hall, Swanston-st., on Friday, October 3, at 2.30 pm. Mrs. Trimick leads devotional exercises. An address, "Reasons for Larger Giving to Missionary Work" will be given by Mrs. Ludbrook. A welcome will be extended to Mrs. Blakeney, of West Australia. All sisters are most cordially invited.

A word of thanks is due to the kind friends who sent copies of the "Australian Christian" along for our boys in camp. Not only our members, but many of the sick in the military hospitals benefited by their kindly thought. Keep on sending. When writing of friends in camp, kindly give full address to Chaplain Captain W. H. Nightingale, c/o Y.M.C.A., Eraser's Camp, Enoggera, Q.L.D.

Sister I. Redman is the State School teacher at Mulera, in the Murraysville district in Victoria. As there is no Sunday School, and being a State School teacher, she is not allowed to give religious instruction in her school, so she has started a Sunbeam Circle which meets after school hours. All the children but two attend, and the circle is run much like a Bible Class. It is good for our scattered members to let their light shine thus.

A soldier writing from France to the London "Christian World" says: "As a recruit, I was in the barrack-room, with at least 100 more men, of all sorts and conditions, and I have seen many of these spend their time in Bible reading before getting to bed. Certainly no boots were thrown, and the man was never disturbed, but the example was set, and others were led to see that men could pray in a barrack-room, and they, too, joined in this Christian habit."

We have on hand a number of articles and an amount of correspondence. It will be some time before we can use all the former, and probably we shall never be able to insert all the latter. Correspondents are assured that we appreciate their interest, and that we shall endeavor to do the best for the greatest possible number. We could not insert one with letters for publication. While it is impossible to spare room for all the communications we receive, we hereby acknowledge them with sincere thanks.

In a recent number we spoke of the College diploma in such a way as might mislead some, and do less than justice to some former students. Up till now we have issued both a certificate and a diploma. For the former a Bible Course only was prescribed; but all who received the latter were required to do a considerable amount of secular work in addition. The change has been made of making this secular work obligatory on all students before taking a course. The certificate will be dispensed with.

Evangelist Training Fund for New Zealand Students.—The Committee of the above fund desire to inform the young men of our New Zealand churches that they are prepared to advance loans to aid such as desire to equip themselves for the work of evangelists. The object of the fund is to assist young brethren to meet their expenses while studying at the Bible College, Glen Iris, or elsewhere. Easy terms of repayment are granted. These do not commence until the course of training is completed and an engaging secured. Applications should be addressed to the undersigned as chairman of the committee.—J. Inglis Wright, Pine-st., Dunedin, N.Z.

At a large and enthusiastic six o'clock meeting held in the Meridind chapel last week, the following resolution, moved by Mr. J. H. Barrett, was carried unanimously:—That this meeting regrets that the people of this State should be denied the right to express their opinion by a referendum as to the hours of liquor trading. We reiterate our declaration in favor of six o'clock closing as set forth in the measure now before the Legislative Council, which provides for the temporary closing of liquor bars, and we further declare our continuing belief that the hours of trading in these bars cannot be firmly settled until a popular referendum has been taken. We resolve to continue with renewed vigor and determination, our demand for a referendum, which shall be taken before the expiry for which the present measure provides, and we urge the chairman to forward this resolution to the State Premier, and to the members representing this district in the Assembly and Council. During the course of a powerful address, H. G. Howard said that liquor bars should close at six o'clock for equity, efficiency, economy, and good order. Mr. James J. B. and Mr. Ernest Watson contributed to a musical programme.

The College of the Bible.

"Nerunda," Woomera Avenue, Warralonga, Sept. 27, 1916.
The Editor, "The Australian Christian."

Dear Sir and Brother,—

At the Federal Conference the brethren of our churches rose to the occasion and made a magnificent effort to pay off the debt on the College of the Bible, leaving only £100 still to raise to free the College from debt. I feel sure those brethren who did not have a hand in raising this £100 will want to help in paying the £100 still owing. I want to encourage this spirit that exists throughout the brotherhood that the College may be left untrammelled first by the paying of the interest on a mortgage over the College, and secondly by the anxiety of meeting the principal sum when it falls due.

I offer to subscribe a further £10 if sixty more others subscribe £10 apiece, or 138 subscribe £5 apiece. Brethren, do not let this matter lie. The Lord loveth a liberal giver. He who gives quickly gives twice.—Yours in His service, T. E. Rife.

Tasmanian Home Mission Notes.

N. J. Warnburn, Secretary.

Since last report the work has continued as during past months.

At Dover, Bro. Way is doing real solid work, which must bear fruit in the near future. One restoration since last report. Church busy creating vestries, which will be of great convenience and utility in many ways.

At Geelong, the cause has outlived greatly by the removal of Bro. and Sister Byard to Downport. The Bible School is on the upgrade.

At Kelving, meetings and interest are growing. Two restorations since last report. Weather has been anything but favorable for forward move to outlying places.

At Nulmerga, meetings are still being held regularly; while at Tannet Bay the interest in all departments is good. Prayer meetings and a Bible Class have also been started at the latter place, with splendid attendance. Bro. Byard is getting amongst the folk of both districts by home-to-house visitation. At both places death has claimed two of the brethren. May God comfort the bereaved.

With the advent of fine, settled weather, we believe much fruit will be gathered in the near future.

Reference was made in a recent number of the London "Christian World," to a heart-rending paper by Carey Bonner read before the Free Church Council, Bradford. It shows that in the seven years from December, 1908, to December, 1914, only two denominations—the Wesleyan Reform Union and the Churches of Christ—showed any increase in their Sunday School membership. All the rest had to report decreases, which totalled the enormous figure of 275,952 scholars and teachers.

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Was the Body of Jesus Broken?

I frequently hear our presiding brethren at our morning meetings quoting Jesus as having said, "This is my body, broken for you," but we know that Jesus never said anything of the sort. Why, then, do our presidents, as well as some others, quote him as having said it was? Matthew and Mark report him as saying, "Take eat, this is my body," while Luke quotes him more fully, viz., "Take eat, this is my body, which is given for you." Now, since we want to be scriptural, or as nearly so at all times, as we can, and as it is as easy in this connection to be scriptural as unscriptural, why not be scriptural? Just here some young convert may ask, Why, then, did the Apostle Paul in his letter to the church at Corinth (1 Cor. 11: 24) use the word "broken" in connection with his remarks on the Lord's Supper? Let me say that in that particular instance Paul has been mis-translated by the revisers. Let us remember that Paul spoke under the power of inspiration, and that he spoke nothing but the truth. Had he said, in speaking of the Lord's Supper, "Take eat, this is my body which is broken for you," he would have spoken an untruth, because the body of Jesus could not have been broken without the breaking of the Scriptures also; and God emphatically declares "The Scriptures cannot be broken" (John 10: 35). And later on the same inspired writer, in speaking of the crucifixion and referring back to the Old Testament Scriptures, said, "For these things, were done that the Scriptures should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken" (John 19: 36, 37; Ps. 34: 20).

In conclusion, let us be careful, brethren, to speak only where and what the Scriptures speak. David Henderson, Horlism.

The Society of Christian Endeavor.

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Christ's Resurrection.

1. Paul's epistle. 1 Cor. 15: 3-14.
2. Mary Magdalene. John 20: 1-18.
3. Mary and the other women. Luke 24: 1-12.
4. The Government report. Matt. 28: 1-15.
5. Two going to Emmaus. Luke 24: 13-24.
6. First Easter Sunday night. Luke 24: 35-45.
7. Thomas, etc. John 20: 24; 21: 7.

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