

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

AUTUMN

*"He hath made everything beautiful in its time."
—Eccles. 3: 11.*

*A misty morn—and then in later hours,
The gardens bright with berries and with
flowers,
The smoke of mounded burning leaves
adrift,
Above the yellowed trees where birds in
swift
And darting flight, may draw our eager
eyes,
To gaze into the crystal blue of skies.
The mellow light of waning afternoon,
Is but a ling'ring sunset all too soon,
Save, that a radiant glory spans the west,
Until the stars take watch o'er time of
rest.
May hearts be filled with fervent praise
And thanks to Him who gives these days.*

—W.J.T.



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THE AUSTRALIAN
Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

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News of British Churches

Various districts hold their Conferences on Good Friday or Easter Monday. Many have reported an increased number of baptisms during the year and a quickening of church life generally.

In South Wales, where the guest preacher was G. J. Hammond, who returned to the scene of a former ministry, the programme had two unusual features. Instead of a Conference paper, a service of praise was held, and in place of the usual public rally, with several speakers, there was a preaching service conducted by Philip Morgan, district minister, the sermon being given by G. J. Hammond.

In the South West district, G. E. Barr spoke on *How to extend the work of the churches in the area.*

Fellowships of youth conventions were held in Cheshire and the Midlands.

Twenty-two F.O.Y. members were present at a weekend conference held at Overdale College. Four Evanston reports: Mission of the Church, Unity of Faith, Witness in Work, and Racial Segregation—formed the basis of discussions, which were led by W. Aiton, J. L. Colver and S. Mason.

The Men's Convention held at Leicester was its usual success. During the Convention period, a presentation was made to James Gray, former Principal of Overdale College, in recognition of 28 years of service given to the churches. The presentation was of books and a cheque, and was made by William Mander.

James Garrow of Bedlington, who led a youth team on a visit to U.S. and Canada last year, is to enter West-hill Training College for a two year course in Bible school and youth work. At the close of his studies he will become organiser for the Bible school and youth committee, whose two women organisers resigned on getting married.

East Kilbride is the first of our churches to have a T.V. service. It was relayed in sound a vision from Billy Graham's Crusade meeting in Glasgow. At the close, seven people responded to an appeal.

Women from a number of Scottish churches spent a weekend at Alloa, a small industrial town. This is now an annual occasion and one which is very popular.—G. J. Hammond.



Many a setback is but the shunting of something we must leave behind before God's plans for us can be put in train.—Redwood.

SEEKING THE LOST

There are three parables which Jesus told, in each of which he opens the understanding to the need, and the art, of soul-saving. They are the parables of the *Lost Coin*, the *Lost Sheep*, and the *Lost Son*. The great and primary lesson in each story is the wonderful love of God for us, and his desire to possess our love.

THE LOST COIN

We are no doubt ready to accept the belief that it was not a coin in currency that was lost, but a piece of the woman's head-dress. That matters little, so long as we recognise that it was a coin of value, and the woman wanted to find it earnestly enough to search with a light, every corner and niche of her home. Having found it she was so over-joyed, that she called her neighbors in to rejoice with her.

Our Lord, obviously, had a definite purpose in making that which was lost an inanimate thing, and those who have been active in soul-winning in any way, may here recognise someone they have been trying to win for Christ.

We have all met those who are away from God, but quite unconscious of the fact. Lost, but unaware that they are lost. The common experience of anyone lost in the bush, or anywhere else, is that he has been lost a long time before he realises it. Think of the many in our country who are in just such a parlous state. They are as unaware of church fellowships as we may be of their favorite drinking haunts, or gambling dives. Conscience has never been awakened within them. They have no guiding principle in life, and they live in a world of "fate." The only laws they recognise are those of their own passions, lusts and desires. But our heavenly Father with most tender compassion would have them brought to him.

The parable presents a picture of one of the great tasks set before us, of bringing such men into right and proper relationship to God, from whom they are not willingly, but ignorantly, separated. How much missionary effort, tract distribution and open air work has done in bringing such lost ones to the Saviour, only eternity will ever reveal.

THE LOST SHEEP

Although this parable doesn't say anything about the distress of the lost sheep, they are generally so when lost, and would quickly return to the flock if they knew the way back.

Every pastor has had the experience of finding some such lost ones. Their wandering in the first place was due to neglect of the spiritual life, so that they were easily enticed away from the church. They often reach a very sad and sorry state in life, finding that they can no longer pray, and the Bible becoming to them an incomprehensible book. And yet they would come back to the fold gladly, if only they could recapture some portion of the spirit which they have grieved away. When sin takes men away from God, it is not always easy to find the road back. Such lost ones have entered churches, but hungry as they may have been for some word of life, have looked up but not been fed, neither have they been led into the fold. (And never let us think that Christ's figure of a fold is a colorless representation of the Kingdom. There is nothing that so represents what the church should be as does the fold—a place of comfort, care, cure and blessing. The modern pattern of Western life has paled for us the rich meaning of the shepherd, the fold, and the sheep of his pasture.) In your visitation evangelism or personal work, you may bring many lost ones back to the chief Shepherd's fold.

THE LOST SON

This is the greatest short story in the world. It is of a son who repudiated his father's love and squandered his wealth. He *knew* the way home, but did not long for it until he had become vile, unclean, and unhappy. Then, and only then, did he say, "I will arise and go to my father." The father had waited with aching heart, and looked with longing eyes for his son's return. He could do nothing else. The son could not be brought back like the coin or the sheep. He must "come to his senses," into that state of repentance which would cause him to cry, "Father I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight."

Every preacher and those engaging in soul-winning will meet many such as that son. With all three types, we must "plead with them earnestly, plead with them gently," and to endeavor to bring them to Christ, we must.

*"Down in the human heart,
Crushed by the tempter,
Feelings lie buried that grace can restore,
Touched by a loving hand,
Wakened by kindness,
Chords that were broken will vibrate once more."*

WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

CANBERRA — THE FEDERAL HOME MISSION BASE

Every woman in our churches must feel an intense interest in the church meeting in Canberra. It belongs to us all, because we all have shares in it. Canberra is our Federal Home Mission project, so we are given a practical opportunity to express our interest.

So that we may know our sisters a little better, we have asked them through Mrs. Stirling, to let us share some of their reactions to the . . .

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP, CANBERRA

The Fellowship has been in existence for about six months. Membership is open to all women who wish to come. The attendance is about 20-25 and the fellowship is extremely friendly and happy, largely due to the fact that the women who formed the first little group before the chapel was actually built, have shown such a friendly spirit, and have created the atmosphere of "a family." Quite a number of our members are new, including myself. Here are what some of the ladies have to say:

"The C.W. Fellowship is a very companionable fortnightly 'get-together,' where we feel we can 'loosen up' on formalities and so come to know and understand each other better, becoming closer friends in the fuller sense of fellowship. There is nothing more precious than a true friend, and we feel that our 'Fellowship' is the 'ground-floor' of such friendship."—I. Buffinton (secretary).

"As a new member of a new church, and a newer still Women's Fellowship, I would like to say what pleasure I have found in our meetings and especially the fellowship and co-operation of the ladies. All seem to realise that even though each individual effort is small, together we can go on to greater work for our church. Our responsibility, at the present time, is to provide money for the cost of the duplicating machine for the printing of our church bulletin, which is eagerly sought after every week."—J.W.

"One of the younger ladies thinks the activity side of the meetings worthwhile. She feels also that projects, such as the trading table where home produce is bought and sold for church funds, helps to make the women feel that they are doing something con-

structive. She thinks that the devotional period must be conducted without strain, and that it might help the ladies who take turns in leading, to have a series of simple topics, similar to those used by the Christian Endeavour. She feels that this atmosphere could be more easily gained by holding the meeting in members homes."—J.F.

"We are a family of four. My daughter, son and I have joined the church since it has been built. We love the church, and have all been a lot happier since we have had its meetings to attend, and since we have been

able to take our part in the church. We are all like one big happy family, and the 'Fellowship' is something to be proud of."—M.O.

"The 'Fellowship' as Canberra is one of those gatherings that goes a long way to making our happy life in our beautiful Capital, even happier. These get togethers, which are held in such an atmosphere of frankness, and environment of taste, appeal to me, not so much because of the varying of life's routine, but the interesting and elevating conversation which is ever present. We have taken advantage of the opportunities of interesting personalities who have come here from overseas, or have travelled, or are just visiting us from far off lands."—M. Perkins.

May I add my personal appreciation of these, and of all the members of the Fellowship, for such an atmosphere of love and friendship would be hard to find anywhere. Each lady has made her very real contribution to this "family" atmosphere.—L. J. Stirling.

Queensland Women's Conference

Conference Day was April 6, in the Ann-st. chapel, commencing at 9.45 a.m. with a devotional session led by Mrs. B. James (Albion).

Mrs. McLane, President, occupied the chair for the business session and welcomed all sisters assembled in Conference, giving a special welcome to new preachers' wives and country delegates. Mrs. J. Henrichsen (West Moreton Circuit) responded on behalf of the country delegates, and Mrs. G. Andrews (Albion), on behalf of preachers' wives. Resolution of loyalty was presented by Mrs. Stewart (Moorooka). Miss R. Roberts (India) and Mrs. Finger (New Hebrides) gave greetings to Conference. Minutes were read and received. A uniform name of Women's Fellowships was adopted by Conference. A notice of motion, brought by the Executive, "That Young Women's Fellowships be formed in Queensland," was adopted.

Mrs. Smith presented the financial statement which showed a record year when over £1,000 was raised by the women of Queensland. Guild reports were read. Mr. Flood gave an outline of the work of women in New Zealand.

The following were elected to office: Mrs. C. R. Burdeu, President; vice-pres., Mrs. G. J. Andrews, Mrs. F. Langford; sec., Mrs. W. Wiltshire; asst.-sec., Mrs. H. McLane; treas., Mrs. S. Smith. Superintendents: Mrs. S. Chalmers, Prayer Meeting; Mrs. W. Finger, Overseas Missions; Mrs. E. Potter, Home Missions; Mrs. C. R. Burdeu, Aborigine Missions, Mrs. V. Parker, Hospital Chaplaincy; Mrs. H. J. Payne, Obituary; Mrs. L. Crisp, Rosemount Hospital; Mrs. E. Pratt,

Social Service; Mrs. W. Wiltshire; Youth Superintendent; Mrs. E. Eager, Catering; Mrs. S. Smith, Planiste; Mrs. H. W. Wiltshire, Hon. Auditor.

Mrs. H. McLane, retiring President, presented to the incoming President, Mrs. C. R. Burdeu, the President's Bible. Mrs. E. Potter presented a resolution on Anti-Betting. A motion was adopted that Queensland be responsible for the monthly missionary letter to be sent out to all guilds. Mrs. McLane, President, was presented with a basket of fruit and flowers in appreciation of her loving and loyal service throughout the past two years to the sisterhood, by Mrs. Burdeu.

Afternoon Session. The President welcomed representatives from Methodist, Baptist, Congregational Salvation Army, Inter-Church Council and British and Foreign Bible Society, who gave greetings. Secretary's and superintendent's reports were received. Mrs. McLane, before receiving the Obituary Report asked all to stand in silence in memory of the work of the late Mrs. W. Wendorf. Mrs. P. French (Kingaroy) gave the address, and Mrs. Connell (Albion) sang.



Christ has no hands but our hands,
To do his work today;
He has no feet but our feet,
To lead men on his way;
He has no tongue but our tongues
To tell men how he died;
He has no help but our help
To bring them to his side.—A.J.)



FROM CONTINENT TO DOMINION.

H. F. Gross, B.A., present preacher at Ascot Vale (Vic.), has accepted the invitation of our New Zealand Department of Religious Education to take the position of Youth Director for our Dominion brotherhood. He will follow R. W. Simpson who resigned last December. Mr. Gross, who graduated from Glen Iris in 1949 and secured his B.A. degree at Melbourne University in 1953, is due to commence work in New Zealand towards end of this year.

SCHOOL WORKERS' CONFERENCE.

Castlemaine was the rendezvous for 400 Bible school workers attending Anzac Day Conference. It was planned by the Bible school sub-committee of the Victorian Young People's Department. Sectional conferences were held for kinder, primary, junior-intermediate and Bible class grades. Film, *For Every Child*, challenged all to a new and higher conception of Christian education. Miss B. Bates, newly appointed field worker for the Victorian department was introduced, and led several discussions.

LONGWOOD, EASTER, 1955.

Two hundred and ten Y.P. were in camp at Longwood for the 1955 Easter Camp.

The study booklet, *When I survey*, provided a series of studies on the Cross. Each day began with worship on the hill.

Easter Saturday was visiting day, and a number of friends visited the camp. A feature of the afternoon programme was the opening of a new dormitory by F. Halleday, who generously donated the iron for the building. Appreciation was expressed for the valuable help given by H. Middleton in overseeing the erection of the building. Chairman of the Youth Department, F. K. Glover, presided. Campers provided good entertainment in the evening in producing the camp concert.

On Sunday morning a Communion service was held in the open-air chapel. At this service, the David Chamberlain Memorial Communion Set was dedicated. David shared in the early development of the camp, and was studying at the College of the Bible when he was killed in an accident. The Communion set, consisting of six trays and plates, in a polished cabinet, was a gift from David's mother.

Youth Director, G. A. Whiting, conducted a service on Sunday evening. A meeting on Good Friday evening was followed by the screening of *Voice of the Deep*.

Afternoons were free for swimming, hiking and games.

(Contributed by V. C. Stafford for Federal Board of Christian Education.)

FIRST CHURCH CAMP HELD AT LONGWOOD (S.A.)

Recently the Torrenville church organised a camp at Longwood for all its members. Ninety-five attended and, with visitors, the number in camp was 101. They arrived in time for dinner on the Saturday, and the afternoon was free. In the evening, films were shown.

New South Wales Newsletter

The recent Conference rejoiced at what had been accomplished during the past year — three new churches admitted, Holroyd, Warrawong, and the Slavic church; an increase in membership; two new church buildings, Tamworth and Wyoming; and a distinct advance in youth work.

The President reported that one of the outstanding features of the year's work, was the commencement of a determined campaign, to combat the tragedy of loss of membership by revision of roll. A conservation of membership is to be achieved by frequent evangelistic missions to revive evangelistic zeal, and to be supported by teaching missions to lead to a better understanding of all members regarding the fundamentals of the New Testament Church.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

As noted, one of the new churches admitted to Conference was the church at Holroyd. At that place recently, a Bible school of between forty and fifty scholars, conducted by a Methodist lady, was handed over to the Holroyd church of Christ. This has given a wonderful opportunity to the church in that rapidly growing district.

A special Bible school bus, the cost of which was donated by one of our young business women, is in operation between Leightonfield, a Housing Commission project, and the Carramar church. This has overtaxed the capabili-

The Sunday programme consisted of an open-air Communion service, studies, and the gospel service. There were three studies including *Christianity and your vocation*; *Christianity and your home*; *Christianity and your church*. Studies were introduced by members of the Torrenville church. J. Maxted, preacher of the church, addressed the gospel service on the theme, *Christianity and You*.

Since the camp, one woman has been baptised and another has requested she be baptised.

All agreed that the venture was well worthwhile, and a similar camp is being planned for early next year.

ABORIGINAL YOUTH AT W.A. CAMP.

Eight young people from the Norseman Mission, four boys and four girls, all teenagers, attended the Kalgoorlie church of Christ youth camp at Easter time. They had no trouble in assimilating themselves, and thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience. They were able, by their presence alone, to make a valuable contribution to the camping experience, but they also took part in all activities to the measure of their ability.—J.K.R.

ties of the Carramar school. A canvass extending over only two afternoons, resulted in seventy new scholars. Because of the lack of facilities, the canvass had to be stopped, even though it was known that many more scholars could have been obtained.

GLEANINGS

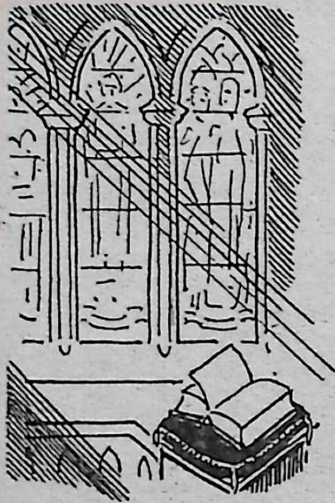
D. Wakeley concludes his ministry at Loftus Park, and commences shortly at Hurstville; D. Tonkin from Western Australia, has accepted a call to Mosman; and C. J. Mackenzie of Victoria, becomes preacher at Hamilton.

An evangelistic mission, extending over four weeks, has been arranged by the church at Doonside. E. McIlhagger is to be the missionary. Doonside is a church that has maintained a splendid witness for many years, led entirely by the local members.

The church at Penrith, now with eight in membership, is negotiating for a block of land on which to erect a chapel. The church consists of a faithful and courageous group in an old town, where religion is said to be at a very low ebb.

The Home Mission Committee has been holding conferences with the officers of some of the weaker churches. It is said, that, "As a result of these conferences, the Committee members have a better understanding of the conditions operating in these centres."

Ethelbert Davis.



THE LIVING WORD

Studies on the planned Sunday morning readings

Sunday, May 22

OLD TESTAMENT.

Genesis 22: 1-18.

Summary.

To prove Abraham, God bade him to offer his son Isaac (as a burnt offering) on a certain mountain. So, the grand old man of God took Isaac and bound him, and placed him on the altar which he had already built. At the very moment when he was preparing to make the sacrifice, a voice from heaven was heard, bidding Abraham to spare his son, and indicating that God was well pleased with the patriarch's willingness to obey. Eventually, Abraham did make a sacrifice upon the altar—but instead of his own son, it was a lamb which was used. As a result of this experience, Abraham called the place "The Lord will provide." God, through his angel, sent another message to Abraham—a further promise of blessing. Here we see faith—tested and triumphant!

Explanatory Notes.

"The story . . . is one of the most beautifully told, and most moving stories in Genesis. There is a note of human sympathy here, a feeling for the relationship between father and child." (C. A. Simpson.)

"God did tempt Abraham" (v. 1).—This is, God tested or proved him, just as God allowed Job to be tested. God does not tempt men. Remember what James says: "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man." (James 1: 13.) "The purpose of the testing was to manifest and exercise Abraham's faith, to confirm it and give it a deeper root and growth to higher reaches." (Marcus Dods.)

"The land of Moriah" (v. 2).—The only other reference to this place is in 2 Chron. 3: 1. Josephus, because of this reference, identifies it with the temple hill. "Moriah, rendered by old versions, the land of vision, the lofty, conspicuous land, . . . generally identified with the Mount Moriah in Jerusalem." (Marcus Dods.) In Dummelow's

Commentary is this reference: "Beneath the dome of the Mosque of Omar, which now stands on the site of the Jewish Temple, is the rock which is traditionally supposed to have been the scene of the sacrifice." Some folk suggest that "Moriah" was actually on or near the hill later called Calvary.

"He took the fire in his hand" (v. 6).—"We are nowhere expressly told how the ancient Israelites kindled a fire; nor is it said here whence or how Abraham obtained this fire. When Judas Maccabaeus restored the sacrificial ritual of the Temple, we read that fire was procured by 'firing stones and taking fire out of them,' possibly, as R.V., by striking stones together. At any rate kindling a fire would be difficult and tedious, hence the patriarch takes with him glowing embers." (W. H. Bennett.)

Suggested Theme:

"A FAITH THAT REFUSED TO BREAK."

Introduction.—This is the story of a man whose faith was tested, tried, and true. It is faith like Abraham's which the Church and the world needs today. There are three important things to notice.

I. GOD'S GREAT DEMAND (vv. 1-10).—(a) When God speaks to a man it is always for a purpose (which we may not understand at the time) v. 2. (b) When God tests a man's faith, that man will find that God is never far away, v. 11. (c) When a man obeys God's command implicitly he will find that God's way is always best.

II. GOD'S GRACIOUS DESIGN (vv. 11-13).—(a) God knows what we need, vv. 8 and 13. (b) God provides what we need, v. 13. (c) God intervenes to meet our need, v. 12.

III. GOD'S GOODNESS DECLARED (vv. 14-18).—(a) A name with a wonderful message, v. 14. (b) This name speaks of divine sufficiency, divine surprise, and divine strategy.

Conclusion.—"The faith that trusts God in every contingency in life is not easily come by. We ask for faith as if it could be dropped complete and ready made into our lives for immediate exercise, whereas faith, like all living things, grows from less to more. It develops by exercise. Out of the trial Abraham emerged with this new name and seal, 'Jehovah-Jireh,' the Lord will provide, or 'The Lord will see to it.'" (McBeath.) This is the kind of faith which refuses to break!

NEW TESTAMENT.

Hebrews 6.

Summary.

"This chapter begins with an exhortation that the readers of the Epistle go on beyond the elementary doctrines they have learned—teachings about

such matters as repentance, faith in God, baptism, the resurrection, and the judgment—to more mature matters, such as the interpretation of Christ's high priesthood, which the writer wishes to discuss with them." (John Knox.)

Explanatory Notes.

"Perfection" (v. 1).—In the margin of the R.V., it is given as "full growth." This is not moral perfection, but intellectual maturity.

"Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on . . ." (v. 1).—The word "leaving" is given in the R.V. as "cease to speak of."

"If they shall fall away" (v. 6).—In the R.V. we have the words, "and then fell away." This does not refer to the commission of even the grossest acts of sin, but to deliberate apostasy. This is the danger that looms before the readers (cf. 10: 26-31).

"Two immutable things" (v. 18).—Namely, the promise, which is God's promise, and the oath, which, though not necessary in this case, was added for the confirmation of men's faith.

Suggested Theme.

"WHEN FAITH IS SET TO SONG."

Introduction.—The faith of the Christian is a wonderful and an amazing thing. We are urged to make God's promises real through faith, and hope, and love. When faith reaches that level, and expresses itself, then we have the kind of faith which can sing, even in the face of difficulty and hardship. In the heart of every Christian there is room for a faith which sings.

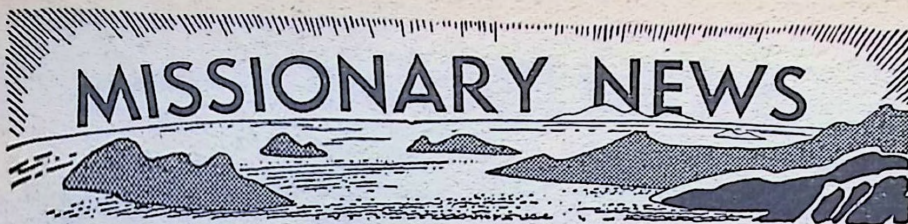
I. THE PERIL OF A LAPSED FAITH (vv. 1-8).—(a) Beware of the danger of drifting, v. 1. There is always the possibility of a drift away from belief. (b) Take care that faith does not lapse (vv. 5-6).

II. THE PLEASURE OF AN ENCOURAGED FAITH (vv. 9-12).—Lest the feeling that drift is always possible, the writer now proceeds to reassure his readers. (a) He says God will never forget your faith, and love, and service (revealed in ministry to the saints) v. 10. (b) He hopes his Christian friends will go on to follow the example of those who by their steadfast faith inherit the promises of God, vv. 11, 12.

III. THE PRIVILEGE OF A GOD-CENTRED FAITH (vv. 13-20).—(a) We are given the example of Abraham and his faith in the promises of God, vv. 13-18. (b) We are given a word about hope as an anchor to the soul, and adding song to our faith, v. 19.

Conclusion.—When faith is real, and has stood up to the tests which life imposes upon it, then it is the kind of faith which can face the future with adventure, a song, and a smile.

MISSIONARY NEWS



(Notes supplied by A. Anderson, Sec. F.M. Board.)

LONDUA SCHOOL DIARY

Sunday. We left at 10 a.m. to visit the church at Lolobinanungwa. After walking up-hill for about an hour, we reached the road that levelled off to the village. The house of Mary and Joel Waki is at the road junction, so we stayed with them for a few moments and were grateful for the refreshing coconuts that they gave us to drink. The bell was rung for the service to commence, and the men entered the church first, taking their places on the right side. The women followed them and took their places on the left. Students from the training school took the service. As we sat around the Lord's Table we thought of the great family of God meeting in other places to remember our Lord.

Monday. We spent today engaged on outside activities, as this is how we usually spend the first day of the school week. Twenty-four students who live in as boarders, were despatched to the school garden to tend the crops of taro, cassava, banana, native cabbage, etc. Two students remained to bake bread. Fifteen day students reported for work on the school compound. They were set to work cutting copra, repairing buildings, and general cleaning of the school rooms and ground. At night we had fellowship with our fellow-workers from Ndul Ndul, who came to our home for a prayer meeting.

Tuesday. An uneventful day in the schoolroom until the roll call, just prior to dismissal at 4 p.m. One boy, who was present in the morning, made no response when his name was called. The students reported that the last time they had seen him was at about 11 a.m., walking towards the sea. We started to search the rocky coastline, but our search ended when a group of men from a nearby village arrived to say that they were also looking for this young man; they reported that he had committed a grave moral offence and wanted to question him. His absence was thus explained, as news had reached him earlier in the day that his sin had been made known.

Wednesday. The students enjoyed their football match this afternoon. It was a sunny day, so the umpire took refuge in the branches of a tree and from this spot kept his eye on the game.

Thursday. A busy morning in the classroom, continuing our studies in English, Old Testament, Methods of Teaching, Geography, New Testament and Arithmetic. Outside activities were engaged in during the afternoon.

Friday. The sound of an engine attracted our attention during a spelling test this morning. The only engines heard normally are those of ships and jeeps. We could hardly believe it when we realised it was an aeroplane. There was a general exodus from the schoolroom to see the first aeroplane to cross Aoba since the war. Several times it flew across the island at a great height. We do not know where the plane came from, nor its purpose in taking such an interest in Aoba.

Saturday. Those odd jobs were still waiting to be done this morning, and our siesta was interrupted by a telephone call this afternoon to say that the steamer was at Ndul Ndul with our cargo.—Ron S. McLean, Aoba.

WEDDINGS

Last week I returned from Mahableshwar where I had been for a couple of days looking after a few things concerning the Language School. I expected to be in Poona by 2.30. Buses were so crowded that we were most of the day on the road, either waiting

for buses, or crammed in tightly packed buses among crowds of people. We passed many marriage processions, some in bullock carts gaily decorated, some on foot, with the bride and bridegroom being carried shoulder high. The roads were full of people either going to, or coming from weddings.

On our own compound, weddings are in the air. Two young men who live close by, are engaged to girls in the Girls' School. Other girls have had visits from relatives who have brought with them friends, we know that they have come with the intention of showing their girls to prospective bridegrooms, or the parents of prospective bridegrooms. In each case we have been pleased that the relatives have been thinking of the girls in this respect. At least two weddings will take place this Summer, but most likely there will be four weddings right here at Shrigonda. One will be on April 14. Another young man has his preparations well in hand, a third is not far behind, and we expect to hear of the fourth at any time. Each couple will be commencing a home, and we ask you to pray with us that they may put Jesus Christ first in everything, and that their homes will be truly Christian homes, and a witness for Christ in this land. Our young people need the prayer support of our people in the home-land.

Economically we could not say that our people are altogether secure, but they are secure in every respect when they trust and obey the leading of their Father. It is that they will have faith and obedience, that we plead with you to pray for these young people and so many others as they start out in life.—Edna D. Vawser, Shrigonda.

Evangelistic Missions in New Zealand

R. A. Bampied, preacher of Nelson church, N.Z., reports on the Nelson District Evangelistic Effort, at present being conducted by F. A. Youens, Gardiner, Vic.:

This mission marks the conclusion of a year of evangelism among the nine churches in the Nelson district. Mr. Youens will be six weeks in New Zealand, and during this period he will conduct short missions with five of our churches, each mission receiving the full support and co-operation of the nine churches in the Nelson area.

The first mission has just concluded at Annesbrook with eight decisions and one re-consecration. Annesbrook is a new cause in a growing suburb of Nelson, and the church there has been encouraged and strengthened by the preaching of Mr. Youens.

A mission is now being conducted with the Richmond church. Some of the present leaders of this church look back with gratitude to a mission conducted by Ira Paternoster in 1917, when

they made their decision, and have continued as faithful disciples ever since.

The expenses of the mission are being met in part by the Gorge Farm Trust, which is a farm made over to the church by a Nelson farmer and who, with volunteer labor, continues to run this farm so that all profits are made over to support Christian work.

Following the Richmond effort, Mr. Youens will go to Motueka, Spring Grove and Nelson city, in that order.

The District Committee on Evangelism appreciates the willing co-operation of the Gardiner church officers in releasing their preacher for this important assignment.



*Though Christ a thousand times
In Bethlehem be born,
If He's not born in thee,
Thy heart is all forlorn.*



R. V. Amos, began the tenth year of his ministry with the church at Chatswood, N.S.W. on April 24. Good congregations marked the occasion.

The Bible school at Grote-st., Adelaide, S.A., has completed 100 years of fruitful and faithful service. B.S. Centenary celebrations were held on Apr. 24, when speakers were L. G. Jones (morning) and G. Ball (afternoon). W. Bradley, supt., was indisposed and unable to attend, and W. Blackeby, past supt., presided over the gatherings. Celebrations were continued on the afternoon of May 1, when Ross Manning conducted Back to School of past and present scholars. A. W. C. Candy conducted morning and evening services, and there was one decision at the evening meeting. All singing in the celebrations was conducted by W. Watson.

We desire to impress upon contributors, advertisers, etc., that all copy for publication must be received by first mail on Friday, but if the following Monday is a holiday, it is essential that copy be received by first mail on Thursday. We advise that you post early in the week as instances occur when prompt delivery of mails is not always effected.

R. J. Anderson, preacher at Wangaratta, Vic., has accepted an invitation for a two years' extension of his ministry with that church.

E. C. Hinrichsen has just completed 12 months' service with the church at Caringbah, N.S.W., since recommencing his work. Over the past six Sundays there have been 15 decisions. In all, over 100 have decided for Christ in the twelve months' period.

We have been advised that A. H. Pratt, preacher at Mt. Evelyn, Vic., is to undergo an operation at Epworth Hospital on May 9.

The Australian Institute of Archaeology has opened its exhibition centre, Ancient Times House in Little Bourke-st., Melbourne. The modern scientific approach and the mass of factual material produced, is making a timely contribution, and providing a fascinating stimulus to those engaged in Bible teaching. The re-discovery of backgrounds, atmosphere and customs of Bible lands, peoples, and times makes the Book live. All visitors to Melbourne should visit Ancient Times House.

Word has been received that G. L. Murray, Victorian Conference treasurer, deputy chairman of the Federal College, and delegate to Toronto, passed away at sea, two days outward bound from Fremantle. Mr. Murray was travelling with his wife on the Strathmore.

Principal Stephenson of Woolwich College and President of the N.S.W. Conference paid a short visit to his son in Melbourne, prior to his and Mrs. Stephenson's leaving for the Toronto Convention.

JUST TO PLEASE JESUS

(Col. 1: 10)

Paying a visit to sorrow's abode,
Helping a burdened one on a rough
road,
Seeking to make others happy and
bright;
Tell me, What makes the work such a
delight?

Just to please Jesus.

Staying at home with the children,
perchance,
Watching the sick one's off-wandering
glance,
Sweeping and dusting, and tidying
home,
Deeds not recorded 'neath Fame's
painted dome

Just to please Jesus.

Turning the eye from earth's vanity
show,
Sparkling and gilded with glamor and
glow,
Turning away just to sit at his feet,
Thus in communion for service made
meet—

Just to please Jesus.

Swinging the hammer if duty demands,
Plying the needle with quick willing
hands,

Using the pencil, the pick or the pen,
Serving my Lord and my own fellow-
men—

Just to please Jesus.

Giving a smile or taking a hand,
Leading lost feet to the fair better
Land,
Doing and thinking, and hearing and
seeing,

Eating and drinking, and working and
being—

Just to please Jesus.

Women's auxiliaries, etc., connected with our churches, are advised that the secretary of the Victorian-Tasmanian Women's Conference is Mrs. E. L. Williams, 1a Elm-rd., Glen Iris, Vic. Telephone, BL 6541.

Dr. Kemp, Chairman of the Federal College Board of Management underwent a major operation at the Freemasons' Hospital on May 3 and is progressing favorably.

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the proving of things not seen." Our eyesight is limited. It may be by four walls of a room. Though we may never see outside we believe the things told us concerning the things without. The vision is limited in any case to sun, moon and stars, but everything beyond these of which our Lord has told us is seen and believed with the sight of faith.



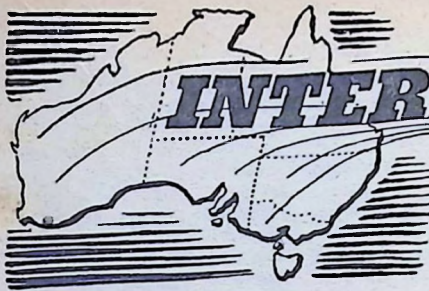
World Council Leaders Confer

In Les Rasser, Switzerland, church leaders from all over the world will confer during the first week of June. They will take with them detailed reports of the needs in the disturbed countries of the world. It will be the first time that the Division for Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees of the World Council of Churches will have an inclusive picture of the needs of Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. New areas included for the first time will be Indo-China and the Kikuyu tribe in Kenya Colony.

Representatives accredited from Australia include W. A. Alston, a past Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria, and Rowland P. Morris, of the churches of Christ in Victoria. The Australian Secretary, Frank Byatt, is going at the request of the Director of the Division, Dr. Mackie.

Mr. Byatt is leaving by air on May 1, and will spend several days in the countries en route,—Indonesia, Malaya, Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan and Palestine. After the Consultation he will visit centres of Inter-Church Aid and refugess operations in European centres of all countries from Greece to France.

R. H. B. Williams, the Commission Treasurer, will act as Secretary in Mr. Byatt's absence, and deputation work in the churches will be carried on as usual.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Janice Price, Mrs. Maxwell, Janice Maxwell, Guildford, N.S.W.
Janice Hill, Pascoe Vale, Vic.
Jocelyn Timmins, Sandra Harvey, Northcote, Vic.
Frank Steele, Hurstbridge, Vic.
Robert Wharton, Unley, S.A.
Lyndel Benson, Wangaratta, Vic.
Harold, Gwen and Lorraine Johnston, Sandra Pineger, Mt. Evelyn, Vic.
Misses M. Larcombe and J. Tyford, Chatswood, N.S.W.
Mrs. Humphries, Misses E. Tomlin, C. Smith, J. Cable, V. Blake, Earlwood, N.S.W.
Robin and John Harris, North Balwyn, Vic.
Ray Hannah, Ken Belford, Tamworth, N.S.W.
Ian Murch, Bordertown, S.A.
Helen Roebuck, Rae Baker, Barry Bates, Bexley North, N.S.W.
Mrs. J. Lang, Mrs. B. Tribe, J. and K. Farrar, G. Whitehead, K. Fortington, A. and D. Trezise, B. Cordy, Toni Easton, K. Peard, Janice Mellen, Pearl Thomas, Lillian McPherson, Beverley Kelly, C. Dalton, Footscray, Vic.
Lorie Reed, Dawson-st., Ballarat, Vic.

Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Stevenson and Shirley, from Box Hill to Ringwood, Vic.
Mrs. E. Hawker, from Box Hill to Kaniva, Vic.
Mrs. E. Lydiard and Francis Kelly, to Footscray, Vic.

Marriage

Ivy Wakeley to Raymond Grout, Burwood, N.S.W.
Hazel Ogley to Arthur Barnes, Inverell, N.S.W.
Gertie Boord to William Carpenter, Murray Bridge, S.A.
Miss B. Jerome to R. Holmes, Northcote, Vic.
Marian Mynott to Harry Roberts, Hurstbridge, Vic.

Kath. Webb to Keith Feckner, Dareton, N.S.W.
Gwen Chivell to Temple Sires, Unley, S.A.
Gwen Fillion to Laurie Randall, Maidstone, Vic.
Shirley Graham to Frank Paterson, Mt. Evelyn, Vic.
Miss L. Hawksley to K. Wrigley, Chatswood, N.S.W.
Margaret Willesea to Ron Hollett, Maylands, W.A.
Rita Cuddy to Gordon Phillips, Parkdale, Vic.

Fallen Asleep

E. Murray, Taree, N.S.W.
E. Webber, Chatswood, N.S.W.
W. Wright, Red Hill, Vic.
A. C. Killmier, Narracorte, S.A.
Mrs. M. Rankine, Enmore, N.S.W.

Western Australia

Maylands (L. G. Cooke). — Attendances have been constantly hovering around the century, both morning and evening during month. R. Dixon (India), spoke at evening service and showed colored slides of Indian scene on Apr. 10. After going through season undefeated, tennis team lost grand final by one set to Wembley. Many members attended picnic at Lake Leschenaultia on Anzac Day, when a long-awaited cricket match between old and young men of the church took place. The Grey Beards proved superior to the Swans' Downs. Kitchen tea was held on Apr. 29 in honor of Margaret Willesea and Ron Hollett.

Tasmania

Margaret-st., Launceston (C. H. J. Wright). — Averages for Apr., 11 a.m. 86, 7 p.m. 102, communed 106. In preparation for Loyalty Month, every church home has been visited, and special morning prayer meetings held. Plans are in hand for redecorating front of chapel. B.S. enrolled four new scholars during April. Scholars held special worship service on Easter Sunday. Ladies' Guild held their annual hospital afternoon, when hundreds of bottles were collected for the General hospital. Many have been sick in hospital, including Mrs. Crabtree, Mrs. Prichard, Miss Lyall, Miss G. Foot, Messrs. Cumming, Byard and G. Griffiths. Several young men are in National Service camps. Mr. and Mrs. G. Cartledge acted as delegates to Vic.-Tas. Conf. G. J. Foot has been re-appointed B.S. supt. Men's Society is planning full scale re-organisation. D. Nicholls assisted by W. Wigney con-

ducted evening service on Apr. 3, and showed films in school hall after gospel service. Attendance at this meeting exceeded 180. Recent visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. Longthorp (South Yarra), Mr. Butler (East Kew), Mrs. Field (Williamstown), Miss B. Gullidge (Melbourne), K. Edwards and D. Horsburgh (R.A.A.F., N.S.W.).

Queensland

Boonah (A. B. Clark). — Average attendance for Mar., morning, 81; evening, 57. Three new scholars have been added to B.S., also increases to J.C.E. and Band of Hope. A number of members attended Conference meetings, also Fassifern District C.E. Convention held at Kalbar. Mr. Laurence (Sydney) spoke at morning service on Easter Sunday, and delegates to Convention conducted gospel service. Mr. and Mrs. Gibson have left to take up work at Dalby and Harlaxton. Boonah and Ipswich churches combined in a family camp at Caloundra from Apr. 23 to 25.

New South Wales

Chatswood (R. V. Amos). — R. Greenhalgh (State Youth Director) gave address at morning service on Apr. 17. There was good attendance on 24th. At night, film *More for Peace* was shown. Church sympathises with Mr. and Mrs. A. Webber and family in accidental death of E. Webber.

Dareton (M. D. Keatch). — Church presented cutlery to Kath Webb and Keith Feckner prior to their marriage. They have been active workers in B.S. and Y.P. activities. Alternate Sunday evening services have been conducted by B. and P. Waters, K. Feckner and J. Williams. The evening meetings are better attended than morning ones. Harvest Thanksgiving services were held on Apr. 17, when a good display of produce was shown. Non-perishable goods were forwarded to Social Service Dept.

Georgetown (W. E. Hoffman). — Fifteenth anniversary services are being marked by a week of tent meetings with H. M. Long (Horsham, Vic.). Tent is pitched two doors from the chapel. Commencing services have been well attended with good support of sister churches. K. Porter is song leader, and Mrs. Porter and Mrs. Burns sing each evening. Church was represented at welcome service to Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Mackenzie at Hamilton. Newcastle district now has four full-time preachers again.

Taree (M. H. A. Pieper). — Five members of the New Building Committee visited Sydney recently to inspect new church buildings that have

been erected by various religious bodies, this, with a view of incorporating ideas in a plan for new building at Taree. Church expresses sympathy to Mrs. E. Murray in the sudden death of her husband. Services were well supported all day on Apr. 24. A baptismal service was held in the evening, and at the conclusion, a married man who has shown interest in the work and worship of the church for a number of years, responded to the invitation.

Marrickville (P. E. Thomas, B.A.).—Yearly business meeting of B.S. staff revealed progress in the work. L. E. Thomas was re-elected supt., and expressed his appreciation to teachers for their faithful ministry. Resignations were received, because of removal from district, from Miss G. Paris and A. Paris who have both taught for many years with sincere devotion in the school. Women's Fellowship has commenced bi-monthly evening meetings, giving opportunity for those occupied in daily employment to have an interest in work of the fellowship. Thirty-eight enjoyed first meeting on Apr. 19, with Mrs. W. J. E. Lewis as guest speaker. Greetings were received from Albury Y.W.F. Ladies organised sweets stall at Boys' Home Fete benefiting £37/10/-. Men's Fellowship enjoyed meeting on 24th, when speaker from Alcoholics Anonymous delivered address. Youth Council arranged film evening on 23rd, screening education films from Rural Bank (Sydney). Stewardship Committee conducted special meeting on 26th in home of Mr. and Mrs. Benson when talkettes were presented by C. Maxwell, T. Benson and N. Moore, followed by a discussion period. Similar cottage meetings will be held each month in various homes. May is Auxiliary Month in special campaign, when various auxiliaries will organise gospel services and prayer meetings. B.S. conducted service on May 1, when scholars presented bracket of choruses in song, Cynthia Benson and Marilyn Dunne rendered duet, L. E. Thomas (supt.) led service, and R. Greenhalgh (Youth Director, N.S.W.) presented an illustrated address. One young lady made her decision at the close of the meeting.

Earlwood (G. H. Benjamin).—At conclusion of successful teaching mission, led by A. G. Elliott (Kingsford) three ladies made their decision. On a recent Sunday these three and two others were baptised and received into fellowship. We regret the loss of two highly esteemed members of long standing, Mr. and Mrs. W. Caspersen who have transferred to Rockdale. Women's Fellowship has made arrangements to adopt a child from Carnarvon Mission. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. G. Christie (N.Z.), en route to World Convention. Attendances and weekly givings are on the increase. B.S. has gained so many new scholars that four new teachers have been added to the staff. Future plans include an

evangelistic tent mission, also monthly Saturday Fellowship evenings.

Tamworth (H. I. Walmsley).—F. Roberts (Shepparton, Vic.) was guest speaker at B.S. on Apr. 17. J.C.E. membership is increasing. Mrs. Chad and Ken Belford have been patients in hospital. Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Kelshan (Sydney), Mrs. Johnson (Georgetown), and Mrs. Walmsley, senr., (S.A.) have been recent visitors. Two were received into membership on May 1.

Mosman.—On Apr. 3, J. Blankley (Woolwich) and C. Murray gave addresses. Speakers on Easter Sunday were J. Blankley and K. Hunter. Church welcomed back Sis. B. Date from country. J. Boswell addressed church on Apr. 17, and Y.P. Evangelistic Team, led by H. Haywood (Chatswood) conducted evening service. Y.P. went into camp at Oak Flats during Anzac weekend. Services on Apr. 24 and May 1 were conducted by G. Davis (Woolwich), G. Brown (North Sydney), J. Hunter and A. Cust (Chatswood). Fellowship has been enjoyed with Mr. and Mrs. Stephens and family (S.A.), Miss Thomas (Canley Vale), Mrs. Crabtree (Vic.), and Mr. and Mrs. Bowes (Tas.).

Bexley North (J. G. Shaw).—On May 1, every seat was filled when three Y.P. were immersed. At close of the service, Messrs. Knight, Bates and Smith were presented with a token of esteem for their contribution to the new chapel. Mr. Knight later presented his pictures of the work at Carnarvon and Norseman. Church congratulates preacher in being appointed chairman of Aborigines' committee, N.S.W.

Hornsby (K. R. Fennell).—Sisters supported and conducted prayer meeting on Apr. 27, while men continued to paint school hall. Members of the Sisters' Fellowship attended anniversary meeting of Burwood Fellowship on 28th. Boys' Club have entered Soccer team in Hornsby-Epping Soccer competition. Anniversary month of the church commenced on May 1. A. W. Stephenson (Conf. Pres.) spoke at officers' dedication service at 11 a.m., and officers conducted gospel service. R. Bartholomew led praise service, A. L. Morton conducted the service, E. Germon and E. Morton read scriptures, G. Glazier assisted in song and J. Ellerby delivered the message. Special meetings have been planned for Wednesday nights, and on the 4th, Mr. Yelds showed slides of Federal Conference 1955 and trip north.

South Australia

Kilburn (H. G. Norris).—Attendances were good on Apr. 24, when A. R. Jones (Social Service Dept.) spoke at morning service, and showed film, *The Promise*, at night. B.S. continues to grow and plans increase campaign for May, June and July. J.C.E. enjoyed

picnic at Botanical Gardens on 25th, arranged by Marie Holdsworth and Dorothy Hackett. Sisters' Guild is having good meetings with some Bible school parents attending. Presiding and speaking brethren continue to assist Enfield Heights and Lenswood, whilst Dean Hamilton took services at Naracoorte recently, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. A. Dinning. Church officers plan special appeal for May 29 to help finance building of new chapel. C.Y.F. enjoyed picture night given by P.M.G. Dept. on Apr. 29. Offering was received for church Building Fund. Attendance of 241 at B.S. on May 1, created new record, three new scholars being enrolled. Approx. 40 children and 32 teachers and helpers were present at fellowship tea for younger classes of B.S., and stayed for youth gospel service at night, when preacher gave illustrated talk. Church officers appreciate practical advice and help from N. Bright (Prospect) in planning for new chapel.

Unley (I. J. Chivell).—Attendances at gospel services have increased. On Sunday evening, prior to Easter, Y.P. presented play, *The Defeat of Death*. A B.S. lad made his decision. Church joined with Baptist and Congregational in United service on Good Friday. J. E. Shepherd was speaker, and I. J. Chivell conducted Communion service. Group of Y.P. attended Easter camp at Longwood. G. Whiting (Youth Director) recently addressed church in interests of youth work. C. L. Johnston (sec.), is travelling overseas, and L. Bowes (B.S. supt.) has been appointed in his stead. L. G. Curtis becomes B.S. supt. Attendance of 141 at B.S. was highest for several months. J.C.E. secured fourth place in District Efficiency Competition. B.S. tendered social to Gwen Chivell, prior to her marriage to T. Sires, and to T. Thomas, who is returning to W.A. to take up medical practice. Several working bees have improved appearance of chapel grounds, and repair work has been effected.

Grote-st., Adelaide (A. W. C. Candy).—Half yearly business meeting was held on Apr. 20. Youth Council arranged enjoyable church picnic at Williamstown on 25th. Concert and trading table was conducted by W.M.B. on 26th, proceeds amounting to £10. Church sec. and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Packer are enjoying holiday tour of Victoria.

Bordertown (C. E. Curtis).—On Apr. 24, very successful B.S. anniversary services were held when F. Manning, former missionary to Belgian Congo was the special speaker, creating great interest with African knives, arrows, grass skirts, a village drum, and by reading from a New Testament written in local African tongue. On 26th, Mr. Manning screened films on behalf of Mission to Lepers. On 28th, Men's Fellowship held a practical night when Roy and Walter Milne gave a radio

demonstration. A farewell given to Mrs. T. Barrett and family on 29th, prior to their departure to live in Adelaide, was arranged by Women's Fellowship. On Apr. 20, a baptismal service was held in conjunction with C.E. meeting, when converts of recent mission with E. P. Hollard were immersed. During absence of preacher at Murray Bridge on May 1, services were conducted by A. Harwood and C. Manning.

Naracoorte. — Church regrets resignation of Mr. and Mrs. Banks because of ill health. Prayers and best wishes go with them into their new sphere of service. On Easter Sunday, Mr. Banks preached his farewell messages to large congregations. After the gospel service farewell presentations were made. W. Davie spoke on behalf of church, W. Pomery for B.S., Mrs. Burzacott for Ladies' Guild and Mr. Silke for Ministers' Fraternal. Other members were given the opportunity to say farewell. A tasty supper was served. Church has lost one of its ablest members in the passing of A. C. Killmier. He was an elder and his advice and counsel will be sadly missed. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Mrs. Killmier and family in their sorrow. Services are at present being conducted by local brethren, with the help of the Bordertown Circuit. On Apr. 24, D. Hamilton (Kilburn) preached at both services. We were also pleased to welcome on that day Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Dinning (Kilburn). Mrs. Dinning rendered a solo at the gospel service.

Victoria

Mt. Evelyn (A. H. Pratt). — First wedding in the chapel was conducted on Apr. 9. The bride was presented with a family Bible from the church. B.S. anniversary was successful. H. Graham conducted singing, and addresses were given by R. Lunsden, W. Albiston and A. H. Pratt. At close of service, two B.S. scholars made their decision. Three others later made their decision, and baptismal service was held on May 1. Mid-week prayer meetings have been commenced and are well attended.

Maidstone (E. H. Randall). — Delegations from Maidstone paid two visits to Footscray Evangelistic Campaign, other members attended on various nights. Three car loads attended Bible School Workers Conference at Castlemaine on Anzac Day. B.S. scholar, Len Stratton, who has been very ill in hospital, is back once again. May 1 was observed as youth day, when Y.P. attended in regalia and took part in the service. B. Perkins of Youth Department addressed the morning meeting.

Middle Park (J. Plummer). — On Apr. 17, preacher gave report on Conference meetings. Enjoyable Pleasant Sunday Afternoon gathering was held when L. Brooker gave a challenging address, Mrs. George contributed elocutionary items, and messages in song were received from the Parkdale Trio.

At morning service on 24th, Mr. Goisford (Balwyn) presided.

Noble Park. — Three months' planned programme of gospel services commenced on Apr. 3, with family night. Community hymn singing, and items by B.S. scholars were a feature of night. Visitation to parents of B.S. scholars was undertaken by officers, and leaflet programme distributed. On 17th, Decision was screened to an appreciative congregation. Thanks are due to Mr. Marks (Springvale) for his assistance. B.S. continues to expand, 19 new scholars being enrolled since vacation. At a meeting on 24th, church decided to go ahead with preliminary preparations for building church hall. Messages of visiting speakers are appreciated.

Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson). — Youth Sunday was held on May 1. Morning service was broadcast. I. Edwards presided, and two lads, A. Anderson and N. Campbell read the scriptures. Preacher spoke in afternoon at South Wangaratta, where fortnightly gospel services are now held. Twenty-seven were present at local gospel service, R. Ellis and I. Edwards assisted. A B.S. girl made her decision. After-church Happy Hours continue to be an inspiration. Several members journeyed to Shepparton on Apr. 30 for North Eastern District Conference.

Hurstbridge. — A church meeting was held on Apr. 15, to discuss plans for proposed lining of chapel, and building a rear room. Plans were accepted. A young man made the good confession and was baptised at Fairfield church on 20th by T. Fitzgerald, and was welcomed into the church at Hurstbridge the following week. First wedding in the chapel was celebrated on 23rd. The wedding breakfast was provided by ladies of the church and was much appreciated. Church appreciates help given by visiting speakers.

Northcote (W. Gale). — G. Delaney (N.Z.) was speaker on Easter Sunday morning, and there were also a large number of visitors including some from N.Z. After the gospel message on 17, two young girls made their decision for Christ. During the month, men of church have been conducting evening service at the Emmaus Rest Home. Y.P. held a combined camp with Nth. Essendon and Coburg Y.P. at Monbulk. Church is again indebted to Thornbury for use of their chapel for baptismal services. On 27th, W. T. Atkin conducted baptismal service, when four Y.P. were baptised, there were about 65 present.

Ormond (F. E. Buckingham). — Mr. Ritchie was speaker at morning service on May 1, and H. B. Robbins spoke at youth rally in evening. Roofing of new chapel is now in progress. P.B.P. defeated Blackburn at basketball, 82-2. Y.P. through 3XY, conducted Raising a

Husband programme on May 3, proceeds being for new organ fund. K.S.P. and ladies donated a 6 ft. stainless steel sink to church and installation was carried out gratis by S. Biggs.

Echuca (H. Hargreaves-interim). — Church appreciates messages brought by Messrs Mitchell (C.I.M.), Dewars (Bendigo), Miller and Payne. C.E. presented Margaret Frencham with gift on her leaving to take up mothercraft nursing. Ladies' Guild held social afternoon at home of Mrs. Horne. B.S. is well attended. Visitors on May 1 were Mrs. Sutherland and Mr. and Mrs. F. Broussard (Nth. Balwyn). Mrs. Broussard sang at evening service. Some members are unable to attend services through illness.

Morwell-Newborough (D. H. Smith). — Circuit was represented at Conference by preacher and E. Sherman. Appreciation is expressed at interest shown by Conference in continuing to recognise Morwell as a major project. During preacher's absence, services were conducted by H. Preston and R. Hillbrick. R. Storey (Unevangelized Fields Mission) was recent morning speaker. Fellowship has been shared with K. J. Patterson, who has been representing The Wells' Organisation in the district. B.S. picnic recently held at Koonalla Park was great success. B.S. is growing in numbers and staff have planned visiting campaign for 100 scholars before anniversary. Working bees on B.S. hall continue to make progress and number of concrete blocks required have been completed and timber is now on site. Ladies' Guild held garden party at home of Mrs. Taylor and an amount of £8 was raised for funds.

Red Hill (J. Sutton). — Harvest Thanksgiving services were held on Apr. 24. A well attended special business meeting was held on 25th. Preacher has conducted all services in recent weeks.

Parkdale (C. Dunse). — Congregations were large at both special youth services on May 1. At morning service two young men read the Scripture lessons and assisted president, and at evening service ten Y.P. took part, one of the number giving the gospel address. Church was crowded on Apr. 20, to witness marriage of two Y.P.

Dawson-st., Ballarat (F. C. Hunting). — B. F. Huntsman (Conf. Pres.), was speaker at morning service on May 1. At evening service, a B.S. lad was baptised. Meetings continue to be very well attended. Junior, intermediate and senior B.S. scholars attended Empire Youth Service at City Hall. Men of church held working bees on Apr 23 and 30, and many improvements have been made to buildings and grounds. Morning and afternoon teas were supplied by Y.W.F. Church members said farewell and bon voyage to Mrs. K. M. Constable, Mr. and Mrs. Keith

Price and their sons, Graeme and Ian, who sailed on the Iberia on May 2 on world tour, and who will attend World Convention. Mrs. Birch, who was recovering from an operation has had to return to hospital.

Aborigines Missions News

Notes by J. K. Robinson, Fed. Sec.

Successful Mission

AT FOOTSCRAY, VIC.

The church at Footscray has completed an evangelistic mission under the leadership of W. W. Saunders and A. R. Haskell, concluding with the 77th church anniversary on May 1. Preaching of the missionary, and answers to questions submitted were of a very high order and proved a great inspiration to the church. Splendid preparation was made for the messages by the singing, ably led by the song-leader. Appreciated items were rendered by church choir, North Essendon youth choir, Sunshine C.W.A. choir, Misses J. Milne and E. Dowling, C.E. Quartet, G. Hazelhurst, A. Haskell and Mrs. Cordy (elocutioniste). Attendances were well maintained and Sunday averages were 115 a.m., 196 p.m., with 153 communicants, whilst week night meetings averaged 107. There were 16 decisions and two reconsecrations. The church is praying that many others so near to decision will soon make their stand. Following the closing service words of appreciation and farewell were spoken by A. E. Hurren (preacher) and H. Easten (sec.), and presentations made to the missionaries. Appreciation was also expressed to organist and pianist.

Lesson in Christian Mathematics

ADDITION. 2 Peter 1: 5-8.

"Add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance, etc."

SUBTRACTION. Hebrews 12: 1.

"Lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us."

MULTIPLICATION. Acts 6: 1.

"The number of the disciples was multiplied."

DIVISION. Genesis 28: 22. "Of all that thou shalt give me, I will surely give the tenth unto thee."

BIRTH

POLLARD (Joyce). — On Apr. 28, at Warracknabeal District Hospital, to Dorothy and Gordon, a daughter — Vivien Faye.

IN MEMORIAM

CROSSFIELD. — In loving memory of our beloved daughter, Dorothy, called home May 14, 1944.

"Remembrance keeps you near."

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

ANNUAL OFFERING

Reports from all States indicate that this year's offering is an increase on last year's. As each individual State reports an increase the improvement is general, and for this we praise God. A statement of the offering receipts will be published when final figures are available. In addition to the offering many societies and groups are undertaking the raising of money for special objectives, such as the supply of furniture or other equipment.

ENQUIRIES FOR SERVICE

Great encouragement comes from the large number of enquiries received from all parts of Australia concerning services on our Missions. The Board believes that earnest prayer, plus making the needs known, will result in the right workers coming forward. We ask the Lord's people to continue praying that laborers will be sent into the harvest. Prayer is also needed for guidance in every step involved in the appointment of missionaries, for there are many factors to be considered by both the Board, and those who enquire for service, between the initial inquiry and any definite appointment.

NEW BUILDING OPENED

On Saturday, April 23, the new dormitory for girls at Norseman Mission was officially opened by the chairman of the Dundas Roads Board. (Norseman is in the Dundas Roads Board district.) The Roads Board has been extremely helpful to the Mission in many ways down the years. The chairman of the Federal Board made a special trip to represent the Board and the Brotherhood. A male voice quartet party from Kalgoorlie church helped in the programme, and stayed for the morning service next day. The building is completely finished, including painting inside and out, and installation of hot water service. An officer of the Native Affairs Department highly commended the Board and the Mission staff on the splendid achievement. The oneregret is that the girls cannot be moved into the building until more staff comes forward.

AN OUT-REACHING MINISTRY

There are six children in Norseman Mission whose parents are better-class half-caste people, but the whole family life is ruined by the drinking habits of the father. He has reached the stage where his wife's life is in danger when he is gripped by the demon of drink. After long endurance she had to leave him and took refuge in the Norseman Mission, where, after some weeks, she became close to accepting Christ as her Saviour. However, Norseman is too

close to her former home, and she had to come to Perth. Arrangements are now being made for her to go to Carnarvon Mission, where the missionaries are willing to have her. She is expecting another baby in July, but as she is a clean, honest woman and a good worker it is thought that in addition to the help she will receive, she will be a help in the domestic life of the Mission. Pray for her, for her children, and also for her husband, that in some way the power of evil over him will be broken and their family life restored.

RETIREMENT OF MR. AND MRS. S. H. REESON

It is with regret that the Board must announce changes in the staff position at Carnarvon, due to the retirement of Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Reeson. All observers of our Mission work recognise and value the splendid pioneering work accomplished by Mr. Reeson. In some avenues of it his work could not have been surpassed, and in all of it he has been ably supported by Mrs. Reeson, whose personal contribution to the development of the Mission has been of very large proportions. The time and circumstances have now arrived when, after over seven years' service, Mr. and Mrs. Reeson deem it advisable to retire. The Board has no specific person in mind as yet to succeed Mr. Reeson as superintendent, and arrangements are being made to carry on the work until a suitable man comes forward.

MOOROOPNA AND FITZROY

At Fitzroy, special meetings have drawn a number of people not usually attending the meetings, and this in turn has increased the attendance at normal meetings. The women folk are taking a greater interest in cleaning and decorating the chapel.

At Mooroopna, Mr. Roberts, Aboriginal preacher, has helped the native church considerably, and is also to work with Shepparton church until their new full-time preacher arrives.

BAPTISMS AT NORSEMAN

On Sunday, April 3, the Mission company went to Dundas Rocks, where there is a rock hole about 15 feet long by 6 feet wide, tapering down to about eight feet deep at one end. A log was placed across about the centre, and after an open air service, five girls and six boys, most of them just in their 'teens, were baptised into Christ. They had made their confessions of faith at different times, and had for some time been in a special instruction class under Mr. Griffiths. Pray for these young Christians that they may grow to full maturity in Christ, and ever be given strength to be true to their vows.

Sad and Serious News

OF A MISSIONARY

Eight months' hard labor in an Indian prison for Jack Christie, one of our British missionaries.

This startling news was conveyed in a telegram received by Mr. and Mrs. Morrall of our Brighton church from their son-in-law Keith Skillicorn, who is a fellow missionary with Mr. Christie, the telegram adds: "Fabricated case, protest every possible channel."

This crisis arises from the British Mission extending their work across the border into the State of Sarguja, with many converts to Christ; then the heathen leaders began violent opposition to converts and missionaries! False charges were lodged with police authorities against Mr. Christie of smuggling rice, and also of instigating his supporters to forcibly resist the officials. The consequence was a series of trials up to a higher court, and heavy expenses to engage an Indian barrister.

This telegram reports the incredible outcome. Jack Christie is a missionary of the highest character and has served his Saviour amidst great hardships, turning (with his fellow missionaries) many from Darkness into the Light of Life! Pray earnestly for this innocent man's release! (J. A. Wilkie.)



OBITUARY

Miss Pearl Gwendoline Denton.

Miss Denton united with the church at Malvern-Caulfield in 1928, and until a few years ago when ill-health prevented her attendance, was always in her place at the services. All her interest had been centred in the church and in earlier days she assisted in the kindergarten and helped in flower decorations. Her sudden decease at the age of 63, came as a shock to her sisters, Mrs. Lane and Mrs. Smith, and to both we extend our deepest sympathy. After a service at the church, she was laid to rest in the Springvale Cemetery.—W.J.T.

Wynne Clark.

Although our sister had not been well over a number of years the home call came with dramatic suddenness on Lord's Day morning April 24, while on a visit to her aunt, Mrs. Leech (Balwyn). Mrs. Clark came into membership at Norwood, S.A., while in her teens. Bereft of her husband, Lieut. E. D. Clark, during the first world war, she courageously faced life, and with great credit reared her two young sons, Denison and Gordon who today fill honored places in the community life. While the elder son, Denison, was in training at Duntroon, she came to Melbourne with her younger son, Gordon,

who entered the C.O.B. at Glen Iris; and it was in 1935 while Mr. and Mrs. Main were on their world tour that she acted as matron-in-charge at the College. She shared fellowship in churches at Norwood, S.A., and Gardiner Balwyn, Hartwell, Ormond and Oakleigh, Vic. In addition to faithful work in local churches, she served for a number of years on the Ladies' Committee for Social Service. Charities also benefited by her contributions in various ways. H. R. Coventry who had known well our sister and her deceased husband over a long period, paid a tribute at the service held at the funeral parlors, and J. Lewis shared with the writer in the service at the Springvale Crematorium on Apr. 27. We thank God for a life well lived in the service of the Master; and while we express sympathy to the two sons and other loved ones, we remember the parting is only "Till he comes."—H.J.P.

Mary Rankine.

The church at Enmore, N.S.W., has lost one of its honored and much loved members in the home call of Mrs. Mary Rankine. Born in Adelaide, she was married in the Pirie-st. Methodist church to W. D. Rankine over fifty years ago. Soon after marriage, they transferred their residence to Sydney. They linked with the church at Enmore and became keen and loyal members. The late G. T. Walden wrote of Mrs. Rankine, "She has encouraged and helped in the many ways known to a good woman." For many years, she was catering supt. for Conference gather-

ings of our churches in N.S.W., also for Federal Conference when it was held in Sydney. She was a zealous worker in the J.C.E., Junior Red Cross, Dorcas Society, and the many social activities connected with the church. Many young people enjoyed her hospitality. In this way they became interested in the choir. Some years ago, she underwent a serious operation, after which her health was not fully restored. She had a happy nature, and in her illness did not complain. On Mar. 22, she was called home. Her husband and all members of her family were with her at the time of her passing. Many floral tributes and a very large gathering of people at the funeral chapel and Northern Suburbs Crematorium testified to the esteem in which she was held. A memorial service was held on Apr. 17, when A. Baker, preacher at Enmore, made fitting references of her service, devotion, kindness and counsel. An augmented choir and Miss D. Flood, soloiste assisted in the service. Sympathy of the Enmore church and a large company of friends goes out to Mr. Rankine and all members of the family. We commend them to God and to the word of his grace.—A.B.

APPRECIATION

Mrs. H. Gange and family sincerely thank all members of Carnegie church for the floral tributes, cards and kind expressions of sympathy in their recent sad bereavement. — 287 Neerim-rd., Carnegie.



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pitality please contact sec., S. R. Symes,
Pakenham, phone Pak. 62, by May 28.

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Bible School Anniversary
June 5

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Before the Pioneers

(A Hymn for May — No. 460,
May 29.)

Isaac Watts, whose best known work was published in 1709, is generally regarded as "the father of the English hymn," but it is nevertheless true that already existing materials could have provided a hymnal which would still be considered excellent. Authors who could have been drawn upon are: Cosin (1627), John Austin (1668), Ken (1674), Mason (1683), Joseph Stennett (1697), and Tate (1703).

At the age of 27, Austin left the Anglican Church, in which he had been brought up and educated, going on to merit the title of "that saintly son of the Roman Church." His devoutness is evidenced by his last words: "Now heartily for heaven, through Jesus Christ." His hymns, written almost at the end of his life, were at once adopted, with slight modifications where necessary, by non-Roman churches as well, and, until Faber of the nineteenth century, he stood almost alone amongst Roman Catholic hymn-writers.

One of his finest hymns is an unusual one of "Nature praising God." It begins on the theme: "Hark, my soul, how everything strives to serve our bounteous King." We find the birds as, "Nature's chief and sweetest choir," that "streams have too their melody," and that "all the flowers . . . their still music bring," calling to us to "learn of birds and springs and flowers how to use thy nobler powers." His lines beginning: "Come, Holy Ghost, send down those beams which sweetly flow in silent streams from thy bright throne above," were one of the earliest of English translations from the Latin source; his also was the tender worship-hymn: "With all the powers my poor soul hath of humble love and loyal faith, I come, dear Lord, to worship thee."

The only Austin hymn in our book (No. 460—"Blest be thy love, dear Lord"), was written as an evening hymn beginning: "Lord, now the time returns for weary man to rest," evening praise being actually the "sweet way" of which later verses treat more fully. But the "way of remembrance," whether morning or evening, or at the Lord's Table, should be as sweet to us as it was to this saint of three centuries ago!—F.J.F.

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Anzac Day Conference

**FOR BIBLE SCHOOL WORKERS
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A most successful conference of Bible
school workers was held at Castlemaine
on April 25. This annual event is con-
ducted by the Bible School Committee
of the Young People's Department. The
Castlemaine Mail described it as a
Bible Invasion and they weren't far
wrong, for the conference was attended
by 350 people, representing nearly
forty city and country churches. To
cater for such a number the Methodist
church buildings were pressed into ser-
vice as well as our own.

Features of the day were: the film
For Every Child which together with
a following discussion proved most
stimulating. Teachers divided into
groups, according to grades, to see de-
monstrations of expression work, dis-
cussion of lessons and understanding
children. The Director of the Federal
Board of Christian Education (V. C.
Stafford) gave a helpful talk on the
Bible school's curriculum. The assist-
ance of the Department's newly ap-
pointed Field Worker (Miss Bonnie
Bates) was greatly appreciated by the
teachers. A display of teaching litera-
ture, and a "Gallery of Ideas" also
helped to make the conference so
worthwhile.

Conference opened with devotions
led by the Castlemaine preacher, G.
W. Barnett. Fitting reference was made
to Anzac. The closing devotion was
led by C. W. Jackel (Ballarat).

The ladies of the Castlemaine church
are to be congratulated for their ster-
ling work in the catering field.

In a slightly enlarged committee,
those elected for the next twelve
months are: Misses B. Bates, D. Cleland,
G. Edwards, E. Mitchell, M. Petersen;
Messrs. J. H. Cain, B. F. Huntsman,
R. V. Longthorp, K. Masterton, R. C.
McKenzie, with L. A. Trezise.—R. V.
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ing service in all suburbs.

COMPANION HELP

..Wanted. — Companion help, for Mrs.
E. M. Goldsworthy, while convalescing
from injuries received in motor ac-
cident. Reply, Reg. Goldsworthy,
Kaniva. Phone, 219D.