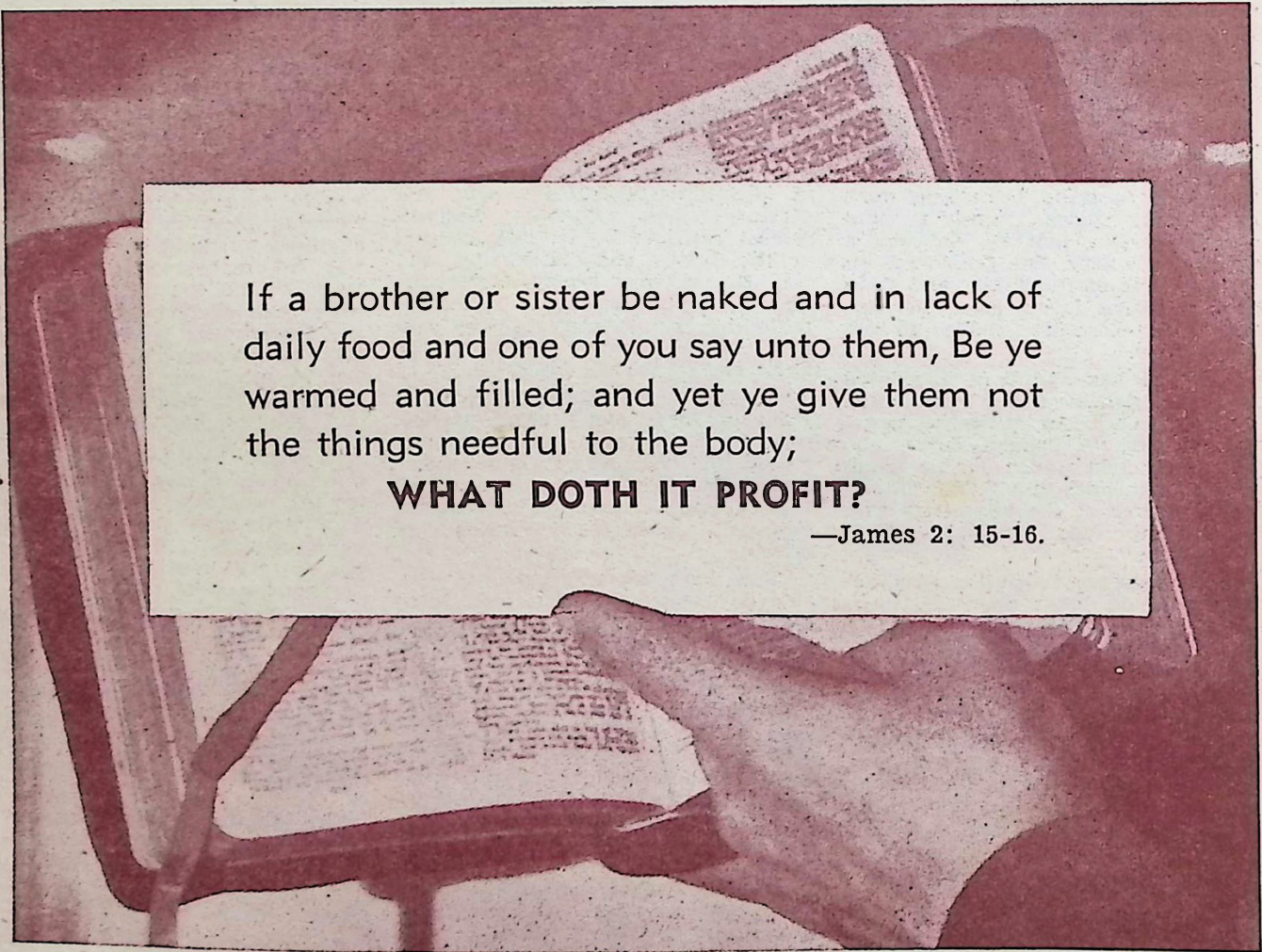


Murray

THE AUSTRALIAN

Christian

NATIONAL WEEKLY REPRESENTING CHURCHES OF CHRIST



If a brother or sister be naked and in lack of daily food and one of you say unto them, Be ye warmed and filled; and yet ye give them not the things needful to the body;

WHAT DOTHTH IT PROFIT?

—James 2: 15-16.

Social Service Annual Offering, Sunday, August 19

MISSIONARY NEWS

(Notes supplied by A. Anderson, Sec. Foreign Mission Board.)

Lotteries Come to the Islands

We have all heard cynical people condemn the work of Christian Missions, and say that the heathen are best left alone. The heathen are never left alone, and even in the remotest parts of the earth we find that men, apart from missionaries, are trying to influence native people. These men introduce to the native, practices that are degrading and evil. In contrast, Christian Missions bring to primitive people the best things of our culture, and, above all, the Lord Jesus Christ.

One of the most recent evils to be introduced to the New Hebridean, is gambling through lotteries, organised in Australia. One young man, in a nearby village, recently received a letter stating that he had won a prize in a lottery. The tickets are on sale in some of the stores, and there are few natives in our area who have not heard about this chance to win easy money.

This evil has also been introduced to other islands of the Pacific and to New Guinea. An Australian newspaper states, "A Papuan native, who had never held a pen in his hand, won a major prize in a N.S.W. lottery, to the horror of the missionary who looked after the spiritual welfare of the tribe."

Any missionary in such a situation is justified in being disgusted, when something is introduced to his people that is utterly opposed to the teachings of Christ. There are enough existing evils to be fought without the introduction of new ones.

The churches in Australia, in their fight against lotteries, are not only serving Australia, but the native people who live in the neighboring islands.—R. McLean, Aoba.

Inescapable Service

"When Christians look across the world to the millions who live in darkness, in hunger, in squalor, in pain, they see fields in which not only is preaching to be done and service to be rendered, but where a deep experience of God is to be found. Do we not draw near to God, as in no other way, in the moment we see fear fading from a child's eyes, or

the peace that comes to mind and heart when the body torn by pain, or brought low by disease, is relieved and grows well again? When the hungry are fed, is not God glad, and do we not share his joy? When the prodigal son came back from the far country, the amazing love of the father was seen no less in the rejoicing, the food, the sandals and the best robe, than in the kiss and the embrace.

"To meet man's need by preaching the word, healing the sick, feeding the hungry, teaching the benighted, is not only an obligation from which there is no Christian escape; it is a road upon which we find God."

—The Chronicle.

"Bread Upon the Waters"

Apart from Miss Cameron, no person would know more about the girls at the Shrigonda Home, past and present, than Sitabai Wanzari. Sitabai came to be an integral part of the Home, and, in leaving, will feel the parting keenly. After the end of the hot season in India, she is leaving for Bombay to live with some of her people. She loved the girls, and the girls loved her.

"In this Home there were many girls; of these many have married, some have even more than five children. Some have sent their daughters here for schooling, and in some cases the children of these second generation girls are here in the Home at present.

"The husbands of some of the girls have good work, but some have ordinary work. Of these girls, many write and ask us to take care of their daughters because they want their children to have the same advantages which they had in years gone by. They say, 'Just as we benefited by being at Shrigonda, in this way we do want our daughters to benefit by also attending the Shrigonda School and Home. Some girls have been to Bible school' and are now telling the news of the gospel to others, working as Biblewomen. Even now we have girls in Bible school, and in teacher training; some are teachers, and some nurses, and so many are being used in work for the Master. One girl, after teaching for some time, married Hariba Waghmodi, and with him is now a missionary in this Mission. To write this I am indeed very, very happy."

—Sitabai Wanzari.

In Appreciation

There is no doubt that the ministry of loving care being tendered to aged men and women, in the Homes conducted throughout the Commonwealth by the brotherhood, fills a great need and is highly valued and appreciated. Verbal expressions of sincere gratitude are constantly tendered, to those who administer or serve in the Homes, by the guests and their relatives. Out of warm hearts, many write to say a grateful "Thank you" for the service rendered to their loved ones by the Homes' staffs. Typical of many such are the following quotations from letters received:

"I am writing to thank you for the help and kindness shown whilst mother was in the hospital. They are three wonderful Homes and I can't praise them, or the administrative body, enough."

"This letter is an attempt to express the deep gratitude we feel to the Social Service Department and to 'Emmaus' for all that has been done for mother. We can never quite tell what it has meant to us, during the last two years and more, to know she was in such a beautiful Home, and receiving attention that was beyond anything we could have hoped for. It was the many, many extras which the staff did that made us so much more than appreciative. Undoubtedly, the Department is doing a magnificent work with its two Homes and the Hospital, and you must receive scores of expressions of commendation and thankfulness."

"I would like to express the sincere thanks of my husband and self for the care and attention given my dear mother at the Hospital during the long years of her illness. I should like to say how highly we esteem the nursing staff. Their kindly care of my mother is a comforting memory to dwell on."

"I would like to say 'Thank you' for the help and kindness shown me in my trouble. Words fail me to express my appreciation for what the Matron and staff did for mother whilst in the Home."

"I hear from my sister's son and daughter every week, and they say she is very happy in the Home. I am very grateful to all the people who help to make her so."

Encouraged by such expressions, we will surely thank God for the privilege of performing the service which calls them forth, and determine that we will so pray and serve and give that greater service may be achieved, to the glory of the Christ in whose steps we walk.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

A Word to the Short-Sighted

Social Service is a challenge to the spiritually short-sighted. Our attitude to it soon reveals how far we can see—and how straight. There are some amongst us with a spiritual squint that urgently needs the Surgeon's touch. That was how James felt about some of the Christians to whom he wrote his epistle. After making his readers face the fact that pious good wishes are no earthly good for the needy, he protested, "My dear short-sighted man, can't you see far enough to realise that faith without the right actions is dead and useless . . . as dead as a body without a soul?" (James 2: 20, 26, Phillips). We need a true and pure faith, but the man who is more concerned about having a right faith, than doing the right thing with it, remains hopelessly short-sighted.

Not so the men and women of our Social Service Departments. They

DARE

to face the facts of life—and some of them ugly, sordid facts—and both *say* and *do* something about them. The short-sighted either never see some of these things as problems, or shrug defeatist shoulders, saying, "What's the use of protesting? We can't do anything about it." And those who grow rich on the gambling craze, or drink and drug traffic, or war, or any one of the many ways whereby man debases himself and his fellows, are as insolently sure as Goliath ever was (and with more reason) that they have nothing to fear. Yet the Christian Church is the one organisation they *ought* to fear. Was it not Christian men who finally struck the death-blow at slavery in the Western world—and did it despite the opposition of the short-sighted among them, who were afraid of the consequences?

Conference resolutions alone are not enough—but let us not lightly disparage them. Even with their all-too-draconic restrictions of space for religious conference reports, daily newspapers usually manage to find room for resolutions on social questions—a fact which justifies the careful framing of them by our Social Service men. They are often noticed and talked about more than the snippets from major addresses. And, in some cases, they have achieved more than the "waste-of-time" critics realise. Fears of being thought negative should not deter men of conviction from making protests when they are necessary—as they are right now over the Canberra "State aid to church schools" issue. Nor should fears of being misunderstood silence the Church and her "spokesmen" from

saying the prophetic word that is needed about Australian treatment of our aborigines, or the color bar as it operates in South Africa and America, or other burning issues of our time.

To sin by silence when we should protest
 Makes cowards out of men. The human race
 Has climbed on protest. Had no voice been raised
 Against injustice, ignorance and lust,
 The Inquisition yet would serve the law,
 And guillotines decide our least disputes.
 The few who dare must speak, and speak again,
 To right the wrongs of many.

Such a passion to "right the wrongs of many" springs from the fact that some

CARE

enough to *do* something about it. And caring involves more than mere righteous opposition to evil; it springs from that loving compassion for the wronged and the weak which was so unforgettable about the Master.

Our churches have been fortunate in the quality of the men and women who have led our Social Service work in the various States. They have never lost that personal touch, which treats the needy, not as cases, but as Christ's own brethren. There is nothing institutional about the spirit of the Homes and Hospitals, which have been born from the unyielding vision of men like Will H. Clay, who dared and cared enough to shame others into caring what happens to our aged and our sick. Nothing short-sighted here!

What is more, they made the brotherhood want to

SHARE

The Christian Fellowship Association, first established in Victoria 21 years ago, and now active in all States, was an inspiration which enlisted thousands in regular giving. Women who shared the vision of what the various Homes could mean are still doing a magnificent work, in tender, personal ways, as well as in raising money. The enlarging Social Service vision is one of the great romances of our Australian brotherhood in the last quarter of a century.

But achievement still lags far behind our leaders' dreaming. So much more needs to be done to face the problems of unwanted and neglected children, delinquency and crime, the home-sick migrant, as well as developing work among the poor, the sick and the aged. So much more needs to be done in giving a positive lead to our thinking on the great social issues of our times. And it *can* be done, if enough of us are prepared to share generously in our giving on August 19!

WILL H. CLAY, Victorian Director, seeking to define Social Service, emphasises its necessity and importance in the life of the individual and church in this article on

The Obligations of Relationship

As wide as the world, is the field covered by the study of social service and human welfare. It is the concern of the home, the State, and the nation. More important still, perhaps, it is the concern of every individual. Cain was taught in the very beginning that he could not escape the obligation of his relationship with his brother. Since that time, relationships have widened to such an extent that the term "brother" seems to have lost its original significance. At first, it referred only to blood relationships. Later, it included those of the same nationality. When Christ came, it was made clear that all men, irrespective of nationality, are brothers. Nevertheless, the brotherhood of which the Apostle Peter speaks, when he exhorts the Church to "love the brotherhood," refers to such as are in Christ. The apostles again and again urge Christians to "love one another," to "be kindly affectioned to one another."

In the Early Church

In the early days of the Church, and continuing for several centuries, Christians were ostracised. They were driven together by force of circumstances. Governments were unsympathetic towards them. The State made no provision for them, and no civic organisation existed for relief. The Acts of Apostles informs us of what was, in effect, a social service organisation within the Church.

It is worth noting that the early Christians:—

1. Sold their possessions and goods.
2. Pooled their resources.
3. Distributed according to need.
4. Shared alike in giving and receiving.
5. Had enough and were satisfied.
6. Demanded honesty.

In view of these facts we may rest assured that the organisation was complete, and continued as long as the need existed. We need not be surprised to learn that great fear came upon all the Church.

Where the Scriptures Speak

Churches of Christ have long affirmed that they speak where the Scriptures speak. It is plainly evident that certain principles of brotherly

relations with regard to social conditions existed in the early Church. If we are to be true to our plea, these principles must be accepted and practised in our Church activities, or a satisfactory explanation given as to why they need not be recognised.

With regard to national socialism, it may be asked, "Are we our broth-



Will H. Clay, M.B.E.,
Victorian Director.

er's keeper?" We may find a satisfactory answer if we are faced with a world of need, and the quality of our relationship may be tested. Whatever our attitude to the whole world, or our answer to its needs, we cannot dismiss lightly the appeal of the brotherhood in Christ. The injunction of the apostle to "do good unto all men, but especially to them that are of the household of faith" still remains. We cannot ignore the social need of our brethren.

Social Service Today

We have seen that, as long as our relationship to each other continues, we are bound to observe some form of service to one another. Acknowledging this, it is at once clear that certain of the brethren, as in the

early Church, should be set aside to minister in this regard. The appointment of such brethren is in keeping with our claims to be led and guided by the Scriptures.

Social service is not merely feeding the hungry, or clothing the naked; it is nothing short of the application of the principles of the Master to every sphere, and the rendering of service for the good of mankind in the spirit of that Master, who taught us to love God, but also to love our neighbor as ourselves.

The Social Service Committee submits its deeds of the past to you, dear reader, to examine. It offers you the testimony of the hundreds who, from experience, can testify to its value. In Victoria it offers you the Homes and Nursing Home, accommodating eighty-five of your brethren and sisters, as a witness to its worthwhileness. More than this, it appeals to you for your prayers and support in the name of him who has commissioned us to preach, in season and out of season, by word and deed. Your deeds of prayer and giving on August 19 will make possible continuing and increasing deeds of love and service by your Social Service Department, which will proclaim Christ, and be to his glory in the helping of man.



Social Service

Ensures Enduring Profit

"This Fund does more than supply the wants of the saints, it overflows with many a cry of thanks to God. This service shows you have a Christian home, and it makes men praise God for the way you have come under the gospel of the serving Christ whom you confess, and for the generosity of your contributions to themselves and to all" (2 Cor. 9: 12, 13).

Moreover, "What I am anxious for is the interest that accumulates in this way to your DIVINE CREDIT" (Phil. 4: 17).

"God is able to bless you with ample means, so that you may always have quite enough for any emergency of your own, and ample besides for any kind act to others" (2 Cor. 9: 8, 9).

WALTER W. HENDRY, of Great Britain, former Associate Secretary of the Social Service Department, Vic., challenges us to recognise and fulfil the wide social implications of praying

"THY KINGDOM COME"

Is it a good thing that there should be a group of people charged to think about the implications of the Faith . . . and find expression for a growing Christian social conscience?

There was once a small boy, who never could remember where he had left anything. Before going to bed at night, he wrote a letter to himself as follows:

"Your clothes are on the chair. Your school books on the desk. Your shoes under the bed and yourself in bed." In the morning he got up and found his clothes on the chair, his books on the desk, his shoes under the bed — but he could not find himself in bed.

This story is too true to be funny; true, that is, of grown-ups rather than small boys. In this interesting world we find many things, but how often do we find ourselves or our brothers? In a world in which it is the purpose of God that we should use things and love people, we reverse his order, and love things and use people.

The Church, Too

Has the Church not largely acclimatised herself to the atmosphere around her? Do we not, in many cases, compromise with the world, forgetful of the fact that our compromise is measured in human souls? Professor Helm, of Tuebingen, said years ago:

"We have renounced the great claim with which the Apostles once appeared before the world. They did not contend for a modest space in which to practise their religious exercises. They were not vindicating their right to certain religious experiences. No, they came as the aggressors. They were conscious that they brought that without which the world must collapse upon itself; that which called in question the whole world of previous culture, with all its forms of state and social organisation . . .

"Today, the worldly man, the complacent man of culture, does not feel himself attacked, or even disturbed. From the outset, he is granted everything that he wishes to have.

"This is the cause of social disparities, of ruthless economic strife, of war, of the rich man's love of pleasure, of alcoholism, and of the

housing problem. More than that, it is the most profound cause of the whole struggle for existence by which people and nations live at one another's expense . . . We have fallen under the influence of a satanic power, the 'prince of this world' — which lies behind capitalism, and behind the forces of disease and death. These are all demonic powers, whose attack we are no longer able to withstand because we have lost God."

The Church and Society

The Church ought to feel the crucifixion of the human spirit in modern

well as by co-operative thought and action.

We Believe

We believe that the Church is the trustee of that without which the world, whether it be organised in a society of the Right or the Left, must collapse upon itself in suicidal catastrophe.

We believe that the international Christian community — or at least the remnant of it which is prepared to be a pioneering fellowship — may be the most powerfully creative force in the present chaos; may use the breathing space given by man's fear of the monster he has created to break down national selfishness and build up international trust; may bring us all to think and act as Christians in the practical issues of life.

Is It a Good Thing?

If you think it is a good thing that there should be within our brotherhood a group of people charged especially to think about the implications of the Faith for the whole of life, and to seek to nurture and find expression for a growing Christian social conscience, you must be interested in the work of the Social Service Department.

You will make your interest practical by worthy giving to the Annual Offering on Sunday, August 19.



THIS LAND SO FAIR

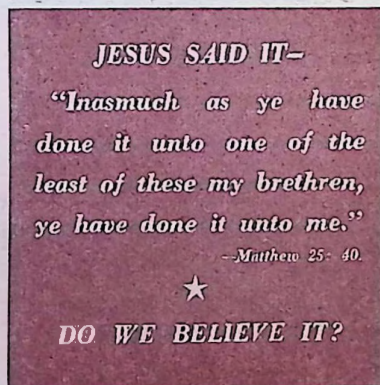
"God help us to live
In a world that is fair,
Where people are kind
And there's someone to care;

Where babies are loved
And their needs are supplied,
Where the aged and
Feeble are never denied;

Where thousands of churches,
And millions who serve,
Respond to each need
With their substance and love.

In the midst of a land
Filled with wealth and supply,
No aged shall suffer
No babies must die."

—Clayton Paul Shepard.



society, and refuse to be so entangled in the present order as to be unable to go out on a bold quest. God needs the Church, as Christ needed the fellowship of his disciples, to enable him to come in power into his world, because the ordinary life of humanity is not "good enough." What happens when the Church conforms in thought and conduct to ordinary life?

The prayer that God's will may be done on earth, and that men may have their daily bread (irrespective of color or race) can only be sincere on our lips if we are ourselves prepared to be the instruments for bringing it to pass, whatever the cost. Surely, it is obvious to Christians living under the shadow of the hydrogen bomb that, if modern science is to be used sacramentally, and not tyrannically, it will be by the strength of spiritual purpose first, as



Geo. Smith.

Christ's ministry was marked by his sensitivity for people's needs. His ear was receptive to the desperate cry of hungry, thirsty, lonely, naked, sick and imprisoned humanity. His compassion opened doors for healing of body and soul in a host of blighted lives. Those who claim to walk "by faith" with the Master must emulate his compassion for the needs and feelings of others.

In recent years, Churches of Christ in all States have opened channels for evangelism to reach hundreds of lives torn apart by personal and social problems. Preachers and co-workers are constantly meeting and seeking to deal with women distraught and nervy through their partner's infidelity; drunkenness; financial burdens; young children caught up in broken homes, filled with resentment and frustration, and compelled to mature in a false home atmosphere; people needing urgent surgery, but afraid of accruing bills; aged folk, tired and lonely, wanting shelter and love in their closing years. As this article was being typed, the telephone rang, and a newspaper columnist read a pathetic letter from a country reader who desperately appealed to the paper for Christian accommodation. The story could broaden to tell of a great army of men and women, some still young in years, who are bordering on breakdown and hysteria, largely because they have no one who understands, or is willing to help them.

The Church is confronted with a great challenge. It is the call of humanity, which can be met by a people with compassion and a relevant message. Today specialists are trained professionally to be sensitive to people's feelings. Men are turning from the Church's doors to let their faith loose in doctors' surgeries, psychiatrists' consulting rooms, lawyers' offices and marriage guidance councils.

Cottesloe (W.A.) preacher, and organiser for the Christian Guest Home, Joondanna Heights, **GEORGE SMITH**, affirms that in Social Service we "reach folk through compassion" and manifest Christ's

Sensitivity for People

What do we do, and what have we more than others?

Until recent years, social service was a Cinderella movement in our churches. In Western Australia it was confined largely to opposing social evils. Today, the story has entered another chapter of thrilling Christian enterprise. The brotherhood is engaged in many practical activities, pulsating with Christ-like compassion. In Joondanna Heights, a £16,000 Guest Home, for twenty aged folks, is in operation. In Claremont, a modern 25-bed hospital ministers to the sick. A chaplain is appointed to visit hospitals and institutions. Another has the oversight of Prison Welfare. Members actively participate in Good Neighbor work. A virile Christian Fellowship Association relieves distress and need amongst members. Regular monthly visits are paid to the T.B. Sanatorium to dispense comforts and spiritual help. Co-operative action with all Communions on social issues includes participation in executive

positions. Marriage guidance and legal advice are tendered. Financial and practical help are given to worthy cases, and in many other ways the churches in W.A. are reaching people through compassion.

This work is not divorced from evangelism. It is the very heart of it. It is the work of faith; the fruits of a people walking in the steps of the Master. Every Christian can share in it! Firstly, by allowing the whole of life to be receptive to needy humanity. Secondly, by making certain that the local church is warm and friendly to all people. Finally, by standing behind brotherhood agencies with prayer and practical support.

"Give me not scenes more charming!
Give me eyes
To see the beauty that around me lies,
To read the trials of souls, see angels shy,
Among the faces of the passers by."

South Australian Secretary, **A. R. JONES**, declares that Social Service speaks a language which all people understand

The Language of Love

Love is a universal language, understood by all people. It was the language Jesus spoke, and by which he won his way to the hearts of the people. How often we read "the multitude followed him," and "many believed on him." They followed and they believed because "he had compassion on them," and because "he went about doing good." Wherever he went, he gave new health, new life and new hope. Jesus cared for people. He was concerned for them in their hardships and trials. His heart went out to them in their need, and their love came back to him. They loved him because he first loved them.

People today are equally quick to sense an attitude of love and care. We see the same response when we go out in the love of Christ, and show people that we care, and that we are concerned for them. People,

who have had no time or place for the Church in their lives, have responded when they have known the Church has gone out of her way to help them. Folk who have not been attracted by word have opened their hearts to the love of Christ, when he has been seen in loving ministry. Hearts that have been trial-hardened have softened under the influence of Christian love.

We have seen tears of joy because the Church has extended the helping hand, filled with good things. We have heard such words as, "I did not know the Church cared so much." A migrant said, "We were going back to England, because we felt Australians were so unfriendly. Now we have found friends." Another said, "You have given me new hope and confidence, and I am so thankful."

(continued across foot of next page.)

From the recently appointed Queensland Director, C. R. BURDEU, comes a warning of the need for uncompromising and aggressive warfare by the Church if she is to escape

The Dangers of Social Evils

There is no doubt that social evils confront the Church with grave danger. Even if everybody were a born-again Christian, there would probably still be danger. This could emanate from self-satisfaction and complacency whilst the enemy of mankind engineered some scheme to take us unaware. We have not reached that desirable state of society, so the danger of losing much that we have achieved against social evils is very real.

The Christian Church has ever been, and still is, under pressure from the world to compromise with it and lower the standards of Christ. It would seem that that pressure is succeeding. Churches today are doing things which they shuddered at, and preached against, years ago. Personally, I have not been as shocked as once I might have been by much of the broadening that has been going on. But perhaps I am suffering from the softening-up process which seems to be going on in all Communion.

The colossal expansion of the gambling and drinking evils, delinquency in teen-agers, sex crimes and callous murders should call for serious consideration by all Christians. All these evils have substantially increased in recent years. There are several contributing influences, but whatever the reason,

obvious or obscure, the position is perilous. The Church has always led in the crusade against evil in every form. Yet, in spite of her opposition, these great crimes and evils are today organised and entrenched on a scale never before known.

Not without blame in this matter is the Church. In referring to "the Church" in this regard we mean the Church in the broad sense. There are parts of that Church which thrive and get rich on these social evils and national blemishes. Therefore, part of the remedy for them is with the Church. Use of any and every questionable means must be tabooed. As a brotherhood, we are part of the great Christian Church, and unless we are vehement in our protest, and active in our opposition, against all social evils, we must be classed as accessories after the fact. But what do we more than others? Alas! we have even been guilty, in Annual Conferences, of resenting resolutions on social questions, presented by our Social Service Departments, as time-wasting and of little use.

We hold all sorts of District Conferences and gatherings, and we rarely give a thought therein to the vested evils which, by their rapidly growing wealth, are buying power in every sphere. By direct and indirect brib-



C. R. Burdeu.

ery, they have stifled the opposition of Christians and churches, and will seek to continue this softening-up process.

There are two great challenges, which are really interdependent and inter-related, before the Church today. Firstly, the evangelisation of the world. Secondly, the staying of the forces of evil. They present a tremendous task, but it can be accomplished progressively by God's power and might working through the forces of a united Church.

Whilst we are rightly launching great plans for evangelism, let us not disregard and overlook our social committees, which we have elected to lead in the fight to hold back the forces of evil, threatening to overtake the rear ranks of the Church. God help us to see the danger and, in full support, stand with our Social Service Committees when they appeal in N.S.W. on Aug. 12, and in all other States on Aug. 19.

And what gratitude! One good soul had nothing for herself and family for the weekend. She was given groceries and £1 for meat. The groceries were used, but the £1 was her thanksgiving offering on Sun-



A. R. Jones.

day. She gave it back to the Lord. She literally gave her all. We are ashamed by such sincerity and such sacrifice.

We have seen these things, and are convinced that when we tell people in this way that we love them, they understand us, and there is a ready response of love for love. Words speak of charity, but deeds show our love. "Put your love not into words, but into deeds and make it real," the Apostle said. Show people we are their friends because of Jesus, that we love them even as the Father loved us, and we will see a response that will gladden our hearts — confidence created, love restored and faith inspired.

So let us pray,

"Send us, O Lord, as thy messengers,
To hearts without a home,

To lives without love,
To the crowds without a guide.

"Send us to the children whom none have blessed,
To the famished whom none have visited,
To the fallen whom none have lifted,
To the bereaved whom none have comforted.

"Kindle thy flame on the altars of our hearts,
That others may be warmed thereby;
Cause thy light to shine in our souls,
That others may see the way;

"Keep our sympathies and insight ready,
Our wills keen, our hands quick
To help our brothers in their need;
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
Amen."

here and there

Social Service material in this issue was compiled by W. W. Saunders, Victorian Associate Secretary. Offering date for all States, other than N.S.W., is Aug. 19. N.S.W. receives the offering on Aug. 12.

Appreciative reports from all States followed the broadcast of the Victorian Churches of Christ Choral Society in the A.B.C. Hymn Session on Sunday, July 15. Miss B. W. Lee was organiste, Valentine Woff conductor, and V. C. Stafford compere.

The church at Croydon, Vic. announces that it has sold the site in Main-st., on which the present building stands, and purchased a block of land, with a hundred-foot frontage, in Jackson-st. It is intended to erect a new brick building there, and also a manse, as soon as possible. The present church building will be moved to the new site and enlarged, and will become the B.S. hall when the new chapel is erected. It is interesting to note that it is 72 years since the first church meeting was held in Main-st., though the present chapel was erected some twenty years ago. Two of the present members, Messrs. Lacey and Ammon, attended the Bible school over 70 years ago.

With the theme, Forward Through Fellowship, the church at Chatswood, N.S.W., has launched a stewardship campaign, following much preparation and forethought. House meetings, to which all members were invited, were held under the direction of the officers. Enthusiastic interest and support were evident in many fruitful discussions. A loyalty dinner and special dedication service are included in campaign plans. Mrs. Crisp and Mrs. Cain are convalescing after illness.

Have you protested to your M.P. yet about the proposed State aid to denominational schools in Canberra? If not, do it now! Leave our Parliamentarians in no doubt that Australian Protestants are strongly opposed to such a move.

The second of a series of visits to the Tasmanian churches, by the Tas. Executive and H.M. Committee members, was made on July 15. Six churches (Ulverstone, Devonport, Caveside, Sandhill, Margaret-st., and Invermay) were visited, despite bad

road conditions. Good meetings were held in each church, when the claims of the H.M. Dept. were put forward, together with an appeal for a closer co-operation in all brotherhood enterprises.—Allan T. Orr, sec.

As the church at Shenton Park, W.A., prepared to enter the final week of the Bond-Marlow mission, a telegram on July 30 informed us that, to that date, there had been 28 decisions, 17 rededications and one restoration. These results have been achieved despite continued wintry weather. The church and its minister, R. Pritchard, appreciate the prayer support of their brethren.

Preachers and members are requested to be cautious should they be approached by a young man, aged about 24 years, by the name of Stan. Garner, who has recently been in the Maryborough (Qld.) area. He may use the name of the preacher there (A. D. Mortimer), or that of C. R. Burdeu, and state that he worked in the Railways and comes from S.A.

Arrangements have been finalised for T. T. Robinson, now at Cowandilla, S.A., to commence his ministry with the church at West Preston, Vic., on Sunday, Jan. 20, 1957.

A representative company gathered at Lygon-st. chapel, Melbourne, Vic., on July 31, and heard three 25-minute addresses on Congregationalism in the New Testament, presented by R. T. Pittman, L. G. Burgin and L. E. Snow. An hour was spent in question-and-answer discussion following the addresses. K. A. Jones, Vic.-Tas. Conf. Pres., was chairman, and Miss M. E. Pittman organiste.

A young and faithful member of Churches of Christ, Dorothy Jean Chivell, of Warracknabeal, Vic., was killed in a tragic car accident at Casterton on July 15. At the time, Dorothy was nursing at the Warracknabeal District Hospital. She will be remembered also by many friends of the Latrobe-terr. church, Geelong, when she was training at the Geelong Bethany Babies' Home.

Bible Sunday will again be observed throughout Victoria on the first Sunday of September, Sept. 2, and, in a message endorsed by the Federal Heads of all Churches, Bible Society membership will be specially commended. On the same day, the

London General Secretary, Dr. W. J. Platt, will be in Melbourne, and will preach in St. Paul's Cathedral at 11 a.m., Collins-st. Baptist Church at 7 p.m., and in the Dandenong Town Hall at 3 p.m. See advertisement for Dr. Platt's Public City Rally, Tuesday, Sept. 4. It is suggested that on Bible Sunday, sermons on the Bible might be preached, suitable references be made to the Society's work, special prayers be offered, and if possible, an offering be taken for the Society's work.

The part-time ministry of E. W. Roffey at Lane Cove, N.S.W., extending over the past 5½ years, concluded on Sunday, July 15. A large gathering met on the previous evening to pay tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Roffey for their splendid work, and suitable presentations were made from the church and various auxiliaries. The Mission Band entertained Mrs. Roffey at a farewell luncheon and afternoon on July 19, to which all the sisters of the church were invited. A lace tablecloth was presented as a token of their love and esteem. The church is preparing for the coming of Mr. and Mrs. P. E. Thomas, late of Marrickville church, to the full-time ministry on Aug. 5.

The Phi Betas of West Preston church, Vic., have again won highest honors in the Homecraft Competitions held at Lygon-st. hall on July 28.

The church at Warrawong, N.S.W., has been much heartened and encouraged by the commencement of the ministry of Noel Flint, who has come from the church at Wyoming. A welcome meeting was tendered Mr. and Mrs. Flint and family on Friday, July 13, at which messages were received from various church auxiliaries, the Wollongong church and the Home Mission Committee. Mr. Flint was officially welcomed by Glen Brown (Bankstown), who delivered an appropriate message to both church and preacher.

Women from 18 countries, including Miss Ruth Gibson, Australian President of the National Council of Women, recently met in Geneva at the United Nations Commission. Their subject was the vitally interesting one, Status of Women, which included discussion on such subjects as—Access of Women to Education; Nationality of Married Women; Part-time Work for Women and Older Women; Working Women with Family Responsibilities; and Economic Rights of Women, etc. Miss Gibson, an Inspector of Schools in South Australia, gave a vivid word picture of the happenings at the Palace of Nations at Geneva, at a public meeting in Melbourne on July 20. Resolutions of the Commission were sent to the United Nations Assembly for later release.



THE LIVING WORD

Studies on the planned Sunday morning readings

Sunday, August 19

OLD TESTAMENT

Psalm 26.

Summary.

In this Psalm we have a man's considered opinion of his own life—yet there is nothing self-righteous about what he says. The Psalm falls into two parts—a prayer (vv. 1-7), and a protest (vv. 8-12). Looking more minutely at the Psalm we notice (a) a request for help (vv. 1-3); (b) a statement about integrity (vv. 4-6a); and (c) a prayer for protection (vv. 6b-12).

Explanatory Notes.

"judge me, O Lord" (v. 1).—"Do me justice; show me to be in the right; vindicate my integrity by discriminating between me and wicked men. Cf. Ps. 7: 8; 35: 24; and 43: 1" (Kirkpatrick).

"mine integrity" (v. 1).—"Integrity aptly describes the prevailing feature of character which he claims for himself—whole-hearted sincerity of purpose in serving God. The writer does not claim to be sinless; he does claim to be sharply distinguished by the simplicity and earnestness of his devotion from evildoers around him, the whole object of whose lives is entirely different from his" (Davison).

"my reins and my heart" (v. 2).—"The reins stand for the centre of conscious action, the thought which plans and the will which resolves and executes" (Century Bible).

"dissemblers" (v. 4). — People who mask their actual aims, thus paying outward tribute to righteousness. They are, in fact, hypocrites who disguise their real thoughts and purposes. See Ps. 28: 3.

"I will wash my hands in innocency" (v. 6). — "As the priests, before they came near to the altar to minister (Ex. 30: 17-21). What the priest did in symbolical rite, the priestly people were to do in spiritual

reality" (Kay). Cf. Ps. 73: 13; and for the ceremony as symbolising innocence see Deut. 21: 6 and Matt. 27: 24.

Suggested Theme.

"I AM NOT GUILTY."

Introduction. — Like a man in court who produces evidence to prove his innocence, the man of God, surrounded by evil and wicked people, sets forth the facts to prove that he is not guilty himself. He points to his innocence in three ways. There is, first of all,

I. HIS PROFESSION (vv. 1-8). — Without being filled with any false pride, God's servant points humbly to his right living (v. 1), his resolute trust (v. 1), and his real godliness (vv. 3-8). It is not easy for a man to do that, and remain simple and unaffected. Then there is,

II. HIS PRAYER (vv. 9-11). — The servant of God opens his whole heart to the Lord, and through prayer says search me (v. 2), spare me (v. 9), and save me (v. 11). He is quite sure that, as God searches his heart, his innocence will be seen. Finally, there is

III. HIS PURPOSE (v. 12).—Because he is conscious that he is not guilty of wrong-doing, like those around him, he expresses his intention of giving daily thanks (v. 7), of having a deep love for God's house (v. 8), and of offering definite praise (v. 12).

Conclusion. — In the light of these things, in spite of his unworthy companions who revel in sin, he is able to say gladly, "I am not guilty, and the praise for this all belongs to God."

NEW TESTAMENT

Titus 2.

Summary.

As William Barclay says, "This whole chapter deals with what might be called 'The Christian Character in Action.' It takes people by their various ages and stations, and lays down what they ought to be within the world." The chapter falls into two parts: (1) The duties of the Christian minister to his congregation are set out (vv. 1-10); (2) The need for Christian service in the light of Christ's return is stated (vv. 11-15).

Explanatory Notes.

"sound doctrine" (v. 1). — That is "healthful teaching."

"the aged men" (v. 2). — "Not 'elders' in the sense of church officials. Nevertheless, the virtues listed are essentially the same as those required of officials" (Gealy).

"behavior as becometh holiness"

(v. 3). — The R.V. says: "Be reverent in demeanor." "Reverent is hardly expressive enough: priest-like would be more adequate" (Horton). This is the only use of the word in the New Testament.

"teachers of good things" (v. 3). — According to Barclay, this is "teachers of fine things."

"keepers at home" (v. 5). — As Barclay says, "Home-keepers and home-minders." He adds, "In the ancient Greek world, respectable women lived a completely secluded life. There was no honest and honorable way in which a Greek woman could make a living. In the last analysis, there can be no greater career than the career of home-making."

"a pattern of good works" (v. 7). — Or, "a pattern of fine conduct."

"looking for that blessed hope" (v. 13). — "The dynamic of this new life is the expectation of the coming of Christ. The Christian is the man who is always prepared for the coming of the King of Kings" (Barclay).

Suggested Theme.

"BRINGING CREDIT TO THE GOSPEL"

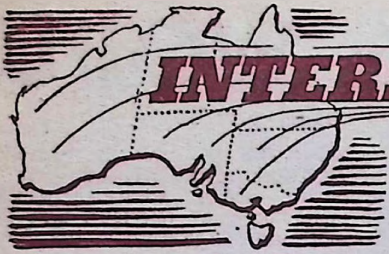
Introduction. — Ronald Knox translates Titus 2: 10 by referring to those who are by "every action of theirs bringing credit to the teaching of God." The life of the average Christian should make goodness attractive, and bring credit to the gospel. This is to be done through

I. THE CONDUCT OF OUR LIVES (vv. 1-10).—Christian character and conduct testify to the effectiveness of our faith. When we talk of Christian conduct, we must admit that the demand is real, the standard is high, and the range is wide. This we see from what Paul said to Titus concerning the six types of people mentioned by him. Secondly, it is to be done through

II. THE POWER OF OUR LIVES (vv. 11-14). — The way we live ought to bring credit to the gospel. Paul points to the reasons for victorious Christian living: (a) the message (vv. 11-12); (b) the motive (v. 13); and (c) the means (v. 14). Finally, it is to be done through

III. THE QUALITY OF OUR LIVES (v. 15). — Paul tells Titus that the quality of his life ought to bring credit to the gospel, by helping those in need, dealing firmly with sin, and conducting himself so as to be beyond reproach.

Conclusion.—Christian living makes great demands, but it is still the most thrilling adventure in the world. Are we really trying it?



INTERSTATE CHURCH NEWS

Fallen Asleep

B. Ravenhall, Ascot Vale, Vic.
Mrs. Greenwood, Ascot Vale, Vic.
Dorothy Chivell, Warracknabeal,
Vic.
Mrs. Honig, Carnegie, Vic.

Discipleship

Misses M. Peck, T. Tiffin, W. Adams, M. Challis, E. Byard, Mr. and Mrs. A. Peart, Mr. and Mrs. F. Cottrell, E. McCarron, J. Frith, J. Battin, D. Peart, Invermay, Tas.

Jennifer Cook, Alan Albion, Terry Albion, Geoffrey Hannaman, Ross Williams, E. Hay, Dareton, N.S.W.

Ruth Shiner, Judy Pennington, Pomona, N.S.W.

K. Sharpe, Brighton, Vic.

R. Taylor, Albert Park, S.A.

Wilfred Dyson, Mrs. K. Hecker, Hamilton, Vic.

Diane Smith, West Preston, Vic.

J. McFarlane, Sunshine, Vic.

D. and G. Balfour, Kilburn, S.A.

David Ferguson, Leonie Woodman, Hartwell, Vic.

Valmai Frost, Horsham, Vic.

Joan Allsop, Camberwell, Vic.

Mr. Bailey, Miss L. Bailey, Hawthorn, Vic.

Fred Robertson, Box Hill, Vic.

Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Dodd, from Beverley to Albert Park, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, from Queens-town to Albert Park, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins, from Kilburn to Albert Park, S.A.

Miss M. Levett, from Whyalla to Albert Park, S.A.

Mr. and Mrs. Crane, from Boronia to Bayswater, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. B. Ginet, from East Malvern to Hartwell, Vic.

Norman and Ewart Bakker, to Hartwell, Vic.

Mr. and Mrs. Eden, from Lismore, N.S.W., to Toowoomba, Qld.

Barbara, Lynnette and Wendy Vernon, from Coburg to Parkdale, Vic.

Madeline Hughes, from Oskleigh to Carnegie, Vic.

Tasmania

Invermay (E. K. Morrison). — Attendances at all services are being well maintained, over 100 attending most gospel services, with good number of non-members present. Thirteen have been added to church through faith and obedience since last report. Women's Fellowship conducted Homecraft Exhibition, which raised over £20. New monthly church paper, *The Evangel*, has been well received. Organ Fund has been filled, and over £50 is in hand for installation of new hot water system for chapel. Scholars continue to be transported from Mayfield to B.S., and many new contacts are made through this service. Daily prayer meetings at 6.30 a.m. have been commenced. Church is preparing for mission in Oct.

Western Australia

Kalgoorlie (F. H. Griffiths). — Preacher returned refreshed from Preachers' Conference at Kalamunda. Church met in prayer on mid-week evening to pray for more B.S. teachers, while visitation was being conducted. A number have come forward to relieve serious position. Men of church have been working for some weeks on premises acquired for B.S. kinder, and interior has been pleasingly decorated. Since I.C.E. have extended their meetings to include hour's social activities, many new members have been added. B. Stitt is new supt. Dr. Gibson (Perth Bible Institute) was recent appreciated speaker. Mrs. MacNamara, a hospital patient for nearly two years, has been discharged.

Queensland

Toowoomba (R. C. McKenzie, B.A., and G. Gibson). — Visiting speakers on July 20-23 were F. Byatt (sec., Inter-Church Aid), and C. R. Burdeu (Qld. Social Service Committee). They spoke at church services, C.M.S., and Y.P.F. meetings. Choir assisted at 1st anniversary services of Gatton church on 28th. 24 from Margaret-st. B.S. sat for Scripture exam. as arranged by N.S.W. Y.P.D. Boys' Brigadier recently completed in com-

petitions in Brisbane. Church is having fellowship with Mrs. Nash (Caulfield, Vic.). Fellowship was also enjoyed with Mr. Nash for some weeks. Mr. and Mrs. Nash came to Qld. because of illness of their daughter, Mrs. C. King, of Goom-bungee, who is still an inmate of hospital. Fellowship was enjoyed with Mr. and Mrs. Batterham, parents of Miss Gwen Batterham (India). An effort is being made to form a Ladies' Fellowship in Crown-st. area.

New South Wales

Dareton. — Meetings have been well attended, local brethren, assisted by L. Keatch (Merbein), maintaining the work. P. R. Baker is in district for few weeks, and is helping on alternate Sundays. Church appreciates his assistance. During month, there were six decisions, five being from B.S. There were also four decisions from Pomona B.S. Working bees have been held to remodel baptistery and line vestry. At church business meeting on July 18, following officers were elected: elders, R. Fechner, B. Waters; deacons, W. Waters, A. Cook, J. Kissick, P. Waters, I. Kerridge, J. Waters; ushers, J. Waters, B. Fechner; organists, Mrs. Kissick, K. Fechner; B.S. supt., Mrs. Watts. £200 has been donated for kitchen, and work is to begin on lining main B.S. hall. Mr. Jemmerson is home from hospital.

Broken Hill (N. Kingston). — C.Y.F. had a happy chop picnic at Old Mt. Gipps. Working bees continue, and first stage of works programme is almost complete. Zinc Corporation have kindly donated new side fence for church property, and work on same will shortly commence. Church welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Fax and family from S.A., and at same time regrets Mr. Phillips' return to Adelaide after 6 months' fellowship. Ball family is meeting with church and was welcomed at church social. Ladies have completed a batch of sewing for Aborigines Mission.

Taree (M. H. A. Pieper). — Special visit paid to church by B. Munro on July 8 was appreciated, as well as profitable. He spoke morning and evening that day. Having very early associations with Taree B.S., he paid a second visit prior to sailing for India. Mrs. Munro accompanied him on an earlier visit. R. Greenhalgh, Youth Director, spoke on evening of 16th. He and Mrs. Greenhalgh were on their way north on annual holidays. E. J. Saxby, a former member of Taree church of over sixty years

standing, passed away in Sydney. On 29th, preacher concluded series of addresses on Stewardship, which was recognised as distinct help to members of congregation.

Hornsby (V. S. Dallinger).—Number of B.S. scholars sat down for annual Y.P.D. exam. on July 8. Fellowship tea was held on 22nd, at which K. Patterson was guest speaker. Recent convert at Asquith was baptised at weekly prayer meeting on 25th. V. S. Dallinger led service and B. Nowitzke conducted baptism and gave talk. Recent soloists have been Mrs. Bishop and Miss N. Gernon, of Wingham. Attendances have been affected by sickness. Mr. Glazier addressed church on 15th.

South Australia

Albert Park (E. P. C. Hollard). — All phases of church work are encouraging. During July, 17 were received into membership, and this brings total membership to 101. B.S. attendance on 22nd was 213, one above previous record. Two things are major problems, lack of teachers and space. Piano Fund has been opened by Women's Fellowship, and concert to aid it was given by Electricity Trust Choir on 31st. Inter B.S. scholars were entertained at social evening on 28th, when happy time was spent. Most enjoyable evening was spent on 25th, when Women's Fellowship had an open night, and C. Schwab gave an informative nature study. 37 were present. Mr. Hollard's visiting among members and parents of B.S. scholars is much appreciated, as are his excellent addresses. There was one confession on night of 29th.

Kilburn (A. J. Ingham). — A. J. Ingham is at present rendering valuable service in all depts. of work. Mrs. Ingham is also helping, and is now pres. of C.W.F. B.S. continues to grow, and accommodation is real problem. Connie Thurrowgood will be missed from teaching staff, as she returns interstate to her parents. Teachers and officers of B.S. presented Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Norris and family with framed picture as token of love and esteem. Recent welcome visitors included Mrs. I. Dinning, Trevor and Bevan (Bordertown). Two young men confessed Christ at gospel service on July 29.

Loxton (J. McCormick).—Preacher conducted well attended 5th church anniversary services on July 22. After-church fellowship was held at close of gospel service, when items and refreshments were enjoyed. Two have been added to church by baptism, and one by transfer.

Colonel Light Gardens (F. G. Banks).—Y.P. service was held on July 8, following a youth tea when T. T. Robinson was speaker. Junior

girls rendered items and Miss Fay Brand a solo. Many parents and friends were present. Several new scholars have been gained. Average B.S. attendance is 170. L. Parker is supt. Following series of messages on **Our Plea**, which were appreciated, preacher is now giving series of expository messages. Arrangements are well in hand for church anniversary, Y.P. rally and Temple Day. Attendances at all services are excellent.

Fullarton (A. W. Morris).—Church annual meeting was held on July 24. Auxiliary and club reports were encouraging. A. J. Rosewarne, G. Philip and R. Messenger were re-elected deacons, and R. Hasler was elected to Board. Roll showed membership of 182. During year, manse was sold and new property purchased, with sufficient land for extension. New hall had also been erected. Av. attendance at communion was 98. Preacher was commended for time and energy he had put into Building Project. Twenty attended pre-gospel service prayer meeting on 29th. Song service was led by D. Chigwidden and four girls rendered quartette item.

Nailsworth (N. Gavros).—Reports presented to recent annual business meeting revealed healthy activity in church and auxiliaries. Deacons elected for term of two years were: Messrs. Moore, W. Bristow, B. Bristow, Jeffrey and Purdie. A. Lambert was re-elected elder for three years. Sum raised for all purposes was approx. £2,000. Plans are in hand for renovations to property and exterior painting of buildings. Church voted solidly in favor of new lighting scheme. Attendances at morning services have been gratifying, and number of visitors noted. Mrs. Thurrowgood and son, Arthur (Mayfield, N.S.W.) received warm welcome.

Victoria

Hamilton (R. W. Saunders).—W. T. Atkin (Social Service Dept.) addressed morning meeting on July 15. W. W. Saunders spoke at gospel service, also at Coleraine in afternoon. Two adults made the good confession on 22nd, and were baptised on 29th. J. R. Story (Unevangelised Fields Mission) gave address in broadcast service on 29th, speaking on mission work in New Guinea.

Bayswater (R. Ryall).—Prayer and fellowship meetings at members' homes are proving great benefit to those who attend. Two have been received into fellowship by transfer. Combined meeting was held in chapel on evening of July 15, when R. Ryall was speaker and Mrs. F. Finger, soloiste. F.M. offering amounted to £18/14/-. W.M.B. recently attended meetings at Wonga Park and Croydon. Morning meeting on 29th was addressed by R. Peck.

Dandenong (L. G. Read).—Y.P.F. held enjoyable evening at home of Mrs. Paton on July 7. After-church fellowship was held at home of Mrs. Abbott on 15th, at which a recording of a sermon by Dr. Peter Marshall was heard. On 18th, C.W.F. afternoon group held a social afternoon. C.W.F. evening group held social evening at home of Mrs. Thompson on 26th. Y.P.F. held meeting at home of Mr. and Mrs. Reveleigh on 28th. Guests for evening were four students of M.B.I. Sisters Kerr and Spurr are well again, and Elizabeth Read has recovered after recent operation. Y.P.C.E. has been formed and L. Stewart (State sec.) attended inaugural meeting on 8th.

North Williamstown (C. K. Bannon).—Following visit and talk by Matron of Royal Park Mental Hospital to C.W.F., some members of the Fellowship later made an inspection of the hospital. Attendances at meetings have been affected by prevailing sicknesses. Mr. Payne and his son, who sailed their boat across from Hobart, are attending the services during their temporary stay in the city. B.S. tea on July 29 was well attended. **Shadows of His Glory** was screened to large congregation at gospel service. Officers conducted the meeting, and Ed. Forbes was soloist. Special dedication service for members, who will participate in visitation campaign, was conducted during morning meeting. Visitation is preliminary to gospel mission, which will be conducted later in year by H. M. Long (Horsham). Arrangements are being made for formation of C.M.S.

South Melbourne (G. Hearn).—Monthly youth tea was held on July 1 and evening service took form of **Question Night**. Fancy dress social on 7th provided enjoyable entertainment for Y.P. My Name is Han was filmed on 8th at evening service, and members gave it favorable comment. F. Mitchell was guest speaker on 15th. 15 Y.P. joined with other members of C.S.Y.F. in a trip to Mt. Donna Buang on 21st. Church and the Trade Unions was subject, when visiting speaker, J. Bradley (Clothing Union), spoke on 22nd. A young girl reconsecrated her life to Christ. United prayer meeting with surrounding Protestant churches was held in chapel on 24th. R. Morris (Brighton) brought Friendship Month to close on 29th when he discussed **The Church and the Family**. Film, **First Step**, was screened during after-church hour. B.S. is busy practising for concert. Attendance averages for July were: 32, morning; 51, evening.

Sunshine (F. B. Alcorn).—On July 22, a young member of K.S.P. made his decision to follow Christ. Fourth of monthly film services was conducted on 29th, when **This My Son** was screened. These meetings con-

tinue to be well attended. Presentation was made at conclusion of morning service on 29th to Mr. and Mrs. Young, now temporarily residing at Glen Waverley, in recognition of their fine service to church. Preparations are under way to have chapel interior redecorated. Church is regretful that Mr. and Mrs. Wakefield and family will soon be leaving district and transferring to Bairnsdale. Mrs. Devy (Coventry, Eng.) is having fellowship with church.

Ascot Vale (C. Perkins).—Happy evening was given by B.S. teachers to Judith Peters and Graham Thomas, and a presentation made prior to their wedding. B.S. has loyal band of officers and teachers, doing splendid service. Good Companions, under leadership of Val Darwin, Judith Peters and Barb. Roache, came second in zone competition. Mrs. Greenwood, in her 90th year, passed to be with her Lord. Sympathy of church is also extended to family and relatives of Ben Ravenhall.

Swan Hill (A. Avery).—Attendances at all services continue to average around 70, with 65 breaking bread. Church enjoyed fellowship with R. J. Anderson and family on July 22, when Mr. Anderson was speaker at both services. Annual Temple Day services were held on 28th and 29th. 65 sat down to tea in chapel on Saturday evening, after which thankoffering of £210 was received. During evening, F. N. Lee (guest speaker), screened interesting film of the World Convention, and his tour of U.S.A. Mr. Lee preached at morning service on 29th, and, during afternoon, held discussions with various committees of church, and later addressed Men's Fellowship. Y.P. from Swan Hill and Woorinen churches held enjoyable social evening at home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Cockroft (Woorinen) on 25th. About 40 were present.

The Patch (D. K. Thoday).—During July, attendances have been small, but encouraging. Mid-month film service on 15th featured *The Life of Christ*, part II. End of the month community hymn service was held on 29th, followed by cup of tea. Mr. Chappell spoke to church at morning meeting and C. Perkins (Ascot Vale) at night, in absence of preacher. Mrs. Washfold led community hymn session, in absence of Mr. Beament, through illness of Mrs. Beament.

Warracknabeal (R. H. Patterson).—Several members have been ill. Men attended working bee at Hall's Gap recently. Sis. Buckingham has resigned her position as organiste and Mrs. Woods and Mrs. Pollard are assisting. Sympathy of church goes out to Mr. and Mrs. Stap Chivell

in loss of their daughter, Dorothy, by fatal accident.

Brighton (C. G. Taylor, B.A.).—Appreciated Sunday night features have included family, question and hymn nights, and screening of *Shield of Faith*, when 138 were present. After-church Youth Fellowship has had more than 40 present on several occasions recently. Men's Fellowship defeated Y.P. in indoor cricket match on 24th. C.W.F. sewing mornings are proving successful. T. R. Morris and Mrs. Wright have returned from holiday in Qld. Mrs. Pelling has been missed, following fall which broke her shoulder. Wendy Taylor has been congratulated on winning two first prizes for pianoforte in Ormond Eisteddfod. Mrs. C. Nelson, mother of Mrs. L. Carter, has returned to W.A., following a visit to Melbourne. A.B.C.'s hymn session is broadcast in chapel every Sunday night for half-hour prior to service.

Berwick (R. Chamberlain).—C.F.A. meetings have been held in homes of S. Hillbrich and P. Meyer. After recent meeting, when favorite records were played, C.F.A. listened to broadcast of C. of C. Choral Society, before leaving for evening service. All auxiliaries have contributed toward cost of new lino for vestry. On July 29th, baptismal service was held, when C.F.A. girls rendered an anthem. On 26th, Women's Fellowship birthday meeting took form of play reading. Mrs. Irwin is newly-elected president, and Mrs. Talent has been re-elected sec. Younger men of church have been taking active part at morning services.

Brunswick (R. W. Vautier).—At monthly youth service, representatives from Burnley and Moreland youth groups were welcomed. Tea was enjoyed by all. During interval between tea and evening service, a film was shown. Cup of tea and get-together after service brought to conclusion a day of happy fellowship. C.M.S. conducted the service on July 22, Mr. Vautier being soloist. Mr. Luber (Inter-Church Aid), at invitation of K.S.P. and Y.W.F., on 27th, told, by means of film, of some of the work the society is endeavoring to do in Europe. Y.W.F. is conducting talent campaign to aid Manse Fund, and is working for its annual street stall. Mrs. Vautier is again able to attend services, and we are pleased that she is making such satisfactory progress after her recent operation.

Hartwell (H. J. Patterson, M.A.).—Attendances during July have been well maintained, with an average of 141 breaking bread. Since last report six have been received into fellowship. Visitors have been Mr. Laney, N.S.W., Mr. Harrison and son, Tas., Miss King, Qld., and Mr. Mansell, M.L.C., Mildura. At P.S.A., arranged

by the youth of church, a very fine programme was presented. F. Menzies told large congregation of his recent trip to S. Africa. An offering of £25 was received for East Burwood project. Y.P., in pursuit of £500 for the year, have now over £300 in hand. At present, some scholars from E. Burwood are being brought into Hartwell. It is hoped that a building will be erected in the locality some time next year. N. Wickham has undergone an operation. B.S. is in good heart under able leadership of D. Beasy.

Noble Park.—At second annual meeting on July 29, sec. reported 27 members now on roll, a gain of 3 for year. All auxiliaries reported progress. B.S. has 126 on roll, and 39 on Cradle Roll. J.C.E. has membership of 33, with average attendance of 30. Building of hall is progressing steadily, and is expected to be ready for use before Christmas. Election of officers resulted in the following being elected: sec., J. Smith; treas., R. Pearce; deacons, E. Hales and F. Barrot; deaconesses, Mesdames Hales, Armstrong and Smith.

Wangaratta.—Services have been well attended in past two weeks, when I. Jackel and R. Ellis have been speakers. One lad re-dedicated his life on July 22. Film, *The Power of Prayer*, was screened at gospel service on 29th, and was much appreciated by large number in attendance. Mid-week prayer meetings are increasing in numbers. B.S. and kindergarten are busy preparing for anniversary, Mrs. R. Thomas being song-leader for B.S. Mrs. Kirshaw has been ill in hospital again, but is slowly recovering. Mrs. O. Jackel is editing weekly newsletter, *The Christian Link*, and is doing an excellent and worthwhile job. On 23rd, I.C.E. and Y.P.C.E. combined for social evening, at which Mrs. O. Jackel showed some slides of Indian mission work.

York-st., Ballarat (C. W. Jackel).—Mrs. Feary, senr., Mrs. Lawson and Mrs. Urch are unable to attend services through prolonged illness. Overseas offering amounted to £35, an all-time record. Women's Fellowship celebrated its first birthday by devotional and social gathering, to which church officers and wives were invited. It was a happy gathering. Primary room has been renovated by male teachers, and chairs painted by lady teachers. 15 men have joined with Dawson-st. in six-weeks' training class. Presiding, reading of Scriptures and speaking are features of class. A married man has been baptised and received into fellowship — thus completing a full family circle of five in the church. Preacher is conducting winter series of chart addresses on *The Destiny of Mankind*. There have been some

splendid attendances and questions are coming through freely. Mission, to be conducted by College students, is planned for Sept. On July 22, chapel was filled at both services. At an after-church missionary service, hall was comfortably filled, when R. J. Story screened **Where Head-hunters Reigned**. £10 was donated to missions.

Box Hill (W. A. Wigney). — At C.W.F. meeting on July 10, Mrs. H. Clark spoke on Japan, as she knew it. On 24th, C.W.F., held birthday celebration, when representatives from local Women's Guilds and District Fellowships were present. Mrs. Fasham led devotions, and a much appreciated programme was contributed by local Baptist women's choir. Offering of £5/4/- received was donated to Box Hill and District Hospital. At morning service on 29th, Mrs. Drummond (S.A.) was a visitor. At evening service, members of Adelpian Football Club attended in a body. An offering was received towards Injured Players' Fund. A young man was baptised at the service. E. Hammond is again able to attend services after operation, and is now conducting B.S. in practice for anniversary. Mr. Kestle is also attending, after a time in hospital. Sympathy of church is extended to Cameron family in death of their brother.

Carnegie (A. R. Lloyd).—Evening service on July 22 was guest night, when members were asked to invite others as guests to meeting. P. Retchford (Pahran) was guest speaker at afternoon meeting of C.Y.F. on 29th. Youth Fellowship tea was held, and Y.P. held open-air session of hymn singing outside chapel prior to gospel service. Sympathy is expressed to Mrs. McCarty in passing of her mother. Mrs. McDowell has been able to attend services after illness.

SITUATIONS VACANT

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BIRTH

DYER. — To Reg and Gwen, (Rowe), on July 22, 1956, at Kaniva Hospital, a son—Alwyn Reginald. Both well.

August 7, 1956

ENGAGEMENT

SMILEY—FRECKER. — Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Smiley (Hampton, Vic.) are happy to announce the engagement of their younger daughter, Margaret, to Graeme, only son of Mrs. S. B. Frecker (Brighton, Vic.) and the late Mr. Frecker.

IN MEMORIAM

HUGGAN. — Margaret Lillian, August 6, 1955. Loving memories of a wonderful wife and mother. "Forever with her Lord." —Inserted by her loving husband and children.

BANGSUND. — In loving memory of Lone, beloved mother of Alshild and Peter MacLean, loving granny of Jane, Evelyn, Patricia, Peter (dec.) and Billy, great-grandmother of Andrew and Paul. Passed away August 10, 1955.

DOWNES. — In cherished and loving memory of our dear mother and grandmother, Annie, who passed to higher service, on August 6, 1945. "Safe in God's keeping." —Inserted by H. and L. Annetts and grand-daughter, Merle Whittaker.

HAYES. — In fond and loving memory of W. H. Hayes, dearly loved husband of Eva, passed away August 8, 1952. "In God's loving care."

GOLDEN WEDDING

WEBBER. — Alfred William, to Ada Jane Brown, on July 11, 1906, at Church of Christ, Petersham, N.S.W., by the late A. E. Illingworth. Many friends and relatives at their home, 27 Woodlands-rd., Lindfield, congratulated the couple and celebrated the grand occasion.

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OBITUARY

Mrs. F. E. McKenzie.

At the age of 88 years, Mrs. Florrie McKenzie went, as she desired, to be with her Lord. She was baptised at Bendigo, Vic., by Norm Hinrichsen, spent some years at Middle Park, and later returned to the Bendigo fellowship. Her home town was Kerang. With her two sisters, Mrs. R. F. Laughlin and the late Mrs. Agnes McKenzie, she was well loved in the Bendigo church, and took a keen interest in its activities. Although failing sight prevented her from full participation, she gave considerable financial assistance, and enjoyed especially the musical side of the services and the women's activities. To the last, her faith was strong, and she looked forward to meeting her Lord. After a service in the Short-st. chapel, the cortege travelled to Kerang, where she was laid to rest beside her husband. The Bendigo church gives thanks for her witness, and extends sympathy to all who miss her bright companionship.

—R.V.H.

Florence Margaret Lang.

The church at Preston, Vic., has been deeply saddened by the passing of Mrs. Lang, to be forever with the Lord. For many years our sister had been a consecrated and devoted disciple of our Lord. She made her decision, and was baptised in the Johnson-st., Fitzroy Tabernacle, in the August of 1900, during the ministry of the late H. G. Harward. After a period of active service at Fitzroy, our sister, with her husband, came to Pender-st., Thornbury, and united with the Preston church in 1918. In the years that followed, she was most diligent in the Lord's work, being for many years a deaconess, and also most active in the Women's Fellowship, being president on two occasions. In the last few years, failing health compelled her to cease from active service, but her interest was always keen and deep. Last year, she, with Mr. Lang, went to live with her daughter Vance, at Greensborough, where on July 2 she was called to the Home above. A largely attended service at the chapel, and the graveside, was a tribute to the esteem of the church. Our sincerest sympathy is extended to F. J. Lang, and daughter Vance (Mrs. Syke) and son, Fred, whom we commend to the comfort of our Lord.—J.E.S.

Mrs. E. R. Greenwood
(nee Woodbridge).

Another link with the old North Melbourne church, Vic., has been severed, through the Home call of our sister on July 20. Our late sister was in her ninetieth year, and had joined the church at North Melbourne about 74 years ago. She had always taken a keen interest in the work of the church, and was, until 60 years of age, a B.S. teacher. She

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also loved choir work, and was a member of the Chapman-Alexander choir at the beginning of the century. Later, she also took part in the C. R. Scoville choir. After leaving North Melbourne, she came into the membership of the church at Ascot Vale. During the last few years she has suffered poor health, but, until then, she was in constant attendance at the Lord's Table. Sympathy is expressed to the son, Bart, a member at Hartwell, and to the daughter, Mrs. Thompson, of Ascot Vale, who nursed her mother till the last, and to other relatives. Mr. Perkins (College) shared with the writer in the services at the parlors and at Fawkner, where the tired body was laid to rest. We are glad that "underneath are the everlasting arms."—H.J.P.

Open Forum

HEALING

The question of healing seems little understood, and more prominence should be given to this vital work. I believe it is one of the major missions of the Church and the one that will stamp the Church as of true origin.

Healing is not the work of any individual, in any spectacular manner, but of God, through obedience to his laws. I have seen the incurable healed of a malignancy by food alone. I have seen septic tonsils cleansed and saved, and suspected malignancies removed by simple natural methods.

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The Church should show the world the way of life and healing, and be an example of healthful living.—C. K. Milne, Hawthorn, Vic.

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