

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

# Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

## GOLDEN JUBILEE of the CHINESE CHURCH in Melbourne, Vic.

A very happy time was spent on June 4 and 5, 1955, in the Chinese chapel, Queensberry-st., Carlton, Vic., when the church celebrated its 50th anniversary. On June 5, 1906, 20 Chinese members met in their new church building. F. McClean was chairman and F. Ludbrook gave a very helpful address.

Mr. McClean started the work in his home in 1892, to teach the Chinese. The Foreign Mission Committee built a chapel in Queensberry-st. for them and many Chinese were baptised into Christ.

On June 4, 1955, the Chinese brethren invited to a very nice dinner, the Conference President, members of the Foreign and Home Mission Committees, two representatives from Lygon-st. church, China Inland Mission, Chinese churches in Little Bourke-st., Chinese Consul and old past Chinese members. Two foundation members, E. Lin, who came from Sydney to be present, and D. Gow also attended. After dinner, tables were moved and seats arranged



Picture taken in "pioneering" period of the work.

for the evening meeting and a very nice programme was given.

We were pleased to have greetings from the Committees and friends invited. Quartets and duets were sung. L. G. Burgin, (Lygon-st.), gave the final very helpful message. At the close of a very happy evening, supper was served, and small mementos were given to the two foundation members, E. Lin

and D. Gow, also a gift to Miss Baker in recognition of her long service.

The church was beautifully decorated and over 200 friends enjoyed the fellowship.

We now look forward to future service for our Lord and ask for prayers and helpers in the work.

—(Miss) A. Baker.



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Printed and Published by The Austral Printing and Publishing Co.  
524-530 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, C.I. Phones: FJ 2524 and FJ 4251

Subscription.—Payable in advance. Posted direct (Aust. and N.Z.), 25/- year, Foreign, 30/-. Through Church Agent, 5d. week.

Cheques, Money Orders, etc., payable to The Austral Printing and Publishing Co.

Change of Address—Send old and new address a week previous to date of desired change.

Advertisements.—Deaths, Memorials (space does not permit verse), Births, Engagements, Marriages, Thanks, 3/6. Wanted, For Sale, To Let and Similar Ads., also paragraphed Coming Events, 24 words 2/6, every additional 12, 1/-. Displayed Coming Events and Other Ads., 3/6 inch. 6d. extra when invoiced. To ensure insertion in next issue copy required by First Mail Friday.

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## S.A. Newsletter

E. P. C. Hollard.

### REST HOME.

Another wing has been added to the Christian Rest Home, making this property more worthwhile than ever. The Hon. Norman Makin spoke and declared the wing open. Recognition of the wonderful work of the builders, A. McGlasson and Son brought hearty response from the large assembly.

### PRINCIPAL WILLIAMS.

His visit to the churches kept us all informed about the recent World Council of Churches meetings. Mr. Williams was sponsored by the Committee for the Promotion of Christian Union. A whole day was spent with the preachers and excellent addresses were given with questions asked by those assembled.

### REFRESHER COURSE.

The Magarey Lectures this year were the largest attended in the history of the lectureship. Over 30 ministers were in camp at Longwood and as many as 40 were present at meetings. F. Hunting of Dawson-st., Ballarat, was lecturer. He chose to speak along spiritual lines; ministries of the Holy Spirit, Spiritual Counselling and Revival. The deep tone of the lectures created much heart searching and eager discussion.

### ONE HUNDRED YEARS.

Hindmarsh church is now celebrating its centenary. A most informative brochure tells a wonderful story. Past preachers included W. W. Saunders, Allen Brooke, who shared with addresses. Ira Paternoster, who served from 1908 to 1912 gave the major sermons. Roy Coventry who went out to India was also honored. The present minister, J. E. Shipway, has served for 12 years, the longest ministry except for three ministries of the late H. D. Smith which amounted to over 20 years.

Hindmarsh is the mother church of York and Henley Beach, and is still a robust witness for Christ. Her past is studded with names which are rich in the history of our Brotherhood in this State.

### NEW MANSE.

Kadina church has opened its new manse after months of volunteer labor. E. L. Williams performed the opening ceremony. The present minister, Ray Ewers is completing five years of splendid service.

### MINISTRIES.

With the coming of Ralph Oke to the ministry of Mt. Compass-Goolwa circuit our strength of full-time ministries now comes to 43. In addition seven churches are using a part-time ministry. The latest of these is Stirling-Aldgate with Ross Graham serving.

# TELLING THE OLD, OLD STORY

Every earnest Christian should be greatly encouraged by the emphasis that is being placed upon evangelism in these days. At recent State Conferences speakers stressed its necessity. *The Australian Christian* has been glad to have reports of various evangelistic efforts and to give these due space. Almost every religious paper one may look into, there are headlines and articles dealing with this all important subject.

Unfortunately, this has not always been so. We have known journals where the word "evangelism" would never appear in print, and some people who shuddered at the very sound of it. In the very journals of which we speak we may now see the word in banner headlines whilst it is on the lips of some who a few years ago would never speak of it. We know, of course, that the aversion to the word was due to a certain type of cheap revivalism. But that was no excuse. If Christians were offended by such, it was their duty to lift the rich meaning of the word *evangelism* into the high sphere to which it belongs. The only effective way to do this is the practice of it. The Apostle Paul said:

*"The one preach Christ of contention not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds; but the other of love . . . What then? Notwithstanding every way, whether in pretence or in truth, Christ is preached and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice."*

Paul knew the psychological value as well as the power of the name of Christ spoken even by the unbelieving opponents of the gospel. What has been termed "cheap revivalism" if not exalting our Lord with due and proper dignity, at least spoke his name as the one able to save.

Experience has been teaching the Church many things in the recent transitional years. One of the lessons learned was taught by our Lord long ago, i.e., that if a man is not captured for Christ he will be captured by some lower and lesser power. During these years church attendance has declined and we now have to face some sobering facts. Marvin A. Moll has made the following calculation:

*In 1850, it took five Christians to lead one person to Christ in one year.*

*In 1900, it took fourteen Christians to lead one person to Christ in one year.*

*In 1919, it took twenty-one Christians to lead one person to Christ in one year.*

*Today it takes thirty-three persons to lead one person to Christ in one year.*

Despite the above assessment, we are encouraged to know that both the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches are entering into Visitation Evangelism.

There is no question of the value of this method of Christian work. Members of Churches of Christ in Britain, America and Australia have been blessed as they have entered into this co-operative *personal work*.

Evangelistic efforts were sometimes condemned because so many converts fell away within a year of the mission. Was this the fault of the missionaries, or the churches which failed in a "follow up" of the new Christians? Sometimes it was because of a lack of indoctrination which was surely the church's work after the mission had concluded. One may not learn very much of God's Word in a few short weeks beyond the recognition of fundamental truths and commands. The heartfelt yearning to be an earnest disciple of the Lord Jesus may soon wane unless the new Christian finds all the help, teaching and fellowship needed, and which the church should provide. There is such a thing as "being established in the faith" and it should be the task of every one well founded in Christian truth to help his weaker or younger brother to be "rooted and grounded" also.

Some great Christian leaders have not hesitated to affirm that the days of large missions, such as Moody and Sankey, or Chapman and Alexander held, were over and would never come again. Now we find these men humbly "recanting" following Dr. Billy Graham's missions in Glasgow and London. Some are still very cautious, awaiting the effects of a month or so hence. But Dr. Graham urges a follow up campaign of visitation evangelism. There were 100,000 present at the final night of the Glasgow mission of whom 2,259 went forward. Imagine the glad task which faces the Christian people of Glasgow. Will they measure up to it?

Dr. Guy Ramsay writing in the *Christian World*, said,

*"This man is a gifted preacher. He is not an essayist, he does not intrigue the intellect, but he preaches a great gospel as a man to men. At the end of his sermon, one hearer at least was left face to face with Christ and had forgotten Billy Graham."*

If a preacher can do that with a man, every gospel service or evangelistic mission is worth whatever it may cost in money, time, effort, etc.

Ariel of *The Age* (Melb.) having listened to an A.B.C. recorded interview with Dr. Graham said, "His message holds nothing new or original . . . once he has started you feel you don't want him to stop." Whatever there may be in the man it is the gospel of Christ that is the power of God unto salvation. Well, if we should cry like Paul, "Woe is me if I preach not the gospel."

# Conquered by Scripture

By Thomas S. Goslin. (Condensed from "World Call.")

Samuel Vila, pastor of the Baptist church in Tarrasa, Spain, read again the letter which had just arrived. "I am anxious to speak with you . . ." He found this hard to believe. Why should the writer, a Jesuit priest, want to talk to him, a despised Protestant? Pastor Vila was afraid to answer the letter. On the advice of his family he ignored it. This was in 1949.

A year later another letter came from the same priest, Luis Padrosa, urging the pastor to grant him an interview. This time Pastor Vila sent his nephew, a medical doctor, but Padrosa wanted a minister, not a doctor. Finally the Jesuit took matters into his own hands. One night at ten-thirty, a taxi discharged a passenger at the evangelical parsonage. Tired of waiting, the priest had disguised himself and gone to the pastor under cover of darkness. A new life for the Roman cleric began with this interview. The disclosure has rocked the Latin religious world.

This man who, like Nicodemus, paid a night visit to the pastor was no ordinary parish priest. Luis Padrosa finished his *profesorado* of piano at the age of seventeen. At once he began a career as teacher and concert artist. Three years later, desiring to attain perfection as a Christian, he entered the Jesuit order. The next twenty years found him studying in various Roman Catholic centres in Spain and Italy. Theological studies took him to Barcelona, philosophical studies to Turin. During these crowded years he also completed doctoral training both in medicine and in psychiatry.

Dr. Padrosa's activities in his mature years gave him abundant opportunity to utilise his training and capacities. He travelled widely in Spain as a Jesuit preacher, winning acclaim as one of the leading orators of the Roman church. He was primarily a minister to the intellectuals. Padrosa's mastery of his native tongue and the clarity with which he was able to express the Roman Catholic view of man and the world attracted enormous audiences. Often church auditoriums were not sufficiently large to hold the people who wanted to hear him, so he lectured in theatres. He spoke before audiences numbering thousands of persons, many of whom arrived hours ahead of time. Workers changed shifts so as to be able to hear him. Loudspeakers relayed his messages to those standing in the streets who had been unable to get seats or standing room inside. Most of the lectures were broadcast, thus adding thousands to his audiences.

**A Renowned Priest Paid a Night Visit to a Protestant Pastor and Began a New Career that has Rocked the Latin Religious World.**

Besides preaching and lecturing under the auspices of his church, Dr. Padrosa busied himself with medicine and (in particular) psychiatry. Right after the close of World War-II he opened the Loyola Institute of Normal and Pathological Psychology in Tarrasa. The work grew so rapidly that he soon had to begin a branch institute in Barcelona. Directing these psychiatric institutions occupied all his time that was not taken up with preaching tours. These activities in the Loyola Institute brought Dr. Padrosa into touch with medical people in other countries. He attended international congresses in France and Switzerland. In 1950, he was elected vice-president of the International Committee of Catholic Psychologists and Psychiatrists (the group that organises conventions of this nature for Catholic doctors).

It was this priest, eminently successful in his own church as orator and psychiatrist, who stood before Pastor Vila that memorable night in Tarrasa four years ago. Vila saw before him a man of medium height and build, straight brown hair, slender features, and piercing gaze. What could he possibly want of Vila? "I have not come to convert you or to be converted," began the visitor. "I have found that there is no foundation in the gospel for the dogmas of the Roman Catholic church." Then he unfolded before the amazed evangelical pastor an impressive story.

"I would never have thought of studying Protestantism carefully in the light of the Bible, and much less of becoming a Protestant," he exclaimed, "if I had not been obligated to combat evangelical Christianity. But when Cardinal Segura from Seville and Archbishop Monseigneur Viscarra of Zaragoza sounded the alarm with their pastoral letters against Protestantism, setting in motion all the clerical and even political forces in Spain against heresy, I felt that we could not, there in Tarrasa where Protestantism had taken root and was making progress, avoid the call of the church. We had to do something special and noteworthy to decimate the ranks of the enemy. We must convince Protestants of their errors. To do this it was necessary, first of all to study Protestantism and teach the Roman Catholics to fight it with

the favorite weapon of the Protestants themselves, the Holy Scriptures. But the Holy Scriptures conquered me."

In these moving words the priest told what happened. As has been true in so many instances, the Word of God made an indelible impression. He supplemented his Bible readings with the only Protestant books he could find translated into Spanish: *Auguste Sabatier's, Philosophy of Religion*; some of *D. L. Moody's* sermons, and some works by *Waldo Schmidt*. Now, having revealed his newly discovered faith to Pastor Vila, the priest knelt with the preacher and prayed. Padrosa parted from his first Protestant friend with the promise to return soon. The pastor assured him that he would help in every way he could.

When a Roman Catholic priest in fascist Spain becomes converted to evangelical Protestantism, his life is in danger once that fact is known. Padrosa hurriedly made arrangements to leave for Argentina, saying that he was going to travel, study and lecture.

The first weeks and months in Argentina were anything but easy for the new Protestant. Despite the endeavors of some local evangelicals to help, Dr. Padrosa went jobless, homeless and penniless for five months.

A well-known Spanish evangelical pastor eventually gave him a letter to the principal of the Union Theological College in Buenos Aires. That was three years ago, and since that time the Spanish theologian has won a place for himself in Argentinian Protestantism. He is a valued member of the faculty of the Union Seminary. This institution, the world's largest Spanish speaking divinity school represents the official collaboration of the Presbyterian, Methodist, Waldensian churches, and our own American brethren.

At this theological school Padrosa has inaugurated a programme of psychological testing for future church workers. It compares favorably with programmes now in operation at leading seminaries in the United States. His work in this area has been most helpful both in the vocational guidance of evangelical young people and in the professional orientation of theological students. Ward College, one of Argentina's leading evangelical schools (Methodist-Disciple), has also prevailed on Dr. Padrosa to set up a psychological testing programme.

The former priest has made an unusually solid contribution not only in testing and resultant counselling, but

also in teaching. In the judgment of his colleagues, Padrosa's oratorical gifts classify him as the seminary's finest lecturer. His long experience in Spain has given him a profound grasp of the principles of pastoral psychology, which he teaches. Naturally his course on Roman Catholicism is an excellent preparation for future pastors in this part of the world where that religion, although decadent, still has more adherents than any other.

His teaching also includes music. Drawing upon the musical career of his pre-priestly years, he teaches piano, organ and voice to future church workers. Padrosa is a thoroughly competent pianist and can occasionally be persuaded to play for an audience.

Besides his teaching and writing, Dr. Padrosa gives occasional series of lectures on the relationship between medicine, psychiatry and religion.

When Dr. Padrosa recently arrived in Asuncion, Paraguay, on a speaking tour, the Roman Catholic hierarchy demanded his arrest. But because the nation's constitution guarantees freedom of worship, the President and chief of police rejected the appeal. Then, with heckling comments, priests and Roman Catholic students broke into Dr. Padrosa's lectures, which compared Protestantism and Roman Catholicism on the basis of scripture. The usual bitter attacks were cast at him through literature distributed after his meetings and in three half-hour broadcasts each day. Even though police protection was necessary, the ex-priest's audiences overflowed every hall in which he spoke.

For the past three years Padrosa, his wife and their eighteen-month-old son have been living quietly and unostentatiously in a small faculty apartment at Union Seminary. Despite all difficulties, he is happy and highly effective in his new career. He often remarks what a great joy it is to try to live according to the Book of books. The Bible has opened for him a whole new existence.



#### A Liar Confesses

"Almighty God, as I sit here by the fire on this lonely Sunday morning, surrounded by the Sunday papers and half listening to one of the big preachers over the radio, it has just come to me that I have lied unto thee and myself. I said that I was not well enough to go to church. That was not true. I would have gone to my office if it had been Monday morning. I would have played golf if it had been Wednesday afternoon. I would have been able to go to a picture if it had been Friday night. But it was Sunday morning and Sunday sickness seems to cover a multitude of sins. I have lied to thee and myself. I am not sick—I am a liar.

—Watch Examiner.



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

#### DHOND NEWS LETTER

Dr. L. J. Michael, who is superintendent of the Mission Hospital tells of recent events at Dhond. The high cost of drugs and supplies, coupled with the higher wages having to be paid to staff, and the inability of many to pay even the smallest fees, causes the hospital administration some concern.

This should concern us in Australia, and those in charge of youth groups could do more to stimulate interest and thereby gain more financial support for this splendid work. The hospital wholly depends on gifts from Australia given specifically for the purpose, and from fees received in India.

While we desire the interest and financial support of our young people, we should consider it is the concern of the whole Brotherhood, and on behalf of our medical staff we seek added assistance for the medical work at Dhond.

"It is Sunday afternoon, which for Dhond, as for many other towns in India, spells 'bazaar day' or weekly market day, when crowds gather from villages in all directions to larger central towns to buy and sell commodities of every kind. Prices are always much lower on bazaar day, and some essential items are available only at that time. Some of the poor people who eke out a precarious living as coolies have more call on their services on bazaar day than on any other. It is very seldom possible to have any change made from the day determined by Government to any other day, as neighboring bazaar days, some of which are held for special purposes, such as the sale of bullocks, are held on different days. In Shrigonda, Monday is the great day, and in Baramati it is Thursday, while other local bazaars are held on the other days of the week. Sunday bazaars, it can be readily understood, pose quite a problem for Christians, the majority of whom still live below the bread and butter line. It is difficult for those who live in a land of plenty such as Australia to imagine themselves in circumstances such as obtain in the East.

"The bazaar is almost over. Evening is drawing in, and open bullock carts with huge wobbly solid wheels, and packed with villagers arrayed in colors of every hue, are making their way across the river, and rumbling along

rough country tracks towards the solid stone railway bridge, filling the air with clouds of dust.

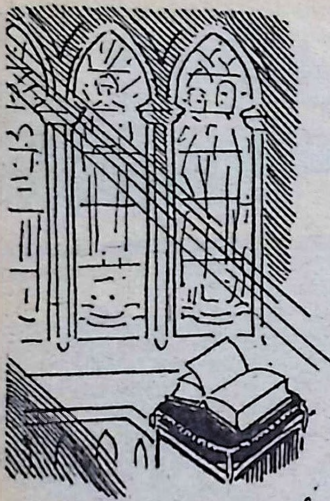
"The hot season is making a somewhat early approach. Birds sit in the trees with open mouths, and a lizard is lying lazily on top of the wire fence a few paces away. But though it is hot by day, night temperatures out on the verandah are not at all unpleasant.

"Recently mission hospitals in this State in receipt of any Government grant were forbidden to have the gospel preached in their institutions. So far our Dhond hospital has been asked to carry on without Government grant, though it has been very difficult of late, and bills amounting to thousands of rupees are still outstanding. It is therefore hoped that the young people and others in Australia who have faithfully helped with Dhond hospital support in the past will give even more generously in these days of greater need, so that we might continue to be able to preach the Word of Life to those who come here for medical aid.

"At last permission has been granted for the construction of the Maternity Ward, but in view of impending holidays no start will be made before June.

"Recent permission was also obtained for the installation of the X-ray plant, and an electrical contractor has the task in hand. We have just completed the X-ray table with its sliding tray to carry the film and Potter-Bucky diaphragm, and a lead lined cupboard for the storage of films. Various other odds and ends are either finished or nearing completion. The Railway still refuse to allow us to operate the machine beyond 15 milliamperes, or half capacity, which is a great pity, and only then with a throw over switch which cuts off power to the rest of the hospital compound while the X-ray is in use. However, we will be able to X-ray limbs, chests and the like, though some work will still be impossible. In time it is to be hoped the Railway will grant us more power.

"This year we have four men in training for the ministry, and strangely enough each one is studying in a different college — Tansen Dongre and his wife at Jubbaljur, Balu Bhole at Yeotmal, Chimanlal Daruwala at Narraon, and Sumitra James at Poona. All have now returned for their annual vacation, portion of which will be spent in practical work. Tansen will serve in Dhond, Balu in Baramati, Chimanlal on the Shrigonda side, and Sumitra at Indapur."—L. J. Michael.



# THE LIVING WORD

## Studies on the planned Sunday morning readings

*Sunday, July 10*

### OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 107: 21-32.

#### Summary.

The whole Psalm is a song of thanksgiving, first for deliverance from the Babylonian captivity, and then for other deliverances, passing into a general account of God's providential dealings with mankind, both in the way of chastisement and of loving-kindness, but especially the latter. Thanks are expressed for deliverance from the perils of travel, from prison, for recovery from sickness. After each instance is a refrain, urging praise of God for his wonderful goodness. This particular section is a specially graphic description of the deliverance of sailors caught in a storm. It is a fitting companion-piece to the equally sublime story of Paul's shipwreck.

#### Explanatory Notes.

"They that go down to the sea" (v. 23). — That many of the Israelites engaged in maritime pursuits appears from such passages as 1 Kings 9: 26-28; 10: 22; 22: 48; 2 Chronicles 20: 36.

"In great waters" (v. 23). — i.e., the Mediterranean, in contrast with the small inland seas of Palestine, like the Sea of Galilee.

"At their wits end" (v. 27). — Literally, "all their wisdom is swallowed up." Their skill in navigation entirely fails them. But the idiom of the Authorised Version is a very happy one, and exactly expresses the writer's meaning.

"They cry unto the Lord" (v. 28). — c.f., the Basque proverb, "Let him who knows not how to pray go to sea."

"In the congregation" (v. 32). — It is not enough for men who have experienced deliverances to thank God in secret. They must make public profession of their gratitude.

#### Suggested Theme.

#### "ADVENTURE AND DISCOVERY."

Introduction. — "They that go down to the sea in ships . . . these see the

works of the Lord." It is an adventurous and often perilous calling. The writer sketches, in the language of realism, one of the desperate moments in that life. But it is a life in which great lessons can be learned. Some of these are—

**I. THE MAJESTY AND MYSTERY OF THE WORLD.** — We never know how great life is, until we sail out of the security of our own little shore.

**II. THE FRAILTY AND FUTILITY OF OURSELVES.** — It is not really very far to our "wits end," but we only find it out when we are up against some great test.

**III. THE GREATNESS AND GOODNESS OF GOD.** — It is only when we come to the end of ourselves that we are ready to trust God, and then we prove his glorious adequacy to all our needs.

Conclusion. — Experience, however grim, is worthwhile to learn these great things. The discovery justifies the adventure.

### NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 27: 1-26.

#### Summary.

This story has been estimated by naval experts as the best account of a sea voyage that has come down to us from ancient times. It is, indeed, our principal source of knowledge of the art of navigation as practised by the ancients. Luke describes the voyage at length because it exhibits his hero in a very favorable light. Paul though a prisoner was very kindly treated by the centurion in charge. From Myra in Lycia where they transferred to an Egyptian grain-vessel bound for Rome, they experienced bad weather. Paul, an experienced traveller, advised, in view of the lateness of the season, that they should winter in Crete. His advice rejected, they proceeded, and ran into disaster. Then Paul, encouraged by a vision from God, came forward to cheer his fellow-passengers and take charge of the situation.

#### Explanatory Notes.

"We . . . Aristarchus being with us" (v. 2). — How did Luke and Aristarchus (Acts 19: 29; 20: 4), manage to go? Sir William Ramsay suggests that the only way they could have accompanied Paul was by enrolling themselves as his slaves. Such was their devotion that they would do that rather than be separated from him.

"A ship of Alexandria" (v. 6). — These corn ships were not small. They could be as large as 140 feet long, 36 feet wide, and of 33 feet draught. But in a storm they had certain grave disadvantages. They had no rudder like a modern ship, but were steered with two great paddles coming out from under the stern on

each side. They were therefore hard to manage. Further, they had only one mast, and on that, one great square sail, made sometimes of linen and sometimes of stitched hides. With a sail like that they could not sail into the wind.

"The fast" (v. 9). — i.e., the Jewish Day of Atonement, which that year fell in the first half of October. According to the navigational practice of the time, sailing was considered doubtful after September and impossible by October.

"The south wind blew softly" (v. 13). — Deceptive, what is known as a "weather-breeder."

"A tempestuous wind" (v. 14). — A typhoon. "Euroclydon" means "north-easter." It "struck down from the land" (R.S.V.). Ramsay quotes a modern sea-captain, "The wind comes down from those mountains (of Crete), fit to blow the ship out of the water."

"Undergirding the ship" (v. 17). — The single mast and great sail put such a strain on the ship's timbers in a gale that often the timbers of such ships started, and they foundered at sea. To avoid that they "frapped" the ship. That means, they passed hawsers under the ship and drew them tight round the ship with their winches so that they literally held the ship together like a tied up parcel.

#### Suggested Theme.

#### "THE CHRISTIAN TAKES CHARGE."

Introduction. — What Paul did in that storm-tossed ship, Christianity must do for humanity in the world storm of today. It must stand out and take upon itself the direction of affairs. Paul was only a prisoner, but he was the only one worthy of being captain, and in the end he became captain.

**I. COMMONSENSE VERSUS COMPLACENCY.** — (a) It would have been better if Paul had been listened to at the beginning. (b) Worldly men think Christians do not know much. (c) Complacency in favorable appearances (v. 13) is folly. (d) The world learns the wisdom of Christianity the hard way, through tragedy.

**II. TRUST VERSUS TERROR.** — (a) The Christian, not allowed to prevent tragedy, comes in to salvage it. (b) Worldly men swing from complacency to hopelessness. (c) The Christian has an undefeatable trust — "I believe God." (d) The Christian, by his faith, saves others as well as himself.

Conclusion. — Christianity simply cannot contract out of its social duty. We are quite literally "all in the same boat," and Christians must supply the leadership which is so sadly lacking.

# REQUIRED READING!

G. J. Andrews, Albion, Qld.

Dr. Merton S. Rice, once a notable Detroit minister and friend of Henry Ford, had a habit of taking an extra suitcase when he went on his lecture tours. One day a perspiring porter asked if he had lead in that extra case. "No, it has books in it," replied Dr. Rice with a grin. "Lawsy, mister, you must be mighty ignorant," said the porter. "I am, brother," answered Rice, "but I am trying to get over that."

How many of us are taking care to overcome our ignorance, as well as our other varieties of handicap? Do we stop to consider that, whether we are "lazy bones" or "lazy brains," either condition makes us liable to Christ's stern reprimand: "Thou wicked and slothful servant!" For doctors, chemists, engineers and lawyers, as well as a host of others, there is in their course of training, certain required reading. But do we pay attention to the fact that for all of us there is definite, required reading according to Jesus?

Perhaps we recall that Paul urged Timothy to "Give attention to reading!" But let us mark well that Jesus requires us to read three books, and especially three.

The first book that Jesus requires us to read is

## The Book of Scripture

Jesus knew the Holy Scriptures of his day, the Old Testament, to be the very text-book of life provided by the heavenly Father. As James Stalker has pointed out, Jesus probably knew his Scriptures in three languages; Aramaic, Greek and Hebrew. He certainly knew and used the Scriptures for defence, for inspiration and for guidance.

When Jesus met the Tempter, he knew and used Scripture like a sword. When Jesus met human adversaries, such as certain scribes and Pharisees, he used the Scriptures to challenge and confound them. When Jesus met earnest inquirers, like the aged rabbi, Nicodemus, who came to him by night, he used the Scriptures as a very instrument of God to lead a soul to new birth and to eternal salvation. When Jesus came to his great crisis upon the cross, it was still by the aid of Scripture that he kept strong, and true to his redeeming mission.

But the Master required and encouraged the reading of the Book of Scripture by others. He would frequently ask: "Have ye never read?" or "How readest thou?" Sometimes he would declare: "Ye do err greatly, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God." In his great high-priestly



"The books which help you most are those that make you think the most."

prayer, Jesus said: "I pray that thou shouldst keep them from evil . . . Sanctify them through thy truth. Thy word is truth." Moreover, in two of the Master's breath-taking promises, he anticipates the availability to us of God's fuller and greater Book of Scripture: "If ye continue in my words, then are ye my disciples indeed, and ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." . . . "If a man love me, he will keep my words, and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and make our abode with him."

The second book that Jesus requires us to read is the book of our own selves, or

## The Book of Our Heart

One of the mystics used to say, "I haven't many books, but I have my heart." Well, according to Jesus, this is a really significant book.

While Jesus warns us concerning the marks and over-writings of sin that are within us, he still challenges us to consult some things which God has caused to be written within us. Indeed, Dr. W. M. Clow remarks that our Lord's great characteristic as a persuasive preacher is because he so constantly makes appeal to the human heart. Jesus appeals from men, and from men's ways at their highest and best, to explain and justify the ways of God. He bids us look into our hearts and ask what faithful testimony we can read there. Let us recall three occasions when Jesus required men thus to read their hearts.

When Jesus was preaching his sermon on the mount, he referred men to something their own hearts should tell them of God's way in prayer. "What man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?"

When Jesus was in the midst of persons who stood for a rigid and legalistic Sabbath, he referred them to what the human heart can tell as to God's way in providence. "They asked him, Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath days? that they might accuse him. And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the Sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out? How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the Sabbath days. Then he saith to the man (with the withered hand), Stretch forth thy hand! And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole like as the other."

On another occasion the Pharisees and scribes were criticising Jesus for what they considered his too friendly association with publicans and sinners. In his reply, Jesus referred them to what their own hearts ought to tell them concerning God's way in redemption. By way of a parable, Jesus said: "What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbors, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons, which need no repentance."

We should not forget that, when the Risen Christ confronted Saul of Tarsus on the Damascus Road, he reminded him that the outward confronting was also accompanied by the inward appeal of his conscience. "It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks!"

The third book Jesus requires us to read is

## The Book of Living Signs

We should become as "history-wise" as we are often "weather-wise."

When Pharisees and Saducees treacherously desired Jesus that he would "show them a sign from heaven," "He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather; for the sky is red: And in the morning, It will be foul weather to-day for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times?" To the Master's eyes, present events were all instinct with God's purposes and the working

out of God's will; thus they illustrated and confirmed God's revelation.

This is not an urge that we should become presumptuous little gods, foretelling the future. But it is an urge that we read life carefully and see that pride, individual or national, does go before a fall; that merely formal religion is of little use, for it is bound to fail us under test; that honor and goodness do have resources of a great and ultimate character.

Yates of Bournemouth used to tell

of a youthful day when he was lying on the grass with a book. The Prime Minister, Gladstone appeared on the scene and asked the young man what he was reading, "Sartor Resartus," was the answer. "Ah," said Gladstone, with a twinkle, "that isn't a book to read lying down!"

Neither are the **Book of Scripture**, the **Book of the Heart**, nor the **Book of Life's Signs**, books to read lying down. They are books to read with an alert readiness to do the will of God as he gives us to know it.

## THE MINISTRIES OF OUR

# WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

### STATE REPORTS

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The monthly meeting of the Women's Conference held on June 2, took the form of the Annual Overseas Rally. There were 120 present. A brief business session commenced the afternoon. A welcome was extended to Mrs. Roy Dixon of India.

Mrs. Trowbridge, the convenor of the Overseas Committee, presided over the gathering. There were three retired missionaries present, viz: Miss Cameron who led in prayer, Mrs. Anderson who read the Scripture lesson, and Miss L. Foreman.

A duet by Mesdames Parker and C. Butler was much appreciated. Mrs. Dixon spoke on the work being done in India, particularly mentioning their visits to villages some distance away and the necessity of camping in these villages, to take God's message to the people living in these areas.

#### NEW SOUTH WALES.

The monthly Conference Meeting was held on June 3, at 11 a.m. The President, Mrs. Wylie, presided. There were 87 present. Mrs. Stevenson, of Carramar, led the devotional session, her subject being **Called to Service**. Many challenging thoughts were presented. Mrs. Stevenson said, "Because the Lord understands our make-up, so he has commissioned us. He understands our weaknesses and nervousness, but gives us the strength to serve him, if we obey his commands."

George Wladysuk — a student of Woolwich Bible College — addressed the meeting on his work with the Slavic Church in Sydney, which meets at the Y.M.C.A. every Sunday. We were asked to pray for these people. Because of their experiences, particularly in the war years, it was very difficult to preach to them of our God of Love,

Mrs. Wylie reported on her visit to Wagga Wagga and Albury and brought greetings from the sisters there.

#### VICTORIA.

Victorian and Tasmanian Women's Council Meeting held June 3, at 2 p.m. The President, Mrs. Lloyd, was in the chair. 108 delegates and friends were present. The devotions were led by Mrs. C. Hall who brought thoughts on **The Oneness of Love**. An inspiring address was given by Mrs. Forbes of Brighton, **Launch out into the Deep**.

A recommendation from the Women's Federal Conference of Australia that Mrs. A. W. Cleland be the Australian representative on the World Christian Women's Fellowship Executive was ratified.

As our women are desirous of making the living quarters of our missionaries, including our Living Link, on the Aborigine Stations more homelike, a gift of £75 is being sent to the Federal Board with the request that they purchase easy chairs, curtains, etc., to help toward this end.

The Temperance Committee expressed disapproval of moves by the liquor interests to the proposed course to be given at the Sydney Technical School to train barmaids, and letters are to be sent to the Head Mistresses' Association of Melbourne and the head mistress of "Invergowrie" finishing school where the Wine Producers' Association plans to tell senior girls where wine fits into life, and how, and promises to teach them anything they want to know about wine and how to serve it.

The remainder of the meeting was given over to the discussion of Stewardship.—L. Williams.

#### QUEENSLAND.

Annerley Guild were responsible for the monthly devotions, which were

followed by a very informative talk on the work women can do in the Commonwealth Campaign, given by the Director of this campaign, F. Langford.

Mrs. C. R. Burdeu the President of the Conference occupied the chair for the business session, when minutes were received. It was unanimously decided to appoint Mrs. H. W. Hermann and Mrs. E. Berlin as Life Vice-Presidents of the Women's Conference for the wonderful work they have done over many years for the Conference in Queensland. It was also reported that the "Young Women's Fellowships" had been launched at Ann-st., and that Mrs. F. Langford had been appointed as President.

£50 has been set aside to partly support H. Finger in the New Hebrides Work. It was decided that the Church of Christ would participate in the National Council of Women's Community Fair in the City Hall on June 29 and 30.

A letter was received from the Y.W.C.A. regarding their Centenary Celebrations and also asking for an amount of £10 from the Churches of Christ as their part in the erection of a Hostel for Young Women in this State. It was unanimously agreed to give this amount.

As there was no further business, Mrs. Burdeu closed the meeting with prayer.—B. Wiltshire.

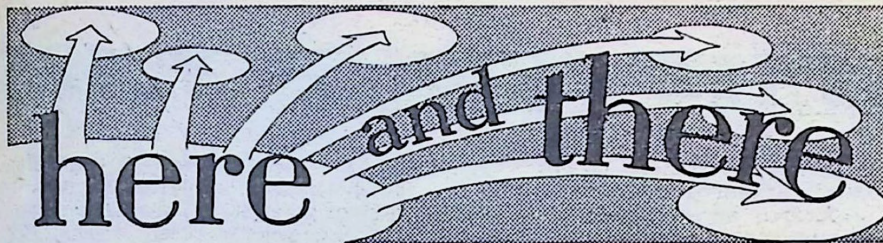
## Married Couples' Ashram

Over the Queen's Birthday week-end, 50 persons including nurserymaid, handyman, cooks and children were in camp at Hall's Gap for a Married Couples Ashram held by the Ballarat churches. Studies on the booklet **Calvary Road**, and on the subject of **A Vision of God's Use of Our Homes**, were led by C. W. Jackel and F. C. Hunting.

The children were well cared for and hardly noticed. The keen appetites were well satisfied by the cooks. The handyman kept the heating and lighting, etc., going; and the leaders kept the discussion practical.

In group discussions, the need for personal commitment to Christ, the facing of sin, the essential openness between members of a family, the control of the home by God, were discussed and faced. Many testified of inspiration received and revelation of deficiencies in their homes which they, with God's help, intended to rectify.

All voted in favor of another Ashram.—J.M.



On June 5, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Withers commenced their 13th year of service with the West Preston church. At conclusion of the morning service, A. E. Wood (elder) spoke fittingly of the work done by Mr. and Mrs. Withers and made a presentation to them on behalf of the church.

D. W. Tonkin, of W.A., will commence his ministry with the church at Mosman, N.S.W., on July 3.

For the past few months the church at Hawthorn, Vic., has been helped by speakers from the C.M.S. and Camberwell church. By an arrangement with Camberwell, a forward movement is planned to increase Bible school and church attendance. The church would be glad to have members from other districts who have now become residents of Hawthorn. C. K. Milne conducts the evening service. Regret was expressed at losing B.S. supt., H. Smith, who has moved to another suburb. Mrs. Smith assisted him in his work. Mr. Pratt and an assistant from Camberwell now conduct the school. To all visiting speakers and helpers the church expresses its deep appreciation of their assistance.

The Australian Religious Film Society has a series of films entitled *This is the Life*. These present the Christian attitude to home and other problems including the *How and Why* of family worship. Full information is obtainable at the Society's office, 167 Collins-st., Melbourne.

The monthly meeting of the Victorian Ministers' Association will be held in Swanston-st. hall, on Monday, July 4. The speaker, A. A. Hughes, recently returned from a visit to India, will talk on his *Impressions of India*.

After many years in S.A. as minister, manager of the Book Room, secretary of Conference, member of many committees, H. R. Taylor is rounding out his Brotherhood service at Conference this year. In many ways his name has become synonymous with the name of the Brotherhood. His grip of all Brotherhood affairs has made him something of a pivot around which many things moved. His retirement will make a great gap.

G. Miller, secretary at Horsham, Vic., church, for 37 years, has retired from that position. Deep appreciation has been recorded for Mr. Miller's work in the church as secretary, deacon and elder.

The Churches of Christ Evangelical Fellowship (Vic.) announces that it is commencing a weekly half-hour broadcast over 3XY Melbourne, every Monday night at 9.30 commencing on July 4. The broadcast will cost approx. £1,000 per annum to run and F. E. Buckingham is the appeal chairman. Programmes will be pre-recorded with H. B. Robbins as compere and E. C. Hinrichsen speaker.

#### THE DOOR STANDS AJAR

Men and nations, near and far,  
Are battering at the walls,  
Trying to enter the house of peace,  
When the only way they may enter  
These hallowed, sacred halls  
Is through the door of Love  
That forever stands ajar.

—C. M. Boring in the "Christian-Evangelist."

### *C. G. Taylor Arrives in America*

News by airmail from Jesse M. Bader.

The editor of *The Australian Christian*, and the minister of the Brighton church, C. G. Taylor, arrived at the Idlewild Airport in New York on June 1, four hours ahead of the scheduled time for the plane to arrive from London. I met him at the air terminal.

During his three days in New York, he had some very interesting experiences, one of which was to attend a major league baseball match, with Mrs. Bader and me. It was the first baseball match he had ever seen, and of course he was eager to know how it was played. It was not long before he quite understood the way the match was played; which was between the Brooklyn "Dodgers" and the Milwaukee "Braves."

It was a pleasure, indeed, to have him in our home. We played some of the recorded music of the Melbourne World Convention choir. In several of these numbers, Mrs. Taylor sings the solo part. It is a matter of much regret that she is not to be at Toronto to sing in the Fifth World Convention choir.

Mr. Taylor is well on his way to the west, visiting our churches and col-

leges. The World Convention worked out his schedule for a period between June 1 and August 21. On June 5, he preached in two churches in Washington, D.C., following which he will visit Bethany College, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Lexington (Kentucky), Indianapolis, St. Louis, Kansas City, Des Moines, Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, Canton (Ohio), Buffalo and St. Thomas (Ontario). This schedule takes him almost up to the time of the Toronto Convention.

We are so glad to have this distinguished preacher and editor among us and on the World Convention programme.



Dr. Mati Solomon writing of the Convention of Churches of Christ in India, sends her greetings to Australian friends she made at the World Convention held in Melb., 1952. The floral decorations, friendliness and care of her by her hostess Mrs. Hagger, are rich memories.

On June 4, a party of four journeyed from Moreland to assist in the services at Shepparton, Vic. J. Turner, B.A., spoke to well attended meetings and Mesdames Turner and Cook sang a duet at evening service. The church appreciates the assistance of Moreland brethren and others who have helped during the interim period the church has been without a preacher. Padre Young conducted both services on June 18 and gave an interesting session to B.S. Jean McCallum was welcomed back after a period in hospital. Gas heaters have been installed in the chapel. D. A. V. Thomas will commence his ministry with the church on July 3.



### *"A Faith for Our Times" Campaign*

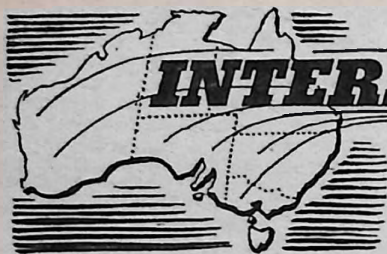
AT TOOWOOMBA, QLD.

In spite of record cold weather that was mixed with continual rain *The Faith for our Times Campaign* with R. Greenhalgh (N.S.W. Youth Director) will be long remembered by the Toowoomba church.

Splendid preaching that combined excellent teaching with fine gospel appeal has assisted the church greatly.

Attendance in spite of rain and cold were a credit to the church and the faithfulness of the preaching resulted in five decisions during the mission and three during the Happy Hours that were conducted in conjunction with the mission at Harlaxton and Crown-st.

Special services were held to emphasise the importance of Women's and Men's work, whilst a special teacher's conference proved invaluable.



# INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

## Discipleship

Mrs. E. S. Rodgers, Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic.

Elaine Corrigan, Maidstone, Vic.

W. Whittingham, Lillimur, Vic.

Miss P. White, Barry Lewis, Roy Aghan, Alan Boyd, Les Jackson, North Fitzroy, Vic.

Keith Stephens, Long Plains, S.A.

Patsy and June Butler, Shirley Whitred, Malavana Campbell, Isobel Kingston, Stafford, Qld.

## Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Draper, from Norwood, S.A., to Kaniva, Vic.

Maureen Pass, Beverly Pass, Jennifer Pass, Pam Porter, Lorna Short, Beverly Larder, Hilary Larder, Rosemary Lassig, Bundaberg, Qld.

Mr. and Mrs. Wootan, from Inglewood to South Perth, W.A.

L. Smith, to Horsham, Vic.

## Marriage

Miss P. White to L. Culliver, North Fitzroy, Vic.

Miss G. Foster to K. Dixon, North Fitzroy, Vic.

Miss D. Thompson to G. Trotter, North Fitzroy, Vic.

June Kirshaw to Allan Meagre, Wangaratta, Vic.

Dawn Harding to Gordon Williams, Long Plains, S.A.

## Fallen Asleep

Diane Brereton, Ungarra, S.A.

Mrs. A. Long, Warrnambool, Vic.

Miss A. Richta, Horsham, Vic.

## Queensland

Stafford (F. Langford). — B.S. had new record of 152 last Sunday. Girls' Life Brigade is highlight in girls' activities. Mr. Jeynes capably leads Boys' Club and these two clubs have helped to keep the Sunday attendance regular. Evening services are reasonably well maintained. Ladies' Guild held an evening recently when Miss Hooper showed

delightful movie films of her trip to Great Britain and Continent. Y.P.F. of Kedron visited homes of scholars who are not regular in attendance in school. M. Wood was speaker on June 5 at gospel service. Five intermediate girls made their decision on 19th.

Kedron (F. Langford). — Last three Sunday morning services attendances have been over 100. June 4, the 14th week of Member Talent Effort, talents were returned and a good number stayed for evening devotions. On 5th, church anniversary was held. Evening service was conducted by G. J. Andrews. Final total for Talent Effort was £381/19/-. On 6th, 130 sat down to a tea, and C. Flood (Ann-st.) gave the address. Visiting artists were Mrs. Horne, Mrs. Ludgater, and K. Hack. New building plans were explained by J. Bailey, and the membership is greatly encouraged. Shut-in roster and friendship visitation has helped many, and church is progressing in its programming. Miss Cunningham (S.U.M.) was speaker at recent mid-week fellowshipship.

## Western Australia

Inglewood (R. W. Marshall). — Senior B.S. anniversary was held on May 29. Singing was under leadership of E. Wortlehoch. Annual tea, demonstration and prize-giving was held on June 1. All services are well attended and the presence of strangers is noticed. Girls' Club after several months of recess has commenced activities under the leadership of Mrs. N. Reed. F. Abbott having undergone operation is now progressing favorably. New manse in nearing completion.

Cottesloe (G. Smith). — Loyalty to Christ and His Church was theme of week-end camp at Waterman's Bay attended by 27 Y.P. On June 5, monthly parade of basketball teams was held. Over 40 attended tea preceding gospel service. A married woman confessed her faith and was baptised on 12th. Happy fellowship was enjoyed on 6th, when bus trip to hills covered new youth camp site at Kalamunda, Araluen and Canning Dam. Visiting speakers during month were Messrs. Hughes and S. Wilson. Youth offering is £36.

North Perth (C. H. Hunt). — Ladies' Aid held a jumble sale to raise money for manse fund. All auxiliaries are preparing for church jubilee in July. Men have been busy renovating building in preparation for the celebrations. A number of Y.P. attended Youth Service on Empire Youth Sunday. Y.P.C.E. members held social evening at home of superintendent. They also held a barbecue and a meeting at the Guest Home. J.C.E. won State Efficiency

Shield at recent State C.E. Convention for the first time. This has given the children great enthusiasm. Attendances have improved in recent weeks. Boys' Club continues to hold interest of its members. B.S. has entered Increase and Attendance Campaign. It is pleasing to see quite a number of scholars attending the church services. On June 12, there were nearly 80 present at morning service including a lady visitor from Canada, and another from N.S.W. Church has been saddened by sudden Home call of our Mrs. Arthur. Sympathy has been extended to her husband and family. Church continues to pray for Sis. Chessell, senr.

South Perth (S. H. Wilson). — Recently formed church library will be in operation within few weeks. A committee of three has been appointed and a number of money donations have been received. Church has appointed following officers: sec., K. Ballantine; asst.-sec., R. Richards; treas., J. McIntyre. B.S. has entered Increase and Attendance campaign. Attendances have been 219-226 during month. Representative from Call to the Nation addressed Men's Fellowship on June 12, also showing film *They Planted a Stone There*. Boys' Club continues with much activity. T. Scotland is in charge of devotions. Ladies' Fellowship have talent table at their meetings. Ladies now have representative on local B.&F.B.S. auxiliary. Church attendances continue to be good with keen interest being maintained. Garage is being constructed at manse by voluntary labor. Good Companions' met for tea on 19th, later taking part in gospel service. I.C.E. invited Baptist C.E. to meeting on May 24, Mr. Maynard (Baptist minister) was guest speaker. M. Trainor has joined R.A.A.F. Y.P. recreation group on Friday evenings is receiving excellent support. J.C.E. continue to increase their numbers. This group is much alive. State Youth offering was £33. G. Smith (Cottesloe) addressed morning meeting on June 19.

## New South Wales

Mosman. — Ladies' Aid conducted gospel service on Mother's Day. On evening of May 22, *The Voice of the Deep* was screened. Speakers at services have been G. Sloman (Belmore), N. Hodgekiss (Carramar), J. Blankley (Woolwich), I. Young (Temp. Alliance), J. and K. Hunter, L. Donaldson and C. Murray. On June 5, church at North Balgowlah (Seaforth) commenced morning services as well as evening. B.S. has also changed to morning. Men have been painting and renovating manse.

Taree (M. H. A. Pieper). — Church was pleased to have a visit from R.

Greenhalgh (Youth Director) on June 5. On his way home after conducting a special campaign at Toowoomba, he spoke at morning and evening services, visited Wingham church, and spoke at gospel service at Comboyne in the afternoon. At close of meeting at Taree, Mr. Greenhalgh met Taree and Wingham officers to present plans and suggestions for future advancement of the work. His services were greatly appreciated by church. Church was happy to welcome a number of Sydney visitors on June 12. Concern of church is felt for Mrs. P. G. Saxby who is seriously ill in hospital.

Lismore (A. C. Caldicott). — Investigations are in hand for establishment of an Aboriginal Mission Station on the North Coast; seven settlements having no church supervision. At a recent morning service Aboriginal preacher F. Roberts spoke. Recent Clifford Burrows Memorial concert was partly broadcast by 2LM, and the play *I Have a Life to Give* presented by the Y.P. brought congratulatory remarks on all sides. £80 was raised as a result of a district wide appeal. Two adults have confessed Christ. Broadcast services over 2LM are appreciated. Choir stall is to be renovated. Women's Guild and Mission Band are exerting a great influence. G. B. Davis (Woolwich) preached during last vacation. Other visiting preachers included R. Greenhalgh and E. Heard. Miss E. Bunn (Woolwich) was recent visitor. N.S.W. Flood Appeal reached £80.

### South Australia

Kadina (R. A. Ewers). — After two years of brotherhood effort a six-roomed manse adjoining the chapel has been completed. Opportunity was taken of the presence of Principal E. L. Williams on May 21 for him to speak at the opening ceremony, and declare the manse open. S. R. Trenwith told of the venture of faith in building the manse, of the small capital available, and the way the members of the church had unselfishly worked by manual labor and donations to erect the manse valued at £4,000. Much credit was due to R. Hawke (builder) who had given good advice and much service. A basket tea was partaken of afterward. Many members and preachers from the Northern District were present as well as local members. Before the evening service, Mr. Williams showed films of Evanston, and later addressed a packed chapel. Mr. and Mrs. Ewers and family are now settled in the manse. Mrs. Donaldson and Mrs. R. Watson are ill in the local hospital, Sis. R. Stock, and J. Lawrence are also ill.

Moonta - Wallaroo Circuit (B. W. Manning). — Several visitors have cheered the faithful band at Moonta recently. One car load came from Maitland district one Sunday bringing with them Mrs. Chas. Humphries, W.A.

Another car load left Adelaide, 8 a.m., worshipped at 11 and left again at 2 p.m. These visits are a great inspiration to any country cause. All auxiliary work is happy and a very fine spirit is in the church. Visits from R. Dixon (India), and M. A. K. Crosby (Conf. Pres.), are planned.

Ungarra (A. B. Titter). — Special meetings held on June 5, consisted of address in morning from R. Dixon (India), followed by helpful talk in B.S. on work amongst children of India. On the same night Endeavorers and neighboring societies along with the church heard Mr. Bennett (National C.E. President) speak. Good attendances at church services and C.E. have continued. Church sympathises with family and relatives of Diane Brereton who was called suddenly (as result of accident) to her eternal Home.

Croydon (W. N. Bartlett). — Good attendances have been maintained over past month. On May 29, C. P. Hughes (Temperance Alliance) brought the evening address. On 31st, G. A. Whiting concluded series of lectures on Training for Service. Men of church visited church at Berri on June 4 and 5. The time of fellowship was enjoyed by all. In preacher's absence, Mr. Cornelius spoke on both occasions. On 12th, a Youth tea was held and an after-church fellowship followed the evening service. These are now a regular monthly feature. On 17th, R. Dixon brought pictures of India to the Y.P.C.E. On 19th, members combined with local Church of England for after-church fellowship at which the sec. of the British and Foreign Bible Society showed films.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — Senr. C.Y.F. enjoyed novelty evening on June 17, when 25 Y.P. shared humorous debates, games and competitions. Mr. Norris led devotional session and the assistance of Peter Fopp was appreciated. This recently formed club is run by the Y.P. and is growing in numbers and interest. Services on 19th were well attended and special pre-visitation messages by preacher were very helpful. Carlene Tannebrin is welcome addition to B.S. staff as trainee teacher. Church sympathises with L. Milne and Mrs. Wormald in loss of father, and Mrs. Linford in loss of grandson.

Long Plains-Owen-Avon Circuit (M. D. Williams). — Recently appointed Northern District Conference Youth Committee arranged first Christian Youth Fellowship, held at Owen on June 3. Over 160 Y.P. crowded out the youth hall. They represented churches at Kadina, Balaklava, Avon, Long Plains, Owen and Gawler. Interior redecorating and exterior painting has been concluded on chapel at Owen, with installation of glass fronted hymn-book cupboard. Long Plains church re-

cently expressed sincere appreciation at a kitchen tea to Miss D. Harding, for her valued contribution to church and B.S. M. A. K. Crosby (Conf. Pres.) visited Long Plains and Avon on June 19.

### Victoria

Brunswick (C. Watson). — Successful church social was held on June 4. Film, *City Story* was screened at evening service on 5th. B.S. teachers appreciated series of lectures given by Miss B. Bates in interests of B.S. activities. K.S.P. installation conducted by W. W. Saunders was held on 8th.

Castlemaine (G. W. Barnett). — Ladies had charge of evening meeting on June 4. Mrs. Taylor presided, Mrs. Jones read scripture, Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. Sainbury, duet. Mr. Barnett was speaker. R. Edgar (Mission to Lepers) was speaker on 11th. Visitors for the month were T. Burrows (New Zealand), and Mr. and Mrs. I. Humphries, (Morwell). Ladies held very successful jumble sale and cake stall on 10th, and raised £45 towards new kitchen. Once a fortnight they hold a bowls afternoon for same purpose. Ladies have also commenced talent scheme, the money raised going towards kitchen fund. Prayer meeting was held at home of Mrs. Parkinson.

Latrobe-terr., Geelong (T. A. Ferguson). — Meeting of Bible School Committee of the Y.P.D. with teachers of Belmont, Drumcondra and Latrobe-terr. schools held at the latter's chapel on June 9 was appreciated and enjoyed. The tea was attended by 40 and the conference and group discussions were very profitable. To members of the Committee and Field Worker we give our thanks. On morning of June 5, a presentation was made to J. Barnes who had served the church faithfully as sec. and deacon for nearly four years, and who now with his wife and family have transferred to Belmont church. The last evening function for the New Hall Fund for the first year of savings was attended by 90 on 18th. The lovely slides shown and commentary by Miss Hair, Asst. Bursar of Geelong College, of Britain and the Continent were most informative. Offering of £10 was divided between quotas of Ladies' Aid and Ladies' Fellowship. New church gospel notice board proved its worth on night of 19th. 99 attended baptismal service. 123 attended morning service on the same date.

Kaniva (M. T. Lawrie). — Men's Fellowship tea was held on May 22 at which Mr. Barwick, Melbourne, spoke on Church Building Trust and Insurance. Well attended service, conducted by men of church followed, and an elderly man was baptised. Sympathy of church is extended to Mr. and Miss Ross in death of their sister, Mrs. Flegert. On May 15 a B.S. was commenced at Serviceton with 13

scholars, and Mrs. D. Wallis as Superintendent. Youth offering amounted to £160.

**Maidstone (E. H. Randall).** — Sixty ladies attended sixth birthday of Women's Fellowship when Mrs. E. L. Williams gave an illustrated lecture on her tour overseas. Elected were: Mrs. Randall, pres.; Mrs. Squires, vice-pres.; Mrs. Hampton, treas. District officers exchange with Williamstown took place on 12th. A. E. Hurren (Footscray) was speaker at morning service. There was one decision at evening service. Picture night by courtesy of P.M.G. has assisted Hall Fund. Young Explorer Club under leadership of V. Waters and Pfeifer boys is in a healthy condition. A baptismal service was held on evening of 19th.

**North Fitzroy.** — A. O. S. Baker is speaking at morning services, and C. Cole in conducting gospel services. Special youth service with Y.P. assisting was held on May 1. There was one decision. On Mother's Day, special services were held in kindergarten, and in evening. Baptismal service was held during morning of May 15 when two B.S. scholars were immersed and received into fellowship. Ladies conducted service on May 22.

**Swan Hill (R. A. Banks).** — About 60 Y.P. from Berri (S.A.), Sunraysia and Swan Hill districts were present at youth camp held at Tyntynder over Queen's Birthday week-end. Leaders were D. A. V. Thomas (Mildura) and R. A. Banks. Mr. Thomas was speaker at morning service at Swan Hill on 12th. At evening service, guest speaker was K. A. Jones (C.O.B.). There were 110 present. After the service Mr. Jones showed films on life at the college. Mr. Banks was speaker at Pyramid Hill B.S. anniversary on 19th. Mr. Cockroft conducted service at Swan Hill.

**Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson).** — On May 20, a kitchen tea was held for June Kirshaw and Allan Meagre. On 30th, the Y.P.S.C.E. combined with Methodist and Baptist societies to discuss business concerning C.E. regional rally. Mr. Coulthard (Methodist) later addressed the meeting. Worship service on June 5 was broadcast over 3NE when Mr. Anderson was speaker and R. Patrick presided. Mrs. Wilma Jackel rendered a solo. Y.P.S.C.E. has started some craft work for overseas missions. B.S. teachers tea was held on 5th, a happy time of fellowship being had by all, with a business session following.

**Warracknabeal (W. Wakefield).** — Women's prayer meeting was held in chapel in May. Boys from Sunraysia District were given refreshments as they passed through to Hall's Gap during holidays. Ladies' Aid have given a cloth for communion table.

**Warrnambool (K. W. Barton, L.Th.).** — Extensive Youth Week programme was most successful. Outstanding features were a Mother's Day service arranged by B.S., and C.E. banquet

at which the church officers and their wives were special guests. Preacher and his family have been on holidays and have now resumed work with the church. After-church fellowship continues on one Sunday night each month. The last fellowship was addressed by Mr. Barton on features of church life observed during his holidays. Church recently lost its oldest member in the passing of Mrs. A. Long at the age of 85. The church shared in another bereavement through the passing of Mrs. K. Trigg, a daughter of Mrs. Hill, snr., and sister of other members of the church. Mrs. W. Pearce has returned home from hospital after a serious operation. Social evening for church, arranged by W.M.B., raised £9 for manse fund. C.E. society is having good meetings. Two car loads of Endeavorers attended one day of recent regional C.E. Convention at Hamilton.

**Balwyn (J. E. Brooke).** — During Queen's birthday week-end over 60 Y.P. attended a youth camp at Man-yung under leadership of camp director D. Russell. Studies included subjects on Physical Fitness, Jesus the Friend and From Friendship to Marriage. On the Sunday evening the Y.P. took the service at Frankston. All clubs and societies are in good heart and average communicants number 120. Y.W.F. is to be formed under leadership of Mrs. Hall. Plans are being made to form a Men's Society. Explorer club under newly-appointed leader, S. Hogan, is progressing well. Plans are almost completed for additional buildings for B.S. work, and building should be ready by end of year. Preacher conducted short mission at Box Hill. He also gave Conference Sermon at Brisbane. Organ fund has reached £350.

**Lygon-st., Carlton (L. G. Burgin).** — Attendances at mid-week prayer meetings are very good. G. Swain has been welcomed back from N.S.T. and C. Higgins has been on leave from R.A.N. Miss G. Allen suffered a broken wrist from a fall. Mrs. G. Barnett has been very ill. Visitors have included Mr. and Mrs. Waters (Dareton), Mr. and Mrs. Houston (Bendigo), Mr. and Mrs. Rogers and Lorna (Warracknabeal). Queensberry-st. Chinese church was visited by Lygon-st. descendants of the late F. McClean who commenced the Chinese church 50 years ago.

**Horsham (H. M. Long).** — Church is introducing budget system of giving, using Duplex envelopes. Amounts on right hand side will be apportioned to various appeals and local charities. Preacher who was away for nine weeks has now returned from Newcastle where he conducted a short mission. After the mission he spent several weeks in hospital where he underwent an abdominal operation. Youth offering was £11/6/-. Donations for new church organ are almost £200. A. Cutchie has been appointed church sec.-treas., pro tem.

**Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson).** — Regional C.E. Convention over Queen's Birthday week-end brought much blessing to the town. About 50 delegates registered and many others attended. Mr. Jeffries (Pyramid Hill Methodist church) was guest speaker at all Convention meetings. He also addressed Sunday morning service at the Church of Christ. Prayer meetings, hospital visitation and discussion groups proved very helpful. R. J. Anderson and Miss M. Dinning, C.E. pres. and sec. were commended for their sterling effort.

#### BIRTH

**PIETZSCH (Cousins).** — Henri and Hazel announce with pleasure God's gift of a son at Footscray Hospital on June 16.—Colyn George. Brother for Marilyn, Lynton and Glynne.

**STIRLING (nee Sando).** — On June 21, at Kia-Ora Private Hospital, Regent, to Isabel and Les, a son—Bruce Leslie. Brother for Heather.

#### DEATH

**SWAIN.**—On June 24, at 9 Johnston-st., Northcote, Rosa, beloved wife of Harry, 181 Gilbert-rd., Preston, devoted mother of Daisy (Mrs. Lofts, dec.), Henry F., Rosa (Mrs. Page), Florence (Mrs. Johnston), Lily (Mrs. Mitchell), Ivy (Mrs. Clark), Dr. Alex. B., and Frank L., loving sister of Lottie (Mrs. West) and Emma (Mrs. Ross). In her 90th year.

#### IN MEMORIAM

**VAUTIER.** — Florence May. Called Home, July 1, 1950. Ever remembered by her loving husband and family.

**CASSON.** — In loving memory of our dear parents Edith Jane and Edward. Always remembered by their family.

#### ENGAGEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Lanyon, Boort, have much pleasure in announcing the engagement of their only daughter Betty Frances, to David John A., only son of Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Jackel, Wedderburn.

#### PRAHRAN

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THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

## Swan Hill, Vic., District Conference

Swan Hill, Woorinen, Ultima Circuit.

On June 5, the guest speaker, A. R. Lloyd, preached at the three churches, Woorinen, 11 a.m.; Ultima, 3 p.m.; and gospel meeting at Swan Hill at 7 p.m., when all three churches joined together in one service.

Mr. Lloyd's addresses were very inspiring and challenging to all who attended the meetings.

The business session on June 6, commenced at 1.30 p.m. with a devotional service led by A. R. Lloyd, after which R. A. Banks, Conference President, opened the business by welcoming the brethren, delegates of churches and visitors. A. R. Lloyd brought greetings on behalf of State Conference Committee, Victorian Home Missions Committee and Carnegie church.

Reports of churches followed, which showed that the churches and auxiliaries were all very active during the past year.

Reports showed that there have been just over 50 decisions for Christ during the past 12 months. Youth work is being extended through the activities of the Youth Council and Young People's Clubs.

The ladies work also has been very extensive and much has been achieved by our sisters.

Under the fine leadership of R. A. Banks, a wonderful Christian spirit exists in the district. A fine spirit of co-operation and fellowship is experienced among the churches of the circuit.

The resignation of R. A. Banks was received with much regret, and he terminates his ministry with the Swan Hill District churches at the end of January next.

The election of the Conference Executive Committee resulted in the following: pres., D. W. Cockroft; vice-pres., B. McFarlane; sec., E. G. H. Mott; treas., G. A. Mott; committee, J. Leach, C. B. Mott, D. A. Cockroft, D. Watson, A. D. Anderson, A. Jeffery, I. Crowe, and A. Staley.

At 5.30 p.m. a most enjoyable tea was provided by the Swan Hill ladies.

At 7.30 the evening session commenced with song service, after which treasurer, G. A. Mott, presented the financial statement and made the appeal for a good offering and Conference promises. This resulted in an offering of £38, and promises of £220.

Chairman, R. A. Banks, inducted the incoming president, D. W. Cockroft and committee.

A. R. Lloyd challenged all who attended by his address, God's Manpower Problems. This brought to a close a most successful conference of business and fellowship.—E. G. H. Mott.

June, 28, 1955.

## Open Forum

### THE CHURCH AND THE POLITICAL SITUATION

My qualifications to write on the above subject from industrial experience is questioned by C. C. Arnold (31/5/55) in reply to mine of 24/5/55, can be briefly stated as covering a period of 17 years as a tradesman, service at sea "before the mast" and in the "stoke-hole" and a ministry among industrial workers of over 40 years as "a workman that need not be ashamed." I must say, on behalf of my fellow ministers, who, like myself, are questioned, that I know not any of our own men who have not labored in the office, farm or factory.

These men have not "fallen for Communist propaganda." They are alive to the real situation. The two great opposing political forces of our day originate from the Vatican and the Kremlin. The relative strength of each greatly favors the former. In Australia the numbers, respectively are 1 in 20 and 1 in 300 of the population. Both are intensely aggressive and uncompromising, and both, where they predominate, are despotic. I do not wish to submit to either. The result of the recent elections in Victoria goes to show that I am not alone in this. The majority has yielded to the minority in so many ways to preserve peace, but the time came for a "halt."

I have not entered into this matter without being assured of my position.

C.C.A.'s complaint is that evil triumphs because "good men say nothing and do nothing." Some offer the hydrogen bomb or something more terrifying as a solution, but Jesus says, love your enemies. I prefer this course.

The Roman Catholic church, plans, through our legislatures, to secure for itself favored treatment in education, industry, immigration and other government departments out of all proportion to its numbers, and I am prepared, if necessary, to establish my proofs. In the meantime let us follow the advice of Paul, Eph. 6: 10-18.—Will. H. Clay, 241 Flinders-lane, Melbourne.

## Opening of New Chapel

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Sunday, July 24:  
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June, 28, 1955.

## OBITUARY

Miss Stella Sanders.

Miss Sanders passed to be with her  
Lord on March 31, at the age of 55.  
She had been a loyal member of the  
church at Warrnambool since 1927,  
and served faithfully as a church or-  
ganiste, organiste for the Women's  
Mission Band, and B.S. teacher. Al-  
though frail in body she was always  
cheerful and it was a joy to know her.  
She is missed from the fellowship of  
the church, but we rejoice because  
"blessed are they that die in the Lord."  
The writer conducted services at the  
funeral parlors and the graveside.  
—K.W.B.

Mrs. Annie Long.

The late sister, Mrs. Long, passed  
away suddenly on May 16, at the age  
of 85. She was the oldest member of  
the Warrnambool church. Mrs. Long  
joined the church in 1886 and during  
her membership gave many years of  
faithful service. Failing health in re-  
cent years prevented her from attend-  
ing services regularly. In the absence  
of the resident preacher on holidays,  
T. V. Weir, a past preacher, journeyed  
from Melbourne to Warrnambool and  
conducted the funeral services.—K.W.B.

Mrs. Fred Thomas.

Following an accident near her home  
in Medindie, S.A., Mrs. Fred Thomas,  
at the age of 86 years, was called Home  
on April 24. Mrs. Thomas became a  
member of North Adelaide church when  
quite young in life. In the early days  
when Prospect was calling for help,  
she went along to assist, and worked  
in the kindergarten of the school.  
Later she returned to North Adelaide.  
For many years in later life she at-  
tended the Nailsworth church. Here  
she served faithfully as a deaconess,  
always assisting the preacher in the  
baptisms of the ladies. For more than  
twenty years she held the position of  
treasurer for the Adelaide Children's  
Hospital Dorcas. She was a great  
worker in the Women's Auxiliary Con-  
ference, and was supt. of the Home  
Mission Committee, when the first £100  
was reached. For more than 20 years  
she was supt. of the Hospital Com-  
mittee of this Conference, and rendered  
a wonderful service in helping the sick.  
She was also a member of the Women's  
Auxiliary of the Morialta Protestant  
Children's Home. Her life was a full  
one. She was really an "Inasmuch"  
soul in the interests of her Master's  
Kingdom. She has entered a well-  
earned rest, and received a well-earned  
crown. To her daughter, Mrs. H. Chur-  
lick, and her sons, Les and Frank, we  
tender our sincere sympathy.—J.E.S.

Paul August Tanzer.

In February the Home call came  
suddenly to Paul August Tanzer, Too-  
woomba, Qld., at the advanced age of

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eighty-four years. Mr. Tanzer gave his  
life to Christ during the Chandler-  
Clay tent mission on Aug. 29, 1918.  
He continued faithful to the New Testa-  
ment pleas and had served the church  
in splendid fashion as B.S. teacher,  
deacon, and treasurer for a number of  
years and served for many years as  
door-keeper. The Home call came sud-  
denly for him although he had known  
for some years that his heart was not as  
strong as formerly. The church mourns  
the loss of one who had been faithful  
in difficult days of church work, and  
who rejoiced in the progress of the  
work over the years. Particularly he  
was a friend of the preacher and con-  
stantly upheld him and the work in  
prayer. Our brother was laid to rest  
in a service conducted by F. J. Winter  
who had been in Mr. Tanzer's class in  
B.S. days.—E.T.H.

**Charlotte Elizabeth Marriage.**

At the advanced age of 101 years,  
Mrs. C. E. Marriage was called Home  
on May 21. In her passing, Toowoomba,  
Qld., lost its oldest resident, and the  
church one of her most faithful mem-  
bers. Mrs. Marriage made her decision  
for Christ whilst in her teens in the  
Baptist church in Ipswich, but linked  
with Churches of Christ on her mari-  
riage to Alexander Marriage. With her  
husband, selections were taken up in  
the pioneer days of Yangan and later  
MacLagan, and the arduous life of  
the couple in no way impaired their  
health and even at the advanced age  
of 98 Mrs. Marriage was able to carry  
out her domestic duties. The church  
felt honored when Mr. and Mrs. Mar-  
riage were presented to the Queen on  
her visit to Toowoomba. Her faithfulness  
to the church was lovely to see  
and her handwork by which she was  
able to give a little more to the various  
activities of the church was a joy to  
behold. With her passing, a link with  
past days is severed, but her memory  
will long be cherished. Mr. Marriage  
continues in good health, but looks  
toward that day when he will be  
united with his loved one again.—E.T.H.

**Herbert Anderson.**

Amongst those who came to pay  
tribute to Mrs. Marriage in the Too-  
woomba chapel on May 24 was Herb.  
Anderson, who two days later was  
called Home after suffering a stroke.  
Our brother made his decision for  
Christ in 1950, and made a friendly and  
worthwhile contribution to the life and  
work of the church. Noted for his  
friendliness and cheerful manner Mr.  
Anderson had suffered ill health for  
many years following war service in  
the first world war when at Villiers  
Brettoneaux he was badly gassed and  
his life despaired of. In spite of the  
handicap left by this war disability  
our brother had followed out a business  
career, and his innate good humor was  
marvellous to behold, especially by those  
who knew of his war disabilities. To

his wife and son the deep sympathy of  
the church is extended. The sudden-  
ness of the Home call in such an un-  
expected manner found the chapel  
crowded when the writer paid tribute  
in a service that was representative of  
all the community.—E.T.H.

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