

Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

"I Saw the A-Bomb Dropped on Nagasaki"

William Boyd, P.O.W., working on camp duties in Nagasaki on that fateful morning in August, 1945, tells something of what he saw. This is a summary of his talk given in the Poowong Presbyterian Church (Vic.). In the light of recent warnings signed by nine prominent scientists, it should be read by all.

ELEVEN A.M.

In a flash the world around me became confused and hazy—everything momentarily went black, and I was aware of millions of rays, like sparks of lightning everywhere about three inches off the ground.

My first reaction was one of panic. The moment everyone—including myself—gathered their scattered senses, they ran like a field of startled rabbits for the surrounding hillside. Whether one likes it or not, the reaction was one of intense fear, everyone thinking only of himself. Men, women and children were dropping like flies. These rays were biting deep into the flesh, turning the tissue instantly black. The cries of the stricken victims will remain with me for the rest of my life.

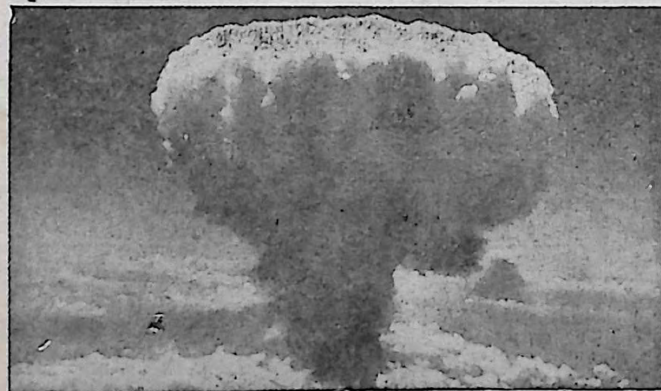
Never had the hills, which before, from the camp, had seemed grim and forbidding, seemed so inviting. To me they were the haven I sought. Looking back over the town, which but a few minutes earlier had been the homes and factories of human beings was fire—smoke—a man-made hell! It was difficult to realise this was no dream, but reality. On all sides now were

refugees from the city—shrieking and wailing. After the first shock, men all round, irrespective of nationality or race, were helping one another.

NEXT MORNING.

The following morning, after a seemingly endless night, English, Japanese, Australian and Dutch soldiers made their way back into the stricken city. All around was death. I had seen men maimed and killed in action before, but

never like this. Over three square miles of buildings and factories were absolutely flattened. Girders were fused together by intense heat into balls no larger than a man's hand. Chimneys, which previously had stretched high to the heavens, were now small hills of crystallised sand. Where before had run modern highways were now streets of shattered, gaping holes—an earthquake could not have created this kind of destruction. This



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was no impartial act of nature. this was man—man gone wild.

Our task was to rescue the living—we found none—and to remove, by burning, the dead. Men, women, children, horses, dogs, animals were all pushed into common piles—in death sharing a common grave.

There are many things I cannot tell you even now—even my wife did not know until long after we were married that I had been there; sometimes the mind can be merciful in pushing to the back that which one cannot bear to remember.

People were being fed from trucks on roadsides, there was no conqueror or conquered in this common peril—all were equal. Minds were shattered; I remember vividly four days after the bomb had dropped, a clap of thunder was sufficient to send everyone screaming to the ground.

THREE WEEKS AFTERWARDS.

Three weeks afterwards the war finished, and we were moved from Nagasaki prior to returning home. I shall never forget what I saw; the memory of these tragic moments will always be with me. But I am convinced I never want to see it again, or to have my children involved in an atomic war. How can this be averted? I'm not sure, but I think that only as men come together in a true expression of Love, which I believe can be found in the Christian Church, will any solution present itself; for the thing I shall always remember was the way that man-made barriers were swept aside in the days that followed the bomb. I am sure that it is only through the power of God that the power—the destructive power—of man can be met, challenged and conquered.—From "The Messenger."



AND THEN I PRAYED

The world seemed wrong—but then I prayed

And God was in the room with me;
And I was talking, unafraid,
With him who rules eternity.
How great and awful must be God
His hand the vast unseen to sway,
But it was only tender love
That came into my heart that day.

My heart was troubled and afraid,
My body trembled with that fear,
But soon I felt my trembling cease:
My loving Father bent so near
That I could feel his presence there,
Could feel his hand close over mine;
My trouble seemed so light a thing
When lifted by the Great Divine.

'Tis true his might is great and awesome;

But the wonder thrilling me
Is that God is also Father
To his children—and to me!

—B. M. Elliot.

TOLERANT?

We have made the boast often enough, seasoned with a little facetiousness, that the only thing of which we are intolerant is, intolerance.

In reality, intolerance may be a very hateful thing. It is so when it arises from religious bigotry. It is so when it is rooted in ignorance. It is so when we are not willing to listen to the other fellow's point of view. In a great many ways the intolerant spirit is one of the most hateful spirits in the world.

In political circles a tolerant attitude is needed, not to let one party override the other, but to be fair minded in seeking the country's welfare. In international affairs, especially, is the spirit of tolerance essential. The needs of each nation and country is understood well enough, we believe, to bring peace and preserve it in this world. But if there is shown in the forthcoming Four Power Conference, a determination of any one Power to override the needs of any other Power or any of the smaller nations, peace in the world can never be kept.

But there is another side to this matter of tolerance and the plea for it comes from a great many sources. That if men hear a thing often enough they will come to believe it, whether it be true or false, has been known for a long, long time. The system is still used on both sides of the Iron Curtain. One activity of the Roman Catholic church has been to keep Protestants tolerant. The Abbe Couturier was known as the "Apostle of Christian Unity." His unity meant unity with the Roman Catholic church and he endeavored to break down the feelings of the Protestants in France engendered by the memory of St. Bartholomew's Day, when 8,000 Protestants were slaughtered in Paris, and many times that number throughout France in 1572. But Protestantism is of itself normally tolerant. It is not a matter of chance or accident, that not a single Protestant country has succumbed to Communism.

The ancient adage, "constant dropping day by day will wear the hardest stone away," may apply to Christianity's resistance to evil. We have heard the cry for "tolerance" so long, and used for such causes, that we become soft and flabby, and tolerant of so much that no Christian should tolerate. The Church can become so tolerant that it loses much of its sense of right and wrong.

There is an Eastern story which tells of the Arab whose camel put its head in his tent. The Arab told it to go out but didn't think it would do any harm for the camel just to put its head in! When the Arab went to sleep the camel put his shoulders and forelegs in. The Arab awoke and ordered the camel out again but once more decided that it wouldn't hurt to have the camel's

shoulders in. To shorten the story, the camel gradually got into the tent, whereupon the Arab, in high dudgeon that the camel had taken advantage of his tolerance, ordered it out—or else. But it was the Arab that was thrown out, not the camel.

It is possible to carry the matter of tolerance too far. Jesus was sympathetic and kind and patient and tolerant with all kinds of people excepting the wilfully malicious and mean. He was tolerant with the unfortunate sinner, perhaps, but never with sin. He looked upon moral injustice and cruelty with indignation and denounced such in no uncertain voice and manner, and his "woe unto thee" is as much a warning for us today as when first uttered by him.

We have at times read or listened to some denouncement of Elijah as a most intolerant prophet because he slew the priests of Baal. Elijah was called of God to cleanse the land of idolatry and the awful worship of Baal and Ashtoreth. The idolatrous priests had no right whatever among the people of God. The Hebrews had been chosen to keep the worship of God pure, and the only man that God could use to bring the nation back to him had to be a man intolerant of the evils within the idolatries of his people. God saw fit to discipline the early Church when the lying Annanias and Sapphira were smitten dead.

Cromwell in certain universities is treated as a most intolerant man, mainly because of his campaign in Ireland. Cromwell challenged his foes, the Irish prelates, to give "an instance of one man since my coming into Ireland, not in arms, massacred, destroyed or banished." The challenge was not met then, and never has been since. But he was intolerant of the liquor traffic which caused so much hardship, sorrow and agony in England. If his followers did damage a cathedral or two it was because those places had become objects of worship. For the same reason Hezekiah destroyed the brazen serpent as it had become "Nehushtan."

The Christian has no right to be tolerant of evil, most of all in his own life. "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world." There is no place for tolerance in any such war as that.

If any one of us could stifle forever those diseases which steal away our loved ones we would do so. Shall we be more tolerant of the evils that may take them away from God—and from us?

As for Christian brethren who cannot see eye to eye with us, tolerance or intolerance should not enter into the matter. The law of love covers all, especially the preaching of truth.

C. G. TAYLOR (Editor) gives an intimate glimpse of the Australian desert in this first episode of his travel story

ALL ROADS—TORONTO!

I. The Long Australian Way

In the wet dawn of an April morning we set out from Melbourne on the first stage of a journey which was to bring me by so many different roads to Toronto for the World Convention, August 16 to 21.

The long first lap stretched ahead of us—2,300 miles of it, from Melbourne to Fremantle, W.A., where my family were to holiday with my people while I was overseas. We had decided to travel by car. The air and rail routes were too familiar; the long road, including almost a thousand miles of the Nullarbor Plain, irresistibly beckoned us to new adventure. And we certainly found it. Or, more truly, it found us, even before we left home.

Adventure -- Plus!

Five nights before we were due to leave, burglars invaded our home while we were all attending the Youth Night of the Victorian Conference. Evidently aware that I was due to visit among the "fabulous wealth" of the United States, they decided to relieve me of one suit, all my sports clothes, shirts, ties, handkerchiefs, money, etc. That stirred up a crazy pot-pourri of final days—talking to police and insurance officers, writing final Christian articles, finalising travel and bank arrangements, packing, being guests of a brotherhood farewell, preaching morning and evening on Sunday, going to bed at 1 a.m. Monday, rising at 5 a.m., leaving by 6.30 a.m., amid the good wishes of friends who had gathered to see us off.

That day we drove almost 500 miles to Adelaide, and after visiting the G. T. Fitzgeralds went on our way at noon the next day. Each succeeding day brought its own adventures—but it was on Thursday that real adventure came. Our 16 h.p. sedan, heavily laden with tinned foods, water, oil, twelve extra gallons of petrol, in addition to ourselves and our luggage, had never performed better than that Thursday morning. With about one thousand miles of our trip behind us, we were really beginning to enjoy ourselves. Then, suddenly, on came a red light—ignition trouble! A man working on a road-grader soon showed us how serious the trouble was; one lug of the generator had snapped clean through, and so had the adjustment bracket, with the result that the generator had fallen uselessly into the bottom of the car.

He directed us to a homestead a few miles further on where we might find

help. We were not much encouraged to learn that there were two furniture removers there, who had been held up a fortnight waiting for spare parts for their van! One of these young men was a skilled mechanic, and he did his best to help us. But the broken pieces needed to be welded together—and the nearest service station was 150 miles back on our road. We had wanted adventure; we certainly had it, for we were now in the section of the desert route where there was no service station ahead in a distance of 764 miles.

Desert Dwellers

The manager of the sheep-station, to whose home we had come, invited us to stay, and we were taken into a room in whose double bed—as events worked out—the four of us were to spend five nights, with much manoeuvring of legs and angulsh of limbs!

Mercifully, we did not know that on the Friday morning when I waited at the roadside with my broken generator, looking for an Adelaide-bound traveller who would take it back to the nearest garage for repair. Within ninety minutes someone came and cheerfully agreed to take the generator. Next morning we had a phone call from the garage to say the repairs were finished, and we asked them to return the generator by the first traveller to pass through the town. I had allowed almost three days in my planning in case of accident, and I still had time, even if the generator took a day to reach us, to drive to Perth and connect with the plane for overseas.

But all Saturday and Sunday passed without a sign of the precious part. To make things worse, the young men, with the furniture van at last repaired, left on the Sunday, taking our old bachelor host with them for two days' holiday at Fowler's Bay, 120 miles away. We were left alone in the middle of the desert with a car which could not go. That was the most desolate day of our lives. Now we knew there was no hope of my catching the plane. But for the kiddies' sake we held Bible School in the old homestead kitchen, and felt the better for it.

Monday could have been even worse, for it rained all day, and still the generator did not come. But the kiddies saved the day for us. It was Wendy's ninth birthday, and we felt badly because all we had for a birthday celebration was a tin of sausages and

vegetables! But the girls drew pictures of party-tables, laden with gifts and good things, and sang and played as though these fancies, and not the bleak kitchen, were real. And even we began slowly to discern a wiser Hand than ours in what had happened, halting the hectic pace of recent weeks.

Late on Tuesday morning the old man returned. "I've got your generator," he said in his terse fashion. Unbelievably, the garage people had sent it to the wrong place, 120 miles away—the very town to which the old man had gone for his week-end! As our original trouble had been caused by some mechanic omitting to replace a nut and bolt in the generator, garage-men scarcely rated high in our private popularity poll!

Westward at Last

The neighbor who had brought the old man home helped us fit the generator into position, and, hopefully, we loaded up the car again and set off for the remaining 1,200 miles of the trip. During our five days' delay, the rains had come, and all kinds of hazards befell us as we ploughed through flooded roads or slithered from side to side in treacherous drying mud. In the midst of all this it was a happy respite to call at the Norseman Mission station and visit the missionaries there—especially their bathroom! But we were there long enough to sense the splendid work being done, and its importance to the brotherhood. The new dormitories were something of which we could be justly proud.

But further excitement came on the Friday as we neared Perth and found ourselves pursued by a car. It wasn't the police, however—just two eager, friendly people, Roy Dixon of India and Rowland Pritchard of Wembley, anxious to welcome us to W.A. Within an hour we were in Fremantle, and our adventurous journey over the long Australian way was over.

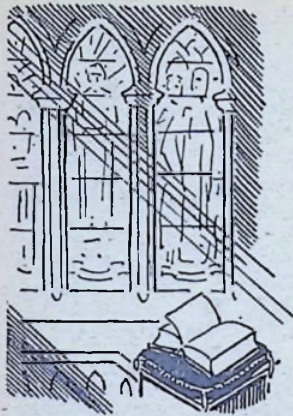
Next:

"SKYWAYS AND BRITISH HIGHWAYS."



"Out of this life I shall never take
Things of silver and gold I make;
All that I cherish and hoard away,
After I leave, on this earth must
stay."

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



THE LIVING WORD

Studies on the planned Sunday morning readings

Sunday, July 31

OLD TESTAMENT.

Isaiah 62.

Summary.

To read this chapter, and then to refer to the chapter summary at the head of it, is to realise how misleading this allegorising method of interpretation can be. Isaiah 61 and 62, do not apply to the Church at all, but to the restoration of dispersed Israel. Our present lesson is a rhapsodic anticipation of the glories of that day when Israel, under God, was to be resurrected out of the graves of the captivity, and brought into her own land. It is the bitterness of their present experience that helps us to feel the poignancy of this undiscourageable hope. Not all the prophet's shame and humiliation can cloud his confidence in this miraculous reversal of their national fortunes. The omnipotence of God is pledge that the deserted land will be filled. Moreover, this mighty deliverance is conceived as "at their door." Hence the impassioned proclamation with which the chapter closes: "Prepare ye the way!"

Explanatory Notes.

"I will not hold" (v. 1). — We cannot be sure whether the prophet is speaking, or Jehovah himself.

"The righteousness" (v. 1). — i.e., her vindication — the setting of her right in the eyes of the world.

"New name" (v. 2). — Befitting her new character.

"Hephi-bah . . . Beulah" (v. 4). — Meaning respectively, "My delight is in her"; and "Married."

"Watchmen" (v. 6). — Suggestion is of angelic beings who are to remind Jehovah constantly of his promise to make Jerusalem of renown throughout the earth.

"Ye that make . . ." (v. 6). — R.V. "Ye that are the Lord's remembrancers, take ye no rest."

"Courts of my holiness" (v. 9). — Suggestion is that they will celebrate in the Temple, the Feasts of the In-gathering.

"Say ye . . ." (v. 11). — A new exhortation, parallel with "Go through" of v. 10.

"Holy people" (v. 12). — Israel's ideal character realised.

Suggested Theme.

"THE INCOMPARABLE DELIGHTS OF THE NEW JERUSALEM."

Introduction. — One of the great legacies of the Hebrew-Christian tradition is an unquenchable hope at the heart of life. Overarching the sometimes bitter and discouraging actualities of the present, there is always the promise of "the delectable mountains, and the rivers of light, beyond which rise the pinnacles of the City of God." **Note:**

I. THE DELIGHTFUL PROSPECT (vv. 1-5). — (a) The glory of her righteousness (vv. 1-3); (b) No more "forsaken" (vv. 4-5).

II. THE DIVINE PREROGATIVE (vv. 6-9). — This glorious transformation is to be God's work, as attested by: (a) The call to importunate prayer; (b) The recalling of God's promise.

III. THE DELIVERING PROCLAMATION (vv. 10-12). — (a) "Prepare ye . . ." (v. 10); (b) "Say ye . . ." (v. 11); (c) The final result (v. 12).

Conclusion. — There is for us, as for the prophet, a transfiguring hope at the heart of life, lighting up its deepest sorrows, and making even the bitterest way bright with the promise of God's fulfilment.

NEW TESTAMENT.

Acts 28: 17-31.

Summary.

Three days after his arrival in Rome, Paul arranged an interview with a number of influential Jews in the city. His purpose, in this, is not quite clear. Since the charges against him had been preferred by his countrymen, he may have sought to disarm the suspicions of these Roman Jews—suspicions that would have been strengthened, perhaps, by his "appeal to Caesar," with its possible hint of grave charges against his own people. On the other hand, this may have been nothing more than a prepared occasion for the proclamation of the gospel that was to be offered "to the Jew first." Be the explanation what it may, the interview was held, and a further appointment made, when Paul boldly pleaded the cause of Jesus. His appeal met a mixed reception, and in the rejection of many of the Jews, Paul found his justification for turning, now, to the Gentiles. The Book closes with a magnificent picture of the manacled prisoner, "unhindered" in his service for the Master.

Explanatory Notes.

"Yet was I delivered prisoner from Jerusalem" (v. 17). — This involves a rather accommodated interpretation of the facts recorded in Acts 21.

"For as concerning this sect" (v. 22). — Since the Jews profess no first-hand knowledge of the Christians, it appears that, in Rome, the Church and the Synagogue were definitely separated. Indications are that the infant-church started as a mainly non-Jewish body.

"Well spake the Holy Ghost by Esaias" (v. 25). — Cf. Isaiah 6: 9. The same quotation is featured in Matt. 13, and John 12.

"Unto our fathers" (v. 25). — R.V., "your fathers." Paul carefully dissociates himself from the unbelieving Jews.

V. 29. — "This verse is omitted by important ancient authorities, but much is to be said for its genuineness." (Dummelow.)

"Two whole years" (v. 30). — Such delays were not unusual, and may have been due, in this case, to the loss of official papers in the wreck, and the difficulty in bringing the principals together.

"No man forbidding him" (v. 31). — Campbell Morgan suggests that word involved here is better rendered "unhindered."

Suggested Theme.

"THE TRIUMPH OF AN UNFETTERED GOSPEL"

Introduction. — "God is not bound!" This was the triumphant discovery of the fettered apostle. Though the servant was in chains, Christ was free, and soldiers of the Praetorian Guard, and even the members of Caesar's household, fell under the ageless spell of the prisoner's Master. **Note:**

I. A PREPARATORY INTERVIEW (vv. 17-22). — (a) A pressing invitation (v. 17a); (b) A conciliatory statement (vv. 17b-20); (c) A candid reply (vv. 21-22).

II. A PROVOCATIVE INQUIRY (vv. 23-29). — (a) A further appointment (v. 23a); (b) A tireless advocate (v. 23b); (c) A divided reception (vv. 24-25a); (d) A prophetic dismissal (vv. 25b-28).

III. A PRODUCTIVE INTERLUDE (vv. 30-31). — (a) Duration of these circumstances of captivity (v. 30); (b) Occupation during captivity (v. 31). (The epistles to Philippians, Colossians, Ephesians and Philemon, have been assigned to this period!)

Conclusion. — If we are truly Christ's, the worst afflictions we are called to endure, will work out to the advancement of his gospel.

“THE CHOICE IS MY OWN”

An old man sat dreaming, as the sun slowly slipped away over the distant hills. His memory—still very alert in spite of his many years—was alive with a scene which had been re-enacted in his mind countless times before. Yet it was all so very real to him.

Once more he could see a young man—dressed in rich and significant clothes—kneeling in the dust of a winding little village street, whilst amazed on-lookers stood in wonder.

With eager eyes he was looking full in the finest face he had ever seen. From his trembling lips tumbled a question greater and more important than any he had ever asked before: “Tell me, Master, what must I do to have eternal life? And, Master, what must I do to live a worth-while life? Please tell me.”

The strong, stalwart young Carpenter from Nazareth, the compelling young prophet from Galilee, replied in a voice which challenged his very soul: “Put your priorities right; put God first; make a choice between selfishness and service; decide between living for time, and living for eternity; choose between your own way of life and God’s way.” His heart beating high with hope, the young man looked into the future, and in vision saw a road which he could walk day by day in the company of the Son of God. How grand it all seemed!

There is silence as he considers the cost of following Christ. Jesus was asking too much when he said: “Give yourself away.” Slowly, with tear dimmed eyes, the young man rose to his feet to make the great refusal.

Now, after so many years, it was all just as real as when it first happened. Two roads had opened before him, and he had to choose one of them. He did! But he selected the wrong road, and all the endless years which followed were shadowed by what might have been. Ah well, he would whisper with a sigh, “The choice was my own.”

Is that too fantastic a picture of what might have happened in the case of the rich young ruler? Perhaps it is. Yet, it could have happened in just that way, because that kind of thing has taken place a multitude of times. For us, too, there are two ways of living which may be chosen, and whichever we decide upon, it is our own responsibility, and we must say: “The choice is my own.” Those words are woven into the very texture of life, and must be applied—as we all well know—to many of our own personal experiences.

For instance, we may each one say that “the choice is my own” to

Decline a Dishonorable Discharge

in the battle of life. We would all agree that life is a battle. We are constantly fighting inward tensions and outward circumstances. One day I came upon these lines entitled “This Thing Called Life,” which said: “Life is a journey; live it trustingly. Life is a task; live it obediently. Life is a mission; live it helpfully. Life is a battle; live it courageously.”

One of the finest declarations concerning those who refused to give up in the midst of the battle is found in Hebrews 11: 23-40. In verse 35 we find the words: “others were tortured, not accepting deliverance.” They wouldn’t give in, even though the battle was hard. They refused a dishonorable discharge. God, and the Church, and the world needs men like that today.

In referring to the words “not accepting deliverance,” Paul Quillian says: “This is their only epitaph, but how revealing it is. They were willing to suffer for their faith, although deliverance was theirs for the taking.”

We can rejoice that they have their counterpart in our land, in our day. Even yet there are Christians who are prepared and willing to suffer and sacrifice for their faith. Nameless Christians they are, and Christ lives in them, and works through them. The Master needs followers today who will not give up easily, who will decline a dishonorable discharge in the battle of life.

Again, we may each one of us say that “the choice is my own” to

Adopt an Adventurous Attitude

on the journey of life. Life is never easy—not even for the Christian. But the Christian does have inner reserves of power with which to meet life’s troubles when they come.

There are several ways in which we are able to meet trouble—in whatever form it comes to us—and each method is practised widely today.

There is the way of resistance. We get mad, and we fight back. We become resentful, and stubborn, and defiant. We become embittered with God. True, this kind of thing has made an appeal to some people, for it may seem to be part of the spirit of the

heroic which is within man. It caused a man like Henley to say:

“Under the bludgeonings of fate,
My head is bloody but unbowed.”
This may simply mean a stubborn resistance in trouble.

There is the way of retreat. This is the way of escape. We fill our lives with many things, and create for ourselves a shell of indifference. In one way or another we try to run away from life. But running away from trouble is never the way to overcome it.

There is the way of resignation. Which is not the same as retreating from life. This spirit of resignation is simply dumb submission—a spiritless yielding. Basil Matthews sums it up this way: “The Moslem Arab crossing the desert under the brazen sky finds no water in the oasis well. He neither defies nor questions the Will that has denied water to him and his camel. He wraps his cloak round his head and waits for death.”

There is the way of the Redeemer. He turned troubles into triumphs. In this way difficulties become stepping stones to the formation of character. A Hindu scholar went right to the heart of what the gospel does in the face of tragedy when he said: “There is in Christianity a doctrine that I believe is peculiar to it, and which I have not found in the five religions: the doctrine that God can take what is bad and bring good out of it.” That is just what God did do with the Cross; and that is what we, with his help, are able to do with our troubles.

Once more, we may each one of us say “the choice is my own” to

Persist in a Positive Programme

in the using of life. Most of us feel the great responsibility to doing the best we can with our lives. Personally, I like the programme set out by Dr. J. F. Newton. It is both simple and practical—it is Scriptural and satisfying. To live life at its best he suggests the following four things.

A Faith Fit to Live By. Jesus, our Divine Lord and Saviour, lived by the faith that God is love, and that love is the final law of life. The kind of faith we need today is one which will stand all the tests imposed on it by a rather frightening world. We need deep, abiding personal faith in the goodness of God, and the greatness of God, and the gentleness of God, and the grace of God. That kind of faith lifts a man and empowers him.

A Self Fit to Live With. For we must live with ourselves day by day. Self reaches the highest when in the control of Christ. On board ship a woman said to a preacher who happened to be there: "I am taking this trip to try to get away from myself." When we are subject to the Will of God, when life is made purposeful through prayer, then we will have a self fit to live with.

A Task Fit to Live For. What better programme for life is there than that set out by the Master? A life of service dedicated to God and man, and used in the interests of the Kingdom. Our task is to make the world a little

better because we have lived in it. We all have fields of service just where we are—in the home, the factory, the shop, the office, the school, the club. These are missionary fields, in which we may bring Christ nearer to people by the very way in which we live.

A Society Fit to Live In. By this I mean not the district in which we happen to have our homes (no matter how pleasant and attractive), but that Divine Society which we call the church of Christ. That society is made up of people who in faith and repentance, and obedience crown Christ as the Ruler of their lives. Life in the fulness of that society can be thrilling.

The matter is urgent and personal. We each have a choice to make! Either we can be in the will and the way of God—or we can be out of it. The choice is our own! And remember:

"He wakes desires you never may forget,
He shows you stars you never saw before;
He makes you share with him, for evermore,
The burden of the world's divine regret.
How wise you were to open not! And yet,
How poor if you should turn him from the door."

IRA A. PATERNOSTER (N.S.W.), writes of

UNCONSCIOUS INFLUENCE

In boarding the Spirit of Progress recently at Albury on my way to Melbourne, ahead of me was a lady with a little lad about five or six years of age.

They had just approached the swing door, and the mother having passed through, the little lad was holding it for me to pass. Casually I said, "Thank you, dear," when to my surprise he called to his mother, "Mother, the man said, 'Thank you, dear!'"

This incident set me thinking. How often we influence the lives of others in ways and under circumstances we never realise.

The other Sunday morning a strange young man was in the congregation at North Sydney. I had failed to recognise him even though there was something about his face I seemed to remember.

After the service he came to me and introduced himself. About ten years ago he was a boy in our Bible school, but he had drifted away. Later a band of open-air preachers had been the instruments in God's hand of bringing him to the point of decision and he associated himself with the Baptist church where he was now a student for the ministry.

I asked him what really had influenced him in the direction of the ministry, when to my amazement he reminded me of a time when I had taken him, together with two other boys, out on the Harbour for a day's fishing. I well remember the occasion for we were about a quarter of a mile from shore and fishing in about fifty or sixty feet of water when one of the lads discovered the cork in the stern of the boat used for the purpose of draining the boat when returned to the boatshed. Holding it up he asked what it was for, but soon realised as the water rushed in.

Reminding my friend of the incident he replied to this effect: "That has

Somewhere along life's road we have all been influenced by someone.

been one of the most influencing experiences in my life. I have never forgotten your willingness to give of your time to interest boys in that way." I had no idea any such impression was being made.

As some of my friends will know, I have somewhat of an interest in Overseas Missions. In looking back across the years I realise two factors largely responsible for this.

As a child I was encouraged by my parents to read the life of David Livingstone and he became my childhood hero.

Because of this I became a child collector for the L.M.S., for which I received a certificate in the form of a share in the mission ship, *The John Williams*.

Later, in my College days, I was greatly influenced by the late Archibold McLean and his leadership in what was then The Foreign Christian Missionary Society. His stirring character and ardent advocacy of the cause of Christian Missions has been the inspiration of my life for over half a century, though I have to confess I have not emulated him at least in one respect. It is said of Archibold McLean he was never known to move or second a motion in Committee. Those who know me best will realise this could never be laid to my account.

We never know what influence we are having upon those about us and so the call is for constant careful oversight of our lives. To let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be always acceptable in his sight will mean we must bear witness

to the fact we have accepted the Lordship of Christ as a personal matter and are radiating his presence wherever we go.

No one lives to himself and in one way or another we are leaving a mark upon others. I was about to enter the bus at Crows Nest last Friday to go to Greenwich to get the ferry to the College at Woolwich for my usual lecture. Another man was waiting with me while other passengers alighted, and I drew his attention to a number of initials scratched on the side of the bus. The remark was passed, "That is about the only mark some people will make in this world." But is it the only impression they will make? We can never tell, for as the years slip by and we take stock of our lives, we realise many have been the currents by which our lives have been shaped.

Thank God for Christian parents, converted teachers, faithful friends and co-operating churches and above all the vision of the uplifted Cross upon which was nailed the Son of God who gave himself that "whosoever liveth and believeth in him should have everlasting life."

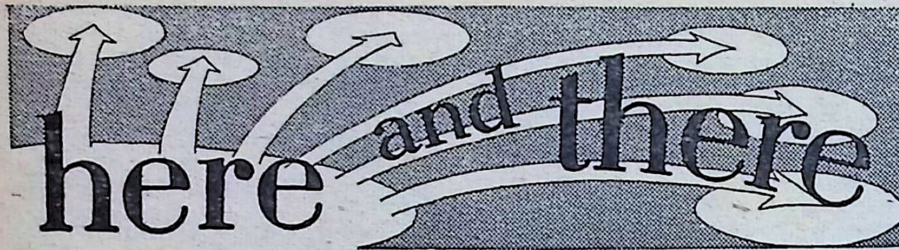


"The World Knew Him Not."

John 1: 10.

Christ was unrecognised by his own people in his own world. Mary Coleridge reminds us of the loneliness of Jesus in the very hour of his birth:

"I saw a stable low and bare,
A little child in a manger.
The oxen knew him, had him in their care,
To men he was a stranger.
The safety of the world was lying there,
And the world's danger."



Mrs. E. Pratt, widow of the late A. H. Pratt, is to enter Epworth Hospital for a major operation on July 19.

The National Christian Endeavor Convention is to be held in Brisbane from September 14 to 22 of this year. To date there are over 200 interstate registrations, but a huge Welcome Tea for 2,500 delegates is being arranged. Accommodation is also being arranged for this number.

A. O. S. Baker, preacher at North Fitzroy, Vic., concluded his ministry with that church on June 27. A presentation was made to Mr. Baker at conclusion of the morning service on that date.

July 5 was College Retreat Day at Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic. Some 35 students together with Principal E. L. Williams, M.A., and housekeeping staff arrived in Geelong in time for morning tea. After a brief welcome by T. A. Fergusson (preacher, Latrobe-terr.) the first session was commenced. Mr. Williams introduced the guest speaker Dr. C. J. Wright, deputy Director Methodist Youth work who addressed the morning and subsequent sessions. After lunch the visitors went to various places of interest around the city arriving back in time for tea at 5.30 p.m. This was followed by a brief concluding lecture to the students, then a public meeting. The whole day was very helpful and the students thanks to the ladies for their excellent hospitality was much appreciated.

Josiah Park of Hobart, Tas., has been elected a life member of the Hobart Temperance Alliance.

In the presence of a large congregation (the chapel being filled to capacity), D. Wakeley was inducted into the pastoral work of the church at Hurstville, N.S.W., on July 6. Principal A. W. Stephenson presided and the charge to the church was given by P. E. Thomas, and to the preacher by R. V. Amos. Opportunity was taken to present cheques to each of the three Woolwich students who have preached at the gospel services and prayer meetings, viz: K. Beadle, K. Crawford and G. Wladysluk, during the four months church has been without a preacher. Church is indebted to W. Walton, W. S. French and E. G. Cowan for very helpful messages at worship services. A new copper water service, exterior and interior painting are among the many jobs done at the manse by some of the men of the church.

A. B. Clark, preacher at Boonah, Qld., church, during the past four years will conclude his ministry there on August 7. R. Combridge (C.O.B.) has intimated that he will commence his ministry at Boonah in February, 1956.

Advice has been received from Robertson McCue, General Secretary of the Local Option Alliance that a referendum will be held in Victoria on the closing hours of hotels. All Victorian churches and temperance alliances would be well advised to begin their organisation now to maintain six o'clock closing.

It isn't the wet spots of the highway that cause the trouble so much as it is the "wet spots" just off the highway.

"I do enjoy reading *The Australian Christian*, being a subscriber from the very start when the two papers issued earlier were embodied into the one," is an extract from a letter received from J. Ellis, Bendigo, Vic., who celebrates his 82nd birthday on July 18. (Letters are received from time to time expressing appreciation of the paper. We enjoy the bouquets, also the occasional brickbats! Ed.)

The World Council of Churches' Call to Prayer on behalf of the heads of Governments of the four Powers which first met on July 18, should be a petition at the Throne of Grace in every church, and at every prayer meeting that peace and goodwill among all peoples may be maintained.

The Oronsay left Sydney July 15 with 18 delegates en route to Toronto. Another eight will join the ship at Auckland where the Auckland District Conference will entertain the delegates with a Fellowship Tea at Ponsoby-rd. Principal and Mrs. A. W. Stephenson who are with the party have been honored with farewells from Lane Cove church and at the City Temple by the Conference Executive, College Board and Women's Executive, and at the College by the students and faculty.

FIFTY YEARS YOUNG NORTH PERTH (W.A.) CELEBRATES ITS GOLDEN JUBILEE.

Jubilee meetings commenced with a special youth function on the Friday night. Over 100 children and their parents attended. Items were rendered by all the youth groups. Mr. L. Cook gave an interesting illustrated talk. At the communion service on Sunday, July 3, 140 assembled for the breaking of bread, and F. Ewers brought a message which will be long remembered. At the close of this service a group photo of those present, was taken. Nearly 100 people gathered for the evening gospel service, which was conducted by Mr. Hunt, and F. E. Buckingham (Vic.). Items were rendered by the junior girls' choir, church choir and male quartet. Mr. Buckingham delivered a gospel message.

On the following Tuesday night, the officers of the church invited all past and present members to a never-to-be-forgotten banquet in the North Perth Town Hall. Mr. Bown, chairman of the board, presided over a gathering of over 260. Mr. Watts brought greetings from the District Preachers' Fraternal. J. Rhodes told of the first meeting of twelve members, fifty years ago, in a small hall at the corner of Angove and Daphne Streets. Mr. Buckingham, who with his wife were two of the first converts, thrilled us with a talk of his experience and past associations with the church. The presence of these folk meant much to the inspiration of the meetings. Mr. Stewart read greetings from many who were not able to attend, some coming from as far away as America. At a thanksgiving and consecration service on the Thursday, Mrs. C. Taylor, from Melbourne, was the guest soloiste, and her lovely messages uplifted all. Mr. Raymond was the challenging speaker and after his message many North Perth members stood in an act of consecration.

The church had been attractively painted for the occasion. Mrs. York, senr., was responsible for the beautiful floral decorations. Mr. Stewart rendered mammoth service in organising the Jubilee and in recognition of this and his long association and service to the church for many years, a suitable presentation was made to him. The Conference President made an official visit and brought an interesting message on the last Sunday; and Mr. Hunt present preacher, conducted the evening gospel service.

We regret Mrs. Cranwell is in hospital, and was unable to attend the Jubilee. J. Gordon, who was to have been the speaker on Sunday evening, July 3, met with an accident to his leg and although present was unable to conduct the service. A copy of the photo taken on Jubilee Sunday was autographed by all present on Tuesday night and will be sent to Dr. and Mrs. Michael and family, in India — from this their home church.—L. Dearden.

THE MINISTRIES OF OUR

WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

The Ministry of Women

(Jubilee, 1905-1955)

Mrs. A. Anderson, S.A.

"The women which labored . . . in the gospel, . . . whose names are in the Book of Life."

The call for missionary service came from Christ when he said "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." These words inspired Paul and sent him forth on his missionary journeys. Since that time, many thousands of missionaries have heard that call and gone forth in Christ's name, to the uttermost parts of the earth, and so the work has gone on through the centuries.

DAWN OF MISSIONS.

During the two centuries preceding the Reformation, there was practically no attempt to evangelise the non-Christian world, and two more centuries went by, even though the churches of Europe had the open Bible in their hands, before the Christian Church realised that it was their duty to go into all the world to preach and teach.

WORK OF WOMEN.

In the beginning of missionary work, many women took up the challenge and went forth into the needy fields to teach, preach and heal, mostly among the women and girls. There are so many religions, but no religion apart from Christianity inculcates the doctrine that women are the equals of men and should have the same opportunity for freedom and education. A Brahmin once said that among the countless sects and religions of Hinduism, the only two things on which the Hindus agreed were the sanctity of the cow and the depravity of women!

The work of the lady missionaries is now bearing fruit. Many of India's women have been uplifted and are capable of taking their place on an equal footing with the men.

THE GREAT ERA.

Professor Latourette has called the years 1815-1914 the greatest era of missionary enterprise. "It was the latter part of this era which gave the impetus to our own churches which were beginning to feel concerned about the large areas of the world still without a Christian missionary and without Christ.

INDIA.

In 1891 an appeal from our American brotherhood came to our Australian churches for a young man to go to Harda, India, to work under the American Board. This appeal went unheeded. There was no young man ready to go, so an appeal came for a young woman volunteer. Miss Mary Thompson answered the call, and in 1891 went forward to Harda. She labored with our American brethren till 1934. During her long period of service among the women and girls she was known as "Beloved Mary."

CHINA.

In 1901, Miss Rosa Tonkin went out to China to work at Shanghai with the American brethren. During her nineteen years of service, she won many women and girls to Christ. Her years in China were not given in vain.

OUR OWN MISSION.

In 1905, the first missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Strutton, working under our own Board, went to India. They were our pioneer missionaries, and settled at Baramati. Mrs. Strutton ably assisted her husband, and also worked among the women and girls. Her kindness and Christian life attracted the women and girls to listen to the words of life.

The next worker of note to go to India was our dearly beloved sister Miss Florence Cameron. It was said of her by her colleagues, "We expect great things of her." We can truly say after forty years of consecrated service, "She hath done great things." She worked among the women and girls—most of her work was among the girls in the Home, and many, many of them can rise up and call her blessed. Her loving kindness to all made her an ideal "mother" for the girls, so many of whom she led to Christ.

We cannot but mention the missionary wives, who have their own families to care for, and the single ladies who have done so much for the uplift of the women and girls of India, in so many ways. They have placed the feet of these women and girls on a firm path that ever leads on to Christ.

As we think of the work in the New Hebrides, we thank God for the ministries of our women to our Hebridean sisters. Their guidance and help have drawn so many to the feet of Christ.

All this selfless service has been

given at a cost, but does not measure up to the cost of Christ giving his life for us. The missionary sees transformed lives, and many saved to serve.

JUBILEE.

We have had fifty years of missionary enterprise. Thirty-four ladies served in India as missionaries, and twenty-one ladies in New Hebrides over this period.

This is our Mission Jubilee year. We thank God for all he has done for the work during these years, for the faithfulness of our missionaries and for all those who have been won for Christ.

The past is gone. Let us have vision, accept the challenge for the future and go forth with Christ who said: "GO YE."

WHYALLA, S.A., REUNION

Recently the third reunion of past members of Whyalla church was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. S. Hosken, Croydon.

There was an excellent spirit and a pleasant time of fellowship was enjoyed by about 38 adults and 10 children. A presentation was made to Mrs. Hosken of a Visitors' Book to record each year's attendance. The majority of those present are still actively engaged in church service.—G. M. Cox.

Open Forum

Answer to correspondent. — A.D., S.A.

Re deaconesses—

1. See First Principles by A. R. Main, page 79.

2. Rom. 16: 1, also (possibly) 1 Tim. 3: 10, 11. When women perform any act in the care of female candidates for baptism, setting the Lord's Table, sick visitation on behalf of the church, etc., they are acting as "helpers" and therefore fulfilling a high calling. More may be printed on this subject later, if space permits. Always keep in mind Gal. 3: 28.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

F. M. Fewster (unattached preacher), 28 Hampton-st., Northam, W.A.

K. J. Hank (secretary, South Melbourne church), 30 Boundary-st., South Melbourne.

K. J. Raymond (secretary, Wedderburn church), Reef-st., Wedderburn, Vic.

Ross Graham (preacher, Aldgate Valley-Stirling churches), Mt Barker-rd., Aldgate, S.A. FX 2158.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

Carol Jones, Heather Fury, Delma Russell, Carmel and Sandra Dobbins, Lynette Dempsey, Colin Nelson, Alan and Kevin Saunders, Rockhampton, Qld.

Frank Crece, Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic.

Maureen and Colin Lewis, Marrickville, N.S.W.

Evelyn Tomkins, Bayswater, Vic.

Don Wise, Edwardstown West, S.A.

Mr. Page, Kilburn, S.A.

Brent Bender, Brian and Georgina Magner, Marjorie and Marion Firth, Ruth Hector, Kevin Hodges, Merewether, N.S.W.

Dawn Deane, Gordon Langford, Colleen Bollard, Geoffrey Owens, Ivan Crockett, Joy Smallman, Myra Gurrin, Geoffrey Ray, Cardiff, N.S.W.

Mr. Tabe, Mile End, S.A.

Miss M. Smith, Burnley, Vic.

Norma Elliott, Toowoomba, Qld.

Cynthia Gordon, Subiaco, W.A.

Robert Hill, Horsham, Vic.

K. Earle, Rae Taylor, Margaret Archer, Yvonne Henning, Carol Lee, East Preston, Vic.

Membership

Mrs. Abbey, Mrs. Carter, from Prospect to Kilburn, S.A.

Mrs. Sherwin, from Parkside Baptist to Kilburn, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Anderson, from Georgetown to Merewether, N.S.W.

Mrs. Tabe, to Mile End, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. M. McNicol, from Warrnambool, Vic., to Mile End, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Greenwood, from Burnley, Eng., to Rockhampton, Qld.

Mr. and Mrs. Jenkins, from Ann-st., Brisbane, to Kedron, Qld.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiltshire, from Brisbane to East Ipswich, Qld.

Mr. and Mrs. Tragilgas, from Alberton East Baptist to Albert Park, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Lumburg, from Colonel Light Gardens to Albert Park, S.A.

Miss R. Mitchell, to Burnley, Vic.

Marriage

June Sherriff to Aleck Fraser, York-st., Ballarat, Vic.

Margaret Wedding to Gordon Gray, Mile End, S.A.

Roma Hilford, East Ipswich, Qld., to William Mudford, Gilgandra, N.S.W.

Fallen Asleep

G. G. Paterson, Mile End, S.A.

Mrs. Mitchell, Mile End, S.A.

J. Brough, Rockhampton, Qld.

Mrs. H. Swain, North Fitzroy, Vic.

R. Fromhold, Bayswater, Vic.

Mrs. Gaskin, Fullarton, S.A.

Mrs. V. Galletly, Carnegie, Vic.

Miss M. E. Holloway, Hampton, Vic.

Mrs. M. Dunstan, Mrs. A. M. Bousfield, Mrs. W. Rattray, Subiaco, W.A.

Miss J. Butler, Horsham, Vic.

Queensland

Boonah (A. B. Clark). — Women's Fellowship held monthly meeting with morning tea at manse. This took form of gift meeting, when novelties were given for forthcoming fete. A number of ladies attended Ipswich Ladies Birthday Luncheon on June 30. A large number of members co-operated with S.Q.C. picnic held, at Rosewood. Several Y.P. attended Youth Conference at Toowoomba. Table tennis match played at Croftby was won by Boonah Y.P. K. Horne (Youth Director) conducted social evening held at home of A. Tutin on 8th.

Kedron (F. Langford). — Father and son, mother and daughter nights were well attended, which brought many parents to the church who do not regularly attend. Series of addresses has just been completed on Stewardship. Messrs. Haigh, Woods and Stevens, gave messages on the various aspects of Stewardship. Monthly Teacher's Training class was attended by 30 teachers and Mr. Haigh gave lesson and then his teaching was constructively criticised. Mr. Flood spoke to men of church on some aspects of reading and presiding at morning worship. Aged members were entertained by Guild at home of Mrs. Williams. Recent street stall in aid of Building Fund made over £10. Men of church have done repair work to manse.

Stafford (F. Langford). — A Temperance night sponsored by the Temperance League was well attended.

Guild held jumble sale and cleared over £15 for Building Debt. Explorer Club gave demonstration to Stafford-Grange Sea Scouts. B.S. picnic was held at Melrose Park on June 13, over 200 were present. Training class has been formed for some young members who recently made their decisions, and it is heartening to have so many young scholars of B.S. at gospel services.

Rockhampton (D. H. Paddon). — Women's Christian Fellowship commenced on North side in home of Mr. and Mrs. Steele, on July 6. Mrs. Paddon was president. Meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month. Next meeting will be in new chapel. This work is in excellent heart. There was one baptism at gospel service on June 26. A young lady made her decision on June 5. Y.P. meetings have doubled in attendance since beginning of basketball on Tuesday nights after devotional meeting. Two full teams are present at each meeting. Basketball continues on Saturday afternoons for juniors. Church has obtained duplicating machine. Appearance of chapel grounds has been enhanced by planting of book leaf pines along front inside of new fence. On June 25, South and North side members united in afternoon of canvassing for B.S. scholars for North Rockhampton B.S. which is to be opened this month. This was very successful and future has bright prospects for North side. Monthly prayer meetings and luncheons of South side Ladies' Fellowship continue in good spirit. North Rockhampton ladies are supporting this work at present. Fellowship was enjoyed with N. Reese during his recent holidays. He addressed church on two occasions. Mr. Stabe was a recent visitor. His wife has been sick in Tannachy Hospital. Preacher has just concluded series of messages on **The True Church**. Special business meeting of church was held on June 29, after a short prayer session, to consider matter of a new preacher. Men's Fellowship recently held social evening at home of Mr. and Mrs. R. Dobbs. On July 3, a Men's Fellowship Tea was held in kinder hall, when N. Reese spoke. Mrs. Smith is leaving Rockhampton to go to Thangool, owing to ill health.

East Ipswich (R. Hilford). — Work continues to maintain good interest. During June, highest attendance at morning service was 143, including some visitors. Average attendance was morning, 116, evening, 62. One Mile B.S. held second anniversary when Mr. and Mrs. Horne (Y.P. Dept.) attended. Mr. Horne spoke to the children and Mrs. Horne presented kinder presents. During the month preacher spoke on Stewardship each Sunday. Mrs. A.

Fraser who spent a few weeks in hospital is now home, much improved in health. Women's Christian Fellowship held 32nd birthday luncheon on June 30 when a splendid gathering attended. Visitors during June were Mr. and Mrs. Mudford, senr. (Gilgandra), Mr. and Mrs. Palmer and daughter (Broken Hill). Church prayer meeting is held monthly with largest attendance 16. Mr. and Mrs. H. Unsworth (Poona and Indian Village Mission) gave illustrated message on night of June 15. Men's Fellowship is proceeding satisfactorily.

Toowoomba (E. T. Hart and G. Gibson). — Church is pleased to report that G. Gibson has improved in health and once again takes up the work at Dalby and Harlaxton. E. T. Hart is also much improved and is at present on holiday with his wife and daughter. R. Hume, with the local brethren, has been assisting with preaching during absence of both preachers. Mr. Hume has now returned to Sydney and members of Y.P.F. made him a presentation prior to his return. E. Grenfell on behalf of church also made a presentation. Margaret-st. B.S. has formed a Bible Class Fellowship under the leadership of Miss Aileen Draney, which meets at same time as B.S. Speaker at recent C.M.S. meeting was Mr. McLeod, former City Engineer. Choir continues to visit Brodribb Home and at last visit 35 were able to join with old folk in singing of their favorite hymns.

Western Australia

Subiaco (R. Raymond). — There has been much sorrow in church occasioned by passing of three valued members. Services of Remembrance were largely attended. Christian Women's Fellowship placed beautiful floral decorations in the chapel on July 10 as tribute of love to late Mrs. Rattray who was their treasurer for 25 years. On July 3, when preacher conducted a question night, a young woman confessed her Lord. Choir is rendering grand service at broadcast and evening services. Mr. and Mrs. F. Buckingham (Vic.) were visitors for one service. F.M. offering stands at £75/14/-. There is much sickness amongst elderly members. Mrs. T. Hutchinson is still very ill.

New South Wales

Merewether (W. D. Howard). — Preliminary work has commenced on renovating and painting of exterior of chapel. Mr. Howard was speaker at 28th anniversary of Kurri church on June 5, and has been elected for second year as sec. of Newcastle United Churches Association embracing 58 men. Junior Girls' Club has been formed with Mrs. V. Cockerill as leader and numbers are increasing. Physical Culture group led by T. Wagner commenced on July 13. Y.P. club held Car Reliability Trial over 28 miles on June

22. Four cars carried the Y.P., two completing course and two becoming "bushed." Visiting speakers during June have been J. R. Adamson, H. Robson and A. C. Thurrowgood.

Cardiff (W. D. Howard). — Excellent attendances are being maintained, especially at gospel services. Accommodation is becoming taxed and serious consideration is being given to extensions to chapel. Recent visiting speakers have been T. G. Wagner, D. Wade, R. C. Aird, D. Brown, and D. A. Oldfield (Rockdale). Junior Boys' Club has been formed with Mrs. S. Roberts as leader, assisted by G. Langford. On June 26, preacher conducted dedication service, over 30 people being present. I.C.E. although recently formed, has average attendance of 12. On 29th, they visited Merewether club, conducting devotional session and enjoying social evening.

Marrickville (P. E. Thomas, B.A.). — Church rejoices in baptism of two Y.P. at gospel service on June 26. After-church fellowship and favorite hymn session was held at close of meeting. Women's Fellowship enjoyed afternoon meeting on 29th when Mrs. G. E. Knight showed films taken when visiting our Aborigines work at Norseman and Carnarvon. J.C.E. attendances are increasing each week under capable leadership of Cynthia Benson and Marilyn Dunne. Society is proud of Adele Fraser (nine years of age) who is pianiste at each meeting. Mid-week service on 29th was Life Gift Fellowship meeting. A. Paris gave interesting talk on work amongst lepers. July is Bible Reading and Home Worship month in our special campaign. Elected committee has distributed current notes of Scripture Union readings to each church family for daily use in the home. Stewardship Committee conducted special meeting on July 3 in preacher's home when talkettes were presented by C. Maxwell, T. Benson and N. Moore, followed by discussion period. Gospel service on 10th was time of rejoicing when a young man made his decision.

Wiley Park (J. W. Crossman). — Annual business meeting of church was held on June 4. The following were elected: elders, W. Mansell, R. Surtees, senr., and R. Surtees, jnr.; deacons, C. Pearce, R. Fishburn, R. Nicholson (treas.), and J. Tait (sec.); C. J. Perkins, agent and reporter for A.C. and Christian Messenger; organistes and pianistes, Sis. Fishburn, Cooper and Hand. Refreshments were provided by the ladies.

Rockdale. — On June 16, after prayer meeting, a time of fellowship was had to honor Mr. and Mrs. R. Hutchens. A suitable presentation was made to the young couple. On 23rd, after prayer meeting, E. Heard (India) showed films of Indian work. Supper was served later. On July 3, there was a special meeting for Bible class, friends and

church members, led by Mr. McMillan on the Lord's second coming. It was a very inspiring meeting. Mr. Kalmier (Auburn) was morning speaker on July 10. Mrs. Andrews (Albion, Qld.), and Mr. Casperson (Wagga Wagga) were visitors. Mr. Goldsteen (Caringbah) was evening speaker.

South Australia

Edwardstown West (H. Cave). — Ladies' Sunshine Circle has been holding money-raising functions in aid of fund to build an open baptistry. B.S. held very successful "Happy Hour" entertaining 90 primary and higher grade scholars to educational films and high tea. A large number of the children stayed to evening service. First week of this year's Temple Day effort raised £110 toward church renovations. Y.P. choir rendered items. As the outcome of visit from E. Lawton (Park-st. church), men have formed a branch of C.M.F. with J. R. Eley (pres.), and D. A. Blanden (sec.). Young Married Women's group has been formed, meeting in various homes once a month. Sis. Peterson, H. Stevens and Rogers are meeting with church again after periods of illness. Y.P.C.E. held successful annual rally at which Supt. Taylor gave address. They have done good work during past year under leadership of J. Squire (pres.).

Fullarton (A. W. Morris). — On July 6, Ladies' Guild held their annual meeting. The president, Mrs. Outlaw, presided. There was a good representation from neighboring and sister churches. Women's Conference President (Mrs. Candy) brought greetings as did the representatives of other churches. An attendance of about 70 was very encouraging. Programme was varied with musical items, vocal and elocutionary. Reports showed splendid work done by the local guild and sec., Mrs. Patrick, was commended for her concise report. Miss Cameron from "Our India" was the guest speaker. Cold weather has a adverse effect on attendances and a good deal of sickness prevails. R. H. Messenger has been in hospital. Mrs. Long is confined to her bed. Mrs. Gaskin (Christian Rest Home) has passed away. A. W. Morris addressed both meetings on 10th and Miss M. Patrick sang a solo at evening service. F.M. offering is £35.

Grote-st., Adelaide (A. W. C. Candy). — Back to Grote-st. choir on July 3 was very successful. A choir of 40 voices was appreciated by large congregation. First of Bible Study in the Home was held in home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Hughes on 5th. Baptismal service was held on 6th when a young married couple were baptised. Annual Orange Lodge service was held on evening of 10th. This was followed by monthly after-church fellowship and screening of film on Family Life. C.E. were entertained at a social evening

in home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Blakeby on 11th. Lighting in chapel has been greatly improved with installation of fluorescent lights.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — Mr. Bell (Aborigines' Mission) showed pictures of work at Carnarvon and Norseman to Ladies' Guild on July 5. At close of morning service on 10th a married man confessed Christ. During afternoon a fellowship tea for Y.P. was followed by religious film shown by A. R. Jones. Prior to gospel service two men were baptised. During invitation a woman came forward for reconsecration. Welcome visitors were Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Jones and family and G. Cox (chairman, H.M. Committee). Work continues in good heart and numbers are increasing following recent visitation evangelism campaign. Mrs. Hamilton has been asked by Ladies' Guild to organise creche to assist morning services.

Mile End (L. E. Jones). — Interest is well maintained in John Citizen gospel campaign. G. Cox spoke as representative business man on July 3 and L. Riches, M.P. for Port Augusta, spoke as John Citizen representative on 10th. Mr. Oats was soloist at evening service on 3rd. At morning service R. Dixon (India) was speaker. A young man made his decision on 10th. G. Wood, Norwood footballer, spoke at youth tea on June 26. Visitors have been Mr. and Mrs. J. Luff (Coburg, Vic.).

Aldgate Valley-Stirling (R. Graham). — B.S. are reporting progress, 58 at A.V., and 54 at Stirling recently. Monthly socials at which parents attend are proving successful. Church extends sympathy to L. Walters in loss of aged mother. Manse work has been held up due to rains (23 inches in seven weeks), but services continue to average about 45 (evening), and 60 (morning). F.M. offering so far is £16.

Albert Park (J. B. Baker). — Membership now is 46 with an average of 32 attending communion. Sunday services have been well attended with as many as 70 being present at morning services on two occasions. Y.W.L. has been commenced with Miss Foreman as superintendent. There are 31 children on this roll with an average attendance of 18. Visiting speakers recently have been W. Philp, E. P. C. Hollard, P. R. Baker, and R. Dixon (India). Women's Fellowship held first birthday meeting on June 22, at which a visiting group provided special musical items. Mrs. G. Williams had the honor of cutting the cake. No date has been fixed for opening of building but work continues steadily each Saturday under capable leadership of S. Hopkins. G. Smith is supervising polishing of pews. Outstanding work is tiling of baptistry and erection of porch. Sympathy has been expressed to Mrs. Nellson at sad loss of her

mother. Marcla Verco is now home after several months in hospital and is progressing quite well.

Naracoorte. — Despite cold and wintry weather, attendances have been well maintained. In absence of a preacher, local brethren continue faithfully, with the help of Mr. Coombe and members from Bordertown circuit. Annual meeting of Ladies' Guild was held on July 5, and the following officers were elected: pres., Mrs. Burzacott; vice-pres., Mrs. Farrow; sec., Miss Gould; treas., Mrs. M. E. Wardle. The Guild also held a special meeting the previous week when there was a display of work by Mrs. J. R. Pomery and goods were readily disposed of. On 11th, R. Dixon (India) showed films of the work being done by our missionaries in India. A very appreciative gathering listened to Mr. Dixon and then viewed the interesting array of articles displayed.

Victoria

North Essendon (A. E. White, B.A.). — P.B.P. is having good meetings, with average attendance of 25. Their basketball team has lost only one game this season. P.B.P. has arranged box in church porch to receive clothing for Korea. Explorer Club won zone final in Indoor Sports, but, in grand final achieved third place. Attendances at club averages 23. K.S.P. held combined Y.P. social on 18th. Club invited church officers to share in sports night on June 21. F. Funston has departed for three months' tour to South Africa. Visitors on 12th included Mrs. S. Hillbrick (Berwick), Mrs. Thompson (Brunswick) and others from Hartwell. At Mission Band birthday meeting, on 21st, Matron Button (W. H. Clay Nursing Home) spoke. At gospel service on 26th, 90 were present, when evening of music and song was held. Three younger members of church have been added to board as junior officers, to assist in work of board. They are, Beryl Farish, Kevin Gossip and Les Wilson.

Bayswater (R. Ryall). — On morning of June 26, J. Gunston (Congregational College) gave address. At evening service preacher conducted a baptismal service. On July 3, B. McIntosh (C.O.B.) spoke, as preacher was indisposed. Church has been saddened by death of R. Fromhold.

York-st., Ballarat (C. W. Jackel). — Women's Fellowship has been commenced and promises to be help to church. Combined training class for those desiring to serve has commenced a six weeks course. Chapel has been filled each Sunday night since preacher began three months series of chart addresses. Members visit 1,200 homes extending a personal invitation during these special services. A number of visitors are seen at the meetings. Octet party and Ladies' Guild are doing good work. Preacher is active as President of Ballarat C.E. Union. About 40

attended Y.P. fellowship tea which was addressed by N. Pell (Baptist).

Balwyn (J. E. Brooke). — On July 3, 105 broke bread for the day. B.S. attendance was 123. On 10th, preacher exchanged with A. Avery (Black Rock) for evening service in preparation for mission to be conducted by Mr. Brooke at Black Rock in August. Mrs. Lennard has returned home after being in hospital.

Boort. — Church was pleased to have Messrs. Henderson and Miller (C.O.B.) to conduct services on July 3. R. Edgar (Mission to Lepers) addressed church on morning of 10th and G. Smith spoke in evening. After-church meeting was held in Memorial Hall when film *The Offering* was shown to a good gathering. Mission Band is well attended and much work has gone into many splendid parcels. Thanks for help given by local members for assisting in preaching. Church meeting has had to be postponed several times because of rain.

Essendon (M. Roberts). — Film, *The Way Out* was screened at evening meeting on June 26. Two who recently decided for Christ were baptised at commencement of evening service on July 3. After-church song service was held at home of Mr. and Mrs. Croxford. In preacher's absence, speakers on July 10 were W. W. Saunders and L. Chapman. Mrs. Skinner is missed from meetings because of illness. H. Grant is in Royal Melbourne Hospital having undergone operation. Church sympathy is with Mrs. T. Cookson in loss of her father.

Gardiner F. A. Youens). — Mission conducted in chapel by Mr. Youens was well supported by neighboring churches. There were eight decisions by Y.P. all under 21 years. One came for rededication and a man for baptism. On July 10, seven of these were baptised and a man stepped forward to make a fresh start. Overseas offering, in support of our new living link, Miss D. Geyer, has reached £200, only £25 short of year's quota. Men's Fellowship entertained thirty ladies at tea and all then listened to Dr. H. Edmonds, chief of the Mental Hygiene Authority tell of that work.

Wedderburn (K. Draney). — Attendances have been maintained despite cold weather. On May 14, annual business meeting was held. Following were elected: K. J. Raymond (sec.), R. Twiddy (treas.), W. Twiddy, H. Evans, J. Smith, M. Smith, B. A. Jackel. On June 4, chapel was venue for Midland District Conference. E. L. Williams spoke at evening meeting of conference and related his impressions of Evanston. Officers recently decided to reintroduce evening communion and home communion. Several members are recovering after illness.

Latrobe-terr., Geelong (T. A. Ferguson). — Two further baptisms on

July 10, have encouraged church. 92 were present to witness these immersions, and 132 worshipped in morning. Speaker at 11 a.m. was M. Spencer (Roodepoort Mission Press). On 9th, church held a thanksgiving social to finish first year of new hall savings. 65 were present and a most profitable evening was spent. Two films, *Love Your Neighbor* and *Money for the Master*, together with a short period of worship, occupied first part of night. Moving into present hall, financial statement and review of year's activities was broadcast over mock station, 3PQ. This was followed by basket supper.

Burnley (E. C. L. Ots). — Sing-songs have been held in homes of Mrs. Bowen and Mrs. Conroy. Mr. and Mrs. E. Heard paid visit to Good Companions' Club. D. Nicholls was speaker at combined churches meeting. Recent visitor was Mrs. Ots (S.A.). Good Companions enrolment has risen by 18 in four weeks.

North Fitzroy. — Church was saddened by passing of Mrs. H. Swain for many years a faithful member of the church, and at morning service on June 27, H. Trotter paid a tribute to her life and work, and the inspiration she had been to the congregation. Evening gospel services for June have featured *The Message of the Hymns*. F. Manning, (deputation sec., Mission to Lepers) was recent speaker. An offering of £7/14/- was taken for this work, including amounts from B.S. A men's service was held, preceded by C.M.S. tea and meeting at which W. Atkin spoke on work of Social Service Department, and film *My Name is Han* was screened. W.M.B. had Mrs. Pert as speaker at their monthly meeting. Women's Fellowship has changed from weeknight to Sunday for their meeting, preceded by tea. Mrs. Withers was their guest speaker.

West Preston (A. B. Withers). — Preacher continues series of morning addresses on the Lord's Prayer. Recent speakers at C.M.S. meetings have been T. Brown and J. Marshall. Evening meeting on July 10 was baptismal service. Y.P.S.C.E. held open meeting on 11th when H. A. G. Clark was speaker. S.C.E. has had talks by preacher and Mr. Hart. K.S.P. meeting on 8th was entitled *My Day*. System of Building Fund interest envelopes is proving a success.

Bentleigh (J. Wiltshire). — Visit of Mr. Swincer, missionary elect to Roodepoort Mission Press (Sth. Africa) at mid-week meeting was instructive and helpful. Three of our young women, Joan and Margaret Wells and Shirley Thompson are in training for nursing profession. Visit by Oven Puff Flour Co., and visit to Gas. Co., demonstration have been recent W.M.B. activities. New draught proof doors have been erected at chapel entrance.

July 19, 1955

Carnegie (A. R. Lloyd). — Monthly church parade of all auxiliaries was held at gospel service on July 3. After-church community hymn singing was held on 10th. L. E. Brooker (Bambra-rd.) was leader. Refreshments were served by Ladies' Aid. Sympathy of the church is extended to J. Galletley and family in sudden passing of Mrs. Galletley.

Hampton (K. J. Clinton, B.A.). — Four Bible Class scholars were baptised on July 3, and received into fellowship on following Sunday. Representatives of Missionary Aviation Fellowship spoke at youth tea on 10th and shared in gospel service. Choir under leadership of H. Maunder has given valuable help at evening services. Tennis club has been re-formed with 18 members. Church members helped in survey of Hightett area.

Horsham (H. M. Long). — Preacher's health is improving. Mrs. R. Hovey has been doing religious instruction to help during Mr. Long's convalescence. Nine members visited Ararat's victory tea on July 9. B.S. anniversary practice has begun under leadership of H. Long. Attendance last Sunday was 118, a record for the year. Christian Women's Fellowship held their fifth anniversary celebrations. G. Miller was presented with chair as a token of esteem and gratitude of church for 37 years' service as sec. Training class has begun for lay ministry of church. Twelve men of the church began training for the ministries of presiding, Bible reading and circuit preaching. R. Hovey has been elected church sec. A. Cutchie will continue as treas.

East Preston (T. V. Weir). — Organisation of Campaign of Evangelism to be held under leadership of F. Hunting is progressing. Visitation teams and prayer partners are already playing a vital part in the campaign. Under appreciated direction of preacher, spiritual growth within the church is evident. Over a period of four weeks ten Y.P. have made the good confession, five of whom have been baptised. K. Pinches recently organised band of 34 children and Y.P. who visited *Ancient Times House*. The names of Messrs. R. Weir, Snow, Greig and Earle have been added to morning service plan. K. Earle is also assisting in Boys' Club and has joined staff of B.S. Lecture of Miss B. Bates was given at North Fitzroy school hall to teachers of Northern suburbs. The lecture, *Lesson Presentation*, is already bearing fruit. S. R. Baker (B.&F.B.S.) was speaker on morning of July 3. Church has extended its thanks to carpenter and anonymous donor who have provided a beautiful and most useful mobile hymn book cupboard for use at entrance of building. Y.W.F. has arranged number of visits over past month whilst W.M.B. has had its meeting for July conducted by Prayer Meeting Committee of Women's Conference. Mid-week meetings continue to be held in homes of members.

BIRTH

FREEMANTLE (Munro). — On June 23, 1955, at Bendigo, to Lexie and Ray, a daughter—Carleen Elwys. A sister for Lauris.



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Saturday, July 23:

3.15 p.m., Speaker:

E. L. Williams, M.A.

7.30 p.m., Special service.

Sunday, July 24:

11 a.m. and 7 p.m.

Speaker at both services:

E. C. Hinrichsen.

Song-leader: L. E. Brooker.

Past members and friends cordially
invited.

If hospitality required between services,
ring R. G. Trompf, WL 4274, or
F. Elliott, WL 2983.

Golden Jubilee Services

CLAREMONT, W.A.

Sunday, August 7:

FAMILY SERVICES OF WORSHIP

Sunday, August 14:

YOUTH SERVICES AND YOUTH
TEA

Sunday, August 21:

JUBILEE SUNDAY

11 a.m., C. J. Robinson (Conf. Pres.)
3 p.m., P.S.A. Stanton H. Wilson
7.30 p.m., Lloyd Cook

Wednesday, August 17:

LADIES JUBILEE "AT HOME"

Thursday, August 18:

CHURCH JUBILEE DINNER

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July 19, 1955

An Australian Abroad

The Editor, Sir:

The Iowa State Conference, or Con-
vention, as it is called, was held May
1-4. This was the first year that the
Iowa churches had a delegate confer-
ence such as we know it. Hitherto
the Conference had been a mass meet-
ing. States are beginning to move to-
wards more responsible conferences.
Full reports and notices of motion
were in the hands of delegates well
beforehand. I was surprised that there
was no discussion, although full demo-
cratic discussion was allowed for. I
could be tempted to compare that with
some Australian Conference sessions I
have known!

There is no separate Women's Con-
ference. The Iowa State Conference
was opened by a woman, the Vice-
President. She presided over many of
the business sessions. It was good.

The Iowa brotherhood work is splen-
didly organised. There is an Executive
Secretary and with him, in the one
office building, six other leaders of de-
partments, viz., Evangelism, Steward-
ship and Church Development, Reli-
gious Education, Benevolence and
Women's Work. Two of these are
women. Women are neither sub-
ordinate to nor in competition with
men; they take their place naturally
alongside each other as servants of him
in whose service there is "neither male
nor female."

There were three solid half-hour
Bible lectures and three equally solid
half-hour lectures on the devotional
life. For me the crowning meeting was
the ordination service. The address was
given by Gaines Cook.

The other event was the dedication
of the new Divinity School building.
The Charles Medbury Hall, which we

APPRECIATION

The family of the late Mrs. C. E.
Geake wish to express their thanks
and appreciation of the wonderful care
and attention given to their mother by
the matron, sisters and staff of the
Will H. Clay Nursing Home.

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have been using since February, is named after one of the great preachers of our brotherhood. He was the man who, humanly speaking, built University Church here (membership of 4,000). The Hall comprises lecture rooms and library, etc. I could only liken the facilities to those of Queensland University, and that is high praise. I have never studied under conditions more likely to inspire a man's best.

Perry Gresham preached the dedication sermon. Dr. Gresham is President of historic Bethany College. Alexander Campbell furnished the land for its first campus and undertook the responsibility for the erection of the first building. That was in 1840. From the beginning the Disciples put heavy stress on education and an educated ministry.

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DEATH

ELLIOTT. — On June 28, 1955, at Perth, Augusta Caroline (Gus), dearly loved wife of George, 21 Cambridge-st., West Leederville, loved mother of Allen (Kingsford, N.S.W.), and Elma (Mrs. G. A. Ewers), loving mother-in-law of Dorrie and Gordon, dearest grandma of Franklyn, George, Shirley and Marian.

"How sweet to rest forever on my Saviour's breast!"

IN MEMORIAM

CHAMBERLAIN. — David, lovingly remembered by mother, sister and brothers.

STOKES. — Alfred Joseph, passed away, July 20, 1954. "He loved the Lord and was loved by all who knew him." —Inserted by his wife, family and all his loved ones.

WATERMAN.—A tribute to treasured memories of our dear son, Will, late missionary Churches of Christ in China, passed away July 17, 1933. Dear husband of Grace, Glen Iris, and father of Joan (Hamilton) and Winnie (New Hebrides).

"In God's care."
—Inserted by his parents, Montrose, Vic. (Late of Monbulk.)

WATSON. — Treasured memories of our darling wife and mother who passed away, July 26, 1951. Always remembered by her loving husband, Ted, and daughter, Lorraine.

KEMP, B. J. — In memory of a much-loved husband, father and friend, called Home, July 24, 1953.

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