



THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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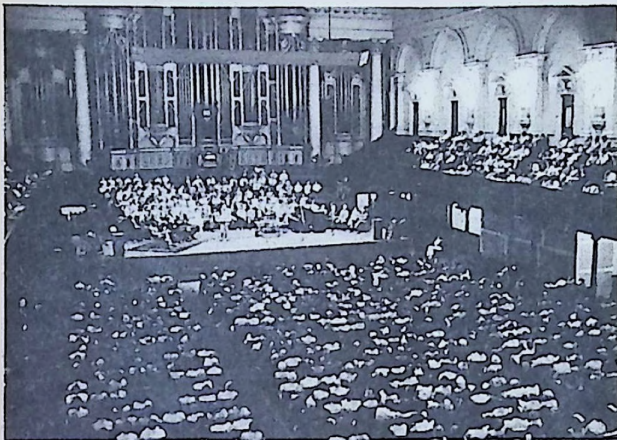
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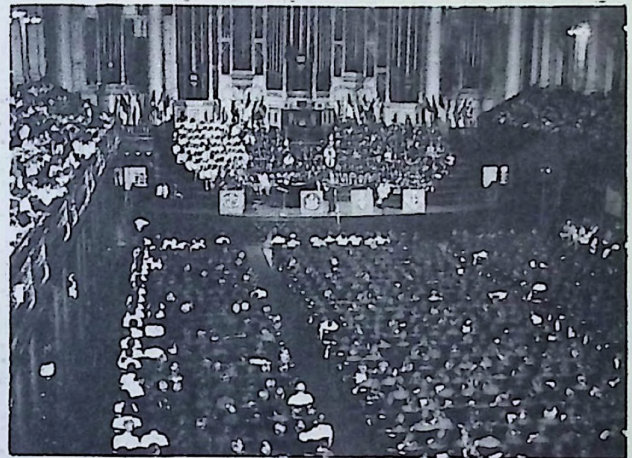


BILLY GRAHAM 1979 CRUSADE

A rally was held in the Sydney Town Hall recently to launch the Crusade to be conducted by Billy Graham in Sydney in April or May 1979.

Dr Leighton Ford of the Billy Graham crusade was present and the meeting was presided over by the Most Rev. A. J. Dain.

The photo by World-Wide Audio Visuals and Photos shows Dr Ford addressing the rally.



5000 in COMBINED YOUTH PARADE

(N.S.W.) The Sydney Town Hall and St Andrew's Cathedral were packed to the doors with members of The Girls' Brigade, The Boys' Brigade, The Girls' Friendly Society and The Church of England Boys' Society on Sunday, Oct. 30.

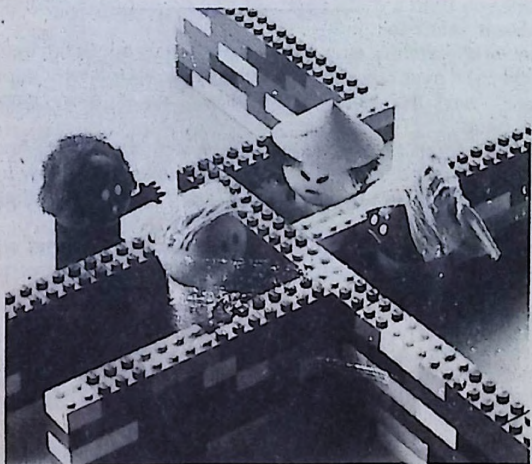
Over 5000 members of the four organisations stopped the traffic in Sydney Streets for up to 15 minutes as they marched in a demonstration of the growing unity and strength of Christian Youth Organisations.

John Morrison, from the Boys' Brigade, was in charge of the march.

Separate services were held for the junior and senior members. Clifford Warne was the guest speaker at the junior service in the Sydney Town Hall.

The senior members participated in a lively service in St Andrew's Cathedral, which is right next door to the Town Hall.

The idea for the combined parade grew out of the low key talks between the organisations, to investigate ways of co-operation.



BREAK DOWN THE WALLS SEE PAGE 13

PLAN & SAVE

to

REJOICE IN THE LORD

with

**CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA
JANUARY 1979**

OPENING BOMBAY CHRISTIAN CENTRE

R. McLean

We eagerly await reports on the opening of the Bombay Christian Centre scheduled to take place on Sunday, November 27. For the past seventeen years the Indian and Australian Churches of Christ have been working and praying for the construction of this Centre.

Throughout the years there have been many frustrations and problems to be overcome, but we praise God that the Centre is now a reality. Costs are well above those estimated two years ago and thus far \$61,342 has been remitted to Bombay for the construction of the building.

The Overseas Mission Board and the Conference of Churches of Christ in Western India are most grateful to all who have so generously given to make this possible. It is not known whether funds remitted will be sufficient to cover all expenses, and we await further advice from Mr Sam Mantode, our Indian Treasurer.

Twenty-one visitors from Australia attended the opening of the Centre. They were, from S.A.: Mr and Mrs C. L. Fitzgerald, Mr and Mrs D. Lewis, B. Coventry, L. Matthews, Misses J. Brock, J. Aird, A. Harkness, Mesdames M. Wharton, G. E. Reynolds. From Victoria: Misses T. Littlejohn, J. Reid, Mrs F. Jenkins, R. Muller. From Queensland: Miss J. Williams, Mrs B. D. Smallwood, Mr and Mrs V. G. Boettcher. From W.A. Mrs and Mrs K. J. Patterson.

Following the opening of the Centre the visitors will visit Dhond, Baramati, Shrigonda and other places where the Conference of Churches of Christ in Western India is working. At Baramati on Dec. 3 and 4 they will attend special gatherings to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the Conference. Prior to the Jubilee Celebrations, our Churches in India will share in a thanksgiving chain of prayer for fifty hours.

ABC HYMNS

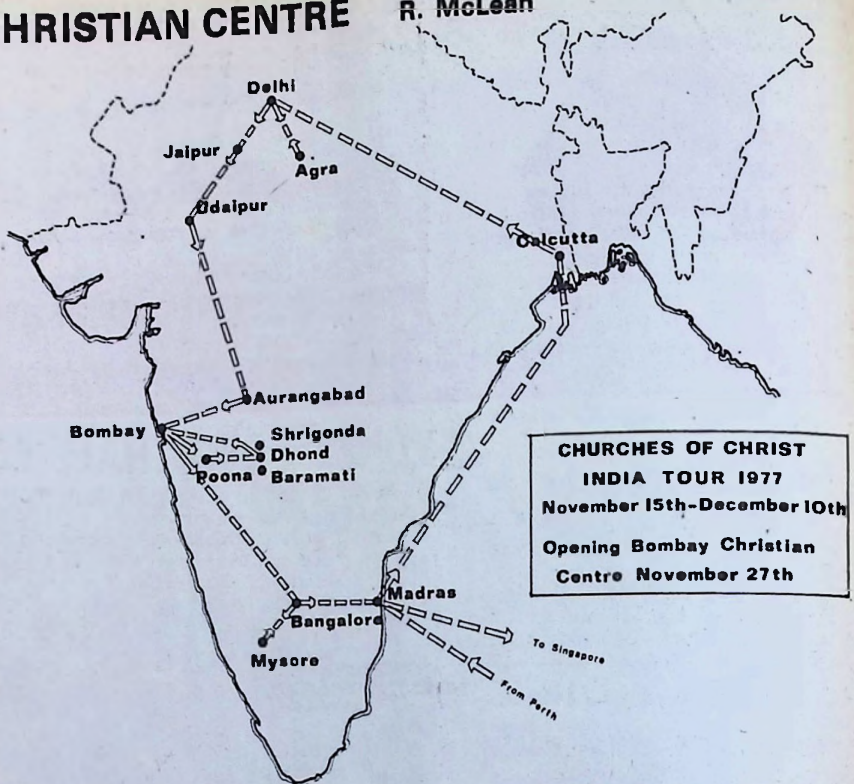
The Community Hymn Singing programme for Dec. 4. 6.30 p.m. will come from Hobart Church of Christ.

MISSION INTEREST IN INDONESIA

(N.S.W.) Following last N.S.W. State Conference, a sub-committee was set up by the State Overseas Mission Committee and Woolwich Bible College to evaluate the possibilities of working in Indonesia.

Missionaries working in Indonesia gave a positive response to the sub-committee's suggestion to establish a ministry for training indigenous Christian leaders.

It is proposed that a party of three visit Indonesia in Jan., 1978 to survey the possibility of setting up training facilities. The party will comprise a representative of the Federal Overseas Mission Board; D. Eagling (Qld. O/Seas Mission Board); R. Ellis (N.S.W. O/Seas Mission Board).



INNER SPRINGS

IS ANYBODY WATCHING?



Hurrying through the supermarket, I inadvertently knocked down a notice in passing. I retraced my steps picked it up and replaced it. As I turned away, a young man busy about his tasks looked up. "Thank you", he smiled, "not many people bother to come back and pick them up."

What I had done was nothing especially to my credit. None of us has the right to leave any place the worse for our having been there. No, the incident held something of greater importance than a mere courtesy. We do not pass through this world as unnoticed as we seem to think!

Without one being aware of it watchful eyes may be observing our behaviour. And if our family and friends pass over our shoddy ways, there is One who does not! "The eyes of the Lord", said the writer of Proverbs, "are in every place beholding the evil and the good."

We believe we can commit small cuts of carelessness without effect. And wonder why we lose our peace of mind. For if they do nothing else they show us a glimpse of ourselves. And I don't know anyone more difficult to love with than an unlovely self!

Alongside that fact is the sobering thought that regardless of who or what we are, we are an example and an influence on some other life with the power to degrade or lift it up.

Therefore, take care!
You do not walk alone;
The shadow of your influence is thrown
Far wider than you think!

You safely dare
The quicksand to draw near —
One following you without a thought of
fear
May stumble there and sink!

Prayer: Dear God, enable us to hold fast to that which we know to be right, whether it be in thought, word or deed, in public place or in private. Grant us such loving concern that we shall do nothing that would cause another to fall and be lost to Thee. Amen.

Romans 14:13-23

Florence Rosier

BANKSIA BUSHFIRE

Six fire brigades and 75 men battled for more than twelve hours to contain a bushfire which swept through the Banksia Peninsula in East Gippsland on Wednesday November 9.

The fire was reported about 1 p.m. by a group of primary school students who were evacuated from their camp nearby.

The fire followed burning off operations by the Brigades the previous evening.

Fanned by strong, hot northerly winds, the fire got into the foliage of the banksia trees, with burning material carried by the wind, causing spot fires.

From the roadside, the fire swept through the bush corner of the Methodist Camp Icthus, into the nature reserve, across The Churches of Christ Camp Banksia and on to the Anglican site.

The worst damaged was the Churches of Christ site, where all the bush apart from a small section on the foreshore, was left blackened and smoking.

Heat buckled the side of an aluminium caravan owned by Mr and Mrs Bruce Towns of our Ormond Church, and burnt

down the van's annexe, cracking a window.

Hot ash blown by the wind burnt small holes in the annexe of the caravan-home of caretakers Mr and Mrs Russ Pearce.

Three accommodation tents were burnt out, together with a foreshore picnic table.

Only the slashing back of the bracken prevented the destruction of buildings.

The fire burnt right up to the fuel-shed containing drums of petrol, and to the boat-shed holding about a dozen craft.

The logs used as seating in the outdoor chapel were burnt, but untouched were the communion table, pulpit, lectern and tower with its white cross which now contrasts with the blackened bush.

Most of the gum trees within the slashed area escaped damage.

Caretaker Russ Pearce said he expected all the burnt trees to recover without difficulty, and that within twelve months for there to be little to show of the fire.

Christmas camps will go ahead as planned. — **Malcolm Gray**

● Elections

FESTIVAL OF LIGHT CO-ORDINATOR HEADS SENATE TEAM

A Call to Australia Committee has nominated a Senate Team for N.S.W. in the Senate election on Dec. 10, 1977.

The Team comprises: Rev. Fred Nile (National Co-ordinator, Aust. Festival of Light); President, Family Action Movement), Reuben Scarf, K.S.G., O.B.E. (Prominent Lebanese Catholic businessman), Mrs Patricia Judge (Univ. graduate, school-teacher, national Secretary, Right to Life Assoc.).

The issues presented by the team include: improved TV quality; increased and indexed family allowances; drug trafficking, road deaths, child pornography; improved education, support for family life, employment, and the promotion of a pro-life society.

The Campaign Committee personnel includes members of the Family Action Movement, Right to Life Assoc., Festival of Light, Call to the Nation, Catholic, Anglican, and Protestant churches, community and ethnic groups.

DIRECTORS CONFER

Directors of State Home Missions Departments met in Sydney, Oct. 17-19. Participants were K. J. Patterson (W.A.), E. W. Heard (S.A.), B. Roberts (Qld.), O. Wainwright (N.S.W.), and D. H. Smith of the Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Mission, Education and Development, together with K. E. Crawford, newly appointed Conference Secretary, N.S.W. Each conference establishes again the value of contact between the various states. Matters discussed included issues relating to new church development, publications, team ministries and various state strategies.

Church Growth Impact

Considerable time was spent reviewing the impact of Church Growth thinking around Australia. Each state reported encouraging signs and continuing interest. Three states are able to report a definite upturn in membership. It was resolved to continue the publication of Church Growth — Australia, with three issues in 1978. The February issue will focus on the role of Class 2 Leaders. The need for a stress on the practical application of principles was noted. Churches which have only made tentative moves in Church Growth thinking are directed again to see Church Growth as a part of God's unswerving purpose for His Church.

Ministry & Purpose

The continuing increase in students training for the ministry was welcomed and note taken of the record intakes for 1978. Future needs for ministers continue at a high level

with openings in new church development and the many specialist ministry opportunities. Each state expressed concern for immediate needs. At various points in the conference representatives commented on the need for a rediscovery of meaning and purpose in the life of the Brotherhood. This is a process which is of vital importance to our ongoing life as a Brotherhood. The conference concluded in an atmosphere of optimism and expectation about the future of our work.

KOREAN MAGAZINE CLOSES

The Korean magazine "Monthly Dialogue", published by the Korea Christian Academy, has been forced to cease publication because of financial reasons brought on by government action.

The magazine claimed to be the only one in Korea to reach wage earners, youth, farmers and Christians with the express purpose of enlightening them. It had a circulation of around 10,000.

The October edition of the magazine was ordered by the government to be reclaimed from booksellers on the ground that some articles violated an Emergency Decree. This order was a "fatal blow to the already staggering financial condition of the magazine," said Dr Won Yong Kang, the director of the Academy. He went on: "Our financial troubles began in Jan. 1977, when a boycott by the advertisers deprived us of any revenue from that source. There has been no explanation of the reason for the boycott nor has there been any admission of any role of the government in the withdrawal of the advertisements. Since April the copies have carried white paper where the advertising might have appeared." — E.P.S.

CHRISTIAN BUILDING TRUST

The Conference Executive acknowledges with gratitude a gift of \$7500 from the Christian Building Trust. This amount has been given for the following projects:-

\$4000 to the Department of Mission, Education and Development to assist with the development of the Churches at Gisborne and Melton and the provision of Ministry.

\$1000 to the Department of Mission, Education and Development to the Christian Education program.

\$2000 to the College of the Bible to assist with the upgrading of the Library to the standard required now by the Melbourne College of Divinity for the teaching of the Bachelor of Theology Degree.

\$500 to be added to the Capital of the Ministers Car Fund which assists with the provision of interest free loans for Ministers' cars.

The Christian Building Trust has since its inception contributed \$8420 to various Brotherhood projects and this grant brings the total to \$15,920.

The income of the Trust comes substantially from Commissions on Insurance and members of Churches are encouraged to consider using the facilities of the Trust in relation to general insurances.

The Christian Building Trustees are:

A. J. V. Thomas, Lygon St.; K. A. Mitchell, Box Hill; S. M. Gilmour, Gardiner; D. H. Youens, Blackburn; G. K. Scambler, Blackburn; J. D. Watt, Blackburn; J. E. Elsey, East Kew; and J. W. Winkler, Box Hill.

TAL-LUBE AT TELOPEA or "GUESS WHO'S FOREMAN MATERIAL?"

(N.S.W.) As part of a developing ministry a number of the young men of the Telopea Church of Christ have begun a Car Maintenance Pool called "Tal-Lube & Assoc." Tal-Lube came into fruition out of discussion about putting faith into action and utilising talents at the Youth Prayer Cell group.

Every Saturday morning Tal-Lube & Associates do a variety of mechanical repairs, lubrications and servicing jobs on the cars of church members and growing number of contacts. Clients are charged at the rate of two-thirds the retail rate, with the knowledge that the work done is by a competent and concerned mechanic. (Labour is donated by the associates.)

Tal-Lube & Associates have raised over \$500 in under 3 months which is being distributed to brotherhood and missionary projects outside the Telopea Church. The project, as well as raising much needed funds, provides a utilisation (as a hobby) for the practical skills for some of our young people, plus creating a great feeling of fellowship as Christian young people do something worthwhile for others.



Pictured in the Tal-Lube Team (L-R) Paul Talintyre (Foreman Material), David Woodward (Service Manager) Donald Bushby (Chief Tester), David Ratten (Administration Manager — also picks up parts), David Holzapfel (Accountant).

HALF YEARLY CONVENTION — LAUNCESTON

To recognize 25 years of association in Conference involving the Churches in Victoria and Tasmania, the Conference Executive accepted the invitation of the Launceston Church to hold the Half Yearly Convention in Launceston on Oct. 8-9.

The delegation from Victoria was augmented by the arrival in Launceston on the Saturday morning of 46 tourists who had enjoyed a nine day tour of Tasmania under the leadership of Ran Tippett who organized the tour on behalf of the Christian Mens' Fellowship.

The Saturday afternoon program consisted of two Bible Studies led by Ron Elbourne and four elective groups led by the Conference President, Dr. Trevor Banks, Bob and Dorothy Aldred from Albury, Graham and Pat Hilbig from Cheltenham, Don Smith and Barry Kenkins from the Department of Mission, Education and Development.

The Launceston Church provided a refreshing and well presented musical on the Saturday evening.

Ron Elbourne commenced the Sunday Program with a Bible Study in the Launceston Church. The well attended Communion Service followed in the Assembly Hall of the Matriculation College. Ron Elbourne preached on the subject "God is a Verb".

The hospitality and contribution which were made by the members of the Launceston congregation ensured the success of a worthwhile Convention.

CENTENARY AT MONTROSE (VIC.)

The church at Montrose (known in the 1903 Jubilee History as Morroolbark) began in the home of a Mr Parr in 1877. The meeting was organised by Mr Hamill.

Meetings were moved to the State School and later still to a barn on Geo. Houghton's farm. Mr Houghton's dam was used for baptisms. When a cause was

established at Croydon, four miles away, the work at Mooroolbark became almost dormant, but in 1894 the church was reorganised in the school house.

The church opened its own chapel in 1909 and the organ purchased in 1910 is still in use today.

The Centenary services were held on Oct. 22, 23. About 120 attended the Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday even-

ing. On the Sunday there were 140 at the morning service and 190 in the afternoon.

Former ministers, R. N. Gilmore and A. E. White, were guest speakers. Reg. Bolduan and Rod Tippett were interviewed. The present and future ministers, A. Horne and L. van Laar, were also interviewed. W. E. Fisher, who served in 1944-45 presided at all meetings. C. L. Ward gave a greeting on behalf of the brotherhood.

Other ministers who served at Montrose and came back for the occasion were W. T. Atkin, Adrian Dean, C. W. Hart, Ted Heard, Dr Ray Killmier, Jack McCormick, John Paver and Murray Williams. Those who sent greetings included David Buller, Graham Chapman, Ken Duffy, Howard Earle, Keith Fechner, Geo Mathieson, Cyril Muller, Ivan Nixon, Brian Richards, W. W. Saunders, and Haribah Waghmode.

A thank offering reached \$1545 during the weekend.



MONTROSE CHAPEL



MONTROSE MANSE

NEW MANSE AT SOUTH MELBOURNE

(Vic.) On Oct. 15, the South Melbourne chapel was filled with friends of the church to give thanks to God for a new manse built on the site of the old house, next door to the chapel in Dorcas Street.

The new residence, built at a cost of \$39,000, is a fine brick home. Downstairs is a large lounge-dining area, study, kitchen, etc. Upstairs are three bedrooms and bathroom. The house was built by the present minister, Robert Ferguson, using sub-contractors for the major construction items. The previous two bedroomed house had been condemned by the Housing Commission.

Clive Ward, State Conference Secretary, has been closely associated with the project and has given a great deal of help and advice in obtaining the necessary finance. Mr Ward spoke at the opening of the manse as a great example

of co-operation within the conference. The Properties Corporation negotiated the loan with the State Housing Commission and Ormond church, the Campbell Edwards Trust, and Christian Projects (associated with the Christian Building Trust). All are contributing with the repayments. Many volunteers from COCIAC churches and C.M.F. groups have helped with labouring. The Dept. of Mission, Education and Development assists by subsidising the ministry at South Melbourne.

The programme also included an interview with Robert Ferguson and items by Sharon Welgus. Wayne Clinton was guest organist.

Bernie Duff, minister at North Fitzroy, gave an address and Keith Horne, Conference president-elect, concluded the service with a prayer of dedication.



C. L. Ward, Robert Ferguson and Barry Jenkins

The gifts of the Spirit

WORD TALK
NO. 167

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

IN THE STUDY

It is impossible to complete a study of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit without considering the fruit of the Holy Spirit. The nine fruit are the character evidences of God's presence in the life of the Christian as outlined in Galatians 5:22-23. The nine fruit form three groups each of three Christian graces. The mature Christian, balanced and Christ-like, will grow in these qualities and characteristics.

1. In our relationship with God we will demonstrate love, joy, and peace. It is the Holy Spirit who gives us God's love, joy and peace. These qualities show to all the presence of God within the Christian. Love is our motive in all we do; joy is the sign of the in-dwelling presence of God, and peace is the rest within the heart that is in line with God's will.

2. In our relationship with other people we demonstrate patience, kindness and goodness. Patience is the capacity to put up with other people's rudeness and harshness with understanding and consideration. Kindness is the virtue of possessing a positive goodwill towards the welfare of others. Goodness is that characteristic which puts the kind wish into action and constructively helps others. These qualities are ascending steps in our relationship toward other people.

3. In our relationship with ourselves, we will demonstrate faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. The emphasis is upon our trustworthiness. People find in us that we are faithful in all our dealings. Gentleness is the mark of strong and confident character. Those who are strong can afford to be gentle. They have no need for aggressiveness. Self-control is personal mastery over our passions, thoughts, emotions, speech, and behaviour.

These fruit of the Holy Spirit show to the world by the quality of our character that we are mature in Christ. They effect our spiritual relationships with God, with other people and ourselves.

FROM THE PULPIT

Through the Holy Spirit God gives gifts to every Christian. These gifts differ and some are gifted greater than others. But all Christians should produce evidence of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. The fruit of the Holy Spirit is the mark of our maturity.

The Church at Corinth had all the gifts of the Holy Spirit, but

they were divided, fighting among each other, sensual, and neglected the true graces of Christian living. They failed to grow in grace as mature Christians. They had special gifts, but they needed spiritual character. When Christ dwells within then our character should show evidence of his presence.

John speaks of the qualities of Christian character (1 Jn 3:9). Peter encourages Christians to grow like Christ (2 Peter 1:5-7). Paul urged the early Christians to change their nature by God's power and to grow in Christian grace (Col. 3:9-12).

The early Christians who were known most for their work in the advancement of the Kingdom of God were people who possessed both the gifts of the Holy spirit and the fruit of the Holy Spirit. Their Christian character guided them to maturity and effective service. Note both the gifts and the graces mentioned in Barnabus, Stephen and Philip. Christian character must govern our spiritual gifts. Whenever some Christians claim special gifts of the Holy Spirit and yet are spiritually snobs and devious, there is an indication that they lack the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus indicated that it was by our fruit that we would be known. Nothing can be more important in the individual Christian than he show forth the qualities of character associated with Christ.

AMONG THE PEOPLE

As I look back over 20 years of ministry the people I remember with the greatest affection were those that showed the fruits of the Holy Spirit. I have met many talented and gifted people but those who possessed the fruit of the Holy Spirit in their life are those who have always meant much to us. As a teenager the encouragement and care of Eric and Elsie Hammond helped our young lives develop. As a student minister the patience and hospitality of David and Ethel Moncur guided our early ministry. In the rural church Loy and Nellie Fleming showed those graces which transcended denominational barriers and party strife. In Brotherhood Departments Miss Marjorie Deane (now Job) showed forth calmness and devotion that epitomised Christlike character.

In our lives we all know forceful people, successful people, talented people, but as years go by we remember most the graceful people.

GORDON MOYES



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

"Mary will have a Son and He will be called Immanuel — God is with us".
God came in Christ.

Sit down and relax, and think on each one of these words. What would the world be like if God hadn't come in Jesus? All the good that people can do. All the care of sick, aged, children, lonely, depressed people, wouldn't exist if God hadn't come. He started all the love and care. Try to imagine a world without him! Try to imagine your life without Him! Makes you shudder doesn't it? Now, where you are sitting say ALOUD "Thank you God, I couldn't live without You". This is what Christmas is all about.

A.C.T.

Women's Day of the A.C.T. Conference was held the day previous to General Conference. New officers were elected, the President being Mrs Hobart. A consulting psychiatrist spoke on 'loving yourself as much as your neighbour.'

Cost of replacement of Ainslie church carpets has been mainly raised by their C.W.F. with a mini fete and by catering for a Force Ten dinner.

M. Goldberg, A.C.T.

Tasmania Annual Women's Camp

Fifty-two women who attended the camp in southern Tasmania enjoyed a unique experience. Unique because it was the first time we have had a MAN living in full time. Dr and Mrs Banks from Victoria were joint leaders. Dr Banks presented the studies on the Theme, "Life-be-in-it with Christ". Helen Banks led the Devotional segments, and the Sunday morning Communion.

The women surprised themselves during the workshop sessions by producing 3 Hymns and a Play Reading, and some colourful Posters, all demonstrating their faith, and determination to make Christ relevant to life today.

N. Neville, Tas.

LAUNCESTON, TAS.

The 19th Annual meeting of the "Red Cross Meals on Wheels" Committee was held. Launceston C.W.F. have, every month provided 5 cars and 5 helpers for this service. They commenced from the first "Meals on Wheels" run, and most of the original helpers are still on the job.

They are happy to continue in this much appreciated community work.

At the Afternoon C.W.F. Annual meeting at Launceston on Oct. 12th., Mrs Wilmot relinquished the Treasurership, which office she had graced for almost 40 years. (The new Treasurer undertook not to try to beat that record!) President and Secretary both spoke of the years of loyal service of Mrs Wilmot, who recently celebrated her 80th birthday.

P. Harrison, Launceston, Tas.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT
CONVENTION DAY

Wednesday September 28 Newcastle District C.W.F. held its annual Convention day. After a welcoming morning tea, the first session began. Four speakers told how they apply Christian living to their particular sphere of activity; one as a nursing sister, one a matron of a Retirement home, one a matron of a boys' home, and one a busy housewife. After a lovely lunch, the four speakers formed a panel to answer questions from the audience about their work. Mrs Baker, one of the speakers, spoke on her Theme for next year, when she will be President of N.S.W. C.W.F., "Rejoice always."

N. Brown, N.S.W.

This is our last Page for 1977. I wish you a Christmas blessing, and all the joy of the Christ Child.
Ed.

With industrial unrest and strikes the August theme of "Love in Our Attitudes" was really put to the test.

September Council theme of "Love Breaks Down Barriers" was sustained by Speaker, Dr Banks and in the sharing of the W.C.W.F. Service prepared by N.Z. Women and presented by Geelong C.W.F. members.

October presented the challenge of "Love in the Community", ably communicated by Malvern City Councillor, Mrs Ann Morrow.

Country Council meeting for November was held at Berwick when 200 women stopped to consider "Love in Our Life Style", — provokingly portrayed by Barry McMurtrie, minister at Berwick. The Worship segment, conducted by J. St. Aubyn and movingly presented by the Balwyn women, also carried the theme.

Book Reviews have been included at recent meetings and two most topical subjects have been discussed — "Fully Human, Fully Alive" (J. Power) and "Power Ideas for Happy Families" (R. Schuller).

December Council will consider the theme "Love Came Down at Christmas."

M. Dismire, Vic.

NURSES' CENTRE A REALITY

The "impossible dream" of the Nurses' Christian Fellowship in W.A. has become a reality.

Several months ago an article, "Nurses at Risk" appeared in this paper. An outline of the dream in relation to the aims, activities and needs of the Fellowship was expressed. The wider Christian community was challenged to consider involvement through low or free of interest loans.

Appropriate response to this challenge reinforced initial hesitant moves; this dream was of God and not just something of our own; the green light was being given to move ahead and this we have done with one thing happening, then another and another, all dovetailing together towards the fruition of the dream.

WHAT NOW?

Definitely — the nature of our work has changed; the two hour office situation changing into an 8-10 hour centre situation with visitors coming and going as well as people in residence; most activities of the Fellowship are now centralised here at 65 Simper Street, Wembley; the new surrounds provide an ideal setting for staff, residents and visitors; new contacts, new opportunities and new challenges are presented.

The potential for the centre is far reaching because the needs of nurses are far reaching. The nurse is a person at risk; at risk emotionally because of stresses placed upon her/him in the work situation; at risk spiritually because of the difficulty in seeing God amidst the constant barrage of sickness, suffering and death.

The relationship between physical, emotional and spiritual health is no less a fact for the nurse than it is for the patient/client, thus the activities of NCF are directed towards developing the nurse as a whole person thus enabling her/him to provide more effective care.

Arrangements can be made for a representative to visit your church or group to share the excitement and opportunities of the fellowship. Contact the Field Worker on 387 4008 (Perth).

Helen Maiden, W.A.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Special feature 'Many Corners' was run on similar lines to 'Four Corners'. Jean Vincent was the Chairman. The panel of 12 consisted of Superintendent and Representatives from each of the six budget committees.

The gathering was divided into six groups for a 10 minute buzz session, when each group formulated a few questions relating to the various aspects of the Women's work. These were then directed to the panel.

We were fortunate in having a number of Eastern States visitors, on a bus tour to the West, in our gathering who were very interested in our work. Several questions were asked which drew comparisons with their own State work. Mrs Isaac concluded the evening by showing slides of the various C.W.F. groups she had visited during her term of office.

B. McIlwraith, W.A.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN



ONE of the chief criticisms I receive as a Christian journalist, which I'm still thinking and praying through, is this one: Politics is a very dirty business; it has no place in a church publication; the Church should not become involved with political problems.

Here's where I'm at at present and I would be grateful for any response from readers (if there are any left):

When Jesus said "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to the whole creation ..." I believe he meant just that ... All the world ... The whole creation. Not all the world except the prisons, not all the world except the inner suburbs and not all the world except politics!

And I also believe he meant preach the whole gospel. From Luke chapter 4 this clearly embraces Good News to the poor, liberty to the captives, recovery of sight to the blind, freedom for the oppressed and salvation to the Lord's people. Note that salvation is not left out. But note also that there is more to the gospel than simply salvation alone!

Thus it seems for Christians to refuse political encounter in favour of saving souls or on the grounds that it's a 'dirty business' is to drastically shortchange the complete gospel message. If the political arena is one where men are struggling or oppressed and where the powers of goodness are opposing the powers of evil then Christians, of all people, must be present.

Maybe the processes of government are dirty and 'unChristian.' Yet from Romans 13 they were clearly never meant to be that way. Could it be that our silence and inaction are partly to blame?

Does anyone else out there agree?

I don't deny that I have been strongly critical of the Federal government. But I

can't agree that I'm therefore playing party politics.

Discipleship to Jesus seems to me to demand that we speak out against the evils on both sides of the political fence: those of humanistic socialism on the left and those of humanistic individualism on the right. And this is what I will be endeavouring to do.

Probably why this hasn't been evident in this column so far is that it is a right wing government which is, like Everest was to Sir Edmund, there. It's harder to be critical of the A.L.P. when it's not them, at this time, featherbedding their friends and breaking promises. But the fact that we cannot criticise Mr Whitlam at the moment surely doesn't mean we must not be critical of Mr Fraser. (Where criticism is due of course.) After all, we quite happily condemn the excesses of elected union officials without feeling the need to criticise also their opponents within the trade union movement.

The accusation of party politicking will be valid, however, it at some future time a Labor prime minister breaks a promise and I remain silent. But I won't. And that's a promise.■

THE HOLLOWNESS and cynicism of the extreme left of the student movement has been revealed recently in the affairs of the Monash University Students Association. The chairman, Peter Costello, (whose recent bashing at the hands of extremists received national coverage), has twice this year been sent to the polls — and twice received overwhelming support. Yet those who forced these elections were among the loudest to cry foul and shame when Mr Whitlam suffered the same fate!

Peter Costello is a committed Christian, active in both the Monash

Evangelical Union and his local Baptist church.■

ALREADY some aspects of the electoral campaign have been most disappointing. First there was the threatening letter sent to a TV station by the ALP secretary, Mr David Combe, over the program featuring Mr Fraser at his home. If Combe had a valid point he went the wrong way about making it.

The second is the crude language we hear far too often from Mr Hawke. Some people may be impressed. But it's offensive to many.

Finally, for all his moralizing about the bitterness and divisiveness of exchanges between the big parties Mr Don Chipp's criticisms of them seem to be no less in-temperate.■

THE pilot of an Irish Airways flight into Mascot Airport exclaimed in horror "We're not going to make it. Paddy, the runway's too short!" "Quick Shaun," the co-pilot replied, "Full flaps immediately and throw out the spoilers!"

With a screech of tyres they touched down right on the threshold. "Brakes on full, Paddy, and full reverse thrust!" Inches from the edge they ground to a halt. "Gosh Shaun, that must be the shortest runway in the world!" "It must be indeed Paddy, but look how wide it is."■

RESPONSE from readers to the things I'm discussing in this column would be appreciated very much. One major aim here, and in a lot of my reading and writing, is to discover how the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ should change our lives and how as His changed people we should, in obedience to Christ, be influencing His world.

Is this a proper aim? Am I going about it the right way? What does God demand of us as Christians in the community?■

JASON'S HOUSE

THANKS FOR THE SERMON MARTIN. BUT TELL ME, YOUR TEXT...

"I AM ONE WAY, THE EXISTENTIALLY KNOWABLE AND THE ALTERNATIVE CONSCIOUSNESS..."

WHATEVER TURNS YOU ON IS COOL." WHICH TRANSLATION WAS THAT AGAIN?



OPEN FORUM

Letters do not necessarily reflect the views of the management or editorial panel. Correspondents are requested to say only what is true, kind, necessary and Christian, and to say it in no more than 150 words.

A SAMARITAN IN BAD COMPANY?

To the Editor,

In the thick of the Uniting Church v. The Government controversy we could hardly believe our eyes when we read the above headline in The Toowoomba Chronicle coupled with Worldwide Church Moves to the Left — an article in bold headlines featured on the leader page written by John Baker White.

The article raises the issue as to whether the World Council of Churches is interfering too much in politics. Research quotes Bernard Smith (Christian Affirmation Campaign), viz., "The ecumenical goal is no longer limited to unifying the churches. It is the more grandiose one of unifying all mankind . . . where all faiths, ideologies, and cultures are equal and the uniqueness of Christ's revelation vanishes."

White himself gives staggering figures of hand-outs to left-wing movements and highly questionable organisations, e.g., the South African Congress of Trade Unions £14,705, whilst £50,000 is given to the Zimbabwe Liberation Struggle Movement, £4,412 Hong Kong Research Project (linked with left-wing Bertrand Russell Peace Movement), etc.

Canon Bernard Pawley, Archdeacon of Canterbury, said in a sermon, "at World Council of Churches level there are some who seem to empty the Gospel of most of its normal content and have reduced it to a political program."

Arnold C. Coldicott, Qld.

Miss Jean Skuse, General Secretary of the A.C.C., and Vice-Moderator of the W.C.C., was invited to comment. She replied as follows:

It is a pity that the "research" reported to be carried out quotes so many details out of context of the total programme of the W.C.C. There is no basis, of course, for the claim that the ecumenical goal is one in which "the uniqueness of Christ's revelation vanishes." There are now 280 member churches in the W.C.C. representing the major Orthodox, Anglican and Protestant denominations in every country, each subscribing to the constitutional basis of confessing "the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures and seeking to fulfil together their common calling to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit." The functions state clearly "to call the churches to the goal of one eucharistic fellowship expressed in worship and in common life in Christ, and to advance towards that unity in order that the world may believe."

The total budget of the W.C.C. is \$US14,402,700, of which, for example, \$2,649,700 is spent on Mission and Evangelism and \$950,000 on Faith and Order, \$2,000,000 on Theological Education. The amounts quoted in the above letter need to be seen in the context of the total priorities of the W.C.C. The figures quoted by Dr Coldicott represent grants given by churches for that purpose in the special Programme to Combat Racism. Even here the figures are not correct. \$US5000 was given to the South African Congress of Trade Unions for relief purposes. Twenty per cent of all economically active Africans are jobless, yet have to exist without social security or unemployment benefits. This amount is to help victimised workers and their families. \$85,000 has been set aside for victims of the Zimbabwe Liberation struggle. The

release of this sum is to be determined by the W.C.C. Officers (of whom I am one) if it is needed for humanitarian purposes when the leadership position is clearer. None of this money has been released to date.

The money given to the Hong Kong Research Project is for studies on child labour, housing, drugs and prostitution. (Copies of the W.C.C. minutes and supporting documents can be sighted in the A.C.C. office, 199 Clarence Street, Sydney).

I do not know who John White is, but this is another example of those who try to discredit the W.C.C. without documenting their evidence. It is an attack not only on the W.C.C., but on all the churches it represents, indeed on the whole of Christendom.

Jean Skuse

STORM AT RED CLIFFS

To the Editor.

As a member of the Church affected by the Mail Storm of Oct. 4 (but not one who lost his livelihood See "A.C.C." Oct. 29) I make the following comments, now that the initial impact has passed.

As always with nature the affected plants (vines, trees etc), have shown quite remarkable recovery of vegetative growth, but there has been no new bunches, or fruit of any kind to replace that lost. The loss is still complete so far as the crop of 1978 is concerned.

As grape growing is fairly labour intensive, the secondary effects of a loss of a complete crop are felt

far beyond the farmers and Red Cliffs are concerned. There will be no annual invasion of harvest labourers and their absence will have an effect on the local traders and the processing factories will not be making seasonal employment available to the local work force. The municipality has granted rate remissions and this loss of rate revenue may cause a lowering of staff levels.

There is evidence that some children will not go on as far as formerly intended with their education. With the suspension of the Education Dept. Studentship allowances for 1st year teacher trainees some, whose parents would have assisted with that 1st year, will now not be able to go on in that field.

The effect on the life of the church must be one of lesser participation by those affected as the wives become breadwinners so that the husbands can continue to maintain the properties until the crop in 1979. The reduction in employment opportunities may mean that even more of the younger members have to leave the district. The church is debt free but has been unable to secure full time ministry for 1978 so the lower level of offerings will only have the effect of putting the appointment of a minister off until maybe the 1980's during which time of course the life of the church will suffer.

Geoff Cameron, Vic.

MUSTARD SEEDS

Since the age of twelve I have always looked forward to reading news of the Brotherhood in the "Christian".

Many other articles have been helpful and informative. In the last issue, for example, the reports on the Leighton Ford Reachout and the plight of the Cop

• Continued on Page 14

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

ELECTIONS

To the Editor.

The elections are causing quite a ripple in our church. A few say the church should speak out on issues during the elections, while we have the chance. Others say that we shouldn't. You can't mix politics and religion! The majority are too confused to know what the church should do. I was one of those until I started to do a little thinking about what the church is.

The church isn't the heavies and the pressure groups; it is the people who claim to be Christians. So the church is speaking out on politics. When Mr Bjelke-Petersen and Mr Evan Aderman and Mr Kim Beazley and Mr Don Chipp speak, the church is speaking about politics whether we like it or not. And Keith from our church handing out Liberal how-to-vote cards and Ken with anti-uranium stickers on his car are the church taking part in politics. And my wife holding forth on strikes and prices and Mr Fraser is the church preaching politics, even if to an audience of one patient admirer!

On December 10 the church will be in all the polling booths trying to put into parliament the team of politicians most likely to do the will of God and set up his kingdom on earth. And some of the church will vote Labor and some will vote Liberal and some will vote Democrat . . . because the church is people.

Some of my friends think that the church should speak with a single voice on political issues and use its organized muscle to put the lot in power who will dance to the church's tune. For me, I'm glad that we don't have a hierarchy to speak for the church on political matters and to tell us how to vote. I prefer it like it is. That is for the church to be people trying to work out for themselves what is the will of God for our politics and politicians, even if half of us are wrong in the process.

Yours for the church and freedom,

Tertius

ON TOUR WITH THE C.M.F.



TOUR PARTY — TASMANIA CONVENTION 1977

The Wildflower State

Forty people from Qld., N.S.W., S.A. and Vic. held a 16-day coach tour to the "Wildflower State" of W.A., sponsored by the Vic.-Tas. C.M.F.

The second night was spent at Port Lincoln, then the journey along the coast of Eyre's Peninsula ran past the incredible road sign, "Nowhere Else" (13 km).

At Elliston, in an isolated shop serving refreshments, we found the owners noticeably proclaiming their Christian faith, including a display of Christian literature for sale.

At Eucla, the coach water pump failed and there was the unhappy prospect of spending three nights on the outskirts of the Nullabor. An experiment succeeded in getting the pump working again, and after an early morning communion service set off for the next stopping place,

Kalgoorlie, 550 miles away. We made it, but a replacement pump had to wait until Perth.

The 'sin bin', the coach captain's name for the penalty box which collects contributions for minor indiscretions, was a centre of much merriment.

We visited Yanchep National Park, Rottneest Is., and other wildflower areas, then began the return journey via Albany, Whyalla, and Mildura.

The girls at Esperance Hostel prepared an attractive supper and entertained us. We opened the 'sin bin' and gave \$65 to the staff for mission use. The next day we had another memorable communion service at Norseman Mission, where we handed over the other \$65.

On the final day, afternoon tea was prepared by R. Thomas of Kangaroo Flat (Mrs Thomas was in the party). Their son,

Neville is with Wycliffe Bible Translators in the Philippines, and as a final gesture the tourists gave \$62 for Wycliffe, and another \$46, for the C.M.F. project of gas for PNG and the N.H.

Tasmania

At the suggestion of the Vic.-Tas. Conference Secretary, a pre-convention tour of Tasmania was planned to conclude at the Launceston Convention.

There were 45 from N.S.W., W.A., S.A., and Vic., and one lady from England.

When we met our new coach captain we learned that he is an active member of the Devonport Baptist church.

We travelled on the scenic route along the east coast to Pt. Arthur, then to Hobart, Queenstown, Burnie, and Launceston.

On the first Sunday we were guests at Invermay church for communion, and on Monday had an evening with the folk from the peninsula churches at Nubeena. Hobart ladies provided luncheon in their city.

All C.M.F. tours provide a daily devotional period and these were held in attractive surroundings. The day we were in Devonport, the coach captain invited us to use the Baptist church.

Our visit to Bethany Children's Home was a highlight. It has been selected as the recipient of the 'sin bin' contributions. The amount handed to Norm Carter was \$150.

On the first night in Launceston we were able to join in the Leighton Ford Crusade meeting, and on the return to that city every member of the tour party helped towards the success of the Convention, for which purpose the tour had been initiated.

— Ran Tippett.

OPEN FORUM

● Continued from Page 8

tic Christians were of great interest. The article on Tongues and Interpretation, I thought particularly well balanced and Tertius was thought provoking as usual.

There have, of course, been articles and letters with which I disagreed but I refrained from commenting because I felt that it would achieve nothing but further discord.

It is because of this concern for harmony that I must protest against the new series "Mustard Seeds." The political bias of the author is surely out of place in a Christian journal.

Our membership encompasses people of all political persuasions and politics can be divisive. It is to be hoped therefore, that if we must have political comment, it will be balanced and will be spoken in love.

Alan Rackemann, Vic.

HYMN BOOK FORMAT

To the Editor,

In reply to C. E. Thomas ("A.C." Sept. 3), the Federal Hymn Book Committee adopted the format of printing the music above the words in the new book because (a) It is the form mostly used in church music books for congregational singing in regular services; (b) the cost of setting up and spacing words between the music staves would be enormously time consuming and the additional cost involved would have rendered the retail selling price of the books highly exorbitant. It is interesting to note that the just

published "Australian Church Hymnal" (Anglican) has the same format as denominational music books generally.

The tune "Warrington" has been subjected to a number of variations since being composed by R. Harrison (1748-1810), therefore its originality has been "lost". Some hymnals have the tune as printed in the old Supplementary Tune Book (159), whereas there are variations in other volumes.

The committee deliberately altered the music for 183 and 190 in the new book, it being the consensus of opinion that numerous congregations in ours and other churches have been singing the melody that way for a number of years. However, Tune 44 (new book) has been retained in its original (or near original) form, as our S.T.B. No. 159.

A. R. Haskell, Chairman,
Hymn Book Committee.

FREEMASONRY

To the Editor,

As a church member and officer in Churches of Christ, I refer to two articles, Sept. 3 and 24, re Freemasonry.

I have been an active member for over 54 years and must reply that Freemasonry is not a religion but is religious. It does not replace the church and its teachings, rather it supports and upholds the principles of religion. Freemasonry has been purposely de-Christianised to include men of different religions. It is universal in outlook and does not seek to proselytise.

Nothing short of personal participation in the

rituals will serve to convey an understanding of what the Craft means to so many men, this means in effect, that no outsider can ever really grasp Freemasonry's meaning.

— W. J. P. Williams, S.A.

FREEMASONRY

To the Editor,

Referring to Mr Thompson's defence of Masonry "A.C." 29/10/77, how can it be Christian in character when Christ's name cannot be found in its rituals and one must not mention same in case a few, a Hindu, a Buddhist or the like might be offended. Matthew 10-32, 33 tells us that he that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father. I was a member for about eight years for five of which I was organist so had to follow every part of the ceremonies must closely.

Les O. Harper, N.S.W.

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NEW GUINEA REPORT

I have been hacking my way through impenetrable, snake-infested jungles, crossing huge muddy rivers crowded with carnivorous crocodiles, and sweating it out on steamy disease-ridden plains.

I'm romancing, of course, but this is the romantic picture some of us used to have of every missionary's daily life.

These conditions do exist, of course. They are commonplace, as a matter of fact, in Papua New Guinea. But our missionaries spend their lives in pleasanter places—though remote—because this is where people live; and our business is with people.

After weeks of living with our missionaries and visiting most of our mission areas, I must report that I feel the same way about "our" work in Papua New Guinea as I did last year about our work in the New Hebrides. I am proud to be associated with it, if only in a minor role.

So can all the members of our Brotherhood—unless of course, they are in that small minority who for some reason or other don't support these enterprises.

We can be grateful that dedicated, competent Christians have prepared themselves for missionary service in this and other countries. We can be glad that, although they do live in places that can be lonely, they are in reasonable comfort and they enjoy their lives. Whoever said that missionaries should be enduring—or enjoying?—martyrdom and privation all the time!

Because they can lead fairly normal,

fairly comfortable lives, they are fit to carry out the work they came here to do—to preach the Good News, to teach and heal and share, so that there develops greater relevance to the words of Jesus. "I am come that you may have a more abundant life."

All is not perfect in PNG. There are new problems as the fast growing church faces the challenge and call for fuller understanding, deeper faith, and deeper commitment. It also faces the temptations of our so-called Christian society and the subtle pull of the culture they have partly turned their backs on.

One way or another, there is no fear that our missionaries won't have enough work to do as they help nurture the new churches along the Ramu and Keram Rivers and on the grasslands.

In fact, I have a strong suspicion that if we are to do properly the job we have started here, more missionaries must be sponsored to answer the urgent call from Papua New Guinea.

All interested persons please note!

Next stop, Bombay! Well, a few interesting stops before we get there, but the next stop of interest to "A.C." readers is Bombay where the Fellowship Centre will be opened on Nov. 27.

Wait for the next thrilling episode of our churches' response to the commands of Jesus and the needs of people.

Lin. Fitzgerald,
Chairman of the Board,
Overseas Missions.

CHILDREN'S ORCHARDS

Roelands,
Western Australia

One man's kindness gives joy to thousands

A philanthropic non profit organisation was founded, established and incorporated by the late Albany Bell (after he was 76 years of age) for the purpose of distributing gift free citrus fruits and in season apples to underprivileged children and frail aged dependent people.

Mr Bell was brought up as a child in desperate poverty in Clare, S.A. He arrived with his mother and sister in Western Australia 1887. As a young man he spent three years among full-blood aboriginals on a pastoral station 500 kilometres east of Geraldton gaining personal knowledge of the aborigines, their culture and tribal life.

In the early 1900's he established a highly successful chain of tearooms in Perth, Kalgoorlie, Coolgardie and Boulder; serviced with manufactures of cakes, pastry, confectionery, ice and ice cream from The Model Castle Factory at Mt. Lawley, until the business was sold in the late 1920's.

Through prosperity or adversity he never lost his love for the underprivileged.

During the 1930 depression years, wanting to cut personal expenditure and provide country life for his family, Mr

Bell arranged an exchange of half the Mt. Lawley Home property for "Seven Hills," a 3,750 acre farm at Roelands, 27 kilometres north of Bunbury.

Training for Unemployed Boys

Thomas Chandler, Headmaster of Perth Boys School, became deeply concerned that so many boys from school could not find employment in the town, yet there was work and opportunity in the country. He mobilised "The Chandler Boys' Settlement Scheme" which occupied 1,750 acres of the Seven Hills property. The committee appointed Mr Ladyman as manager, and sought advice from the Government, Agricultural Department and experienced successful men in all branches of farming.

Boys were trained in clearing, the building of mud brick living quarters and general farming operations. A substantial dining room, kitchen and manager's residence were built.

Grapefruit and stonefruit orchards were planted, also crops for grain. For many years the plan worked successfully, but when the economy recovered boys prefer-

● Continued on Page 14

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

JAY'S QUIZ

Three who doubted

1. Who tried to walk on water and lost his faith? 2. Who was afraid to be a leader? 3. Which of the 12 disciples didn't believe that Jesus was risen from the dead? (See page 18)

THE SEA

How can the great rivers of the world draw off huge volumes of water from the continents and pour it into the sea, but the sea remains about the same depth all the time?

Well, Ecclesiastes gives us the answer accurately: "Unto the place from whence the rivers came, thither they return again." This is scientifically correct: the sun draws water out of the sea, forming moisture-laden clouds that drift back across the land and provide rain to "the place from whence the rivers came."

This also explains why the sea gets saltier all the time. The rivers carrying water to the sea also carry salt. The moisture is returned to the land by way of clouds, but the salt remains to make the ocean more salty.

Mother — Do you know what happens to little girls who tell things that are not true?

Betty — Yes, they grow up and tell their little girls they'll have curly hair if they eat their spinach.

Traffic Officer — Well, well, going to a fire, I suppose?

Speeder — Oh, no, officer. I just heard that my wife's club is having a rummage sale tonight, and I was hurrying home to save my other pair of pants.

Women may spend money on hats, but they never spend \$25 on fishing tackle to catch a 25-cent fish.



HEAR THESE MEN!

The lecturing panel at THE SUMMER SCHOOL FOR SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY include the Ministers of some of Australia's best known churches. They have been chosen by a panel of 80 other Ministers as the men they most want to hear. Each man is widely known for his specialist skills. Many have had extensive overseas experience. This is the most significant panel of Australian speakers ever assembled on Church Growth.

GORDON MOYES — Cheltenham Church of Christ — author "How To Grow An Australian Church." — Church Growth Principles — Contemporary Preaching.

ERIC HOLLARD — formerly Tulsa, U.S. — Ministering for the '80's.

DR. DUDLEY FOORD — St. Ives C. of E. N.S.W. — Developing Christian Outreach.

JIM PAYNE — General Secretary Bible Society — A.C.T. — Using The Scriptures.

STANTON WILSON — Cheltenham Church Of Christ — Pastoral Care.

MICHAEL DENNIS — Narwee Baptist, N.S.W. — Building The Large Church.

JOHN BLACKER — U.C.A. Moonee Ponds — The Charismatic Ministry.

MAL. HUMPHRIES — Cheltenham Church Of Christ — Caring For The Aged.

JOHN ALEXANDER — Augustine Centre — Creating a Creative Community.

DR. ALEX KENWORTHY — Radio Counsellor — Preaching As Counselling.

GEOFF. BENSON — Cheltenham Church of Christ — Community Education.

EARL ROBERTS — Lay Institute For Evangelism — Community Outreach.

PETER BURNHAM — Joint Board of C.E. — Ministering To Children.

JACK FAWCETT — Cheltenham Church Of Christ — Personal Witnessing.

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WHITE PAPERS

ON FAITH AND LIFE

TOO MUCH MUSTARD

Alan Austin, who sows Mustard Seeds in the somewhat placid soil of "The Australian Christian," has harvested some criticism. He has not only been charged with being too political he is also thought to be too one-sided in his politics.

On page 7 of this issue, Mr Austin argues that a responsible Christian journalist cannot avoid political matters. He says, "If the political arena is one where men are struggling or oppressed and where the powers of goodness are opposing the powers of evil, the Christian, of all people, must be present."

Christianity and politics are both about people and it is hardly possible to separate the two areas on concern. Christians are involved in the business of every day living for themselves and others, for work, homes, families, food, leisure, war, peace, happiness, the young and the aged. These are all political issues as well.

If a person is unemployed the Christian is supposed to care for him. If he is unemployed because the nation's leaders (or the unions) are indifferent, incompetent, or discriminatory, the church must surely speak out against the cause as well as try to alleviate the effect.

The church became political when it opposed slavery, child labour, atheistic communism, anti-semitism, dehumanised working conditions, Hitler, the degradation of women, excess profiteering, and unjust war. There was, of course, no one voice or clear goal in the church on these matters. In every case I can think of there was disagreement in the church, even about slavery and child labour, which some churchmen supported!

This is a Christian journal, and Christianity is concerned with

the whole of life and politics is a part of it. We can't keep politics out.

On the other hand, we dare not let party politics in. Our church members represent different political parties, and there are Christians on both sides of the House in federal and state parliaments.

Mr Austin invites response to his column, whether his aims are proper and whether he is going about it in the right way.

SOME SCOOP

The daily press reported that the A.B.C. has "scooped" the commercial TV stations by purchasing the series "S.O.A.P." for screening in Australia. The Southern Baptist Convention (12 million members) describes "S.O.A.P." as irresponsibly laughing at and shamelessly exploiting the tragedies of adultery, homosexuality, transvestitism, impotence, incest, crime and senility.

We had some sympathy for the cuts made in the A.B.C. finances. We understand that because of the cuts some locally produced programmes and news features were cancelled.

If the A.B.C. has money for degrading programmes as this one is said to be, it has too much money rather than too little. Each of the 20 episodes is said to have cost the A.B.C. \$8,500! This is a scandalous mis-use of the people's money.

We asked the A.B.C. if the news item is correct. The reply confirmed that the A.B.C. has purchased the right to telecast a number of episodes of "S.O.A.P.", probably in the new year. The purchase price was not disclosed.

In the U.S., there was such an outcry against "S.O.A.P." that it is reported that eleven major advertisers withdrew as sponsors.

The A.B.C. has no commercial sponsors and it is public money from our taxes that is being mis-used. This means that the only way to protest is to write to the A.B.C. itself. You will find the address in your telephone book.

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Diary

NEW SOUTH WALES

Dec. 3 Junior High Camp Reunion
Jan. 9-15 D.C.E. Camp-out
Jan 26-30 D.C.E. Leaders' Camp.
Feb. 10-12 — N.W. Region. Convention.

VICTORIA

Nov. 27 — Offering: M.E.D.
Nov. 29 — Men's Dinner, Blackburn.
Dec. 4 Explorers' Final Rally
Dec. 6 C.M.F. Christmas Dinner
Jan. 3-10 Banksia Training Camp

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Dec. 28-Jan 1 — Christmas Camp
Dec. 28-Jan. 3 — N.Z. Youth Convention.
Feb. 13-16 — Magarey Lectures.

QUEENSLAND

Dec. 11-16 Midgets Camp
Dec. 18-23 Junior Camp

HAPPENINGS

The Rev Fred Nile said that the new political group backed by the Festival of Light plans to siphon N.S.W. votes from Don Chipp's Australian Democrats in Dec. 10 elections. Mr Nile said, "We have decided to stand to call on Australians to do something positive about their future and to say no to the permissive views of Don Chipp."

Churches of Christ in Britain are voting to determine their response to the proposal of union with the United Reformed Church. The result is expected before the end of the year.

In Victoria in the last 10 months there have been 295 armed hold-ups (46 from banks) with bandits stealing \$1,300,000.00. Only 4% of the money has been recovered. No other State has such a bad record. (This item is already out of date!)

The S.A. Synod of the Uniting Church has made a gift of \$33,000 to the Christian Conference of Asia. The CCA includes 78 national churches and has been in existence since 1959.

Local Councils in Qld. and Tas. believe people receiving unemployment benefits should give their services to local government to help overcome the "destructive" aspects of the present system.

Following a report that at least 100 Aboriginal families in Sydney were suffering from severe malnutrition, the Federal Government has approved a special grant of \$60,000 to feed Sydney's undernourished Aboriginal children in Sydney.

Having a job is the new status symbol (above money, clothes, cars, and second homes). According to Professor Traiman, Institute of Social Science Research (U.S.A.) jobs highest on the social scale are university professors (like him!), physicians (equal top), lawyers, dentists, bosses of large businesses, accountants, business executives, high school teachers, veterinarians, clergymen.

Roy Clydesdale, long-time servant of Christ at Moorooopna, Vic. has been ill.

A new treaty yet to be approved by Parliament will govern the relationship between Italy and the Roman Catholic Church. Roman Catholicism will no longer be the State religion of Italy, and civil and church marriages will have equal status. Divorce, forbidden under the earlier treaty, has already been written into Italian Statute books.

WHITE PAPERS

● Continued from Page 12

GOOD GRIEF!! There has been a deep split in the church President Carter used to attend in Plains, Georgia, U.S.A. There was some trouble when the minister Bruce Edwards, and Carter tried to have blacks accepted as members. Edwards was forced to resign. A former minister, Fred Collins, will serve as pastor of a new church of 50 members. The new church leaders were strong supporters of Edwards, and include Hugh Carter, the President's cousin. Collins was not too popular with the old church. He caused an uproar when on Sunday mornings he switched the announcements to the beginning instead of the place they used to have in the middle of the service!!!

MEMBER FOR 82 YEARS

(S.A.) On March 3, 1895, members of the Point Sturt church gathered on the bank of the lower reaches of the Murray River to witness the baptisms of Innes Pearce, Jessie Mann, Ada Mann and Alice Strachan.

Of the four, only Innes is still with us. She is Mrs W. S. Yelland, now in her 98th year. She has been a member of the Pt. Sturt church for 82 years.

Unable to attend services, she still maintains a keen interest in the activities of the church and enjoys tape recording and radio broadcasts of services.

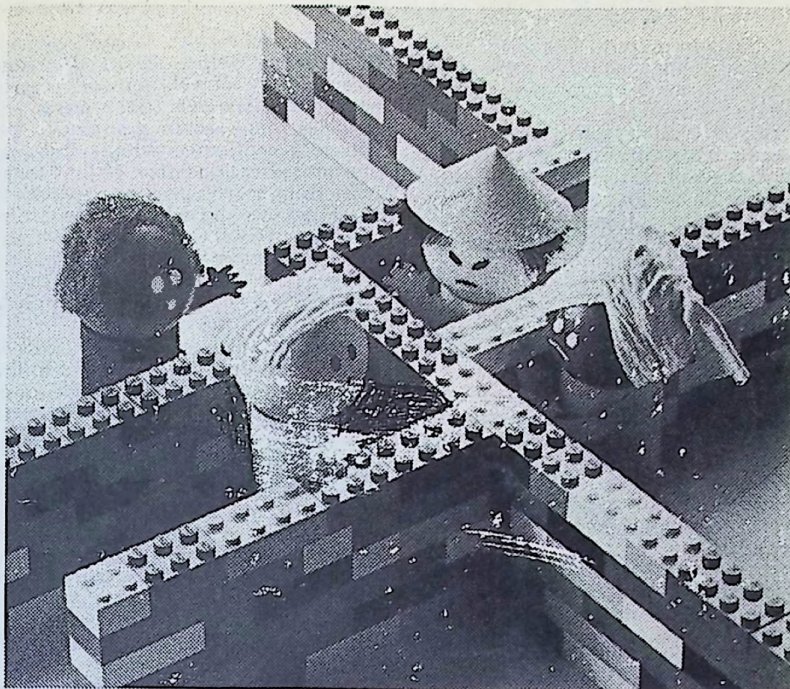
Mrs Yelland remembers the early days when bullock drays were used and people travelled to church by horse and buggy.

PRESIDENTS (Toowoomba, Margaret St., A. C. Caldicott, Graham Kerr) Two of the churches young men have been elected as student President at two Colleges — Lyall Muller (Kenmore) and Jeffrey Deuble (Woolwich) . . . Senior minister has been on long service leave . . . 95th Church Anniversary services with Prof. Dr Lewis Foster, coupled with C.W.C. with Millie Dienert, both from U.S.A., drew aggregate attendances of 1,000 in four days . . . Aileen Draney welcomed home on furlough from P.N.G. . . . New Youth Alive group of singers' new musical "Let Love Live" is well received . . . New gallery extensions much in use . . . Gary Hills and Greg Muller have been accepted for Woolwich and Kenmore Colleges, 1978, respectively.

TO VICTORIAN CIRCUIT

R. W. Marshall has accepted the joint invitation of the Warracknabeal-Brim-Dimboola circuit and the Vic.-Tas. Department of Mission, Education & Development to a full time ministry commencing in July, 1978.

Support
Home Missions
November 27.



BREAK DOWN THE WALLS THAT SEPARATE US

Why are some nations rich, and others poor?

It's not because Third World people are "lazy" or "stupid".

A major reason is that world trade structures, which began in colonial days, are heavily loaded in favour of developed nations.


In other words, we live well partly because other people are poor. And that puts up walls between us — walls of injustice, inequality of opportunity, fear, suspicion, prejudice, misunderstanding and resentment.

True, we haven't consciously built those walls. But we maintain them with our national selfishness — our determination to preserve our standards of living.

Break down the walls that separate us. Let's share our wealth, realising that God meant everyone to benefit from it. Let's share in a way that assures people that they are not alone, and that others do care.

The Christmas Bowl is one such way. As it helps people to build themselves a better future, it seeks to shatter walls of prejudice, discrimination and injustice.

This Christmas, catch the vision of a world without walls. Care and share — through the Christmas Bowl.

GIVE TO THE 
CHRISTMAS BOWL

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

(493) 13

CHILDREN'S ORCHARDS

● Continued from Page 10

red to take jobs in town. The scheme flagged and after Mr Chandler's decease was wound up, leaving the property back in Mr Bell's possession.

With public money invested in the improvements Mr Bell believed he should not use these for personal gain and looked around for its use for community benefit.

Native Mission Farm

By this time public conscience was growing towards the uplifting of our sadly neglected and despised aboriginal people. After investigation The Roelands Native Mission Farm was established under leadership of Kenneth Cross and Harry Lumpton, (1938).

Building on improvements already made, the mission farm did a monumental work in evangelising and uplifting aboriginal people, especially children, for the next 27 years.

In 1975 it was taken over by the Churches of Christ Federal Aborigines Mission Board.

Free Fruit

Meantime Mr Bell's alert active brain and philanthropic nature had promoted, with the blessing of the Apple and Pear Board and some sympathetic apple growers, a regular gift free supply of apples to Native Missions, Spastic, Mentally Retarded, Crippled, Blind, Deaf and Dumb and other underprivileged children and frail aged people. But the apple season was short.

After selling other portions of "Seven Hills" Mr Bell still had well watered, deep, black soil river flats along the Collie River and fertile hills backing onto the Brunswick Collie Road, 440 acres in all. Ideally suitable for growing oranges, grapefruit and lemons which could ensure a longer season of highly nutritious fruits for the needy people of our community.

He therefore inaugurated Children's Orchards Incorporated — 1947. . On ten

acres, he planted with assistance of only one aboriginal helper 800 orange trees of three kinds — Navels for early season, Joppas to follow the navel season and Valencias, plus some grapefruit. This enabled a continuous supply from late June until after December. 10 to 17 tons of apples from nearby packing sheds are incorporated into the deliveries. As gift free donations, W.A. Government Railways graciously transport the fruit, freight free to Kewdale terminal, where institutions and homes collect their weekly supply for the duration of the season.

To finance the free gifts, beef cattle are grown on the hill country and a limited number of poultry are maintained for egg production and manure fertiliser for the

orchard. These and any other possible revenue producing operations are intended to make the maximum amount of nutritious fruits to be available. Over recent years, our superintendent, Frank B. Felton, due for retirement after 23 years of faithful service has added further areas, until there are now 1,600 orange trees, doubling the original number planted. The crop is increasing yearly, with the growth of the trees. During the 1976 season 4,000 cases were picked.

Currently 27 institutions and homes are supplied. Crippled, muscular dystrophic, permanently incurable, blind, deaf and dumb, spastic aboriginal mission, slow learners, children's hospitals and other underprivileged children, Homes of Peace and other homes for frail aged people. Others can be added as output increases.

OBITUARY

MUDFORD, Mrs Sylvia

The church at Bendigo has been saddened by the death of Mrs Sylvia Mudford (nee Curry) on Nov. 9. Sylvia Curry attended the South Richmond Church of Christ, and was baptized there at the age of 12. In 1923, she married Archie Mudford and joined him in ministry at the Barmora Church, S.A. They shared ministry at Barmora, Wedderburn, Mildura, Rochester, Shepparton, Stawell and Ararat, the Wedderburn-Boort-Pyramid Hill circuit, and an interim ministry at Castlemaine. For the last 24 years both have been active in the membership at the Bendigo Church. Mrs Mudford was prevented from attending church services for some time, because of ill health. She spent 6½ months in hospital last year, and was kept at home for the whole of this year. However her interest in the life and witness of the church, and her desire to share in worship never waned. The church was filled by relatives and friends who shared in the service of triumph and victory

that her faith radiated throughout the many years she served her Lord and Master. We extend to Mr Mudford: Clem; Lois (Mrs. Witham); Val (Mrs. Bish); and Rennice (Mrs. Graham), our sympathy and love. — M.D.K.

WARDLE, Irene

(9.10.1977) The church at Brim lost one of its life-long members. Irene Hovey was the youngest of a family of seven. Her parents, Matthew and Emma Hovey, formally of S.A., moved to the Brim district in the 1870's not long after it was opened up for selection. Irene was born in 1894, the year her father and others formally commenced the Brim Church of Christ. She spent her life associated with the same church. Irene married Frank Wardle in 1923 and saw her four sons, Mervyn, Royce, Tex and Lance become members of the church. Mrs Wardle was faithful to her church and her community. The whole district will treasure her memory and miss her greatly. She will live in our memories, in a very special way, through her paintings which are treasured by all who are fortunate enough to possess them. — S.W.H.

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BOOKS TO READ

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE EARLY CHURCH

by Harry R. Boer (Eerdmans)

The Church today is very much the poorer in facing its tasks because of a lack of knowledge of history. This is particularly so for the early period of the Church's history as the Church sought to come to terms with the scriptures in their world. One of the reasons for this problem has been the dray nature of the books available in which it has been necessary to wade through pages of almost incomprehensible Greek reasoning. Because of the need to teach Church History in Nigeria we now have available a concise, readable book on the early history of the Church. Dr Harry Boer takes us through the world in which the early Church developed, traces the beginning of the Church to 600 A.D. He has chapters dealing with persecution, the early "isms" facing the Church, major centres of Christianity, the great leaders, and the great controversies of the Church. This is all done in a straight forward readable style, that is encyclopaedic in character. Any layman could greatly enhance his knowledge of the Church's history with this book and many ministers would also find it a helpful, refreshing review of important history grown a little hazy with time. **Don E. Stewart.**

THE GENTLE PROPHET PAYS A VISIT

Malcolm Muggeridge in Australia

The well known author and Christian apologist visited Australia last year for the Festival of Light and the Bible Society. 35,000 people made headlines in the nation's newspapers when they attended the Family Festival in Hyde Park. This book gives a collection of his addresses in the capital cities. The book was edited by Bernard Judd, and there are numerous photos taken by Ramon Williams.

Unless otherwise stated, books reviewed on this page may be obtained from: The Baptist Book Store, 162 Russell St., Melb. 3000; N.S.W. Churches of Christ Book Shop, Shop 10, Endeavour Arcade, 360 The Kingsway, Caringbah, 2229; United Church Bookroom, 15 Mathers Lane, Hobart, 7000.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



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QUALIFICATIONS: Expressing Christian commitment with accountancy and office experience with ability to Trial Balance.

Scope: Opportunities exist in development of other Christian activities and providing support ministries to all Churches in the New Hebrides.

Commencement: As soon as available as this position needs to be filled urgently.

ONE CARPENTER

A carpenter, preferably with teaching experience in carpentry is required at Londua School, Aoba, for two years commencing February 1978. Single man preferred but enquiries welcome from married couples.

THESE POSITIONS NEED TO BE FILLED URGENTLY and 'full time' appointments are sought of 2 years 8 months on the field with 4 months furlough. Travel expenses are met by the Board and a field allowance paid. Fully furnished housing provided.

INTERIM ASSISTANCE: Possibly you are prepared to pay your own travel as a Short Term Volunteer (12 months or less) to alleviate the immediate staff crisis in one of the above positions. We would welcome your enquiry too! (Full board is provided for single workers not on field allowance.)

WRITE TODAY

For further details or application form, to Mr R. S. A. McLean (Secretary), Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board Inc., P.O. Box 258, COWANDILLA. SOUTH AUST. 5033.

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To complement the Christian team shaping the lives of New Hebrideans academically and spiritually. An ideal situation for a married couple where both Husband and Wife are able to teach. Enquiries are also welcome from Single Male and Female teachers.

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Subject Range: English, Sciences, Maths., French.

ONE DOUBLE-CERTIFICATED NURSE

A double-certificated nurse is urgently required at the Dunindui Hospital on Aoba.

Commencement: As soon as possible as from early December, 1977. There will be no Australian nurses at Duindui.

ONE MOTOR MECHANIC

A mechanic with wide experience in engine maintenance is urgently required for our work in Papua New Guinea.

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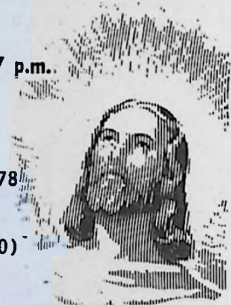
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Sunday 4th December

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Exposition of 2nd Peter

7.00 p.m. — Preacher: Mr Allan Webb

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Minister: A. L. Webb, B.A.

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MILLION DOLLAR APPEAL: BREAK DOWN WALLS!

"Break Down the Walls that Separate Us" is the theme of the 1977 million-dollar Christmas Bowl Appeal of the Australian Council of Churches.

Commenting on this year's appeal, ACC General Secretary Miss Jean Skuse said, "I'm delighted with this year's Christmas Bowl appeal theme 'Break down the walls that separate us.' This is exactly what the Christian Gospel is all about . . . breaking down walls which separate people, walls between rich and poor, black and white, developed and developing, Christian and non-Christian as well as those walls between churches, between people and between us and God. I hope this year's appeal will be more successful than the last so together we can break down these

barriers and work towards the unity of the whole human race."

Each year the Australian Council of Churches conducts the Christmas Bowl appeal within its 10 member churches to raise money for overseas emergency relief and development assistance, refugee resettlement and development education within Australia.

In the past year projects assisted included model farms and agricultural training in Tanzania and Pakistan, construction of a dam and rebuilding after an earthquake in Bali, assistance to Indochinese refugees in Northern Thailand, and support for the independence movement in the New Hebrides.

The target for this year's appeal is \$1¼ million.

CHURCHES ONLY HOPE FOR S. AFRICAN BLACKS?

"Now we only have the churches left to fight". That reaction of an African from Soweto in reference to the intervention of the South African Government against black organisations and the multi-racial Christian Institute on Oct. 19, illustrates the hope now being placed in the churches in the deteriorating South African situation.

The intervention action had two objectives: to remove attention from the death in prison of the "father" of the black consciousness movement, Steve Biko, who died from brain damage, and, on the other hand, to end the incessant political agitation in the African cities, in particular among the young people.

It is also significant that in the week in which the repression measure were pur-

sued the report on the autopsy on the death of Steve Biko was disclosed, and the government also announced the introduction of "community councils" and the increases in rents in Soweto — two measures against which the banned movements had fought. — E.P.S.

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PRESENT

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ICHTHUS

At Clayton Church of
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On 3 Dec. 8 p.m.

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For details — Paul Cameron
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* Groom for birthday — Celebrating
Jesus' birthday.

YOUNG ADULTS
Summer School of

"PRESENT SHOCK"

Melbourne, Jan. 1979

COCIAC RALLY

The COCIAC churches (Melbourne) will be holding their final rally for 1977 at Coburg Church in Bell Street on Sunday Dec. 4, 3 pm.

The speaker will be **Barry Jenkins** who will speak on "Encouragements from the Inner Suburbs". There will be a basket tea to follow the meeting and film at Coburg church, 7 pm. There will be facilities provided for children during the afternoon meeting.

RISE IN OFFERING (Manifold Heights, A. E. Stevens). Church offering has risen approx. 35% since Planned Giving programme conducted by Trevor Giles . . . "Focus" on various auxiliaries has been a feature at Sunday morning services . . . Renovations and extensions to the manse are progressing with some voluntary labour by church members . . . A Garden, Toy and Cake Stall resulted in \$600 given toward youth facilities . . . There have been two baptisms.

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Waiting Lists for subsequent years are open.

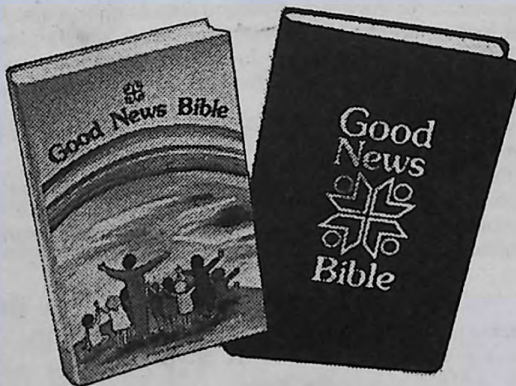
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BIRTH

TAGG (Hood) Lois and Ron welcome with love the gift of a son, Nigel Kingsley, born 9th November, at Mordialloc-Cheltenham Hospital. Brendan's brother.

ARRIVAL

CREEK (MacKenzie) Rhondda and Geoff (Gosford NSW) are delighted to announce the arrival of their son, Brendan Joseph Alexander, from Manila in the Philippines. Brendan celebrates his fourth birthday on December 20.

ENGAGEMENTS

POWELL-MACKAAY Mr and Mrs Geo Powell of 13 Bridgewater Drive, Kallaroo, W.A., are pleased to announce to all their friends, the engagement of their eldest daughter, Alison, to Theo, youngest son of Rev and Mrs Chris Mackaay, of Perth.

UNDERHILL-GRAY Graham and Val Underhill, 17 Binden Place, Hamersley, 6022 (Nollamara, W.A.) are happy to announce the engagement of their elder daughter Sandra Lee to Martin Gray.

GOLDEN WEDDING

POTTS, Harold and Emma, 153 Dorking Road, Box Hill North. Congratulations mother and father on your 50th Wedding Anniversary, December 8th, 1927. Love from Valerie and family.

DEATH

MUDFORD Sylvia, on 9th Nov., at her residence, 292 Eaglehawk Rd., Eaglehawk, Vic., 3556. A wonderful wife of Archie Clement, loving mother of Clement (Shepparton), Valma (Mrs K. Bish, Chirrup), Lois (Mrs G. Witham, Hamilton), and Rennice (Mrs A. Graham, Eaglehawk). Mother-in-law of Ailsa, Keith, Glenton and Alan. Loved Grandma of 12, and Great-grandma of one. Aged 77 years. A patient sufferer at rest. "To be with Christ which is far better."

IN MEMORIAM

THOMAS. In precious memory of our mother, Hilda Thomas, passed away Nov. 17, 1970, and our father, James E. Thomas, passed away Nov. 27 1944. "Re-united in glory, still loved and missed by children, grandchildren and many friends".

HOLIDAYS

ROSEBUD MARYFIELD CHRISTIAN CENTRE Family Cabins available Christmas. Inquiries welcome. Church and School group bookings avail. for 1978. W. Kelly, 16 Rosebrook St., Rosebud, Vic., 3939. Phone (059) 86 8357.

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Changes of Address; Secretaries

MAYLANDS: B. Matthews, 7 Blanche St., Paradise, S.A. 5075.

NELSON BAY: A. Davis, Ajax St., Nelson St., N.S.W. 2315.

JAYS' QUIZ

(see page 10) 1. Peter (Matt 14). 2. Moses (Exodus 3). 3. Thomas (John 20).

ORIENTATION TO MELBOURNE

February 3-7, 1978

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The Wesley Central Mission is seeking the services of a dedicated Christian, either a Minister or lay person, to assume responsibilities as the Director of the Sydney Life Line Centre.

This key position presents an excellent opportunity for a mature person, preferably with skills in Christian counselling, pastoral relations, psychology and administration.

This would be an ideal position for a Christian seeking to find challenge and fulfilment in this area of service by being able and willing to identify with the spirit and purpose of the Mission.

The position carries responsibility to the Mission for the leadership of the Life Line movement in Sydney and the work of the Centre. The Director is responsible for the oversight of the professional counselling staff, development and leadership of training programmes for all Life Line volunteer counsellors together with responsibility for general administrative oversight of the total work of the Life Line Centre. The Director also undertakes some personal counselling.

A salary commensurate with the responsibilities of this important position will be negotiated.

Family accommodation and the opportunity to participate in a generous superannuation scheme are available.

Applications in writing setting out a brief resume of experience and qualifications, should be addressed to

Director of Community Services,
Wesley Central Mission,
210 Pitt Street,
Sydney.
Phone number: 61 8741 (02).

**A Farewell
TO MR. L. S. DEWBERRY AND
FAMILY**

Will be held at the
**GARDINER CHURCH OF
CHRIST**
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Sunday, December 18 at
8.30 p.m.
following the evening
service

Hear the Christmas message
presented in a modern way through
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present

"COME BEHOLD HIM"

Frankston Church of Christ
December 4 at 7.30 p.m.

East Keilor Church of Christ
December 11 at 7 p.m.

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- 3 p.m. P.S.A. Demonstration of
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- 5 p.m. Fellowship Tea
- 6.30 p.m. Gospel Service, speaker
Mr S. K. Bannon
- Soloist Mr Richard Gunston

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ISSUE	DEADLINE
December 15	December 7
February 4	January 23

—PERSONAL—

DISCIPLESHIP

- Philip Loft, Blackburn, Vic.
- Panny Warfe, Chelsea, Vic.
- Jo-Anne Hadden, Hamilton, Vic.
- Robyn Ryall, David Mason, Bendigo, Vic.
- Mrs Claire Marinis, Athena, Thalia, and Dione Marinis, Northam, W.A.

MARRIAGES

- Geraldine Corker to Lindsay Cox, South Perth, W.A.

DEATHS

- Mrs Eliza Scown, Bordertown, S.A.

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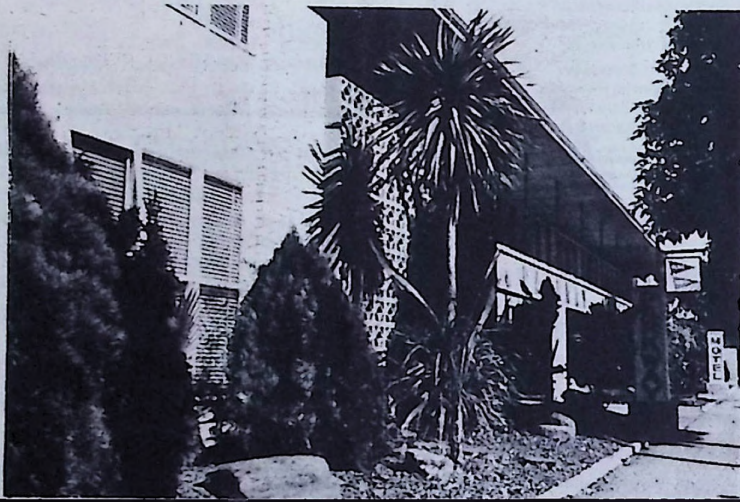
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VICTORIA

CORROBOREE (Mitcham, Ross McLean)
 Highlight of S.S. Anniversary was a visit
 from Ralph Nicholls and team who per-
 formed a Corroboree dance and played
 the didgeridoo . . . For Girls' Sunday
 evening service was taken by the girls and
 included a film with Marcel Marceau.
 Fellowship tea concluded evening . . .
 C.W.F. Garden Party raised \$1400
 towards remaining church debt. Manse
 debt now cleared.

\$1100 RAISED (Burwood, R. Brown) In
 carnival atmosphere "Fete" organised by
 committee headed by Brian Jacques,
 raised \$1100 . . . Annual Men's Breakfast
 had Capt. Rodger as speaker, with
 Graham Ford, soloist. Ladies catered for
 meal . . . From "Lamington Drive" con-
 ducted by Explorers and Good Compa-
 nions, \$155 will be used for their project of
 financing the renovation of C.O.B.
 kitchen . . . Film, "Who Killed Jenny
 Langby" was screened at C.W.F.
 meeting. Bev Maxwell led discussion . . .
 Euroa High School honoured the late
 Keith Smith who, at the time of his death
 in 1973, was principal, by naming their
 new library in his memory. Keith and
 family were members at Burwood before
 transferring to Euroa.

CHURCH CAMP (Caulfield) Church
 Camp held at "Cranbrook Lodge",
 Healesville . . . Music Council arranged
 evening with local guest artists . . . Folk
 from Kew Cottages attended S.S. church
 picnic at Belgrave Heights . . . Girls' Club
 sang at evening service.

BAPTISM (Chelsea, T. Hanna) One of
 the Youth Club, Penny Warfe, was bap-
 tised by Tim Hanna at evening service.
 Club now has 15 members . . . Mr and
 Mrs Chas Wilson were farewelled on Nov.
 13 after morning service, with barbecue
 lunch on church property . . . C.W.A.F.
 street stall raised \$250 . . . Plans in hand
 for mini-mission in June with G. R. Stirl-
 ing . . . Explorer club will hold three tent-
 camps during January . . . Church look-
 ing towards full-time minister in 1979.

VISIT FROM PORTLAND (Hamilton,
 Ron White) Portland C.W.F. visited to
 take devotional meeting for Hamilton . . .
 Alan Gordon of Casterton Church, recent
 president . . . Youth Fellowship shared
 with Baptist Youth in film night . . . Ex-
 tensive visitation continues following mis-
 sion with Gordon Moyes . . . 80 women at-
 tended Hamilton Inter-Church Social in
 our hall, Nov. 7. "Message of All Seasons"
 presented by our evening Fellowship . . .
 Deaconess Mrs Kit Hadden recently
 hospitalised . . . C.W.A.F. held sing-a-
 long at Geriatric Ward of hospital . . . Re-
 cent speakers were Ken Danes and Noel
 Mitaxa . . . Church extends sympathy to
 Lois Witham on death of her mother, Mrs
 Mudford, Bendigo . . . Ron White con-
 tinues ministry at Hamilton College . . .
 Church dinner followed by annual church
 meeting on Nov. 20 . . . Church tea and
 baptism of Adelaide visitor Jo-Anne Had-
 den.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

FOUNDER'S DAY (Nollamara, A. J. Anderson, N. Head). Officers (in uniform) took morning service for Founder's Day for Boys' Brigade . . . Private Wayne Underhill only one of six in the State to pass State Proficiency exam . . . Duke of Edinburgh awards (silver) were received by Susan Davies and Sharon Thrussell and (bronze) by Susan Stuart, Susan Mason, and Sharon Patten . . . Film "Corrie" screened at gospel service . . . 19th Church anniversary commenced with family musical evening. Sunday guest speaker was Des Croot. There were two decisions . . . Adult seminar on Abundant Living commenced on Sunday mornings . . . C. Beasland in hospital.

CROWDS AT ANNIVERSARY (South Perth, D. Nelson, L. Cos). Guest speaker at 30th Anniversary services, Nov. 6-13, was Dr K. R. Bowes, Principal, College of the Bible. He presented sermons on the Restoration Movement and the Holy Spirit. Sunday attendances averaged 300 morning and 260 evening. Banquet Luncheon on Nov. 13 was attended by 300, including former members. The cake was cut by Mrs. Wesley. . . Mrs Edna Collins recuperating after surgery. Mr Hopson and C. Hyman home after surgery . . . Mrs Margaret Crispe has had an eye operation . . . Chief Electoral Officer John McIntyre has retired . . . Pam Mason and Margaret Rowe recently home from Woolwich College . . . Mrs Bonnett, mother of Mrs Richards and Mrs Heyhoe's mother Mrs Bremier, died recently . . . Seminar held with High School students . . . Quiz Night was conducted by Ron Raymond . . . Y.P. were hosts to a contingent from Mukinbuding

Church, October long week end . . . Mrs Ailsa Maxwell spoke at Kindergarten and Cradle Roll Anniversary.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

FLEA MARKET (Ascot Park, R. Clymer) A "Flea Market" held recently raised over \$500 . . . Dr and Mrs Keith Crowley and family have returned after overseas holiday . . . A combined picnic for Ascot Park and Clovelly churches held at National Park, Belair, on Labour Day holiday . . . Mrs Palmer is home after surgery and is making good recovery . . . Wendy McAlister obtained an "A" in violin exam.

CENTENARY (Balaklava, Jeff May) After year of prayer and planning church Centenary celebrations were held. Both old and young were strengthened in faith to go forward in Christ's strength . . . Bible studies continue after 10 a.m. service . . . Outreach group continues visitation . . . Mrs D. Cottle and Mrs A. Carslake are Pres. and Sec. of C.W.F. . . Church extends sympathy to Howard and Carslake families in death of mother and grandmother, Mrs Carslake of Victor Harbor.

EVENING C.W.F. CLOSES (Brooklyn Park, G. D. Agnew) Having made an outstanding contribution to the life of our church over many years our evening C.W.F. group will close in its present form from December 6. Opportunities for fellowship will continue to be provided . . .

EPC Hollard was guest speaker at 53rd Anniversary . . . Tennis Club has 100 members for summer season . . . A Stewardship/Church Renewal Program will be held with Keith Horne next March . . . Mr Agnew has been appointed to State H.M. Committee . . . Recently Family Concert had 160 in attendance . . .

Two experienced counsellors (Ruth Edge and Reg Brand) were guests at special Parents, Night for Young Marrieds and Playgroup on the theme "Answering your Child's Difficult Questions" . . . A team of 13 women assists in regular pastoral visitation.



QUEENSLAND

CHURCH GROWTH (Rosewood, Mr Walker, Rosevale, V. G. Boettcher and Noel Williams) Church Growth Seminar held at Mt Walker with Bruce Roberts, Conf. Pres. Minister is President-Elect of State Conference . . . Many ill in hospitals including Arnold Hinrichsen and Percy Christensen . . . Rosewood C.W.F. conducted morning tea for local ambulance . . . Country Carnival at Rosevale raised \$400 for Home Missions. Miss Myrell Christensen crowned "Carnival Queen 1977" by raising \$245 . . . Bombay Appeal benefited by concert at Rosevale. Youth raised \$310 to help missionaries in India. Minister, wife, and daughter, Mrs B. Smallwood, left for India to represent Qld, at the opening of Christian Centre in Bombay . . . Mr and Mrs E. Hart visited circuit on October 30 as a farewell gesture. A Fellowship Tea preceded a combined service in the Rosewood Chapel. At the close an envelope of notes was presented to Mr Hart as a token of love and esteem .

EIGHTY-NINTH (Roma, A. F. Griffiths) Church and S.S. 89th Anniversary held with Rod Tippett and family. 140 attended Saturday S.S. demonstration and tea. Sunday services included afternoon with various items . . . Church talent drive raised \$1600 to enable manse to be paid for and repairs made to church.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HIKE FOR TESTAMENTS (Border-town, B. Reid) J.C.E. held family hike and bike-a-thon and raised over \$160 for New Testaments in the Bislami language . . . Sympathy extended to family of Mrs Eliza Scown who died at age of 97 . . . C.M.F. Vegetarian Luncheon raised \$46 to aid Korean orphan . . . "Call to Prayer" meetings held each Saturday morning at 6.30 . . . Joy and Frank Riches testified to God's healing power . . . Offering for New Hebridean Gospel Team was \$160 . . . J.C.E. sent parcel of goods to Norseman . . . Two young women baptised and large number of reconsecrations and commitments during October . . . John Fisher and Frank Riches home from voluntary work in Fiji.

INDUSTRIAL (Maylands, N. S. Moore) Industrial Sunday held with Chas Dow. One day's pay offering amounted to \$564 for Overseas Aid . . . Mr Moore spoke at morning services at new church at Salisbury East during Oct . . . Members helped in Freedom from Hunger Appeal; \$288 being collected . . . Peter Moore and four V.P. attended "Do Tell" festival at Clarendon . . . Women held cake stall at St. George's Rest Home . . . Half-yearly return of Leprosy Mission boxes yielded \$88 . . . Elders, Deacons and other office-bearers were dedicated to their ministries.

WEEKEND OF GOOD NEWS (Magill, R. Lawton). "Good News '77" weekend included messages from Gordon Stirling (Fed. Pres.), drama by the Covenant Players, testimony of Neville Bradley (5KA), and music from Sunlight, Skylight, and Dean Davis. Visitation and arrangements were co-ordinated by Wayne Lodge. Family night (Friday), a Men's breakfast, and youth meeting were features. About 20 declared an interest in either commitment to Jesus or church membership . . . Church has bought a second manse.

DAYS OUT (Naracoorte, D. N. Hovey). Recent speakers were W. Davie, P. Wardle, W. Pomery, I. Simons, M. Taylor, D. Giddings, A. Dinning and G. Wooton . . . C.W.F. visited Orana Industries for handicapped people and held a day in the country at the home of Mrs W. Davie of Kybibilite . . . Youth Group combined with Naracoorte and Lucindale Uniting Church Y.P. for barbecue at Lucindale Oval and evening at Youth Centre . . . S.S. picnic held at Lions Park.

SINGING GROUP (Ungarra, Max Westphal) Minister leads Bible study for Y.P. This group has formed a singing group and are working on a Christmas play . . . Brenda Westphal leads a morning women's Bible study. Some ladies went to Redcliffe's women's camp . . . Church times have changed to 10 a.m. with S.S. at 11.30 a.m. . . S.S. Anniversary had items from junior and senior school. Guest speaker was Rod James, Port Lincoln Uniting Church . . . Former minister, T. Lawrie, spoke at quarterly service at Mount Hill.



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VICTORIA

BELL RINGERS (Oakleigh, Dr C. J. Mackenzie) Speakers at 61st anniversary were Mal Humphries and Ian Allsop. The Roper family of bell-ringers also participated . . . An exchange of ministers was arranged with Ormond church, Oct. 9. . . The New Hebrides Mission team visited and told of thrilling developments among their own people . . . Bible study group conducting series on "Journeys into Death" (New light on the after life) . . . Mrs Masterton (Snr.) recovering after illness.

TO CRUSADE (Bendigo, M. D. Keatch). 45 travelled by bus to Leighton Ford "Reach Out" Crusade, one accepted Christ as Saviour . . . A. E. Stevens, Manifold Heights, guest speaker at B.S. anniversary. Six young people committed their lives to Christ . . . New Hebrides Gospel Team impressed with their dedication and messages . . . 18 Explorer Boys attended camp at Hall's Gap . . . M. Conry spoke to Board about trends in L.I.F.E. programmes . . . Sympathy expressed to Mr and Mrs R. Thomas and relatives in their bereavement . . . Mr and Mrs J. McCrohan recovering after hospitalisation . . . Mrs P. Steele received \$262.65 from donors for Bible Society.

HEALING (Norlane, Ian Adams). A recent Healing service was conducted by Trevor Cole and John Davey . . . Norlane Baptist Y.P. singing group conducted an evening service. Ron Logan was recent speaker . . . Marion Lakey showed slides of the work in Y.N.G. to Y.P. . . . Members are participating more in services.

MORNING BAPTISM (Sunshine, F. B. Alcorn). At morning worship services four were baptized including a father and two daughters . . . W. Bruce and Mr Morton are in hospital. Mrs Alcorn is nursing her aged father, Mr McInnes, at home . . . Many members attended the Leighton Ford meetings . . . Afternoon shared at

farm of Lewis Norton . . . The ladies made \$45 at their cake stall . . . At annual church meeting on 23 Oct., R. G. Horwood was elected Sec., and W. Bruce, treas.

CHAPLAIN (Blackburn, E. C. Keating). Ed Ots, Chaplain of Blackburn H.S., recent speaker. . . Evening service featured New Hebridean Gospel Team. Slides shown and After-Church Coffee Hour held . . . Young Marrieds' Progressive Dinner part of Getting-to-Know-You Dinner programs . . . Evening led by Changing Moods. A young lady reconsecrated her life . . . Y.A.F. held After-Church Fellowship in various homes.

SALT COMPANY (York Street, Ballarat, D. Furney). Teen/Twenty Salt Company presented musical "Come Together" for Church Anniversary Communion Service. A. E. White was guest speaker at evening service and a young lady made a committal to Christ . . . Len Martin has accepted position of second full-time co-minister . . . Ray Veal has been appointed elder . . . Scouts held Church Parade at evening service . . . CWFV visited Horsham and Kaniva churches.

CITY VISIT (Warragul, R. Pritchard) 30 visited Brighton for weekend for country-city exchange. Morning service and fellowship tea was conducted by Warragul members . . . P.S.A. compared by L. Drew to support local Chaplaincy fund raised \$140 . . . C.W.A.F. held annual Birthday afternoon. Guest speaker was Mrs Daphne Ashlin from the Hospital Visitation Committee . . . Leanne Harlow was dux of Warragul H.S.

PARSON'S PITCH (Glen Waverley, R. B. Elbourne) "Parson's Pitch", our minister's weekly article in the Waverley newspaper, was voted by readers as the No. 1 feature . . . 24th Church Anniversary speakers were K. R. Milne and G. R. Stirling. Basket lunch and fellowship followed morning service . . . Team of ushers again provided for Co.b. graduation and Ordination . . . Recent Youth Service speaker was A. Marr from Blackburn Baptist.

WELCOME (Swan Hill, J. A. Caporn) Four people welcomed into fellowship . . . C.W.F. held fete raising \$500 . . . Boys' Explorers featured in evening service . . . Dr David Friebel (Kerang) guest speaker at B.S. Anniversary . . . Robin Harrison to enter C.O.B. in 1978.

ON THE MOVE (Wangaratta, D. Stevens) Planned Giving review program held with Trevor Giles. A Family Dinner was featured. The musical group "His" provided first class entertainment . . . D. Stevens made an informative Audio-Visual of work done and goals for the future . . . C.W.F. raised \$136 at a street stall . . . With warmer weather and extra hours of daylight our midweek "Focus" has a barbecue before the different age groups go to their studies . . . Manse painting is completed . . . Adrian Clark spoke on Nov. 13, members then had a picnic lunch in the gardens . . . Last month's home service was at Adcock's home.

QUESTING from Page 24

critic who finds about thirteen things wrong with every thing that is suggested, but never has a positive idea of his own to put forward.

Not to be left out of any discussion about the tongue is the gossip. We have to love them and accept them, but they can do great harm to the church. Sometimes they just chatter, repeating without discrimination everything they hear, sometimes they spread rumours about decent people, sometimes they even lie.

I guess that they are in the same area of hopelessness as the alcoholic, the compulsive gambler, and the drug addict, and may be equally hard to treat. But a recognition of their disease is the first step to helping them.

The New Testament does suggest the extreme step of asking some folk to leave the church. Maybe the incurable gossip is one that should be deprived of the opportunity of hurting the church from within.

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QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



On the one Sunday, member "A" told me that "B" talked too much, and "B" told me that "A" was too intolerant in his attitude to young people in the church. Since then I have been listening, and I think we criticize each other far too much and we don't get any benefit from it. How do you handle critics in the church?

I don't know the answer and there is probably a sainthood waiting for the Christian who does.

If it is any comfort, the problem is not new. Jesus quoted Isaiah's word from God, "This people pays me lip-service, but their heart is far from me." Jesus himself had plenty of critics behind his back.

James also must have had some experience with critics in the church. He marvelled that man could tame animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures, but could not tame his tongue. He probably heard "A" at the communion table or in the pulpit speaking love and goodwill to all men, and then in the foyer or chariot park sharing a few home truths or inventions.

Words can be so precious, healing, helpful, tender, uplifting. Jesus himself was called the "Word" of God. Words can also be hurtful, divisive, malicious, destructive. They can start a fire which

no-one can put out.

There is room in the church for the best kind of constructive criticism, for "righteous judging." But there is no room for the person who diminishes another behind his back.

If a person's behaviour of performance is hurting the church, it is also hurting himself, and there is a Christian response. It is how and by whom that response is made that will determine whether the situation will be made better or worse.

If it is made out of genuine concern for a brother or sister, then the response is much more likely to be gentle and helpful.

Sometimes, a critic will launch his reform programme unfairly. It is unfair to criticise a young person for being immature, that is what being young means. It is unfair to criticise a person for failing to achieve perfection in a teaching, leading, or serving position in the church. No person should suffer blame because someone else does things in a better way.

Criticism, when it is justified, should be designed to improve, and not to demonstrate failings. The fact that a criticism is true does not necessarily justify it. The heading on the "A.C." Open Forum page says that letters should express only those things that are "true, kind, necessary, and Christian." That is a good rule to remember whenever one is about to express criticism.

Personal criticism should be always made in love, and criticism of church policies and programmes should always be constructive. Most of us know the

● Continued on Page 23

Questions for this column may be addressed to "Questing", P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, 3041.

THE LAST WORD...

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit gave the infant church, among other things, the gift of koinonia. The creation of a genuine fellowship is an integral part of the work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's work in the individual believer cannot be separated from what he is doing in the church — the church is not so many individual believers but is a community of faith.

— Howard A. Snyder in "Wineskins"

TRUTH

Truth is love —
bright as sunlight
clear as living water
soft as moonlight
old as time
sure as eternity.

— Clyta Shaw

★ ★ ★

Duty is something you dislike, do with hesitation and boast about forever.

★ ★ ★

She: I cook and bake for you day after day, and what do I get? Nothing!
He: You're lucky; I get indigestion.

★ ★ ★

A successful marriage depends upon relative humility.

★ ★ ★

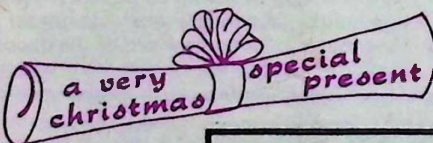
No Cause For Alarm
The trouble with our ailing clock
(It took some time to find it)
Is not the fall it had, or shock—
I just forgot to wind it.

★ ★ ★

A borrower: A man who tries to live within your means.



"I just love the way we live. It's a pity we can't afford it."



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