

Munday

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST

PASSING of E. C. HINRICHSEN

We asked Les. E. Brooker, of Melbourne, to pen this brief tribute to
the man with whom he was associated in so many missions.

Over thirty-five years ago, E. C. Hinrichsen, still a student at the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, Vic., held his first tent mission at Ringwood. Almost continuously since, he has served the Lord with the evangelistic talent with which God had blessed him.

Moving from State to State, and abroad, having no settled home life, giving of his best and redeeming the time, he preached Christ, and led precious souls into the way of life eternal.

What a record this disciple leaves—over 30,000 decisions for Christ, and the establishment of the church in fifty places!

No one can estimate the extent of his stewardship, for today, through his faithfulness, many are preach-



The late E. C. Hinrichsen.

ing the same message that he proclaimed.

Many tasks he accepted and fulfilled with success and honor. He was active in establishing the N.S.W. Bible College at Woolwich, minister of various churches, and broadcaster of gospel messages.

During his mission activities he was helped by many song leaders. Some have been called to higher service and await his coming, while others still serve, and, with countless friends, will mourn the passing of this great evangelist.

It was the joy and privilege, and also the coincidence, of the writer to be the first and last song leader with our brother, serving the Lord together for nine years, first at Ringwood, Vic., and in the final mission at Gawler, S.A.

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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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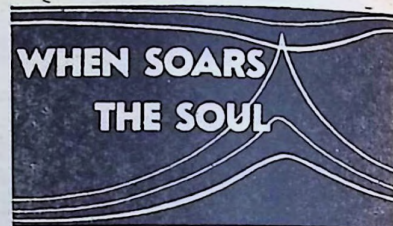
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When soars the soul earth's
clamoring voices cease,
Stilled in the wonder of God's
power and peace.



A man named Simon was already in the town practising magic, astonishing the Samaritan nation, and claiming to be some great one. All of them had listened to him, both high and low . . . astonished with his magic. But when they believed Philip's good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptised, both men and women. And Simon himself became a believer, and, when he had been baptised, he kept close to Philip . . . Now when Simon saw that through the laying on of the hands of the apostles the Holy Spirit was given, he brought them money, and said, Give this power to me, too, that whoever I lay hands on may receive the Holy Spirit. But Peter said to him, A curse on you and your money, because you thought you could buy the free gift of God.—Acts 8: 9-13, 18-20 (Williams).

When we seek forgiveness without penitence, when we would get into heaven without heavenly-mindedness, when we assent to Christianity without believing it, when in form we worship it without admiring it, even as much as a new hat or a good golf or cricket stroke, when we profess it without loving it, when we swallow orthodoxy like a pill, or accept and hold a creed as we keep the leaf of a bygone summer within the pages of a book, when we pray when we ought to think, when we believe when we ought to ponder, or even doubt—in all these we are doing what the boy does when he uses a crib, namely, getting the answer without working for it, without knowing how the answer is reached, and we are confusing magic with religion. We are substituting an outward act, a bare profession, an orthodoxy, a mechanical assent for that vital transforming thing, working like leaven in our deepest heart and through our whole personality.—A. E. Whitham.

All which is real now remaineth,
And fadeth never;
The hand which upholds it now
sustaineth
The soul forever.

—John Greenleaf Whittier.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

THE MISSION TASK GOES ON!

E. C. Hinrichsen passed away in Sydney, at about 10 a.m., on Monday, April 23. Principal A. W. Stephenson, in an appreciated effort to have the news included in our last issue, wired this office, but unfortunately the copy was already off the press. We expect to have news of the funeral service and tributes in time to include in our next issue.

No man among us had more resolutely or successfully dedicated himself to the task of evangelism through tent missions. For a generation now, whenever an Australian church board has planned a tent mission, someone would be sure to say, "If only we could secure Bro. Hinrichsen!" It was in a tent that E. C. Hinrichsen was at his best—

eloquent, persuasive, knowing his way to the hearts of men and women. It is his truest memorial that many in our Australian brotherhood, and overseas, will remember that it was with his hand in theirs that they made the great confession; and churches among us date their beginning from an E. C. Hinrichsen mission.

Twenty years ago, he was in Great Britain, and a report from there (5/3/36) is typical of the many that have appeared from him in these pages over the years: "Whilst at the start it was difficult to find a second field, there are now more than twenty applications in for big missions . . . In the twelve months there have been just on 700 additions. There were two new causes started . . . Expenses have been met, with easily

£600 over, much of which has been diverted for new building purposes . . . Brethren, pray for us." How often were those last words repeated!

In recent years he has been eager to kindle in young men a like faith in the continuing worth of tent missions. It is surely fitting, then, that the rest of this page should be taken up with the story of a very successful tent mission, conducted by one of our younger preachers.

The best way to remember E. C. Hinrichsen, and to thank God for his work, is to work with renewed passion in the whole field of evangelism. The need was never more urgent, and, while God gives us strength, we are the men and women who must carry on the torch!

What Happened at Collie, W.A.

When the Collie church, in October 1954, planned a tent mission in 1955 as a climax to its Golden Jubilee year, it incurred numerous disappointments and delays. At one time it seemed impossible, but prayer and faith prevailed and the mission commenced on Feb. 26, 1956 and ended on March 25, the last three weeks being continuous. Wembley church released J. K. Bond as missionary, whilst P. Marlow, also of Wembley, was song leader, with Mrs. Marlow pianiste. The church had one aim in holding the mission—it was to take the gospel to the unsaved, and to this end she committed all her resources to the Lord Jesus Christ, and God has richly blessed her.

In November, a prospect list was drawn up of 100 people and a prayer partner system was established, as members prayed for certain prospects and visited them. Intensified activity commenced in February with prayer meetings every night—a night of visitation, special addresses and invitations extended both by post and personally to the same people. This intensive cultivation bore fruit on the first night, when 140 attended, with one confession.

From then on there were no hitches and God certainly blessed the work. Members were tireless in their activity. No task was too great, no cost too much, and we found time enough to spend in the Lord's work. More than 70 per cent. of the members attended every night

of the mission, and the interest in the town quickened. The editor of the *Collie Mail* was wholehearted in his co-operation, and the mission was made front-page news. On one night, 320 crowded into the tent, and a total attendance was recorded of over 5,000.

As night after night passed with confessions and rededications, the church was made aware that the Spirit was working in this town of 10,000 people, and every night was one of expectancy. There came a period of humbling, however, when, whilst the numbers were maintained, confessions became fewer. One night no public confessions were made, although two were made in the enquiry room. The church rallied in prayer, and the blessing began again in power.

When the mission ended after 28 nights, 95 public confessions had been made, 44 were baptised in the tent, and the thankoffering taken up on the last Sunday morning in the tent more than covered the estimated cost of £300.

It is too early to analyse the results, but a few extracts from the figures are illustrative of the wonderful work God did in Collie through his servant, J. K. Bond. They were: 74 primary confessions (of which 9 were from the Roelands Native Mission); 9 restorations; 12 reconsecrations.

It was a joy to see married couples confess their Lord together. 16 married couples made the good confession,

whilst 3 families were also united in the Lord. To baptise a complete household on one night is an inspiration, whilst to see prayer answered night after night is an unforgettable experience.

Bunbury, Harvey and Bridgetown churches gave us wonderful support, and were blessed of God in so doing.

The ministry of song, led so ably by Mr. and Mrs. Marlow, and supported by the Collie choir, aided in the proclamation of the gospel by Mr. Bond, whose clear expositions of the Word, loyalty to the New Testament Church, gifted use of illustration, and undoubted ability as a missionary were used mightily by the Lord in the saving of souls. Coupling all of this with an intense personal devotion to his Lord and his own shining sincerity, we would wonder only if God did not use him.

The tent has been pulled down, but the mission continues in the hearts of many in Collie. The church is on fire for the Lord. The members are going everywhere preaching the Word; there is joy in their hearts, and peace and love.

God's wonderful work is continuing. No one dare stop it. The Lord Jesus Christ has been exalted in Collie, and the Saviour of men is being listened to today, and to many acceptance is very close.

"To God be the glory."

In this Victorian-Tasmanian Conference Sermon, J. E. BROOKE (Balwyn)
challenges us to rediscover

The Living Church's Conquering Power

It is not only helpful, but essential, that we should frequently re-read and meditate afresh upon the great thrilling book of Acts of Apostles. It takes us back to our beginnings as Christians, and enables us, in this earliest section of Church history, to take a broad view of things as a whole. It should help us greatly to see the relevance of the record to our own day, and above all, to rediscover the resources that can meet our situation, too.

Notice, how like our own was the world which the early Church faced, and let that comparison encourage us to seek for ourselves the secret of their conquest.

See them faring forth into a world desperately in need of their gospel, and matching that desperate need with utter urgency and complete abandon. Well, we today face just such a world, a world spiritually bankrupt, a world hopelessly confused, a world trembling with perilous possibilities. Are we giving it our gospel with the speed and earnestness its need demands?

Evangelism is the natural response of those who know Christ to a world that needs to know him. A real experience of Christ cannot help but be communicative. A part of the experience is the urge to share it.

Thus it was in the early days. Pentecost meant proclamation. The impression given by the Book of Acts is that every opportunity was seized to declare to men the gospel. The crowd drawn by a healing, the court sitting in judgment, a session of philosophers at Athens, were all possible converts for Christ.

Our lack of the same enthusiasm can, perhaps, only really be explained by the incompleteness of our experience of Christ, for they who are really possessed of the Holy Spirit cannot but speak the things which they have seen and heard. Take

The Religious World

they faced.

The Jewish religious world was dominated by institutionalism. The Sadducees, consisting of the High Priestly families and their adherents, were in control, and guarded their interests very jealously. Always ready to compromise with political authority to retain their power, they took every opportunity of profiting from their position, and, although the official

religious leaders, were thoroughly worldly-minded.

The other great party with which the early Church came into conflict, the more popular party, were the Pharisees. They may be described as the party of arrested reform. They had a heroic record of zeal for true religion, but in process of time they had both swollen in pride and shrunken into trivial traditionalism. Their chief characteristic had come to be that of resistance to change.

To complete the picture, although they do not appear in the narrative of Acts, but are there in the background, the Jewish religion had various small sects, of strict morality, but narrow in outlook, and largely preoccupied with theories about the hereafter.

How like the religious situation in the Christian world today. We have the great ecclesiastical systems and State Churches, endeavoring desperately to retain control.

We have the various reformed Churches, which I think we must admit have largely stopped in their splendid course, and petrified around their partial emphases.

And we have the sects, which have been defined as "a part of the Body of Christ, which exercises by itself and for itself those functions which belong to the unity of the whole Body." And, indeed, when put like that, are not all our so-called "churches" in a sectarian condition?

The early Church faced this situation of religious impotence and disintegration in its day, as we should surely face ours, as a religion of the Spirit, with blithe disinterestedness, wisely conservative, and yet bravely adventurous.

Not selfishly hanging on, nor timidly digging in, but joyously moving forward, taking whatever was good in the past and filling it with new meaning, but fearlessly facing the future, adequate in God for whatever changes might come.

Then, note how the early Church faced

The Political World

of its day.

Here, at first, we may be conscious more of contrast than comparison. Their contact with State authority was largely that of resistance to totalitarian oppression. When the

leaders of the Jewish religious State forbade them to preach in the name of Christ, they replied, "We must obey God rather than men."

For a time the Roman power was neutral, and even benevolent, towards them, and, accepting its protection, they gave it their respect. But later, when they felt that Caesar had overstepped the bounds of his rightful claims, they returned to him the same uncompromising reply.

Thus far their relation to the political world was a passive one, of resistance to interference with their spiritual rights, although we do see them incidentally getting into trouble, because of their challenge to vested interests in evil situations.

That fearless opposition to totalitarianism has been witnessed again in many countries in recent times. It has been the rock on which many political tyrannies have been broken.

But now, in democratic countries like our own, the situation surely is different. We are called, not to negative reaction from the State, but to a positive responsibility for it. Having largely created democracy, Christianity cannot now stand aside from it, but must both serve and use it.

The Church must work untiringly to sensitise the public conscience to Christian principles, and must inspire more of its gifted sons and daughters to find their Christian vocation in social and political activity.

It is not an easy task. There will be much drudgery and disappointment. Well does Reinhold Niebuhr remind us, "All political achievement is fragmentary, and history does not complete itself." But he also adds, "Christians have the ultimate security of a faith, which gives them freedom to work in history, without giving way to alternative moods of un-realistic hope or unjustified despair." Freedom, yes, and power, too, the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is not negative, but primarily positive, not individual, but personal, which means social, and we may well believe that the same spiritual power which enabled the early Church, and others all down the centuries, to resist unjust political power, and produce incidental reforms, will aid us in well-planned active efforts to refashion the State more in harmony with the Kingdom of God.

Again, there was

The Intellectual World

which the early Church faced. They did not shrink "from mental fight." As well as out-living and out-dying the pagans, as T. R. Glover said, they "out-thought" them.

Hear the apostle Paul talking to the philosophers in Athens. It is true that the intellectual standard of Athens had greatly declined; as thinkers, these philosophers were not to be compared with their great predecessors. But Paul treated them with respect, met them on their own ground, and reasoned with them, leading up to his distinctive message.

His ministry at Athens has often received less than justice. We tend to bring our own desire for large numbers and easy success to our reading of the story, and are inclined to think of Paul's effort there as a failure.

But his speech is a noble utterance, and there is a quiet satisfaction about the words, "Howbeit, certain men clave unto him, and believed"; and I have the impression that the few thoughtful souls like Dionysius and Damaris, would probably count for more than many of the emotional converts in the more outwardly successful mission at Corinth.

I certainly like to think of Paul relating the Christian gospel to the world of thought; always a difficult, but a worthwhile task. We know how knowledge is constantly tempted to pride and self-sufficiency. But to lead men of strong mental capacity to love God with all their mind, and to bring every thought into captivity to Christ, is surely one of the finest conquests of the Spirit.

We see, too, the early Church meeting the desperate challenge of

The World of Evil

What collisions Paul had with the demons, but in the name of Jesus and in the power of his Spirit, they were cast out.

We may not like to give a different explanation of these phenomena from the primitive Christian view, but whatever our academic arguments about the nature and origin of evil, we cannot shut our eyes to the practical fact of evil forces rampant in the world today.

Read the hideous crimes in our newspapers, witness the senseless actions and attitudes of men and groups of men everywhere. "Wrong and want and woe, cry in the city streets, and love is slow, and sin is sleek and swift, and housed and fed. Dear Lord, our faith is faint."

How may we recover the early Church's power of conquering evil? Must we not confess that the simple trouble with us is that we are not good enough, not simply, solely,

wholeheartedly good? "Be good at the depths of you," said Maeterlink. "While you are actively good in the invisible, all those who approach you will unconsciously do things that they could not do by the side of any other man. Therein lies a force that knows no resistance." Yes, if the Spirit of God possessed us fully, he would inspire in us a white-hot goodness, in whose presence evil could not live.

It should be helpful to us, too, to see the early Church facing

Its Own Inward Weaknesses.

And it had its weaknesses, as the record frankly admits. But these were dealt with promptly and powerfully,



J. E. Brooke

and not allowed to go on sapping their strength.

There was hypocrisy, as in the case of Ananias and Sapphira, who gave part, pretending that it was the whole. There was unworthy ambition, as when Simon Magus wanted to buy the power of the Holy Spirit for personal ends. There was the limited experience of the disciples at Ephesus, who had not "so much as heard that there was any Holy Spirit." But in each case, the situation was swiftly, strongly remedied.

Now, have we not these very same weaknesses in the Church today? Whatever we think of the summary judgment on Ananias and Sapphira, there are certainly many who should be extremely grateful that such does not happen now.

And we know that, right from the time of Simon Magus on, men within the Church have sought the power of God for their own selfish ends, to

fill their churches and enhance their reputations and glorify their denominations. Are we free from all suspicion of such desire?

Are we not like the Ephesians who knew nothing of the Holy Spirit — very often, in something the same position? In the midst of our all too human strivings, we need to pull ourselves up and ask, Have we never heard, or have we forgotten, that there is a Holy Spirit?

These things need not be. The same Spirit can deal with all our weaknesses and supply us with triumphant power, if we will but give him sway.

Let us have for ourselves, and keep constantly before others, a great vision of the power of God; a great faith in the Spirit of God: "Life's Lord, Life's Giver, For aye and ever. Source and fountain of boundless sanctity, Pouring high sapience and wisdom royally, Down on his suppliant people."

Are there any signs of the Christian society of today taking up its own task with the enthusiasm and the buoyancy displayed by those men and women of the first century?

There are signs, I believe; not enough of them, it is true. And there lies the challenge.



Open Forum

"THE GRACE OF CHRISTIAN GIVING."

This article (A.C., 10/4/56), written by H. G. Norris, is worthy of our highest commendation. It would be interesting to know just how many churches, Guilds, Youth Clubs, etc., in our brotherhood, raise their finances through systematic free-will giving.

The spiritual life of any church is at a low ebb when it has to resort to fetes, stalls, talent schemes, etc. Christian giving is a part of our worship, sadly lacking today. Every new project started, immediately calls for some "brain wave" to raise the money. Our people are not being taught to give as the Lord has prospered them.

At one of our recent Youth Camps we read of young people taking up challenge to raise funds by a "talent scheme" for missions. Somewhere along the line we have failed in teaching the grace of Christian giving. Never before have members handled so much money, but they do not differentiate between their "needs" and their "wants." Truly consecrated lives would mean truly consecrated giving.

Christ gave his life for us. What have we given for him?—W. A. Russell, Forestville, S.A.

WOMEN

FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

Programme for June

Mrs. K. W. Barton, Vic.

Theme:

God's Garden Speaks to Us of Faith

— through the Mustard.

CALL TO WORSHIP.

"Be still and draw apart from all the strife and stress and sin.

Seek God in the silence of the sanctuary within.

In his presence we are healed. The inner conflicts cease —

For he gives unto the heart the blessing of his peace."

HYMN.

No. 481, "My faith looks up to thee."

PRAYER.

Our gracious Father in heaven: we bow in thy presence to bring thanks unto thee for thy manifold blessings to us all, and earnestly to seek thy guidance and spirit in this time of prayer and meditation. Grant us, O Lord, a firm and living faith, so that we may unceasingly serve thee and thy Kingdom on earth. For Jesus' sake. Amen.

MISSIONARY NEWSLETTERS.

SILENT PRAYER directed by

LEADER: Let us pray —

For all missionaries at home and abroad —

For new Christians and converts who suffer persecution —

For the Church universal that it may be a strong witness in the world —

For the world, that it may find a true and lasting peace through the gospel of Christ.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING.

James 2: 14-26 (using Phillips' translation, if possible).

MEDITATION.

The parable of the mustard seed illustrates that the Kingdom of God, which is so small in its beginning, grows into a great and powerful force. And what is it that makes the Kingdom of God grow? Why, faith, your faith, my faith, as individuals, and then, collectively, the faith of millions of Christians throughout the world, is making the Kingdom of God grow. It is faith which takes

hold of the missionaries and preachers, who spend their lives in presenting the gospel. But let us speak of faith in a more personal way, how it works in our lives.

What is faith? It is belief in an ideal, and many are the causes which have followers with an unwavering faith; some causes are good, others evil, but their followers all have that unswerving belief in the cause, which we recognise as faith. The Christian faith is our idea of God, his Kingdom, his way for mankind, and there are three characteristics we need in our faith.

Firstly, A Passionate Faith. This denotes a zeal, a determination which never flags, an enthusiasm for Christianity which never dies or becomes shaken in adversity. If our faith is lukewarm, sooner or later it may become entirely cold, and as a dead thing; so we must strive to keep it alive and passionate, and we can do this by having

A Prayerful Faith. We need the presence of God in our daily lives because he is the inspiration and origin of our faith, and we need to be in constant communion with him, acknowledging our dependence upon him, our gratitude to him, our love for him. This intimate fellowship with God strengthens our faith day by day, and through prayer he will give us guidance, as we seek to express our devotion and love by

A Practical Faith. We come naturally to realise that faith without works is dead, and as Christians dedicated to God and Christ, we long to express our faith and love in some practical way. There is scope for us all, with our varying talents and accomplishments in the service of the King, and by a diligent, loving life of service to him, we shall have great joy here on earth — and in the life to come, an eternal reward.

HYMN.

No. 493, "O for a faith that will not shrink."

MINUTES.

BUSINESS.

MESSAGE.

HYMN.

No. 463, "Faith of our fathers."

BENEDICTION.

Old. Women's Conference

Annual Conference was held on March 28, 1956. We had the largest gathering of women ever to attend such a meeting. Included in the meeting were many country delegates.

Mrs. Burdeu, Conf. Pres., very ably presided over the gathering. The meeting opened with hymn and prayer, followed by the resolution of loyalty, after which Vice-Pres., Mrs. F. Langford, led devotions.

The following officers were appointed for the ensuing year:—President (re-elected): Mrs. C. R. Burdeu; Vice-Presidents: Mrs. G. J. Andrews and Mrs. F. Langford; Secretary: Mrs. H. McLane; Treasurer: Mrs. L. Smith; Asst. Treasurer: Mrs. W. Wiltshire; Pianiste: Mrs. Smith; Caterers: Mrs. Eager and Mrs. Bateman.

Superintendents were appointed for Prayer Meeting, Home Missions, Obituary, Overseas Missions, Aborigine Missions, Hospital Chaplaincy, Social Service, Youth, Christmas Hospital Visitation, Hospital Visitation, Women's Christian Temperance Union, British and Foreign Bible Society. Representatives were also appointed to Women's Inter-Church Council (4), World Day of Prayer (2), and National Council of Women (2).

Treasurer's Statement showed the sum of £966/8/4 raised by our Conference for all purposes, the largest sum ever raised. Special mention was made of the sum of £186/7/- being raised for Aborigine Child Support by our Conference, a considerable increase on previous years.

A motion was moved at Conference that we endeavor to get every sister in our Queensland Sisterhood to become a member of the Women's Christian Temperance Union during 1956.

Mrs. Hermann and Mrs. Berlin were presented with shoulder posies, when Mrs. Burdeu outlined their valuable work over a period of years to the Conference, and expressed to them our delight at having made them Life Vice-Presidents of our Conference.

Mrs. Hinrichsen presented the report on behalf of the West Moreton Circuit, and spoke of the splendid amount raised by the West Moreton Circuit, under the budget system this year, exceeding by a very large amount any previous year's effort.

Mrs. Langford, President of Young Women's Fellowship, urged Conference, especially soliciting the aid of our older women, to get right behind this forward movement in our State to set up Y.W.F. groups wherever possible in our churches, pointing out that 50 young women had been enrolled in the two Fellowships that had commenced. Most of these young

(continued at foot of next column.)

MISSIONARY NEWS

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

An Evangelist's Diary

(Part 1)

The enclosed article is written by D. S. Modak, M.A., LL.B., F.S.Sc., a retired Christian district magistrate. He is one of the party in our evangelistic campaign. Mr. Modak is quite well known to both Christians and non-Christians in this area, and is a very enthusiastic person in the work of the Lord. He spends most of his time (as he is now retired from the Government services) in voluntary preaching and teaching out of his own rich and long-standing experience in spiritual truths. We are fortunately privileged to have his company with us in our evangelistic work in this area. Lots of people know and respect Mr. Modak as we visit the surrounding villages. And along with him, the gospel message of our Lord and Master is also respected. Mr. Modak very earnestly believes that our Lord's coming again is imminent, and the need for preaching of his gospel is very urgent. —Hariba Waghmodi.

The tour started on Feb. 22, 1956, and was opened up by the showing of picture films. Though the notice given was short, about sunset large crowds gathered from Bhigwan village and from the railway colony.

women were the mothers of B.S. scholars.

R. V. Amos (Blackburn, Vic.), was guest speaker, and gave an inspiring message on God has a plan for every life. A vote of thanks was moved, expressing appreciation for the outstanding messages that Mr. Amos had given during the whole of Conference, and especially thanking him for the message he gave to our Women's Conference.

Very interesting reports were presented from many of our country Fellowships, and we felt that the work of our women in Queensland was really progressing.

Mrs. Burdeu closed the meeting in prayer, thanking our Caterer, Mrs. Eager, and her helpers for the splendid work that had been done by them in preparing and serving the meals. —N. McLane, Sec.

Most of the boys dressed in Gandhi dress and head-gear. The audience listened with rapt attention to the choruses and to the explanation of the pictures. The film title was **Hidden Treasures**, a production of the Moody Science Institute, U.S.A. Pictures were shown until the generator gave out. In these pictures the power of God in ruling the kingdoms of the world, and controlling the destinies of peoples, was revealed. They showed the risks taken by men and women devoted to scientific research, and revealed the dangers that lay ahead for the human race. The people were amazed to see these wonders, and the hand of God was seen behind all research work. This was the right time to expose the narrow and limited attitude of the Communists. Such films are not only educational, but they also help to uplift moral and spiritual standards among non-Christian people.

D. S. Modak (retired district magistrate) was one of the party, and had composed several choruses set to modern tunes. These we sung to appreciative audiences. Gospels, stories and other Christian literature proved helpful, and to literates many copies were given away free. Even after the generator gave out, the meeting continued on till after eleven o'clock. The audience, mostly composed of villagers, behaved very well, and stayed without moving. Young and old alike heard the message.

The following day we started early for Rajegaon, which was four miles from Bhigwan. The road was merely a cart track—uneven, dusty, full of pot-holes and strewn with stones. Thus we arrived late because of the road, and found the village people already in bed. As soon as they heard the music of our instruments they arose quickly and appeared in front of the village hall. After the singing of some choruses, which were thoroughly enjoyed (for music is the heart of India), we showed some still slides of the Prodigal Son. The pictures were explained by Hari Waghmodi, who was the moving spirit of our party and the originator of the tours. Such tours are seldom seen on mission stations these days. Mr. Waghmodi, coming as he does from a village (Bori), knows the homely language of the people, which is a great asset for such evangelistic work. —D. S. Modak, M.A., LL.B.

(To be continued)

VISITING OTHER ISLANDS

R. McLean who is located on Aoba in charge of the Londua training, tells of interesting visits paid to Maewo and Pentecost. Delay in mails keeps news from being up to the minute.

VISIT TO PENTECOST AND MAEWO.

On December 13, we left Londua to visit our fellow workers and the native brethren on Maewo and Pentecost. The weather was good, so the sea journey was very pleasant.

Mr. and Mrs. Finger are doing a vital work on Maewo. They live in one of our largest villages on Maewo, Nissowa, and they feel that since their arrival the people are more interested and have a greater understanding of the Word of God. As they see improvements taking place, they are encouraged and feel that it has been worthwhile establishing a new mission station on Maewo. The mission house is neat and attractive. It is made of native and European material, and Mr. and Mrs. Finger have every reason to be proud of it.

We spent the Christmas season on Pentecost, and had a very happy time. Our children enjoyed swimming in the rivers and in the sea. It was a lovely change for them, as the swimming facilities on Aoba are poor in contrast with Pentecost. Mr. and Mrs. Smith maintain a high standard of efficiency at the Ranmawat Hospital. Two new wards and a new dispensary have been erected since our last visit. A visit to the new school at Ranwadi was enjoyed. The mission house is near completion and a good deal of hard work has gone into its erection. Mr. and Mrs. Jones have a great task ahead of them at Ranwadi, and they need our prayers as they tackle it.

It was not our intention to spend New Year on Pentecost, but bad weather prevented our return to Aoba at the scheduled time.

MAEWO PARS

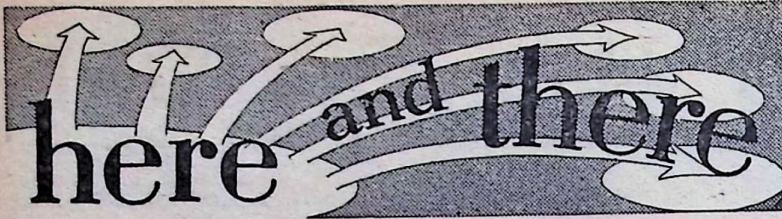
The people here on the whole are very co-operative, but they are terribly hard to help physically. They do not know the meaning of hygiene, and of caring for their bodies, and on this most fruitful island, where a great variety of food abounds, their diet is below par, because they just can't be worried cooking.

The very same happy, carefree nature that makes them so friendly and nice to know is the greatest stumbling block in their progress—both in the spiritual and physical spheres.

We are praying for wisdom, that we may really reach the hearts of the folk.

Our house is very nice now, and the surroundings are most attractive.

—Mary Finger, Maewo.



G. McKelvie, who has been appointed the President of the Queensland Conference, has now given up the secretaryship of the Ann-st., Brisbane church, to which position he has given eleven years of devoted service. They have been years of great progress in the church. The new secretary is H. J. Payne, 386 Enoggera-rd., Alderley, Qld.

We are glad to learn that former World President of Churches of Christ, Reg. Enniss, is making satisfactory progress, following an operation at St. Ives Hospital, Melbourne, on April 26.

A feature of Membership Month at Margaret-st. church, Launceston, during April, was a campaign of home visitation evangelism, led by the minister, C. H. J. Wright. After four weeks' instruction, six teams (two members each team) went out on three successive nights for home visitation. Fifty-two homes were visited. The following Sunday, April 22, the hand of fellowship was extended to seven people, and there was one decision at the morning service. In the evening there were a further thirteen decisions. More decisions are expected. Attendances were: 11 a.m., 140; 7 p.m., 160; while a record number of 163 broke bread for the day.

K. A. Macnaughtan has commenced his 10th year of ministry with the church at Swanston-st., Melbourne.

From Stanton Wilson, minister of the church at South Perth, W.A., where the Youens-Brown mission is in progress, came this telegram (27/4/56): "Happy Hour brings 17 new scholars. Mission 22 primary confessions, 16 rededications, 3 restorations. Grateful for brotherhood prayers."

Wilkie J. Thomson, minister of Malvern-Caulfield church, Vic., is progressing steadily in St. Vincent's Hospital, Melbourne, following a road accident on Easter Saturday. At the end of four weeks in hospital, his doctor spoke of a "half-way mark." He has appreciated letters and visits, and the continued prayers of the brotherhood would be appreciated.

We again remind reporters for *The Australian Christian* about insertion of names under Discipleship and Membership. All persons who make their decision are placed under Discipleship,

and their names should not again be forwarded for Membership, as the latter heading is for those who transfer their membership from one church to another, also those who are welcomed in by restoration.

The manse of the Kaniva church, Vic. is being renovated and painted. G. A. Grainger commenced his ministry on April 15, when large congregations, from all parts of the circuit, were present. B. J. Combridge conducted the induction service at the morning meeting. A welcome tea for Mr. and Mrs. Grainger was held on the previous evening.

At the first meeting of the newly elected committee of the Victorian-Tasmanian Department of Home Missions and Evangelism, R. F. Geyer was appointed chairman and B. F. Huntsman deputy-chairman. W. A. Thompson was re-elected as treasurer. Appreciation was expressed of the fine service rendered by K. A. Jones, who was chairman for three years.

Since "The Living Word" was begun in these pages, the editor has been its compiler, apart from the period last year when he was overseas. He is happy now to announce that Ralph V. Amos, minister of the church at Blackburn, Vic., has accepted responsibility for this page, until further notice. Mr. Amos is well qualified for this task, having served until last year as lecturer in homiletics at the N.S.W. Bible College, Woolwich.

Elsie G. Park, Tasmanian Women's Representative on the Bethany committee, writes to the Vic.-Tas. ladies: "I would be glad to be able to thank you each, personally, for the generosity with which you responded to my appeal on behalf of the Bethany Boys' Home, which was officially opened last Saturday, April 21. Our Committee appreciates your very practical support."

Miss Ruth Gibson, O.B.E., B.A., Dip. Ed., who is President of the Australian Council of Women, as well as an Inspector of Schools in South Australia, was Australia's representative at the Executive Meeting of the International Council of Women in Venice, April 13-15. Thirty-four nations were represented at the Venice Conference, concerning which Miss Gibson will give a full report to the A.N.C.W. Conference in Adelaide in July. At the request of the Commonwealth

Government, Miss Gibson also attended the tenth Session of the United Nations Status of Women Commission, which met in Geneva in mid-March.

The Victorian Ministers' Association will hold their monthly meeting in Swanston-st. lecture hall on Monday, May 7. Lunch 1 p.m., meeting 2 p.m. C. L. Smith (Boronia) will speak on "The Nature of the Church."

Church Men's Society, VIC.

At the annual meeting of the Vic. Church Men's Society, the following were elected: president, L. Chapman; vice-pres., B. Huntsman; secretary, N. F. White; treasurer, F. J. Lee.

We would like a Men's Society in every church, and the smaller churches to group together for a strong society. We want all men to do a little of the work.

We are re-grouping into many committees, so that more can take an active part. Committees will be as follows:

Publicity.—To let everyone know what we are doing.

Societies.—To help existing groups and to form new ones.

Clerical.—To do much of the clerical work.

Research.—To find out things, and learn methods of improvements.

Training.— Visitation, Finance, Leadership, Teachers, etc.

Speaking.—Three Sections: Sermon Roster and special lectures; Sermon Training Classes; Public Speaking—to train all men in speaking, reading, presiding, etc.

Building.—

Advisory Section. To give advice to churches on building problems and to help them carry out jobs.

New Construction. To organise new construction, probably with some contract work and voluntary jobs. Also to tackle repair and alteration.

Aids.—

Home Help. Repairs, gardening, painting, etc., for those in need.

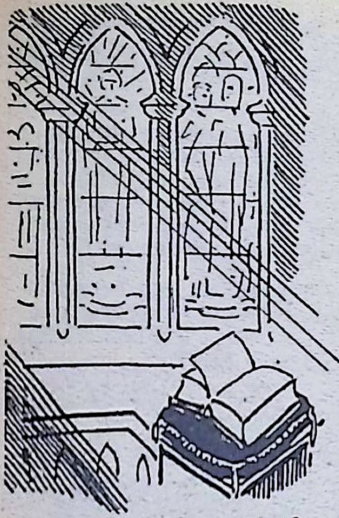
Business. To run or organise a man's business in an emergency. Either through a voluntary or paid help.

Home Affairs. In case of sudden tragedy or other unexpected troubles.

Brotherhood Organisations. Missions, Homes, etc.

If we all help one another we will become a great strength to our churches, and we should see great results. It is up to you.—Norman F. White, enr. Wardgal-rd. and High-st., Ashwood, S.E.11. BL 3853.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN



Sunday, May 13

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 122.

Summary.

Psalm 122 is a pilgrim meditation. It begins by recalling the joy with which the pilgrims began their journey to Jerusalem, and then mentions the great satisfaction which they felt when they arrived in "the holy city." The psalmist goes on to paint a picture of the city, remembering as he does so the glories which surrounded Jerusalem. He is so thrilled that he finally pours out patriotic exhortations to love this great city, and offers prayer for her peace and prosperity.

Explanatory Notes.

"a city that is compact together" (v. 3). — "Built as a city which is bound firmly together" (R.S.V.). "These words signify that the impressiveness of the city is due to its physical conditions, its massive walls enclosing streets of closely packed houses, a sight which must fill a peasant with wonder" (McCullough). The word translated "compact" is used elsewhere of "the union of associated, or members of a group."

"Whither the tribes go up" (v. 4). — Jerusalem is the place. In the R.S.V. the verse is translated, "to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord." The decree is given in Deut. 16: 16-17, and since the feast of the Tabernacles was especially the occasion for giving thanks to the Lord for his bounty in the harvest, it is perhaps that festival to which the psalmist was going on pilgrimage.

"thrones of judgment" (v. 5). — Indicating a righteous reign.

Suggested Theme.

"SATISFYING WORSHIP."

Introduction. — There is something in the human heart which longs for fellowship with God. That yearning expresses itself in very many ways,

THE LIVING WORD

Studies on the planned Sunday morning readings

but the commonest form of all is worship. In this Psalm we see the kind of worship that makes the heart glad. Satisfying worship begins with

I. A PILGRIMAGE. — The pilgrim band set out joyously, for the end of the road meant a time of special fellowship with God (vv. 1-2). Our hearts must search for him (a) regularly, (b) readily, and (c) responsively. Satisfying worship often centres in

II. A PLACE. — Certainly, we can worship God anywhere. But many folk find worship is easier, and more complete, in some special place, in the company of God's own people. So it was with the psalmist (vv. 3-5). In Jerusalem was the Temple, which was for this man the place of (a) crowded memories, (b) realised hopes, and (c) deepest communion. For many today, God's House is just as thrilling. Then, again, satisfying worship is often best expressed through

III. THE PRAYER — which fills both heart and mind. The psalmist made a special plea for prayer, that peace and prosperity might prevail (vv. 6-9). Prayer which is (a) positive, (b) pointed, and (c) personal, is a great aid to worship.

Conclusion. — This is the day when many Christian people are entering more and more into the spirit of satisfying worship.

NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 1: 13—2: 4.

Summary.

There was a gap in the ranks of the apostolic band, following the death of Judas, so another was appointed to his place. This was considered to be so very important, that the choice was only made after much prayer, for the one chosen had to be God's nominee. Thus, after a period of ten days during which intensive prayer was offered, the gap was filled. A greater event soon followed—the Day of Pentecost, which was a time of tremendous significance for the world.

Explanatory Notes.

"a sabbath day's journey" (v. 12). — About six furlongs (or 2,000 cubits). The distance had been fixed by the rabbis (perhaps based on the reference in Num. 30: 5).

"an upper room" (v. 13). — A large guest-chamber, like the one in which the Last Supper was held. Some say it was the same room. This room was apparently being used as a common living-room by the apostles.

"with one accord" (v. 14). — "With one soul." This phrase is used in Acts to describe the unity of the

early Christians. It occurs ten times in this book, and only once outside of it (Rom. 15: 6).

"Peter stood up" (v. 15). — There is a striking consistency between Peter in the Gospels and Peter in Acts. "The old promptitude and energetic decision, in word and deed, reappears; but now it is disciplined by bitter experience and self-knowledge into a calm reliance on power not of himself, which fits him to strengthen and lead his fellows" (Vernon Bartlett).

"other tongues" (v. 4). — That is, with tongues of a kind different from that hitherto used by them.

Suggested Theme.

"DARING DISCIPLESHIP."

Introduction. — Prayer played a tremendous part in the early days of the Christian faith. This helped to make the early followers of Christ into daring disciples. They knew where they were going, and were conscious of the divine power which enabled them to reach their goal. Here are the marks of the daring disciples of the New Testament. They were

I. EXPECTANT. — Doubts, fears, disappointments had been overcome by the experiences with the risen Lord. When we first meet them in this passage they were waiting eagerly for the fulfilment of a promise made to them about the coming of the Holy Spirit (vv. 12-14).

II. UNITED. — They, "with one accord," continued positively in prayer (v. 14). The petty controversies of former days were forgotten in the glow of their fellowship in the Risen Lord, and in the fervency of their hope for the coming of the Spirit.

III. PERSISTENT. — They prayed faithfully and long. This prayer meeting lasted several days (v. 15). They followed the example of the Lord, who often prayed all through the night.

IV. ACTIVE. — They were keen and energetic. They were eager to do everything within their power to prepare the way for the Spirit's coming. They even appointed a new worker, so that they would be at full strength for the task awaiting them (vv. 15-26).

V. SPIRIT FILLED. — The secret of their amazing power is mentioned in Acts 2: 4. God's Spirit guides, empowers, and uses all those who (like these early Christians) are daring disciples.

Conclusion. — Let our lives bear the marks of daring discipleship. Then will the Church go forward to victory.



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Discipleship

- Tony Waygood, Bill Thackrah, Robert Harper, Malcolm Stanton, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
Lorraine Cain, Ken. Duffy, John Bryant, North Williamstown, Vic.
Thea Myer, Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic.
Miss M. Mackay, Earlwood, N.S.W.
Mrs. Cocks, Robert Duell, Mile End, S.A.
Warwick Dahl, Bentleigh, Vic.
Kay Richards, Bill Dawson, Brighton, Vic.
Miss P. Proctor, Burwood, N.S.W.

Membership

- Miss M. Tulk, from Croydon to Semaphore, S.A.
Rex Moon, from Albury, N.S.W., to Footscray, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Ander, from Blackwood to Forestville, S.A.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Verge, from Perth to North Beach, W.A.
F. Hackett, from Kilburn to Henley Beach, S.A.
Mrs. Whiteford, from St. Peters Baptist to Henley Beach, S.A.
Mr. and Mrs. Thewlis, to Latrobe-terr., Geelong, Vic.
Mr. and Mrs. Barnett, from Wollongong to Earlwood, N.S.W.
Mrs. Boyden, to Burwood, N.S.W.

Marriage

- Joan Webb to Charles Dalton, Footscray, Vic.
Thelma Abraham to Bill Fairclough, Mile End, S.A.

Fallen Asleep

- W. H. Mauksbury, Wagga Wagga, N.S.W.
A. J. Gard, Grote-st., Adelaide, S.A.
Mrs. Rogers, Forestville, S.A.
H. J. Hook, Mile End, S.A.

Tasmania

Collins-st., Hobart (H. W. Street).— Family picnic was held on Mar. 24, when over 100 church and B.S. members combined for a day at Snug Beach. Members were saddened at passing of Mrs. A. Madel-Cole. Attendances have remained high over past few weeks. Eleven members travelled to Devonport for Tas. District Conference, and a number of younger members attended Youth Camp at Tarooma. Visiting speakers at Easter were Messrs. Pearson Harrison of Vic., and L. Boxhall. Church enjoyed fellowship with number of visitors, among whom have been R. Hone (Blackburn), M. Wilson and L. Hickman (Clayton) of Vic., Miss Neil (Boondall, Qld.), who has been holidaying at manse, and Mrs. B. Purvis home from Scotland to visit her mother. W.M.B. invited members of other churches to join in meeting Mrs. Len Twyman, at present on furlough from unevangelised fields in New Guinea. About 30 women enjoyed a most memorable afternoon. Attendances on Apr. 22 were enlarged by members from brotherhood churches visiting Hobart for official opening of Bethany Boys' Home, at Lindisfarne, on 21st.

Queensland

North Rockhampton (W. J. Davidson). — Interest is keen in B.S. as result of Bring a New Scholar Campaign, which has been introduced, and so far seven new scholars have been enrolled. During preacher's absence, for Conference, services were conducted by J. Knight and N. Johnson. Church has missed the fellowship of Mrs. Davidson, during her recent illness. Members were greatly blessed by messages given by B. Munro (India) who spoke at both morning and evening services on Apr. 15.

Toowoomba (R. C. McKenzie and G. Gibson). — Services continue to be well attended. Easter Service on Good Friday was held at Harlaxton. D. Nicholls visited Toowoomba on Mar. 27, and an open lunch-hour meeting was held in the chapel in Margaret-st. Whilst in Toowoomba he also made a recording at 4GR, which was broadcast in the session Meet the People. Prayer meeting prior to Easter was conducted by Y.P.F., when three young people gave their testimonies. Y.P.F. also recently conducted gospel service at Harlaxton, when K. Paton was speaker. Harlaxton B.S. was successful in gaining second place in 1955 Queensland New Scholar and Efficiency Campaign, and the banner

was presented at the Youth Rally of State Conference. F. J. Winter, who has been assisting the church at Warwick, is now helping the church at Kingaroy once a fortnight, whilst they are without a preacher.

Charters Towers (K. R. Fennell).— Services continue to improve under leadership of Mr. Fennell, whose ministry is being greatly appreciated. Y.P. work is very encouraging. Sunshine Group, commenced and led by Mrs. Coward until arrival of new preacher, now has over 20 teenagers who meet each Friday night. These have helped considerably in working bees on church property. 10 Y.P., together with 30 other campers from Townsville and Mackay, attended Easter Family Camp on Magnetic Island, led by preacher. Church was enthused by visit of B. Munro (India), whose fellowship was enjoyed from Apr. 5-9. He addressed both church services on 8th, also combined churches' district Youth Fellowship gathering. 80 Y.P. sat down for tea in church hall. Prayer meetings and ladies' meetings are recommencing.

Roma. — C. R. Burdeu (organiser of Social Services), and Mrs. Burdeu (president, Qld. Women's Guilds), visited Roma, and Mr. Burdeu conducted both services on Apr. 8. The following week, K. Horne (Youth Director) visited church. On 14th, Mr. Horne showed colored slides of last Youth Camp at Caloundra, and on following day conducted both services. All meetings were well attended. Church is greatly heartened by the visit of these brethren. It is regretted that Miss Arnold, who spent some time in local hospital, has found it necessary to seek further medical attention in Brisbane, where she is now in hospital. Recent visitors include Miss Heather Richardson and E. McIntosh, both of whom were formerly in membership here. Meetings are well attended and good support is being given to A. S. Cooke, who is carrying on the preaching whilst church is without preacher.

Western Australia

Cottesloe (G. Smith). — Average attendances for month: morning, 91; evening, 93; midweek meeting, 25. Ladies visited Greenplace Mental Home. A delegation visits South Perth mission each Tuesday evening. Sis. G. Smith and R. C. Christie are assisting at Norseman mission for 2-3 weeks. Chapel has been beautified by two wall and three table vases, from C.W.F., also coloring and surfacing of chapel seats by J. Coker as a tribute to his late sister, Mrs. A. H. Jeffery.

Combined Easter Friday service was held in Methodist church, with an inspirational hour at 7 a.m. Mr. Smith gave the address. Two B.S. lads were baptised on Apr. 8. Y.P. raised £25 for purchase of electric polisher for Norseman mission. Primary picnic was held at zoo on 14th. Church welcomed back to Cottesloe, Mr. and Mrs. J. Christie, also Mr. and Mrs. G. Kerr and Gail. Mr. and Mrs. D. Galloway are now residing at Bologart. Mrs. Yeomans is again in Bethesda Hospital. Mrs. A. E. Jefferies was welcomed back after prolonged illness.

Geraldton (H. E. Greenwood). — Sickness has kept some away from services recently. There was an excellent attendance at gospel service on Easter Sunday night, when film, *Easter Story*, was screened. Building and Building Fund for new chapel are steadily growing. In the former case the foundations are completed, and the fund has now risen to £230. Midweek Bible study has been well attended and the B.S. now has a staff of seven. Men of church have started table tennis club and meet on Tuesday evenings. W.C.F. is having good meetings. It was with regret that church farewelled Mr. Mosedale, who has moved to Perth.

Harvey (T. D. Maiden). — Annual business meeting was held, and retiring elders and deacons re-elected. L. Roesner is sec., and R. Stanford treas. Others elected were Boys' Club, N. Ottrey; Girls' Club, Mrs. K. Stanford, W. Rawley, H. Ottrey; Junior Choir, P. Newby; Senior Choir, M. Livingstone; J.C.E., Mrs. R. Stanford; C.E., Mr. Maiden. P. Maiden is on local school staff. R. Pollock, whilst on holidays, has acted as organist. Mr. and Mrs. A. Johnston have been meeting with church whilst Mr. Johnston has been assisting in preparation of chapel for tiles. Gift stall and fellowship held at Mrs. Livingstone's home realised £9. Church regrets return of Putland family to Northam. Mrs. Fryer, senr., is in hospital. Five have recently made their decision. Fellowship has been enjoyed with the Horton; Saats, West and Leonhardt families. Mrs. A. Ottrey has succeeded E. Livingstone as A.C. reporter.

North Beach (W. H. Nightingale). — A. Ware, J. Lavery and J. E. Corbett have been assisting preacher. Two have been added to church membership by transfer. B.S. and gospel services are growing, and Ladies' Fellowship is rendering good service.

New South Wales

Albury-Wodonga (F. Leivesley). — Combined Albury and Wodonga B.S. anniversary services were held on Apr. 15. Morning service was broadcast by courtesy of 2AY. F. Leivesley was speaker, and L. Stephens soloist.

At 3 p.m. and 7 p.m., scholars entertained large audiences with delightfully rendered action songs. Guest speaker for day was L. Brooker (Melb.). Mrs. I. Sproule as Cradle Roll supt. presented 18 babies and toddlers with gifts, and a posy for each mother. Several carloads of members travelled to Yarrowonga on 21st to District Conference. Men of church have made 1,200 bricks for new youth hall. Prayer campaign has been launched by officers of church.

Mosman (D. W. Tonkin). — On Apr. 14, B.S. held an entertainment night. Proceeds were given to B.S. Equipment Fund. On the same night, church and B.S. recognised 21st birthday of Mrs. Marlon Donaldson, when a gift was given. On 22nd, at morning meeting, S. Warren (Sydney City Mission) spoke on mission activities. At evening meeting G. Owen (Woolwich) was speaker.

Wagga Wagga (K. Christensen). — Combined service with Baptist church was held on Easter Friday morning. Chapel was filled to capacity. K. Christensen was speaker. Ladies' Aid has resumed after recess. Office-bearers elected are: pres., Mrs. Christensen; sec., Mrs. Marks; treas., Mrs. Davis. On Apr. 21, two carloads of members journeyed to Yarrowonga to attend North-Eastern and Riverina District Conference. On Apr. 5, at half-yearly business meeting, it was decided to eliminate debt on Henwood Park building, also to repay £500 loan on land purchased at Mt. Austin. Church has been saddened by sudden Home call of W. H. Maulsbury. Sympathy is extended to Mrs. Maulsbury and family.

Burwood (J. Henderson). — Meetings have been well attended over past weeks. Life Boys' Club held church parade on Apr. 15. Anzac service was arranged on evening of 22nd, when Sid Creek, ex prisoner-of-war, was special speaker. C.W.F. held anniversary on 26th. Church anniversary commenced with church tea on 28th. On Sunday morning, G. Benjamin, was special speaker, and an evangelistic service in evening concluded anniversary celebrations. Newly formed Y.P.C.E. conducted intercessory service on night of 24th. B.S. is increasing in numbers every week.

Earlwood (G. H. Benjamin). — During March, many members were away through sickness, but some have now recovered. Midweek prayer and Bible study group, under leadership of preacher, have profited from study of the Revelation. Numbers attending have been encouraging. One young lady made the good confession on Apr. 15, and was baptised during youth night service on 22nd. J. Andrews (Burwood) addressed morning service. Three have been added to

the church during month; one by faith and baptism, and two by transfer.

South Australia

Grote-st., Adelaide (A. W. C. Candy). — Passing of A. J. Gard, at age of 84 years, has brought sadness to church. Half-yearly business meeting was held on Apr. 18. Membership now stands at 205; financial position is sound, and church in good heart. Morning attendance is 75, and gospel service 120. All auxiliaries are working well. B.S. is growing, and practising for anniversary. G. New, Mrs. Peet and Miss West are still unable to attend church, but are improving. Mr. and Mrs. Quayle (Portland) were visitors on 22nd. Adult Bible class is proving helpful, and growing in attendances.

Cowandilla (T. T. Robinson). — Life Boys combined with Torrens-ville for barbecue at home of Mr. and Mrs. Griffiths. Eighty-five boys and parents attended. Y.P. tea has been held, and four were later baptised at evening service. Y.P.C.E. took meeting to home of Mrs. Harvey on Apr. 17. Special prayers are being held for the sick. B.S. held special service on Easter Sunday, which was recorded and taken to sick members. Preacher, wife and family are at present on holidays. At annual business meeting of church, R. Sander was elected a deacon, and N. McLean and J. Dixon were re-elected. N. McLean is sec; R. Hall, asst. sec.; J. Dixon, treas.; R. Sander, asst. treas. It was decided to send donation to Mrs. P. Russel for work at Elizabeth. Average weekly offering for year was £18/5/4. Average offering for new chapel building was £7/11/4. Foundations have been prepared for new chapel. Boys' Brigade Band played while boys marched to enrolment service at church. New members are attending Y.P.C.E.

Dulwich (S. E. Matthews). — Attendances continue good, and finances healthy. Average attendance for April was 74 a.m., and 63 p.m. On 15th two young ladies were baptised in the presence of a congregation of approx. 100. Prayer meetings are held fortnightly at the manse. Chapel has been painted recently and Y.P. are busily painting interior of kitchen and hall. Choir and soloists are giving a good contribution to evening services. Y.P. meet after evening service at the home of W. Morrow for study and fellowship. Fourteen attended Easter Camp at Longwood. At recent Cradle Roll service, four babies were added to the roll. From the B.S. a Junior Bible class has been formed with an attendance of twelve.

Forestville (W. A. Russell). — Work continues happily and attendances are keeping up well. On Apr. 15, I.C.E. conducted evening service, when

there was a large attendance, splendid singing by C.E. choir, and an inspirational message by N. Gavros (Nailsworth). Five teams of girls and one of boys have entered Churches of Christ Basketball Association. Church regrets passing of Mrs. Rogers, and extends sympathy to the family in their sorrow.

Henley Beach (J. E. Webb). — On Apr. 8, church entered upon **An Advance Campaign**, that is to continue till end of Sept. At morning service, in presence of a large congregation, an immersed believer was received into fellowship. At night, W. Strudwick was soloist. B. Luck was soloist on 1st. On 17th, annual business meeting of church was held, and very keen interest was shown. Reports presented told of a year of progress. Treasurer's report revealed commendable increase in offerings, over £1,300 being raised for all purposes — the highest amount on record. W. Strudwick and S. Glastonbury were re-elected sec. and treas. respectively. Meeting decided to reseat chapel with pews, and of 14 pews required six were promised. It was decided to have a Temple Day for this purpose later in the year.

Kilburn (H. G. Norris). — Promotion Sunday was observed in B.S. on Apr. 22, when attendance was 258, and 13 new scholars were enrolled. Miss Connie Thurrowgood has been added to teaching staff, and seven others have commenced a six-month term, training under experienced teachers. F. Manning spoke at morning service on behalf of Mission to Lepers. Miss M. Lawrance (Naracoorte) and Cliff Meadows were recent visitors. Good Companions and Young Explorers meet weekly. C.Y.F. club caters efficiently for teenagers. C.W.F. is enjoying well attended meetings, and prayer meetings are now much larger, Les Milne conducting same whilst preacher is having hospital treatment. J.C.E. continues to grow, and Y.W.L. is now under leadership of Brian Barrett.

Wampoony-Bordertown Circuit (C. Curtis and B. Crowden). — Wampoony church has been helped by preaching and fellowship of visiting brethren during past months. R. V. Longthorp (South Yarra) spoke at church anniversary and E. P. C. Hollard at B.S. anniversary. Bordertown and Mundalla brethren have helped at usual services. Mrs. Burns (Padthaway) gave appreciated travel talk to Women's Fellowship. Harvest thank-offering for Car Fund amounted to £140, and gifts of produce were forwarded to Rest Home and local hospital. Mrs. J. Hunt, Mrs. H. Jacobs and Mrs. Hamilton, senr., have all been inmates in hospital, and church prays for their recovery. Church sympathises with Mrs. Jacobs in passing of her father. Preachers

both attended refresher course at Longwood.

Semaphore (R. H. Sercombe). — Capt. Thoday has resumed leadership of G.L.B., and Brigade has adopted an aborigine child. B.S. continues to grow in numbers. Ladies' Guild is working to provide new carpets for chapel. Combined Good Friday service was held at Baptist church, when Salvation Army officer was speaker. Preacher continues with helpful and interesting messages. On Apr. 21, members responded generously to Temple Day offering, the amount received being £283. In the evening, A. McRoberts (Hawthorn) gave address. Local male quartet provided music. Annual enrolment service of Boys' Brigade was held on evening of 22nd.

Fullarton (A. W. Morris). — Aim set some time ago for 100 members at communion was attained on Apr. 22. At gospel service, F. Manning was speaker, and showed slides of work in Africa after the service. Three Y.P. were baptised. Mrs. Morris has accepted presidency of recently formed Y.W.F., with Mrs. Chigwidden vice-pres.; Mrs. Short, devotional chaplain; Miss Shanks, sec.; and Miss Rosemary Holton, treas.

Mile End (L. E. Jones). — Preacher is conducting special series of gospel messages on **Managing your Moods**. Increased interest and attendances at all meetings. Men's Fellowship has been addressed by Mr. Haggard (Adelaide Zoo) and A. R. Jones. School hall has been renovated, and men of church have spent months of work on outside of church property.

Victoria

Bendigo (R. V. Holmes). — H. A. G. Clark addressed April meeting of C.M.S. The Y's Men's Club of Y.M.C.A. paraded at evening service on Apr. 15. Men's choir provided music. Preacher is conducting teachers' preparation and training class. Miss Irene Banninger, a zealous worker amongst Y.P. and Good Companions' Club leader, was honored at a kitchen tea on Apr. 20. Ladies have catered for several weddings in recent days.

Boort. — W.M.B. has resumed after recess and the sec., Mrs. Forster, is again able to attend services. Church farewelled W. Evans, treasurer for many years, who has transferred to Geelong district, and Mr. Frost (Baptist) who has assisted on preaching plan during his period of residence in the district. Gifts were presented to both men. Mr. Curtis (B.&F.B.S.) was recent speaker at both services and showed film at combined meeting in Memorial Hall. Several members are on holidays, and a number of visitors have been welcomed.

Carnegie (A. R. Lloyd). — Two lads made their decision at close of gospel service on Apr. 8. After church fellowship, led by H. Gehan, was held, and supper was served by Women's Missionary Group. E. A. Lewis (Y.P. Dept.), was speaker at morning service on 15th. Preacher held questions night at 7 p.m., when answers were given to questions submitted. At close of service, a married lady and a girl made their decision. Baptismal service followed when four Y.P. were baptised. S. Corlett and Miss L. Sommers assisted with duets at gospel service on 8th. **Send the Light Rally**, arranged by C.Y.F., was held on 14th. Chapel was filled, with delegations from district youth fellowships, some coming from Lilydale. Testimonies were given by G. Rendall and I. Field. Musical items were given by R. Gunstan (guitar). Robert Edgar brought an evangelistic message. S. Wilkerson led song service.

Dunolly (D. Beanland). — Excellent meetings over Easter, when **Back to Dunolly** celebrations were held. Chapel was filled in morning, when H. Jackel spoke; extra seats were put in for evening, when D. Beasy addressed meeting. Spikes family have now moved into the town and Mr. Spikes has made his decision. Presentation was made to Miss J. Chennells and W. Bains, prior to their marriage. B.S. journeyed to Newbridge on Apr. 14 for annual picnic.

Footscray (A. E. Hurren). — Church is enjoying excellent meetings with assistance of F. T. Morgan, H. Saunders, L. Trezise and M. Carter, who have addressed meetings. Average of 127 have communed over past month. 80 members gathered for fellowship hour after evening service on Apr. 1 to wish Mr. Hurren God speed before commencing his journey as chaplain on a migrant ship. Many members had a part in 6 p.m. closing campaign; Mrs. W. Easton and Mrs. V. Kay visited Footscray Hospital to solicit votes. Ladies' Aid had successful recipe afternoon, and also, an afternoon with Mrs. O. Jackel, who showed slides of her world tour. Weekly prayer meetings continue to be held in the homes of members.

Latrobe-terr., Geelong (T. A. Ferguson). — On Apr. 17, Men's Society invited their wives and interested friends to hear a lecture by I. Quick, of Geelong College, who spoke on **The Influence of Comics on the Youth of Today**. During the past month one was added to church by faith and baptism, and a husband and wife were given the right hand of fellowship. At morning service on 22nd, church remembered the men of Anzac. This service also marked commencement of Harvest Festival services. Platform was decorated with goods grown by members, also

with other products. Good attendances were recorded at both services, 148 present in morning, and 120 in evening. At evening service, theme was again that of Thanksgiving for the Harvest. Choir and newly formed men's quartet rendered items. Goods collected were distributed between old folk of church, Averill Rest Home and Protestant Orphanage.

Maidstone. — H. Pietzsch has been giving helpful messages to good congregations. L. E. Snow and his son have been welcomed into fellowship. Jim has now begun his military training. Thirty Y.P., including some from Sunshine church, held successful social on 21st. A barbecue is planned in big churchyard, for youth of Western Suburban churches.

Swanston-st., Melbourne (K. A. Macnaughtan). — Several baptisms since last report. Offerings were received on several Sundays for six o'clock campaign. Recent speakers have been F. Manning (Mission to Lepers), A. G. Ball (Melb. City Mission), L. A. Trezise, A. Wilson, W. W. Saunders, R. F. Geyer. Preacher has been released for three weeks for mission at Lismore. On recent Sunday evening A. Haskell was soloist. Interior of church building (now 93 years old) has been painted in modern colors, and windows have been renovated.

North Williamstown (S. K. Bannon). — Large congregation witnessed baptismal service on evening of Apr. 15, and two young men baptised were welcomed into fellowship on morning of 22nd, when speaker was P. Williams (Y.P. Dept.). There were three decisions at gospel service on 22nd. Weekly after-church fellowships in homes continue to be popular, and interest of Y.P. in church activities is becoming apparent. E. Westaway (church sec.) is suffering from slight spinal displacement. Average attendance aim of 75 at April evening services has been exceeded. Western Suburban District officers met in chapel on 20th. South Melbourne K.S.P. and P.B.P. clubs attended combined social evening on 24th. Sympathy of church is extended to E. Thatcher in passing away of his father.

Swan Hill (A. Avery). — Morning service on Apr. 15 was broadcast over 3SH. Attendances for day were, morning 70, evening 76. Mr. and Mrs. Elliot (Essendon), were visitors. Mrs. Parkin has entered hospital to undergo an operation. J. Leach commenced on 15th as B.S. supt. Former members, Mr. and Mrs. R. Thomas and family, now of Kyneton, were present on 15th. Church auxiliaries are working strongly, and district work is in good heart.

Wedderburn (C. G. Henderson). — Easter service was swelled by presence

of several visitors. On Apr. 8 there were 19 present in morning, and 23 on 15th. Attendances have shown a small improvement recently, due partly to visitation work of student-preacher.

Wangaratta (R. J. Anderson). — Morning service on Apr. 15 was broadcast by 3NE. These services, every seven weeks, have been well received and are a blessing to isolated members, as are the 15-minute devotional periods given by Mr. Anderson over 3NE at 4.45 p.m. on alternate Fridays. A. Campbell is slowly recovering after nearly four months in hospital. Mrs. R. Bartlett is back, after having an operation. Good Companions had as guest speaker on 11th, Constable White (Wangaratta Police), who gave an interesting and instructive talk. M.

McDonough preached at Benalla on 15th, and A. Jackel was president.

Warracknabeal (R. H. Patterson). — Annual business meeting was held, when all officers were re-elected. Harvest Festival has been held. Monthly prayer meeting for ladies was held in chapel, and was conducted by Mrs. Patterson. Ladies' Aid had afternoon for Mrs. Everett and Mrs. Joyce, and gifts presented for their long years of service as sec. and treas. of the "Aid." Sympathy of church goes to Mrs. Wakefield in passing of her husband, who was preacher at Warracknabeal for a number of years. After-church song service was held at manse on Apr. 22. One member has reconsecrated his life, and is worshipping again with church.

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beloved husband and our loving
father, William Lawrence, who was
called Home on May 2, 1952.

—Inserted by his loving wife and
family.

BIRTH

BAKER. — On April 4, 1956, at
"The Memorial," S.A., to Gwyneth
and John, a daughter—Fiona Vadette.
Sister for Moira and Helen.

ENGAGEMENT

SUTHERLAND—VERITY. — Mr.
and Mrs. P. Sutherland, 12 Swinden-
ave., Cheltenham, have pleasure in
announcing the engagement of their
younger daughter, Beverley, to Ray-
mond, youngest son of Mrs. E. R.
Verity, 13 Pyne-st., Caulfield South,
and the late Mr. A. E. Verity.

STREADER—OWERS. — The en-
gagement is announced, with much
pleasure, of Beverley Margaret, eldest
daughter of Mrs. M. Streader, Wilson-
st., Swan Hill, and the late Mr. R. M.
Streader, formerly of Bendigo, to
Gordon Charles, third son of Mr. and
Mrs. B. E. Owers, "Pike-Pike Station,"
Moulamain, N.S.W., formerly of
Leeton.

BLACK—DRENNAN. — Mr. and
Mrs. E. F. Black, of 10 Hickey-ave.,
Daglish, W.A., have pleasure in an-
nouncing the engagement of their
younger daughter, Gwenda, to Frank,
eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. H.
Drennan, of Kinglassie, Fife, Scotland.

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vale, Vic.

H. L. Evans (secretary, Wedder-
burn church), "Kawaran," Wedder-
burn, Vic.

W. C. Roffey (Social Service Or-
ganiser, N.S.W.), 36 Anderson-st.,
Chatswood, N.S.W.

M. T. Lawrie (preacher; Kadina
church), Taylor-st., Kadina, S.A.

Coming Events

ESSENDON BIBLE SCHOOL AN-
NIVERSARY. May 6: 3 p.m., R. V.
Longthorp; 7 p.m., H. Beitzel. May
13: 3 p.m., L. G. Bond; 7 p.m.,
M. Roberts. Conductor: R. Tippett.

ASCOT VALE CHURCH 65th ANNI-
VERSARY AND HOMECOMING,
May 13. Speakers: 11 a.m., L. E.
Snow; 3 p.m., F. T. Morgan; 7 p.m.,
H. J. Patterson. Past members,
please accept this as an invitation
to be present. Advise B. Sterling,
61 Francis-st., Ascot Vale, for hos-
pitality.

BLACKBURN BIBLE SCHOOL AN-
NIVERSARY. May 6. 3 p.m., A. E.
White; 7 p.m., L. E. Brooker. May
13. 3 p.m., Doug. Beasy; 6.45 p.m.,
R. Amos.

FOOTSCRAY CHURCH ANNIVER-
SARY. Sunday, May 6. 11 a.m., F.
T. Morgan; 3 p.m., Pleasant Sun-
day Afternoon. E. Lyall Williams;
Musical items by Mr. and Mrs. Rex
Barber. 7 p.m., V. L. Gole. Hos-
pitality provided for visitors.

WARRAGUL CHURCH 56th ANNI-
VERSARY SERVICES and TEMPLE
DAY OFFERING, Sunday, May 6.
Services: 11 a.m., 2.30 p.m., 7 p.m.
Guest Speaker: H. A. G. Clark, M.A.,
B.D., Dip.Ed. Former members and
friends invited and urged to attend.
Luncheon and tea provided. To
assist in catering please notify Sec.
if planning to attend. Greetings will
be appreciated. Also a Combined
Meeting on Sat., May 5, 7.45 p.m.
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Sunday, May 13

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3 p.m., Family Afternoon
Speaker: R. P. Morris.
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5 p.m., Tea.

7 p.m., Evening Service.
Speaker: R. C. Bolduan.

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OBITUARY

D. Gilmore.

The Home call at the age of 72
of David Gilmore, on April 14, marks
the removal of yet another of our
good men. For 46 years he was closely
associated with our churches. Many
years of his early life were lived in
the Drummond district, Vic., where he
was a tower of strength to the church.
He was generous, courteous, and a
man of high principles. He was de-
voted to his home and his church.
His wife, and a son, preceded him to
the Homeland of the soul, 18 months
ago. Since the passing of his wife,
he had been extremely lonely, and
longed to depart and to be with
Christ and his loved ones. In recent
years he resided at Kyneton, where
he worked and worshipped, and was
greatly loved. His passing will mean
the loss of a kindly counsellor, and
a loyal supporter of the church. A
large group of relatives and friends
assembled at his late residence, and
at the Malmesbury Cemetery, to pay
tribute to the love and respect in
which he was held. He will be sadly
missed. "At evening there was light;
and we shall meet him in the morn-
ing." To the members of the family,
and relatives, we tender our deepest
sympathy.—E. J. Miles.

Miss Mathilda Thompson.

Miss M. Thompson, whose death
occurred on March 9, was born at
Dunedin, N.Z. in 1874. As a young
woman she came to Victoria and was
associated with the church at South
Melbourne, where for nearly 20 years
she was a B.S. teacher. She was a
regular weekly visitor to the "Eye
and Ear Hospital" for many years,
and numerous patients in that time
have expressed their appreciation of
her kindness. During her later years
at Camberwell, she gave religious
instruction in the State School, and
also helped with a Correspondence
School for children isolated from
Bible school. It could be safely said
that she had no interests apart from
the church and its ministries. After
many years of active life, her last
few years were spent in the comfort
and care of "Emmaus," where the
esteem in which she was held by her
old friends was shown in their con-
stant visits right to the end.—J.H.C.

Edith May Tinker.

On April 11, after a long illness,
Mrs. Tinker of the Geelong (Bel-
mont) church, Vic., passed away
at the age of 47 years. She was the
loved wife of Alex. L. Tinker, and
was baptised by H. K. Norris at
Warrnambool in 1930. Here she help-
ed in kindergarten work, was a mem-
ber of the Ladies' Aid, and became
a deaconess. She was noted for her
happy disposition and lovely per-
sonality. In 1948, her husband, self,

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and daughter, transferred to Portland, where she became well known for her gracious hospitality, her home being always open to those visiting the Portland church. In 1951, her husband, self, and daughter, transferred their membership to Geelong (Belmont). Here she was engaged in kindergarten teaching, a Ladies' Guild member, and youth club helper. Her passing was a sad blow to the small number who serve the Lord at Belmont, and who held their sister in such high esteem. The funeral service was conducted by T. A. Fergusson, of Latrobe-terr., who was assisted by J. W. Small, of Belmont. We commend her husband and daughter, Patricia, to the loving arms of Jesus, and share with them the gladness of our hope in his return and happy reunion.—W. J. Whitehead.

Frank Cowper.
 When a church was formed in the farming district of Lake Rowan, Vic. in 1899, Frank Cowper, as a young man, early began to show a keen interest in Christian life and service. For many years the church met in his home, and then, when a cause was established in the neighboring town of Yarrowonga, in 1925, he became a foundation member. There he served and worshipped to the end of his life on earth, making the regular trip to church of eighteen miles each way in all weathers, over poor roads; no mean feat in a motor car, but done at different periods with horse and buggy. Mr. Cowper was a quiet, unassuming man, of deep Christian faith, generous good works, and faithful stewardship. He lived for Christ and the Church. Not only the church at Yarrowonga, but the whole brotherhood, has suffered a loss in his passing. His daughters, Nette (Mrs. C. G. Daff), Wynne (Mrs. W. P. Nothrop), Alma (Mrs. K. A. Jones) and Frances, are all well known for their active Christian work in their respective spheres. To them, Mrs. Cowper and Ken we offer our sympathy. Our churches owe much to men of strong con-

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viction and willing service, and Mr. Cowper was one most worthy of our gratitude and respect.—R.V.H.

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