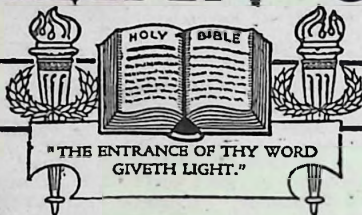


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The Strategy of the Teaching Method

W. R. Hibburt

CHURCH work is war work. Sunday school teaching is patriotism of the highest order. There is no more purposeful home guard than the Sunday school staff. The undergirding of the oncoming generation is a work of international importance. It is required of teachers to-day to consider themselves under orders from the Captain of their salvation to stand by their host.

Those who know the inner story of Germany over the last few years acquaint us with the fact that Germany wrought her way to power by the strategy of the teaching method. Nazism set itself out to secure first a national and then a European revolution. It saw that the way to that goal was the strategy of the teaching method. Sow the seed-thoughts of what you want youth to think, believe and act upon; sow those seed-thoughts in the mind of every boy and every girl in every home, in every village, and in every city, every week. Then when those seed-thoughts grow up, in youth who have grown up, you will reap the fruits of your planned-for revolution. So in these fateful months of history, when the German youth, having grown up, have now hammered and slashed and bombed their way until they have beaten Europe to its knees, what think you of the strategy of the teaching method? The course of human history has been changed by it before our very eyes.

The teaching method is the strategy of Jesus. "Go, teach!" is his command. The zeal of false teachers with pagan ideas has demonstrated to the world what can be achieved by the teaching method. Hitler recognised that the schools are the key to sovereignty. It remains for Bible

school teachers to accept the challenge and prove to the world that Christian teachers are no less zealous, and that they are ready to work a revolution. Let us not be dismayed by present disasters, but apply ourselves to our task knowing that truth and right will ultimately prevail. As never before those who teach the young the Christian way of life must devote

themselves to their task. The cause of Christ may be lost or won in our Bible schools.

The Alert Has Sounded

CHRISTIAN forces cannot be idle. Neither can they be busy about unimportant things. To-day the sound sense of Christ's plan for life is obvious. The futility of other plans was never so apparent. If it is true that spiritual illiteracy is a major menace to our world to-day, the church must reach every person with Christian teaching. The home must be reclaimed as a basic institution in supplying Christian culture. The community must be challenged whenever human beings are exploited or forgotten. Unless Christian teaching can become more vital, unless it can reach boys and girls, young men and women, and the last person for whom intended, the church will have lost its sense of purpose, its concern for people, and its function as a kingdom builder. The "kingdoms of this world"

will gladly take over, and when they do Christian teaching may not even be free to reach boys and girls, and men and women.

The King's Highway

SOME are "left wing," some are "right wing," but the ideal is to be able to say "We will go by the King's highway; we will not turn to the right hand nor to the left."



Victorian Youth Fraternise and Enterprise

A group of the 300 young men and women who met in convention at the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., on Easter Friday.

● Put Youth Work
in the
Front Line
in Your
Thinking and Giving

The Fight is On for This Generation

It is not new to think of life in terms of a fight. Scriptural phrasing and the imagery of many hymns witness to this fact. A fight is on in every aspiring life. A spiritual interpretation of life recognises opposing forces within and without. The Victorian Youth Week slogan is "The fight is on for this generation."

God's Fighting Line

"Come on now, all young men all over the world, you must take your places in life's fighting line. Twenty to twenty-five! These are the years!" In these words Winston Churchill, in his work, "My Early Life," challenges the young people of this generation. Every young man and woman found in God's fighting line has accepted that challenge—for in the ultimate analysis the forces confronting the present generation are not foes of flesh and blood, but rather "the despotisms, the empires, the forces that control and govern this dark world—the spiritual hosts of evil arrayed against us in heavenly warfare" (Ephesians 6: 12, Weymouth). This description of our real foe is arresting, and demands that we do not underestimate evil at work in the world. Evil is organised. Goodness must organise; hence the necessity of the church, and the necessity of righteousness being a militant force—Christ's fighting force. It was so with the church in the first century, youth can make it so in the 20th century.

The Unfinished Fight

The fight for truth, right, freedom and brotherhood is always an unfinished task. One generation does not pass them on intact to another. Each generation must win them anew. It cannot be the will of God that the gambling spirit should be fostered in ways which bear such bitter fruit in our domestic and social life. It cannot be the will of God that the liquor traffic should neutralise our Christian efforts and destroy human souls. It cannot be the will of God that homes should go on the rocks through selfishness, and that divorce courts should be filled. It is not the will of God that a double standard of morality exists in Christian civilisations; the same law of righteousness binds a company, a corporation, a trust, a state, a nation, a political party, as binds an individual in his private relations. "There is only one set of ethics in the social order of God, and that is the ethics of justice and brotherhood and love." Neither can it be the will of God that a double stand-

ard exists for men and women. Men cannot expect a high standard from women and adopt a lower one for themselves.

Superhuman Powers

Readers of the New Testament soon become aware that the fighting is more than hand-to-hand combat, but it is a fight of world-wide dimension. Evil is organised in such a manner as to give it superhuman powers. The above scripture gives proof that an experienced fighter like the Apostle Paul considered it no mimic warfare. He forewarns and fore-



arms his co-fighters with this challenge. It is more than picturesque language. History and current events give adequate proof of evil at work on a world-wide scale. It does not make the power of evil less real because at times it is an unseen force. The proof that evil works as an unseen power is within our own experience. Evil fires which we thought we had quenched are suddenly rekindled by unseen hands. We have to renew the fight with forms of moral and spirit-

The War Behind the War

It is imperative for youth leaders to realise that the war behind the war is spiritual warfare. A battle of ideas is raging. Ideas that are anti-God, anti-Christian and anti-democratic are clashing with eternal values and undermining all that is sacred. Christian youth must be in the fight and out-think the false ideas.

"The war of ideas is not a mere episode in hostilities. Hostilities are an episode in a war of ideas." This remark, borrowed from a letter, indicates an awareness that war in its military aspects is only part of something far bigger; that it is, indeed, but an incident in a vast moral and spiritual conflict between God and evil, light and darkness, which is being fought out in the souls of this generation. "We wrestle not against flesh and blood . . . but against spiritual hosts of wickedness."

There are immediate duties for every citizen,

yet we need not delude ourselves that a victory for the allies will by itself alone win the war in any sense in which it is worth winning. "For," reasons Canon F. R. Barry, "there is, all the time, a war behind the war—a conflict of ultimate allegiances, a choice between life and good, and death and evil. That is how the Bible looks at history—as the arena of a moral conflict; and we are beginning to see how right it was. We can see now that justice, truth and charity, and the values of a liberal civilisation are bound up with our Christian inheritance. . . . Thus if we, conscious as we are that the world is being challenged by 'evil things,' do not wish to be ourselves defeated by the very evils against which we contend, we must make our choice between Christ and anti-christ."

Buried seeds will grow, but buried talents, never.

ual evil which we thought we had completely destroyed. Give the faculty of vision to the blind and they see the sun and the clouds and the moon and the stars of whose existence they had known nothing except by hearsay. "So," argues R. W. Dale, "give a new faculty to the human race, and we might discover that we are surrounded by 'principalities' and 'powers,' some of them loyal to God and bright with a divine glory, some of them in revolt against him and scarred with the lightnings of divine anger." Was the New Testament church possessed of some such faculty?

Recover the New Testament Fight

The church as we see it in the New Testament was fighting something. All through the New Testament, particularly in the latter part of it, when the shadow of persecution and martyrdom began to fall on the little group, there is an oppressive sense of a desperate conflict, a fight to the death with malignant and powerful forces of evil. Evil is organised to-day, and the church must give battle. History verifies the fact that when the church ceases to be militant it surrenders and goes over to the side of the enemy.

Youth Leaders Broadcast

THE present project of the Bible School and Young People's Department is to complete their permanent camp home with a view to accommodating 100 young people annually for leadership training.—C. F. Smith, Chairman W.A. Committee.

The problem of youth is a challenge to the church. Without doubt it will be required of youth to mould a new world. It has been proven again and again that youth will respond. Young people are idealists, and we must help them to retain and realise those ideals—for of such is the kingdom of heaven. Their spiritual life is their eternal life.—Richard Cardew, Chairman Qld. Committee.

To-day, more than ever, comes insistently the call to Christian youth. The time of our youth is the time when our minds and bodies are active. We are enthusiastic and energetic. To what end are we going to use these qualities? There is a definite need for Christian young people to stand out for Christ and right. There is so much danger of tolerating evil and other things in our own lives and in the world about us, things which are not in accord with our Christian principles. Let us individually, and as a body, stand foursquare for the Master, and use our qualities of youth for this wonderful purpose.—Edith Greaves, Secretary, Tasmanian Committee.

Both the churches and the conference are increasingly recognising the vital importance of young people's work. Youth work must go on despite war conditions. With our young men in camp and our young women in war work, we are building up from lower down. Better schools, better teaching are our slogans. Teacher training is being emphasised and made practicable in conferences and weekend training schools. The next step will be to provide facilities for the training of our young people's leaders. We will refuse to let war conditions daunt us. New clubs, new Christian Endeavor Societies are being started. We prepare now for a day when war shall end, a day when we can launch big youth drives throughout the State.—Frank C. Hunt- ing, N.S.W. Organiser.

Youth's Part in a Changing World

Commentaries by State Leaders

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Offering, MAY 3 - Aim, £200

DESPITE tremendous difficulties, shortage of manpower in our youth work owing to war conditions, the work is being heroically carried on with most encouraging results. Every month tells of glorious victories for Christ. Church life would be very dull indeed but for this wonderful ministry. Our workers should receive the assurance of unceasing prayers and the pledge of our best support. Make this year's offering the best yet and help your Youth Department to equip our young people to enable them bravely and victoriously to "face the future."

VICTORIA

Offering, MAY 3 - Aim, £500

THE brisk business being conducted by the Young People's Department is paying good dividends.

- (1) 301 added to the church from school, being 60 per cent. of the year's total increase.
- (2) 884 scholars and teachers sat for scripture examination.
- (3) 500 boys and girls under purposeful leadership in the Explorer and Good Companion movements.
- (4) Eight Sunday School of the Air broadcasts.
- (5) C.E. societies contributed £168 to home and foreign missions and welfare work.
- (6) 130 young people received leadership training in three camps.
- (7) 300 attended the Easter convention project.
- (8) 6000 cards distributed in readiness for evacuation eventualities.
- (9) Two publications well received—"Youth's Own Diary" and "Strategy for Young Men Entering Military Camps."

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Offering, MAY 3 - Aim, £150

THE most far-reaching work during the year has been the camp programme. 40 young people attended the Christmas camp. A young woman reconsecrated her life and a young man was baptised in the sea. 35 boys under the leadership of Thos. Bamford attended a boys' camp. Four made the "good confession." A rural girls' camp was held in Perth at the home of Mrs. Digwood. A permanent camp home is under construction at Waterman's Bay. £185 has been expended, and committee hopes to raise £150 on May 3 to clear the building debt.

TASMANIA

Offering, MAY 3 - Aim, £30

IT is pleasing to note an increased interest in State youth work during the past year. We appreciate the work which Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Lowe did whilst they were here, and we are endeavoring to build on the foundation which they laid. The committee has been active with plans for young people's activities. Young people's camps have played a great part in intensifying interest and promoting

friendship throughout the young people in the State. We are pleased to report that our ex-president, Mr. Ken Barton, is now at the College of the Bible as well as two other Tasmanians.

QUEENSLAND

Offering, MARCH 1 - Aim, £200

THE good things of Queensland may be summarised as follow:—

- (1) Despite prevailing conditions there is a slight increase in statistics.
- (2) Youth organiser has had opportunity to contact schools and hold youth rallies and teachers' conferences in country centres.
- (3) The annual offering was a record though far short of the aim.
- (4) Home department and correspondence schools are doing good work among those in isolation.

(5) The quota for C.E. launch was £50, but £70 was collected.

(6) Boys' clubs are linked with Y.M.C.A. suburban movement.

(7) Churches are youth conscious.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Offering, MARCH 1 - Aim, £300

WAR conditions necessitated the cancelling of camp plans. Things are not going according to plan, yet the department is not daunted, and attacking bravely. Let a brief summary suffice:—

- (1) "Happy Hour" meetings for children after school.
- (2) 280 teachers contacted in training conferences.
- (3) Week-end training conference for teachers.
- (4) C.E. and Kappa rallies.
- (5) This is our jubilee year, and during special fixtures in May we will rejoice and prepare for new achievements.

Speaking "Federally"

A CAREFUL reader of the columns devoted to youth work in this issue will gain a Federal perspective of the work. To aid this a table of information has been provided.

Assurance

It is encouraging to know that by the united effort of our teachers in all States, 22,385 boys and girls have the Christian way of life presented to them weekly. 655 were added to the church from the school. This ministry of the Word by 3638 teachers is, in these days, the most purposeful and fruitful ministry of our churches. We cannot overestimate its national importance. A nation is only as stable as its moral and spiritual stamina. Youth work is war work of the highest order. There is no greater patriot than the person devoted to the spiritual welfare of the oncoming generation.

Attack

It is heartening to find our Bible school staffs attacking the work with tenacity of purpose, despite the ever-growing shortage of teachers. There is a spirit abroad that there must be no withdrawals in Bible school work. Evacuation eventualities have been anticipated. Anticipation is good organisation. In all States there is evidence of forward thrusts, a venturing into new areas of youth interests and endeavors to overcome difficulties. The following activities will suffice: "Happy Hour" week-day services, summer vacation schools, seven-day-week balanced programmes, rallies, conventions, leadership-training conferences and camps. Youth work has not settled into

some traditional mould, but has remained flexible and ready to function in the realm of youth's interests and meet youth on life's highways.

Tasks so varied and creative deserve a closer interstate unity, and a pooling of reserves and resources. There is a need for vital Federal objectives, for a uniformity in adolescent organisations, so that youth may feel the urge of wider fellowship and the drive of an all-in policy. Why not hasten to link all our young men and women into one grand youth fraternity that creates the awareness of a great brotherhood with a career and a destiny?

Alarm

While these facts encourage and challenge, others alarm. Only two States are able to support full-time youth leaders; others depend on part-time or voluntary organisers. The total income for six States was only £2084 for the most important and fruitful ministry of the church. An average of £350 per State for so great a ministry is an occasion of shame. Despite the fact that our State statistics annually declare that the greater number of additions to the church are from the Bible school, the States continue to impoverish the departments concerned with youth evangelism. The low financial aims for annual offerings reflect on the judgment of the brotherhood. What munitions are to the fighting forces, finance is to the Youth Departments! Let the brotherhood make a surprise attack on Sunday, May 3, by doubling the amounts requested.

—W. R. Hibburt, Federal B.S. Secretary.

TABLE OF INFORMATION

States	Teachers	Scholars	Additions to Church.	Income, 1941.	1941 Annual Offering Aim.
Queensland	235	1008	27	£178	£200
New South Wales	635	3845	138	724	300
Tasmania	95	652	26	19	30
Victoria	1481	9409	301	907	500
South Australia	859	5018	110	182	200
Western Australia	333	2123	53	74	150
Totals	3638	22,385	655	£2084	£1380

W.A. Annual Conference

Wesley Alexander

LARGE and inspirational meetings characterized the forty-fifth annual conference of churches of Christ in Western Australia, held in Lake-st. chapel, Perth, from April 1 to 5. A combined choir, led respectively by A. B. Povey and C. M. Nelson, rendered excellent service. Cyril Cook was conference organist. At all sessions there were periods of intercession for the Empire.

Dr. Victor Whelan, one of the Fremantle young men just returned from medical studies in Edinburgh, now located in Perth, addressed the preachers on Thursday afternoon on "Churches in Great Britain Under War Conditions."

On Thursday evening the F.M. Committee inspirational meeting was presided over by the conference president, James Gordon. The attendance was very good. The speaker was Mr. Glanville, local secretary of C.I.M. A feature of the meeting was the presentation of nearly £150 by the Sisters' Auxiliary Conference; this was made by the retiring president, Mrs. I. Digwood.

The business sessions commenced at 9.30 on Easter Friday morning. After a brief devotional period greetings were received from conferences in sister States and others. The church at Mukinbudin was admitted into the Association.

A. M. Bell presented the executive report. There is a present total membership of 2489, an increase of 23 for the year. War conditions had upset the Bible schools' work, but contact was being kept as far as possible with evacuees. R. Hilford, E. J. Miles and F. Fewster were on military duty with the forces. Heartening reports come to hand of their work.

"The Evangel on the Air" had been inaugurated on October 12, 1941, with J. Wiltshire as speaker. There was ample evidence that this service was highly appreciated by many listeners. There was increasing financial support. Conference recorded its appreciation and requested the executive to do its utmost to extend the effort.

Charles Hunt submitted the obituary report, which showed that 26 members had been called to be with Christ.

"The Western Christian" served a very useful purpose, especially in its ministry to the isolated members. The paper was in the eighth year of its publication.

"The Western Bible College" had functioned with the inevitable war-time disabilities. Classes had been held throughout the year at Lake-st. manse and Subiaco, conducted respectively by R. Raymond and J. Wiltshire.

A warm tribute was paid to the College of the Bible for its service to the brotherhood. In accordance with the desire of the College Board, a committee will advance the interests of the college in this State.

Brotherhood Centre.—Very little progress had been made by the committee towards this desirable end. Conference referred the matter back to the committee for all possible immediate action.

W. Smith, who has been chairman of the Bible Schools and Young People's Department for 12 years, presented the report. There are 2123 scholars and 333 teachers. The department thought it best to continue to arrange its own examination rather than to associate with the Federal effort. During the year very successful young people's and boys' camps had been held. For this purpose a property had been purchased at Waterman's Bay. The plan to hold an Easter camp had been given favorable consideration.

The Home Mission Committee has assisted the churches in the Eastern Wheatbelt, Bridgetown, Cowaramup, Collie, Inglewood, and the

work carried on among the aborigines by Misses Eadie and Bentley at Norseman. This latter work had been subsidised by the committee 10/- weekly.

There had been a nett increase in the Church Building Extension Committee's funds of £107/14/7. The H. J. Banks' Memorial Fund now totalled £594/0/3. The capital of the committee had reached £2242/16/4.

For Overseas Missions T. M. Bamford reported that £959/6/1 had been received in this State. The young people had done well in response to the appeal for the "Endeavour III." launch. The following resolution was carried unanimously: "That in view of the possible suspension of the normal activities of the Overseas Board in relation to some of our fields—New Hebrides and China—this conference commends to the Board an effort to



T. A. Marsden,
Newly-elected President of the W.A. Conference.

build up a Post-war Reconstruction and Mission Extension Fund of at least £10,000. It is of the opinion that not only will this be very necessary, but the objective will be an incentive to the brotherhood to keep well alive the missionary spirit in our midst."

The Social Service Department had taken a very active part in the effort to secure the closing of licensed premises at 6 o'clock. The C.F.A. had now a membership of 60 with a fund of about £30. A temperance examination had been planned among the Bible schools and young people's societies to take place on May 17. A slight improvement had been made in the funds of the Home for the Aged.

Christian Endeavor Department report stated that there are 16 Y.P. societies, 8 intermediates and 18 juniors. Correspondence with missionaries had been maintained and £48/13/3 had been raised for the New Hebrides launch.

Literature Department report showed that sales of literature had amounted to £630/17/5, an increase of £21/18/6 over last year's figures. Every effort had been made to serve the brotherhood efficiently, war conditions notwithstanding.

The conference amended the constitution to admit of the creation of an Aborigines' Committee, to work in conjunction with the Federal Aborigines' Board. This will consist of six members.

Lake-st. chapel was crowded on Good Friday night at the home mission demonstration to hear addresses by the president-elect, T. A. Marsden, and T. D. Maiden, who will become the Wheatbelt evangelist in succession to C. Hunt. At this meeting Mrs. Digwood, on

behalf of the Sisters' Auxiliary, presented the Home Missions Committee with £204/1/1.

Chaplain Johnson, of the American Navy, addressed conference informatively upon ways and means whereby Christian people may help the men of the Navy when on shore.

During conference devotional messages were given by E. W. Roffey, J. Wright and H. R. Steele.

Lake-st. chapel was uncomfortably crowded on Sunday afternoon to hear the conference sermon, delivered by L. G. Burgin, preacher of the church at Harvey. "In Quest of Conquest" was the theme. The Christian has his eyes opened to vast possibilities of conquest in personal experience. There is much more to know of Christ's power in our own lives. In the realm of social and spiritual enterprise there are vast territories to conquer. Churches of Christ are committed to the adventure of church reconstruction by the removal of those things which divide the Lord's people. In the realm of endurance we shall have to prove Christ.

WORLD OF BOOKS

Fading Light

The results of the tragedy of spiritual decline in Germany.

CANON T. C. HAMMOND presents in this recently published book a series of articles setting out various aspects of the cause and results of religious decline in the world to-day. He argues that Germany was the home of a critical school that sought to undermine the authority of the Scriptures. From the compromise between unbelief and "real unadulterated Christianity as it is presented in the Scriptures," we can trace all our present evils. "In our midst dozens of earnest clergymen and laymen still draw their inspiration from this German compromise, unmindful of the fact that those who started on this inclined plane one hundred years ago have ended by deifying Adolf Hitler, and further than that human folly cannot go." Not only was Christianity attacked, but also moral principles. A rejection of the divine element in religion meant men began to teach that "moral judgments exist only in our minds" and could be changed. We are all aware of the consequences of this "new morality" and we now see the passing of the old moral order. Lying propaganda has taken the place of the truth. The State has openly called upon falsehood to aid it in war. Mr. Hammond thinks that the rejection of creeds has helped to bring into existence the bad new world. If the creeds set aside the Bible and then the creeds are rejected, we can appreciate his position; but if we retain the authority of the Bible we are not likely to go astray. The new theology has aimed at the rejection of the atonement. In answer to this Mr. Hammond writes, "There is an element in the New Testament that directs our attention to the darker side of life, the side that has been introduced by sin, and a world in its agony sees in the cross of Christ an epitome of its own anguish, and a guarantee of its own deliverance."

The book is written for the average thoughtful person. It does not claim to be a book for the expert, but the writer shows he has a strong grasp upon the teachings of modern experts, and has performed a valuable service in pointing out the dangerous elements in much that goes under the name of modern knowledge.

Fading Light, by Canon T. C. Hammond. 128 pages, cloth binding. Price, 5/9, posted 6/-. Order from Austral Printing and Publishing Co.

Notes on Current Topics

A Paedobaptist

THE following remarkable paragraph is taken from a recent article by Mr. K. L. Parry, B.Sc., Chairman-elect of the Congregational Union (England):—

"One of the first questions often asked in these days is: Must I be baptised? For many are finding their way into our churches who were not baptised in infancy. Some of our ministers would even discourage it, others would urge it as a general rule of the Universal Church, the majority would probably say, 'It rests entirely with you.' It must be confessed that Congregationalism hardly knows its own mind on this question of baptism, a state of things which is certainly not distinctive. We believe in and practise infant baptism, and can accept no theory of baptism which is inconsistent either with its dispensation to infants or with evangelical Christianity. We are willing to baptise adults and do so on the mission field, and as England becomes increasingly a mission field itself, adult baptism may become more frequent. Baptism may prove to be the crux of the whole question of union. The question is not, as Baptists sometimes say, the centrality of conversion. It is whether in conversion the emphasis is upon the act of God or our own act. The baptism of infants emphasises the priority of God in the work of grace, and that is why we cherish it."

Lessons from a Scribe

IT was a scribe, the ancient equivalent of the modern doctor of divinity, who was "not

"Highways"

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

Text.—"Blessed is the man in whose heart are high ways."—Psa. 84: 5.

IN the "Australian Christian World" of recent date we saw an article on "Highways of the Heart," and it set us thinking. We are often concerned with the little and comparatively unimportant things of life. The avenues of thought in our hearts are seldom to be likened to highways. The psalmist would be thinking of the pilgrim who set his heart to go to Zion to worship. The great highway of the heart was the way leading to God. Such was a happy man—a blessed man. What kind of highways are in our thought?

Goodness

We deliberately seek pleasure, wealth, ease or independence, but the goodness of life which is so necessary to a new order is not so considered. In fact, a rigid morality and a true allegiance to the teaching of Christ is the exception. The man who seeks in practice this highway is reckoned a fool, because in travelling that way he is denying himself the pleasure and wealth of the moment. The modern man believes that the teaching of Jesus is impracticable, and while we should be good, modern business demands a lowering of the standard. Goodness is therefore a relative thing. But Jesus demanded the best, and a world will not be saved unless we seek the best. Not the relative good, but the best. We Christians are not here to please ourselves or to do as we like. Our freedom is not for self, but for others and for God. Nothing less than good living in changed lives will make a new order possible.

far from the kingdom." But merely to be near is to be outside. They who are merely on the verge of making the great surrender are making the great refusal. A religion confined to matters of outward observance or ritual is worthless. There must be an outflow of the heart in love to God and active obedience to his will. "Pure religion" involves love of humanity, the care of the needy, visitation of those sick and in prison, a manifestation of a spirit of brotherhood, and an active endeavor to promote peace and goodwill amongst all for whom Christ died.

There need be no confusion regarding the baptism of our Lord's appointment. When any paedobaptist preacher is asked why his church acknowledges the validity of believer's baptism and occasionally practises it, the answer is definite and sufficient. For such a baptism there can be produced an express command of Scripture and abundant examples of its practice in the apostolic church. There is not one case of infant baptism, one example of it or any authority for it in the Word of God. Those practising it do it "in the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit," and yet cannot produce the authority of that Name. No wonder that those departing from the precepts and example of the New Testament become confused. Mr. Parry has no better reason for his cherishing of infant baptism than that it "emphasises the priority of God in the work of grace." That emphasis is not in the least degree dependent upon the unscriptural practice of infant baptism or strengthened by it.

A. R. Main.

Justice, Mercy and Love

The good man will be just and merciful and loving. We must not only be good but see that justice is done. The present world conflict has arisen out of injustice for which we are partly responsible. We bowed to the rich because they were rich and despised the poor. Rich nations were not merciful to the poorer races of the earth, but frequently in a diplomatic way oppressed them.

Love is a very necessary highway to the peace of the world to-day. Unfortunately even supposedly good people under stress of circumstances will give way to hate. We recently have been forced to hear and see evidence of this. One day we are called to pray, and I imagine that if we were true to Christ we would pray for our enemies; and the next day we are taught to hate them. We have left the highways of a Christian nation and have descended to the lower levels of paganism. "What do ye more than others?" The only great highway to world brotherhood is the road of loving hearts.

The Way of the Cross

That highway was God's, and it must be ours. Christ Jesus our Lord, though he was reviled, reviled not again; though he suffered, threatened not. Jesus taught that we must be willing to take up our cross and follow him. That denial of self, the sacrifice involved, the goodness of heart, and love of justice and mercy, are all associated with the great arterial highway of the cross. It is harder to travel to-day, but blessed is the man in whose heart are highways like these. They lead to the true Zion, to God, and world peace.

U.S.A. Command Spokesman Speaks out in Queensland

A TIMELY statement by the U.S.A. command spokesman meets the full approval of every sensible citizen: "One thing the command dislikes—that is, published comments by members of the forces about your girls and your beer. I don't know why they should always be asked by reporters to give opinions on Australian girls. There is really nothing wrong about it, but we are here to do a very serious job. Every one of us here is in mighty earnest about that job, and we do not like these random comments which might be regarded by some people as a little too carefree. Our forces have to work solidly, and they are putting every ounce of energy into their job. Steps are being taken to prevent this emphasis on girls." To which we say Hear! Hear! The too frequent reference to girls is degrading to any decent girl. The boasting of beer is nauseating. Wireless messages from soldiers overseas have reeked with "beer." The world must have got the idea that we are a nation of guzzlers. If we are, why advertise it? If not, why suggest it?

Girl Adolescents

The National Council of Women is concerned about the number of girls in city streets at night. In a discussion, delegates proposed that girls between 14 and 17 years of age should be taken into temporary detention if found in city streets after 10 p.m. One speaker suggested that girls so detained should be warned that if again detained they would be put under government control. The discussion was around the question of the need of more women police or vigilance officers to protect young girls in the street at night, and ended in a resolution asking the government to make more appointments of this kind.

Days of Prayer

It is apparent that non-church-goers are not interested in these; also that the casual and irregular attendants at church are mildly stimulated by them; and that they have not enough effect on those Christians who think they have paid their spiritual life assurance premium by attending one service a day, to jolt them out of their complacency and cause them to attend two services. One hears thoughtless criticism as to why the churches do not have more days of prayer, while in every service on any day, in all churches, petitions for divine aid are offered regularly. Days of prayer give a cross section of the spiritual condition of the community, showing the antagonistic, the indifferent, the mildly interested and the earnest; with the conclusion that it is the latter who are the nation's spiritual asset. Perhaps the public would be more interested if the politicians took as much interest in such days as they expect the parsons to do.

Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Burdeu

Early in May our brother and sister leave for Perth, W.A., after nine years spent in Queensland. Mr. Burdeu has held various important offices, including those of conference president and secretary, and was elected to the Federal presidency. He has specialised in social service work (having been president and secretary of the Social Service Committee), and originated the C.F.A. Mrs. Burdeu has been superintendent of the Women's Mission Band and of the Social Service Depot, and has been keenly interested in the work of the Women's Conference. As a representative church member in the city, Mr. Burdeu has given good service in religious circles. They leave Queensland with the appreciation and good wishes of the brotherhood, and its prayers for their future.—H. G. Payne.

Here and There

All conference reports received have now appeared in the paper with the exception of those of the New South Wales and Tasmanian Easter gatherings which have just come to hand and will appear next week.

South Australian Churches of Christ Evangelistic Union has decided to celebrate the centenary of the origin of the Restoration Movement in that State during September, 1946. The first churches of the Restoration Movement in Australia were organised in Adelaide during 1846.

W. R. Hibburt, secretary Victorian Young People's Department, gathered and supplied information and articles for the front pages setting out youth work in churches of Christ in Australia. The annual appeal for young people's work will be made in several States on Sunday, May 3.

C. Burdeu, of Queensland, has been transferred to Perth as Deputy Commissioner of Pensions and Child Endowment. Mr. and Mrs. Burdeu have spent nine happy years with the churches in the northern State. We learn that they will be farewelled at a brotherhood dinner at the Canberra, Brisbane, on May 1.

Dr. Schweitzer, the well-known scholar and missionary, is still carrying on his work in Lambarene, Africa. Mrs. Schweitzer, who was in unoccupied France, has been allowed to join her husband. The Free French Government has made grants to the mission hospital. Thus, although cut off from the Lutheran Church of Alsace, because of the war, the hospital work is being maintained.

"In the U.S.A. a remarkable thing has happened. The Northern Baptists were drawing up a new hymnbook; the churches of Christ, unknown to the Baptists, were engaged on the same task; when this became known, the question of a combined hymnbook was raised; it was agreed on with enthusiasm that the two committees become one committee. 'There were many details' (says the 'Century'), 'that might have become snags and wrecked the project, but none did. All difficulties were ironed out and the book is now in the printer's hands.'"

On Friday last the contributions received for the Federal College of the Bible annual offering reached the total of £1189/4/5, being the second largest offering in college history, exceeding that of 1925 (£1187/5/1) when New Zealand shared in the offering. The record of 1927 still stands (£1233/18/6), but may be exceeded by this offering, as over 30 churches have not yet remitted the offering. State contributions are: Victoria, £640/17/9; South Australia, £249/3/10; New South Wales, £101/10/4; Queensland, £93/4/9; Western Australia, £70/6/11; Tasmania, £34/0/10. Both Victoria and Tasmania reached new heights. The secretary will be glad to hear from churches still holding the offering money, so that the offering account may be completed.

It seems that the men in the various forces visiting cities are in need of fellowship rather than of being provided with cheap entertainments. Many are far removed from their homes and must feel lonely. Secular pleasures are, then, a poor substitute for what is necessary. A positive programme undertaken by Christian leaders might save Sunday being turned into another day of worldly pleasure. Negative statements cannot avail: positive action alone will help. Young men enjoy home life after their experiences in a camp. An organised effort by churches to provide men with companionship in Christian homes would assist. In appropriate centres church halls could become places to provide good fellowship. Men will go where they can get a

sympathetic welcome. There are those who are out to exploit any situation to make material profit and are ready to open doors that lead to sinful lust. The hand of Christian friends may save many from falling into vice. It is hoped that plans now being made to provide real Christian help will be carried to a successful end.

Recently W. H. Hudspeth, the British and Foreign Bible Society's Secretary for China, reported that a ton of Scriptures, consisting of 900 Bibles and 3100 New Testaments, had been sent by aeroplane from Shanghai to a part of Free China from which the society had been cut off for a long time. The transport of the books cost £55, but the generosity of many friends of the Bible society has enabled it to cable to Mr. Hudspeth telling him that he can repeat transport by aeroplane.

"The great task of the church to-day," writes W. R. Hibburt, "is to create the creators of a new world. With insight and foresight youth departments and youth units are committed to this task. It is not enough for the church

to help build a new world. Its supreme business is to build God's new world. The accomplishment of this necessitates minds moulded in the school of Christ, and lives surrendered to him. Lend a hand by a helping hand on annual offering day, May 3."

The Victorian Foreign Mission Committee provided a happy function at Lygon-st. on April 17 to welcome Miss Clipstone on her return from the islands and to give Albert Anderson, the secretary of the Federal Foreign Mission Board, an opportunity to review the situation on the various mission fields and set out plans for the annual appeal in July. The president of the Victorian Women's Conference, Mrs. J. Turner, and the president of General Conference welcomed the guests on behalf of Victorian churches. The addresses of Miss Clipstone and Mr. Anderson were appreciated. L. Gole, chairman of the Victorian F.M. Committee, presided. J. E. Thomas thanked the women of Lygon-st. church for assisting in providing tea.

ADDRESSES

E. G. Brough (secretary Cheltenham church, Vic.)—Dandenong-rd., Harrisfield, v. Springvale.
W. J. Reid (secretary Dawson-st., Ballarat, church)—1312 Mair-st., Ballarat.

Our Island Missionaries Tell Their Story

"**FOUR** days in which to close our mission work and prepare for evacuation!" These were the tidings which reached us on the early morning of February 4, and which caused such consternation and distress. Of course talk of evacuation had been in the air for some time; but being far removed from any important port, we had thought that we would be allowed to carry on.

Preparing to Leave

First the schoolboys were told at morning devotions, and there was not a dry eye anywhere as we knelt and asked for guidance and strength. The mission became a hive of industry. The teachers and boys quickly rallied to help us. The furniture was oiled and packed away, the school closed, the schoolboys rushed home to Pentecost. What a parting that was! Every book that we thought might help these boys in the work of telling forth the gospel story we sent with them. It was a pathetic group of boys who packed their belongings into the dinghy in preparation for their trip home. One boy had our doggie, "Jack," held tightly under his arm. "Jack" loved the boys and they will care for him until we return. Some boys forgot some of their belongings and had to go back for them. This meant an opportunity of saying a second goodbye—a fact which made them smile through their tears. Their last words were: "Pray that we may be strong in our hearts for serving God; and when you come back to the islands, come quickly to Pentecost for us; we will wait for you, because we want to come back to school." We watched the launch until we could no longer distinguish the waving handkerchiefs, conscious of the fact that the Lord who had walked the road to Emmaus with two despondent disciples in days gone by would also go even into the homes and villages of these dear lads to inspire and help them.

Farewell to Aoba

The four days passed quickly. Everyone, it seemed, wanted to talk with us. There were arrangements to make concerning the care of the mission property—launch, live stock, etc.; medicines to be divided between the three islands, and a hundred-and-one other things as well. Just as we returned home from the inspiring morning service on Feb. 8 the siren of the ship that had come to take us away was

heard. In a few moments it seemed the mission was surrounded by 200 to 300 people and our luggage whisked away by folk eager to help. Owing to the rough seas we had to embark at a place about 20 minutes' walk from Nduindui. As we were ready to leave we called the teachers and elders together, and there on the front verandah we all sought divine guidance for future days. At the spot where we embarked the cliff fell sharply into the sea, and our last glimpse of those dear people we will never forget. Massed on the steep slope, they sang as only they can sing, "God be with you till we meet again."

During our stay of nearly six weeks on Aore and Sih. Santo a planter went to Nduindui and saw the folk there. He came back and said that the people had asked him to bring us back. "Bring our two sisters back," they had said. "Suppose the Japanese come, we will look out for them good, and give them plenty kai-kai; but one thing, suppose no ship he comes, might we not have some calico for dress." How we longed to go back!

Homeward Bound

At long last came the steamer, and as one brother puts it, "we were prayed across the seas." Due to the unflinching courtesy of captain and crew, and the happy spirit of comradeship existing amongst the passengers, the voyage home was an enjoyable one in spite of adverse conditions and a very crowded vessel. Here again God's goodness was evidenced, for to a missionary's wife was born a baby daughter. There was no doctor on board, and what so nearly was a complicated obstetrical case became a triumph in answer to prayer. Even the ship stopped rolling during that anxious time only to commence again when all was well!

Australia's Welcome

And so home on F.M. day of the New South Wales conference, and to such a welcome! Our hearts were full, and we felt then, as so often we had felt during the past year, that truly our brothers and sisters in the homeland had been our partners in the island work. Please continue to have this work, the people and their teachers, on your hearts, and pray that soon we all may be able to return to this promising field and the brothers and sisters we have learnt to love—Mary L. Clipstone, Violet L. Wakely.

News of the Churches

TASMANIA

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—At gospel service on April 19, when R. L. Arnold brought a challenging address, there were five decisions (three young ladies and two young men), all of whom except one are Bible school scholars.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Kalgoorlie.—During March, services have been well attended and inspiring. One Bible school girl took her stand for Christ. Annual business meeting was also held. Mr. Fitch gave both messages on April 12, and A. Hunt rendered a solo. Bible school attendance was 195.

Perth.—On morning of April 12 visitors included several American sailors and soldiers. J. Wiltshire gave a helpful exhortation. There was increased attendance at gospel service, which commenced at 4 p.m. Special singing was arranged for young and old. At close of Mr. Wiltshire's address a scholar from the Bible school decided for Christ.

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—Splendid services were conducted on April 19. There were 189 communicants. Miss L. Gordon rendered the evening solo. A fine spirit prevails. Finances are buoyant.

Monkland.—Good services were held on Apr. 5. At night the Gympie Endeavorers took charge, the gospel being preached by N. Kingston. G. Dunn has resigned from Bible school superintendency, having enlisted in R.A.A.F. A. Kingston has been appointed in his place. On April 12 the Junior C.E. conducted an aborigine session from 4GY.

Gympie.—Morning services have been increasingly attended recently. On March 29 the V.A.D. held a church parade at our service. Bible school has welcomed several new scholars. On April 12 the evening service contributed an offering for Federal Aborigines' Missions, when A. J. Fisher illustrated his sermon with aboriginal charts and curios.

Roma.—Services on Easter Sunday were well attended. L. R. Pitman spoke in morning and A. S. Cooke at night. On April 11 a tea was held to meet H. C. Spratt, who came to conduct a fortnight's mission. An open-air meeting was held at night, followed by a service in the chapel. On Sunday the mission commenced, coinciding with Bible school anniversary. Extra seating was necessary at night. Morning service was broadcast. Mr. Spratt also spoke to the school, and kinders' prizes were presented. Senior scholars received their prizes at conclusion of gospel service. A feature of the mission is the song service conducted by Mr. Boettcher, also solo items by Miss Ailsa Spratt. The church regrets to report the passing of Mr. Jonson after a brief illness.

Hawthorne.—J. Larsen has resigned as preacher and moved to Moorooka. Mrs. K. Jones and family of seven, who came from Box Hill, Vic., last year, have returned to that city. All were members, and most helpful. F. Jones remains, and will serve as preacher pending a successor to Mr. Larsen. Miss Growcock, superintendent, and helpers are doing good work in kindergarten. Mr. Andrews has been appointed church secretary. Mr. Potter and Mr. Ratcliffe assist with presiding and preaching. On April 5 Mr. Rothery brought a message. The S.S. superintendent, Mr. Jones, assisted by Mr. Potter, seeks to advance school work by visiting homes. Mrs. Andrews rendered a solo on April 5. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Mulholland, whose son is missing in Singapore. Prayer meetings are better attended. Boys'

club is growing, and is assisted by the church officers. The church is free of debt, owing to the efforts of the sisters.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Whyalla.—On April 5 Mr. Tregloan spoke in morning and Mr. Cox at gospel service. On 12th Mr. Ryles spoke in morning and Mr. Thurgood in evening. Sunday school is growing, church work proceeds satisfactorily, and attendances are encouraging.

Winkie.—Christian Endeavor meeting was held on April 7. On April 9 Mrs. Patching and son, Eric, were farewelled. A presentation was made to Mrs. Patching. Allan Chapple was speaker at morning service, April 12. Evening service was combined with Berri church. C. Williams spoke at morning service April 19. W. A. Hunt was evening speaker.

Owen.—Church has been without a resident preacher for over twelve months. Speakers from city assist local brethren. Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Sunday, March 1, W. G. Oram being the speaker. Preachers during recent weeks include C. H. J. Warren, W. G. Oram, A. G. Rudd, A. Harkness, L. Marshman, M. Drayton, W. Marshman and H. Lawrie.

Hindmarsh.—On April 19 there was a splendid meeting in morning, when Norman C. Lumsden, who is conducting a mission in the district, gave a vital message of redemption. Gospel service at 4 p.m. was not held, the church joining in the mission service at Brompton Methodist church. A letter of transfer was granted to Bert. Russell, who is living at Henley Beach.

Edwardstown West.—Two sisters were received by transfer on April 12. Bible school anniversary tea and public meeting on April 15 were well attended. Items by scholars were appreciated, and prizes were distributed by Mr. Pike. Good addresses were given by Mr. Brown and Mr. Pike on 19th. Bible school started new year's work with attendance of 123, nine new scholars, and strong teaching staff.

Cottonville.—Those who fell at Anzac 27 years ago were solemnly remembered at services on April 19. Attendances at Sunday meetings are good, particularly at breaking of bread. On April 12 Mr. and Mrs. Coates, formerly of Mile End, were welcomed into fellowship. A fund is being established so that regular parcels can be forwarded to boys on active service. All auxiliaries are active and having good meetings.

Prospect.—Services on April 19 were well attended. The morning service was exhorted by Mr. Durdin, and Mr. Schwab spoke at night. Two inspiring messages were given. Fellowship with visitors from Victoria and W.A. was enjoyed. There were good attendances at all services. Church members have donated £6/10/- towards the "League of 500," with more promises. P.B.P. and K.S.P. clubs are well attended. A good spirit prevails.

Unley.—Splendid meetings were held last two weeks, with many visitors. Dr. Trevor Turner spoke on morning of April 12 and Mr. Nankivell at night. As there is a camp near the church, Unley Ministers' Fraternal arranged with many church members to entertain men in their homes on Sundays. The church responded well, many men from overseas having their first meal in a home for well over a year. Young people's auxiliaries have also arranged social evenings during the week, and Endeavorers planned a sing-song after church service on April 19, with biscuits and tea to follow. The men are appreciative of the church's interest in their welfare. Mr. and

Mrs. A. E. Brooks and family have welcomed into fellowship from Wallaroo church. Alan Redman has resigned from leadership of Endeavorers, having received his call-up for R.A.A.F.

VICTORIA

Dimboola.—At evening service on April 19 there was a fine attendance. C. W. Jackel gave an address illustrated by lantern views. A married woman made the good confession.

Boort.—Mr. Finger gives very interesting addresses. Evening service time has been altered to 3.45 for a few months on trial. The church was pleased to welcome Geo. Hazlett, home from abroad.

Newmarket.—On April 12 Mr. Brown, of Ascot Vale, presided; Mr. Graham addressed both services. On April 19 harvest thanksgiving service was held. Mr. Graham addressed both services. Soloists for the day were Mrs. Hughes and Mrs. Bruce.

Ormond.—At mid-week prayer meeting C. L. Lang gave a good message. On April 16 the Ladies' Aid had a very good meeting. C. L. Lang gave good messages on April 19. A number of Bible school scholars' parents are coming to gospel services.

Camberwell.—Work is in good heart. On April 19 a hymn service was held at 6.45 p.m. Miss I. Manchester has relinquished work with J.C.E. and Miss E. Johnston has taken her place. Bible school, under leadership of S. Chipperfield, is showing progress.

Red Hill.—Mr. Johnson is back after his accident. V. C. Holmes is laid aside ill. Ron. Saunders came to preach on April 12. Chaplain Robinson preached three messages during recent Sundays. Church parades were held for soldiers by him in and near the chapel.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—On April 19, in absence of Mr. Baker through illness, F. T. Saunders spoke at both services. Mr. and Mrs. McMasters were received into membership. Mr. Abercrombie was speaker at Bible class, and Mr. Bransgrove gave a helpful message at open-air meeting.

Hawthorn.—Messrs. Thorton and Whittington, Mrs. Gedling and the Emmanuel Quartette have brought messages in song at gospel meetings. Attendances have been excellent. Mr. Scambler continues to inspire with splendid addresses. Some members are rejoicing in the return of loved ones from overseas.

Warragul.—Since beginning of April evening services have commenced at 7 p.m. and will continue for winter months. Meetings are fair. Mr. Roberts continues to bring helpful addresses. On behalf of the Sunday school a presentation was made to Alan Pedersen, former Sunday school secretary, prior to his departure for military service.

Balwyn.—J. Cracknell was received into fellowship on morning of April 19 by transfer from Ascot Vale. In the evening there was a very good attendance, and at the close of Mr. Patterson's address a young mother owned Christ as Saviour. 173 attended Sunday school and Bible classes, and good work is being done by the superintendent, R. J. Smith.

Essendon.—Owing to the indisposition of W. E. Jackel on April 19, the church was grateful to A. G. E. Smith, who addressed both meetings. Owen White reported that £4/4/- had been collected toward Christian Endeavor ambulance. Many names have been added lately to kindergarten cradle roll. Blacking out of church building is almost completed.

Warracknabeal.—In connection with Wimmera Victorious Life Convention, a well-attended sunrise prayer meeting was held at the chapel on Easter Sunday. G. T. Black, president of convention, led the service. Many visitors attended services during the day, when convention speakers, W. J. Beasley and A. Polkington, gave inspirational addresses. G. T. Black has been elected president of W.V.L. Convention for the fifth successive term.

Berwick.—Mr. Hindmann is recovering from illness. During his absence services were conducted by Mr. Aurisch, Mr. Saunders, Mr. Cain and Mr. Barton. Owing to the war the Presbyterians are holding combined Sunday evening services with us, each taking an alternate Sunday. All are pleased with a new runner for church aisle which was provided by Ladies' Aid.

Springvale.—Good meetings continue; 45 were present at gospel service on April 12, when two adults were baptised. There was a record morning service on April 19—42 present, 33 breaking bread (37 for day). Those previously baptised were received into fellowship. Prayer meetings are strong in number and spirit; 15 present on April 15. Sunday school continues to grow.

Oakleigh.—There were good attendances on April 12. Bible school combined with other schools in Oakleigh in B. & F. Bible Society demonstration in afternoon. Mr. Snow, of Carnegie, exchanged with Mr. Neighbour on morning of April 19. Church members have provided 150 scholars in Mr. Neighbour's classes at State schools with a hymnbook and New Testament each.

Doncaster.—Gospel services, now held at 4 p.m., are well attended. Mr. Banks' addresses are highly appreciated. T. H. Scambler addressed the intercessory service on evening of April 15. A complimentary social and kitchen tea was tendered to Miss M. Moffat on the occasion of her marriage; a presentation was made on behalf of the church. Women's Mission Band has resumed meetings.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—On April 19 Principal Grigg, of Baptist College, was morning preacher, and his message was much appreciated. A. A. Hughes took evening service. Sleeping accommodation was given in the school hall to visiting members of the forces spending week-end in our city. Lieut. Robert Millis Lyall has returned from Syria and was welcomed home at morning service.

St. Kilda.—H. McCallum continues to give addresses which are helpful to young and old. Manpower shortage and overtime, etc., have forced the church officers to hold their meeting after church service on Sundays. The deaconesses have been invited to join with the officers for future meetings of the board. M. J. Elliott has been appointed assistant treasurer owing to the call-up of the treasurer.

Chelsea.—On April 11, at a social evening, Mr. Hunt, on behalf of church members, presented a clock to Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Augustine, who were recently married. Bible school anniversary services commenced on April 19. The children sang splendidly under leadership of Mrs. Gourlay. Mr. Withers and Mr. Hunt were speakers. Attendances were good. Mrs. Benton was able to attend after a long illness.

East Kew.—Over last thirteen weeks an average of over 100 broke bread each Lord's day. Sunday school average attendance is also up. Since commencing gospel services at 4 p.m. attendances have shown the experiment to be entirely successful. Another young woman has been baptised. On afternoon of April 19 Miss Argo rendered two solos, and Emmanuel Quartette rendered two selections and one of their number sang a solo. Mr. Candy was preacher.

Caulfield (Bambra-rd.).—There were splendid attendances at Bible school anniversary on April 19, when Mr. Hibburt's messages were greatly appreciated. Scholars sang well under leadership of C. Smith. 170 broke bread for the day. Kindergarten anniversary on April 12 was addressed by Miss J. Lilburn. Church had fellowship with Miss Mary Clipstone, who brought a greeting, and at ladies' meeting on April 16 gave an interesting account of her experiences in the islands. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Touzell and family in their recent bereavement.

North Richmond.—The community centre, which has now been in operation for two months, is showing progress. Average attendance of 20 is maintained. More interest is shown in educational and hobby sessions. Total membership is now 130.—Average attendance of Bible school for March reached 92.2. Twelve new scholars have been added. Two very active workers in all church activities, Miss Jean Brodie and Robert Addicott, were married on April 18.

Brim.—Harvest festival service on April 5 was well attended. Mr. McPherson ably addressed the church. On April 11 the annual business meeting was held, when all officers were re-elected. Afternoon tea was served at close. On April 19 a presentation was made from Y.W.L. to Max Baum for 100 per cent. attendance for past year. On April 21 and 23 annual business meetings of C.E. and Ladies' Guild respectively were held. A fine spirit prevails in each branch. S.S. has not been quite so well attended on account of sickness.

Footscray.—K. Lacy and H. Piezsch recently addressed the church. Sympathy of church is extended to W. Buckley in death of his sister. W. R. Hibburt visited Bible class, when 70 attended on April 12. Ladies' Aid held a Devonshire afternoon on April 14. S.S. tea and distribution of prizes took place on April 18. Mrs. W. Lee addressed fellowship tea on April 19, on the occasion of Y.W.L. anniversary. A young man was baptised at close of evening meeting. Two young ladies made the good confession on evening of April 19.

Echuca.—On April 9 a farewell social was held in honor of T. A. H. Smith, who has left to go into munition work in Melbourne. He will be greatly missed, as he has been church secretary for seven years, also secretary and treasurer of Sunday school. On April 12 Mr. Thurrowgood spoke at both services, in the morning giving a resume of conference meetings. At evening meeting Sister Matthews was received into fellowship by letter from Northcote. On April 19 Mr. Thurrowgood delivered helpful addresses. L. Dudley was present on week-end leave from camp duties with Y.M.C.A. Mrs. Dudley and family are now residing in Echuca.

Horsham.—At evening service on April 5 C. W. Jackel gave an illustrated address. There was one confession. The marriage of W. Barnett to Vera Schiebliek was celebrated on Easter Saturday. A kitchen gift presentation was tendered to them. Bible school attendance of 116 was a record on April 19. There was excellent attendances at all services, especially gospel meeting, which commenced on 12 inst. at 4 p.m. Sister D. Ellis passed away within a few hours of attending midweek prayer meeting on 16th inst. Up to two years ago she was a member of the church at York-st., Ballarat. Prior to the funeral leaving for Ballarat, a service was conducted by Mr. Jackel, who also conducted the graveside service. At evening service on Lord's day appropriate reference was made to her life of service. Mr. Jackel was preacher.

Ballarat (Dawson-st.).—Speakers at Dawson-st. recently have been H. Edwards (York-st.), W. Reid and W. W. Saunders, morning, and A. Pigdon (of the college), W. W. Saunders and J. A. Wilkie at night. Dovelton-st. has been served by A. Graham, T. Comer, W. Benson and W. Reid, morning, and A. Graham and T. Comer at night. Mt. Clear services have been conducted by E. Davey, W. Reid, R. Jenkins and W. W. Saunders. P.B.P. held service for installation of officers on March 26, and on March 29 decorated the chapel exquisitely for floral service. United Easter services were held in Lydiard-st. Methodist church from March 30 to Easter Friday, W. W. Saunders speaking on April 1. Sympathy of church is extended to Mrs. R. Barnett in death of father. Fellowship is being enjoyed with A. G. Elliott, of W.A., and C. Grant, of S.A., both in R.A.A.F.

South Melbourne.—Owing to several of the young men enlisting for military service, and the calling up of others, church and auxiliaries find the work of leadership and office-bearers difficult to fill. Some of the best young men have been called. J. C. Cunningham continues faithful service. Meetings are smaller than during the past few months, but a good spirit prevails in all departments. Geo. Newman has been restored after some weeks of illness.

North Williamstown.—Meetings have been well attended during past weeks. Fellowship has been enjoyed with visitors, some interstate. Mrs. Atkinson, Woodend, and Mr. K. Jones, Bendigo, have been welcomed. On April 18 a kitchen tea was tendered to Miss E. McKinnon and G. Aldersley, two S.S. teachers, on eve of marriage. A Chinese night was held on Apr. 19, when members of Chinese Christian Fellowship brought messages in song and Mr. Thomas spoke. An offering for Chinese Red Cross amounted to £5/5/-.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Gilgandra.—Brethren held a working-bee at the chapel on March 20. Annual business meeting was held at night. Services are well attended. Bible school enrolment is increasing.

Greystanes.—A change-over to afternoon services is being tried. P. J. Pond conducted scripture instruction at public school on April 15, and conducted gospel meeting on April 19. J. H. Adams and N. Taylor were other recent speakers.

Granville.—This month two ladies followed Christ in baptism, and a young girl confessed faith in Christ, P. J. Pond preaching to increased attendances. Special classes for scripture instruction on Thursdays are taken by R. Kenyon, W. Roberts and P. J. Pond.

Wollongong.—The church continues to prosper in spite of difficulties due to removals and evacuations. The last two Sunday night meetings have been well attended. Mr. Stirling's messages are much appreciated. Y.P.S.C.E. is doing particularly good work among the young people.

Pendle Hill.—W. T. Smith, Bible school superintendent, and local church secretary, has returned from hospital after a severe road accident. P. J. Pond preached on April 19. Mrs. Henshall, who recently obeyed in baptism, was welcomed to fellowship. W. J. Stow, R. Kenyon, G. Morton and J. H. Adams were speakers the past month.

Bexley North.—F. B. Stow, of Wagga, exhorting on April 5 and F. Hunting, organiser of Young People's Department, on April 12. Two were received by letter. Recent visitors included Mr. Greenwood, secretary of the Queensland conference. Miss May Baker has been appointed superintendent of school and Mrs. F. Hunting of kindergarten. T. Weir preached at evening service.

Lane Cove.—Mr. and Mrs. McCarry and family, from Hurstville, have been received into fellowship. A younger daughter has since confessed Christ and been immersed. On evening of April 12 two members of Mrs. Rush's Girls' Club decided for Christ, and on the 19th a third made her confession. The preacher, Lloyd Read, is now attending lectures at the University, and the church has engaged him for duration of his course.

Ashfield.—R. Wilson has been giving helpful messages; attendance has been excellent. On April 12 J. Henderson, of the Bible College, exhorted. In the afternoon F. Hunting, Bible school organiser, held a tea-table conference with the teachers and conducted gospel service. Several young people were injured in a motor accident. Special prayers were offered for them and for Mrs. A. Armstrong, who has undergone an operation. Well-attended midweek prayer meetings with R. Wilson as leader have been held during past month.

Paddington.—At breaking of bread on Apr. 12 A. Anderson, of Adelaide, gave an inspiring address. At close of Mr. Greenhalgh's gospel address one young lady made the good confession. N. Fell was in the meeting after very serious illness.

Mosman.—On morning of April 19 Stuart Stevens addressed the church. Over 80 members broke bread. In the evening Mr. Burns gave the gospel message. Mrs. Burns has arranged a first aid class to start on April 27. A St. John's Ambulance officer will lecture.

Three.—Edwin J. Saxby, an elder of the church and a member for almost fifty years, celebrated his 75th birthday recently. Upon his return from annual State conference the church tendered him a complimentary social on evening of April 14. A. G. Saunders, the chairman, spoke on behalf of the congregation of the sterling Christian character of the guest and his devoted labors in many avenues of service, and made several presentations including a morocco bound church hymnbook.

YOUTH WORK AND YOUTH WEEK.

The call of Youth Week (April 26-May 3) is for cheerful co-operation and conscientious contributing to this commanding and commendable centre of the church's challenges.

- Youth honors Christ.
- Offers enthusiastic service.
- Unlimited evangelistic opportunities.
- Trained leadership tells.
- Help urgently needed.

- Workers deserve encouragement.
- Every member praying.
- Entire church supporting.
- Kingdom interests first.

—Will Beiler, S.A. Organiser.

Books for the Times

- "Future History in the Revelation." Coming events portrayed in the Book of Revelation. An exposition by R. H. Clayton, M.A. 3/9.
- "When Gog's Armies Meet the Almighty." The coming invasion of Palestine, and the intervention of God. David L. Cooper, 4/-.
- "The End from the Beginning." W. H. Rogers, D.D. 16/6.
- "The Anglo-Saxon Nation or is Great Britain Israel?" Dr. L. Sale-Harrison, 1/6.
- "The Approaching Advent of Christ." A Reese, 10/-.
- "What will Become of Europe?" Dr. A. C. Gaebel, 3/3. (Postage extra.)

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APPRECIATION

Miss Rometch wishes to thank her many friends for letters of loving appreciation for her services as secretary of the Victorian Women's Conference, especially thanking the manager and staff of "The Australian Christian."

WANTED

Wanted by the Melbourne City Mission, young lady who desires to devote her life to mission work. Apply F. L. Bruce, superintendent, 280 Exhibition-st., Melbourne.

IN MEMORIAM

COLMER.—In loving memory of my dear wife, our mother and grandma, who passed to her eternal rest on April 17, 1941.

"Blessed are they that die in the Lord."
—Inserted by James H. Colmer and family.

STREADER.—In loving memory of our beloved husband and father, Alfred Ernest, called to higher service on April 25, 1939.
—Inserted by his loving wife and children.

COMING EVENTS

MAY 1.—The Victorian Women's Conference Executive will meet in the hall, Swanston-st., on Friday, May 1, at 2.15 p.m. Full attendance of delegates is requested.—W. H. Brough.

MAY 3.—South Richmond church is holding anniversary and home-coming services on May 3, 11 a.m., 2.45 and 7. Glad if old members will keep that date free to come home.

MAY 3.—Dandenong church of Christ Sunday school anniversary services, May 3; afternoon, 3; evening, 7. Speakers: afternoon, Mr. Neighbour; evening, Mr. G. L. Murray. All visitors and friends are welcome.

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Two Special Afternoons.

April 26.—Service of Remembrance for Our Men.

May 3.—Fifth Anniversary of Class.

Enjoy these afternoons with us.

All visitors are our guests at tea at 5 o'clock.

**ESSENDON CHURCH OF CHRIST
BIBLE SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN.
ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.**

Sunday, May 3:
Afternoon, 3, Mr. Thos. Hagger.
Evening, 7, Mr. W. E. Jackel.

Sunday, May 10:
Afternoon, 3, Mr. Jas. E. Thomas.
Evening, 7, Mr. W. E. Jackel.

Special choruses, solos, duets by the scholars.

Everybody welcome.

**NORTH RICHMOND BIBLE SCHOOL.
ANNIVERSARY SERVICES.
SUNDAYS, MAY 3 and 10.**

Speakers:

May 3.
11 a.m., Mr. H. J. Patterson.
3 p.m., Mr. Fitzgerald.
7 p.m., Mr. E. Mellhagger.

May 10.

11 a.m., Mr. Crisp.
3 p.m., Mr. Melthun.
7 p.m., Mr. E. Mellhagger.

May 13, Annual Concert. All welcome.

**CHURCH OF CHRIST, BELL ST., COBURG.
CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND HOME-COMING.**

May 3, 11 a.m., Mr. A. W. Stephenson, M.A., President of Conference.
7 p.m., Mr. W. Wakefield.

Bible School Anniversary:

May 10, 3 p.m., Mr. W. Wakefield.
7 p.m., Mr. C. Candy.
May 17, 3 p.m., Kindergarten Demonstration.
7 p.m., Mr. Les. Brooker.
May 20, 8 p.m., School Demonstration.

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY,
RALEIGH STREET, FOOTSCRAY, VICTORIA.
SUNDAY, MAY 10.**

11 a.m., Mr. Andrew A. Hughes.
3 p.m., P.S.A., Mr. J. E. Webb.
5 p.m., Tea, Mr. J. E. Thomas.
7 p.m., Mr. Denzil C. Ritchie.

Greetings invited. Hospitality provided for visitors.

—H. Easton, secretary, 24 Dudley-st.

**PADDINGTON, N.S.W.
GOLDEN JUBILEE, MAY 10.**

All former members not in recent touch with the church are asked to forward names to E. V. Harris, secretary, Church of Christ, Paddington, N.S.W., for personal invitation to jubilee services.

SOUTH MELBOURNE.

SPECIAL HOME-COMING SERVICES.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 7.

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W.A. Women's Conference

C. H. Hunt

WITH the city of Perth in the midst of full-dress preparations for the uncertain future, the women of the churches of Christ gathered for thirty-seventh annual conference on April 1. Owing to wartime conditions, the usual conference meetings held earlier in the week were not arranged, so it fell to the sisters to open the series of Easter meetings.

Devotional session was in the capable hands of life member Mrs. G. W. Elliott, whose words in prayerful leadership created a most helpful atmosphere. Mrs. J. Gordon sang "Just for To-day."

The conference president (Mrs. I. Digwood) occupied the chair for the business session. The obituary report was read by Mrs. C. H. Hunt, who deputised for the obituary superintendent (Mrs. P. Jefferies), who was unable to come from Northam; 9 churches reported the death of 20 sisters. Mrs. Cosh sang "In the Land of Fadeless Day."

The roll-call was responded to by 53 officers and delegates from 17 churches, there being 89 present at the time. The minutes of last conference were prepared and read by Mrs. F. D. Pollard.

The report of the Prayer Committee was presented by Mrs. Payne, and stressed the need of prayer in our present-day circumstances. It was evident that the work of this committee had been very greatly appreciated among the churches. The superintendent of the Dorcas work (Mrs. Moyle) was unavoidably absent owing to an accident. Her excellent report, however, was read by Mrs. Pollard, revealing that war and charitable work during the year had been tremendous.

Mrs. Mercer presented the report of the Isolated Members Committee. A steady stream of letters had been kept going to and from folk in isolation.

Lake-st. chapel was almost full when the president took the chair for the afternoon session, and led her own devotional exercises. Several additional delegates answered the afternoon roll-call. Mesdames Gordon and Pollard rendered a beautiful duet, "I will Follow."

Welcome greetings were extended by Mrs. Allen Elliott and responses were made by Mesdames Steele and Berthelsen. Mrs. Hawk brought a message from the W.C.T. Union, and spoke of the Frances Willard Hostel now open and the matter of home invitations to visiting Americans and others. Greetings were read from Mrs. Fieldus, who was absent owing to her husband's illness; Mrs. Wilkie Thomson; Mrs. Moyle; Miss Ashwood, from the N.S.W. sisters; Miss L. Rometch, Victorian sisters; Mrs. A. Luerft; Harvey sisters; Mrs. Drowbridge; Mr. Albert Anderson, Foreign Mission Board; Mrs. Maiden, R. Taylor, Tasmanian sisters; and Mrs. Inverarity.

The conference has for many years honored the aged sisters by presenting bouquets of flowers, and the recipients this year were Mesdames Sherlock, Butcher, Burkett, and absent folk remembered were Mesdames Black, Burrows and Miss Dyer.

For several years Mr. C. H. Hunt has acted as press reporter for the conference, and as a token of appreciation of his help he was handed a copy of Dr. Boreham's "My Pilgrimage."

The executive report was presented by Mrs. F. D. Pollard, and covered a wide range of exacting service. The work of Mrs. Pollard was enthusiastically referred to by several speakers and resolutions of appreciation were recorded.

The treasurer (Mrs. W. Beck) presented the financial statements. In spite of the heavy demand on the sisters in other ways, the treas-

urer had had an income of £472/3/4, of which £428/16/4 had been distributed.

Mrs. Cosh relieved the pressure of business with another of her beautiful solos, and the president with charming manner embraced her and handed her a bouquet of choice blooms.

Mrs. T. Smillie read a splendid report of home mission activities. No less than £213/13/11 had been raised for that work. Several speakers expressed the joy of conference arising from the report, which was adopted enthusiastically. The aim for home missions set for this year was £180.

The overseas work was dealt with in a report read by Mrs. Smith. The work of this committee was mainly to create interest in oversea work and to raise funds for the work.



Mrs. D. R. Hill,
Newly-elected President of W.A. Women's
Conference.

Unfortunately, owing to transport difficulties, Mr. Hammer, of the New Hebrides, was unable to get to Perth, and his address to the sisters had to be cancelled.

Mrs. A. E. Jefferies gave a detailed report of the work done by the Woorooloo visitation committee. Year after year this committee carries out its work, and the co-operation of the churches has been well given. Mr. Miles being called to military service was replaced by Mr. T. D. Maiden. Gospel services had been held at each monthly visit. One young woman had confessed Christ and was baptised. An appeal was made for typed texts for distribution among patients, owing to the difficulty of purchasing sheet texts under printing restric-

tions. Several volunteered to help. A letter from a nursing sister at the sanatorium was read, testifying to the spiritual help and value of the work. The 165 patients (average of the past year) would shortly be increased by patients from other institutions.

Mrs. Digwood also had a wonderful word to say in her report on youth work. Again this year a fine group of young women from the country had held a "camp" in her own home, and a number of them had made their decision for Christ. There was a great need for Christian young women in the church and the world to-day, and she urged the sisters to unite in their efforts to save our girls.

Mrs. Jas. Gordon gave a very helpful resume of the first Sisters' Federal Conference held in Adelaide last October, which she had attended as the W.A. delegate. Mrs. Gordon stressed the importance of the work of the Federal Aborigines' Board, the committee of which was located in this State. Mrs. Gordon was thanked for her report.

The Catering Committee, as always, did a good work in the meal intervals, and their work was noticeably popular.

The sisters are always rewarded with a fine evening session to crown their day of strenuous effort, and to send them on their way in good spirits. This year was no exception. Lake-st. chapel was well filled. Mrs. Digwood led the devotional service and delivered her presidential message, which was impressive and timely. A duet was rendered by Mesdames Black and Richards.

After singing the National Anthem, Mrs. D. R. Hill led in special intercessory prayer. Vocal items were given by Mrs. Cosh and the Subiaco ladies' quartette party.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. C. J. Wright, and he took as his theme, "The Real Glory." In clear and descriptive language he presented the fact of the glorious life to be found only in Christ. It was a soul-stirring message.

The incoming officers were welcomed to their respective duties by Sister Digwood and Mrs. Hill, in response to the introduction of herself as the newly-elected president, gave as her motto for the year the words of Paul, "Not I, but Christ."

A vote of thanks to all who had helped throughout the day was well moved by Mrs. E. Mercer, and wholeheartedly adopted. The weather was ideal, and in every way it may be recorded that the conference was well above average.

Election of Officers

President, Mrs. D. R. Hill; vice-presidents, Mrs. E. Mercer (president-elect), Mrs. C. H. Hunt; secretary, Mrs. F. D. Pollard; assistant secretary, Mrs. Carpenter; treasurer, Mrs. W. Beck; organist, Mrs. W. J. Yeomans; assistant organist, Mrs. Jas. Gordon.

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Foreign Mission Committee.—Joint superintendents; Mrs. Holliday and Mrs. W. Althorpe; Mesdames H. J. Yeomans, Smetherham, Wiltshire, Sydney, Eaton, Pearce, Cooper, Mogridge, Rowley, Kidd, Craig, Arnold, Dean, Dayman, Fryer, Pallot (Jnr.), Bousfield, Anderson, Stenhouse, Hollett, Hodgson, Stephenson, Lawrence, Max Arnold, Hood, Marshall.

Prayer Committee.—Superintendent, Mrs. F. Hood; Mesdames Wiltshire, Mogridge, Ellis, Elliott, Carpenter, Abbott, Jeffery, Beasley, Etheridge, Gordon, Robinson, Smillie, Keirman, McDiarmid, Stenhouse, Lucraft, Payne, Misses Entwistle, Port and Clark.

Doreas Committee.—Superintendent, Mrs. Moyle; Mesdames Pridmore, Brown, Mogridge, Howe, Peacock, Rowe, Roediger, Cooper, Arthur, Smith, Goodier, Ellis, Rochfort.

Hospital Committee.—Superintendent, Mrs. J. Bridge; Mesdames Simeox, Moyle, Hunt, Hicks, Witham, Hinde, McLeod, Horne, Maiden, Jefferies, Stanford, Cugley, B. Smith, Chapman, Smithers, Curtis, J. Lewis, W. Mutton, Smith.

Temperance Committee.—Superintendent, Mrs. Mill; Mesdames Gray, Grist, Cranwell, Pollard, Hunt, Moyle, Stenhouse, Black, Tilbee, Paul, Mogridge, Curtis, Gilchrist.

Woorloo Committee.—Superintendent, Mrs. A. E. Jefferies; Mesdames Ellis, Hinde, Holliday and Mr. H. Gray.

Isolated Committee.—Superintendent, Mrs. Mercer; Mesdames Seaby, Moyle, R. Pallot, Digwood, Elliott, Hunt, Rochfort, Mill, Robinson, Johnson, Cosh, Sagers, Hilford, E. Smith, Miss Joy Smillie.

Catering Committee.—Joint superintendents, Mesdames Ellis and Grist; Mesdames H. Smith, Cooper, Cugley, Kirman, Smillie, Miss Entwistle.

Nominations Committee.—Mesdames Carpenter, Gordon, Digwood.

Social Service Committee.—Mesdames Mill, Ellis, Miss Alexander.

Obituary Superintendent.—Mrs. P. Jefferies.

Youth Work.—Superintendent, Mrs. I. Digwood, Mesdames Black, Gilchrist, Cranwell, Hunt, Beck, Etheridge, R. Pallot.

F.M. Representatives.—Mesdames Gordon, J. H. Yeomans.

Aborigines Committee Representatives.—Mesdames Gordon, J. H. Yeomans.

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The Family Altar

J. C. F. Pittman

TOPIC.—THE QUEST FOR REST

- Apr. 27—Psalm 55.
- " 28—Psalm 132.
- " 29—Isaiah 11: 10-12.
- " 30—Isaiah 35.
- May 1—Isaiah 40: 28-31.
- " 2—Hebrews 4.
- " 3—Psalm 62; Matthew 11: 20-30.

THIS world abounds with heavily-laden and weary souls, who need rest, and fervently desire it. Many prescriptions are offered, tried and "found wanting." The only solution is found in the Bible, which tells of rest sought, rest attained, and rest perfected in the person of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the quest for rest, millions of sacrifices were offered, yet no finality was reached. It was reserved for our Saviour to offer the great expiatory sacrifice, once for all, the acceptance of which gives rest to sin-weary souls. In him, who said, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest," and in him alone, is this priceless blessing found.

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Three Good Cuts

(Ezek. 5: 1)

"GEE, this is sharp!" declared Ernie, slashing
pieces off a deal upon which Mr. Stan-
bury had asked him to try a knife. Soon a
number of boys produced pen-knives, and it
was found that some were sharper than others.
For a Scripture lesson, Ted and Bert were
asked to read between them, "What a Reckless
Man did with a Penknife"—from the thirty-
sixth chapter of Jeremiah.

"You know, fellows," began Mr. Stanbury,
"to be trusted with a knife is a grand compli-
ment, for knives may be put to such good or
bad uses. Now as the prophet Ezekiel was
once told to take a knife and give a lesson, I
want to talk with you for a while about "Three
Good Cuts!" . . . "First: The Self Cut! The
cut that shows self-command and discipline.
We will have Les read about that from Mark
9: 43-46." . . . "Second: The Comrade Cut! A
cut for the common good and the welfare of
all. Arthur will read a story about it from
Acts 27: 30-32." . . . "Third: The Cut of the
Lord! As a wise man prunes a vine or tree, so
the Lord will sometimes prune our lives. Now,
Frank, you read about it in John 15: 1, 2"—
G. J. Andrews.

THOUGHT

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