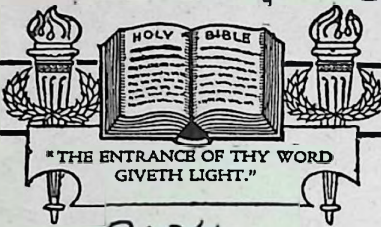


The AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Journal Representing



Churches of Christ

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne,
for transmission by post as a Newspaper.

Through church agent, 2d. week.
Posted direct, 10/6 year. Foreign, 14/- year.

VOL. XLV., No. 9

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1942

Our Allies in Righteousness

TO be on the side of right is to be in the company of a great host. We may not be aware always of the existence of the unseen army of righteousness. But let a man stand for what is good and just and he will enjoy fellowship with many who exist in heaven and on earth. Even if beleaguered by an enemy, confined by prison bars or isolated by public opinion, men who identify themselves with eternal values bound up with the kingdom of God are able to say concerning themselves and their opponents, "They that be with us are more than they that be with them" (2 Kings 6: 16).

"Chariots of Fire"

When the Syrians invaded Israel and surrounded Elisha at Dothan, all seemed lost. Elisha's servant cried, "Alas, my master! how shall we do?" To reveal to the servant that those who were with them were greater than those against them, Elisha prayed that his eyes be opened. What did the young man then see? "Behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha."

Actual experience proves that the person who stands for righteousness discovers, often unexpectedly, many ready to support and encourage him. When we stand for the truth we are not alone, we are not left to endure hardship indefinitely. Other powers come to our aid.

We know of a young man who was studying a devotional book while going to and from his work. The book happened to be left on his desk at the office. A lad, seeing it, thought he would have a little fun. While the young student was talking to a returned soldier whose language was never very choice, and whose general behaviour was not always the best, the lad took the opportunity to make light remarks about the study-book. The situation might have been a little embarrassing, but the returned soldier said to the young man, "Do you go to Sunday school?" "Yes!" came the reply. The soldier then remarked, "I used to go to Sunday school, and I found the minister a great chap." The lad looking for fun, withdrew a little

shamefacedly. He left two talking awhile on spiritual affairs.

"Seven Thousand"

We are not always made immediately aware of the existence of the supporters of righteousness. It may seem that we are standing alone in a losing battle. We may be tested to the limit. Like Elijah, who fled from Jezebel after his conflict with the worshippers of Baal, each of us may fall beneath his juniper tree and cry, "It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers."

It seems as though Elijah had been putting trust in the mighty acts of earth and desired God to reveal himself in the wind, in the earthquake, and in the fire. God showed Elijah that he could speak through "a still small voice."

Although there may be no mighty demonstrations declaring the presence of God in the world to-day, we must not be discouraged; for God still speaks in "a still small voice." It may be in the voice of conscience, in the words of the Bible, in the expressions of a humble saint or in the message of a frail preacher of the Word. While looking for the presence of God in an earthquake, Elijah was not aware that there were seven thousand who were on the side of righteousness, and through whom God was speaking to a sinful generation. While thinking he was alone in the divine programme, he was made aware of the existence of seven thousand and other spiritual actors upon the stage of life.

As we play our little part in the life of the church and society, we may become discouraged and think we are bearing the burden of the kingdom of God upon our own shoulders and that we alone are left. Let us stop and think for a few minutes of the hosts of saints throughout the

~~~~~  
WE may go in peace, if our eyes have seen him who satisfies our vision, whose bright presence will go with us into the darkness, and whom we shall see more perfectly when we have passed to the home above.—Dr. Alexander Maclaren.

whole world, carrying responsibilities similar to our own under great difficulties. Some are isolated in distant mission stations; some are imprisoned; and some are laboring beyond the measure of their strength. Armies upon armies of men and women have identified themselves with what is good and divine. When we stand for righteousness, we stand with them.

### Other Allies

Beside those upon the earth there are other allies of the kingdom of truth. Let us lift our eyes from earth to heaven for a moment and consider the company of "ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands" (Rev. 5: 11). Is not heaven on the side of all that is right? When we stand for truth, we stand with the Father, Son, Holy Spirit, and with all the reinforcements of heaven. Therefore we are not alone so long as we hold to the eternal values of the kingdom of heaven.

Jesus requested his disciples to go out into all the world and preach the gospel. He made it clear that if they did this work, and if they taught people to observe the truths he commanded, he would be with them. The guarantee that assures us of the presence of Jesus, and the support of all the powers of heaven and earth delegated to him, is to hold to the truth and to declare it unto others (Matt: 28: 28).

When the truth of the Bible revealed to Martin Luther the errors of popular traditions, he straightway identified himself with the truth. He announced to the world what he believed to be right. His statement stirred up more than an hornet's nest; for the courts of a slumbering church were awakened by it. For Luther to take his stand on the side of truth demanded courage. His actions separated him from many; but, to his great joy and encouragement, he found people in high and lowly stations ready to side with him. He found, in addition, the strength of the Lord.

This is a time when we need strength. We can be assured of unlimited power coming to us from heaven and earth if we seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness. Righteousness is the gate that leads us to an innumerable company of allies.

# The Eternal Contemporary

Mr. Ethelbert Davis presents deep truths related to the character and work of Christ, in this helpful article. "Christ," he writes, "lives and moves majestically in this century as in the first century of our Christian era."

"The same was in the beginning with God."  
"The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us."

"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore."  
"Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and for ever."

WHAT does it all mean? These statements—set as they so often are in a theological and metaphysical mould—are, to many, words—just words. Released from that mould, used in their simple application, these statements reveal to us One who is the eternal contemporary. Christ is by many spoken of as the "changeless Christ." The term is in no wise inappropriate; but because he is not vital in their own experience, they conceive him as the static Christ, remote from the life and relationships of their own day, their own times. But he belongs to no one day; no one century could claim that he belonged to it and to no other. Though incarnated in human flesh at a given point in human history, he is timeless. Though revealed to the dwellers of earth at a given place in the geography of this world, he is beyond all location. Though of necessity born of one nation, he is not the product of that one nation alone.

## The Book that Reveals Him

limits him to no century. It gives a description of his inimitable and peerless majesty, but in order to do so it has depleted and destituted the human vocabulary. It has pressed into service the birds of the air, the beasts of the forest, the flowers of the garden, the stars of the heavens, and all the elements of nature. To represent his person and his office this book has requisitioned the whole resources of the universe. It has ransacked creation for treasures to lay at his feet. In addition, all the ages have gathered and united the immeasurable rays of a far-streaming glory, and focussed them on him and on the cross on the little hill Calvary, and have woven a garland for the bleeding brow of Immanuel the flowers of which have been culled from the garden of the universe.

## His Personality

impresses itself upon every generation. Not as the ancient philosophers, and moralists, and poets live in their works, lives he. Not as the portrait of one who lived in the far-away ages; not as the product of the sculptor's art, chiselled out of the enduring marble, do we see him. Not as the one "being dead yet speaketh" do we know him. Not as one who passed this way in the long ago whose words and deeds linger do we remember him. He has a living, throbbing, essential place in the world's life in every century. He is not a carry over from the first century, but a vital personality whose life permeates every century.

Altering somewhat Renan's statement, he is a thousand times more living, a thousand times more loved since his death than during the days of his pilgrimage here below; he has become to such a degree the corner stone of humanity to every century, that to tear his name from this world would shake it to its foundation.

He lives and moves as majestically in this century as in the first century of our Christian era. The many change and pass, the One remains.

## His Teachings

defy all attempts to reduce them to a code of rules for conduct to be coned by succeeding

generations as they come and go. They are principles of action which emanate warm from the mind of the great teacher.

His teachings are no stilted body of laws compiled by a moralist—the great Moralist—of one age, intended to be revised and adapted according to times and circumstances; they are principles so eternal in their incidence and purpose that, without revision or adaptation, they appear as though intended primarily for whichever century may be under consideration. His teachings have not to be changed to meet each changing age; they meet the age; they fit the century.

Though he wrote no book; though he invented no machine; though he discovered no new remedy for physical ills; though he gave nothing to the sciences of geology, or astronomy, or biology; though he propounded no political views; though he founded no school of learning, he is at the back of all thought, he is Master of all the laws of the universe. He has bankrupt the past and beggared the future, and the greatest minds in every age have seen no further than he has seen, and have taken nothing from, and have added nothing to his teachings.

## The Church He Founded

possesses his own attribute of contemporaneity. Historically the church has run a course of nineteen hundred years. Essentially and constitutionally the church is unchanging, but it is so constituted that every age appro-

priates it as its own. That is necessarily so seeing that the Holy Spirit designates the church the body of Christ. The body can have no less enduring qualities than the Head, else must the time come when with the passing of the years the Head will be minus the body.

When men talk of the twentieth century church they do not imply that it is remote or apart from the church of the tenth or the first centuries. The one body, the one Spirit, the one hope, the one Lord, the one faith, the one baptism, the one God and Father extends the church and relates it to every generation. The name of the church, the creed of the church, the ordinances of the church confine it to no time and to no place; universality as to time and place is its characteristic. Thus to the highest degree does the church become vital in the life of every generation.

Although nineteen centuries have rolled by since Jesus Christ stepped into the arena of human affairs, he is still the miracle of the ages.

"O Man of the far away ages,  
O Man of the far away land,  
More art thou than all of the sages;  
More art thou than creed or command.  
To crown thee we need but to know thee;  
We need to live thee to prove;  
Nor time nor decay can o'erthrow thee—  
Humanity's ultimate love."

## HIS COMPANION

"HAST thou assumed a load  
Which few will share with thee,  
And art thou carrying it for God,  
And shall he fall to see?  
Be comforted at heart,  
Thou art not left alone:  
Now thou the Lord's companion art;  
Soon thou wilt share his throne."

# Facts to Remember

## Bibles for Troops

NEARLY 47,000 copies of the New Testament have been issued to troops leaving for overseas by the Victorian auxiliary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, Mr. E. J. Gosbell, general secretary, reported to the annual meeting on Feb. 23, at Bible House.

## Morale in Great Britain

"PEOPLE in Great Britain had a wonderful morale, and there was not the slightest sign of defeatism. That was due to the formula, and he would like to see it applied here, that there was no suppression of facts, except those likely to be of definite value to the enemy. There had been many changes in Great Britain since the war began. Now they did not count their money and did not count their position. Many had closed their houses, or lost their houses, and were living simply, so that everything could go into the fighting services."—Sir Keith Murdoch, in an address to Royal Empire Society, Feb. 24.

## A Planter Among Primitive Aborigines

THE story given in 'My Crowded Solitude,' by Jack McLaren, furnished a reviewer with an excellent subject for consideration by people interested in the aborigines. The author in this volume recounts his own experience as a planter on Cape York Peninsula, in endeavoring to change the habits and outlook of a primitive tribe of aborigines. He laid before the leaders his plans, which were to change a black man's jungle into a garden of palms. The natives caught his enthusiasm over the project, especially as promises of tea, flour and other luxuries were embodied in the scheme.

For a time they co-operated and then grew weary in well-doing, and the planter realised that his attempt to bridge the ages between nomadism and husbandry could only proceed slowly, and that while the whole world strode forward to the age of steel, the blackfellow remained far back in the age of stone. The moral of the story was that infinite patience is necessary to transform a native tribe of food-gatherers into a race of food-producers."

## "The Custom of Child Baptism"

ACCORDING to the "Christian Standard," A Martin Niemoller, the German preacher imprisoned by Hitler, has published a book titled "God is My Fuehrer." In a chapter called "Behold the Lamb of God," he refers to infant baptism.

"Now, the question is what we must do in reply to this command, 'Come!' which is constantly being reiterated. In the old days of Christianity this was quite simple; in those days the reply to the invitation, 'Come unto me!' was: 'Be ye baptised every one in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.' At that time there was a step forward, as it were—a new beginning. Our baptism could possibly do us this service, too. When I was baptised, the invitation of Jesus was issued to me quite personally. I wonder whether the custom of child baptism, as it is practised by us, has not—whatever its advantages—caused painful gaps in our Christian life by failing to show us evangelical Christians clearly that while it is imperative for us to accept Christ's invitation, our acceptance also demands a choice on our part. I wonder whether our custom of child baptism tends to obscure that point."

March 4, 1942

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

PREACHERS' PAGE

## Open-Air Evangelism

*Learning of the new venture of Lygon-st. church in evangelism, we sought details of the work for the guidance of preachers and churches in other centres. We are indebted to Eric McClean for this account of the enterprise.*

THE open air method of proclamation of the gospel has been accurately described as "one of the unexplored gold mines of the church of God of our day. Too long have we made the organised church, which is designed to be the spiritual home of the Christian, one of the few rallying grounds for evangelism. 'Go ye into the highways and byways and compel them to come in,' is the heavenly command. We have invited, rather than compelled them to come in; and the evidence of the failure of our method, lies in the fact that mostly they do not come."

The definite command "Go ye" (embodying the whole spirit of the gospel) breathes the spirit of urgent necessity. Our Lord himself; the apostle Paul; Wesley; Whitfield; Spurgeon, and other spiritual leaders, all used "God's own cathedral," with its dome of blue sky, as the place to take to the masses the sweetest story ever told by angel or mortal, of God's grace and love and compassion as told out at the cross of Calvary in his beloved Son. Thousands have been reached and saved in this way.

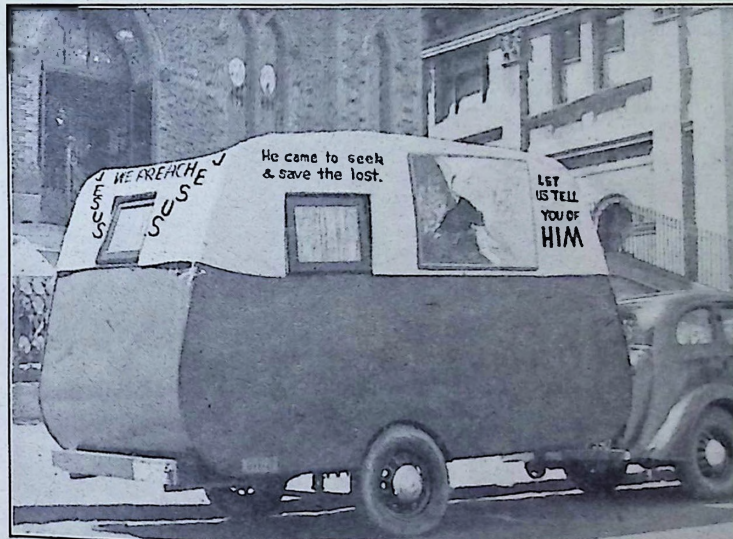
What ambulance corps, worthy of the name, would stand behind the lines, waiting for the wounded and dying to drag themselves in? Much missionary enterprise is characterised by aggressive outdoor evangelism. Why expect more of our missionaries abroad, and response to them by the heathen abroad, than we are prepared ourselves to do for the unsaved at home? If the people will not go to church the church must go to them. We dare not embrace to our hearts in silence the joy and hope and peace held out to all men in the redeeming love of Christ. It is the one message, above all else, mankind needs to-day. Believing this, the church at Lygon-st., Carlton, has joined hands with Methodist neighboring brethren in practical Christian unity enterprise of open air gospel preaching. Led by F. R. Raisbeck, who has provided a splendid caravan, with appropriate texts painted on the sides, a loyal band of Christian men and women stand forth in faithful witness of their Lord each Lord's day evening from 6 till 6.45 in residential areas near to the two church buildings. Amplifying apparatus is used, thus giving a splendid scope to the message. Bright singing of well known hymns of the Christian church is provided. Handbills are distributed in the locality informing residents of the time and venue and purpose of the meetings. The message of the gospel, sweetly sung in some beautiful hymn, is usually rendered by some of our splendid young women. God's Word (that "casket of gold, wherein the gems of truth are stored") is always read.

Above all, the gospel of grace is faithfully proclaimed under the guidance and in the power of the Holy Spirit. Thus the wind is given a voice, and upon the air, in Satan's own stronghold, is proclaimed the story of Jesus and his love. People who may never otherwise know "of the whole world guilt before God," who may be blind to their perilous position out of Christ, who are "without hope in all the world," are warned of sin and death, of resurrection and judgment to come. The way back to God is made clear. Pardon, and peace with God, is made plain.

One may enquire as to results. Who can say? Who can tabulate spiritual values or assess conquests in the spiritual realm? "The things which are seen are temporal, the things which are unseen are eternal." Who can say what exercise of heart, what strivings

with the Spirit of God are awakened in those who hear? "The day alone will reveal it." It is ours but to faithfully sow the seed and "God giveth the increase." It is ours to "cast the net for a draught of fishes." It is God's good pleasure to fill it if he wills.

As to prospects, the future is high and radiant with hope and possibilities. The scope of the work is infinite. Parents are invited to send their children to the respective Bible schools. The parents, themselves, are invited to the gospel services. Tracts and copies of the gospels are distributed. The friendly hand of helpfulness is extended. The word of com-



fort is spoken. The desire for service is emphasised. "The fields are indeed white unto the harvest; the harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few."

Of course testings have come and will continue to come, but, "greater is he who is for us than he who is against us." "In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us." Satan is not concerned with the sleeping saint nor the lukewarm Christian, but concentrates his malice on those who would name the name of Christ. May we say with Paul, "None of these things move me!"

The brethren carrying on this work of the wider ministry of the gospel would value the prayers and the presence of any of God's people who would take up the challenge of open air work and strengthen the witness for Christ. Speakers, vocalists, instrumentalists, etc., would be warmly welcomed. The consecrated, concentrated effort of the entire church is needed, in this which might well be the work of the church in the fast closing days of this dispensation of grace. The work is strictly scriptural, authoritative, stimulating and practical; but needs presentation in the strongest possible manner; that it be not brought into contempt. "A mighty spiritual awakening awaits the church of God when she starts 'prospecting' in the name of the Lord."

"I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,  
Or to defend his cause,  
Maintain the honor of his Word,  
The glory of his cross."

## "Only a Boy"

IN Scotland, many years ago, a faithful minister was waited upon one day by one of his stewards, who seemed to be under a great burden.

"I came early to meet you," he said. "I have something on my conscience to tell you. There must be something wrong with your preaching and work; there has been but one person added to the church in a whole year, and he is only a boy."

The old minister went into the pulpit that day with a grieved and heavy heart. He lingered in the church to pray, after the rest had gone. He wished to be alone. He had labored hard for years, only to be told at last that his labor was no longer blessed. Soon he became conscious that he was not alone, as he supposed. It was "only a boy."

"Well, Robert," said the minister, "what is it?"

"Do you think that if I were willing to work

THE harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he would send forth laborers into his harvest."

hard for an education I could ever become a preacher? perhaps a missionary?"

There was a long pause. Tears filled the eyes of the old minister. At length he said, "This heals the ache in my heart, Robert. I see the divine hand now. Yes, I think you will become a preacher."

That boy was Robert Moffatt. He was "only a boy," but the measure of the old minister's reward will be found in the gathered fruitage of the labors of Robert Moffatt the great African missionary.

### PULPIT DON'TS.

\*

DON'T study without prayer, nor pray without study.

Don't look for mental power without mental gymnastics, or spiritual growth without spiritual nourishment.

Don't mistake length for weight. A pound of steel drawn to a mile's length still weighs but a pound; and people weary with travel.

Don't forget that plenty of people will wrangle for religion, write for it, fight for it, die for it; anything but live for it. Try the latter.

## Notes on Current Topics

### Liquor and Gambling

THE Australian Council of Churches has written to the Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) congratulating him on his total mobilisation plan and the restrictions on the manufacture of non-essential goods. The council resolution urged the Prime Minister to act also against such "damaging and dangerous hindrances to the defence of Australia as the liquor traffic, horse and dog racing, and lotteries."

At the Methodist Conference in Sydney the president (Mr. W. N. Lock) is reported as saying that "people are still going to the dogs. They will reach their destination. The procession of hope still wends its way to the office of the State lottery. The brewers, who enrich themselves at the expense of the economic and moral welfare of the people, wield tremendous power. Social conditions in the State and Commonwealth are a source of grave anxiety. We do not seem to have a man, in the State or Federal Government, who is big enough, and strong enough, and courageous enough, to do what the times require." We hope that soon the man will come—and act.

### Hatred

A DAILY newspaper recently headed its Quiet Thoughts column with the following quotation from Pascal: "All men naturally hate one another. I hold it a fact that if men knew exactly what one says of the other there would not be four friends in the world." I confess to a feeling of deep regret at the use of this quotation. There is too much hate in the world, but it is not true that "all men naturally hate one another." There is much kindness and love on earth,

## Let Us Not Waver

H. J. Patterson, M.A.

Text.—"Let him ask in faith, nothing wavering."—James 1: 6.

I AM glad I have faith, for I have seen the man who has not. In a time of danger he has nothing to hold on to. The Christian has, and in this time of national peril he will not waver. To all we would say, "Have faith in God." We do not believe that the possession of faith will save us from any ordeal to which others are subjected. It did not for Abraham or Joshua or our Lord; but it will mean that there will be no spiritual collapse and always some meaning to life and some real objective.

### No Spiritual Collapse

If we suffer as a people a spiritual collapse then we are lost. If Christians suffer such the world is lost. Leslie Weatherhead said he was asked if a sense of fear when bombs were falling was indicative of a defective faith. He answered "No." Fear is a natural reaction to danger, and unless it go to extreme and cause paralysis may lead to speedy and right action. The Christian suffers it, but his faith will overcome it and enable him to perform his tasks with great courage and fortitude. Jesus in the prospect of Calvary and the agony, physical and otherwise, sweated as no other man has. We all are disciples of Christ, and though we enter a very garden of Gethsemane we shall say, "Not my will, but thine be done." We do not of necessity have to live, and if we die we die as heroes of the cross, loyal to Christ our Lord.

### Not Insured Against Destruction

Some people have the idea that if Christian then that should be as a kind of talisman or

even in a time of war. Whatever hate there is in the world ought to be eradicated. The writer is convinced of our duty to resist aggressors and invaders, but to foster hate is to do our country an injury. We wish to win the war, but not to lose our souls. Our Lord has by precept and example taught us the supremacy of love. It may be difficult for some to believe it in these days of strife, but it remains gloriously true that love is stronger than hate. Love abides; it is of the very essence of God.

### The Meaning of Life

BEVERLEY NICHOLS states in one of his books that W. Somerset Maugham finds life quite meaningless, and quotes him as saying: "I think that life has a great deal of rhyme and absolutely no reason. I entirely fail to see that it means anything whatever. It justifies itself only by the amusement it gives one."

When I read that, I feel glad that I am not a pagan, but a Christian taking the biblical view of the world and of man, and believing in a Creator and Sustainer of the universe who is also our loving heavenly Father. For the Christian, life is not meaningless or aimless. "To live is Christ, and to die is gain." The chief end of man is "to glorify God and to enjoy him for ever." Is the present absorption of so many people in debasing pleasures due to the fact that they have accepted the view attributed to Mr. Maugham that life "justifies itself only by the amusement it gives"?

*A. R. Mann*

a protection as a coat of mail used to be. But if our son die we should still believe in God. A young woman said concerning her soldier lover, "I do not pray for his safety, only that he may remain brave and unstained. He must take risks as others take them." Jesus never promised safety to his own. He told Peter of something to happen to him when old, and Peter died by crucifixion if we receive the tradition. James was killed with the sword, and thousands perished in the persecution. What he did promise were strength and calm and peace of mind, and these in death left such a witness that conquerors were conquered for Christ. Let us not waver, but keep faith strong in God. The apostles did not lose faith when Jerusalem fell, nor did the Christians of a later age when Huns and Vandals descended upon them from the north. We did not when Britain was bombed or when others have suffered. We shall not now.

If God ended the war to-morrow in some way a proud, victorious nation might slip back into paganism afresh. God might be able to do more with us if humble and penitent we suffer with him. Our goal is perfection, and that may be secured only by way of a cross. Faith in God may mean a passing through the fire in order that we may come out pure gold. A faith that is never tested is no faith to be proud of. But a faith that has stood the test we may accept as pure faith, the faith that God desires. Let us not waver. "If he slay me, yet will I trust him." Civilisation and nations rise and fall, but God is eternal and Christianity that is real endures. Only be strong, and of good courage.

## The Home Circle

### DAYLIGHT IS DYING

THE daylight is dying away in the west. The wild birds are flying in silence to rest; in leafage and frondage where shadows are deep,

They pass to their bondage—

The kingdom of sleep.

And watched in their sleeping

By stars in the height,

They rest in your keeping,

Oh, wonderful night.

—A. B. Paterson.

### REJOICING IN AFFLICTION

JAN MACLAREN tells a beautiful story of a little Scotch girl who was born blind, but in her great affliction she always rejoiced because, though she could not see, her other senses were so accurate. "And it isn't," she would say, "as if I had seen once and then lost my sight. My faith might have failed then. But I have lost nothing, and my life has been all getting."

### THE FIRST DUTY

THE first duty of a good choir is not to lead the singing, but to lead the worship. A choir of first-rate ability may be valueless because it simply sings professionally, and has no thought of worship. When choir members come first to worship God and to offer to him their gift of song, and you add to this beauty of voice and perfection of training—then you will have the perfect choir."

### HOPE

HOPE is the oldest and wisest counsellor of mankind, for without hope it is impossible for men to apprehend the power of the other great Christian virtues of faith and charity, and these alone can be the bond of Peace for all members of the human family. —Lord Halifax.

Judge.—"I cannot conceive of a meaner, more cowardly act than yours of deserting your wife. Do you realise you are a deserter?"

Prisoner.—"Well, if you all knowed dat lady as I does, boss, you sho' wouldn't call me no deserter. Ah is a refugee—dat's what Ah is."

## The Family Altar

### TOPIC.—LAME EXCUSES WORSE THAN NONE

- Mar. 9—Matt. 19: 16-22.
- " 10—Matt. 19: 23-30.
- " 11—Matt. 25: 14-30.
- " 12—Luke 14: 15-24.
- " 13—Rom. 1: 18-23.
- " 14—2 Cor. 12: 19-21.
- " 15—Psalm 107: 1-15; Matt. 8: 18-34.

IN manufacturing excuses, as a rule "the wish is father to the thought." Like the man who said, "I have bought a piece of ground and must needs go and see it," what is optional is, because of the wish that it might be so, raised to the level of positive duty. The trouble is that men want to go their own instead of Christ's way. They "do not attend to the call of God, because there is some other call which they like better." This world's affairs are so pressing, and its allurements so attractive. Yet, after all, good excuses are not to be found. All excuses are lame, and worse than none.

# Our Young People

C.E. Interests and Activities

W. W. Saunders

## CARRY ON!

"I AM doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease whilst I leave it, and come down to you?" Thus answered Nehemiah to enemies who, by constant opposition and hindrance, sought to interfere with the completion of his task of rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. The times were difficult. The Israelites hardly knew what to expect from their enemies or where they would strike. The temptation to leave the work, until circumstances and conditions were more propitious, must have been strong indeed. That the temptation was conquered is revealed by the quoted utterance of Nehemiah and the final completion of the task of building.

We are in a similar situation of uncertainty, difficulty and foreboding. The enemy may strike at any moment. The full black-out may soon be made compulsory for all. The temptation may come strongly to us to let go our church and C.E. work and services until more propitious times. What will our reaction be? The following from the pen of Henry T. Wigley, B.A., B.D., an ex-president of the British C.E. Union, may help in making our decision.

"I want to say that the real, basic and chief work of C.E.—the work of local societies and unions—can be continued vigorously and successfully even under war conditions. In saying this I want to remind Endeavorers that ever since the beginning of the war I have been in charge of a church in Liverpool, doing the work of the ordinary minister, and that there is no area in the whole country which has suffered more from heavy and repeated air raids than Merseyside. From personal experience, then, I am writing.

"Blackouts have no terrors for our young people once enthusiasm is aroused, and not even air raids daunt them. My own society, for example, not only met every week last winter, but actually reported increased attendances. And what a winter it was! Again and again the sirens went during the meeting. Sometimes we continued to the end, despite gun fire. Sometimes we were compelled to take refuge in a shelter, where we continued and ended the meeting. Some of our young people travelled considerable distances to attend. Experience in Liverpool proved that societies which adopted the bold-est policy succeeded best.

"Our local C.E. Union also continued to function, and even to flourish. About 100 attended its monthly meetings, which were really inspiring seasons.

"Endeavorers, as long as cinemas and public houses are still open, our meetings should not be closed down. Here is a practical test of the value we set on the weekly means of grace—are we prepared to run risks to have it? Our fathers ran greater risks to secure for us the right to meet in Christian fellowship. We should be unworthy of them if we were not prepared to run risks to sustain what had been bought with blood and tears.

"Endeavorers, do not be defeated by the increasing difficulties of these days. Accept the challenge. Launch out boldly. You will win. Remember, faith removes mountains, laughs at impossibilities and cries, 'It shall be done.'"

Have we made our decision, in face of the difficulties of the present situation? Surely it may be expressed in the words with which we began, "I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease whilst I leave it, and come down to you?"

# Interest in Young People in N.S.W.

NOT in many years has there been such interest manifested in the work among the Young people as there has been during the past month in readiness for the offering on March 1. Splendid meetings in which young people took part have been reported from many centres.

A greater responsibility rests upon Christian men and women now than ever before. Because of the breaking up of home life, and because of the lack of religious training in the majority of homes, thousands of children are receiving no Christian training. That being so, Christ comes to every church, and to every Bible school, and to every Christian Endeavor society, and to every other youth organisation, with every girl and every boy and says, "Take this child and care for it for me; train it for the future, help develop its talents, fashion its life, prepare it for service in the kingdom of God, and I will give thee thy wages." The future in a very real sense is in the hands of our youth.

## Hornsby Mission

Many surprises come in evangelistic missions. In districts which seem to give little promise of a successful mission, encouraging meetings have been held, while in some instances where great things have been expected the whole campaign has been difficult. Missioners Hinrichsen and Morris are now in a meeting at Hornsby, a suburb on the North Shore. No evangelistic mission has been held there for many years; the people have been largely indifferent, and the church has been weakened by removals from the district. Altogether it has been looked upon as an unresponsive field. To the joy of us all, the people are responding, the meetings are well attended, and decisions for Christ have been recorded right from the start of the mission.

## Easter Conference

The annual conference is being planned as usual in unusual conditions, but tremendous drawbacks are likely to be encountered. So many of our young men are in the fighting forces; their presence and enthusiasm we shall miss. Petrol rationing will affect many, and less delegates are expected from the country. We are hoping that the members of the Sydney churches will attend in larger numbers, and help provide the encouragement and inspiration needed to make the conference of real value.

## "The Communion"

In the February number of "The Chronicle," a little paper issued by a Presbyterian congregation, emphasis is placed upon the Lord's Supper. "These are anxious days for all of us, and we all need the strength and comfort that comes from communion with our Lord and Master. Let us not, then, miss the opportunity of meeting with him in obedience to his command, "This do in remembrance of me." Referring to the night meeting, the article continues, "The evening service is for those unable to come in the morning. If there are any who have made up their minds to attend in the evening for no other reason than that it suits them better, we would specially urge them to come in the morning. The evening communion is only for those who cannot attend at the morning hour, and not for those who consider their own convenience." The above is recommended to some of our own members who become "oncercs" by making the evening meeting serve two purposes.

## Preachers Move On

Two of our Sydney preachers are moving away to other fields. Stanton Wilson, who has done a very fine work with the church at Canley Vale, has already closed his ministry

and is on the way to Adelaide. Arthur Baker, who recently led the church at Kingsford through a successful mission with E. C. Hinrichsen and V. Morris, has resigned and has accepted an engagement with the church at Lismore. He will commence his labors in his new field within the next few weeks.—Ethebert Davis.

# The Empire and the East

OUT of the mire of war, and arising out of the conflict, a new world is emerging. Never can we go back to the past. A new order is taking shape. It is not the world of material comforts and security of which some have been dreaming, but a world in which the spirit of the East will mingle with the West. The East is now meeting West. Whatever occurs, we must expect that the East will share with the West in shaping the future of the world.

When we learn to look upon the peoples of the East as equals and take upon ourselves the responsibility of leading them in the arts of true government, in the way of social reform, and in a system of economic justice, we shall be performing a Christian task of real leadership. Our aim will then be not so much to save an empire, as to save the world.

The "Times" in a leading article has sensed the real situation, and boldly declared that "British dominion in the Far East cannot be restored—nor will there be any desire for restoration—in its former guise, but the defeat may serve, as did the American defeat, as a starting point for a fresh advance whereby, adapting herself to changed needs, Britain may again become the pioneer of new policies and a new outlook. No alternative is open. If she wishes to remain a great power, she must offer the world of the 20th century something the world needs."

We believe that China has all the potential power to rise as one of the great powers of the new world. Her Christian leader, Chiang Kai-shek, has shown himself to be a man of determined faith, broad vision and noble courage. His bond with India, Russia and nations in the Near East has set him in a unique position in this crisis. It seems likely that he will exert a great influence upon the events of the new world.

Too long have we looked upon the world through Western eyes and have forgotten that Christ himself belonged to the East. In him there is neither East nor West. Only as we give him the pre-eminence will the gulf be bridged and the peace of the world made secure.

## AS MEN BUILD

A WELL-KNOWN writer, under the name of A. "Elzevir," pointed out, in an article in "The Herald," Feb. 28, the need of a revival in religion.

"Now, in a moment of crisis, of dire peril, men's eyes are opened," he said, "and they see their world in a new light, the light of reality. They form a new estimate of values. They see what they have hitherto counted valuable—their comfortable villas, their pleasant gardens, their sports, their incomes, their place in society, their hobbies, their cocktail parties, their evenings at the pictures, their bridge, their bets, their beer, the whole framework of their lives—shattered, or in danger of being shattered; what they have mistaken for a real castle turns out to be a castle of cards built by children. They have been childish; now, in the new light flashed on their lives, they see things as they really are, and they get a glimpse of the difference between what is transitory and what is imperishable. This is what we mean—or, at least, what I mean—by a turning to religion, and I can see nothing shameful in it, nothing that lends itself to the gibes of the cynic."

# Here and There

We received the following telegram from Sydney on Monday:—"Much interest manifest Hinrichsen-Morris mission Hornsby; twenty-five decisions to date.—Little."

On Tuesday morning we received the following telegram from Inverell, N.S.W.:—"Jenner preaching powerfully Sunday; 8 confessions, 10 immersions, 13 welcomed.—Goode."

Chaplain G. O. Tease (Tasmania) is enjoying much success in his work among the men of the forces. At a gospel service on Feb. 22, when 200 were present, 83 confessed faith in Christ.

Victorian sisters are reminded of their contributions towards conference expenses. Will every church please collect and forward to Mrs. G. A. Lee, 108 Greville-st., Prahran, S.I, or send by delegate to conference?

We are glad to note that 41 young people are enjoying their experiences in the training camp at Hall's Gap, Vic., conducted by the Victorian Young People's Department and under the direction of W. R. Hibbert.

So as to bring the S. H. Mudge appeal fund to a close, church officers are kindly requested to bring the appeal before the notice of churches and send contributions to W. Gale, T. & G. Building, 145 Collins-st., Melbourne, as soon as possible.

Men in the Dandenong camp and those likely to be going there are invited to the services of the church of Christ, Robinson-st., Dandenong, Vic. The chapel is about two minutes from the station. Mr. Marshall, the preacher, is anxious to help the men who may be in his district.

The secretary of the Australian Nurses' Christian Movement, S.A., invites readers to forward names of young women who may be interested in the association. The club room is in Liberal Club Building, North Terrace, Adelaide. The annual public meeting of the movement is to be held March 6 at 8 p.m. in the Pirie-st. Methodist church.

A report from London, March 2, states that all bishops in Norway have resigned in a body, according to a Stockholm message. Yesterday in all Oslo churches a letter was read in which bishops declared that they could not carry on their work while the Quisling government continued to co-operate with a State which has been employing violence against the church.

Kalgoorlie Sunday school has arranged to broadcast each Sunday, for a period of three months, a special school session entitled "Children's Broadcast Service." The new venture is to commence Lord's day, March 8, 6 p.m., through station 6 KG Kalgoorlie. Listeners are asked to send numbers of favorite hymns from Sankey's 1200 to Mr. E. Smith, P.O. Box 173, Kalgoorlie, W.A.

John W. Baker passed away Feb. 26. At a crowded service in the North Fitzroy chapel on Saturday afternoon tribute was paid to the life and work of our brother. H. Swain conducted the service; W. Gale, L. Gole, secretary of the North Fitzroy church, and J. E. Allan, conference president, assisted. Mr. Swain also conducted the service at the Melbourne General Cemetery. John Baker had been preacher of the North Fitzroy church for 40 years and was very highly honored. We express deepest sympathy to Mrs. Baker and family. Next week a fuller tribute will appear.

"The Daily Mirror" (Sydney) made a vigorous appeal for the curbing of what it calls "the great liquor orgy." In depression years, 1931-32, it says, the beer consumption in Australia was only 47,764,508 gallons. Last year, 1940-41, it went up 100 per cent. over these figures to reach the all-time record of 97,045,469 gallons. In 1934-35, 8.68 gallons per head of

the population sufficed for a year's demand. By 1938-39 consumption per head had risen to 12.13 gallons; in 1939-40 to 12.25 gallons; and now in 1940-41 it has reached 12 gallons. Population figures include men, women and children. It is sad in the extreme to note the laxity of the authorities. "The Daily Mirror" pertinently states: "Over-consumption of alcoholic beverages is an avid waster of working time, not only in consumption, but also in the depressed output which inevitably follows excessive drinking. It is a matter for surprise that the liquor trade itself has not advanced any practical proposals for remedying a position that has become a matter of national concern."

On March 1 the church at Blackheath N.S.W., had a very happy experience. At morning service H. C. Gowans brought a splendid message, at close of which Miss Marjory Cosh made the good confession, was then baptised and received into fellowship. Miss Cosh is the elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cosh, of Palamallawa, N.S.W., and granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. G. Cosh, of Inverell, and Mrs. J. H. Warner, of Sydney church. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Cosh leave Blackheath shortly for their home. A small gift was made to each by the church. They carry with them the Christian love and best wishes of every member of the church.

The Victorian conference secretary, W. Gale, advises that tentative plans have been made for the conference at Easter. There will be no presidential reception on Thursday; the president will give his message early on Friday morning. The home mission breakfast will not be held, owing to the difficulty experienced by caterers in securing helpers. All meetings on Good Friday will be held in Lygon-st. chapel, and no sessions will take place in Masonic Hall. The conference will not meet on Saturday morning. Evening sessions on Friday and Saturday will be planned to close at sunset. It will not be practicable to have a conference picnic.

In view of the blackout regulations, there is confusion concerning the time of commencement of Sunday evening services. Some religious bodies have urged local churches to start services at 4 p.m.; others have recommended that the usual hour of 7 p.m. be retained. To guide some who may desire facts on this difficult question, we may state that the early hour was introduced in New Zealand. It was found that, although the blackout did affect the usual evening service, the late afternoon services were even less successful. In Britain many churches are returning to the evening hour, believing it to be more satisfactory. Many leaders of local churches are urging that meetings continue at the usual evening hour, 7 p.m.

## THE SHEPHERD'S STORY

CHRISTIANS never tire of the Christmas story. Here in Congo we never tire of seeing it acted out. The little children had prepared a lovely presentation of the shepherd's story for Christmas Sunday in the church, while members of the school gave two pageants out-of-doors on Christmas day.

Before six o'clock the little children had brought flowers to brighten the palm frond background. The shepherd's story from Luke was recited bit by bit by those seated in the audience, while their little friends silently enacted the story before our eyes. The row of angels singing "Glory to God in the Highest" was very sweet. Two church benches had been placed with their backs to the audience—screened off by palm fronds and flowers. One little angel was so small that a block of wood had to be put at his place so that when he

stood up on the bench with the other angels we would see more than the top of his head!

The recent remodelling of the church building makes such presentations more than mere plays; they become acts of worship. The congregation was very quiet during the entire pageant, joining in with the various Christmas carols which were sung during the story.

We will not forget the shepherd's story, for each picture remains painted in our hearts—painted by the little black boys and girls of Monieka, in the heart of the Belgian Congo.—Mr. and Mrs. Robin R. Cobble.

## TRANSFORMED BY BEHOLDING

BEING with Christ shows. It was said of the apostles that people "took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." Christ's main way of training the twelve was to have them with him. It is said: "He appointed twelve, that they might be with him."

The president of one of the largest banks of New York City told that after he had served for several years as an office boy in the bank over which he now presides, the then president called him into his office one day and said, "I want you to come into my office and be with me." The young man replied, "But what do you want me to do?" "Never mind that," said the president; "you will learn about that soon. I just want you to be in here with me." "That was the most memorable moment of my life," said the great banker. "Being with that man made me all that I am to-day." What must the disciples have received by being with Jesus? There is a wonderful transforming influence comes from being with Christ.

A Japanese mother asked the head of one of our mission schools if only beautiful girls were admitted. "Oh, no," the missionary answered, "we take any who desire to come." "But," protested the mother, "all your girls are very beautiful." The teacher answered, "We tell them of Christ, and seek to have them take him into their hearts, and this makes their faces lovely." Said the mother, "Well, I do not want my daughter to become a Christian, but I am glad to send her to your school to get that look on her face."

An apostle once wrote: "But we all with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image, from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." Beholding our Saviour, as in a mirror, we are changed by that studious contemplation into the same image till we grow from one attainment of glory to a higher. Our communion with him, our gazing upon his excellencies, fashions our being's growth and our spiritual life. Because we are free, we make our spiritual portrait as truly as we make our facial expression.—Selected.

## ADDRESSES

G. P. Clare (assistant preacher South Brisbane circuit, Qld.)—Waterloo-st., Moorooka.

A. W. Linton (secretary South Yarra church, Vic.)—37 Cunningham-st., South Yarra, S.E.1.

L. E. Snow (secretary Chaplains' Comforts Committee, Vic.)—6 Mile End-rd., Carnegie, S.E.9.

## Daily Devotional Readings

By J. R. Miller, D.D.

"Come Ye Apart," a year's readings on the life of Christ, and

"In Green Pastures," short selections for every day. Size, 6 x 4; cloth 4/3, leather 5/9. Size, 4 x 3, leather, 5/9.

"Counsel and Help," daily devotional portions. 6 x 4, cloth, 4/3; leather, 5/9.

"Help for the Day." Further selections of daily inspiration. 6 x 4, cloth, 4/3.

(Postage extra.)

KESWICK BOOK DEPOT  
315 COLLINS STREET, MELBOURNE

# News of the Churches

## TASMANIA

Launceston (Margaret-st.).—Since Mr. Arnold's arrival all services have improved. On Feb. 22 two splendid addresses were given, and 142 were at evening service; 138 broke bread during the day. On Feb. 15 Alice Barton was received by transfer from Hobart. Y.P.S.C.E. annual report showed a most successful year, the society having gained more members over past months than ever before.

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Kalgoorlie.—Mr. Fitch gave both messages on Feb. 22 and Owen Cannon rendered a solo at gospel meeting. Annual Bible school increase and attendance campaign commenced on Feb. 22, when attendance was 160.

Perth.—An offering for the Aborigine Mission totalled £24/6/3. At church meeting on Feb. 18 good-bye was said to A. G. Elliott just before he left the State to take up military duties. E. R. Berry, C. A. G. Payne, C. W. F. Smith and J. Wiltshire spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Elliott's excellent services to the church and young people's department throughout many years. R. F. Robbins helped the meeting with a recitation. On morning of Feb. 22 Mr. Wiltshire exhorted and visitors included Mr. Hillier (Echuca, Vic.). At gospel service the preacher gave an uplifting message and afterwards delivered a broadcast address.

## QUEENSLAND

Brisbane (Ann-st.).—At church annual business meeting on Feb. 25, A. H. Berlin, E. D. Collins, W. Keeble, B. N. Stanway, H. Stocks and C. S. Trudgion were elected deacons for two years. Women's Guild on Feb. 26 appointed Mrs. Brooke president, Mrs. Fulton vice-president and treasurer, Mrs. Berlin, sen., secretary. Mr. Allen Brooke co-operated with other leaders of Council of Churches in conducting special services of intercession in City Methodist church on Feb. 27. Services were again encouraging on March 1. There were 189 communicants. Mrs. Meeer was welcomed to membership following baptism. Miss Linda Elliott inspired the evening congregation with her solo.

Maryborough.—Increased attendance of members at Lord's table is encouraging; 68 broke bread on Feb. 15. At annual meeting on Feb. 25 officers elected were: Elders, A. Price, W. Dau and W. Maikie; deacons, B. O'Hanlon, A. J. Payne, H. J. Wiltshire, A. C. Popp, J. Ingham; deaconesses, Sisters V. S. Dallinger, W. Dau, A. J. Payne, M. E. Rampton and E. Ingham; secretary, H. J. Wiltshire; treasurer, A. J. Payne; organist, H. Hansen. Ladies' Guild report showed £45 had been handed to officers for the year to reduce loan fund for church improvement. Mr. Payne was thanked for his past 15 years of service as secretary. The church extends sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. J. Deighton in their recent sad bereavement.

South Brisbane Circuit.—C. R. Burdeu, Federal Conference president, was speaker at Moorooka on morning of Feb. 22. T. M. Kirkwood was preacher at Sunnybank, there being a fine congregation, including several visitors. Mr. Kirkwood was preacher at gospel meeting at Moorooka. Many visitors were present, and strangers are showing interest in gospel meetings. On March 1 Mr. Smith was morning speaker at Moorooka in absence of Mr. Kirkwood at Sunnybank. The Rocklea church commenced Sunday services on March 1, T. M. Kirkwood being preacher; meetings are held at 3 p.m. Mr. Kirkwood was preacher at gospel meeting at Moorooka, there being a splendid congregation. Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Dellow were received into fellowship by transfer from Ann-st. and H. C. Spratt by transfer.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Gawler.—Mr. Bartlett gave a splendid address on Feb. 15. Both services were well attended. On Feb. 19 the friends of E. J. Corbell gathered to give him a welcome home social. Mr. Anderson was speaker for both services on Feb. 22.

Whyalla.—On Feb. 15 Mr. Arnold and Mr. Cox spoke at morning and evening services respectively. On Feb. 22 Mr. Thurgood addressed both services. The women of the church decided to form a Ladies' Guild, Mrs. Cox being elected president.

Hindmarsh.—Home Missions day and harvest thanksgiving were observed on March 1. In morning Wm. L. Ewers gave the exhortation. Attendance was fairly good. Annual offering for home missions was £20. Percy Dillon, R.A.A.F., was in fellowship. At gospel service Mr. Ewers preached. Two young women, Betty Burford and Lorna Smith, and one young man made the good confession.

Cowandilla.—Meetings for February were bright and helpful. Mrs. Grigg, snr., received the home-call on Feb. 6. Sympathy is extended to relatives. A message on behalf of H.M. from I. Durdin on Feb. 15 was appreciated. On Feb. 17 a kitchen evening was tendered to Miss Grace Doley, who was married to Mr. D. Bain on Feb. 21. Mr. Hollams exchanged on Mar. 1 with local Presbyterian preacher, Mr. Scrymgour.

Adelaide (Grote-st.).—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on March 1. A. E. Hurren spoke at both services. At close of gospel address a young lad confessed Christ. Four persons baptised recently were received into fellowship on Feb. 22. The church extends sympathy to Sister Magarey in the loss of her brother after long illness, also to R. Manning in the loss of a loved one, and to the relatives of late Sister Craigie.

Queenstown.—On Feb. 22 Mr. Brooker addressed the church. He also preached at night. On March 1 Mr. Purdie spoke at young people's meeting. Mr. Brooker addressed the church, and preached at night. The school is practising for anniversary. Sister Stephenson was welcomed back from Whyalla. Sympathy goes out to Mrs. Mann, who has lost her mother, an old member of the church. Mrs. Arnold Harris is very ill in hospital after a serious operation.

Cottonville.—Three scholars of Sunday school have confessed Christ during recent weeks. Harvest thanksgiving celebrations were held on March 1, and a nice contribution to Morialta Children's Home resulted. Home mission offering was also taken up, and a good response made. Attendances have been excellent, and on each of last three Sunday mornings an average of 120 broke bread. Girls' Fellowship and Ladies' Auxiliary have commenced activities for 1942. Sunday school is preparing for anniversary. Letters from members serving overseas and in Australia show that they are well and in good spirits. Endeavorers are planning to send each a further parcel of comforts.

Fullarton.—On Feb. 15 A. J. Ingham gave an encouraging message in interests of home missions. Good meetings were held on Feb. 22, Mr. Beiler's messages being appreciated. Mrs. Moule, Mrs. C. Jenner and H. Overland have been welcomed by transfer. Sympathy is extended to W. Craddock in the loss of his father on Feb. 15 and the loss of a brother a few days ago, also to Mrs. A. Wickham in the loss of her brother. Harold Coles, a former member and Endeavor worker, had fellowship. Nurse Headland has returned home after two years' training at Pt. Lincoln Hospital. Harvest festival services were held on March 1 with good meetings. Mr. Beiler's messages were helpful. Special singing was rendered by choir and helpers.

## VICTORIA

Dandenong.—An enjoyable Sunday school picnic was held locally on Feb. 28. Mr. Marshall addressed both meetings on March 1.

Portland.—On Feb. 22 Mr. Mountjoy brought a splendid message. Mr. Phillips gave a helpful address on March 1. Offering for Aborigines' Mission was £2/6/9 and for Church Extension Fund £1/10/3.

Doncaster.—At conclusion of Mr. Banks' address on evening of March 1, 7 young women from Bible class made the good confession. After being in recess, the Christian Endeavor Society is resuming meetings.

Carlton (Lygon-st.).—On March 1 several visitors attended the three good services. Mr. and Mrs. Baker commenced their sixth year of ministry with the church. 132 broke bread. Choir anthems are much enjoyed each Sunday.

Newport.—Mr. Quirk has been on holidays, and in his absence services were taken by Allan Thomas on Feb. 15 and J. Plummer on Feb. 22, A. Pigdon and A. Griffith, whose help was greatly appreciated. A special series of addresses has been prepared by Mr. Quirk for March.

Boronia.—Over 50 attended a happy church and S.S. picnic at Williamstown beach on Feb. 21. Church annual business meeting was held on March 1. Treasurer's report showed a reduction of church debt from £287 to £167. Membership is 88. S.S. is practising for anniversary.

Castlemaine.—Following a Y.P. fellowship tea on Feb. 15, a number of Endeavorers took part in evening service, when C. E. Curtis delivered an appropriate message. As result of an exchange with Baptist church, A. E. Scott exhorted the church on March 1. Bible school has gained several new members.

Hampton.—Services on March 1, at which C. G. Taylor was speaker, were well attended and helpful. Mr. and Mrs. Storey are meeting with the church after several years' residence in Adelaide. Soldiers' Aid Society is doing helpful work. Physical culture classes for girls are starting for the year.

Ormond.—In absence of C. L. Lang on holiday F. Jowett gave the address at midweek prayer meeting. On March 1 Mr. and Mrs. Lang were back, and Mr. Lang gave a helpful message at worship service. At gospel meeting he gave a good message, and one young lady from the Bible class made the good confession.

Northcote.—On morning of Feb. 22 Mr. Kramer, of B. and F. Bible Society, was speaker. At night Mr. Atkin preached, and a young lad confessed Christ. On March 1 Mr. Atkin was speaker at both services. At close of gospel address two ladies and a young lad made their decision.

Ascot Vale.—Mission Band held first meeting for the year with a good gathering to say good-bye to Mrs. Higginbotham, vice-president. Members gave her some books. The auxiliary had first meeting, with several new members who took office. Endeavor is collecting jam to be distributed to needy cases. Church attendance keeps up fairly well.

Bendigo.—At annual business meeting of the church on Feb. 25, retiring deacons and elder were re-elected. On March 1 the morning address was given by Mr. Stiles Heath, B.A., representing Local Option Alliance. Mr. and Mrs. Vafiopoulous, from Hartwell, were received into fellowship. At night Mr. Combridge preached and Mrs. Combridge sang a solo.

Kaniva.—Harvest thanksgiving services were well attended on Feb. 22, when H. Earle delivered appropriate addresses. A tasteful display of harvest fruits was arranged by the ladies. Gatherings were somewhat smaller on March 1. A number of the young folk and Mr. Earle were absent at Hall's Gap. Local brethren conducted all preaching services.

Swan Hill.—A combined meeting was held in the Methodist church on Women's World Day of Prayer; Mrs. Hughes gave the address.

Members of Bible school were entertained at a social evening on Feb. 24. Harvest thanksgiving festival on March 1 showed fine display of gifts. Mr. Hughes brought appropriate messages to good meetings. Improvement is noted in attendance.

North Fitzroy.—Helpful and appreciated addresses have been given at morning services by A. A. Hughes, V. Foster and H. Swain. J. W. Baker received the call to higher service on Feb. 26, after an illness of eight months. Touching references were made at the services on March 1 of his life and ministry of forty years at North Fitzroy. H. Swain continues to preach to good congregations.

Montrose.—On Feb. 15 A. Read, of Ivanhoe, completed a happy time of service with the church, having filled in during College vacation. His help was most acceptable and much appreciated. Mr. Goldsworthy, of the College, commenced on Feb. 22, and gave two fine addresses. There is some sickness amongst members. Mr. Jeeves is in Alfred Hospital, having had an operation for appendicitis.

Coburg.—Work of auxiliaries is maintained despite loss of all young men to military service. Church attendances remain steady. On Feb. 22 W. Wakefield changed with W. Wigney, of West Preston. On Feb. 25 R. J. Sandells gave a lantern lecture on missionary work in the New Hebrides; offering amounted to £1/14/3. P.B.P. club is conducting a series of lectures in physiology and first aid.

Northcote East.—Meetings, owing to sickness and military duties, have been somewhat curtailed in attendance. Sunday school and church held successful picnic at the Zoo on Australia Day. Sunday school secretary Douglas Baker and Miss Jean Anderson were given a kitchen tea, organised by Mr. and Mrs. McLaughlan, in view of their approaching marriage. Many suitable gifts included presentations from church and Sunday school.

Reservoir.—Annual business meeting was held on Feb. 18. Officers for the year are as follows: Deacons, H. Allison, G. Hing, J. Plummer, W. Welsford, H. C. Clowes, W. MacInnes; secretary, H. K. Trathen; treasurer, G. F. Johnson; deaconesses, Mrs. McInnes, Mrs. Welsford. Meetings continue to be well attended, and all auxiliaries are in a particularly healthy condition. K. McElhinney has been appointed secretary of Bible school.

Parkdale.—Sympathy of the church goes out to C. A. Box and relatives of Mrs. Box, who passed away on Feb. 20 after long illness borne very bravely. On Feb. 22 Stan. Gilmour (Malvern-Caulfield) presided at worship service, and a quartette was well rendered at gospel service. Mrs. Allamby is very ill, and there is much minor illness. One-penny-per-week fund paid £4 off church building account during January and February.

East Kew.—Feb. 28 was Temple Day, which began with prayer at 7 a.m. During the day Mr. Candy was in attendance at the chapel and members brought their gifts. Ladies of the church were responsible for over £30 of the £70 so far received. At 8 p.m. a delightful thanksgiving service was held at which Miss Winnie Lee sang two beautiful solos. Mr. Candy addressed both meetings on Mar. 1 and Mrs. Gove rendered messages in song at gospel service.

Essendon.—Helpful services were held on March 1 to mark the 27th anniversary of the church and commencement of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Jackel's ministry. B. J. Kemp, church secretary, introduced Mr. Jackel and extended hearty welcome. Excellent attendances heard stirring addresses from Mr. Jackel. A party of ladies paid a visit to Christian Guest Home at Oakleigh. On Feb. 26 a kitchen tea was tendered by P.B.P. Club to Dorothy Ploog and Murray McNicol in honor of their approaching marriage.

Shepparton.—Annual church business meeting was held on Feb. 24. Afterwards Mr. Jackel was tendered a farewell social at which he was presented with a beautiful Scofield Bible. Presentations have also been made to Mr. and Mrs. Jackel from Ladies' Guild. Mr. Mudford has consented to carry on an interim ministry. On Feb. 22, the concluding meeting of Mr. Jackel's ministry, a young man made the good confession.

Preston.—Bible school anniversary celebrations commenced on March 1, the scholars rendering special hymns at afternoon and evening services. The talk of L. Snow, of Carnegie, was of special interest to the scholars in afternoon. G. M. Mathieson spoke at morning and evening services. In the morning his address had special reference to the death of Mrs. Meyer, who died on Feb. 23. The church regrets the loss of Mr. and Mrs. Morrall and family, who are removing from the district.

Blackburn.—There have been good attendances morning and evening; Mr. Bischoff speaking. A Good Companions' Club has been commenced under leadership of Mrs. Bischoff, with Miss Vi Inniss as Chief Companion. Junior Endeavorers, under leadership of Mrs. Miles, successfully took charge of Y.P.S.C.E. meeting on Feb. 25. Under auspices of Girls' Sunshine Club a first aid class of 41 is proving very successful. Sunday school anniversary practice has commenced under leadership of J. E. Payne.

Box Hill.—Harvest thanksgiving services were held on Feb. 22 with large attendances. Chaplain and Mrs. Young, who have settled in the district, were received into membership, also Mrs. Still. E. Hammond, choir-master, is back after having been laid up for a few weeks. At annual meeting on Feb. 25, the treasurer's statement showed that the past year was the biggest, financially, in the history of the church. All retiring deacons and deaconesses were re-elected. Church cricket team has had to disband, as seven of the players are connected with the armed forces.

Ringwood.—Mr. and Mrs. Collings were received into fellowship by transfer from Prahran, also Maurice Westmore on confession of faith and baptism. A junior C.E. has been started at close of State school on Tuesdays under supervision of Mrs. Pratt; 21 juniors have been enrolled. A Young Worshipers' League has been formed with 12 members, meeting on Sunday evenings. Quarterly meeting of Women's N.E. District Conference was held at Ringwood on Feb. 26. Attendance was good. Miss Burden and Mr. Campbell were married on Feb. 28. Departmental work is in a healthy condition.

Mitcham.—Mr. and Mrs. Prideaux have been received by transfer from Northcote. Mr. and Mrs. Evans have been received by faith and baptism. At church annual business meeting Messrs. Fowler, Wilkie and Wooster were elected deacons and Sisters Tudor and Fowler deaconesses, Reg. Bullen as superintendent of Bible school. The church has suffered loss by removal of Mrs. Osborne and family. Miss Margaret Osborne was married to H. Walmsley (preacher at Albury) in Lygon-st. chapel. Attendances at services and auxiliaries are well maintained. Mrs. Pratt has been elected president of Women's Mission Band.

Stawell.—Services on Feb. 22 were conducted by E. H. Randall. Attendances were largest for some time. An encouraging feature is the attendance of non-members at gospel services. There was one confession. Harvest festival services were held on March 1. F. Burt was speaker at morning meeting, while evening service was conducted by youth campers from Hall's Gap, more than 40 of whom attended. W. R. Hibbert led the meeting and A. A. Hughes gave the address, while others rendered special singing. The meetings were well attended. The ladies of the church entertained the visitors at tea and supper.

## NEW SOUTH WALES

Canley Vale.—On March 1 Peter Retchford, a student from the College of the Bible, took over the work and conducted morning and gospel services. An offering was received for Y.P. Department.

Georgetown.—On Feb. 22 Mr. Stimson gave the morning address; Mr. Amos was speaker in the evening. On March 1 Mr. Amos was speaker at both services. In the evening service a young lady and two young men were baptised.

Wollongong.—A visit from F. Hunting, assisted by young men from Belmore, was much enjoyed on Feb. 22. Mr. Hunting addressed the church at both meetings, and also conducted special school sessions. A young man from Sydney was baptised, and a young lady made her confession. A piano has been presented to the church.

Bankstown.—Special services on Feb. 22 for youth; keen interest prevailed. Mr. Youngusband spoke in morning, and at night the "gospel in song" was presented by the young people to audience that crowded the chapel. An American visitor was welcomed. The young people also had a fellowship tea. Dorcas sisters had a happy afternoon on Feb. 19. Friends were invited, and Miss Hope Russell spoke.

Burwood.—Several members have moved to country districts—Sisters Lawry, Larsen, Hoskesson and Fox. Although many young men are away on service, attendances are good, and the work is progressing. A youth council comprising representatives of all young people's auxiliaries and the official board has been formed. The passing of Mrs. Richard Verco is deeply regretted. Allen Stow has returned from Port Moresby.

Chatswood.—Mr. Macindoe brought a message to the church on March 1. At night Mr. Youens preached, and two boys made the good confession. Four who had accepted Christ the previous Sunday were baptised. One of the brethren has taken steps to have the "Christian" posted to every member of the church serving with the forces. Quarterly letters and canteen orders are sent to these men by the church, and letters expressing keen appreciation have been received.

Rockdale.—February proved a month of great blessing. All services were splendidly attended. On Feb. 15 over 160 communed, and at close of gospel service two were baptised. On Feb. 22 a married lady made the good confession. All auxiliaries are doing excellent service. On Feb. 21 Miss E. Lyle and Mr. Jim Hardiman were married. J. Henderson, A. Morris and G. Brown will enter the Bible College, Sydney. Bible school anniversary services were well attended on March 1, when the children sang delightfully under leadership of J. Buckley.

North Sydney.—The church annual meeting was held on Feb. 26, H. V. Larcombe presiding. Enrolment stands at 119 after allowing for additions by faith and obedience, 11; letter, 2; and baptised believers, 2. Losses were: letter 6 and by death 2. Eight additions had come from the school. Mr. Brydon as treasurer presented his 36th financial statement, which indicated that faithful giving had been maintained. Elections were: Elders, Mr. Larcombe and Mr. Paternoster; deacons, S. Barnes, W. Brydon, C. Fleetwood, F. A. Horsey, C. Lawrence, W. J. Modral and J. Rofe. Auxiliaries have been active, and work in the C.E. departments is very encouraging.

A MAGAZINE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

"PURE WORDS"

Through Church Agent, 1/- yr.; posted direct, 1/6.

Pictures, Mission Notes, Stamp Collecting, Y.W.L. Items, Correspondence, etc.

Samples on Application.

Austral Printing & Publishing Co. Ltd.,  
528, 530 Elizabeth St., Melbourne, Vic.

## Obituary

### R. S. Carter

**R. S. CARTER**, of Moonta, S.A., was called home on Feb. 11 after many months of pain and suffering at the age of 67. Our brother came out on the side of Christ during the Chandler-Clay mission in February, 1920. In 1921 he was appointed a deacon of the church at Moonta, an office he held until 1933. His Christian life was marked by a sincere faith in Christ, and the hope of immortality brought him much comfort in his latter days. He leaves a wife, two daughters and four sons. M. T. Lawrie, of Kadina, conducted the service at the graveside.—D. J. Lawrie.

### Mrs. Ada Grigg

**AFTER** a Christian experience of over 60 years, Mrs. Ada Grigg was called home at the age of 74. She accepted Christ early in life, and was baptised by William Judd at Alma, S.A. Some years later she married Edwin Grigg, a staunch and valued member of the brotherhood, and for a time they met with the church at Lochiel. When Tumby Bay district was opened for settlement Mr. and Mrs. Grigg were among the pioneers, and our sister had an active part in the establishment of the churches at Tumby Bay and Ungarra, the first service at Tumby Bay being held in her home. In 1915 the family moved to the Murray River district, and membership was transferred to the new cause at Berri. After 25 years of valued service and association with Berri church, the family moved into the suburbs of Adelaide, and eventually settled at Cowandilla, connecting up with the church meeting there. Mrs. Grigg continued in fellowship at Cowandilla until the time of her passing. In her home our sister excelled as a wife and mother. Her gracious hospitality and unassuming kindness were features of her Christian love and character, and made her a friend to all. She passed to be with her Lord on Feb. 6, in the quietness and peace of her son's home at Cowandilla. It was a beautiful sunset to a beautiful Christian life. She has left behind a loving husband, five daughters and one son, also 37 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren. These we commit to the unfailing comfort of our heavenly Father.—F.H.

### Mrs. Richard Verco

**MARGARET VERCO**, widow of the late Richard Verco, passed peacefully from this life at the home of her daughter, Mrs. T. A. Button, on Feb. 17, at the age of 84. She had been a faithful member of the church for 72 years. At the age of 12 she was baptised by her father, the late Geo. Day, at Newtown, N.S.W., and soon became an active worker with the church there (now Enmore), of which her father was one of the first preachers. Later she spent some years in South Australia, where she was in membership at Mallala and other places, and during the later years of her life she had membership with the churches at Mosman, Chatswood and Lane Cove (N.S.W.), but most of her active membership was at Enmore, where she was for many years a visiting sister and an active worker in many ways. Her greatest work was in her own home. In the words of one of her daughters, "She always made home happy." It was an open house for preachers and friends of the church. Prayer and Bible studies were regular features of every day. It is little wonder that in such a home her children grew to love the Lord. One daughter died at the age of 18, leaving a fragrant memory behind her. The others are with us still, and are all active in the work. The two sons are Geo. Verco (preacher at Hamilton, N.S.W.) and Merton Verco (Chatswood), and the two daughters Miss E. Verco (of our Sydney book room) and Mrs. T. A. Button. We commend these and her sister (Mrs. Bennett) to the comfort and care of a

loving heavenly Father, and rejoice with them in a triumphant conclusion to a beautiful life and the assurance of a glorious re-union. The services at the home and the Northern Suburbs Cemetery were conducted by the writer, B. G. Corlett and G. E. Burns.—D.W.

### IN MEMORIAM

**FLOOD**.—In loving memory of my dear wife and our dear mother, who passed away Mar. 11, 1939, at Blackburn.

"Not just to-day but every day,  
In silence we remember."

—Inserted by loving husband and daughters.

**FULFORD**.—In fond and loving memory of our dearly loved daughter and sister, Olive Elizabeth, who departed this life on Mar. 2, 1941.

Loved, remembered, longed for always,  
But it's all in vain to weep;

Tears of love can never wake her  
From her peaceful, happy sleep.

—Inserted by her loving father, mother, sister and brothers.

**HAINES**.—In loving memory of Thomas Edwin, devoted husband of the late Edith, loving father of Myrtle (Mrs. Gross), Harry, Stella (Mrs. Atkinson), called home Mar. 9, 1941.

Dear eyes are closed in sleep, the tired hands  
folded;

God has touched the flower his fingers  
moulded;

No sorrow now can touch the silent sleeper;  
May he who keeps our loved one be, too, our  
keeper.

—Inserted by his daughters and son.

### AN IN MEMORIAM SERVICE

will be held in North Fitzroy chapel on Sunday evening, Mar. 8, at 7 p.m., specially concerning the life and work of

THE LATE JOHN W. BAKER.

All past members and friends are cordially invited.

### ST. KILDA CHURCH

invites former members to the

65th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY AND BIBLE SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

March 22:

11 a.m., Principal T. H. Scambler.

4 p.m., Mr. Thos. Hagger.

March 29:

11 a.m., Mr. W. H. McCallum.

4 p.m., Mr. J. C. Cunningham.

—L. Finger, sec., 12 Evelyn-st., S.2.

### PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE

EAST KEW BIBLE SCHOOL 19th ANNIVERSARY  
MARCH 22 and 29

Past members if unable to attend please send greetings to F. H. Elliott, 22 Belford-ave., East Kew, E.4.

### WANTED

Turner and fitter for general work; constant work for suitable man. Applications will not be considered from any person who is engaged in the production, repair or overhaul of munitions of war, war equipment or war supplies unless such person is not actually employed in his usual trade or occupation. Apply Wenk & Johnston, engineers, Tompson-st., Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.

### EVACUATION

Wanted, Christian lady with child to board with church member, close to school and shops. Write "Company," Tecoma P.O. Safe area.

### FOR SALE

Piano, by Weidig, walnut, iron frame. Apply by letter to Miss Bowey, 17 Finlay-st., Albert Park.

### TO LET

Hampton, furnished flat, S.C., in comfortable home, minute beach, station and shops. Book now. "Thalassa," 23 Orlando-st., Hampton, S.7. Phone, XW1348.

Neat comfortable room, would suit working girl, convenient to city, board optional. Reply "Widow," c/o Austral Office.

**Miss M. E. Pittman**, L. Mus. A. (Univ. of Melb.)  
**Teacher of Singing**

"Brenwood"  
36 Willis Street  
Hampton, S.7

Also at  
Lygon Street  
Christian Chapel

Victorian Churches of Christ  
**HOME MISSIONS**

A Practical Example of  
the strong helping to bear the  
burdens of the weak

A Practical Example of  
State-wide

Co-operation in  
Evangelism

Send now to W. GALE  
Home Mission Secretary  
T. & G. Bldgs., 145 Collins St., Melb., C.1

BETTER FEET. BETTER HEALTH  
**HORACE L. LEE** M.A.I.S.Ch. (Melb.)  
D.I.S.P. (London)

### FOOT SPECIALIST

Successfully Treats All Foot Ailments  
Evening Appointments if Desired  
**LEE'S PHARMACY, 108 Greville St., Prahran**  
LA 1036

Consult **B. J. KEMP** Cent.  
**JEWELLER** 8604

Book  
B'ldg. 6th Floor, 288 Lit. Collins St., Melb.

SATISFACTION ASSURED

Watches — Rings — Plateware, Etc.

Discount to Readers of "A.C."

**WATERS & ENNISS**

(C. J. Waters, J.P.; R. Enniss, J.P.;  
L. S. Millis)

271 Collins St., Melbourne

**LICENSED REAL ESTATE AGENTS**

Property Managers and Salesmen  
Home Builders

See Us About Your New Home

We make necessary financial arrangements

WE SPECIALISE IN  
ERECTING MODERN BRICK HOMES

A GOOD BIBLE is necessary for every Christian worker. The Austral will send one on approval if kind and price are stated carefully.

Austral Co., 530 Elizabeth-st., Melbourne.

## Six Hundred Shared a Meal

H. R. COVENTRY, who has now well established himself again in the old field at Baramati, writes cheerfully at new year regarding that centre.

"I think that my last letter gave you a report of our recent camping activities. We had planned another camp at Wadgaon, but at the last minute the bungalow was wanted for some government official, so we had to give up the big camp. However, I sent out three preachers for ten days to Wadgaon, and they visited with Tersingrao, the resident preacher, all the nearby villages. I went out and stayed one night with them in a little tent. At the present, there is a big military camp at Karanja, just five miles beyond Wadgaon, and many of the people are working there. The camp has disorganised the local conditions somewhat, and I don't think it wise to attempt much concentrated work there for a time. The preacher will remain and hold the fort and seek to bring in the enquirers. We are planning, however, to spend some time at Shirsuphal and other centres shortly.

"Our Christmas has come and gone. What a time it was! Our own two girls came home from school on Dec. 10, then we started. My personal concern was the feast for the community. Mrs. Coventry looked after sweets for all the school and other children, Miss Vawser prepared presents for school children, and Miss Wiltshire prepared for the scripture classes and women. I won't go into details of what others did, but I know that about 800 children were given sweets, including the children on the outstations, Bori, Shirsuphal, Parowdi, etc. I had to visit the latter and distribute. For Bori, however, we had the Baramati church women prepare the presents, and they went out, too, and made the distribution in Bori before a great crowd.

"We decided to ask the non-Christian Takari on the Free Colony to join the Christian community for the Christmas feast. Most of them did, and when we made a rough count at meal time we found over 600 were sitting together sharing a common meal. It was a sight to remember. All appreciated it very much.

"Yesterday was a red letter day for the church. We had a very fine service Christmas morning and another New Year's morning, but it remained for the climax to come yesterday. After Sunday school, at 10.30 a.m., there was a very fine baptismal service, conducted by J. R. Sathie. Three lads from the orphanage were baptised, Sumitra, Motiram and Sona, the latter being the son of a former Takari Bhampta whose mother and brother are now Christians. There was also Madhukar Barse, son of our preacher at Bori, and Menohar Shankar, whose father is a convert from the Takari Bhamptas. So we see the next generation coming to Christ. After the service I went into the sick room near the chapel to visit a very sick Takari woman whose husband was caring for her night and day. These two have been near the kingdom for some time. The woman, Hirabai, had told Miss Wiltshire that she loved the Lord Jesus and was ready for baptism. We talked it over, and talked to the husband too. At last it was decided that Hirabai was too weak to be baptised, but she wanted to own Christ publicly. In front of a little company there in that room Mr. Sathie took the confession of faith of both Hirabai and Yellappa, her husband. Yellappa was baptised before the evening service, and he with the five lads was received into the church, as was also Hirabai, but in the spirit. She could not be moved. She is gradually slipping away, and may not last many days. We went again to the sick room after the afternoon service and had another little service with her; this time the women came too, and sang a beautiful soothing uplifting hymn

of joy. Her body is weary, but her spirit is bright. A day long to be remembered! Please remember these lads and Yellappa, and his three little boys who may soon be motherless."

### TO TELL OF OTHER LANDS

WE draw attention to the March issue of our overseas quarterly, "Goodly Pearls." This number will have an article on South America, and will be suitably illustrated. For some time the Federal Board have felt that the leading mission countries of the world should be brought before our people. More should be known of all non-Christian countries and their peoples, as well as the need that exists to make Christ known. Mrs. W. F. Nankivell has kindly undertaken to write a series of articles dealing with India, Africa, China, etc. Our readers can be assured that these interesting articles will give valuable information and help auxiliary leaders greatly.

The Federal Board also announce that a study circle booklet is being prepared for use among young people's societies, Christian Endeavor, Bible class groups, etc. The title of the book will probably be "Sharing Our Responsibilities," with chapters as follow:—

1. "The Fellowship of the Gospel," H. A. G. Clark.
2. "Widening Horizons in Fellowship," A. A. Hughes.
3. "The World Fellowship of the Church," Lyall Williams.
4. "Sharing Our Fellowship, India," G. H. Oldfield.
5. "Sharing Our Fellowship, China," A. Anderson.
6. "Sharing Our Fellowship, New Hebrides," D. G. Hammer.
7. "The Unfinished Task," Keith A. Jones.

It will be seen that those who have consented to write are among the best available to handle their subjects, and the Board feel the book will meet a real need. The book cannot be finalised before the middle of the year.

The Children's Day programme for 1942 will soon be ready. The special committee who prepared the material last year have again given time and thought to the programme. The title this year will be "The World for Christ," and will be divided into kindergarten, primary, junior and senior groups. We urge that all schools will use the programme, copies of which are supplied free of cost.

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

### TYPEWRITING AND DUPLICATING

MISS MINNIE MITCHELL  
31 Queen St., Melbourne (3rd floor)  
Tel. MU 3433. Special rates Church work

### THE BOOK OF THE HOUR

#### "INEVITABLE"

Read "Inevitable" and cheer up!

"Inevitable" shows the final overthrow of Britain's enemies, and future glory of the church of Christ.

"New Life" would "like to see every minister reading this book. The "Australian Christian World" said: "Inevitable" is both refreshing and challenging." A bookseller writes: "A minister came back and purchased six more copies to pass to his people. Please send 50 more."

"Inevitable" is intensely interesting page by page from beginning to end. Post one to your minister, relatives and friends in the fighting forces. If desired, send names and addresses, and we will mail them for you.

Obtainable from Price 1/-, post free  
A. E. Gay, 5 Coronation-st., Geelong, Vic.

### F. J. LANG

WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER  
23 years with late F. A. Newmans Pty. Ltd.  
Engagement Rings, Wedding and  
Birthday Presents  
Watches, Clocks and Jewellery  
Repaired  
Satisfaction guaranteed  
4th Floor, York House  
294 Lit. Collins Street, Melb., C.1  
Phone Central 4293

NERVES, CATARRH, ULCERS  
GALLSTONES, ETC.

TAKE BOTANIC REMEDIES  
Many Testimonials

Consult H. WATSON  
(of India)

Room 8, 4th Floor, McEwan House  
343 Lit. Collins St., Melb., C.1  
Phone M 5019



### Don't Be Afraid.

YOU'LL NOT HAVE TO  
BUY A NEW RADIATOR.  
Damaged, Leaking, Boiling  
Radiators Repaired. Is the  
car hard to start? We are  
Starting, Lighting and  
Ignition Experts.

RADIATOR HOUSE,  
CENT. 8788 305 LATROBE ST., MELB.

## WHEN THE SUN SHINES

— WINTER SEEMS FAR AWAY

There is, however, no good reason for thinking that one will never be caught in the rain. It is wise to build up a bank balance for protection against life's rainy days. It means peace of mind, and if, luckily, no emergency arises, then the money saved will surely be most useful

## STATE SAVINGS BANK OF VICTORIA

GUARANTEED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Reserve Fund £4,045,000

Head Office  
Elizabeth St., Melbourne

# Social Service

## Notes and Comments

Will. H. Clay

### Air Raid Precautions

SOCIAL implications following an air raid are almost overwhelming, and the degree of unnecessary suffering that will follow will largely be conditioned by the degree of preparedness. The government has moved, doubtless by lessons learned from other countries, in many directions, to, as far as possible, prevent loss of life and limb and the destruction of property. Shelters in public and private places are being constructed; but it would appear that, although advice has been offered as to the kind of shelter one should build, every man is left to his own devices. Indeed, he can, if he wills, ignore the whole matter. A little thought will convince us that preparations for an air raid leave much to be desired. Unless some form of compulsion is introduced, the effect will be disastrous.

### Evacuees

Even here there is a lack of uniformity. Regulations with regard to brown-outs and black-outs seem to assume that we may expect a raid at any time, while those relating to evacuation are suspended. The government has taken some things in hand with firmness. It has entered our homes, has made and is making hitherto unheard of demands, but these are in suspense. One thing is certain, should calamity come upon us we shall be drawn closer together. Suffering has always been the precursor of fellowship. What, at the present time, we do grudgingly or under compulsion, in the crisis we will do naturally and gladly. It is a pity that we insist on paying such a price for such a desirable change.

### Christian Fellowship Association

This association has called to our churches for nearly seven years to make the fellowship of Acts 2: 42 real, and many are still critical and prejudiced. C.F.A. is entirely our own movement, and there is evidence to prove that, in the minds of many, this may be its weakness. It has demonstrated its value again and again. It offers a Christian basis of benevolence and kindness which alone can operate in a crisis. The great need, and suffering in the wake of the army are being met in well organized countries by co-operation and fellowship which have produced a unity of soul when the spirit of Pentecost is seen—"not one of them said that aught of the things which he possessed was his own" (Acts 4: 32). Why must we wait to be compelled? Churches of Christ have a splendid opportunity of proving their loyalty to Christ, and each member the one to the other.

### A "Curtin" Lecture

Our Prime Minister, Mr. John Curtin, publicly expressed his disgust at the action of racing clubs of Victoria in providing two race meetings on one day, in spite of his urgent request for a curtailment of organised sport. It is understood that he has given the Victorian Premier a sharp rebuke in addition to making his protest. The rebuke, however, was given privately. Some restrictions of broadcasting are offered in the hope that the people's protest will cease. Mr. Curtin has stated in his appeal for an all-in war effort that "beer and bets should give place to brain and brawn." If he means this, it is quite evident he has not the courage to force the change. If ever there was a time when a Prime Minister was needed whose morals were stronger than his politics it is now. Our Empire leaders are letting us down badly, and no support for a good moral clean-up can be expected. Most reverently we pray, "God help us!" News has just come to hand that the Premier of South Australia has banned horse-racing. There is nothing to suggest that other States will fol-

low. Racing and booze are largely, it is said, 80 per cent. in the hands of the R.C.'s. The 20 per cent. are not Protestant.

## 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.]

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

MAY I take the liberty of asking, through your paper, if there is any reason for not including the National Anthem in church of Christ service? I have visited many other churches, all of which sing the first two verses as a prayer. Also I have visited several churches of Christ. Two of these omitted the anthem at both services.

At such a time as this, I feel that it is needful to bring the people to their knees in prayer, even through this anthem, acknowledging God's power to save Our king is setting the example by calling the people to prayer. Surely we can see that to fail in this war is to fail to enjoy Christian living, and be subject to the harshness of the aggressor nations, if indeed we were allowed to even meet at all. "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and unto God the things that are God's." With our king, we have the liberty to render unto God his due, undeterred by a power that tramples on the things of God: Honor the king, we are also told. Loyalty to our God means loyalty to a Christian king. Let us all sing prayerfully and earnestly, "God save our gracious king."—L. Bide.

[Churches of Christ are independent congregations, and each congregation makes its own decisions concerning the form of service to be followed. No one is able to speak on behalf of all congregations; individual groups can only speak for themselves. We have every reason to believe, however, that all churches of Christ are loyal groups and honor the king. All join in special days of prayer. All, as far as we are able to judge, use, on occasions, the first verse of the National Anthem as a prayer. It may also be pointed out that prayers for king and nation are included in the services of the church. Members of churches are not given to mere verbal repetition of prayers (Matt. 6: 7). For that reason the set prayer that has become known as the Lord's prayer is not always included in churches of Christ services, although it is always repeated in denominational churches; but that does not mean that churches of Christ are less loyal to Christ. Neither ought the omission, on occasions, of a set national prayer indicate lack of loyalty to the king. We desire that prayers for our king and country be offered during these days of anxiety. We agree with our correspondent that we must bring our national needs before God. We are always calling attention to that fact. Not only must we pray. We need to repent in humility for our national sins and make deeds reflect our sincerity when we pray "God save our gracious king."—Editor.]

### "GOG AND MAGOG, NOT ARMAGEDDON AND NOT PRE-MILLENNIAL"

Containing new light from Ancient Sources on Details of Prophecy of Ezekiel 38 and 39  
By Lionel A. Johnston  
64 Alma Road, St. Kilda, Victoria  
Highly Commended. Price 1/- (post. 1/1)  
From Religious Book Depots or Author

### Dignity and Satisfaction

## LEWIS - - Funerals

Our Funeral arrangements are a fitting tribute to the departed, no matter how humble the services you can afford.

RING JA 1066

R. H. LEWIS - Director

## OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Wanted:

Gifts Small & Large

Contributions from Victoria should be sent to

D. E. Pittman, Treas., 530 Elizabeth-st. Melbourne

## Your Eyes

should have every comfort and should

always be at peak efficiency

Ensure this by visiting—

## W. J. AIRD Pty. Ltd.

ALTSON'S BLD'G (1st floor) (W. J. Aird, F.V.O.A.)

Cr. ELIZABETH & COLLINS STS., MELB.

Phone 6937 Central

## J. FERGUSON & SON

J. Ferguson - E. J. Collings

### Funeral Directors

712 HIGH ST., THORNBURY

Phone, JW 3037

176 High St., Northcote, JW 3333  
47 Vere St., Collingwood, J 1448

Orders promptly attended to  
Up-to-date Motor Service

## WARD BROS.

(Australian Sewing Machine Co.)

Established over 50 years

Our reputation protects you

80% Australian made



### REBUILT MACHINES FROM £5

Electric Portables and Cabinet Models  
Prices to suit all. Write for Catalogues  
25 Years' Guarantee. Expert Repairers

Head Office

40-42 Errol St., Nth. Melbourne

Phones: F3985, F5977

222 Chapel St., Prahan; 252 Smith St.  
Collingwood; 51 Royal Arcade, City;  
Brunswick; Footscray

## THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

# LYALL & SONS PTY. LTD.

39-51 Leveson St., North Melbourne  
Chaff and Hay Pressing Mills at Lara  
**CASH CHAFF, HAY, GRAIN, PRODUCE and  
HARDWARE MERCHANTS**

Exporters of Pressed Hay, Chaff and Colonial Produce  
Seed, Oat and Grain Specialists—Grass,  
Clover and Other Seeds.

All kinds of Poultry Feed and Meals supplied.  
Manufacturers of "Excello" Chicken Feed,  
Laying Mash, and Calf Food.

### HARDWARE LINES:—

Galvanized Iron, Spouting, and Ridging, Fencing  
Wire, Galvanized Black, Baling & Barbed Wire,  
Wire Netting, Chicken Netting, and all other  
sizes. Galvanized Water Piping and Fittings.  
Cyclone Gates and Fencing Supplied.

We stock and can supply everything required for  
the Poultry Yard and the Farm.

For Service, for Quality,  
for Price, try

## LYALL'S

## Christian Guest Home

139 Atherton Road, Oakleigh  
S.E. 12, Vic.

A Home for Christian Men  
and Women.

The ages of most of the guests exceed  
80 years, and three are over 90 years.

To care for these in their remaining  
years is an increasing responsibility in-  
volving personal attention and in some  
cases nursing.

Your help is needed.

Remember the Home in Your  
Will.

Will. H. Clay, Sec.  
241 Flinders Lane,  
Melbourne, C.1.

Tel. MU 2104.



## Social Service Department and Christian Fellowship Association

Social Service Committees of all  
States offer assistance to all mem-  
bers in time of need. The measure of help is  
according to the means provided.

Join the C.F.A. and make your regular con-  
tribution. Agents in all churches.

"From each according to their ability,  
To each according to their need."

Information from Secretaries:

Will. H. Clay, 241 Flinders Lane, Melb., Vic.  
T. P. Dale, 69 Campbell St., Sydney, N.S.W.  
T. A. Fergusson, 12 Marne Rd., Woolloowin,  
N.3, Queensland.  
J. Wiltshire, 134 Palmerston St., Perth, W.A.

Large calendar free to any address on request.

### OVER 600 BAPTISMS

By Home Mission Workers in N.S.W.  
in 1941!

#### REMEMBER

God's Work in your Will.

#### REMEMBER

God's Will in your Work.

#### EVANGELISM

Is His Will and your Work.

#### DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER

The N.S.W. Home Missionary Committee.  
E. C. Hinrichsen, Director of Evangelism,  
69 Campbell-st., Sydney.

## The Reminder of the Trees

(Romans 14: 7)

HARRY shared some vivid recollections of a  
camp with the boys at Mount Macedon.  
Such nicknames! Those plums! The menu!  
The memorable hikes! "There was a heat  
wave back in Melbourne," he declared, "but  
we nearly froze at night." "I'll never forget,"  
he continued, "how the still of one evening  
was broken by a sudden, successive, smash!  
bang! crash! smash! In alarm we supposed a  
dislodged boulder was descending on our tent  
in the darkness. Then soon all was quiet."

"Next day we discovered what had hap-  
pened. A huge tree, all decayed inside, sud-  
denly fell upon its neighbor, causing it to fall  
and break a third tree. Last of all a fine  
little sapling got smashed. It taught us to  
be more careful where we pitched our tent in  
future, and occasioned a remark that men like  
trees may suddenly fall because they have not  
arrested some subtle inner decay or secret sin."

"However," Harry added, "I've recalled the  
incident dozens of times, for it has been a  
graphic warning to me. It links up with Paul's  
word about the folly of a man supposing that  
the way he lives or dies is merely his own  
affair. You know the text: 'For none of us  
liveth to himself, and no man dieth to him-  
self.'"—G. J. Andrews.

### THOUGHT

*If you wish your neighbors to see  
what God is like, let them see what  
he can make you like.*

—Charles Kingsley.

### PREACHERS' PROVIDENT FUND.

With which is incorporated the Aged and Infirm  
Evangelists' Trust.

Established by the Federal Conference of the  
Churches of Christ in Australia.

Members of Committee: T. E. Rofe (Chairman),  
H. E. Bell, J. Crawford, C. Graham, F. S. Steer,  
Dr. C. A. Verco, W. H. Hall (Hon. Secretary and  
Treasurer).

Representative in Victoria: W. Gale, T. & G.  
Building, 145 Collins St., Melbourne, C.1.

Representative in South Australia: General S.  
Price Weir, 2nd Avenue, East Adelaide.

Representative in Western Australia: Roy Ray-  
mond, 260 Bagot Rd., Subiaco.

The Objects of the Fund are:

- 1st. To assist financially Aged and Infirm and Retired Preachers.
- 2nd. To control and manage an Endowment Fund to which Preachers may contribute.

In order to do this effectively, the Committee needs the practical sympathy and support of all the churches and brethren throughout the Commonwealth.

Please forward contributions to W. H. Hall, "Hurlston," Carysfort St., Blackheath, N.S.W., making money orders and postal notes payable at making money orders and postal notes payable at P.O., Blackheath (N.S.W.). Contributions may also be sent to W. Gale, S. Price Weir and Roy Raymond.

## Alfred Millis & Sons Pty. Ltd.

Wholesale Fruit Merchants

Registered Office: 438 Queen St., Melb.

Phone F 1862

Also Queen Victoria Wholesale Markets

### THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Editor: A. W. Stephenson, M.A.

Manager: D. E. Pittman.

SUBSCRIPTION.—Through Church Agent, 2d. week; Posted Direct, 10/6 year; Foreign, 14/-.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Send old and new address a week previous to date of desired change.

CHEQUES, MONEY ORDERS, etc., payable to D. E. PITTMAN.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—Marriages, Births, Deaths, Memorials, Bereavement Notices, 2/- (one verse allowed in Deaths and Memorials). Coming Events, 16 words, 6d.; every additional 12 words, 6d.; displayed, 2/- inch. Wanted, For Sale, To Let and Similar Ads., 24 words, 1/-; every additional 12 words, 6d.

Other Advertising Rates on Application.

## The College of the Bible

The Board of Management desires to acknow-  
ledge, with thanks, the receipt of the follow-  
ing contributions during the month of February:

### Churches

Victoria.—Fairfield Park, £1/3/-; South Rich-  
mond, 8/-; Albany, D.E., 10/-.

N.S. Wales.—Bexley North, £1.

Per N.S.W. Committee.—Paddington, £1/16/6;  
North Sydney, £1/8/-; Burwood, £14/15/1; En-  
more, 14/1; Marrickville, £7/13/4; Lane Cove,  
£1/6/8; Penshurst, 15/6; Kurri Kurri, 12/4;  
Mosman, £1/2/3; Hurstville, 11/1.

South Aus.—Kensington Park, 12/6; Broken  
Hill, 9/-.

Western Aus.—Per W.A. Committee, £1.

Tasmania.—Invermay, £4/10/-.

Queensland.—East Ipswich, 5/6.

### Special Contribution

Victoria.—Miss S. E. Roberts, for late Mrs.  
W. G. Daff, Miss E. J. Roberts and herself, £125.

### Young People's Organisations

Victoria.—St. Arnaud Inter. C.E., 5/-.

### Individual Contributions

Victoria.—E. Morrison, 10/-; E. H. Beament,  
£1; Miss E. Middleton, 5/-; Mrs. Chivers, £1.

South Aus.—Exors. Estate W. Morrow, In-  
come a/c, £60; Mrs. H. W. Trowbridge, 2/6;  
Anonymous, Adelaide postmark, 5/-.

Western Aus.—Mrs. H. M. Dean, 10/-; Mr.  
and Mrs. F. M. Thomas, £1.

### Debt Reduction Appeal

Victoria.—Miss E. L. Ashwood, £50/1/3; J. A'-  
kinson, £1/1/-; Miss Vivian, £10; J. T. Hamil-  
ton, £10; G. L. Murray, £25; F. Ludbrook,  
£5/0/6; Kyneton Church, £2/5/-; J. Mann, £1;  
"In Memory," £10; S. Fordham, 5/-; J. Byrne,  
£1; C. W. Emmett, 10/-; G. R. Clark, £1/1/-;  
J. Mackay, £1; T. Hagger, 10/6; W. T. Atkin,  
£5; A. Cairncross, £5.

Western Australia.—Kalgoorlie Y.P.S.C.E., £1.

R. L. Leane, Hon. Treas.

Fred. T. Saunders, Sec. & Org.

Further contributions are invited, and  
are needed urgently. Income is light  
in the early months of the year and ex-  
penses heavy.

Our faith shall not FAIL!

Let all unite in the effort to make the  
College

"Free from Debt in 'Forty-two.'"

## College of the Bible

of Churches of Christ in Australia

GLEN IRIS, VICTORIA

CONTROLLED BY THE FEDERAL CONFERENCE

Board of Management: R. Lyall (chairman),  
R. L. Leane (treasurer), W. T. Atkin, A. W.  
Cieland, T. Hagger, Dr. W. A. Kemp,  
F. N. Lee, G. L. Murray, H. J. Patterson,  
M.A., T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed., F. T.  
Saunders (secretary).

Teaching Staff: T. H. Scambler, B.A., Dip.Ed.  
(Principal); R. T. Pittman, B.A., Dip.Ed.;  
E. L. Williams, M.A.; J. S. Taylor, B.A.

Send Donations to

Fred T. Saunders, Secty. & Organiser,  
College of the Bible, Glen Iris, S.E.C.  
Phone, UY 6085.

Printed and Published by the Austral Printing  
and Publishing Company Ltd., 528, 530 Elizabeth-  
st., Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.