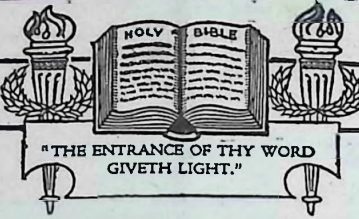


# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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213 G/Town News

Proq Kuvv Mission

## Do Not Muzzle the Ox

HAVE you noticed how often a fragment of Scripture will suggest a beautiful panorama of eastern life? The divine command stated by Moses in Deuteronomy 25: 4 and referred to by Paul in 1 Corinthians 9: 9, and again in 1 Timothy 5: 18 presents a picture of farm-life in ancient Palestine. "Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn," it declares.

At the end of April the "latter rains" cease; and during May the hot south and south-east winds begin to blow. Then the green crops rapidly mature into golden corn. Amid great rejoicing the crop is harvested and carried to some level rock surface near the village. Under the open sky the thrashing of the corn begins. A layer of wheat is spread over the smooth stone floor, and oxen are driven across it again and again, until the corn has been well trodden under foot and thrashed.

We can understand how anxious a farmer would be to save all his corn, particularly in periods of drought. He would be tempted to save every stalk and even to muzzle the oxen so that they could not deprive him of some of his precious grain. To surround the ox with tempting feed and then to muzzle him is to torment him cruelly. Thus, to curb human selfishness and to avoid cruelty, the Mosaic law was imposed upon the farmers of Israel.

### I.

This Mosaic principle has a higher application. If it forbids cruelty and selfishness in a man's treatment of the ox that treads out his corn, does it not also apply to the attitude church members ought to adopt toward those who labor on their behalf in the ministry of the gospel?

Paul seemed to be aware of an unwillingness on the part of certain church members to provide adequate support for those who were giving their life for the spread of the gospel. Had not the people who had been brought to Christ through the ministry of evangelists become recipients of many blessings? The good seed sown by the faithful preachers had brought forth a rich and abundant harvest. Just as

any farmer partakes of the fruits of the trees he has been tending; so, Paul maintained, the one who gives spiritual oversight to church members, and makes it possible for them to enjoy the fruits of the Spirit, ought to be allowed a share of the harvest. The very least of the blessings that ought to be provided are the material needs of life. To withhold these from the spiritual laborer means that church members have descended to the level of the farmer who muzzles his ox and shows selfishness and cruelty.

If the appeal to the better nature of Christians fail; if they are not moved by humanitarian motives, then there is another factor that might impel action and produce support; that is the command of Christ. "The Lord ordained," Paul wrote, "that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." The word translated "ordained" may be given as *commanded* or *instructed*. "The Lord commanded that those preaching the gospel are to get their living by the gospel." There is, then, an instruction from the Lord for Christians that they provide for the needs of those preaching the gospel. How else can the preacher give full attention to his work unless he is adequately provided for by those to whom he ministers in the name of the Lord? The preacher is instructed to live "by the gospel"; and the saints are commanded to make adequate provision for him.

When Jesus sent out his disciples to preach, he requested they make no provision for their own support. He desired them to rely upon "worthy" individuals for their material requirements (Matt. 10: 11).

By referring to principles set down in the Old Testament Scripture and to the teachings of Christ, Paul called upon the Corinthian Christians to recognise their obligation toward preachers of the gospel. While he was not prepared to take their material help for his own needs, he made it clear that he was entitled to it, just as other evangelists were (1 Cor. 9: 12). However, there were occasions when Paul did accept the help of his brethren (Phil. 4: 16).

To provide for the support of those "who have the task of preaching and teaching" (1 Tim. 5: 17, 18, Moffatt), Christians must be ready to set apart a share of the spiritual and material blessings which they have enjoyed because of the goodness of God. These gifts are presented to the Lord, and out of them provision is made for the needs of the evangelist.

### II.

Just how much Christians ought to set apart for the work of the Lord is not set down precisely. The Jews were required to give a tenth of their gathered fruits. Paul set out the principle which ought to govern giving when he was making an appeal to the Corinthians for money. "I want it to be forthcoming as a generous gift, not as money wrung out of you. Mark this, he who sows sparingly will reap sparingly, and he who sows generously will reap a generous harvest." "God loves the giver who gives cheerfully." The apostle points out that generous giving "shows what you are, it makes men praise God for the way you have come under the gospel of Christ which you confess." (See 2 Cor. 9: 5-15, Moffatt.)

### III.

What financial provision ought to be made to meet the needs of the preacher? If church members give according to the blessings they have received, there would be enough to provide preachers with an income to meet their needs. No preacher ought to be expected to live on a wage less than that given to a skilled tradesman. Like the tradesman, he must have training, and he must have money to buy the books which are for him very much the same as tools for the carpenter. Some preachers receive less than unskilled laborers. They are, therefore, partly muzzled. They are being denied their rightful share in the blessings many church members are enjoying. While these conditions prevail, men on low incomes and with heavy responsibilities are not able to provide against sickness, unemployment or old age. The Preachers' Provident Fund is very helpful; it is able to help many who can help themselves a little, but it does not adequately meet the needs of the struggling preacher.

Some preachers cannot spare money out of their low incomes to send on to the

fund. They are not able to make any adequate provision for old age or sickness. It is evident that while the Provident Fund is able to give some help, it is not able to meet satisfactorily the needs of all preachers forced to retire because of age or sickness.

Two things are required:—

1. Preachers' incomes ought to be raised to meet immediate needs and enable them

to provide for their future.

2. Some uniform scheme making it necessary for preachers and churches to unite in supporting the Provident Fund so that all preachers will be covered and assisted as the need arises.

Unless this is done it is difficult to see how "those who proclaim the gospel are to get their living by the gospel."

## Mother

*The second Sunday in May is now recognised as Mother's Day. Ira A. Paternoster has written this delightful study on the precious memories of mother to commemorate the day.*

WHAT a name! What beautiful things have been said about mother! Wonderful stories of self-sacrifice and loving devotion to duty have been written. Hymns have been composed to her memory; poems by the score dedicated to her; books written about her; children named after her—but it usually needs a death or some other calamity for her wonderful qualities to be appreciated. Not many of us have said to mother all the sweet things we have thought of her. Usually we wait until she is beyond the hearing of them.

With many of us mother is now but a memory. But what a memory! Some of us have painful memories of her corrective powers, but are better men because of it. We remember her strict sense of justice; her abhorrence of a lie; her reverence for the Lord's day. I never find myself polishing my shoes on the Lord's day without a consciousness that mother never allowed it in her home; and somehow, I feel I am just that much below the ideal she set me in those days when I was under her roof.

In spite of all the beautiful things written of mother, there must be yet the most beautiful thing to say. I was reminded of this during my visit to my aged father last year. Sitting talking, the conversation turned to mother. Her picture was on the wall. Drawing my attention to it, father spoke in sweetest terms of the one now in glory. He said many very beautiful things of her, all of which I knew. Then he gave what to me was one of the hitherto unpublished stories of her life. "When we were married," father said, "and I had built our home with my workshop, mother and I entered into an agreement. It was this: I promised never to interfere with anything touching her domain—the house, and she promised never to interfere with anything touching my domain—the shop. Many years later we planned a holiday at Port Elliot. Rooms had been secured, mother had everything packed ready, when, the day before we were to leave, some work came to me that would necessitate my being away from home for at least two weeks. I did not know how to tell mother, for her heart was on the holiday, but I had to break the news. To my delight she never gave the least sign of disappointment, but unpacked the cases and went about her duties as though no holiday had been planned." I was so glad to have father tell me that incident. It made the memory of mother much more precious.

As I write this, an incident has just occurred outside my study door. I am at the chapel and my study stands at the front, just off the street. A mother and her wee toddling child apparently were passing. The child must have stopped as children sometimes do and the mother had moved a few paces ahead. Turning, I heard her call sweetly to the little one, and it evidently ran toward her and overbalanced, falling to the footpath. In a flash that mother had the little one in her arms and poured out a flood of sympathy, stifling the cry arising from fright more than hurt.

As I hear that crooning, comforting mother, she speaks to me of the millions of mothers throughout the world to-day breaking their hearts over the wee toddling ones now grown up, who are suffering in hospitals, chafing in prison camps, or worst of all, are posted missing. Mothers in every country under heaven to-day are breaking their hearts because the world has gone mad and is calling for their boys—often their only boy—to go to face death, for what? This week I have been in the home of one of these mothers. She herself is an invalid. Her son has apparently been left behind in the north. "I know I can leave all to God," she is saying. "But you can't help wondering, can you? He is my boy!" And so the story goes on.

"He is my boy." How very much is involved in those words. Not alone is mother's heart breaking for her boy. This evil thing we call war is taking toll of daughters as well as sons. Every mother's heart aches as she sees boy or girl entering on war work. All the uniforms with all the decorations possible are not sufficient to comfort the heart of the mother who has to be told, "Your boy will never return."

I am so glad God saw fit to give his Son a mother. He could have sent Jesus into the world some other way. But he chose for him to come as the "seed of the woman." Because a certain group have gone to one extreme in the adoration of Mary it is no reason why we should go to another. God set his seal upon woman when he chose one to be the mother of his own Son, and Mary stands before us as one who was "graciously accepted" of the Lord. But every mother, if she but realised it, is graciously accepted of the Lord. How tremendous are the possibilities of a mother! She has not completed her task when

she has been delivered of her child. It is commonplace to say that most men are what their mothers made them. But thousands could be more value to the world had they been born of a different mother. Dickens once wrote, "I think it must somewhere be written that the virtues of mothers shall be visited on their children, as well as the sins of the fathers." It was Napoleon who said, "The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother," and another who said, "The mother in her office holds the key of the soul; and she it is who stamps the coin of character, and makes the being who would be a savage but for her gentle cares, a Christian man! Then crown her Queen of the World."

And so it is we come again to pay our tribute to the world's mothers. In doing so we are not forgetful of those countless thousands who, though denied or denying themselves this great honor, have yet given to the world a tremendous service in the care they have shown for other children. I think of a daughter left with the care of a large family of brothers and sisters and who became "mother" to them. I think of those splendid women into whose home no babe has come, but who have taken a little one, possibly unwanted in other circles, and have made it their very own. I think of those great souls in our churches who for reasons best known to themselves have not sought such ties, yet are dedicating their lives to the spiritual education of the boys and girls in the Bible schools or other organisations of the church.

Wherever "mother-love" is manifest to-day and saintly women are seeking to comfort and cheer child hearts and point their steps in the way of holiness and truth, we say again, "God bless you."

### MOTHER AND HOMELAND

GOLD to the east of us,  
Gold to the west;  
But the gold in the home land's  
The brightest and best!  
The skies there are bluer,  
The hearts there are truer,  
The trials there are fewer;  
The home land's the best!

Gold to the left of us,  
Gold to the right;  
But the gold in the home land's  
The gold of delight!  
Is it joy? You will meet her.  
Is it fortune? You will meet her.  
Is it love? There love's sweeter—  
The home land's the best!

—Frank L. Stanton.

## Views and Aims

### Whose Method?

IT is typical of the "social gospel" group that they are talking easily of a new order after the war without giving any attention to the sort of people they will have to deal with after the war; people whose standards are Shintoist standards, Mohammedan standards, Confucian standards and pagan standards. They assume that, not only can they set up an international order that is thoroughly just, but this new order will seem thoroughly attractive to all these Japanese dominated by Shintoism and these Nazis dominated by the religion of the state and these Bolsheviks dominated by the dictatorship of the proletariat.

This is not to scoff at the effort to strive for a better international order after the war. Power to those who can make any improvement. Their idealism must be preserved and encouraged. But the idea that we can leap to nearly ideal order by mere changes in the rules of the games is so fantastic as to be

perilous.—From editorial—"Christian Standard," Feb. 28, 1942.

### A. Campbell

THE writer recalls a thanksgiving dinner in the home of Charles Louis Loos when he was president of Kentucky university, in the fall of 1896. Some one at the table brought up the question as to the relative importance in Mr. Campbell's thinking of Christian union and New Testament restoration. President Loos cleared his throat in his accustomed fashion and immediately broke out with great emphasis: "Gentlemen, there can be no question on this point. I was Mr. Campbell's secretary, and I knew his position very well. He believed, first of all, in the restoration of the New Testament church, the ancient order of things, with the firm conviction that this restoration and this alone would lead to the unity of all Christendom. He had no patience with any other idea of union, except the one which I have mentioned."—F. D. Kershner, Dean, School of Religion, Butler.

## PREACHERS' PAGE

## The Eternal Purpose of God

A definition of dispensation, appearing in our columns some weeks ago, created interest. J. E. Thomas presents another view. We believe many will gladly study this statement and compare it with the Scriptures.

IN the Epistle to the Ephesians Paul sets forth in a sublime and majestic way the eternal purpose of God as it is being accomplished through the church. He looks back at past ages and forward to future ages. In chapter 3, verses 10 and 11, he shows that it is God's plan in this age to make known through the church the manifold wisdom of God; and in verse 21 he exclaims, "Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end."

In a recent article the writer sought to show that dispensation is not a Biblical term and that it was modernistic. His method of elimination would in its logical setting assume that because the word occurs only once in the entire Bible it should be set aside. With the same process of argument we would discard many other precious words. Calvary is only mentioned once in the Gospels, but that is a most beautiful word. Churches of Christ is only used once, yet we accept that as a most appropriate name for the churches of like precious faith. The term Lord's Supper is only used once, yet we do not doubt that this is a most acceptable name for the supper of remembrance. When we go into terms we find that the Lord's Supper is referred to about five times in the New Testament, baptism is spoken of not more than 25 times, while the return of our Lord is referred to about 320 times, so that in point of frequency of mention the coming of our Lord is surely a momentous truth. The purpose of eliminating the emphasis on dispensational truth is apparently to show that the belief in a personal reign of Christ upon the earth is erroneous, and that those who believe in what is called the millennial reign of Christ upon the earth are mistaken.

It would be better for us to see whether the facts are true, and then we need not be concerned about the term dispensation. A more acceptable word would be age, for the original word *aión* occurs 124 times in the New Testament. It is sometimes translated as world when we read about the end of the world, or it is translated age. The word signifies a period of time, and clearly shows that our wonderful God moves to the accomplishment of his eternal purpose in definitely conceived steps that are called ages. Alexander Campbell finely said that there were three kingdoms or ages clearly set forth in Scripture—the kingdom of law, which was the Jewish age; the kingdom of grace, in which we now live, and the kingdom of glory. It seems quite evident that we can rightly divide the ages of God into these definite steps in the progressive revelation of his eternal purpose.

It would be quite scriptural to say that before the Jewish age was the patriarchal age, when God spoke through the patriarchs or fathers. Then in the Jewish age he spoke through his chosen people, the Jews, and ruled by the law; while now he speaks through the church and by the Gentiles in the gospel of his grace. All this we are doubtless agreed upon. It is also clear in Scripture that there are ages yet to come, and about these there is much said in the word of God.

It is true that we cannot follow Dr. Scofield's Bible as authoritative, for that is merely his opinion, excellent as it is in many places. Nor can we follow Phillip Mauro, for he has shown how human he is by completely reversing what he taught so clearly in former books in his latest book, "The Hope of Israel." In

this book the author seeks to spiritualise everything, and even asserts that the millennium is a spiritual thousand years which runs its course during this age. Surely we are a long way from the millennium in this day of chaos! It would help us to have in mind certain definite truths that seem to be clearly taught in the word.

First, we believe that God has not turned away his people, the Jews. Because of unbelief they have for the time been cut off and are scattered through the world, but they will be again restored to their own land and will hail Jesus as Messiah and King. In Jer. 31: 9 we read, "He that scattered Israel will gather him and keep him as a shepherd doth his flock." In Isaiah 43: 5, "Fear not, for I am with thee; I will bring thy seed from the east and gather thee from the west." In Ezek 37: 21, "Behold, I will take the children of Israel from among the heathen, where they be gone, and gather them from every side, and bring them into their own land." Zech. 12: 10, "And I will pour upon the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem the spirit of grace and supplication, and they shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him as one mourneth for his only son." 14: 9, "The Lord shall be King over all the earth; in that day shall there be one Lord and his name one." We cannot but see that unless God fulfils all these and many other promises to his people, the Jews, then he has failed them, and this could never be. Paul shows very clearly in Romans 11 that Israel will be again grafted in to the olive tree, and in verse 26 he says exultantly, "And so all Israel shall be saved."

We further learn that God has a wonderful purpose for the church. It will not be defeated nor be crushed. Some day Jesus will come for his church. Heb. 9: 28, "Unto them that look for him he will come a second time." 1 Thess. 4: 16, 17, "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." When the church is caught up there is to be what is called the great tribulation, when great anguish will be in the earth. Then after that tribulation the Son of man will come in power and great glory (Luke 21: 27), and the church will come to reign with him. Zech. 14: 5, "The Lord my God shall come and all the saints with thee." Jude 14, "The Lord cometh with ten thousand of his saints." 1 Thess. 3: 13, "The coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints." Col. 3: 4, "When Christ who is our life shall appear, we also shall appear with him in glory." Our glorious hope is that if we suffer with him we shall reign with him. John saw those who were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and that worshipped not the beast, and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

Is it a foolish dream to believe that this very Jesus who once came and was rejected of men and crucified, will some day reign on this very earth where he was humiliated? He will reign in an age of peace and justice when men will turn their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks, and they shall not learn war any more. This is not

some new doctrine. The early church believed and taught it for 250 years till the days of Origen, who commenced to spiritualise all these promises. Millions have since believed in this personal reign of Christ. Surely this glorious view of the future gives us comfort and assures us that God has wonderful plans for his people in the ages to come! When this personal reign is complete, we shall enter after the great day of judgment into the never-ending age of glory that remains for all that have been redeemed out of every nation and tribe and tongue. If we do not all agree as to the steps by which we reach the glory that is to follow, we are one in our belief that we shall be with him in the glory for ever.

The supreme business of the church in this age is to call men to Christ by the preaching of the gospel. Let no difference of opinion divide us or turn us from that divine purpose. It is ours to tell a sin-cursed, war-stricken world that there is a Saviour whose will it is that men should love one another and live in peace. He will come some day to judge the world and to overthrow all that is evil. God will not fail in his purpose, though in mercy he still waits for men to turn to him. When this glorious Lord shall come every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that he is King, and he shall reign and we shall reign with him for ever.

"O blessed hope, with this elate,  
Let not our hearts be desolate;  
But strong in faith in patience wait  
Until he come."

## WORLD OF BOOKS

## "Living Under Tension"

By H. E. Fosdick. Published by Student Christian Movement Press. Price, 9/6; posted, 10/-.

THIS volume of twenty-five sermons, selected from the recent utterances of a great preacher by himself, is a sincere effort to meet the special needs of believers in Christ in these dark and troubled days. The state of affairs which it seeks especially to forestall may be expressed in the author's own words: "The church in wartime easily becomes the echo of the warring masses with every distinctive quality of Christ's teaching well-nigh forgotten." It deals convincingly with pertinent problems and the issues of peace and war. "Can Satan cast out Satan?"

The first sermon, "Living Under Tension," from which the volume takes its title, is based upon the necessity of living in two worlds—"the one material, physical, visible; the other immaterial, invisible, intangible." "Don't Lose Faith in Human Possibilities," the next sermon, is a tonic for discouragement on account of world-wide and other disappointments. But even a brief notice of all twenty-five sermons would fall to give an adequate idea of this vital book.

The volume would be more acceptable to many if some of the outspoken modernist views occasionally expressed, and which are in no way vital to the ethical value of the preacher's message, were omitted. But no one can afford on that account to bypass this store of powerful, stimulating thought; discussions on relevant topics by a sincere, great mind, gifted with a sympathetic understanding of human nature; themes eloquently and skillfully presented and enhanced by reference and illustration drawn from wide reading and knowledge of the world. The thoughtful reader, when he has finished the volume, will be able, we are sure, with added emphasis to say in the closing words of the fourth sermon: "Blessed is the man who, with the passing years, is more and more persuaded that what Christ stands for is the truth."—P.D.McC.

## Notes on Current Topics

### Christianity in Russia

AN article in "The Christian World" by Mr. A. W. T. Elmslie, M.A., on "The Christian Cause in Europe" makes interesting reading. The position in Russia is uncertain, but the author quotes from a Berlin paper the view that whilst the younger generation in Russia, especially the workers, is estranged from the Christian faith, "the torch of the pure Christian faith, according to the unanimous testimony of the godless press, has been kept alight in Russia."

He adds the interesting statement that "the leaders of the Russian Orthodox Church in America have issued a statement full of grief for the sufferings of Russia, which are attributed in part to the apostasy of the last twenty-five years from the Christian faith; they call their fellow believers now to set aside political differences, realising that their opponents also love their country, and they express the hope that through its sufferings, heroically met and overcome, Russia may return to the faith." Surely a host of Christians will earnestly hope and pray for such a return.

### The Universal Church

UNDER this heading Mr. Elmslie continues: "The suffering church is learning afresh that the church of Christ is an international, or rather a super-national, fellowship. From Germany and from Switzerland come reports of considered attempts to bring home this fact to the ordinary members even of quite small and remote congregations, both through prayer and through definite instruction in the facts."

It is said that both in Germany and in France growing use is made of the help of

"laymen" in conducting worship and visiting congregations. Thus the situation caused by the acute shortage of pastors is being relieved.

The Christian faith will not die. The church built on the rock will not be destroyed. It is well that even in the midst of a world war we recognise the supra-national fellowship of the church, composed of all the redeemed.

### Mind Your Own Business

THIS is scriptural advice. Paul urged the Thessalonians to "study to be quiet and to do your own business." We all know people for whom such advice is very necessary, and folk so inquisitive and interfering that they seem to have no time for their own affairs. But there is another class of persons who are too self-centred, indifferent to the needs of others, thinking alone of their own comfort or advancement. For such another scripture is available: "Not looking each of you to his own things, but each of you also to the things of others." That Philipian verse is as important as the Thessalonian one. A recent writer says: "It is the purpose for which we interest ourselves in the affairs of others that makes it a good thing or a bad thing. If it is to help and comfort, then we are justified in inquiring into other people's affairs. If it is to satisfy idle curiosity, and to provide material for gossip, I think it is without defence."

In these days there are innumerable calls for service, and many helpful ministries are and should be performed.

*A. R. Mann.*

## Confessing Christ

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

Text.—"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven."—Matt. 10: 32.

WHAT does it mean for me to confess Christ? The context would be suggestive of a confession which might involve death. We are not to be afraid of them that kill. We must not count our own lives of supreme importance. The man who witnesses to Christ and owns Christ as Lord and Saviour will be acknowledged by him. "With the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

### Not Once Only

Some folk may fondly believe that having witnessed concerning their faith before baptism there is then no further need for confession. Never was a bigger mistake made, for to confess Christ as Lord is to place ourselves under his direction. This old world of ours to-day is suffering because of sin, and much of it is due to the failure of Christians to witness in reality to the Christ. We not only confess him in that one special way common to our churches, but we confess him in baptism, in communion, and in our lives. It is in the daily representation of Christ to men that confession is so urgently needed. We deny rather than confess him. We are not courageous enough to stand up for the right. Doing a thing on the ground that it is for a good cause does not justify the action, nor does it acknowledge Christ to be sovereign Lord. If Christians the world over would confess him as Lord we should be nearer a solution of the world's problems.

### The World's Need

We speak quite easily of a changed or new order as though it could come overnight. Let us not blind our eyes to the fact that if the war ended to-morrow there would be no new order of lasting good. Such will not come unless we have changed attitudes, or to put it plainly, converted people. All great changes come only when men's hearts are changed. Abraham Lincoln's heart was stirred as he saw the work of the iniquitous slave trade. Not till our heart—our whole being—is stirred to the depths by the horrors and injustices and ungodliness of the old order will we change it. To merely talk of a new order is hypocrisy. The world must have changed men with a confidence in Christ's new order. We—you and I—must confess Christ in life and death. Nothing less will be effective.

### Why Confession?

Part of the reason is given above. But you and I are Christian and we know Christ lives and is the only Saviour of the world. Some of our friends do not know that. Perhaps you do not consider it worth the time taken to tell it. But if Christ is what he claims to be and what we generally affirm is so, we should confess it to our friends. Very frequently all we do is to give our friends what they want. They are superficial in thought, so are we; they are ready to compromise with honesty and truth, we do not indicate that we disagree with them. We lower the flag. We are no more Christian and sometimes deny Christ. Confessing him takes in the whole of life.

## The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

### RECIPE FOR A HERO

Sir Charles Portal read the following in his farewell address to the Bomber Command Staff on taking his duties as Chief of the Air-Staff in October, 1940:—

If you can keep yourself from going crackers  
At all the things that you're advised to do,  
When Hitler sends his horrid air attackers  
With squibs and bombs to try and frighten you;

If you can hear the hellish banshee warning  
Without that sinking feeling in your breast;  
If you can sleep in dug-outs till the morning  
And never feel you ought to have more rest;  
If you can laugh at every blackout stumble,  
Nor murmur when you cannot find a pub,  
If you can eat your ration and not grumble  
About the wicked price you pay for grub;  
If you can keep depression down to zero  
And view it all as just a bit of fun,  
Then, sir, you'll be a blooming hero,  
And what is more, you'll be the only one.

### MODERNISED

VULGARISATION of scripture language is to be deplored. Attempts to put it into what some people call "polite language" cause the judicious to grieve. Here is a sample, from Edmund Harwood's version: Luke 15: 27 becomes "The servant said, 'Your brother, sir, has just returned from abroad, and your father is celebrating this happy occasion by a most splendid and elegant entertainment.'" The date of this refined, genteel version is 1768.

### CHRIST'S CALL

DR. GRENPELL, of Labrador, told how he went to hear D. L. Moody. "I came out kicking myself that I had not realised sooner that Christ's religion was not an insurance ticket, but a call to arms."

### KEEP SWEET AND SING

"ALWAYS keep sweet, and go on singing," is a good motto. Easy, do you say? Only a lesson for children? Do you think so? Did you ever try to live it out for a week, even for a day? The perfection of Christian living is included in this motto.

Dr. Sawyer.—"I had a great many more patients this time last year, my dear. I wonder where they can all have gone?"

His Wife.—"We can only hope for the best, Ted."

## The Family Altar

### TOPIC.—DIVISION DEPRECATED

- May 11—Psalm 133.  
" 12—John 17: 15-26.  
" 13—1 Cor. 1: 10-17.  
" 14—Eph 4: 1-16.  
" 15—Acts 2: 40-47.  
" 16—Acts 4: 32-37.  
" 17—Isaiah 55; Matthew 12: 22-50.

THE Pharisees, unable to deny that a miracle had been performed, asserted that it was the work of Beelzebub. Christ's answer shows the folly of supposing that Satan would cast out Satan. That, he said, would mean that his kingdom, divided against itself, is doomed to collapse. Our Lord's argument may be applied to sectarianism, which is divisive, wasteful and God-dishonoring. "United in variety" characterises all God's work. Yet, in spite of this, and the teaching of Christ and his apostles, Christendom is like a body bruised and broken. It is surely high time that unity, "in the air" so long, should be translated into an actuality.

# Our Young People

C.E. Interests and Activities

W. W. Saunders

## C.E. VARIOUSLY VIEWED

"CHRISTIAN Endeavor is as wide in its purpose as is the Christian empire, as comprehensive in its policy as is Christ's evangelism, as complete in its programme as is the consecrated enthusiasm of the church. The purpose of C.E. is world evangelism, organised and personal; world citizenship, active in every community and country; and world peace, inspired and regulated by Christian brotherhood. . . . In principle, C.E. is rigid; but in programme it is flexible and adaptable, because it is spiritual. The policy of C.E. is to recruit, train and develop Christians for world service. Hence it has more members in more societies, in more churches, in more nations than any other Christian youth organisation." S. Varcoe Cocks has left this tribute in the national handbook of C.E.

From a world vice-president's (Geo. H. Nelson's) pen come these words: "I am thinking much and with great gratitude about the impact of C.E. upon thousands, even millions of lives, including my own. What a cleansing and fertilising influence, under God, has been this stream of inspiration and challenge. At the back of the covenant obligation, the prayer meeting, the opportunities of Christian witness and service and the indescribable joys of inter-church and international fellowship, I am profoundly conscious of the call and will of my Lord. C.E. has opened for me a vista of opportunity and service for which I can never adequately express my thankfulness. Despite the chaos and dislocation of the times C.E. will emerge and go forward as an agency of evangelism, training and witness—always for Christ—always within and for the church."

"The Methodist" some time ago wrote as follows: "The reports of the C.E. rallies throughout the State indicate that this movement is gaining the distinctive place it had in the churches in other years. For some reason its development was arrested, and in Methodism, at least, youth devotional meetings and activities turned in other directions. These have proved themselves to be what the young people needed and in every way the church has been advantaged. Yet none of these quite meet the need which C.E. supplied. The C.E. movement lacked some elements which the later societies made up, but it succeeded, above all these, in the promotion of definitely religious experience in the life of our youth and in preparing them through fellowship and Bible study for witness and work 'for Christ and the church.' Many ministers and public speakers owe to the C.E. society their first awakening to the true nature and scope of religious life, and began therein to give expression to their Christian faith in testimony and service. The programme sometimes failed to include what the later organisations have made prominent as objectives, but it did lead to concentration upon the inner life and missionary task of the church, both at home and abroad. The manifest return to C.E. in many quarters affords grounds of confidence that scriptural knowledge and the practice of private and fellowship prayer will continue to be regarded as essential factors of a spiritual and progressive church."

Endeavorers! these are high tributes! Are we worthy of them? Are they just as true at this present moment? At times grave doubts assail our mind. If we are not worthy of such tributes there is only one thing to do. By sincerity, faithfulness, loyalty to the pledge and the consecration of mental, spiritual and physical powers, become worthy. Shall we? "By thy grace we will."

# "Think on These Things"

E. C. Hinrichsen

"BUT some man will say," "Why have a mission in a small place like Kurri, when the miners are extra busy and start work at 5 a.m. and all are hindered by the brownout?"

Our only reply is that this little band of people has been asking for a mission for five years and they have helped in so many ways.

## Our First Communion Service

There are 20 members in the district. All who were able to attend were present. It was a typical British service. No organ or piano was used. The presiding brother with great dignity read a charge to the missionaries and church, then announced a hymn. The second hymn was announced and read right through by a brother in the audience; other hymns likewise. In that way many take part. At first it reminds one of an Endeavor meeting; but in Britain it is the usual thing, and one grows to like it. As the preacher goes forward to give his message the congregation sings:

"Tell me the story simply, as to a little child,  
For I am weak and sinful, and helpless and defiled;  
Tell me the story often, for I forget so soon;  
The early dew of morning has passed away at noon," etc.

It was unusually impressive.

But!

These faithful souls have to meet in a small room under the School of Arts. Often they have to clean up the place before it can be used. Often miners have a meeting at the same time in the hall above. At such times singing is not possible. On the first Sunday of the mission it was particularly unpleasant. At a very impressive moment in our service someone in the room above pretended to broadcast a description of a horse race. It was followed by shouts and roars of laughter. A few minutes later someone announced over the loud-speaker (a few yards from our service) so that the residents of Kurri could hear, "Come to-night to the School of Arts to hear Australia's greatest Leninist."

For about 20 years our people have met under similar circumstances. Is there any wonder that they desire a church building of their own? There are no people in all the world more worthy of encouragement. Here are some reasons.

1. They have remained loyal to the church of Christ in spite of depressing spiritual surroundings. Any town which boasts Lenin is well peopled with atheists. I said to a little boy standing near the tent, "How about helping me with handbills?" He replied, "My father doesn't believe in God, and he won't let me go to church." That spells tragedy.

2. Not only have they stood; they have been liberal in support of every good work. It is nearly five years since the writer first met these people. It was when the new cause at Mayfield was being started. There is not a person in the church with any money to speak of. Not more than six would be earning wages, and at times the wages were low, averaging about £2/10/- per week for some of the miners. Still these people have given (in addition to gifts to every good work) at least £400 to missions and home mission work in the last four years. Georgetown was a new work. They were not able to be present on the thanksgiving night, but on the previous night when they were present every member placed an offering in my hand when shaking hands. When totalled up it came to over £60. Since

they have been so helpful to others, if there were not so many appeals in these days surely every member of our brotherhood would like to help them.

3. Whilst Kurri itself is not a big place, it is midway between two splendid cities—Cessnock, with a population of more than 20,000, is eight miles in one direction, and Maitland with more than 20,000 is in the opposite direction. Owing to war restrictions people from these centres are not likely to benefit by our present mission. Later on these towns must be entered.

4. Not only are they willing to help others; they are determined to help themselves. Already they have in hand a substantial sum for the mission. They will give much more than they can afford to reduce the building debt as far as possible.

5. A splendid site has been purchased not 200 yards from the Kurri Post Office. As a rule in a new place land costs anything from £200 to £600. Here a miracle transpired. Two fine blocks were available—£29/10/- in rates was owing. The brethren have secured both blocks for £30.

6. A start was made on April 25 on the building. There was a small but happy working bee. A bigger one is being arranged. All of the work will have to be done by volunteers. Builders are simply unprocurable. Circumstances are such that the mission is not likely to bring in a great number of converts, but these brethren must have their own church home.

No members are more worthy of help. Would you like to encourage these people who have so often encouraged others? They have helped every mission for five years, and the missionaries feel that they are owing a great debt. Hence this appeal.

## Open Forum

FOR "CHRISTIAN" READERS

[Correspondents are reminded that letters should not be more than 300 words in length, that names and not pseudonyms should be used, and that once a writer has had his say on a particular topic he should leave the way open for somebody else. We do not desire unsatisfactory crossfiring. The insertion of a letter does not imply editorial approval of its contents.—Ed.]

UNION WITH THE BAPTISTS

COMMENDABLE efforts are being made in a number of places to bring members of churches known as Baptist churches, and members of churches generally known as churches of Christ, closer together. Closer fellowship, united service, and ultimate organic union will all be to the advancement of the kingdom of God. I notice, however, that in some places attempts are being made to draw up what are called "doctrinal statements." Is this necessary or wise? If a member of a Baptist church sought membership in one of the churches known as churches of Christ he would not be confronted with a doctrinal statement to which he would be asked to give assent; and if a member of one of our churches sought membership in a Baptist church I do not think he would be confronted with such. Why then, when an effort is being made to get all together, should such be drawn up, and assent asked thereto? Besides is not such a statement, if authoritative, really a human creed against which we are supposed to protest? I fear that union will be hindered rather than helped by such efforts. We have the New Testament and that reveals to us the divine creed—Jesus Christ. And surely that is sufficient.—Thomas Hagger.

## Here and There

W. Gale, the Victorian agent, desires to express appreciation for an anonymous gift of £10 left at the office during the week for the funds of the Preachers' Provident Fund. This amount has been sent through to the committee in Sydney.

In an intensive campaign Australians are being told in press and over the radio that money must not be spent on things which can be done without. People are urged to save now so that when the war is over the money saved will provide the nest egg needed for the difficult period of transition from war back to a peace-time footing.

F. T. Saunders reports good interest in the Post-War Stabilisation Fund of the Federal College of the Bible for which members are forwarding war savings certificates. One young lady last week sent an encouraging contribution of ten £1 certificates. On maturity these bonds will prove very acceptable additions to the college funds.

We regret to learn that Mrs. J. Methven, sen., wife of the preacher of Warrnambool circuit, Vic., became seriously ill and had to undergo an operation in hospital on Thursday, April 30. Last advice was that she was making progress. J. Methven, preacher of Prahran church, conducted services at Warrnambool in place of his father last Sunday.

Readers are reminded of the citizens' intercessory meetings which are held each Wednesday from 12.30 to 1.50 p.m. in the Melbourne Town Hall. The services are for the purpose of intercession, confession, praise and thanksgiving, and are under the combined auspices of the Days of Prayer Council, the Council of Churches and the Campaigners for Christ.

On May 10 our Sydney brethren will be heard over 2CH on three occasions. At 4.30 p.m. Ira Paternoster will speak on aborigines work. At 5.40 p.m. A. C. MacLean will conduct a service designed to help the "shut-ins." At 7.10 p.m. Roy Greenhalgh will preach in a service commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the work at Paddington. Our N.S.W. brotherhood contributes £50 annually toward the support of the station 2CH, whose licence is held by the N.S.W. Council of Churches.

Mrs. Alice Hegan Rice, author of "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," passed away in February, according to a report in the "British Weekly," Feb. 19. Mrs. Rice died at her home in Kentucky at the age of seventy-two. "The Cabbage Patch really exists," Sir Ernest Hodder-Williams wrote after a visit to Kentucky, U.S.A. "Anyone in Louisville, Kentucky, will direct you to 'Mrs. Wiggs' home." Although Mrs. Rice thought he might be disappointed in the place, he was not. "I was rather delighted than disappointed to find how nearly the actual place corresponds to the picture formed in the mind of a reader of her books. She has indeed written from life, the life that lay at her door."

In a personal letter from Ikau, Belgian Congo, Africa, R. J. Manning, formerly of South Australia, writes: "The people from up river who are going for holidays are now here, and will be leaving us in just under a fortnight. Now I expect we will have a solid three months on the station on our own until the present school term ends and the Halls come back, when we will have opportunity of getting out again. The old truck did wonderfully well, and we didn't have a spot of trouble with it. Continue to pray for us and for the native church. Our day of opportunity may soon be ended; the day of grace itself may soon draw to its close. We are thankful for every opportunity that is ours, and pray that we may use it fully for his glory."

Major A. E. Sagers, who was secretary of Subiaco church (W.A.) prior to his enlistment, has been commended by Lt-General Bennett for "showing great qualities as a leader in a difficult situation." At the time of Lt-General Bennett's departure from Singapore, Major Sagers was well.

### Queensland Farewells Mr. and Mrs. Burdeu

APPROXIMATELY 120 guests assembled at the Hotel Canberra, Brisbane, on May 1 to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Burdeu, who for nine years have given of themselves unstintingly in conference duties with the churches of Christ in Queensland. The function was presided over by the conference president, P. C. D. Alcorn, B.A. Vocal items were rendered by Misses L. Elliott (solo), M. Haig and M. Price (duet), V. Packer (elocutionary).

The Brisbane Men's Christian Club was represented by F. Cross and Mr. Evans, the Women's Conference by the president, Mrs. W. A. C. Wendorf. On behalf of the executive and metropolitan sisters of the church, Mrs. Wendorf presented a beautiful pendant to Mrs. Burdeu. Memories of the days when C. R. Burdeu was conference president were revived by the screening of a film of the conference session over which he presided. The churches of Christ brotherhood was represented by Chaplain Allen Brooke. Mr. Burdeu had earned confidence and inspired all by his indefatigable service as secretary of conference, conference president, member of the conference Home Missions Committee, Preacher Placement and Advisory Board, and as the originator of social service work. Above everything Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Burdeu "loved the brotherhood." Speaking for the Social Service Committee T. A. Fergusson emphasised the worth of Mr. Burdeu.

The conference president, P. C. D. Alcorn, made a presentation of an illuminated address, stating the churches as far north as Charters Towers and Townsville and as far west as Roma had shared in the function by their greetings and contributions.

Responding, Mr. Burdeu stated that he loved the Queensland churches. With their plea for Christian unity, they had a glorious opportunity.

The function concluded with prayer led by the conference secretary, H. E. Greenwood.

### N.S.W. Contacting Brethren in U.S.A. Army

THREE of our preachers have been seeking to contact members of the churches of Christ among the American military forces in New South Wales. From the chaplains interviewed they have received courteous receptions, and assurances of help where possible. The contacting of individual members of churches is difficult because there is no division into church groups, as is the custom in Australia. The classifications are Hebrew, Protestant and Roman Catholic. It seems that the first contacts will have to be made by those men who are interested enough to make themselves known.

#### Temperance Alliance

The New South Wales Temperance Alliance has been aggressively pressing the matter of liquor control on the authorities concerned. A deputation waited upon the Railway Commissioner, placing before him facts of the evils arising out of the sale of liquor on trains, and urging that such sales be discontinued. Action has been taken and the practice ended.

A deputation also waited upon the Minister for Justice protesting against any attempt being made to alter the hours for the sale of liquor. No alteration is being made.

#### R.C. Question to be Discussed

A great public meeting was convened for Tuesday, May 5, in the Assembly Hall, Sydney, with Canon T. C. Hammond and R. J. Williams, of the Ashfield Methodist church, as speakers; three arresting subjects of current interest to be discussed: (1) Japan and the Vatican; (2) Appointment of disproportionate numbers of Roman Catholics to the Public Service; (3) Responsibility for the breaking down of the Lord's day. We shall be waiting with interest for the outcome of this meeting. While we are defending our national rights, we must be on the alert to see that our religious liberties are safeguarded.

#### Two New Church Buildings

For many years the church at Kurri Kurri, on the northern coalfields, has been meeting in a rented hall. The congregation had procured land and was waiting an opportunity to build a meeting place of their own. The dream of years is now being realised, the erection of the building being now in progress. It is the hope of the church that at the conclusion of the Hinrichsen mission a preacher will be located in the district.

The second building is to be erected at Loftus Park, where the present inadequate meeting place will be used as a school hall. It is encouraging to see these two small congregations making such fine progress.

#### Youth Department's Jubilee

The Young People's Department this year celebrates its golden jubilee. The commemoration celebrations will take place in May. Two central meetings will be held, one in the Pitt-st. Congregational church, the other in the City Temple. When the history of the achievements of the past fifty years has been written it will prove to be a romantic story. From insignificant beginnings it has grown into an immense and important work.—Ethelbert Davis.

### Gifts for Mother's Day

Promise Boxes: Scripture promises on slips of rolled paper, packed into dainty boxes, various colors. 2/6, 3/3, 4/6.  
Stand Texts and Verse Cards, covered with cellophane, 1/-, 1/6, 2/-, 2/3. Xylonite, 2/6.  
Blotters with bright picture on cover and suitable verse, 8 x 5, 1/3.  
Mother's Day Plaques: Suitable wordings, strong metal back and stand. 1/9.  
Greeting Cards from 1d. non-folding, and 1½d. folding.  
Other Suggestions: Nicely bound Bibles, New Testaments, Hymn Books, Daily Readings, Poems, Devotional and Bible Study Books, Framed Texts, etc.

**KESWICK BOOK DEPOT**  
315 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

#### COMING EVENTS

MAY 23 (Saturday).—Annual meeting of Victorian Churches of Christ Girls' Fellowship, at Lygon-st. church hall. Buffet luncheon, 1.30 p.m. Meeting, 2.45 p.m. Miss A. Kirkwood, of Presbyterian church, will be speaker. All members invited to attend.

**85th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY**  
CHELTENHAM, VICTORIA.

LORD'S DAY, MAY 31.

11 a.m., Mr. A. W. Stephenson, M.A., President of Conference.

3 p.m., Back to Bible School.

5 p.m., Reunion Fellowship Tea.

7 p.m., Mr. J. Ernest Allan.

Past members invited home for this historic occasion.

# News of the Churches

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Perth.**—On morning of April 26 Noel Wood was welcomed into membership. J. Wiltshire exhorted. At 4 p.m. Frank Clarke read the scripture lesson and Miss E. Griffiths rendered a solo. Mr. Wiltshire gave a stirring message. Afterwards, in a broadcast address, he answered a listener's question, "Does God Answer Prayer?"

## TASMANIA

**Devonport.**—On April 12 F. Burtl spoke morning and night. On April 18 Audrey Burtl was married to Stan. Bruton, returned with A.I.F. from abroad. On April 19 Colin Thomas spoke to the church on his work in India. At 4 o'clock he gave an interesting lantern lecture on their mission work. Gospel meetings are to be held at 4 p.m. for winter months. Sister Kingshot was welcomed back after two months at Hobart, Sisters Hutson and Knight after weeks away from the district. On April 26 Mr. Burtl gave the morning message and spoke at afternoon meeting.

## QUEENSLAND

**Monkland.**—A large gathering bade farewell to G. Dunn on April 21, when a Moffatt Testament and a soldier's stationery wallet were presented to him. Platform furniture has recently been renovated.

**Roma.**—All meetings during last week of the mission conducted by H. C. Spratt were well attended. There were five further confessions, a married woman and four young people from the Bible school, together with several for re-consecration. A thankoffering was taken and about £10 contributed.

**Gympie.**—At night on April 19 A. J. Fisher conducted a "hymn service," based upon "Nearer, my God, to thee." J.C.E. observed egg day, making a gift to local hospital. A united Anzac Day service was held in the town hall, the address being delivered by J. Fisher. E. R. Crane was welcomed home on leave from Tobruk, etc., on April 26.

**Brisbane (Ann-st.).**—Mr. Brooke has been appointed resident chaplain at Greenslopes military hospital, but is continuing leadership of the church and is preaching on Sundays. Good services were held on May 3, with 180 communicants. Miss Linda Elliott was evening soloist. Gordon Feeney, returned with the A.I.F. from overseas, was enthusiastically welcomed.

**Kedron.**—Cyril Williams was set apart to the work in the northern suburbs circuit at a meeting on April 22, H. G. Payne giving the charge to circuit churches and the preacher. There being no Labor Day holiday, the Bible school had a picnic on afternoon of May 2 in Mr. Sell's paddock at Gordon Park. All single men of the church who are eligible are now in uniform.

**Rockhampton.**—Miss Caldicott's visit extending from April 15 to 21 was much appreciated by the church. During her stay she addressed prayer meeting, Ladies' Guild, Endeavor, Bible school, church and gospel meeting. On morning of April 26, at conclusion of Mr. Vanham's address, 21 adults came forward for re-consecration. One made the good confession in evening service, Mr. Vanham preaching. The month of May is set aside for revival.

**Maryborough.**—At morning meeting on Apr. 12 V. Dallinger gave an interesting report of Queensland conference. He conducted a well-attended meeting at Aramara on April 19. Meetings continue to be held fortnightly at Urraween, and attendances are improving. Miss Caldicott addressed Women's Mission Band on

April 28, and gave an interesting lantern lecture on India in the evening. A social evening organised by Y.P. Society was held for those of R.A.A.F. and military encampment.

**Annerley.**—Mr. Greenwood has been appointed Bible school superintendent and T. Taverner assistant. The church is planning to provide Sunday fellowship teas for men of the fighting services. V. Schultz gave an appreciated address at a recent midweek service. Pre-Pentecost services are being arranged. Mr. and Mrs. Cardew have removed from the district. J. Rogers has had to relinquish supervision of Bible school owing to war duties. All three have given valuable service and will be greatly missed.

**Albion.**—A farewell gathering on April 29 paid tribute to Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Burdeu on their departure to Perth, W.A. Mr. Burdeu has served as Bible school superintendent, Young Men's Club leader, deacon and preacher; Mrs. Burdeu, as social worker and women's mission organiser. Presentations, and many expressions of gratitude for cheerful service, gracefully and efficiently rendered, were made. Their going after nearly nine years will leave Albion poorer for their absence, richer for their fellowship. Mrs. Burdeu was honored on April 30 by the members of the Women's Mission Band. H. G. Payne has ministered faithfully for last two months. H. C. Spratt will be preacher for the month of May. All meetings are well attended.

**Bundaberg.**—Morning meetings and gospel services are well attended. Men of the Air Force attend gospel services, and the confession of one of these was taken. There have been five confessions and two reconsecrations. Herb. Cross and Irene Pohle were received into fellowship by faith and baptism during broadcast service on April 26, when L. Larsen delivered his farewell address over the air. His farewell gospel message was inspiring. Soloists for both services were Mavis Deoberitz, Beryl Higgins and Will Deoberitz. On April 28 the church bade farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Larsen. By their express wish no presentations were made, as the present circumstances caused by the war are having a great effect on the church. All young men over 18, and some of the older men, are in camp. A successor to Mr. Larsen is being sought.

**South Brisbane Circuit.**—During Mr. Kirkwood's absence in Sydney, Mr. Beckett and Mr. Smith were speakers at Moorooka. Mr. Smith's gospel address on April 19 was appreciated by a splendid congregation. Young people held monthly fellowship tea, John College, of Albion Baptist church, giving the talk. On April 26 Mr. Clare was speaker at Moorooka in evening and Mr. Kirkwood at Sunnybank. There was a fine congregation for gospel service, Mr. Kirkwood giving a powerful address. Messrs. Winks, Levie and Key, of the American forces, are attending the meetings. Mr. and Mrs. Barber and family were welcomed to Sunnybank from Bardon. Afternoon service at Rocklea was conducted on May 3 by Bruce More and Gordon Clare, the former preaching; these young men are training under Mr. Kirkwood. Mrs. A. W. Dillon was elected president of Women's Guild, Mrs. Caldwell vice-president, Mrs. A. More secretary, Mrs. Tesmer treasurer. The church regrets possible loss of W. Finger, who is being called into camp, and sympathises with Mr. Kirkwood in the serious illness of his sisters, Mabel and Norma, owing to a car accident over Bulli Pass, N.S.W., also with Arthur Renshaw, injured whilst at work. Mr. Kirkwood has been appointed to give religious instruction to four of the schools in the South Brisbane circuit. Aged Sister Hoffman has recovered from illness.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Whyalla.**—On April 26 J. E. Shipway, preacher of Nailsworth church, spoke at both services to good attendances. At midweek prayer meeting a gift of a silver cake stand was presented to Mr. and Mrs. D. G. Grundy, who were recently married.

**Gawler.**—In connection with Youth Week a meeting was held on April 29. Several Sunday school scholars took part. On May 3 the theme throughout the day was "Youth." Theo. Edwards spoke at both services. Owing to influenza among Sunday school scholars, the evening programme was abridged.

**Mile End.**—Work has maintained a high spiritual tone, with very fair attendances. Three weeks ago one young lad made the great decision, and a fortnight ago three more took their stand for Christ, and a young lad confessed Christ last Sunday night after a stirring address by G. T. Fitzgerald. All are from the Bible school.

**Naracoorte.**—On April 26 A. C. Killmier was speaker at both services, also at monthly meeting at Edenhope. At close of this meeting Mr. and Mrs. Bolwell, who are leaving the district, were farewelled. Mr. and Mrs. Hanford, who are now living in the district, intend taking up membership. Interest continues in all branches of the work.

**Hindmarsh.**—On May 3 there was a fair attendance at morning service. Wm. L. Ewers was the speaker. The annual offering for Bible School Department was between £7 and £8. Gospel service in afternoon took the form of a youth service, young men from school taking part. Mr. Ewers gave an address. Colin Crispe has returned from overseas. Last Sunday's offering in Bible school for Children's Hospital, Minda and Morialta Homes was over £2.

**Ungarra.**—A. Jones was married to Miss F. Branford, of Tumbay Bay. Mr. Newell has visited Port Lincoln twice since last report for visitation and preaching. Another £3/10/- has been forwarded to the church at Whyalla. Several have been received into the church by baptism and letters of transfer. All church services and C.E. meetings are confined to Sundays owing to petrol rationing. The church is glad to hear that Mr. Newell's sister-in-law is making her home at Ungarra.

**Prospect.**—Youth services were conducted last week. Endeavorers assisted midweek service. A young people's social was well attended on Saturday evening. C. Schwab exhorted morning service on Sunday. Mr. Allbright conducted afternoon and evening services on behalf of S.A. Alliance. A collection for the Alliance was taken at night (£2/12/-). A delightful solo was rendered by Miss Growbridge. Offering for Bible schools was £6/10/3, and a donation of 10/- for Whyalla school was received.

**Nailsworth.**—Ira Durdin and H. R. Taylor acceptably conducted services on April 26, Mr. Shipway being at Whyalla. Mr. Griffiths, returned from Palestine, gave an interesting address to C.E. Mr. Shipway spoke in interests of youth on May 3. Young people assisted in evening. Mr. Pederick, of Enfield Methodist church, brought a stimulating address at tea hour fellowship. Ladies' Guild is doing good work in assisting hospital needs. J. Moore, from overseas, was present at evening service.

**Moonta.**—E. F. Derbyshire, of B. and F. Bible Society, exhorted on March 29. A farewell social was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Atwell and family on April 3. Appreciation for approximately 25 years of service was expressed, and each was the recipient of a gift. A. Doley and D. J. Lawrie conducted services during April with one exception. S. Wilton spoke at gospel service on April 26. Sisters A. Doley, Bridges, Boyle and Mr. A. Doley have been sick. Members are grateful to Kadina brethren for releasing their preacher for periodical visiting.

York.—Garfield Rootes commenced his ministry with the church on April 19. A welcome social was held on April 20. Addresses of welcome were given by F. Collins for Preachers' Placement Committee, Mr. Houston for Flinders Park, Mr. Magor for Port Line group of churches, H. J. Horsell for church and E. J. Harding for Bible school and auxiliaries. Suitable replies were made by Mr. and Mrs. Rootes. Mr. and Mrs. E. Mossop have been received from the church at Flinders Park. Gospel meetings are now held at 4 p.m. with good results. There are good attendances at all meetings.

Unley.—On April 26 the Sunday school held a prize-giving afternoon. Films depicting the work of the Children's Hospital proved interesting. Offering of £6/3/- for various charities was a 40 per cent. increase on last year. On May 3 Mr. Nankivell spoke both morning and evening. Evening meeting was a youth service, intermediate and senior sections of Sunday school forming the choir, also a male quartette, and one of the young men presided. Soldiers from the near-by camp continue to attend the meetings and enjoy the after-church singing. About 30 men in uniform attended an evening organised by the girls of the Torch Club last week. Ladies' Mission Band held a gift afternoon, instead of usual social evening; contributions received to date total £9/7/9. Intermediate and Young People's Societies took the service at Myrtle Bank Soldiers' Home at 5.45 on Sunday.

Maylands.—After 27 years as officer of the church A. W. Du Rieu resigned from the official board, and at the recent business meeting the church placed on record its appreciation of his valuable service. Interest during past month has been excellent, and the addresses of Keith Jones a help and inspiration. Services on April 26 commenced with a sunrise prayer meeting, the commencement of Youth Week. Morning service was a dedicatory one for teachers and officers of Bible school. In the evening three young men from C.E. Society addressed the meeting. A choir of young people helped. Two young people were baptised. On April 28 a social was tendered to parents of Bible school scholars by the teachers. May 3 was Bible school day. Mr. Jones addressed both meetings, and offering for Bible School Department showed a considerable advance on last year's. In the afternoon the Bible school had annual prize-giving and distribution of certificates.

## VICTORIA

Hampton.—C. G. Taylor spoke to good audiences on May 3. Offering for Y.P. Department was £11/10/-. Bible class members were entertained at tea at the home of one of the leaders.

Footscray.—D. C. Ritchie commenced a series of book sermons on May 3. Two baptisms followed gospel meeting. A working bee was held on May 2 for cleaning up chapel grounds and blacking out the building.

Bendigo.—A vote on the question of altering time of Sunday evening services resulted in no change being made. R. G. Perl has been appointed building fund steward following Mr. McPherson's joining the R.A.A.F.

Newmarket.—On April 26 Mr. Graham addressed both meetings, when young people took part. Soloist was Miss Joan Sullivan. On May 2 Ken Barton, of the College of the Bible, addressed morning meeting and Mr. Graham the gospel service; Miss E. Kimpton was soloist.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—The fifth anniversary of the Bible class was celebrated on May 3 at afternoon and evening services. Mr. Hibbert and Mr. Ennis were the speakers, and their messages were much appreciated. Miss Ella Johnston and Mr. Neil McCann were soloists. Many men in uniform were at services and guests of the class to tea.

Hawthorn.—T. H. Scambler concluded his ministry on May 3, and a fellowship tea was held in the school hall to bid farewell to him and Mrs. Scambler. At gospel service reference was made to Youth Day, and a number of young people attended. Miss Frances Cowper was soloist.

Hamilton.—Mr. Hargreaves preached on evening of April 26. Attendances maintain a fair average despite most of the men being away. Blacking out of chapel has been completed. Evening services are held at same time as formerly. Endeavorers hold meetings in members' homes.

Fitzroy.—Good meetings were held May 3. Young People's Day was held. Mr. Kane, of the College of the Bible, was speaker; his addresses were much enjoyed. Bible school scholars helped in the evening meeting. Miss G. Kerr sang an enjoyable solo. Many visitors were present.

Echuca.—On April 26 Mr. Thurrowgood spoke at both services; attendances were good. The church has welcomed home T. Turner on leave from Middle East. On May 3 Lionel Dudley gave an appreciated address in the morning. Mr. Thurrowgood delivered a fine address at evening service.

Preston.—Half-yearly business meeting was held on Apr. 30, at which Messrs. Foster, F. Payne and S. W. Taylor were elected deacons, Mesdames Reddan and P. Scott deaconesses. Y.W.L. is conducting a rally. Mr. Mathieson spoke at both services on May 3. At gospel service Mrs. Libbis rendered a solo.

Wangaratta.—Mrs. J. Whittaker, Mrs. Dagger and Mrs. Crawford have been able to go home from hospital. On April 26 the young people responded well for roll-call of auxiliaries, almost filling centre seats of chapel. C.E., Y.W. League, Bible schools, girls' physical culture class and tennis club responded with verse of scripture when called upon.

Frankston.—During past month visiting speakers were Mr. Horne, of Solomon Islands, R. Saunders and R. Hillbrick. J. K. Bond was speaker at all other services. A soldier made the good confession and was baptised on the eve of departure for active service. A youth service was held on May 3. Senior scholars took part. Mr. Bond preached. A man confessed Christ.

East Kew.—Mr. Pigdon, of Mont Albert, on May 3 gave a challenging message to youth. At gospel service a young people's choir rendered songs and three young people gave talks. There was one reconsecration in response to Mr. Candy's appeal. Mr. and Mrs. Candy commenced their second year of ministry with the church. Happy and profitable fellowship has been enjoyed.

Kaniva.—Gordon Sanders and Miss Nina Coutts were married in the chapel on Apr. 29. Mr. Earle officiating. G. B. White passed away peacefully May 2. Kaniva S.S. anniversary services were held on May 3. Attendances were good, singing helpful, and interesting addresses were given by Mr. Earle. At evening service two young ladies made the good confession. Y.P. offering to date is £11.

Oakleigh.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on May 3, when S. Neighbour gave challenging addresses. 115 members broke bread for the day, and many visitors were at gospel service. L. Mudge and S. McGregor, returned from overseas service, have had fellowship with the church recently. Mr. Neighbour is sending a bi-monthly news-letter to men of the church who are serving with the forces.

Doncaster.—On morning of April 26 Mr. Banks and Mr. Webb, of Hartwell, exchanged platforms. In connection with Youth Week young people of church and Bible classes met for tea on evening on April 26. Mr. Huntsman (president of Y.P. Department) gave an outline of the work of that body. Mr. Ward, of Prahran, gave a talk on life in young people's camps.

Community singing was led by F. Elliott, of East Kew.

Burnley.—On April 25 Mr. D. Klimas and Miss M. Cunningham were married, Mr. McIlhagger officiating. The church held a social in their honor and made a presentation. Bible school has lost its superintendent, Mr. Cunningham, who has been called for military service. On April 26 Mr. Crisp exchanged with Mr. Burns, of Bayswater. At close of gospel service on May 3 a young lady made the good confession and Mr. R. Smalley was baptised.

Mildura.—Services on May 3 were conducted by J. Lewis. At gospel services Mr. Lewis is conducting a series of addresses on the early church and the Restoration Movement. It has been decided to blackout the church building, and gospel services will commence at 7 p.m. on Sunday next. Sunday school attendances continue to improve. On April 2 the Girls' Fellowship had a talk by Miss Aumann, late of Korea, on mission work in that country.

Newport.—Attendances are improving. Evening meetings are now held at 4 p.m. One made the good confession on April 19 and one on April 26, both being baptised at Footscray on April 26. On April 29 the C.E. invited Endeavorers from Footscray and Williamstown. Mr. Candy, of East Kew, was speaker. Supper and discussion on subject of address closed the evening. Thanks were extended to the secretary, Mrs. Rowbottom, who organised the function.

Coburg.—May 3 was 23rd anniversary of the church. Many past members came back for the day, and others sent greetings. The conference president, A. W. Stephenson, addressed morning meeting, when 120 broke bread. At 5.30 p.m. A. White spoke to 56 young folk who were at the tea sponsored by the youth council. W. Wakefield gave the address at the well attended gospel service, during which special vocal items were given. Thankoffering amounted to £48.

Horsham.—On April 26 attendance at Bible school was 119. Prior to gospel service five were baptised. 30 were present at C.E. service at night. On April 28 a complimentary evening was given by the church to J. Butler on his retirement from office as deacon. His preaching service dates back to the early days of Polkemmet church. He was the recipient of a wallet of notes and Mrs. Butler a vase. A kitchen tea was tendered to Ella Mackley and Ray Fitzsimmons.

West Preston.—Splendid services were held on May 3. Mr. Bethune addressed morning service and W. A. Wigney delivered the gospel message. Prior to their marriage on May 2 a kitchen tea was tendered Miss Green and Mr. J. Berry on May 1, when nearly 100 members of the church and friends gathered. Special reference was made by W. A. Wigney to the service rendered by these young people. Presentations were made on behalf of Bible school, choir and Girls' Club.

Melbourne (Swanston-st.).—On May 3 A. A. Hughes conducted both services, which were specially associated with Young People's Sunday. Lessons were read by Warren Goldsworthy and Ron McMaster at morning service, Max Mitchell in the evening. These three represented the fourth generation of their families. Dorcas Society continues active and regular in service. At Women's Mission Band meeting the address was given by Mrs. Turner, president of Women's Conference.

Essendon.—W. E. Jackel spoke at both meetings on April 26. A bright service was held in evening, when ladies of church formed a choir and rendered special items. May 3 was first Sunday of Bible school anniversary, the building being crowded both afternoon and evening. Special singing by scholars under baton of A. W. Stevens was enjoyed. Excellent messages were given by T. Hagger, of Gardiner, and W. E. Jackel. At morning service a dedication of Bible school teachers was held.

**Montrose.**—On April 25 a social tea was held to which residents of the district were invited, after which a programme of musical items and community singing was presented. Principal T. H. Scambler then gave a fine address on Christian unity. About 50 people attended the meetings. On April 26 the Sunday school anniversary was held with fine meetings. A. White at the children's afternoon service gave a fine talk. In the evening Mr. Goldsworthy was the speaker. He is doing much visiting in the district.

**Ormond.**—On April 26 C. L. Lang gave good addresses. Meetings are well attended. At prayer meetings Mr. Lang's talks are enjoyed. On evening of April 28 he gave an illustrated lantern lecture in aid of Ladies' Aid £50 fund. The building was full and the lecture enjoyed. On this evening Sister P. Knee received a present on the eve of her marriage. On May 3 Mr. Lang gave helpful messages. Visitors are coming to gospel meetings. Sympathy of members goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Blackwell and family in the passing of Mr. Blackwell's mother.

**South Richmond.**—On May 3 the church celebrated 42nd anniversary as a homecoming for past members. Mr. Pratt and G. Andrews delivered excellent addresses at morning and afternoon meetings respectively. Evening meeting was very well attended, and at close of Mr. Coles' address a senior girl from the Sunday school made the good confession. Mr. Whittington, from Gardiner, delighted with two messages in song. Officers and members greatly appreciated the gesture of the Ladies' Sunshine Circle, who presented the church with a beautiful communion table.

**Box Hill.**—M. McCreddan and T. Pritchard have returned from service overseas. After holding gospel service in school hall for several weeks, the chapel has been made to conform to brownout regulations and services resumed there. On May 3 church anniversary services were held; L. Williams and Principal Scambler were speakers morning and afternoon, and H. A. G. Clark at gospel service. A social evening was tendered to E. Salisbury and Emily Bevan prior to their wedding on May 2, at which S. R. Baker officiated. Mrs. F. Williams, sen., is in hospital and recovering.

**Prahran.**—On April 19 young people conducted evening service, telling of camping experiences in reading and song. One young man was baptised who was welcomed into fellowship the following Sunday. On April 26 speaker at both services was Mr. Methven. On May 2 Youth Department held a social when 100 young people enjoyed the evening. On May 3, in absence of J. Methven, whose mother underwent a serious operation at Warrnambool, Alan Thomas addressed the church. Evening speaker was R. Geyer. Afterwards the young people conducted a C.E. meeting at Sandringham Baptist church.

**Cheltenham.**—Morning meetings for month were good, and evening meetings showed improvement. Guest Home benefited by a fine assortment of goods from harvest festival on April 26. Youth Day was observed by special service, Bible school taking part. The church welcomed E. G. Allan and several comrades back from Middle East. Sympathy was expressed to Mrs. I James (nee L. Keir) whose husband died on active service. During the month Mary Roberts was married to Len Humphreys and W. Crittle to Miss C. Britter. J. E. Allan concludes his ministry with the church on June 7.

**Black Rock.**—Bible school anniversary services were held on April 19 and 26. Appreciated talks were given by Messrs. Brooker, Morris and Mathieson. Meetings were well attended, and scholars gave their best under leadership of Mr. Baker. Ladies' Guild reports good meetings and interest. An organ has been donated to church officers by the guild, result of special "Talent Fund" and donations. On April 27 church officers con-

ducted C.E. meeting. The J.C.E. is having a drive for new members. One member has been received into church membership by transfer from Ascot Vale.

**Reservoir.**—The special series of gospel services concluded on May 3 with a great youth meeting. Several young people took part. Pearl McInnes gave the children's talk, Hazel Stevenson a scripture recital, and Betty McInnes sang a solo. Anthems were rendered by a young people's choir with Dorothy Trathen at the organ; Keith Newstead gave the notices. A splendid message was given by Grenville Hing. The young people also took a leading part at morning service, when Mr. Grainger gave the message. Great interest is shown in ladies' first aid class which meets every Thursday at 3 p.m. under leadership of Mrs. Mills.

**Malvern-Caulfield.**—Since F. E. Buckingham's return, following his illness, progress has been made. Gospel meetings, now begun at 4 p.m., have proved successful. Mr. Buckingham and a band of helpers are striving to visit every home within half mile of the chapel once every week with literature and an invitation to meetings. The preacher is giving a special series of addresses. Good audiences include a number of local resident non-members. During past three Sundays four adults have confessed Christ. The choir is giving great help. Women's department on April 28 visited the Guest Home and provided a helpful and appreciated afternoon's entertainment. Sunday school is in a healthy condition. Finances are satisfactory.

**NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Enmore.**—On morning of May 3 ten new members were welcomed—eight by baptism and two as baptised believers. W. H. Argue and V. Darlington are both ill.

**Taree.**—There were helpful services on Apr. 26. At evening service members of the local V.D.C. were in attendance. A. G. Saunders gave an address in keeping with Anzac day.

**Mosman.**—At morning meeting on May 3 Mr. Burns spoke on home missions. He also preached at night. 68 members broke bread for the day. The first aid class commenced with an attendance of over 30.

**Paddington.**—On May 3 the attendance was good at morning service. P. Retchford gave a fine address. There was an increased attendance at Bible school. Mr. Greenhalgh spoke well at gospel service; at the close a young woman was immersed.

**Rockdale.**—On April 26 Mr. Hunting exhorted the church. Three were received by transfer. At night Mr. Hinrichsen gave a stirring address. On May 3 Mr. Hinrichsen spoke morning and evening to good congregations. Fellowship with several young men in the fighting forces was enjoyed.

**Chatswood.**—Excellent attendances and fine spirit marked anniversary of the church on May 3. There were visitors from other States, also brethren returned from active service. Mr. Youens preached at night, when visiting soloist was Miss Middleton. There were two baptisms and one confession. The choir rendered excellent items morning and evening.

**Georgetown.**—On afternoon of May 2 the church celebrated second anniversary. A solo was rendered by Mr. Morris, and E. C. Hinrichsen gave the message. Tea was served. At night the choir, soloist and quartette took part. E. C. Hinrichsen delivered an inspiring address. On May 3 Mr. Amos gave the morning address. At night the final anniversary service was conducted by Mr. Amos.

**Lidcombe.**—J. Henderson has commenced his ministry with the church. Attendance at the Lord's Table has increased. Mr. Henderson's evening messages have been appreciated. On April 28 a basket social was tendered Mr. Henderson, when about 80 people had an enjoyable time. A mission commences on May 31 with A. Hinrichsen missionary. Bible school

anniversary was held on May 3, T. V. Weir being the speaker.

**Marrickville.**—At evening service on Apr. 26 two young men confessed Christ and a lady rededicated her life. Church anniversary services were held on May 3. Attendances were excellent. Dr. A. C. Crisp, former preacher of the church for 13 years, gave an appreciated address in the morning. Fellowship with many former members was enjoyed. Bible class tea in afternoon, with about 80 present, was a happy function. Miss Violet Wakely, recently returned from the New Hebrides, was speaker. The evening service was a memorable occasion, many young people taking part. At the close of Mr. Thomas' address one young lady confessed Christ.

**Broken Hill (Wolfram-st.).**—On April 19 J. Cremer gave a good address. At an Anzac service at night Mr. Brooke gave a splendid address. The returned soldiers of Broken Hill were present, the choir rendered special music, and Mrs. S. Reed a solo. A. Clarke gave morning message at Railwaytown. On April 26 J. E. Brooke spoke to the church. There was a good congregation again at gospel service, when Mr. Brooke gave another inspiring address. Several visitors were present. Fellowship has been enjoyed with Mrs. Oakes, of Merbein, Vic. C.E. society visited the Old Folks' Home and gave an appreciated musical evening. J. N. Gray gave the talk.

**SILVER WEDDING**

**SYMES-JONES.**—On May 9, 1927, at Harcourt, by Mr. H. M. Clipstone, Gladys Edith, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Jones, to William, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Symes. Present address, 13 McMillan-ave., Geelong.

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## Small Plants that Need Watering

### NEW HEBRIDES

MISS M. CLIPSTONE will now be in her home district of Kaniva. She will probably remain there until she takes part in deputation work among the Victorian churches in June.

Miss V. Wakely will take a further nursing course in New South Wales and will also be able to visit some churches in that State.

Mr. and Mrs. Hammer are filling the pastorate at Tumbly Bay, South Australia. They have settled in nicely, but are very disappointed that they cannot return immediately to their island work.

The work has made such progress that it is felt that it can carry on for a period without our missionaries. As the old environment remains they will have many temptations to face. The greatest weaknesses will be lack of spiritual oversight, closing of the training class which was making splendid progress, and the medical work which was proving of such value to the people. The figures as supplied to the government agent July 1-December 31, 1941, show that 1842 treatments were given, with an additional 278 injections for yaws ulcers. Four children were born at the mission. The agent expressed pleasure and satisfaction of the work done, and stated that if a hospital were established, there was a distinct possibility that the government would supply a fully trained island doctor (probably from Fiji) and subsidise the work.

The new teacher, Abel Barney, has been left in charge of the work, and is reported to be doing a building-up work. He is spiritually minded and a good organiser. Writing to the Board after the departure of the nurses he says: "We hope to write a few lines to you; the two sisters here with us in the mission field, Miss Clipstone and Miss Wakely, told us the government sent her letter and called them to go home in Australia very soon. They told us this word, but we are very very sorry because they help us with much in the gospel, and in the medicine. We say, thank you very much for the two sisters, and the work of gospel are going on well, but we want the two sisters to be back soon. How can we live well because this sad time now? We want you please to write us sometime and tell us what to do. God be with you all, and until we meet again. Good-bye for this time. Your brother in Christ." We trust that some of our brethren, C.E. societies, etc., will write Abel a line sometimes that the brethren might be encouraged. Abel, it will be recalled, lost his wife at Christmas time. In saying good-bye to the nurses, he said, "My heart he still very sore, and now you leave. We are like small plants that need watering." Brethren, pray for these small plants, these babes in Christ, and ere long, we pray our workers will return to them. Letters to the teacher should be addressed: Mr. Abel Barney, Mission Station, Nduindui, Aoba, New Hebrides.

Our Endeavorers will be glad to know that the launch has been pulled up and is under cover. It has been painted, and the boys have promised to see that the hull is kept wet to prevent the seams from opening. Paint has also been sent down so that the newly-erected house can have another coat of paint.

### INDIA

SINCE air-mails have been suspended, our mails are more delayed than ever. We are thankful, however, that mails are getting through and can report that the work in India goes on as usual.

### Dhond Chapel

Dr. Oldfield informs us that they have been very busy in the hospital, and a good part of

his time has been taken up in supervising the new chapel. Materials have been hard to secure, causing many delays, and costs rose as time went on. It was expected that the building would be finished in time for the opening service at the end of March. Dr. Oldfield says the building "looks very well, and will be exceedingly useful to us." A great number of Christians have come to Dhond from other parts, and have helped increase the numbers attending the services.

### Interest in Gospel Message

From Dr. Oldfield's letter we quote: "While the world turns in agony, old values collapse, democracy is under fire, and economic foundations tremble" (to quote from the "Reader's Digest"), our work goes on. After all, the kingdom of God is a permanent one, and its work must proceed, whatever other kingdoms may fall. In these days there is a real interest in the gospel message, and the hearts of many are being turned to God. We realise how much the present conditions in Australia will interfere with the work so dear to us all, yet we thank God and take courage as we read of the wonderful response for foreign missions which even the conquered nations in Europe have given in recent days. We know that our Australian people will not be behind those of other nations even in this hour of crisis."

"We are planning to go to Panchgani for the hot season vacation. We would not like to go far away in the present state of affairs, and we shall be glad to be near the boys and probably have them live with us while we are at Panchgani, I shall be close enough to be able to visit the hospital, and so keep an eye on its activities through the hot weather vacation also."

### A Tribute

Indirectly we heard the following; its original source was Miss H. Wiltshire: "From Kedgaon we heard about a Christian doctor in Mhow whose name was Michael. An Indian Christian man in the ranks had testified to the Christian character of the doctor."

This department is conducted by A. Anderson, secretary of our Overseas Mission Board, 261 Magill-st., Tranmere, South Australia.

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## Social Service Notes and Comments

Will. H. Clay

### Committee Personnel

THE Victorian conference has elected Ron. Strongman, co-opted acting-treasurer for the latter half of last conference year, S. Neighbour and A. Griffiths to the 1942-43 committee. G. M. Mathieson, who has held a vice-president's office for three years, has been elected unopposed to the presidency of the committee. W. Graham, F. Funston and Mrs. C. Gill, vice-presidents, W. H. Clay, secretary, Ron. Strongman, treasurer, and S. Neighbour, chaplain of the Christian Guest Home, were also elected unopposed. The Women's Auxiliary appointed Mesdames C. Gill, J. L. Ward, Whittington and A. Perkins as their representatives. Miss Winnie Lee has succeeded Miss Rita Roberts as representative of the C.E. Committee. Miss Roberts has completed nine years of most helpful service. Twice in each year she has organised grocery days for the committee. The total value of the groceries received during the nine years exceeds £200.

The N.S.W. committee has re-elected R. Greenhalgh as its chairman, and T. P. Dale as secretary. These brethren have served these offices for a number of years, and have given abundant proof of their qualifications.

### The Christian Guest Home

The accommodation of the home is taxed to its utmost capacity, and many applications are in hand. At present there are 23 guests. A very valuable property has been transferred to the committee under special circumstances which involve a life obligation towards two sisters who need the shelter and comfort of the home. A proposal to erect a brick cottage on the grounds of the home cannot be proceeded with owing to national security regulations affecting new buildings. A commodious lock-up outbuilding 50 x 20 is nearing completion. This will meet a long-felt need for storage purposes and for firewood. The committee would be glad to hear from country members who could influence one or two trucks of firewood for the home. A fair price is offered.

### Social Service Benevolence

In spite of the demand for labor which many would say makes unemployment unnecessary and even a crime, there are still many folk on the bread-line. Bodies weakened by illness or old age cannot stand the strain of hours of toil. The following is a typical case: "We have been compelled to move to another house, as ours was damp. Both of us are far from well. We must now pay 15/6 rent, and this, with fuel almost unprocurable and so dear, make us afraid of the future as our pensions are all we have to live on. We are trusting God for all our needs." A cheque for £2 was sent. A reply of thanks was received, and regret was expressed that the appeal was necessary. "You have been so kind to us in the past." The writers are in their eighties.

### Social Service Women's Auxiliary

Each State committee has a women's auxiliary which is always on duty. Throughout the whole year each woman is at call to attend to all kinds of emergency needs. They visit homes and hospitals, interview mothers, take the oversight of children, supply the needs of the home, and lavish care upon the weak and needy. Food and clothes are always on hand, and at times help is given in cleaning up the home. The women usually defray their own expenses. Too little is known of this quiet Christian service which is going on continuously. There is no limelight about it. These women are keen to serve, and offer themselves for any social service task for the

brotherhood and sisterhood. All honor be to these fine women.

### Personal

All social questions and service committees heartily congratulate C. R. Burdeu upon his appointment to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Pensions and Child Endowment in W.A.

## Obituary

### Mrs. Margaret L. Morris

AT the great age of 91 years Mrs. M. L. Morris passed peacefully away on April 4, at the Christian Guest Home, Oakleigh. Mrs. Morris was baptised 72 years ago by G. L. Surber, at Lygon-st. chapel, and all through the years lived a sincere Christian life. Her long and honored association with the brotherhood was spent at Lygon-st., Prahran, North Fitzroy, North Richmond; and 38 years ago removed to Cheltenham, where she became a well-known and greatly honored citizen. Upon entering the Guest Home as its first guest, her membership was transferred to Oakleigh. Mrs. Morris was an ardent worker in women's auxiliaries, especially as a representative on the Women's Conference Executive. Her bright and kindly disposition, strong, independent character, and unswerving loyalty to Christ and his church in the face of great hardship and trouble, endeared her to a large circle of friends within and without the church. Her long Christian life was a wonderful contribution of sacrificial service. In the presence of many friends her remains were laid to rest in the Cheltenham cemetery by S. Neighbour, assisted by W. H. Clay and J. E. Allan.—J.E.A.

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