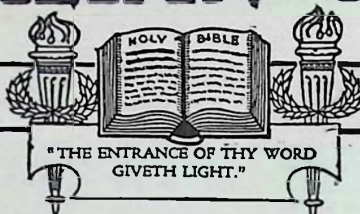


# The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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## We Need Great Preaching

III.

THOSE who have read any account of the conditions prevailing in France prior to the French Revolution are aware of the shocking state of affairs that existed then. Man's inhumanity to man accounted for much misery. To have changed the volcanic conditions of that society, it would have been necessary to have changed the nature of man. The only instrument at man's disposal to effect a change in human nature lies in the preaching of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I.

To relate the conditions producing the French Revolution with the preaching of the gospel is not a far stretch of the imagination. Because the gospel had not been presented effectively enough to change the nature of men; because the church had accustomed itself to the prevailing wretched standard of society and had become apathetic, an environment conducive to a revolution was allowed to develop.

We have been reminded that a similar state of affairs had been arising in Britain: the grounds for producing a bloody revolution had been well prepared by a self-interested society and an indifferent church. A revolution did occur, but no blood-stained sword was raised: there was a sword, yes, not the sword of man however, but the sword of the Spirit. John Wesley and his companions aroused sinful communities in town and country to their responsibilities toward God and man. The flood-tide of spiritual power released by their great preaching carried the nation to a level that raised it above the scourges of revolution.

Whatever some may say about religion in Russia to-day, we are likely to agree that fervent evangelistic preaching by the church of Czarist Russia might have changed conditions and produced a new order for the masses. Such a revolution might have effected changes without bloodshed and might have kept at bay the anti-God movements of Communism.

II.

Ought the church retrench and restrict its efforts, taking refuge in the suggestion

that the times are difficult! The church must perceive in the rising tide of paganism a deadly menace and an encroachment of the devil upon domains where righteousness once ruled. We seem to be allowing the proposed plans for a new world after the war to drug us into a sleep of indifference regarding the present. Surely we realise that the state of society and the nature of men's hearts at this moment will contribute toward the cause of events in the future! The best guarantee that the church can have that the world will be better after this war is to embark upon an intensive evangelistic campaign in each centre now.

Attack is the best form of defence. We have learnt that a strategy of defence which is based upon holding a line, ends in failure. We must plan to attack. The instrument now available for our use is found in great preaching; for great preaching presents "the Word of God" to sinful men. Of course we can point to many reasons why this may not be possible just now, but so could the church in France in days of old, and so could the church in Russia in more recent times. The times warn us that this is the precise moment to press on with the war against iniquity: unless we attack we shall fail.

### Show Me Thy Way

SHOW me thy way, O Lord,  
The certain path wherein my feet should tread;

Disperse the darkness, let thy light be shed  
Around my steps; let joyful thoughts of thee  
Within my heart make ceaseless melody—  
Show me thy way!

Show me thy way, O Lord;  
Amid the snares of time be thou my guide;  
Where in the hour of danger may I hide,  
Except beneath the shadow of thy wing?  
Lord, to thy steadfast Word I cling—  
Show me thy way!

Still higher let me rise;  
Out of earth's travail into heavenly rest,  
Made one with those who in thy love are blest,  
Who in immortal youth now dwell with thee—  
Glad in the light of thine eternity—  
Show me thy way! —J. I. Wright.

When there was great preaching, the church was great. Under the preaching of Paul the church grew in Europe. Martin Luther gathered common people and preached wholesome truths to them. As we have indicated, John Wesley aroused England by his stirring evangelism. It was Walter Scott's evangelistic preaching that swept many into the ranks of those who supported the Restoration Movement. If we neglect evangelistic work now, we shall be failing in our stewardship.

There are three things we should like to mention about great preaching.

(1). Great preaching is bound up with the presentation of the important doctrinal facts of the Bible. P. H. Welshimer, of Canton, U.S.A., has just completed forty years with the church. In that period the membership has increased from 300 to 5897. During his ministry Mr. Welshimer has laid stress upon the presentation of great Bible truths to men. "I have never once ceased to declare unto them the whole counsel of God," he wrote recently. "We have met every foe with one weapon—'The sword of the Spirit.'" A great preacher must, therefore, live in the atmosphere of the Bible.

(2). Great preaching is clear and simple. Jesus spoke of the deep truths of the Spirit with such simplicity and beauty that the common people heard him gladly. Martin Luther had in his congregation the great scholar of the Reformation, Melancthon, yet, as he said, "I do not preach to please him, but I preach so that my son, Hans, who is twelve years old, may understand."

(3). Great preaching is emotional. Cold logic may interest the mind, but it cannot stir the will: until logic is set afire with passion and zeal, it is weak. Great truths must be set out orderly and logically but also zealously. Dead men can only be aroused by the fervor of preachers in deadly earnest. The doctrinal truths of the preacher must be clothed with the garments of the imagination. He must preach to quicken the dead in spirit. His sword must stab awake the slumbering conscience.

# Spirit of the New Order

A. L. Haddon, M.A., principal of the Bible College, Glen Leith, Dunedin, N.Z., shows in this interesting article that "only through the right kind of individuals can the right environment be produced."

PAUL wrote to the Philippians: "Treat one another with the same spirit as you experience in Christ Jesus" (2: 5). His statement makes clear the nature of Christianity in one of its most important aspects.

## *The Christian Religion is not only a Way of Thought, it is a Way of Life*

It has its theology, its philosophy, its creeds, its systems of thinking which satisfy the reasoning mind; but if it ends there, our faith is not the Christian faith. Genuine Christianity sends us forth with a new relationship to our fellow men; we are to treat others with the same spirit as we experience in Christ Jesus.

## *As a Way of Life, Christianity is not a Code of Regulations, but a Series of Principles*

That is why it applies to all human activities and all times. The sacred book of Mohammedanism did give detailed regulations which are now outmoded. But Christianity consists not of binding laws about details, but of eternally valid principles that are never out-of-date and never ineffective in meeting new life-situations.

## *Further, it is not a Negative Way of Life, but Positive*

It does not merely enjoin that men refrain from outlawing, rather, it teaches that they should go amongst life's needs as good Samaritans. The Christian is not one who can sit back in self-satisfaction because he has removed a few obvious defects from his conduct.

In the words of Paul, we are called to think of one of the great, central positive principles of the Christian way of life—treating others as Christ treats us. How sorely the world of our time needs this spirit.

## *On all sides, Men are Planning New Systems*

They seem to be firmly agreed that things can never be the same again. But any new order resulting from a few enforcing their will on many must fail. They offend against the God-given rights and the deepest needs of human personality. We must not yield ourselves to dictatorship whatever its origin. All such efforts have in them the wrong spirit, and men are realising as never before that the spirit plays a more important part than the form.

Most schemes for human improvement fail to function because they make no effort to provide the improved humans who are to comprise the new order. A straight building can never be erected with crooked stones. Fashioning human welfare is a two-fold task. Cultivating the right spirit in individual lives and building a better world order go together. They are two aspects of the one undertaking. Only in the right environment can right lives develop to the full, and only through the right kind of individuals can the right environment be produced. Plato planned the perfect republic, but despaired of the majority of men who in his system must remain slaves. He knew of no spiritual power which could lift them from slavery and make them responsible citizens. The modern gospel of Marxism has its doctrine of sin (the inequalities and injustices of the present system), its devil (the capitalist), and its kingdom of heaven (the Communist regime), but where is its Saviour? Where within it is there proposed any spiritual

power that can rescue men from their selfish grasping, self content and self concern, and give them the qualities of life which must be built into any enduring new order?

Men must learn the Christian way of life within which they are enabled to treat others with the same spirit as they experience in Jesus Christ.

## *Is it then the Task of the Church to Plan the New Order?*

Is it left to the Christian institution to reshape the economic, social, and international structure? From our point of view it is not. The proper service of the Christian church is to point out where the present system offends against the Christian spirit, to declare the principles of new life which must enter into any proposed improvement, and to provide Christian men and women who will influence the building of the structure at various points. The church's greatest contribution to society is the Christian—Christian economists, Christian business men, trade-unionists, home-makers, educationalists who will carry the Christian way of life into their God-given spheres of influence.

Many of our greatest troubles to-day arise from the fact that all over the world men's lives are becoming increasingly interwoven with one another, and we have not yet learned how to live together. When one in Europe sets out to be emperor, the action affects the homes and lives of men in all nations. A word spoken anywhere to-day may be influential around the world to-morrow. Human life is a reservoir into which each pours his contribution. A stone dropped in anywhere sends ripples of influence to the farthest shore. The position of two families living together in a small house without the right attitude to one another becomes intolerable. In our time classes, communities and nations are living in a house growing constantly smaller, their lives becoming more inter-related, and they have not learned even the beginnings of the supreme art of living together. They will never be able to do it perfectly until they

learn to manifest the same spirit as Christ manifests to men.

## *What is the Spirit that we Learn from Him for Application to such Matters?*

For one thing he regarded every life as of infinite value for its own sake. That is the inner meaning of the incarnation, of his days of tireless ministry, of his self-giving on the cross, of his commission to the church to take his message to the world. The Christian gospel is the Magna Carta of human personality. Each man must be treated not according to the use he can be to us, but according to the service we can render to him. But men's lives are often hard and ugly, unreliable, crooked, non-co-operative. Are we to condemn and discard such? On the contrary the way of Jesus was to serve them and to redeem them. He knew that the citadel of Mansoul was besieged by enemies. Sin, selfishness and lazy unconcern for others are invaders that have made inroads into the territory that belongs to God. The way of Jesus, even at the cost of the cross, was to destroy these spiritual enemies of man's highest welfare and to set his soul free—free not to do as he pleases and so fall back into a worse state than the first. Christ gives man freedom to grow in the way of life which he brings to birth in each of us, a life that develops in his own likeness and makes us into responsible citizens of the kingdom of spiritual realities.

Those who have experienced the spirit of Jesus Christ know that their salvation is no selfish individual thing. On the foundation of new life in him we must enter and extend the kingdom of God, the reign of righteousness and love over all the interests and activities of men everywhere. The totality of life must manifest toward others the same spirit that we have experienced in him.

Of his followers it should be said:

Against the old ills of the world  
The young Christ's high ideals they hurled,  
And then went out with Christ to build  
The world that is to be.

## THE PILGRIM'S POEM

"TEACH us delight in simple things,  
And mirth that has no bitter springs.  
Forgiveness free of evil done,  
And love to all men 'neath the sun.  
Amen."

# Words and Deeds

## Missionaries in the Pacific

NO word has been received from Mr. and Mrs. Ray Carlson and Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Newland, American church of Christ missionaries to the Philippines (in the Cebu area, which has been under attack), nor from Mrs. Cunningham and Miss Grace Farnham, missionaries in Japan, since the outbreak of the war in the Pacific. Mrs. Cunningham had been forbidden further activity; her funds were frozen, but she had been notified by the American State Department that funds were available if she could find transportation and, since she could no longer teach, she wished to return to America.

## Preacher Praises Preacher

P. H. WELSHIMER, in his ministry of forty years with the First Christian Church of Canton, O., U.S.A., has an amazing record. I do not recall any other pastorate among the Disciples of Christ that approximates it in length and in successful soul-winning. The Canton church has been a perennial Pentecost. It has exalted the Bible as the rule of faith and practice; and it has emphasised like-

wise the teaching function of a Christian congregation.—Edgar De Witt Jones, Detroit, U.S.A.

## What Australians Smoke

FIGURES recently released by the Acting Commonwealth Statistician show that Australians are spending more than £10,000,000 a year on tobacco. Last year smokers' requirements accounted for 16,570,394 lb. of made tobacco, 207,934 lb. of cigars, and 7,261,828 lb. of cigarettes."

## Flowers in the Mud

WHEN we think of the war, do we just see it as an unbearable welter of misery, horror, and suffering? Look closer at the morass of mud and blood and you will notice growing there some of the most beautiful flowers you ever saw in your life. One of them is the fine behaviour of your own countrymen and women; magnificent in danger; unfailingly cheerful; undertaking all kinds of war work, some dangerous, some monotonous; being friendly to neighbors and also to strangers.—Ruby Ferguson, "British Weekly," Nov. 27, 1941.

## Bravery by Command

C. Byrnes

"Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed; for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest"—Joshua 1: 9.

IN these days of stress and strain when men's hearts are "failing them for fear," there is greater need than ever for bravery. To the end that we may be encouraged thereto let us notice three things in our text.

### We Are Under Orders

"Have not I commanded thee?" All of God's commands are for our good. Not only now, but at all times it is well to remember this. While we may be inclined to chafe under discipline, God is seeking to lead us by our obedience.

The long hours of training must seem at times futile to the soldier, but thus he is taught obedience so necessary in the time of crisis. In the civilian ranks, A.R.P. preparations are teaching us the value of concerted obedience in the time of danger, as the greatest deterrent to panic. So is evident the moral value of obedience.

"Have not I commanded thee?" Our inherent weakness demands an outside control of our actions. In this case the source of the command does not alter or intensify the need of obedience. The fact that God himself commands it emphasises the need of it, our proneness to stray demonstrates this need.

Then, too, in our text we see that

### Bravery Is Very Necessary

God seems to make a very strong emphasis on this note. In verses 6, 7 and 9 of this chapter the exhortation is made. Here is another evidence of the divine oversight and care. The normal life is full of the need of bravery.

But here is a message for a time of extreme crisis. Bravery is needed. Every day now we are hearing the messages of our national leaders stressing the need of bravery on the part of the people of our nation in our time of peril. Truly the battles of to-day are won on the home front too.

If only our leaders of state could tell our people that we may have as our allies our God and his Christ and that one day the kingdoms of this world shall become theirs! This does not dissolve the need of bravery on our part, but rather encourages it.

Let us see finally that

### We Have a Great Incentive to Bravery

"The Lord thy God is with thee." Already this promise had been worked out in the experience of the children of Israel; his remembrance of them while in the land of Egypt; the leading out; the crossing of the sea; the miraculous feeding and preservation through the wilderness way.

This is the One whose eternal presence is now promised. What it must have meant to one like Joshua who had learned to trust him so, which is just the reason God gave the promise to him.

To the disciples of Jesus it would come as a thunderbolt when Jesus announced to them, "I must leave you." They had learned what it meant to have him, and now they had to lose him. But when he reappeared, having demonstrated his great power, and said to them, "I am with you always," there came to each a new motive in life and the courage to go on confident of his eternal presence guiding and encouraging.

God, knowing our nature, is seeking to arm us in the only worthwhile way, the only last-

ing way, the victory over outside circumstances by courage and character within. Can we truly pray—

Father, as I seek thy kingdom, let thy Spirit be my guide.

I would come into thy presence there forever to abide.

Let me envision nought but goodness. Let me in thy power believe,

Till my life is resting and thy blessings I receive.

Father, I would dwell forever in full consciousness of thee,

That my life may show thy glory and Christ live on in me.

To that end I cease all doubting and relinquish every fear,

That my vision may be perfect, and my understanding clear.

## Faith!



FAITH is to say that "mountains when in darkness hidden are as clear as day." Faith is to look right through that cloud, not with the eye of sight, which seeth naught, but with the eye of faith, which seeth everything, and to say, "I trust him when I cannot see him; I tread the sea as firmly as I would the rock; I walk as securely in the tempest as in the sunshine; and lay myself to rest upon the surging billow of the ocean as contentedly as upon my bed."—Spurgeon.

## Reasons for Churchgoing

1. In this actual world, a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid down grade.

2. Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others.

3. There are enough holidays for most of us. Sundays differ from other holidays in the fact that there are fifty-two of them every year—therefore on Sundays go to church.

4. Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator in a grove of trees, or in a man's own house just as in a church. But I also know as a matter of cold fact the average man does not thus worship.

5. He may not hear a good sermon at church. He will hear a sermon by a good man who, with his good wife, is engaged all the week in making hard lives a little easier.

6. He will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And if he is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered a loss.

7. He will take part in singing some good hymns.

8. He will meet and nod or speak to good, quiet neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitably toward all the world, even toward those excessively foolish young men who regard church-going as a soft performance.

9. I advocate a man's joining in church work for the sake of showing his faith by his work.—Theodore Roosevelt.

THE character of the tree accounts for the character of the fruit. We believe in the miracles of Christ because we believe in his person as the divine Man and the central miracle of the moral universe.—Dr. Philip Schaff.

## House Hunting

W. S. Lowe, B.A., B.Com.

DURING recent weeks I have been endeavoring to rent, beg, buy, borrow or otherwise acquire by honest means (I am now almost ready to omit the adjective!) one house. As a consequence my education has received considerable benefit. It has long been known that land agents' "stone's throws" are of world record lengths, but the ingenuity of these servants of the public in finding good points in the most unpromising houses is not fully appreciated. What a variety of rambling ugliness can be covered by the advertising phrase "desirable family home!"

And yet I suppose that if I had been the seller instead of the buyer, the landlord instead of the tenant, I should probably have found the agent altogether too conservative in his listing of the house's charms. Partly, of course, this is merely a reflection of the economic situation, the desire to drive a good bargain, but it is true that people become genuinely attached to what others would find quite unattractive. It is commonly believed that love is blind but, as someone has pointed out, the truth is that love often sees virtues hidden from indifferent eyes. Age makes a difference, too, to our likes and dislikes, so does good health or its absence.

The glory of Christianity is its appeal to every taste, temperament and age. Amongst the original apostles were the impetuous Peter, apostle of action, and the far-seeing John,

apostle of love; Matthew the tax-gathering servant of the government rubbed shoulders with Simon the zealot, the 1st century Bolshevik aiming at government overthrow. The contrasts continue down the years. Polycarp, a Christian from his earliest years, is no more honored than Augustine, accepting Christianity only after years of rebellious search elsewhere, often in very dubious circles, for a life-faith. John Wycliff, his life protected by a king's grace, and John Huss, his life forfeit to an emperor's treachery, are equally apostles of the reformation; while the contrast between the rugged fighting Luther and his rather pale shadow, Melancthon, the scholar of the Lutheran reformation, strikes all students of the period. The fiery evangelist and the research student, his "brain packed in ice," are equally sincerely attached to Christ and his message. In temperament how different is Karl Barth from Kagawa, yet they honor the one Lord.

Multitudes, whose names will never be known, nor their words quoted by a successive generation, witness to the same universal appeal of Christ. In him is neither East nor West, breed nor birth, male nor female, but all are one. "I, if I be lifted up, will draw all men unto me." How wise then the appeal of the Restoration Movement that the facts of Christ and his message and not our theories about them, governed by temperament or background, be the test of faith.

## Notes on Current Topics

### War in Australia

NEWS has just come of the Japanese air raids on Darwin. The immunity which Australia has hitherto had from enemy attacks has been broken. "This first battle on Australian soil," as the Prime Minister called it, should make all our people realise the gravity of the situation, which is without precedent in our history. Courage and resolution are needed. The Government has already announced its policy of total mobilisation of Australia. The new economic plan may mean temporary hardship, but that will be a small price to pay for freedom; and every citizen should be willing to rally to the help of his country in a time of great peril.

### The Church in Europe

THE world-wide fellowship of Christians is a precious thing. The thought of the effect of a world-war on Christian missions, on the churches of devastated or over-run territories, and on the churches in enemy lands must often be in our minds. It is good to hear of loyal and steadfast souls who in all countries remain true to Christ and maintain the worship of God. I have been much interested in an article by Mr. W. T. Elmslie, M.A., on "The Church on the Continent." Two of its brief paragraphs will, I am sure, be of interest to readers of "The Australian Christian":

"The church struggle in Germany itself has been intensified. 'I have never had better attention in church,' said one well-known Protestant leader. Church members are beginning to realise that Christianity has something to say also about much that is ordinarily regarded as political; and that when it is a case of obeying the State or God, it is God who must be obeyed. 'There are probably more people ready to face firing squads for their faith in Germany than in any other country,' said a neutral recently."

## "Comfort Ye, My People"

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

THIS word of Isaiah 40 commences a new section. We do not concern ourselves here with questions of authorship, but we are interested in a message which in some respects is timeless. "He is not willing that any should perish," and this word for the exiles may be taken as a word for us to-day. God would comfort his people. Christ has come in Bethlehem of Judea, but we still await his coming in the hearts of men of all the earth. In the meantime we are in fear, for war clouds are ominously near. We can hear the shouts and almost see the tragedy of that which men call war. From the heaven there rains a ghastly dew, and man burrows in the earth for safety. But in spite of it all this word of Isaiah's breaks in. Isaiah's word was for people who saw all around the might of Babylon and who had witnessed the destruction of their own city until it seemed that the end of Jewish history had come. But it was not so. God says, "Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem."

### God Over All

God is much greater than his world. We are often tempted to think in terms of the passing moment in the light of our own experience, or at the most in the half light of a generation. We feel that God is not capable, else he would have arranged things differently for us. But who are we that we should thus judge God? What do I know of the millenniums of time and of God's plans for this universe? Do not imagine for one moment that

"In Italy, too, the little Waldensian Church stands firm. At the recent synod the good news was given that offerings to church funds had been increased by 50 per cent. during the previous twelve months, the ill-paid pastors setting an example by doubling their own contributions. Both there and in other countries laymen have come forward to maintain the work of the church where pastors have been called up. We are sometimes tempted to think that the minister is indispensable to a congregation, but the actual experiences of the church in many lands, as in the P.O.W. camps, have shown that where ministers are not available God raises up others to do their work."

### Dr. John R. Mott's Retirement

BECAUSE of age Dr. John R. Mott has resigned his position as chairman of the International Missionary Council. Older readers of this may recall his splendid service, for many decades, to the cause of Christian missions and to the Student Christian Movement. As a young man John R. Mott worked indefatigably to win university students to the service of Christ and speedily gained a place of commanding influence. The editor of "The Christian World" writes: "I cannot remember a time when John R. Mott was not a great and impressive figure in world Christianity—and my memories of men and events in the religious world go back a good forty years. It was he more than any man who taught missionary administrators to think of their task in terms of world strategy." Many thousands honor Dr. Mott for his work and beneficent influence in many lands. He is a Christian statesman.

*A. R. Mann*

the apparent triumph of the enemy will mean the ultimate defeat of God and the ruin of his purposes. Nations rise and fall, but God is to all eternity. Flying shrapnel may kill my neighbors and myself, but not God. Why then doesn't God give some solid comfort, for words and promises are useless? Now, think for awhile, and you will see that God could not have made men free and at the same time prevent war or make it impossible. God chooses to work through you and me, and I can help him to-day. Whenever there are men like a Lincoln and a Wesley, and such as make great personal sacrifice for the saving of life, there is God at work. Let us not be obsessed with the happenings of the moment.

### God In the World

God suffers since he is immanent. I can and do sympathise with my fellows. I cannot help it. I suffer with them, and if I do that God does much more. "In all my afflictions he was afflicted," Leslie Weatherhead said, "God is the greatest casualty in any war." Never believe that he does not care. He is bearing the sorrow and the suffering of those in Norway and Poland and Russia and Greece and Germany and England in his own heart. Why does he let it happen? We may ask another question: Why did he let the cross become a fact? Sin, the sin of man, and God seeking to save. Comfort will come through faith in the ultimate purposes of God. We have sinned, but there will be a Saviour, and a King. "We see not yet all things subjected unto him."

## Our Young People

W. R. Hibburt

### Community Centre, N. Richmond, Vic.

THIS year marks a new phase in the work of the North Richmond church with the establishment of a seven day a week programme of spiritual, mental, social and physical activity for the youth of our district.

#### How It began

Some months ago our youth leaders sought practical means of preventing losses to our Bible school membership, with the result that at the annual business meeting of the church a committee was appointed to deal with the matter. The committee has been working for some time on a scheme, and after visiting a number of opportunity clubs has drawn up a three months' programme of community activity, which at the end of the period will come up for revision. This programme, under the name of the "Copplin Street Community Centre," began operations on Feb. 2.

#### Time Table

The church hall is opened after school each day from 4.30 to 5.30, for children of all ages. Sand tray and building blocks are available for children under 7; clay modelling keeps others occupied on different afternoons, while another group is able to avail itself of library facilities or play group games. The hall is also open each evening from Monday to Friday at 7, for craft, painting and drawing for girls, and club, toy making and gymnasium for boys. Bible school concert practice is held on Friday nights. This period will be later used for musical training.

#### Progress Report

The first week was one of progress. A total of 430 attendance marks was recorded. The average afternoon attendance was 35, while that of the evening was 22. Bible school reports 7 new scholars and J.C.E. and Y.W.L. each have added 5 to their roll. The leaders also report a readiness for each child to cooperate.

#### The Leaders

The project has the wholehearted support of the church, every member being ready to help in any way. A. Alderson is the organiser and R. Winstone the secretary. Both these young men have had Y.M.C.A. training in boys' club work.—E. F. McIlhagger.



North Richmond Vocation School.

The school involved a two weeks' term during holidays. Scholars were graded and engaged in spiritual sessions, educational projects and games. A parents' day was held each week. The preacher, E. F. McIlhagger, will be willing to correspond with those interested in this approach to Bible school work.

# The Home Circle

J. C. F. Pittman

## SAY IT

WHEN you've got a thing to say,  
Say it! Don't take half a day  
When your tale's got little in it,  
Crowd the whole thing in a minute.  
Life is short—a fleeting vapour—  
Don't you fill the weekly paper  
With a tale which, at a pinch,  
Could be cornered in an inch;  
Boil her down until she simmers,  
Polish her until she glimmers!  
When you've got a thing to say,  
Say it! Don't take half a day.

—Selected.

## HOW CHRIST MAKES SOMETHING OF US

ONCE there was a brier growing in the ditch, and there came along a gardener with his spade. As he dug round it and lifted it out, the brier said to itself, "What is he doing that for? Doesn't he know that I am only an old, worthless brier?" But the gardener took it and planted it amid his flowers, while the brier said, "What a mistake he has made, planting an old brier like myself among such rose trees as these." But the gardener came once more with his keen-edged knife, made a slit in the brier, and "budded" it with a rose, and by and by, when summer came, lovely roses were blooming on that old brier. Then the gardener said, "Your beauty is not due to that which came out, but to that which I put into you."

This is just what Christ is doing all the time with poor human lives. They seem to be of no use, with no hope that they will ever be of any use. Then Christ takes them in hand, pours his love upon them, lifts them up out of the dust, puts something of his own life into them, and by and by they begin to be like him, like branches of his own beautiful life.  
—Selected.

Hayton—Just one more question, Uncle Biff.  
Uncle Biff—What is it this time?  
Hayton—If a boy is a lad and he has a step-father, is the boy a step-ladder?

Clerk in Bookstore—This book will do half of your work for you.  
Student—Fine! I'll take two.

## The Family Altar

### TOPIC—HARSH JUDGMENTS IMPROVED

Feb. 23—Matthew 18: 21-25.  
" 24—John 8: 1-11.  
" 25—Romans 14: 1-12.  
" 26— " 14: 13-23.  
" 27—1 Cor. 4: 1-4.  
" 28— " 13.  
Mar. 1—Proverbs 8: 1-17; Matthew 7.

MANY arrogate to themselves work which rightly belongs to God. They love to sit in judgment upon others. Fault-finding is their forte. They are never happy unless making others miserable. Closing their eyes to the good, they never fail to notice inconsistencies, shams, etc., in others. They surely forget that such an unlovely spirit is injurious to themselves, for Jesus said, "With what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured unto you." "Human judgment," wrote one, "is self-betrayal. . . . We should be more slow to judge if we realised that the judgment we utter transfers us instantly from the judge's bench to the prisoner's bar."

## TOPIC—BELIEVING WITHOUT SEEING

Mar. 2—Mark 10: 46-52.  
" 3—2 Cor. 5: 5-10.  
" 4—Heb. 11: 1-12.  
" 5— " 11: 13-22.  
" 6— " 11: 23-31.  
" 7— " 11: 32-40.  
" 8—Psalm 103; Matthew 8: 5-13.

ONLY on two occasions is Jesus said to have marvelled. In the case of our N.T. lesson he marvelled because of the presence of faith, whilst in regard to the Nazarites (Mark 6: 6) he marvelled because of its absence. It has been fittingly pointed out that we thus have proof that faith is not miraculously imparted. "If Jesus had given the centurion faith he could not have been surprised to find that he had it, and, if he failed to bestow it upon the people of Nazareth, it would have been inconsistent in him to express surprise at the lack of it." It should be specially noted that the centurion's faith was extraordinary because he did not ask for Christ's presence, but simply an expression of his will. It is said that "seeing is believing." Here is a case of believing without seeing. "Blessed are they that have not seen, and yet have believed."

## Broadcasting on Census Basis in W.A.

THE management of the Australian Broadcasting Commission in this State has advised that in future the broadcasting of church services will be placed on a census basis, and services for broadcasting will be allotted to the denominations according to the figures supplied through the national census returns. This new arrangement will give the Church of England 56 broadcasts for the year. The Roman Catholics will have an additional 10 services, making their total 22. The Methodists and Presbyterians will receive 12 and 8 respectively; the Baptists will be reduced to three, the Congregationalists to two, the Salvation Army to one, whilst churches of Christ will be reduced from six to two. Before the new regulations came into operation, Lake-st. and Subiaco churches shared the broadcast services.

### Aborigines' Mission Appeal

Early reports indicate that the first Federal appeal to the churches in this State for an offering for the work amongst the natives has met with an encouraging response. It appears that the offering will be at least equal to the average annual offering made by churches here. Thus far nine churches report offerings totalling £140. The Federal Board has received word of its first legacy for work among the aborigines. This amounts to £100 and comes to us through the W.A. Home Mission Committee from the estate of our late aged Sister Sylvester. The Federal Board is much encouraged by the giving of the W.A. brethren. Apart from a few anonymous gifts from interested friends in Eastern States, we have no news of the results of offerings made. We hope to publish full particulars later.

### Toll of the Road

There are no deaths reported from traffic accidents in country districts thus far this year. In the metropolitan area there have been some tragic accidents, and the number killed exceeds that of last year in spite of much lighter traffic owing to petrol restrictions. The extent of the decrease in traffic is indicated by the fact that traffic pointsmen are not now operating at the principal intersections of our city streets other than at peak periods.

### Six O'clock Closing

When it was known that shops were closed at 6 p.m. by authority of the Federal Government, the Prime Minister was written to asking that hotels be treated similarly. His reply was that licensed premises were a matter for the States to deal with. Word was then sent to the State Premier asking that in the interests of the war effort trading hours for the hotels be curtailed to six o'clock. A very belated reply has come from the Premier giving the information that the matter was not of sufficient moment to engage the time of the Premiers, who were in conference at Canberra when approached. £40,000,000 annually going into strong drink, and the very men who are appealing for an "all in" war effort daring to state that curtailment of such spending is not of sufficient moment to engage their attention!

### Personal

W.A. churches are to lose the services of A. G. Elliott, M.A., B.Sc., Dip.Ed., who has been called up for instructional work by the R.A.A.F., and expects to leave at once for Melbourne. Mr Elliott was for many years editor of our "Western Christian," and a member of the W.A. Conference Executive. He is also assistant secretary of the Federal Aborigines' Mission Board. He will be missed by many churches as a morning speaker, and by the Wembley church, where he has been the evening preacher since the commencement of the work there. We sincerely hope his absence in the East will be only temporary.—R. Raymond.

## 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.]

### WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

WITH the increasing demands being made by the nation on man-power, the position of women in our churches will have to be reconsidered, as much of the responsibility of carrying on will rest upon them. In the light of Scripture, no one would suggest that a woman be allowed to teach in the church, but the only condition placed upon her "praying or prophesying" in the church is that her head be covered. If, as some Bible scholars suggest, the word "prophesy" is used to mean exhort or edify then there is much service our sisters may render in the worship meeting by giving of thanks and exhortation. We strive to emulate the work of Dorcas in the early church, forgetting the part played by the four daughters of Philip the evangelist.—Marjorie Buckingham.

## Obituary

### Chas. Williams

DEATH ended the sufferings of our brother on Feb. 10, at the age of 79. The funeral was conducted at Mt. Thompson crematorium by the writer on 11th. He was one of the foundation members of Kedron church, Qld., having been baptised with his wife and son (George), in the Hinrichsen-Arnold mission 13 years ago. For the past 11 years he suffered severely as a result of injuries received when a car knocked him down on his way to church. He bade farewell to this life with calm confidence in his Saviour. To Mrs. Williams and George, and other members of the family, we express our loving sympathy. "God's finger touched him, and he slept."—H.G.P.

# Here and There

We have learnt with regret that Mrs. Milton Vickery, of South Wellington, N.Z., has passed away. We extend deep sympathy to Mr. Vickery.

On Monday the following telegram came from Sydney:—"Keen interest Hinrichsen mission, Hornsby; marquee crowded last night, six decisions, sixteen to date.—Little."

With the appointment of Dr. William Temple as Archbishop of York, it is evident that there are strong forces at work in Great Britain determined to carry on a programme for the reconstruction of society after the war. "Dr. Temple," one paper commented, "is the first socialist to become primate."

Martin Niemoller, who is in a concentration camp in Germany, is almost wearing himself to a shadow. Night and day he is helping other prisoners, attending to their physical as well as their spiritual needs. Some wonder whether Niemoller's work has ever been more effectual for our Lord. It is clear that there is no time or place too difficult to do God's work.

Many of our church homes have been affected by the events at Singapore. Young men from churches and Bible schools have been in the conflict and we wait anxiously for news of them. On Monday, Feb. 9, the parents of Mr. Paul Payne, of Echuca, received a cable from him to say he had reached Singapore safely from Malaya. Since then no word has been received of him.

"Sydney Anglicans have celebrated their first church service in N.S. Wales. A tablet, the gift of the Historical Society, attached to a granite pedestal, marking the site of the first church of St. Philip, was unveiled in Lang Park on February 7. On the following day the Bible and Prayer Book used by the first minister, Richard Johnson, on February 3, 1788, was used at all services."

Dr. C. A. Marsh writes: "For countless centuries alcohol had the reputation of being a stimulant, but that reputation was shattered during the last war by the report of the advisory committee of the liquor traffic control board which stated that 'it is from first to last a narcotic drug.' In 1924 and 1938 the medical research council issued revised editions of the report which confirmed this opinion."

Archdeacon R. B. S. Hammond was honored, in Sydney, Monday, Feb. 9, at a well attended meeting of friends and supporters of the Australian Temperance Council. Mrs. Clarence Weber, M.L.A., the newly appointed president of the council, presided. Mr. Hammond, on account of ill-health, has been compelled to set aside his editorship of "Grit." He is now in Tasmania enjoying an extended holiday.

J. C. F. Pittman, preacher of the Colac church, Vic., has introduced a new feature into the life of Colac. On Feb. 12 a series of community singing sessions was commenced under the leadership of Mr. Pittman. The Colac brass band co-operated to make the opening session very successful. It is hoped that the spirit of fellowship in the town will be strengthened by this effort.

At Gardiner, Vic., a time of spiritual blessing was experienced at special meetings from Feb. 15 to 22, when different phases of the life and work of "The Lord of Glory" were presented by visiting speakers:—W. R. Hibburt, E. Evans, W. A. Wigney, W. L. Pike, S. R. Baker and A. Clarke; concluding on Sunday with J. C. Cunningham and T. Hagger. Assistance in the singing was given by Mrs. Hibburt, Mrs. Cole, Bambra-rd. choir, Mr. Barber, Gardiner choir, Miss Osborne, W. N. McCann and Emmanuel Quartette Party. Ron. Graham, a new student at the college, was received into membership from Taree, N.S.W. Sympathy of the church is extended to Mrs. F. Adams, sen., and family in the loss of her sister, Mrs. Box.

The Burwood Boys' Home Committee is planning for the long winter nights soon to be with us, and will be grateful for help in caring for the 75 boys in its care. There is need for equipment for games, as chess, draughts, halma; dominoes, etc., and with the increasing difficulty in securing such, the committee will appreciate any donations of this nature. It will help if these could be left at the office, 1st Floor, 303 Collins-st., Melbourne, C.I.

An instructor giving religious instruction in a country school questioned his class as to why they did not read the Bible and received these three answers: (1) It's not interesting; (2) It's hard to understand; (3) It's old-fashioned. If we asked the children why they did not read the plays of Shakespeare, we could expect the same answers. Those who read the Bible find that much of it is interesting, much of it is easy to understand, and much of it is new. If you do not believe this then begin reading the Bible to-day, and test it for yourself.

At Canley Vale, N.S.W., on Feb. 21 a farewell tea was tendered Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wilson, leaving to take over work at Aldgate, S.A. A musical evening followed, at which the acting secretary, Mr. Boys, made presentations to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson on behalf of the church members, and spoke of the great regret felt at parting with two loyal workers who have endeared themselves to many. The good wishes of the church go with them in their new sphere. Mr. Wilson conducted both services on Feb. 22. A young man was baptised at gospel service. Being youth night, the Intermediate and Junior C.E. took part in the service.

During an address delivered in Sydney recently, Ivan Menzies said: "It is all very well to talk about new systems, but they will not be adequate unless we have God-gripped men and women who are going to fight this war, and really live in their own lives the things they say they are fighting for. We want men and women who are determined to be real spiritual revolutionaries, and to start with themselves. A lot of people think they are good enough. They set their standard by Smith or Jones, instead of by Jesus Christ. But that is not good enough, and maybe that is why bombs are blowing our churches to pieces."

Dr. Whyte writing on "The Interpreter," said: "Now, how seldom do we hear our people at the church door step down into the street, saying 'profitable'? If they said that oftener their ministers would study profit more than they do. The people say 'able,' or 'not at all able'; 'eloquent,' or 'stammering and stumbling.' But if the people only said that the prayers and the preaching were profitable and helpful, even when they too seldom are . . . A lady on one occasion said to her minister: 'Sir, your preaching does my soul good.' And her minister never forgot the grave and loving look with which that was said. 'Thou art a minister of the word,' wrote the learned William Perkins beside his name on all his books, 'mind thy business.'"

At Essendon, Vic., on Feb. 22, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Illingworth concluded a ministry of just over five years and also closed their full-time service of 51 years. W. Gale presided in the morning and presented greetings from the Executive and Home Mission Committees of conference. Mr. Illingworth gave an excellent address. At gospel meeting the chapel was filled to capacity. The choir, conducted by A. W. Stevens, rendered special items and Miss D. Ploog sang a solo. At conclusion of Mr. Illingworth's address, A. G. E. Smith, elder of the church, presided over a farewell meeting. Leaders of auxiliaries spoke in appreciation of Mr. and Mrs. Illingworth, viz., Mrs. Shelton, president of Ladies' Guild and Mission Band; W. Alves, superintendent of Bible school; Mrs.

J. Semmens, chaplain of P.B.P. Club; A. M. Ferguson, chancellor of K.S.P. Club. Amongst visitors who spoke were R. Lyall, Swanston-st.; Dr. W. A. Kemp (foundation member at Essendon), representing Pi Christian fraternal orders; Mr. Hart, preacher North Essendon church; and Mr. Newnham, representing Essendon Baptist church. B. J. Kemp, secretary of the church, spoke on behalf of members and presented a cheque for £10 to Mr. and Mrs. Illingworth, who made suitable response.

H. Greaves, chairman of the board of officers of Norwood church, S.A., writes: "The officers of the Chapel-st. church, Norwood, wish to intimate through your paper that it is their intention to place in the tabernacle a memorial tablet in recognition of the services of A. C. Rankine. During his 52 years' ministry in the cause of Christ, 27½ years of which were with the church at Norwood, S.A., where, through his efforts, the tabernacle was erected, hundreds of souls were won into the kingdom of God. There have been numerous enquiries in this State as to what is being done to perpetuate the memory of our late brother, and it was thought that there may be some brethren and sisters in the sister States who would care to have a part in this matter. If so, any donations forwarded to the undermentioned would be appreciated:—C. Parker, Luhrs-rd., Payneham, secretary; E. J. Johnson, 101 Sydney-st., Glenunga, treasurer; H. Greaves, Botanic Gardens, Adelaide."

## Christian Attitude Toward Rumor

WAR breeds rumor, and rumor thrives on ignorance. It is the forerunner of panic, and is a sign of weakness. Rumor sweeps a community as a wind the forest. It is well known that an innocent remark about some event can be distorted and made a falsehood; a chance word only needs to be passed on by a few uncritical people and it may become a damaging rumor. How easy it is for most to be beguiled by one who pretends to have "inside information"! In time of war we must be on our guard. It is the desire of the enemy to sow distrust and encourage confusion in the community. Lies have now become the instruments of the unscrupulous; by means of rumor they seek to spread damaging statements that undermine the moral of the people.

While it is expedient for a community to be made aware of the truth, whether it be agreeable or disagreeable, there are times when we must have confidence in the appointed leaders and be content to await the time when they consider it wise to release news of some events.

We have learnt that the enemy actually makes false claims with the hope of getting a denial or explanation that may give an indication of some fact he is seeking. While we desire the authorities to release information that will enable the community to judge the nature of a situation and be able to perceive whether it is in immediate danger or not, we must have confidence in them concerning many details that must be kept secret.

The aim of the false rumor spread by an enemy is to loosen the bonds of unity within a nation. Those who repeat rumors are aiding the enemy and are becoming a part of a system of falsehood. Christians ought to speak the truth and rely on the truth and see that the community is not weakened by falsehood in the time of war.

## ADDRESSES

F. G. Banks (preacher Croydon church, S.A.)  
—53 Torrens-rd., West Croydon.  
Mrs. W. Green (secretary S.A. Aborigines' Committee).—12 Shipster-st., Torrensville.  
M. T. Lawrie (preacher and secretary Wallaroo church, S.A.)—Newtown, Kadina.  
V10386 Chaplain J. K. Martin.—15th Training Battalion, Rowville Military Camp, near Dandenong, Vic.

# News of the Churches

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**Kalgoorlie.**—At morning service on Feb. 15 R. E. Beard gave the address. The gospel message was given by H. R. Fitch, when another Bible school girl confessed Christ. A solo was rendered by Mr. Fitch. Aborigine offering is just over £10.

**Perth.**—At the church meeting on Feb. 11 helpful talks were given by Ada Alexander and Maston Bell. On morning of Feb. 15 J. Wiltshire gave an arresting message. At gospel service Mrs. Cosh rendered a solo. Mr. Wiltshire preached, and afterwards delivered a broadcast address.

**Subiaco.**—Attendances at all meetings are on the up-grade, a special improvement being in week-night prayer meetings. Addresses by R. Raymond are of excellent nature. Weekly average offering for January was highest for twelve years. The amount given by Subiaco-Nedlands for aborigine offering was over £50. Girls' club has changed to a Phi Beta Pi club, and is one of the best auxiliaries of the church.

**Bassendean.**—Since H. Gray left for Claremont, local brethren have assisted, Mr. Weare especially doing splendid work. With the coming of Mr. Wright, from the College of the Bible, a forward move is anticipated. At a welcome social Mr. Gordon, conference president, and Mrs. Digwood, president of Women's Conference, gave greetings. Mr. Weare was presented by the church with a table of excellent workmanship in appreciation of the services of himself and Mrs. Weare. At annual business meeting on Feb. 12 progress in many directions was reported.

## QUEENSLAND

**Monkland.**—H.M. offering was received on Feb. 6, amounting to £1/12/4. Both J.C.E. and the school have had additions to enrolments.

**Gympie.**—Excessive rain has interfered with some services; otherwise there have been excellent attendances. Postponed home mission offering reached £10/8/5. Bible school attendance on Feb. 15 was best for the year, with three new scholars. The school came top in State tournament for best attendance.

**Brisbane (Ann-st.).**—Brisbane sessions of Women's World Day of Prayer were held in chapel, which was crowded all day on Friday, Feb. 20. Mrs. W. A. C. Wendorf led morning session. Services on Feb. 22 were encouraging. There were 193 communicants. Frank Godfrey, Council of Churches choir, helped with an evening solo. There have been 11 additions to membership since Jan. 1.

**Bundaberg.**—On Jan. 25 V. S. Dallinger came from Maryborough to conduct the broadcast service; Miss Hazel Brown was soloist. Mrs. Dallinger accompanied her husband and at conclusion of gospel service used her projector and sacred films. L. Larsen has returned from chaplaincy duties at Gympie. He has given insight into the work of a chaplain. Services on Feb. 8 were affected by heavy rain and annual business meeting was held over on account of the big flood which followed. Sisters' Guild on Feb. 4 met for first meeting for the new year, but owing to difficulties caused by the war decided to remain in recess for three months. Sister L. A. Nielsen is ill in hospital.

## VICTORIA

**Hampton.**—On Feb. 18 a kitchen tea was held in honor of Miss R. Whitechurch and Mr. Ainley, shortly to be married. Services on Feb. 22 were well attended and the addresses of C. G. Taylor very helpful. Several visitors were welcomed. The Bible class had a visit from Mr. Neilson and some aboriginal children in connection with its project work.

**Fairfield Park.**—A welcome social tendered to Mr. Hillbrick on Feb. 19 was well attended. On morning of Feb. 22, T. Fitzgerald exhorted the church and Mr. Hillbrick preached at night. The addresses of Mr. Hillbrick are helpful and inspiring.

**Bayswater.**—Services continue to be well attended. Mr. Burns' addresses have been interesting and uplifting. Ladies' Mission Band resumed meetings after holidays. Mrs. F. Finger, Junr., brought a message in song at gospel meeting on Feb. 22.

**South Richmond.**—There has been a little improvement at gospel services. Junior and senior boys' clubs have recommenced meetings. Women's Sunshine Circle has excellent meetings. The church extends sympathy to Mrs. Brommell in the loss of her husband.

**Minyip.**—Successful harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 15. Some members donated proceeds of one acre of wheat. Total amount raised for the day was £16/8/-. Mr. Black's addresses are greatly appreciated. Mrs. A. Parsons is out of hospital and recovering slowly.

**Newmarket.**—On Feb. 22 the 59th anniversary of the church was held. Colin Thomas addressed morning service and Mr. Robb preached at night, concluding his ministry with the church. The choir rendered an item, and soloists for the day were Sister Fordham and A. Haskell.

**Ballarat (York-st.).**—Kindergarten room, arranged by Miss Maisie Barrett and helpers, has invoked high commendation. Tennis club are minor premiers in association. H. Edwards' addresses edify. There is improvement in general attendances, though many are handicapped by transport facilities.

**Brim.**—Splendid interest is maintained, and meetings are well attended. Cliff Rogers and Roy McPherson are rendering fine service with helpful addresses. On Feb. 15 a young lady from the Bible school was baptised and received into fellowship the same hour. C.E. reopened on Feb. 24 after harvest recess.

**Ormond.**—On Feb. 11 J. Ritchie spoke at mid-week prayer meeting, C. L. Lang being on holidays. On morning of Feb. 15 F. T. Saunders gave the address, and W. H. Clay preached at night. Prayer meeting on Feb. 18 was conducted by R. Booth. On Feb. 22 F. W. Bradley gave morning address and W. Gale preached at night.

**Warrnambool.**—Junior Christian Endeavorers celebrated anniversary with a social evening on Feb. 10, and a tea to which parents were invited on Feb. 15, when they also conducted evening service very ably; J. Methven was speaker. On Feb. 22 Mr. Methven spoke in morning and A. M. Brebner, of Baptist church, at evening service.

**Oakleigh.**—There were large congregations at each service on Feb. 22, many visitors being present. At evening service, Mr. Neighbour baptised three young ladies. At close of gospel service,   
At rest:

## IN MEMORIAM

**BLACKWELL.**—In fond memory of our only son and brother Ormond, who passed to higher service, March 4, 1938. Our love and remembrance ever. war service was largely attended, and proved most helpful. Many uniformed men were present. Mr. Walmsley (preacher of Albury church) and Miss M. Osborne were married in the chapel on Feb. 21. Don Simpson, of R.A.N., has been wounded in action. Sympathy is extended to Alex. Haddow in the passing away of his brother Andrew, whose family has been associated with Lygon-st. since the beginning of the war here.

**Doncaster.**—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 22 with a splendid display of fruit, etc., afterwards distributed to Women's, Children's and Austin Hospitals, and the Guest Home. There were good attendances all day, Mr. Banks speaking. Mrs. K. Sharp and Don. Petty assisted services with solos. The choir, led by A. T. Tully, rendered a harvest anthem.

**Essendon.**—Letters of transfer back from Devonport, Tasmania, have been received for Mr. and Mrs. Neal Cheal. C. Lindsay, who has been overseas on a naval unit, has been welcomed home on leave. Neil Hutton and his sister, Mrs. Chas. Hirschfeld, have returned from Carlisle, W.A., as have Mr. and Mrs. Jenner and daughter Jean, transferred back from Shepparton.

**Melbourne (Swanston-st.).**—On Feb. 15 T. H. Scambler gave morning address and A. A. Hughes preached in the evening, also at both services Feb. 22. Some visitors were present. Women's Mission Band held first meeting Feb. 17, when Mrs. Colin Thomas gave a very interesting talk about the work in India. The Dorcas Society resumed meetings for year on Feb. 24.

**Cheltenham.**—A young people's service was held on evening of Feb. 15, when scholars of Bible school attended. The choir has resumed its ministry under leadership of Val. Woff. A kitchen tea was tendered to Stan. Deane, Bible school teacher, and Elsie Allan, kindergarten superintendent, prior to their marriage. The church concluded a special eleven weeks' appeal for property fund on Feb. 22.

**Footscray.**—On Feb. 15 H. Pietzsch addressed morning meeting. Ray White was speaker at fellowship tea on Feb. 22 and Misses Costelloe and Estelle Gray soloists. Many visitors were at meetings last Sunday. On Feb. 21 a Sunday school novelty social was held under leadership of G. Graham. At the fellowship in song on Feb. 22, well wishes were expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie and party for their holiday in Adelaide.

**Springvale.**—Good meetings continue. On Feb. 15, 55 were present at gospel and baptismal service. H.M. tank was used, and the work of many hands made a picturesque and impressive service. On Feb. 22, 31 broke bread; splendid attendances both services. Mr. Parker was welcomed back after serious illness. Others are sick. Interest is keen in this promising cause. Mr. Anderson and his work are appreciated.

**Fitzroy (Gore-st.).**—Fair meetings have been held lately, several visitors being present. On Feb. 22 Max Kane, of Launceston (Tas.), spoke at both meetings, and was much enjoyed. On Feb. 12 the church held annual business meeting. Mr. Mildern, jun., has been added to officers' list and Mr. Morgan has been appointed treasurer. Reports were given by each auxiliary. On and after March 2 gospel services will be held from 5 to 6 p.m.

**Middle Park.**—Members are grateful to brethren who occupied the pulpit during Mr. Stewart's absence in Tasmania. On Feb. 15 good addresses were delivered by A. Wilson and Mr. Pietzsch. L. Brooker's message at morning service on Feb. 22 was appreciated. Mr. Stewart was welcomed back at gospel service, and at conclusion of his address a young lady made the good confession. Sister Reynolds is improving slowly after serious illness.

**Ballarat (Dawson-st.).**—At Dawson-st. on Feb. 15 W. W. Saunders preached morning and evening, there being one decision at gospel service. Speakers at Doveton-st. were W. H. Benson and W. Reid, at Mt. Clear M. Bailey. J. A. Wilkie spoke at Dawson-st. on Feb. 22, T. Maxwell and T. Comer at Doveton-st. and E. Steele at Mt. Clear. Endeavorers and choir broadcast over 3BA in C.E. session Feb. 15. At annual meeting of church on Feb. 18 all reports were encouraging, showing activity and accomplishment. Amount raised for all purposes for year, over £1000. Brethren elected to office: K. Price, N. Reed, E. Steele, J. A.

Wilkie. Resolved to invite W. W. Saunders to remain with church as preacher for further two years at close of present engagement. Mrs. J. H. Martin was received into fellowship by letter of transfer from Gardiner at morning service on Feb. 22, and a husband and wife were immersed at gospel service. Mt. Clear Sunday school conducted successful picnic at Gardens on Feb. 14. Several members are serving with the forces and in war service. E. H. Price is doing splendid work as president Ballarat Red Cross.

**South Melbourne.**—Attendances and interest were well sustained during February. Annual reports at church business meeting on Feb. 11 showed a good work had been carried through by all auxiliaries. J. C. Cunningham has been retained for a further term of service. The church was helped and encouraged with messages at worship from Ern. Stevens on 8th. inst., and Thos. Hagger on 22nd. Bible school now meets at 9.45 a.m. and is greatly encouraged with attendances.

**Drumcondra.**—On Feb. 14 the annual business meeting was held. Reports of auxiliaries were received, and officers elected. For the S. H. Mudge appeal £4/10/- was collected. On Feb. 15, in Mr. Dudley's absence at Belmont, C. Fletcher spoke at communion service. The church has lost two good workers by the departure of Mr. and Mrs. McDermott for Melbourne. Phi Beta Pi girls are knitting for Comforts Fund. Mr. Gowan has been seriously ill for some weeks. Attendances are maintained. Mr. Dudley is still bringing challenging messages.

**Wangaratta.**—Evening attendances have been very encouraging the last few Sundays. Mr. Lloyd gives interesting and helpful addresses. Chaplain Forbes exhorted the church on Feb. 15, and Private Robertson has twice rendered solos. On Feb. 19 a kitchen tea was held in honor of Lloyd Jackel and Maud Hessey, and Elsie Fisher and G. Humphries. Gifts were presented to both couples by Mr. Whittaker, and Geo. Jackel on behalf of the church. On Feb. 21 Miss Hessey and Mr. Jackel were married, Mr. Lloyd officiating. A presentation has been made to Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Jackel, married recently. On Feb. 4 the Women's Guild and Mission Band held annual meeting, all officers being re-elected. The work of the sisters is much appreciated.

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**Port Noarlunga.**—Mr. and Mrs. G. Rootes and Miss Owen, of North Adelaide, were visitors on Feb. 15 and 22. Members enjoyed fellowship. Mr. Rootes presided on 15th, Mr. W. E. Grosvenor on 22nd.

**Tumby Bay.**—Harvest thanksgiving services on Feb. 8 were well attended. Mr. Norris spoke at both meetings. Miss D. Lawrie rendered a solo at night. The church responded willingly to the thankoffering, which reduced debt on manse to extent of £86/6/6. On Feb. 10 a pantry evening was given to Miss V. Hammond.

**Port Lincoln.**—In the new year the church moved to the Rechabite Hall on account of larger gatherings. C. and E. Jones are carrying on with the preaching. Mr. Newell, of Ungarra, was speaker on Feb. 1 and 8. Mr. and Mrs. Crouch and son Allen were received into fellowship on 8th. Mr. Bawden, from Naracoorte, helped in the service.

**Murray Bridge.**—Bi-monthly Men's Fellowship was held on Feb. 15. Fine first annual report from secretary A. C. Page. Mrs. C. C. Squires, who confessed Christ on Feb. 15, was immersed on 19th, and received into membership Feb. 22. Young Worshipers' League anniversary was celebrated at gospel service on Feb. 22. Sister F. C. Mitchell, leader, presented report and awards. Items were given by the league, and Laurel Harper, Elaine Page and Barbara Orchard. Lorna Brake has left for Adelaide, and Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Bennetts, Irene and Marjorie transferred to Norwood in February. N. G. Noble's messages are appreciated by members, and by an encouraging number of strangers.

**Strathalbyn.**—On Jan. 25 Mr. Wanke spoke at night service, and Miss C. Wilson, who was visiting, sang a solo. On Feb. 1 the Alliance representative (Mr. Albright) spoke at morning meeting, and Mr. Riches at night, when he also sang, assisted by choir. Church anniversary was celebrated on Feb. 15, Mr. Riches being speaker both morning and evening. The choir rendered two anthems at night. C.E. spent a happy time on Feb. 21 at a fellowship tea and an inspirational meeting afterwards.

**Maylands.**—Services this month both morning and evening have been well attended, also bright and helpful. Keith Jones' addresses have been of a high standard. On Feb. 8 one young man made the good confession, and on Feb. 22 two more young men made their decision for Christ. On Feb. 15 F. Collins, of Dulwich, spoke to church on home missions. Endeavor societies are in good heart and doing much good work. Bible school also is having a very happy period, with excellent attendances and keen interest.

**Wallaroo.**—The secretary, H. John Andrews, has been called up for military service. A. E. Brooks and family have been transferred to Adelaide. Mr. and Mrs. Brooks have been active workers in the church for about 12 years, and during that time their four children have been added to the church. They will be greatly missed. Half-yearly business meeting revealed a satisfactory position. Sunday evening meetings are to cease, and instead gospel services will be held at 3.30 p.m. One was added to the church recently by faith and baptism.

**Prospect.**—At half-yearly meeting on Feb. 18 reports from committees showed good work and all in financial position. P.B.P. is doing knitting for the boys on service, and has undertaken to clothe and keep two babies at Brighton Home. Y.P. and J.G.E. societies are improving in numbers. Sunday school work is on the upward move. Eleven have been added by faith and obedience and two by transfer. The work in auxiliaries is in capable hands, and a good spirit prevails. Services on Feb. 22 were conducted by C. Schwab, and good messages were received. A young man, Ron Spry, took his stand for Christ. The Misses P. and C. Robson, who have worked in the church and choir, are going to Melbourne on war service.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES

**Wollongong.**—An impressive service was held on Feb. 15, when in a well attended meeting a young man and a young lady confessed Christ and together with a girl were baptised. A young man also made his confession of faith.

**Canley Vale.**—D. Wakeley addressed morning meeting on Feb. 15. S. H. Wilson conducted gospel service. Attendance at evening meetings has been very good lately. A retiring offering for Australian half-castes, amounting to £4/11/-, was received on Feb. 8.

**Paddington.**—At morning service on Feb. 22 E. Davis, of Auburn, addressed the church. In celebration of Youth Sunday, Bible school scholars met for tea, P. E. Thomas being visiting speaker. Young men conducted gospel service creditably; Mr. Greenhalgh assisted.

**At Essendon, Vic.,** on Feb. 22, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Illingworth concluded a ministry of just over five years and also closed their full-time service of 51 years. W. Gale presided in the morning and presented greetings from the Executive and Home Mission Committees of conference. Mr. Illingworth gave an excellent

**Chatswood.**—I. A. Paternoster brought the message to the church on Feb. 22. F. Youens preached at night, giving the final address of a special series for February. It was a fine meeting, and three confessed Christ. The special effort has created much interest. With sincerest sympathy the church records the call to higher service of Mrs. Verco, widow of the late Richard Verco; a life lived in rich spiritual experience and service for her Lord.

**Auburn.**—Feb. 22 was observed as Youth Sunday; good meetings morning and evening. Several young men of the church took active part in the morning service, when R. Greenhalgh, of Paddington, was speaker. Evening meeting was a young people's gospel service, young men taking all active parts under supervision of Ethelbert Davis. Ron. Gray conducted; Arthur Frost read the lesson, Peter Retchford, of the College of the Bible, gave a charming gospel address. Under leadership of Ron. Bartholomew the junior C.E. Society sang a hymn. The choir also sang an anthem.

**Taree.**—The church half-yearly business meeting was held on Feb. 18. The treasurer, E. R. B. Saxby, revealed encouraging figures despite many losses by letter to churches in N.S.W. During the evening the congregation, acting upon a recommendation from the board of officers, decided to extend an invitation to A. G. Saunders, B.A., for a further term of three years commencing from September, 1942. The decision was unanimous, the congregation expressing confidence in the work of Mr. and Mrs. Saunders, special mention being made of the character of the preacher's messages.

**Ashfield.**—Services have been well attended. E. C. Hinrichsen and V. Morris took the service on evening of Feb. 1; there were five decisions. E. Davis, of Auburn, spoke in the morning. On the following Lord's day Dr. Verco gave the exhortation to the church and R. P. Arnott, M.A., gave the gospel address and baptised two young men who had made the good confession. At annual business meeting the following were elected to office: Secretary, J. Townsend; treasurer, E. Armstrong; deacons, Messrs. Grey, J. Fraser, H. Barnett, L. Lamney and R. P. Arnott. R. Wilson has accepted a call to be the preacher.

### Bright Public Meeting

College of the Bible of Churches of Christ  
in Australia

THE public inaugural session of the College of the Bible of Churches of Christ in Australia was held at Lygon-st., Feb. 23, 1942, at 8 p.m. Robert Lyall, chairman of the board of management, presided over a representative gathering. J. E. Allan, president of the Victorian conference, led in the opening prayer. The Scripture lesson was read by E. T. Hart. T. H. Scambler, principal of the college, reported that 29 students had been enrolled for the year, this number including seven new students. Scholarship awards for last year were announced and presented by Mr. Scambler:—F. G. Dunn Memorial, D. H. Pike; M. S. Noble Memorial, A. R. Pigdon; L. C. McCallum Memorial, P. R. Thickins; F. M. Ludbrook Memorial, H. J. Finger; Wm. Grindrod Memorial, E. T. Hart; Old Boys' Club, R. C. Goldsworthy; Miss E. F. Winter Memorial, Miss B. J. Saunders; Miss E. C. Hovey Memorial, Miss L. J. McDiarmaid; and College of the Bible Women's Association Prize, Miss E. L. Craig. The guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Eric Evans, ex-president of the Baptist Union, who urged the students to prepare for the ministry with industry and spiritual zeal. The address was very helpful. Singing by the combined choirs of Lygon-st. and Swanston-st. churches and two beautiful solos by Miss A. Scarce added to the brightness of the service. Mr. R. L. Williams, of Queensland, closed the meeting in prayer. Prior to the public meeting the Lygon-st church provided a tea for the college students and others. A time of happy fellowship was enjoyed by all who gathered.

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I AM no respector of persons, I regard not the honor of men, the virtue of women, nor the welfare of little children. I slay both my friends and my enemies. Since Noah came out of the ark I have been the handmaiden of sorrow and desolation. I corrupt the courts of kings and weaken the defenders of nations. I bring death into the palaces of the rich and the hovels of the poor. I eat out the vitals of kingdoms and help overthrow peace, prosperity, culture and knowledge. I love darkness rather than light. I hate truth and knowledge, for my commercial existence and supremacy depend upon beguiling and deceiving the children of men. I despise virtue and righteousness, yet I pretend that my coat is made up of fair dealings. I rob men, women and children of food and clothing; yet I lay the foundation for effective work when I am clothed as the social drink.

"My mission on earth is to curse, to damn and to destroy. When chemists unrobe me, men take warning; but I am an everlasting and efficient worker. I leave no stone unturned. I come dressed as light wines and beer; as fine wines and whiskies; as sparkling champagne and Scottish highballs; and mint juleps and egg-nogs; as Government-bonded and moonshine liquor. But whatever my clothes, my purpose is to beguile, to deceive, to enslave and to destroy my victims. I preach personal liberty; but as soon as I bind the cords of appetite about my victims they become my slaves. I flatter strong men and beautiful women; but when they succumb to my insidious wiles I put them in prisons and lunatic asylums. I am a menace to organised society; to law, peace and order. I increase taxes by increasing criminals and sickness and poverty. I bring children into the world whose minds and bodies have already been injured by my blistering and blighting touch. I am one of man's worst enemies yet I win man by seeming friendliness and sociability.

"I cause the high churchman to desert his seat in the amen corner, and as soon as I strengthen the cords of appetite I throw him into the gutter with the vilest of criminals, and they wallow therein. I turn him who is endowed with a brilliant mind into a raving maniac. I change a loving father into a heartless brute. I turn a devoted wife and mother into a woman of shame.

"I am, an archangel of his satanic majesty, the devil.

"I AM ALCOHOL."

—"National Voice,"

## Songs of Deliverance

THE Book of Psalms, it has been well said, "contains the whole music of the heart of man swept by the hand of his Maker." Among this rich variety of moods is one, particularly welcome to-day, which expresses strong confidence in God's protection against outward and inward evil, against hostile assault and despondency of spirit.

"Thou art a place to hide me in," writes the author of the 32nd Psalm; "Thou shalt preserve me from trouble; thou shalt compass me about with songs of deliverance." The writer does not affirm that deliverance itself will come immediately; but meanwhile God will preserve him from the trouble of an over-anxious heart, and will compass him about with songs of deliverance—will cause him to hear the exultant songs which celebrated former victories, and this music of the past will banish despondency about the time to come.

This service which memory can render to the human spirit is emphasised throughout the Bible. It abounds with "songs of deliverance," from those of Miriam and Deborah to that far nobler strain which, in St. John's Apocalypse, is raised by the victorious armies of the redeemed before the throne of God. The

Bible describes how "stones of remembrance" were set up in the earliest days to hearken succeeding generations. At every threatened crisis or moment of fear the unfailing resource of leader, psalmist or prophet is to bid Israel remember its songs of deliverance, reminding a timorous people of what God wrought for their forerunners in the day of old. Our Lord himself, startled by the want of faith which his disciples show, ascribes their weakness to forgetfulness of what already he has done for them, and "Do ye not remember?" is his reproachful word.

Indeed, can any Christian honestly review the past without gaining courage? If he limits his survey to the present century—or even to the last two years—he need not think himself superstitious because he concludes that a power more than human has preserved this land. History will remind him how often Christianity itself has seemed in dire peril, at some times from violent persecution, at others from quasi-intellectual attack, and how repeatedly the predictions of its overthrow have been falsified. He may consult those who are, after all, the most competent witnesses, the humble, and holy men of heart, the saints of all ages, and learn from them how completely the strength which God gives can conquer fear.

Finally, he may dwell upon his personal memories. Life may have brought him more than an average share of pain, or failure, or disappointment. Yet he must own how much is to be set down on the other side, how much undeserved happiness has been his, how often good has come out of seeming misfortune, how marvellously he has been either rescued from evil or strengthened to endure it. When he allows memory to make vivid for him the thought of all that providence has done for himself and for those he loves, he will grow ashamed of his fears and forebodings. He will be compassed about with songs of deliverance and, with their melody in his heart, will go forward unafraid.—"The Times" (London).

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## BIRTH

ROBOTOM (nee Bramstedt).—On Jan. 22, at Altona Hospital, to Helen Muriel, wife of Trooper S. Robotom, A.I.F., a daughter—Janet Helen. Present address, 25 Junction-st., Newport.

## DEATH

BROMELL.—On Feb. 19, at 31 Vere-st., Richmond, George Edgar, the beloved husband of Eva and brother of Lill (Mrs. Suteh, deceased), Alfred (Eng.), Maude Ruby (Mrs. East), Charlie. At rest.

## IN MEMORIAM

BLACKWELL.—In fond memory of our only son and brother Ormond, who passed to higher service, March 4, 1938. Our love and remembrance ever.

—Inserted by his mother, father, sister and brother-in-law.

FULFORD.—In loving memory of dear Ol., who was called home suddenly, March 2, 1941.

"God holds the key of all unknown."

"Till the day breaks, and shadows flee away."

—Inserted by her loving sister and brother, Roberta and Jack Anderson.

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# Inspiring News from India

MAILS written about the New year have been received from India, and all centres speak of progress culminating with inspirational Christmas gatherings and baptisms. An additional twenty-seven baptisms are reported, bringing the total from September to New Year to forty-seven. This harvest, the greatest for many years, has greatly encouraged both missionaries and Indian co-workers.

## DHOND

Grace A. Edwards Chapel

AFTER years of waiting and delays owing to war conditions, the new chapel is about ready for occupation. As announced earlier, R. Campbell Edwards has built this chapel as a memorial to his mother. It is estimated that the total cost will be slightly under £700. It was thought probable that the work would be completed by the end of January, and Mr. Edwards was asked to write a letter to the church. Dr. Oldfield writes: "The building will be a great help to us in our work when completed. It is a convenient size and design, and is much admired by visitors. On Christmas day we held our meeting in the unfinished chapel; and although it had some drawbacks, as the building has no roof on yet, and so some of the folk had to shift away from the sunshine, the meeting was a great success. We had over three hundred people present. There was still some of the scaffolding both in and out of the building, but we managed to get the seats in and plenty of mats for folk to sit on. Just as we were about to start lots more people turned up, and we had to improvise some sort of seats for them in the vestries, on the platform and on the verandahs outside. We said that the meeting was not to be regarded as the opening of the building, for it will be about another month before we can really open the building."

## Baptisms

"On the Sunday following Christmas, we had our meeting in the waiting room of the hospital, and then went over to the new building to have some baptisms. Thirteen were baptised. Among them were several who have been living at Dhond for some time and who wish to come into active membership with us by immersion, and five have come into Christ from Hinduism. There are a number of others already asking for baptism. It is nice to think that the building has had to be used for this purpose even before it is finished. We pray that many more may come 'into Christ' there in the days to come."

## Christmas Dinner

Those who contributed to the Christmas cheer fund will rejoice to see how their gifts brought joy and happiness to the poor of Dhond—Christians and others in whom we are deeply interested. More than three hundred were entertained. "On the evening of Christmas Day, we arranged for a dinner for all the members and those who are interested in the church life here. There were over two hundred who sat down to dinner in the hospital compound. We also gave the money so that the Telegu Christians might have a dinner in their own settlement at the same time. There were about one hundred of them too. We had a very pleasant time at the dinner, and I think it was a very helpful function. We have not had a general dinner such as this before at Dhond. We explained that the dinner was being given by the members of the church in Australia, for we used the 'Christmas money' for it. Dr. Patil moved a resolution of thanks to the Australian churches for making this possible, and asked me to send this news on to you. We made the dinner this year instead of using the Christmas money for getting small individual gifts."

## DIKSAL

T. ESCOTT also mentions spiritual gatherings, and reports five baptisms. After a very long period without reaping they are greatly encouraged.

## Christmas

"On Christmas eve we held a special communion service for soldiers, at their request. They belong to a training camp about five miles from here. These Christians come from South India, and one very bright man is a son of a pastor of the Presbyterian church. The service was conducted in three languages; I spoke in Marathi, and then in English which was interpreted by one of the soldiers into the Tamil language. After the service, we invited them to our bungalow and gave them coffee and refreshments. The people of South India are great coffee drinkers, so it gave them a touch of home. On the following day, at our Sunday morning service, we had the chapel full of Christian soldiers; these were from various parts of India, some even from the Punjab in the north. We were glad of having the privilege of helping them in this way. Our Christians have just recently held a week of witness, and had some good meetings with the people of the near villages. It does them good to engage in this type of voluntary work."

## Baptisms

"The first week of this month, we held special meetings for the deepening of the spiritual life, which proved a time of spiritual benefit and uplift. During these meetings three persons were baptised on one day, and on another day two others were baptised; these are the people mentioned in my last letter. They have been attending our church meetings for about five years, and had often asked for baptism, but I felt they were not ready and required a certain amount of teaching."

## DR. LINDSAY MICHAEL

DR. MICHAEL, who had a few days' leave, was able to visit the mission field during the Christmas period. He said: "It was a grand release from the atmosphere of war to be able to see the boys of the Blake Memorial Home happily at play and to join with our Indian brethren in worshipping the Prince of Peace at this Christmas season." From here he went to Poona for a six weeks' course of instruction. Owing to uncertainty of movements, he asks that all mail be addressed: C/o Messrs. Grindlay & Co., Bankers, Bombay, India.

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

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## WHEN THE SUN SHINES

— WINTER SEEMS FAR AWAY

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## Queensland Churches Meeting War-time Conditions

AS we write schools in the coastal belt (State, denominational and private, primary and secondary) are closed. There have been official statements re a restricted opening of these, but nothing definite. Strangely enough while children may not assemble in schools they may go to cinemas. Sunday schools are not included in the embargo. Some churches are planning for earlier services on Sunday evenings, if black-out makes this necessary. Day-light saving would make it possible to hold such services before dark, even with our brief Queensland twilight. Voluntary evacuation is not affecting churches or schools to any great extent at present. The Youth Committee is arranging methods of keeping in contact with evacuee children, and supplying them with lessons.

### Conference

Preparations for the annual conference at Easter are progressing in a haze of uncertainty regarding future conditions. Attendance of delegates is bound to be affected by the war, and there is always the possibility of defence regulations forming barriers. Despite, and because of the conditions such conferences are needed, that we may plan to meet new conditions and to anticipate emergencies; also to give a Christian witness to a bewildered world, and throw the light of life and salvation on to the disastrous darkness of war and death.

### Prayer

In Brisbane there are regular midday prayer meetings on some days of the week. Another has been added which is held on Thursdays from 1.15 to 1.45, at Ann-st., and is conducted by Allan Brooke. The first was held on Feb. 12. This is held on Thursdays to avoid overlapping on other similar services.

This year the Brisbane sessions of the Women's World day of Prayer were held at our Ann-st. church. It is held in various churches in rotation, and our turn came on Feb. 20. Meetings have been held in Brisbane since 1927.

### Youth

February is the month of preparation for the annual offering of the Youth Committee, to be taken on March 1, which will be Youth Sunday and the last day of Youth Week. A series of studies has been issued by the Youth Committee for use in churches in that week, under the general title of "The Open Door," and including "Personal Consecration," "Home and Overseas Missions," "Bible School," "Social Reconstruction and Peace." Youth Sunday has great value in directing the attention of the older members to their responsibility to youth, and of the younger to their opportunities. Some of our churches do not observe this special youth season, and this is their loss; for those who do so have found it well worth while.

### R. L. Williams

We sincerely regret that R. L. Williams is leaving Queensland. He is to rest for an indefinite period to conserve his health. He has been advised that a period of rest now will be an insurance against the future, and will complete and stabilise the excellent recovery he has made. Our brother looks and feels well, but under advice is taking this precautionary measure, with the full expectation given by his doctor of 100 per cent health and vigor, with many years of service in the ministry, as a consequence.

## S.A. Sisters' Auxiliary

THE first monthly meeting for 1942 was held at Grote-st. on Feb. 5, with 94 sisters present (3 visitors, 61 delegates). Devotional session was led by Mrs. Trowbridge, whose message was "Errors of Faith." Mrs. Baillien led in prayer.

Business session was presided over by the president, Mrs. G. Rootes. Two sisters from Fremantle, W.A., also Mrs. Keith Jones and Mrs. Paddick, were given a hearty welcome. A letter from Indian Women's Conference, translated by E. Coventry, Baramati, was read. It was decided to hold a picnic in Botanic Gardens on March 19.

Obituary.—The following sisters have received the home-call: Long Plains, Mrs. Chivell and Miss Vick; Semaphore, Mrs. Rix; Hindmarsh, Mrs. Goodrich; Fullarton, Mrs. Rankine; Nailsworth, Mrs. McNicol. Mrs. Brooker offered prayer for the bereaved.

Home Mission Committee.—Superintendent reported that during December and January £6/0/8 was collected.

Overseas Mission Committee.—Superintendent reported £6/18/4 was sent in for the months of December and January.

Financial Statement.—Home Missions, balance in hand, £17/18/2; Overseas Missions, balance in hand, £19/5/2; general fund, balance in hand, £3/10/9; Catering fund, balance in hand, £9/18/6.

Mrs. T. B. Fischer, in hospital at Magill, sent greetings to the sisters. The president welcomed Mrs. Hammer (our living link), who gave a message which was much enjoyed, after which a social time, interspersed with refreshments, was spent with our sister.—Mrs. H. R. Charlack, assistant secretary.

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After discussion, Mr. Stanbury told a story. A certain Padre, serving at Gallipoli where men suffered much through shortage of water, once had only the contents of his water-bottle to divide between forty wounded men. He said to the first, "Drink, lad, but remember the others who want it as badly as you." So he went along the line. "Do you know," said the Padre in relating the incident, "it was the last man who got the most water." Each had an eye to the interests of others.—G. J. Andrews.

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*A good shaking will not hurt an  
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