

THE AUSTRALIAN
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LIFE —

LET'S SHARE IT!

Madang, PNG.



JESUS SAID
 "I came that they might
 have life and have it
 abundantly" (John 10:10).

P.N.G.

Witness among Camp Dwellers



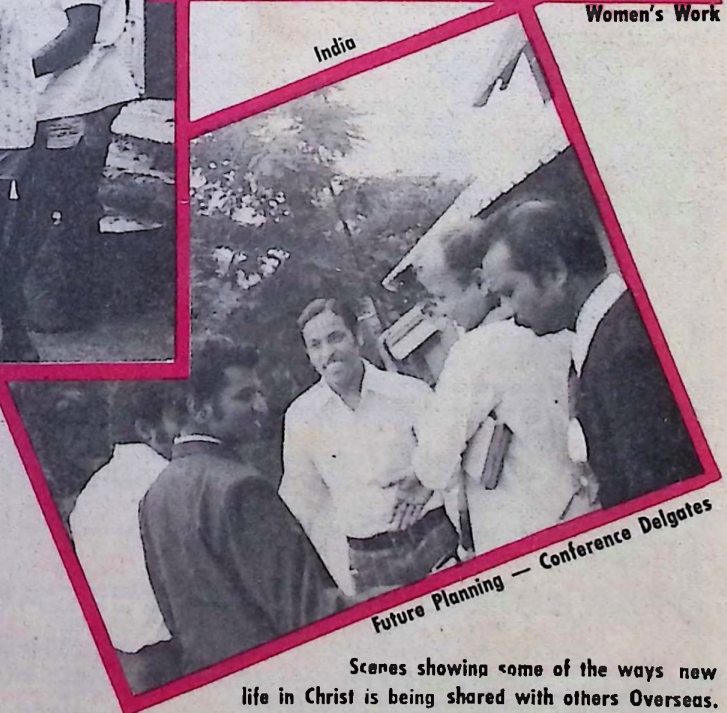
Women's Work

New Hebrides



Literature Programmes

India



Future Planning — Conference Delegates

**OVERSEAS
 MISSIONS**

**ANNUAL OFFERING
 SUNDAY, JULY 3**

Scenes showing some of the ways new
 life in Christ is being shared with others Overseas.



NEW GUINEA DAWN

The elegant flight of herons white,
 The dive of a hunting hawk
 As he takes his prey
 From the waters grey
 To his home in a garamut's fork —
 These are the sights
 And these are the sounds
 That make for the Keram's elation.

These,
 And trees,
 And multitudinous palms
 That raise their heads in soundless psalms
 of praise to the God of Creation.
 While silent Night in vain resists
 And tropic Day his claim persists
 Then rise the magic morn's miasmatic mists
 Shrouding the Schrader Ranges.
 And day is come.

Lin Fitzgerald — Chairman
 Overseas Mission Board

I visited our missionaries and our New Guinea Churches in October of last year. I composed the lines above on a river journey from Tumba to Chungribu — a four hour trip which started before first light in order to avoid the blazing heat of the noonday sun. The physical dawn is often a thing of great beauty, but what of the spiritual dawn that has been experienced by over 1500 New Guineans since our mission commenced in their area. That dawn will continue to break and enlighten more and more of these people, but in the meantime certain important trends are being highlighted by the bright light of full day. Let me explain.

I met numerous delegations of church leaders, village headmen, church congregations and local government representatives, and with them I sat on the ground or in native huts or mission houses for a good many hours. And they all wanted something! I don't blame them — they have so little. They appreciated our medical services and our education programmes, our pastor training "College" and our boats and all the services and "things" we have brought to their country, but without exception their prime request was for more evangelists! They want more trained preachers who can consolidate the work already done and who can spread the Good News further and further. They have seen the dawn and they want more light for themselves and others.

For years we have provided social services essential to the physical and mental development of the people we have tried to serve in every way — and I believe we have been right in this, particularly as we have never neglected to teach and preach and demonstrate the Gospel. But isn't it heartening in these materialistic times to find so many people with their priorities in order — "Send us more preachers".

They made it quite clear that by "preachers" they really mean specialist preachers — trained preachers who can settle their doubts and arguments and who can take their infant faith further along the road to a fuller surer understanding. As I write that I am deeply conscious of the fact that Bob Whan and his family will come home to Australia next year. What a missionary statesman our Mission will lose — and what an opportunity opens up for someone to carry on his splendid pastor training programme.

I have mentioned Bob Whan in particular, but I was impressed by every member of our New Guinea team. They are consecrated and competent and we can be proud of them. I have mentioned New Guinea in particular — but only as an example. In the space of eighteen months I have also visited the New Hebrides and India and whilst I am tremendously impressed by all the work being done I cannot but endorse the findings of the New Guinea elders — "We want more evangelists". I had come to that conclusion independently and so I was very glad to hear my thoughts put so vigorously into the challenging cry "Send us more preachers".

Of course we will continue to send teachers and doctors and nurses and carpenters and translators and administrators as long as they are needed, but let us never regard evangelists as being less important — or more important. All are co-workers in the Kingdom and all of equal importance — and that's Very Important! However, I'm not writing about us and our mission strategy — I'm just rejoicing that so many of our new Christians have learned that man doesn't live by bread alone but by every word which comes from the mouth of God, and so they say

"Send us preachers".
 Of course we will.

Lin Fitzgerald

LIFE — LET'S SHARE IT!

Jesus said, "The bread of God is that which came down from heaven and gives life to the world . . ." "I am the Bread of Life. I am come that you might have life and have it abundantly . . ." "As the Father has sent Me, even so send I you."

If we have found new life in Christ — let's share our experience with people in other lands. Churches in India, Papua New Guinea, New Hebrides, Korea and Indonesia invite us to be partners with them in numerous ministries which will help people realise that through Christ they can have life and have it abundantly.

The amount required from the churches for this purpose for the 1977/78 financial year is \$280,000. When the Overseas Mission Board meets for its Annual Meeting on June 16, 17, it will of necessity have to consider an increase for the new financial year.

Will you therefore prayerfully consider increasing your giving for the work of the Lord overseas this year?

ANNUAL OFFERING — SUNDAY JULY 2

Australian Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board
 P.O. Box 258, Cowandilla, Sth Aust. 5033.



P.N.G. CHILDREN



Pastor Henry Bombdai with his wife Yema and family, now ministering to Litabu Church and villages in the Schrader Ranges. Pastors from Australia are needed to serve as co-workers with New Guinean pastors.

THE LORD NEEDS PEOPLE

By R. S. A. McLean

How shall they hear without a preacher? God has ordained that people should come to a knowledge of Christ through the preaching of the gospel and for this he needs human agents.

The Lord is depending on us as Australian Churches of Christ to send out workers into the vast harvest fields for Christian witness overseas. As well as people qualified to serve as technical, educational and medical workers, people qualified to serve in full time church work are needed. The Indian Conference has invited us to send an administrator for the Bombay Christian Centre. The Papua New Guinea churches are calling for pastor/Bible teachers from Australia to encourage local pastors and conduct teaching ministries among the churches. The Conference Committee in the New Hebrides is appealing for a married couple to minister in an urban situation on Santo. The Lord needs people to fulfil these ministries and appoints some to go and others to stay and support them through love, prayer and concerned giving.

The Overseas Mission Board welcomes enquiries from any person interested in Overseas service and challenges the Brotherhood to respond generously to the

J. Herbert Kane in his book 'Christian Missions in Biblical Perspective' reminds us that 'by precept and example the New Testament clearly teaches that the mandate to preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations has been given to the church, and only the church can assume and fulfill that mandate. As late as William Carey's day the church continued to have a blind spot in regard to world missions. When Carey, in a ministerial meeting, urged the brothers to undertake the conversion of the heathen world, he was politely told by the moderator: "Young man, sit down! When God decides to convert the heathen He will do so without your help or mine."

The moderator was dead wrong. God converted the heathen in India, but not without Carey's help. Carey spent almost forty years in India, during which time he helped to translate the Scriptures into thirty-five of the languages of that part of the world. Those thirty-five languages and the people who spoke them had been in existence for several thousand years. The complete Scriptures had been in existence for almost eighteen hundred years, but never until the nineteenth century were those Scriptures made available to those people. And without Carey, and the others who followed him, those people would still be without a knowledge of Christ.'

**ANNUAL OFFERING —
OVERSEAS MISSIONS**
Sunday July 2
"LIFE — LET'S SHARE IT."

TESTIMONIES FROM STUDENTS

Hazel Skuce, founder of the Way of Truth Bible Correspondence Course, conducted by Churches of Christ in Western India, reports:

Our lessons continue to go throughout India and into neighbouring countries. Since the course commenced, 25,915 students have been enrolled. Students continue to write. Some ask for a fuller explanation and others write sharing their new found faith. Here are some of their testimonies.

"Thank you very much for your letter which you have sent. I am not continuing my Theological Training, but I will tell you the reason why. After being saved I never thought of being immersed. But your lessons compelled me to pray and search the Word of God and find out concerning Bible Believers' Baptism. I was baptised when I was a baby. When I let this be known that I had taken believer's baptism, I was expelled from the Theological College. I can never forget that my Lord, through this incident teaches me, 'The key to drink in the love of God, which is in Jesus is through suffering,

not for self, but for the Lord.' In such times I look to the Cross on which my Lord suffered, then my heart melts and I shed tears of joy. I want to thank you and the staff of the Way and Truth for all that you have done for me and I pray for you and the Way and Truth." from Sainbordrojen Swer, Meghalaya.

"Although I am a young man of 20 years from a Bengali Hindu family, I have studied your lessons and I am following the Christian rules. I have a great desire to work and witness for Christ." from Birprodas Guha.

"I was born in a Hindu family and up to the present I have been following the Hindu way of life. Through a friend of mine I have come to know about the Christian faith. My wish is to obtain eternal life through Jesus Christ. Please help me and pray for me as my conversion has not happened." from Davchand Atmaram Kapse.



HAZEL SKUCE founder of the Way of Truth Bible Correspondence Course, has served in India for 28 years. In addition to the Bible Correspondence ministry, Hazel has been involved in many avenues of service, including Women's evangelistic work, Children's work and relief aid projects. Hazel, now home on furlough returns to India via U.S.A. and Europe later this year.

ANNUAL OFFERING — OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Sunday, July 2,

"LIFE — LET'S SHARE IT"

EXPANSION INTO URBAN SETTINGS



BOMBAY CHRISTIAN CENTRE. The Centre opened last November, is now completed and is being used for Christian witness among multitudes of non-Christians in the neighbouring area, as well as providing a worship centre for our Bombay brethren, hostel for our young people and day care centre for children.

Churches of Christ missionary work overseas has in the past been largely concentrated in rural areas, but in recent years, there has been an expansion into urban settings such as Vila and Santo in the New Hebrides, Bombay in India, and Madang in Papua New Guinea.

EXCITING NEWS FROM SANTO — NEW HEBRIDES (Alan and Nola Baker.) We also have some exciting news concerning the Youth Centre. As you know we were sent by Conference to Santo to assist the pastors in the church work and to develop a ministry to meet the needs of our young people. Over some 5 months we prayed and searched for a suitable place in town, but rents were very high and our ideal of finding accommodation and youth centre facilities together just didn't seem available.

As the need to find accommodation became more acute we considered a place just out of town at a suburb called Sapi. It was a huge place overgrown with bush and very dirty inside. After visiting the place several times and making enquiries with the owners, we saw the vision of possibilities. However there were several disadvantages — one it had no electricity, but it was wired for a generator but not on town supply. Secondly, how would we go being so far out of town?

After considering all these we decided that it was the place and through lots of hard work by some of our Church members we cleaned and scrubbed, cut bush, and painted until it became liveable. It has tremendous potential, it was an old restaurant and bar, but we have facilities for a Coffee Shop, Reading Room, Table Tennis and Cinema.

We started activities on Good Friday night with the film 'King of Kings', some 300 to 400 people attended. Since then we have run a Friday night programme but we hope to develop it as a Drop-In Centre once we get some finances to proceed. We need chairs, tables, stools, cups etc. We thank you for your prayers and support in this venture and hope to report next time of further progress and development.

We are also pleased to report that plans are proceeding for the erection of our new Church building in May or June. Land is cleared, access road built, water supply connected and some 40 tons of sand on site ready for the foundations. This weekend we will carry coral which we use as screenings in the concrete. Once we hear from the Overseas Mission Board on a team to assist with the erection and the necessary funds, we will really be in business. This has created new interest and enthusiasm by many of our people in town, so as physically we grow we are planning and praying for spiritual growth also. C.W.F., Sunday School, Village Visitation, Bible Study and Prayer Fellowships are all functioning well, so please pray for this work and our leaders.

OUR OVERSEAS MISSIONARIES

INDIA

Baramati: P.O. Box 26, Baramati, Poona District, 413102, India: Mr & Mrs H. Waghmode, Misses E. Vawser, H. Skuce, D. Geyer.

Poona: 1a Stavely Road, Pune, 411001, India: Mr & Mrs J. Main.

Chinchpada: Miss D. Holstein, Christian Hospital, Chinchpada, 425417, Dhule, Maharashtra, India.

Ootacamund: Mr & Mrs B. Jenkins, Union Church, Church Hill Road, Ootacamund, Nilgiris, District, South India, 643001.

NEW HEBRIDES

Duindui, Aoba: Miss K. Williams, Mr & Mrs D. Edwards, Dr & Mrs C. Smyth.

Ranwadi: Pentecost: Mr & Mrs K. Warne, Mr & Mrs D. Westaway, Miss J. Marshall.

Banmatmat: Pentecost, Mr & Mrs G. J. Warne.

Santo: P.O. Box 86, Mr & Mrs A. Baker; Mr & Mrs R. Foster.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Churches of Christ Mission, P.O. Box 1080, Mandang, PNG. Mr & Mrs R. Whan, Miss R. Williams, G. Law, Mr & Mrs M. Brugar, Mr & Mrs P. Williams, Miss A. Draney, Mr M. Fenner, Mr & Mrs B. Buli, Miss M. Horner, Miss R. Rofe, Mr & Mrs R. Feldhahn, Mr & Mrs A. Ben, Mr & Mrs W. Keddie, Miss D. Ka Catts, Miss F. Christensen, Mr & Mrs G. Sonsie.



ALAN & NOLA BAKER with their daughters Joy-Anne and Renee. The Bakers are actively involved in a town ministry in Santo, New Hebrides. They return to Australia early January, 1979, and new workers are required to continue this important ministry.

The cities and the towns need the most dedicated evangelic effort that Christians can produce.

Global Report: "For the first time in history more of the world's population has gathered in cities than remains in rural areas. In 1900, only 13% of our planet's people lived in cities. By 2000 AD that figure will have risen to 87%."

F. B. Meyer: "Christian missionaries should be strategists, expanding their strength where populations teem and rivers of world influence have their rise."

Roger S. Greenway: "Such places are today's cities, their populations teem and their influence reaches to every mountain, hamlet and village town."

SEEING THE POSSIBILITIES ... IN MADANG

BUSY DAYS

Life here in Madang continues to be busy. It is very different from life in the bush. We do miss the quietness of the bush and patrolling around. Our son John often asks us when we are going back to Bunapas or Mui. He has settled well into the Madang International School, and is very happy to have Ron and Anne Buli living next door and also being able to go to school with him.

At the end of this month, Alan Stray, one of the M.A.F. pilots, will be living on the other side of us so their child will be going to school with Ron, Anne and John. M.A.F. from now on will have a plane and pilot based here in Madang. So quite a deal of our mission flying will be done from Madang.

CHURCH GROWTH

The numbers attending the church services here continue to grow. Our record is close to 300, but usually it is closer to 200. Many have not missed a service for 12 months. Quite a number have committed their lives to Christ and have been baptised. Many others are asking questions and being taught more about what it really means to commit one's life to Christ.

Bill and Janet Buli are moving around the various camps continually getting to know the people and being available to answer their questions. As it becomes rather crowded in our home for services we have had to meet outside under the trees on occasions. As it is the wet season now, we find that there are very few Sundays when it isn't raining.

Nemos, our mission carpenter, very kindly made us a large number of stools for the people to sit on. This has been a tremendous help. We are waiting on confirmation re the purchase of land at the moment. K2000.00 deposit has been paid and the balance of K8000.00 should be forthcoming soon. This block is 150m deep and 50m wide. It is on the main road into town, the back of the block running down to the sea. It is opposite the High School and close to the Para-Medical College, the Secretarial College and Madang Technical College.

These schools all have a large number of boarders. On this block we plan eventually to have a house for the resident missionary, a house for missionaries who are in town for medical reasons, holidays or conferences etc. There will be some type of all-purpose building where there will be facilities for young people's work, and possibly church services. In the area where most of our mission folk live we have applied for a piece of land which will, we hope, become a church lease. This is situated near a large new housing development project. Most of our people are within walking distance of this block. Here we hope to have a chapel and some type of all purpose hall built, and a pastor's house. These may even all be combined into the one building if it would lower costs. There will be no purchasing cost of this block of land if the Govern-

ment make it available as a church lease.

BIBLE STUDIES

Our Friday night Bible Studies have increased in numbers. This year we have had to divide into two groups. Graeme and Ron Augsburgar from Pioneer Bible Translators take the English speaking group. There are approximately 35 to 40 young people in this group. The other group is taken by Bill Buli — these are the older group who either work around the town or who are just resident here with their families. We have divided the larger group into 4 teams and during this year they will be given points for new folk brought to the group, scripture passages learned by heart, competition Bible quizzes etc., etc. They are all very keen and really seem to enjoy the group. Our Saturday night meetings are a combined group. Often about 70 attending. We put lights on the old grass tennis court beside our house and there they have competition ball games, social games, films, film strips, etc. This too is proving to be a very good way of getting the young people mixing together and also keeping them off the streets at night.

EFFECTIVE MINISTRY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

It has been a real challenge to us this year to have young people who have moved out to the other towns in the country for further study and work, often ringing us up just for a talk. Their letters tell us over and over again just how much their last year at school meant to them. They formed very close friendships and it

fulfilling their responsibilities of leadership within the group.

BILL BULI'S MINISTRY

During the week Bill has regular times when he visits the various camps. The people know when to expect him and they are usually gathered together waiting for him. He has a time of prayer and Bible study, this is mainly for the Christians, but usually there are numbers of non-Christians who sit in with him. Sunday nights we also go to the different camps.

This is primarily for the preaching of the gospel and further teaching on the Christian life. Usually large groups of people attend, and sometimes there are quite interesting discussions. When we eventually get our worship centre, we will be commencing Sunday School also.

PRAYER REQUESTS

While the work at Madang is much to the fore at the moment, we would urge you all to continue to pray for the work as a whole. Remember the Bible School at Tumba where there is a completely new group of students this year. Pray for those who graduated last year and now are working through our mission area. Pray for the medical orderlies at our health centres, for the teachers in our schools, for all pastors and church leaders and also for the missionaries at work on the various stations training and guiding folk in the work they have to do. Pray most of all that those who have named the name of Christ and have signified their desire to become Christians will continue to go on with the Lord and not give up when the going gets hard.



now means so much to them that they have the group as a whole here praying for them and taking an interest in them personally through letter writing etc.

Last year the only four exit students that we had in High School did a very fine job as leaders of the group, and it has been thrilling to us this year to find that the four boys who will be exit students from the High School this year are already

FIVE TON TRUCK generously provided by an anonymous donor to transport supplies from Madang to the mission at Bunapas, 180 miles away. On Sunday the truck is used to bring people from the various settlements some miles out from Madang, to a central meeting place. Due to large numbers attending and while waiting the construction of a temporary worship centre, the meetings are held outdoors.

CONSULTATION ON THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION . . .

APIA - SAMOA

Early this year Graham Warne from Banmatmat and John Lee from Ranmawat, represented Churches of Christ at a Consultation on Theological Education in Apia. In their report on the consultation they said:

The Consultation was jointly organised by the Pacific Conference of Churches and the South Pacific Association of Theological Schools (SPATS). Approximately 80 delegates were present representing French Polynesia, Niue, Tonga, Fiji, Gilbert Is., Tuvalu, Marshall Is., Caroline Is., Nauru, New Hebrides, Solomon Is., and Samoa.

Observers and advisers were also present from World Council of Churches (WCC), Pacific Conference of Churches (PCC), Pacific Theological College, Pacific Regional Seminary (Catholic), Caribbean Conference of Churches (Trinidad), Aust. and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools (ANZATS), University of the South Pacific and Yale University (U.S.A.). Our Conference was represented by G. Warne and J. Lee.

The Programme consisted of daily Bible Studies, Church Reports, College Reports, Small Group Discussions, Plenary sessions, and presentation of Papers (evenings). The Bible Studies followed the theme, 'Mission and Ministry'. Small groups discussed various passages of Scripture, and were then required to present a report in a creative way. A variety of techniques was used, from writing Newspaper headlines, dramatisation, to writing prayers which expressed the theme of the study. These presentations added great interest to the studies.

Each church and college was required to present a report. Two days were spent listening to these! The consultation then divided into small groups to discuss the issues arising from these reports, and seek to identify common needs. The material from these small group discussions provided the basis for further discussion, as the various issues were sharpened and refined.

After final discussion in different interest groups, resolutions were formed and presented to the plenary session. These resolutions were discussed and formulated into an acceptable form.

Significant Issues were: (selected from resolutions)

1. Community Involvement in Theological Education. It was emphasised that Education is for Ministry, and is not simply an academic exercise. Therefore, students must have considerable field experience as part of their training, in order to relate to real needs. Village visitation is seen as an invaluable part of the training experience.

2. Co-operation. In view of increasing costs, every attempt should be made to share resources wherever possible, especially between denominations working in the same areas.
3. Women in Ministry. There was considerable discussion concerning the role of women in Pacific churches. The Consultation recommended:
 - a) Acceptance of women into the ministry with fully ordained status, as with men.
 - b) Employment of women staff members at Theological Colleges.
4. Christian Education. More priority needs to be given to the subject of Christian Education in training. Pastors should not only be skilled theologically, but must also be able to effectively communicate that knowledge to others. There is a need for training in Educational Theory and Principles of Communication.
5. Continuing Education. There is a real need for some continuing education for Pastors after the completion of their College course. In-service training should be encouraged.
6. Need for Renewal. We were encouraged by the emphasis on renewal at the Consultation. "There is a cry from the church for a life in the Spirit which is a close personal relationship with God." Associated with this desire was a real concern for evangelism in some churches, particularly in Samoa and Fiji.

NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

TESTIMONY OF EDISON TABI — NEW HEBRIDES

"Before I married Stella I was a man of strong drink, and my drunkenness became even worse after our marriage. Sometimes I did not eat for one or two days, but just spent my time drinking. My family were unhappy because of what I was doing. I would come home at midnight or early in the morning, making a noise and waking everybody up. This happened until Jesus changed my life on the sixth of August last year. This date will always remind me of my conversion.

"It happened when the three evangelists from the Solomon Islands came to us. The Lord really worked through them. Many boys and girls and men and women in Vila changed from their old ways to the new ways of Jesus. Many realised that they had gone far from God and I was one of them. Now the church in Vila is growing strong through these young Christians.

"Last November I preached my first sermon during the gospel service at the Sarabetu Church of Christ in Vila. Many were surprised at what I was saying about God changing my life. I told the people that what God had done for me. He could do for others. I believe God wants to show the young Christians, such as myself, how to stand for Christ and serve Him and not leave all the church work to older people.

"We have dedicated four Elders to help in the church work in Vila. Pastor Samuel Vusi is back as our pastor at Sarabetu (Vila Church of Christ).

"I praise God that He wants me to follow His ways and not my ways."

ENCOURAGING STATISTICS 1977

	India	New Hebrides	Papua New Guinea
Baptisms	87	124	324
Pastors and Evangelistic Workers	14	20	21
Bible College Students	1	9	14
Churches	8	58	33
Church Members	1399	2419	1646

LIFE —

**LET'S
SHARE
IT!**

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

It all started in January this year when Californian schoolteacher, Mr George Muldoon, suggested that as part of an educational program his 12 year old students set up a capitalist democracy.

But it all came crashing down last month when Mr Muldoon staged a coup and resumed dictatorial powers. "I couldn't let it go on," he said, "I thought: good grief, we've got another Watergate."

The seventh graders created 'Amasudatamalie' from scratch, moulding their new nation on the U.S.A.

They printed money, with a picture of a baby on one-dollar bills, a hippie on tens and a skull on hundreds. Class members had to pay in Amasudatamalie dollars to use the pencil sharpener, books, wastebasket or door. Top bidders won the right to operate those concessions and reap the revenues for them. But within weeks the system began to crumble.

The Department of Beautification, the Orwellian name chosen for the police force, issued a rash of citations for such crimes as sitting on desks and messing up the room.

"Some people never got arrested though," one student observed. "People with money had more power than the President."

Mr Muldoon said class police eventually fingerprinted the whole class, kept dossiers on them "and me" and began accepting payoffs not to issue tickets.

The bank was also knee-deep in scandal, with the president using bank funds to pay other students to do her work. They, in turn, stole from the coffers.

But the crime that eventually brought Amasudatamalie's downfall was counterfeiting. The chief culprit admitted on Friday he used a duplicating machine to reproduce more than \$300,000.

The racket became so good that soon he "retired" from his job as head of the

health department and enticed six other students to join the ring.

When police said they would fine the crew for loafing around on their desks, "we'd just flip them \$100 and tell them to forget it," one counterfeiter said.

Finally, Mr Muldoon pulled a coup.

"I said 'OK, your country is falling apart. The police are running amok. Your treasury is broke. Now you're going to be run by a dictatorship,' and I took over."

But that's not the end of the story. Now, Mr Muldoon said, the students want to try their hands at a socialist state.

(Information from The Australian's New York bureau.) ■

From Amasudatamalie back to Australia ...

In last issue's round-up of reactions to the Moro assassination one critic claimed that our society here is largely "afflicted with grievous inequalities — which we deny regularly."

In response to a number of requests to broach the question (raised two issues ago) of what are these grievous inequalities, may I briefly mention just two.

1. The entrenched injustice of a taxation system which effectively has low income earners paying a much greater proportion of their income in tax than high income earners. This is the result of indirect taxes such as sales tax, motor reg. fees, licence fees, land rates and hospital benefits. The amounts to be paid do not vary with income. They are clearly a much heavier burden on those who earn less. As a result of these hidden taxes, people earning around the minimum wage can be paying up to 40% in tax.

2. The proliferation of tax avoidance schemes available to the very wealthy.

A writer to this column, himself a most successful businessman, recently wrote, "would it surprise you to know I have

friends whose companies earn nett in the \$100,000 bracket who pay less than \$10,000 personal and company tax per year? If you tell people this they simply do not believe it, yet it is absolutely true, by means of family trusts, multiple company organization, superannuation funds, etc. (And as a postscript) If you do your own homework on tax avoidance, Alan, you will come up with a horrifying situation!!" ■

And these are only two. Perhaps later, if space (and reader interest) permits, we could look at:

- the treatment of our blacks,
- unemployment and the low unemployment benefit,
- the ease with which governments divert millions of dollars to big corporations and wealthy individuals via land deals, computer contracts and the like,
- Medibank and the super-profits of some medical practitioners,
- Unearned incomes such as speculative gains and inheritances,
- Direct handouts to the rich through grants, bounties and cheap finance for wealthy first home buyers.

Response from readers is, as always, welcome. ■

A newly-wed couple had been inspecting a house in the country. After satisfying themselves that it was suitable they made their way home. During the journey, the bride asked, 'Did you notice any W.C.?' and her husband, not having noticed any, wrote to the landlord inquiring where it was located. The landlord, not understanding what W.C. meant, thought it over and concluded it meant Wesleyan Church. He replied as follows:

Dear Sir,

I regret the delay in the matter but have great pleasure in advising that the W.C. is situated 9 miles from the house and is capable of seating 150 persons. This distance may prove inconvenient if you are in the habit of going regularly but many people take their lunch and make a day of it. My daughter was married in the W.C. having met her husband there. I remember the wedding well on account of the terrific rush for seats. There were two people on the seat I usually occupy, one sitting, one kneeling, and it was wonderful to see the expressions on their faces. My father was there too. He has been a regular there since being christened in its waters. A wealthy resident has erected a bell on our W.C. to be rung every time a member enters and the people have had no peace since. My wife and I are old now. When we last went, six years ago, we had to stand up all the time. It pains me very much not to go more often.

Yours etc. ■

JASON'S HOUSE



THE YOUTH GROUP IS RUNNING A COURSE IN TAE-KWON-DO...



YOU KNOW, KARATE, KUNG FU AND ALL THAT...



PERSONALLY, THOUGH, I'M NOT ALL THAT INTERESTED IN THE MARITAL ARTS.

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.

CALL TO EVANGELISM

To the Editor

I wish to add a hearty "Amen" to Gordon Moyes' statement in the "A.C." 27.5.78. For too long we have left evangelism to the local church, and even more so to the local church minister, as if he or they had the expertise, time, etc. to carry out the task alone. There have been isolated State-wide campaigns, but they have been all too rare of recent years, and of limited impact to the community as a whole. It is clear that as an Australian brotherhood we must organise and co-ordinate ourselves in such a way that we can be heard as a strong voice rather than a weak, plaintive, pained squeak. This applies to our position as a Restoration movement as well as evangelism.

Lesslie Newbigin has said that if the church isn't in mission then it isn't being the church at all. The question must then come, are we really playing our part as the church, that is, the church in mission, as an Australian brotherhood?

A co-ordinated effort Australia wide would also provide support and stimulation for ministers and churches. Especially for those who either aren't gifted in evangelism, or who are so busy with other things that they aren't able to give a fair proportion of their time to evangelism. (Maybe a part of the thrust could be an educative program on priorities). This effort should also include our three colleges, thus helping our future ministers to have a real burden for evangelism.

The program would also need to include study and practical training in the areas of personal evangelism, personal follow-up and witnessing (making friends for God as Leighton Ford calls it). Peter Wagner in "Your Church Can Grow" says that in his experience 10 per cent of church members have a gift for evangelism. Obviously this doesn't mean that the other 90 per cent don't witness and share their faith in their own way, but can you imagine the results in our cities, in our streets if Australia wide 10 per cent of our people were mobilised directly for evangelism, alongside the supporting, praying, witnessing, befriending remainder!

Paul Cameron, N.S.W.

RENEWAL

To the Editor,

I congratulate the Pamphlet Club for the May issue, No. 271. While not having had the same experience as Ken Clinton, I have for some time been seeking clarification for some of my views on the Holy Spirit. This Pamphlet does set the matter out very clearly and concisely.

I have also had contact with people who have gone through the traumatic experience of "TONGUE TESTING" or "MOTHER WELL MADNESS". I might add that this experience has left the person completely shattered, as it is conducted without love and with a complete disregard of the person involved. I agree entirely with Ken Clinton that there is no scriptural basis for the testing of tongues.

S. F. Godfrey, N.S.W.

"JUST PRAYING"

To the Editor,

Thank "Tertius" for the clever word about "Just Praying" shared with us in "A.C." 27.5.78. I was beginning to wonder if it was just a part of the "Liturgy" of Churches of Christ, out of "the corner of the vineyard" or "the honours of the feast".

Sometimes I've wished that we might just repeat the Lord's Prayer thoughtfully and reverently together, rather than be found indulging in what is just plain vain repetition.

Ron. V. Holt, Qld.

125th ANNIVERSARY

To the Editor, — On October 8, 1978, the Royal Melbourne Philharmonic Society celebrates its 125th anniversary and proudly looks back on a long and continuous contribution to Melbourne's musical life.

In order to plan an appropriate function to mark the occasion, the Society wishes to locate ex-members and others associated with the choir in the past.

Information, names and addresses, etc. should be sent to: The Secretary, R.M.P.S., 20 Bolinda Road, North Balwyn, 3104. Phones: Home 857 6918, Bus. 314 0333 (ext. 213).

Arthur Spurgeon, Hon. Secretary.

URANIUM AND ABORIGINES

Dr H. C. Coombes, former Governor of the Reserve Bank, has described recent Federal legislation on uranium as "another example of white hypocrisy and humbug."

To a Melbourne audience he said that Federal legislation was forcing Aborigines to accept uranium mining on their traditional lands whether they like it or not, although opposition to mining expressed by Aborigines to the Fox Commission was "almost universal".

"What is happening is a continuation of the dispossession begun in 1788 of land which is theirs by plain and sacred right — as acknowledged by an 1833 parliamentary committee of the British Government. The fact that it is legalised in an Act, the main purpose of which is said to be to recognise those rights, does not even seem ironic but rather another example of white hypocrisy and humbug."

He said Federal legislation provided that Aborigines could be compelled to accept mining on their land "only after the Aborigines have refused or failed to negotiate an acceptable basis for mining — so enabling the Minister, on the advice of an Arbitrator (so called) to make an agreement on their behalf".

"It is as if in legislation to protect female chastity, women were required when propositioned to state their terms or allow somebody else to decide the matter."

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

AND THE DOORS WERE SHUT

To the Editor,

Last Sunday there was a United Gospel Witness in our local town hall. All the churches closed their evening services for it. We had the Salvation Army Band and the gospel presentation in song and message was by "Evangel", a local group. There were several decisions.

I met Will on Monday and asked him how he liked it. He said it was alright, but that he didn't agree with the church doors being shut on a Sunday night. Some one needing the gospel might just happen to pass by at that time, and finding the place in darkness, go away in despair.

Will seemed to have a point and I was starting to agree with him. But as I thought more about it I wondered! Will didn't seem terribly concerned that the church doors were shut every other night of the week, and indeed all day Sunday except for about three hours. Why is it that "lost people" are supposed to pass churches at 7 to 8 on Sunday nights and never at other times? And why is it that "lost people" are supposed to come to the church at all? Doesn't the Book say that we are supposed to go and find them?

As far as I can remember I don't know of any needy soul who has strayed into our chapel without being brought by someone else. In fact our people took a whole lot of people to the town hall Gospel Witness who would never have come to our chapel.

As I was chewing over all of this, it occurred to my simple mind that the church is people and not buildings and that the doors of our homes are just as much church doors as those of the chapel are. Maybe the doors of our homes are the ones we should be concerned, to keep open to the lost and the derelict. I began wondering how many lost ones are turned away because these doors are shut to them. That thought was so uncomfortable that I quickly slipped my mind back into neutral and waited for the wife to call me to dinner.

Yours comfortably,

TERTIUS.

THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

— A CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCHES

PART TWO

By Dianne Feeney

Motivation Affects Theology

Lest I give the impression that the charismatic movement has primarily a sociological function, I hasten to add that its theological importance should not be under-estimated. It is possible that many charismatic Christians will adopt a certain theological stance because it satisfies their personal and social needs. After all if a person believes he has been healed of a serious malady, his theology of healing is bound to be influenced by that experience.

(It is also just as possible that the theology of "traditionalists" is also influenced by their particular social circumstances — for example, the limited life experience in a typical suburban family situation). We must be careful that our theological argument is not merely a cover for preserving the status quo.

Reaction Against Tradition

In many ways I see the current charismatic renewal as just another of the many historical protest movements that have affected the church. But this protest has some unusual sociological aspects. Instead of being comprised of the poor and the socially deprived (who seem to make up the bulk of all historical protest movements) this movement is attracting the affluent middle classes, the educated, and the youth of our churches. The fact that it is attracting young people could suggest that it attracts immature Christians who are out for excitement. It must go further than this because of the large number of older Christians who are affected.

There is a general reaction by the affluent and especially young people against materialism, the establishment and other traditional forms, and a withdrawal from social and economic pressures. There is the "quality of life" argument. Higher education has encouraged greater participation and personal involvement in many areas of life, including Christianity. Participation is encouraged in charismatic meetings. The preaching, singing and expressions of worship are exciting and enthusiastic. The teachings are either new or have been rediscovered and therefore appear as new, and the values that are expounded are idealistic. All of these factors would help to attract young people.

Miss D. B. Feeney, B.A. (Hons), A.I.P.S., A.A.I.M., is Lecturer in Social Sciences at Woolwich Bible College.

Spiritual deprivation seems to be one of the chief motivating factors influencing the affluent adherents, whereas other protest movements have attracted people with economic or political deprivation.

What Should the Church's Response Be?

The Church must assess its role in response to the protest. It may choose to ignore the movement or tolerate its existence within the framework of the established church. Alternatively it may actively pursue one of two courses — either persecute and extinguish the charismatic impulse, or correct the source of dissatisfaction within its own institutional framework.

I have stated that the movement has considerable social value. Therefore I can only adopt the position that the institutional church has a responsibility to its own well-being and the well-being of its members, to take the latter alternative. History shows that any attempt to extinguish the flame of protest only rekindles it in some other form, or drives it underground. The church must look inwardly for the source of dissatisfaction in an attempt to rectify that which is claimed to be irrelevant.

There is increasing criticism about the irrelevancy of the church in modern society. Medieval liturgies and hymns, over-formalized worship, authoritarian and hierarchical leadership, have little meaning in the culture of industrial society with its norms of equality and democracy. Even the evangelical branch

of the church, which, in its structure and style of worship is less formal, has retained a style of presentation and message more suited to the 19th century.

There is little scope in many churches for people to find expression and meaning outside of the prescribed rules and procedures. With the technological society becoming increasingly impersonal, the individual who seeks some kind of spiritual fulfillment is not going to be attracted to another impersonal institution.

The church must have a greater concern for satisfying man's emotional needs. If the church is serious about proselytizing, the "unchurched" will not be attracted by "cold" or "dead" churches.

The fact that the charismatic movement is trying to institute change may be reason enough for some churches to oppose it. The church needs to come to terms with its function. If Christianity is something static — a system of beliefs, rituals and practices that emerge at a given time and should not be subject to revision — then religious change is out of the question. But if Christianity is seen as an ongoing faith, subject to changing forms, revised liturgies and rituals in the light of changes in society, then lack of "orthodoxy" does not mean a weakening of Christianity. It can be a sign of strength.

There are, however, major problems to be overcome, before the orthodox church and its reforming agent can come together. Strong emotional and doctrinal conflicts exist which make it difficult for rational dialogue or even tolerance to survive. Although the charismatics also hold to orthodox tenets of faith, any attempt to integrate the more acceptable qualities of the movement is jeopardized by accusations of "courting evil forces" and suspicions surrounding the abnormal ecstatic behaviour that occurs in charismatic services.

If those who are currently debating the validity and acceptability of some charismatic practices would devote the same energies to meeting the emotional and spiritual needs of people, they may not be so threatened by empty pews.

DISCIPLES AND THIRD WORLD CHURCHES

Third World churches related to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will be a major influence in a world conference of Disciples at Kingston, Jamaica, Oct. 7-12, 1979.

Approximately 50 of the 100 delegates to the first Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council study conference will be from Caribbean, Latin American, Asian and African churches.

Consultants also will come from united churches, ecumenical bodies such as the World Council of Churches and the Caribbean Conference of Churches and from world confessional bodies such as the Anglican Consultative Council and the World Alliance for Reformed Churches.

"The conference on 'Unity and Mission' will be designed to help Disciples around the world understand the struggles of Third World countries

and to help them discover the mission of the church in this context," said Dr Paul A. Crow Jr., Indianapolis, Ind., convener of the planning committee and general secretary of the council.

The conference also will "engage churches around the world in today's ecumenical agenda and make their participation in ecumenical life more effective," said Dr Crow, president of the Council on Christian Unity for the U.S.-Canadian church.

Planners of the conference, including Jamaican Disciples, the Jamaica Council of Churches and the Caribbean Council of Churches, expect delegates to experience the worship, culture and life in Jamaica.

Members of the Disciples Ecumenical Consultative Council include Argentina, Canada, England, Jamaica, New Zealand, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Scotland and the U.S. churches.

US PRESBYTERIANS AGAINST ORDAINING HOMOSEXUALS

The United Presbyterian Church in the US has come out against the ordination of homosexuals. The current annual assembly of the Church agreed that "unrepentant homosexual practice does not accord with the requirements for ordination." It took four hours of intense discussions on the floor of the 190th United Presbyterian general assembly to reach this conclusion. They were based on a majority and a minority report submitted by a task force which had worked more than a year studying the issue whether homosexuality is a recognized, legitimate lifestyle and that no sin attaches to it.

However, the majority report of the task force which came out squarely in favour of the ordination of homosexuals and reflected the feelings of most task force members, was defeated overwhelmingly by the close to 700 commissioners (delegates). The report of the task force minority which did not advocate ordination but would accept homosexuality and the civil rights of

homosexuals, was also defeated. Instead, an assembly committee drafted a new paper which states, among other points, that there is room in the Church "for all who give honest affirmation in the Church" and that homosexuals who sincerely affirm Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour should not be excluded from membership.

The document, however, denies them outright ordination. It urges the creation of a ministry with homosexual persons. It further asks all having responsibility for examining candidates for the ministry to abstain from making "specific enquiry into the sexual orientation or practice of candidates for ordained offices, or ordained officers where the person involved has not taken the initiative in declaring his or her sexual orientation."

The United Presbyterian decision had been awaited with much interest throughout the country. Other American churches also engaged in discussions of homosexuality have not had to contend with a similar decisionmaking challenge. — EPS.

ROTARY'S HIGHEST AWARD

A. C. Male, Queensland's Hon. Director of Youth and Christian Education has been invested a Paul Harris Fellow which is Rotary's Highest Award.

Rotary District 960 has invested "A.C." with this award in recognition of contribution to Rotary and Youth work. He has been a member of Rotary for 15 years with 100% attendance record and is a Senior Active Rotarian by classification. He has been involved in leading 23 Rotary Youth Leadership Seminars (R.Y.L.A.) in Districts as far apart as Sydney, Canberra, Longreach, Armidale, Caloundra and Papua-New Guinea.

The Award was sponsored by past Rylarians and eight Rotary clubs of District 960.

FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN ARGENTINA

The Protestant Church of West Germany has sent a letter to journalists going to Argentina for the World Football Championships, asking them not to forget that human rights are being violated in that country.

"It would be inappropriate to ignore everyday life in Argentina behind the facade of the World Championship," said the letter. It reminded journalists that 16 Germans have disappeared and that, over the last two years, some 15,000 people have been reported missing. Moreover, the fate of some 8-10,000 political prisoners remains unknown.

The letter emphasized that the World Championships would no doubt be exploited for political ends, and appealed to journalists to find out as much as possible about the situation in Argentina and not lose sight of reality when writing their reports. — EPS.

RAINY CAMP (Manifold Heights, P.A. Pitts) Church Family Camp held at Hall's Gap despite rain. Don and Lois Smith, Dept. of Mission Education and Development, led studies . . . Guest speakers, Gordon Scambler, Christian Literature Dept., and Laurie Barlow . . . Members wrote to State Govt. urging them not to relax liquor laws . . . 5 p.m. winter-time services commenced with a tea-table service . . . Combined Geelong C. of C. have appointed some new official hospital visitors, including Mrs Dorothy Sterling of Manifold Heights.

UNHITCHED (Blackburn, E. Keating/P. Burnham) Singles Club "Unhitched" inaugural dinner attended by 120 . . . Family service featured Youth I . . . Sheila Massey, youth counsellor at International Needs Teen centre, New Delhi, spoke at evening service.

HUMAN RIGHTS IN BRAZIL

Catholic and Protestant church leaders in Brazil have decided to continue their information campaign on human rights. On the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the military take-over a third edition of a 36-page brochure was published in 1.3 million copies. It gives the text of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948 and signed by Brazil, and a series of theological comments. A fourth edition is in preparation.

The campaign is sponsored by Cardinal Aloisio Lorscheider (Brazilia), President of the Episcopal Conference and Bishop of the Episcopal Church (Anglican), and Arthur R. Kratz (Porto Alegre), a member of the WCC Central Committee. Archbishop Don Helder Camara (Recife) and the new Methodist Bishop Paulo Ayres Mattos (Rio) took part in the initial regional press conferences. — EPS

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

JAY'S QUIZ

THREE WHO BOUGHT

1. Who told his sons to buy grain in Egypt? 2. Who bought the first piece of land recorded in the Bible? 3. What was bought with the money Judas received for betraying Jesus? (see page 18).

CODE

Before World War I, the Russians made up a code so secret that only one copy was made. When war came the single copy of the new code book was given to a Russian general facing the German soldiers. Then, in a very foolish act, all the old code books were ordered destroyed. So, they had a new code but the only person who could understand it was that one general. He couldn't send messages to anyone, and no-one could send messages to him. The Russian armies had to send messages in clear language which the Germans could understand. They knew which Russian army was short of supplies. They attacked and knocked the Russians out of the war.

Visitors were being shown around the battleship that had just arrived in port. The guide paused before a bronze plaque on the deck and with bowed head, said, "This is where our gallant captain fell."

"Well, no wonder," said one nervous lady, "I nearly tripped over the thing myself!"

"Senator, many of your constituents can't understand from your speech last night just how you stand on the question."

"Finel It took me eight hours to write it that way."



"We wanna do a little checking on this William Tell fella."

BOOKS TO READ

LET MY PEOPLE GROW

by Michael Harper (Hodder & Stoughton) \$8.95

Harper is a leader in the charismatic movement. He writes against the background of the church's crisis. He is mainly concerned with ministry and he is disturbed about the church and its ministers today. "Not a few are in complete despair. Leadership fumbles. The majority carry on with little faith or hope, the idealism of their younger days buried beneath the crumbling ruins of out-moded institutions." But Harper is not without faith or hope. He declares that the Holy Spirit which launched the church and sustained its ministry in its early days is still available with the same power and authority for today. It is not that the world is too strong for the church, it is that the church has forgotten the source of its own strength. The church needs leaders and leadership, argues Harper, is a gift of the Spirit. This is a stimulating book, with lots of ideas, but its basic reliance upon the work of the Spirit today and the way the Spirit can work in our ministers and churches is the theme. Don't let the author's involvement with the charismatic movement put you off. There should be nothing but acknowledgment that the Spirit is moving in the church today and even if we are not enthusiastic about all aspects of the current movement, it is the Holy Spirit that is moving in the church. —

A.E.W.

WHAT ABOUT NOUTHETIC COUNSELLING?

by Jay E. Adams (Baker)

"Nouthetic, who?" The word, pronounced "newthetic", was invented by Adams to describe his philosophy or practice of counselling. He brought it into English from the Greek New Testament although he does not say much about the word's background. The word is probably "noutheteo" which is used four or five times. In Rome 15:14 the RSV make it "instruct", "Filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another." In Col. 3:16 it is "admonish", "Teach and admonish one another in all wisdom". In describing his method, Adams (an earlier book "The Use of Scriptures in Counselling" was reviewed on this page) says the nouthetic counselling is in this setting: 1. The counselee has problems resulting from sin that must be resolved God's way. 2. These problems must be resolved by verbal confrontation using the scripture, and 3. The resolution must be done out of love for the counselee to help him love God and enjoy him in his life. Adams says that this book is not adequate as a source book in itself but is companion to "Competent to Counsel", a manual, and "The Use of Scriptures etc." above. — A.E.W.

FONTANA PAPERBACK COMMENTARIES

Commentaries on the scriptures were once a rather expensive purchase, but with mass printing and paperback editions, for a very modest outlay one can develop an excellent library of books by first rate scholars. This series is based on the Good News or Today's English Version. The books are perhaps better described as introductions than commentaries, but they are very useful for the general reader in giving an overview of the scriptures and also give the TEV text itself.

Good News in the Early Church

(introduced by Martin E. Marty) \$2.50

Marty is Professor of the History of Modern Christianity in the University of Chicago and is a prolific writer and communicator on the Christian faith. He writes the page M.E.M.O. in the "Christian Century" where he often exposes the phoney expressions of faith today. This book deals with ten epistles, Timothy 1 and 2, Titus, James, Peter 1 and 2, John 1, 2 and 3, and Jude. The TEV text is also given for the ten letters. We liked his comment on 1 Pet. 2:9. Marty suggests that Christians, being taught to humble themselves in every way, could get the idea that the Christian community should be filled with

self-hate and speak negatively of itself because of its failures. Peter then gives them a sense of worth and integrity. "You are the chosen race, the King's priests, the holy nation, God's own people, chosen to proclaim the wonderful acts of God."

Good News in Matthew

(introduced by Pierson Parker) \$2.50

Of the 280 pages, 200 are devoted to introduction and commentary. The remainder is given over to the TEV text with Valotin drawings. It does not give a verse by verse coverage, although it often analyses the words and doesn't hesitate to criticise the TEV itself where Parker believes that justice has not been done to the original. The method is to take a passage, title it by its theme, examine its significance, probe its problems, and analyse difficult words. Very good.

Good News in Hebrews

(introduced by Thomas Corbishley) \$1.75

The Letter to the Hebrews is a deeply spiritual document. It develops the meaning of the self-sacrifice of Christ against the background of history. Its great watchwords are faith and courage and the commentary shows that the Son of God, active in the creation and care of the universe, became man to direct to the destiny of mankind to its fulfilment. There are twelve books published so far in this series and for such a modest outlay can help the ordinary reader establish a useful Biblical library. — A.E.W.

THE LIBERATED GOSPEL

by Gilbert G. Bilezikian (Baker)

In our day the dramatisation of the gospel story is a familiar form of presentation. This study seeks to identify the second gospel with Greek tragedy. Bilezikian says that the gospel writers lived in an age when literary arts were admired and tragic drama could have been well known to Mark. Greek tragedies were often presented in Rome in the eras of Julius Caesar, Augustus, and Nero. All the elements of dramatic tragedy were present in the story of Jesus and it is not beyond imagining that Mark would have written his gospel in this form. The author is emphatic that Mark was not trying to write a Greek tragedy, he was simply using an existing literary form that would assist him in making the gospel dynamic. The original ending of Mark at 16:8 is one of high drama and mystery. The earliest manuscripts do end there and Bilezikian say "from the point of view of dramatic composition, the conclusion of the gospel at 16:8 is not only perfectly appropriate but also a stroke of genius. The Gospel ends, even more abruptly than it begins, on a finale of poignant grandeur." It is a fascinating study and does nothing to detract from the gospel story. The author is a conservative evangelical professor at Wheaton College. — A.E.W.

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



"A few minor bugs still to be worked out of our air conditioning."

THE "CHRISTIAN" GOES TO

DARWIN

We arrived in Darwin during a cold spell. The temperature dropped from 34c to 31c.

It was fortuitous, though accidental that our suits were left at home in Melbourne. They would be useless up here, and far too conspicuous.

We had come to visit folk from Churches of Christ, here in Darwin from every State except, maybe, Tasmania. Peter and Hennie DeWildt came, too. Peter and Hennie minister at Clayton, Vic., and the Clayton elders and deacons graciously released them to consider outreach in the Northern Territory.

Before you even get to Darwin you are prepared for its isolation. On the flight from Sydney, a Town called Alice is a small oasis in a vast desert, flat and stony and dry, where a mound 427 metres high can be called a mount. Yet there are signs of life. There are tracks everywhere, straight and true, that must have been made by travellers going somewhere. Now and again there are signs of life, strange looking black squares, and even a small town or two. There was water, whether from the Warburton or the Diamantina, or the Cooper, but there was an incredibly wide expanse of water leading down to Lake Eyre,

beyond our vision to the south. Unless it is just a mirage above Sturt's Stony Desert!

Beyond Alice Springs the country was no better and the last leg of the journey of over 4,000 kilometres from Melbourne was desolate and uninviting. But the man and his wife from Warrnambool said the trip was more than worthwhile. "Come up every year," he said, "To get away from Victoria."

Darwin struck us as being incredibly flat — there seems to be no hills at all. The tallest trees are seldom over 30 feet. Not much birdlife was evident, except for the hawks and the ibises. The hawks were everywhere in the skies, circling, swooping, soaring. Around September, they will suddenly disappear and



Peter DeWildt talks in Darwin with Dean Harris (formerly Nailsworth, S.A.) and Yun Peng (formerly Swanston St., Melbourne).

Diary

NEW SOUTH WALES

- July
7 C.W.F. Convention Day, Greenacre
- 14-16 Mid-Nth Coast Regional Convention, Pt. Macquarie VICTORIA
- June
24 Half-Way Dinner for Singles & Doubles at East Kew
- July
9 Explorer Film Night
- 13 C.W.F. Welfare day Camberwell.
- 18-22 Explorer Zone Sports
- 30 Explorer Snow Trip NATIONAL
- July
3 Overseas Missions Annual Offering
- 10 National Aborigines' Sunday

GORDON STIRLING SAYS

COME TO MELBOURNE JAN. 8-14 1979

HAPPENINGS

Dr Ronald Graham, now of Lexington Theological Seminary, Kentucky, U.S.A., will, with Mrs Graham, be paying a visit to their homeland. The Grahams will arrive in Australia in July.

Sydney radio station 2CH ("CH" stands for NSW Council of Churches) reports 100,000 tuning in to Morning Service each Sunday at 7.30 a.m. At least 800,000 (one in every four) listen to 2CH at some time during the week. Roger Bush, 9-12 p.m. Sunday nights is in the Number One position for audience level.

The Sydney City Mission has launched its annual Winter Appeal to the public and corporations to raise money for its work amongst alcoholic, homeless, drug-dependent men, women and young people. One of the Mission's projects is its "Night Patrol" which nightly travels the inner city streets and alleys inviting homeless men and women to spend the night at Swanton Lodge which provides home, food, and care for the men and women of Skid Row.

Mr Walker, the NSW Attorney General, is the latest to speak in support of making marijuana available within the law. He suggests that young people be allowed to grow marijuana plants for their own use. He admits that there is not sufficient evidence to clear marijuana from suspicion that it causes brain

damage and that it leads to the use of harder drugs, but then adds that its use should be decriminalised until there was more evidence. He produces that most stupid of all arguments that there are other more dangerous drugs, such as alcohol, freely available. Why the availability of alcohol, the arch-killer and personality wrecker, should be used to argue for letting loose another potentially dangerous defeats all reason.

The Church Missionary Society (Anglican) is more than \$300,000 in the red. The Society may have to cut back on some of its services.

The Friends of the Earth claim that the Federal Government has introduced legislation into Parliament which will allow any country flying the flag of the International Whaling Commission to kill whales in Australian territorial waters. The FoE says this makes irrelevant the results of the enquiry into whaling which opened in Melbourne recently before Sir Sydney Frost.

A spokesman of the National Council of Priests of the Roman Catholic Church has declared that progress within the church along the lines of Vatican Two was being held back by older men who refused to change church methods. The young radical priests who wanted change would have to wait until these men retired, he said.

The Movement against uranium mining is planning a major Sunday demonstration on August 6 as part of a national anti-uranium protest to commemorate Hiroshima Day.

the Darwinians will know that the "Wet" is just around the corner. The green grass, what there is of it, is the preserve of the ibises. Silent and meditative, they appear to wondering why fate should have sent them to this outpost of Australia. One gets the feeling that this sentiment is shared by many of the citizens.

The Real Darwin

If there is a real Darwin, the church visitor is not likely to see much of it. The Lord's people here are like the Lord's people in most other places. The love to get together, they love to sing, they are active in community affairs, they explore, they fish, they take to sea in boats, and their missions are strong and active throughout the Territory, but they are not part of the Darwin that the average tourist comes to see.

The Ocker Darwin is world famous and won a place in the Guinness Book of Records as the World's Biggest Beer Drinkers with an average beer intake more than twice that for the rest of the Commonwealth. There is only one dairy in the whole of Northern Territory and a little fresh milk is blended with powdered milk, butter, and water. But there are two profitable breweries: Carlton and Swan. Beer drinking is a way of life and it is said that if a man drinks 20 7oz. noggins of beer before driving his car and is charged with being under the influence, he has a good chance of being declared sober by the courts.

Darwin has had some memorable moments. It was here that Ross Smith landed on the "first aerial flight" from England in 1919; It was here that Mrs Petrov was snatched from the hands of the Russians who were taking her back to Moscow after the Petrov spy case broke; it was here that Australia suffered its first and, so far, only attack from an external foe when the Japanese planes raided Darwin in 1942; and it was here that Cyclone Tracy caused Australia's greatest natural disaster, when a city was brought to its knees.

A Scarred City

Darwin is still recovering from Cyclone Tracy. There are signs everywhere of wrecked homes and buildings, but a new and better and stronger Darwin is being built. We heard, however, of families destroyed by the cyclone as well as houses and fears born in that storm have never gone away.

This is not the cyclone season and life is fairly pleasant but it is still warm and we can believe those who tell us that the heat and the isolation and the problems of family life make Darwin the top city for suicides and divorces. If life is that hard, all the more reason for the church to be here with its resources for meeting life's greatest needs with life's greatest resources.

Before coming here we wrote to all of the names and addresses we had, most of them from the list Malcolm McArthur prepared a couple of years ago. Some are no longer here, but a surprising number still are and more have come.

We wrote to them and we asked Marjorie Conners to place an advertisement in the N.T. Daily News: "Former members of Churches of Christ, now resident in Darwin are invited to . . . the home of Mr and Mrs Jeff Morris, 5 Ternau St., Nightcliff, at 5 p.m. Saturday."

After we booked in at the Baptist Hostel we started phoning as many folk for whom we could find numbers. We were very encouraged by the result. There were 13 present including the three from Melbourne and there was a positive response to the suggestion that we should recommence our cause in Darwin and plan definitely for a resident minister and a church building. Some, of course, were already deeply committed to other churches and were serving effectively. It was made clear that no pressure would be applied to them to make any change in their church relationship. We were grateful that other churches were already in Darwin and had given our people a welcome. We were glad that our folk had found houses of worship where they felt at home. We were happy that they were able to witness and to serve and to find resources for their children.

On the other hand we were also impressed by the eagerness with which some greeted the possibility of setting up the Lord's Table and making our own faithful witness to the gospel. At breakfast one morning at the Hostel we met Dean Harris, who had come into the church at Nailsworth where Peter DeWildt had ministered. Another young man from the same church was in Darwin. They both came to our Saturday hour of fellowship. Another couple, with roots in South Perth and Southport, saw the newspaper advertisement, and came to the fellowship.

Things were beginning to happen in Darwin.



The Law Courts, part of Darwin's fine rebuilding programme. — "A.C." photos.

THREE GREAT OCCASIONS

37th Federal Conference

"Rejoice in the Lord"

Melbourne University Jan. 8-14, 1979 & Melbourne Town Hall.

**INSPIRATION — WORSHIP
LIVE IN FELLOWSHIP**

20 Elective Programmes

(See page 24 this issue)

For Registration Forms, write to A. E. White, P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, Vic. 3041



Saturday morning under the Banyan tree in Darwin.

PREPARATION

The concept of "confession" was a growing one throughout scripture. It began as an aspect of worship of God, acknowledging an individual's sin and helplessness (e.g. "I acknowledge my sin to thee and I did not hide my iniquity; I said 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord. (Ps. 32:5)). It grew then to be part of the acknowledgement of God's willingness to forgive and ended in a note of praise and thanksgiving. In fact, a number of O.T. words for confession are variously translated as to praise, glorify, or proclaim.

In the N.T. confession of sin to God is a primary meaning of the term, but it grew to acknowledge the confession of Jesus as Christ. In the early Christian Church to make the confession of faith in Christ was the basis of acceptance as Christians.

In the O.T. confession meant praise to God for the deliverance from bondage and sin and for God's rescue and forgiveness. In the N.T. the same concept of confession of sin, proclamation of divine deliverance and thankful praise centered in the person of Jesus.

There are only five N.T. passages where confession of sin is specifically mentioned (Matt. 3:6; Mark 1:5; Acts 19:18; James 5:16; 1 John 1:9). The importance of confessing sins was part of the baptismal rite of John. Jesus himself confessed God's great redemption through himself before Pilate, where Paul makes the unusual reference to Jesus "making the good confession" (1 Tim. 6:13). This is likewise found in Rev. 1:5; 3:14.

Christians were required to confess Christ as Lord in the presence of witnesses (1 Tim. 6:12), probably at the time of baptism. John the Baptist confessed Christ as the Lamb of God (Jn 1:20, 29-34; 3:25-30). At Caesarea, Philippi, Peter confessed Jesus as Messiah (Matt. 16:13-20); Mary did so when Jesus came to visit them at the death of Lazarus (Jn 11:27), the Samaritans made the confession of faith in Jesus as the Saviour of the world (Jn 4:42); Paul made the same confession before Felix (Acts 24:14), and so on.

The early Church saw the necessity of a personal confession of faith in Christ for salvation (Rom. 10:9-10). The addition to the text of the Ethiopian (Acts 8:37) is a significant addition of an early Christian confession. This indicates the closeness of confession to baptism.

The early Church quickly included the confession of faith in Jesus as part of its liturgy. Parts of the early church's hymns, now included in

the N.T. indicate this (e.g. 1 Tim. 3:16; Phil. 2:6-11; and 1 Cor. 15:3-7). By the time of the persecutions the confession of faith in Christ was the essential mark of a Christian. (1 Jn 2:22; 4:2-3).

At the end of the age the Lordship of Christ will be acknowledged by all when "every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." (Phil. 2:9-11).

PROCLAMATION

There are many scriptural portraits of Jesus and one of the finest is that of the Incarnate Deity found in Phil. 2.

1. The Divinity of Christ (v.6) is seen in the study of the words "He was in the form of God", "equality with God". These phrases stress his divinity.

2. The humanity of Christ (v.7) is seen in the phrases "emptied himself", "taking the form of a servant", "being born in the likeness of men".

3. The humility of Christ (v.8) is seen in the phrases "he humbled himself", "being obedient unto death", "even death upon a cross".

4. The glory of Christ (v. 9-11) is seen in the phrases "highly exalted him", "bestowed upon him", "that at the name of Jesus", "every knee ... every tongue ... confess that Jesus Christ is Lord".

Here is a portrait of Jesus in scripture: divinity — humanity — humility — glory. "We praise in songs divine, the Incarnate Deity, our God — contracted to a span — incomprehensibly made man". (Hymn 100).

PRESENTATION

I was preaching in the final meeting of a Mission. A crowd in excess of 2000 people packed the town hall. An orchestra of 60 was playing and the people pressed in from every direction in a great overflowing congregation. They were all singing "He is Lord, He is Lord, He is Risen from the Dead and He is Lord. Every knee shall bow, and every tongue confess, that Jesus Christ is Lord." All who sang that that night and meant it, were Christians. That confession of faith in Jesus as Lord, is the minimum basic requirement that commences us on our Christian pilgrimage. Our obedience to Christ in all other things marks out our growing Christian life, but it starts with our confession of faith in him.

GORDON MOYES.

NEW TRAINING INSTITUTE

(S.A.) A new youth leadership training institute will be established in Adelaide by the State Department of Christian Education for a two year trial period.

The establishment of the Institute was authorised by the recent State Conference, 12 months after Conference had asked the Department to investigate the possibilities.

The institute will be a live-in centre. Its aim is to equip trainees with leadership and enabling skills to serve young people in local congregations. During the first year of operation it is expected that four to six young people will be training in the institute.

Each will be employed as a youth worker by a local congregation for about ten hours a week. They will prepare and carry out their church work in close consultation with the Institute staff and their fellow students.

They will do courses in youth programming, church-youth relationships, understanding youth, understanding themselves, understanding the Bible and the faith, counselling skills, public speaking and leadership of meetings.

They will earn their way partly from salaries paid by the employing churches and partly by part-time secular work.

It is expected that the institute will be staffed by a resident supervisor and part-time course leaders.

Oversight will be given by the Department of Christian Education and its director, Gerald Rose. Chairperson of the DCE training committee responsible for establishing the institute is Helen Morrow.

The institute hopes to rent a suitable house during the trial period. Initial furniture and equipment will cost about \$1000. It is hoped to receive a Government grant for the salary of the supervisor.

Rejoice in
The Lord

Melbourne
JAN. 8-14, 1979

Obituary notices should be addressed to the Editor, P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, Vic. 3041, and should be despatched within 14 days of the death of the person concerned.

OBITUARY

BRADSHAW, Emmeline Rees,
(16.5.1978) Mrs Bradshaw, a member of the Lane Cove Church, died after a long illness. She was born in Sth. Aust. in 1910, and was associated with the church at Hindmarsh and became a member at Prospect. From an early age, she became interested in the church choir. With her husband, Reg, she went to Victoria and both, in membership at West Preston, served in the choir. Moving then to Tasmania, Reg and Em. were influential members in the Collins St. church, Hobart. They moved back to S.A., then transferred to N.S.W. to the Lane Cove Church. Mrs Bradshaw became a member of the C.W.F. For many years she helped with other ladies to prepare the meal for Adult Christian Education meetings on Wednesday evenings. She became collector for the C.F.A. Although the fellowship of the Lane Cove church has not been large, she raised, for many years, the largest sum yearly for the C.F.A. A private service was held on May 18, at the Northern Suburbs Crematorium and on May 21, a memorial Service at Lane Cove Church. Sympathy was offered to Reg, her husband, John, her son, and Judith, daughter-in-law, and their family, and also to Reta Brookshaw her sister.

A. W. Stephenson.

SELF-MANAGEMENT UNDER THREAT

The General Secretary of the Uniting Church Commission for World Mission, the Rev. John Brown, listed ten features of the Queensland legislation which the Arakun and Mornington Island communities find unsatisfactory:

- * The councils have no power to conduct any business or sub-lease to any Aboriginal company or individual to enable them to conduct any business.

- * The councils are required to call tenders for all contracts instead of employing local people for their public works.

- * They have no power to charge rent for any houses, even though the houses are said to belong to them.

- * Nobody in the communities has any title to land or property, making it impossible to raise a bank loan.

- * The councils may be dismissed at the whim of the Minister for Local Government, who also has the power to veto any by-laws.

- * The councils are not free to appoint their own shire clerks.

- * The Queensland Government may appoint officers at any time to live in the area and control what happens. It sent in its first officers within a week of the passing of the legislation.

- * Local courts are discontinued, so the local police have no power. Mornington Island beer canteen is now being run illegally.

- * The lease is for fifty years.

- * The powers of the co-ordinating committee to manipulate what happens are colossal.

"In the light of these factors you can hardly claim the Act provides for self-management", Mr Brown said, "Our legal advisers claim the legislation is unworkable, and we are sure that time will prove them right".

FAMILY MONTH (Footscray, Ian Tippet) May was family month. Special activities included a Mother's Day luncheon, arranged by the E.F. for the older ladies, a family games night, "Challenge the Board" by Youth Fellowship, family services led by the Carter and Myers' family and the Hall and Nicholls, barbecue lunch after church and a film night. At a tea table service family members told how they had shared with others during the month . . . A young girl made her decision . . . Ascot Vale church conducted evening service . . . W.R.O.C. prayer meeting held . . . Mrs. Stella Wilson entertained the Day Group Ladies at birthday luncheon . . . Good Companions visited "Green Haven" Nursing Home with gifts of biscuits for all the patients.



COMMISSIONING

(Qld.) Brisbane Overseas Mission Committee held a commissioning service for Murray Fenner on May 13, at the Margaret St. Church, Toowoomba.

Murray is an electrical engineer, 23, and has been accepted for service as a technical missionary repairing machinery. He will also help out with repair work with the New Tribes Mission.

Murray won the Youth of the Year

At Toowoomba Airport —

From left: Mrs David Rogerson (youth group counsellor) Arnold C. Caldicott, Minister Margaret St., Murray Fenner, and Graham Kerr, assistant to the minister.

Award in his late teens and excelled as a Scoutmaster. Popular among youth he became widely known in most Christian circles as well as exercising a youth leadership ministry at Margaret Street. He left for New Guinea on May 27.

INNER SPRINGS

THE SECRET OF SERENITY



Almost every day I meet someone who is agitated, upset and thrown off balance by some crisis, some hurt or grievance inflicted on them either thoughtlessly or deliberately. And I am no different. Because I am part of a family, and in a larger sense as we all are, part of God's family, I have a share in these same things. The question is, "What does one do about them?" Firstly, I like to remember that such feelings are not new to this day and age. They have been part and parcel of the human scene since time began. The Bible is filled with stories of those who were motivated by jealousy, fear, pride, greed, hatred, stupidity and every other characteristic known to man. Secondly, I have learned that all such emotions are self-destructive.

They destroy the person I long to be — joyous, loving and trustful, and make me what I would not be — miserable, complaining and fearful of life. Lastly, I recall the Man Jesus of whom it was written, "He was made flesh and dwelt among us, tempted in all points like as we are, yet remained without sin, and without loss of His inner peace."

How did He do it? How did He retain His serenity in the face of every crisis. Jostled by the ever present crowds, His garments handled by the clean and not so clean, weary to the point of exhaustion by the constant demands on His physical and spiritual resources. Yet never losing His gracious touch, His deep concern for the souls of men.

The secret I believe lies in one short sentence dotted throughout the gospels. "He departed into a mountain to pray". There in His Father's presence He found fresh resources for His God given task. If the strong sinless Son of God thought it necessary to spend time alone in prayer, then it is unthinkable that you and I should attempt to live any one day without doing the same. Our physical needs can be met with physical resources, but only the Father of our spirits has the power to replenish our spiritual needs.

Prayer: Forgive us, Dear Lord, when we forget our need of quietness. Teach us the value of making time amidst our activities, to have our vision renewed, and find, as you did, refreshment for our spirits.

— Amen

Florence Rosier

Matt. 14:23, Mark 6:46, Luke 9:25-29



● The Rev. W. M. Constable

ANNOUNCING

Three Departures of our very popular **A.C.T.S. LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOURS**

1. August 1st with Rev. Mervyn Roberts of Brisbane
2. September 5th with Rev. & Mrs. J. V. Mills
3. January 2nd, 1979, with Rev. & Mrs. Les Hatton

- ★ 13 DAYS IN ISRAEL visiting the most significant places with Guide
 - ★ 9 DAYS IN GREECE with sightseeing and an Island Cruise.
 - ★ 4 DAYS IN ROME with sightseeing and free time.
 - ★ An extension to Europe can be arranged if desired.
- BOOK EARLY for these tours. From Melbourne or Sydney \$2188.00**

ENJOY OUR 11 DAY BEST OF TASMANIA TOUR. — Departing on 19th November for Launceston, St. Helen's, Bicheno, Hobart, Port Arthur, Queenstown, Burnie, Devonport etc. This high standard tour is conducted in conjunction with Trans Otway and is very popular. From Melbourne: \$569.00

THAILAND DISCOVERY TOUR — This 22-day tour will leave on 26th August, under the leadership of Rev. and Mrs Brian Ball, and will spend 4 days in Hong Kong, 4 nights in Bali, and 12 days in Thailand including Bangkok, River Kwai, Changrai, and Changmai where we will share part of the celebrations marking the 150th Anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Church in Thailand. Limited to 35 members. FARES: From Sydney \$1324.00; Melbourne \$1405.00, Adelaide \$1484.00

BALKANS DISCOVERY TOUR — This is a little unusual. Departing on October 5th by Yugoslav Airlines our 24-day tour will take us to Yugoslavia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria. Accompanied by Rev. and Mrs W. M. Constable, this will be remembered as an outstanding tour full of interest. From Melbourne or Sydney \$1854.00

SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING — We will repeat our 18-day New Zealand Tour leaving on October 14th for Auckland, Waitomo, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Picton, Greymouth, Franz Josef, Wanaka, Queenstown, Te Anau, Milford Sound, Invercargill, Dunedin, Christchurch etc. This is NOT a budget tour, land arrangements are by Mount Cook Tours, all meals, comfortable coaches, competent guides. TOUR COSTS: From Melbourne \$961.00; Sydney \$936.00; Brisbane \$956.00.

SEE BEAUTIFUL AUSTRALIA WITH A.C.T.S. & AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC —

1. TOUR TO CAIRNS — leaving on July 15th from Melbourne by luxury coach for Sydney then to Brisbane and Cairns. Cruise to interesting islands — a well planned 23-day tour. From Melbourne \$1084; Adelaide \$1174; Sydney \$905.

2. TOUR TO ALICE SPRINGS & THE RED CENTRE — departing by air on 3rd August. Sightseeing in Alice and surrounding areas, then back by coach. This 14-day tour is very popular. It is hoped Mrs Rita Dunkley will be able to lead the party. From Melbourne \$768; Adelaide \$645; Sydney \$790; Brisbane \$862.

3. TOUR TO WEST AUSTRALIA — at Wildflowertime. Leaving by coach on October 2nd this 18-day tour is really something special. Two nights are on the train from Perth to Port Pirie. From Melbourne \$912, first class rail \$872, second class rail, from Adelaide \$813-\$773; Sydney \$917-\$858; Brisbane \$1009-\$950.

GO CRUISING WITH A.C.T.S./SITMAR in beautiful FAIRSTAR departing from Sydney on

1. August 11th for Vila, Lautoka, Suva, Auckland. 14 days from \$406.00.
2. October 5th for a 45 day cruise to Japan. Hurry for this one as it is filling rapidly. Fares are from \$1175 and passengers may embark in Melbourne.
3. January 15, 1979 for Brisbane, Whitsunday Passage, Honiara, Espiritu Santo, Vila, Suva and Auckland. Accompanied by Rev. & Mrs. W. M. Constable, fares for this 20-day cruise are from \$620.00 — but book early.

TOUR TO INDONESIA & SINGAPORE — we are planning to repeat our Indonesia Tour during January 1979 if there is enough interest. Let us know if you would like to visit this fascinating country.

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5th floor, 83 York St., SYDNEY 2000 (Globetrotter tours). 29 7594.

41 King William St., ADELAIDE 5000 (Arrow World Travel) 212 1055.

Cnr. Elizabeth & Edwards St., BRISBANE 4000 (Stewart Moffatt) 221 3922

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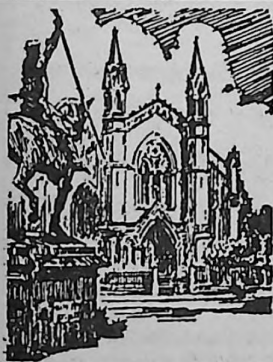
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Sunday June 18th

9.30 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. — Exposition of Acts

7.00 p.m. — Studies on the Life of Moses

Sunday June 25th

9.30 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. — Exposition of Acts

7.00 p.m. — Screening of the JEW film, "The Last Generation"

Sunday July 2nd

9.30 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. — Exposition of Acts

This service will include the Commissioning of Glenyce Lovett prior to her return to Thailand.

7.00 p.m. — Special Guest Service

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★ Open all year for group bookings — any length of camp, full board and accommodation provided.

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CONCERN OVER PHILIPPINE CHRISTIAN

No reply has been received from President Marcos of The Philippines to a letter mailed on April 27 by the Secretary of Churches of Christ in Australia, A.E. White.

The letter concerned Miss Jessica Sales who was a participant of the Christian Conference of Asia Youth Mission held in Hong Kong last year, and was later appointed to serve as a youth consultant at the CCA Assembly in Penang. She was arrested on July 31, 1977, for reasons unknown.

No clue to her whereabouts has been disclosed since that time. In January, 1978, her parents received news from the government that she had been killed in an encounter in August, 1977. However, towards the end of 1977, Jessica was seen by some of her friends in the company of military men. Those who saw her, believe that she is still alive.

In his letter to the President, Mr. White outlined what facts were known and asked the President to use his personal influence in assisting us to learn Miss Sales' present whereabouts so that we can correspond with her and assure her of our prayers.

A reply is still awaited.

NORTH PERTH Church of Christ HOME-COMING

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 7.45 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 2, 1978

MORNING 11 a.m.

EVENING 6.30 p.m.

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DEATH

CURTIS, Doris E. loved sister of Olive Houghton, passed away suddenly, May 27th, 1978 at Christian Rest Home, Everard Park. S.A.

IN MEMORIAM

SUMPTON — A loving tribute to Frederick Joseph, a devoted husband and father. "Beautiful memories of our loved one."

WITHERS, John Blackmore. In sad but grateful remembrance of John, June 28, 1975. Mum, Dad, Jean and Les, and his children Rachel, Rebecca, Jane.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Brand new 3 Br. Brick home c/w ensuite. \$58 per week. Long lease available to suitable applicant. House situated in picturesque Harkaway, only 4 km from thriving Berwick Church of Christ. Contact 707 1675 (Vic.)

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WANTED: Life Man. Agent for NSW Govt. Insurance office offers excellent opportunity for Life Man to sell without all the hassles of prospecting. Work with a friendly and efficient agency staff. Everyone knows that Nowra is just about the best place in Australia (even with an ordinary job). Call Alan Owen (044) 23051 or Write Box 479 P.O. Nowra N.S.W. 2540.

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Sunday 9th July to 10th Sept.
Time — 7 p.m. each Sunday

"Is there trouble anywhere?"

REJOICE IN THE LORD!
Melbourne Jan. 1979

JAYS QUIZ

Answers (see page 10) 1. Jacob (Gen. 42:1,2) 2. Abraham (Gen.23:16-18) 3. A field (Acts 1:15-18).

AL'S FRIENDLY LITTLE TOURS

Here's Good News!

Now, two opportunities for you to enjoy a relaxing holiday in a small, friendly group. 6 NOV. 78. 21 days/20 nights in magnificent **NEW ZEALAND**, Group size limited to 12 passengers. Features 2 or 3 nights in many of the well-known places — meaning that you still have time to rest whilst on a touring holiday. Both North and South Islands incl. the beautiful Bay of Islands. \$923 (ex Sydney) includes Airfares, dinner, bed and brekky (quality H/Motels), touring and sightseeing, transfers, some lunches, cabin bag, ferry travel and services of tour escort. No rush, no worries.

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Studies for lay people giving opportunity to deepen faith, develop biblical awareness and train for service.

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Berwick Church history — Tutor, E. L. Williams, M.A.

Ringwood: Old Testament — Tutor, R. McLean, B.Th., L.Th., Dip.R.E.

College of the Bible: Religious Education — Tutor, R. V. Longthorp, B.Sc. (Econ.), B.Ed., Dip.R.E.

Ringwood: Religious Education — Tutor, J. A. Reid, T.P.T.C.

Enquiries: Miss Julie Reid, Dept. of Mission, Education and Development,
52 La Trobe Street, Melbourne. 3000.
Phone: 662 2377.

Applications are invited for the position of

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P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, Vic. 3041

21

MOUNT GAMBIER CHURCH OF CHRIST

On July 28 and 29, 1979 the Mount Gambier Church will celebrate 21 years of service. Past members are invited home.

PROGRAMME

- Saturday:** Tea at Fimmell's house at Mil-lal, 4-6 p.m.
Saturday Evening: Musical and Social get-together at church.
Sunday: 10 a.m. Morning Tea
 10.45 a.m. Roll Call
 11 a.m. Special Anniversary Service,
 Guest Speaker: E. P. C. Hollard
 12.30 p.m. Luncheon at church
 Afternoon free time to visit friends
 7 p.m. Gospel Service

Motel Accommodation On-site Caravan Parks Limited Private Home
Accommodation Enquiries to P.O. Box 360, Mount Gambier, S.A. 5290

BRIBIE ISLAND RETIREMENT VILLAGE

Vacancy exists for a
Supervising Housekeeper

(live-in) for the above. Residents comprise 30 in Guest Home plus 12 in self-contained units. Details of salary, conditions etc. are available on enquiry to Mr R. Edwards, Manager, Bribie Island Retirement Village, Foley Street, Bongaree, Q. 4507 to whom applications with full details should be addressed.

FAIR HAVEN AGED CHRISTIANS' HOME MARYBOROUGH, QLD. HOUSEKEEPER

This Home is anxious to obtain the services of a Christian Housekeeper (experience preferred but not essential) to commence duties in October, 1978 approx. one month prior to the expected completion date of an additional thirty bed nursing wing, which will bring the accommodation total to 101 guests.

NURSING STAFF

Applications from trained nursing staff also welcomed. Applications close on 31st August, 1978, and should be addressed to The Secretary, Fair Haven Aged Christians' Home, Morning Street, Maryborough, Queensland. 4650.

THE OBSERVANCE OF SUNDAY?

Four rules about Sunday observance should be:

- (1) IT IS A DAY OF WORSHIP, in thankfulness to the Father for the Incarnation of His Son, which reached the beginning of its glorious climax on Easter Day.
- (2) IT IS A DAY OF REST, the purpose of which is to send us back refreshed, and equipped to give of our best, in the service of another week's work.
- (3) IT IS A DAY OF SERVICE TO OTHERS, which service may take various forms, e.g., Sunday School teaching, visiting the sick, etc.
- (4) IT IS A DAY OF RECREATION (Mental, Physical and Spiritual). The Christian's rest and recreation will naturally take different forms according to the nature of his weekly work (i.e., according to whether he works in an office or at heavy manual labour).

Care should be taken that such recreation does not spoil the Sunday of other people.

In applying this principle to our lives, it is expected that every Christian, health permitting, will be found in the House of God each Sunday; and that young people should be brought up in the worship and teaching of the Church and Sunday school.

"The Sunday Christian Observance Council"

Copies of this statement, attractively printed, 8½" x 5½", may be obtained from the Secretary, 12 Ryland Ave., Croydon, Vic. 3136.

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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ISSUE	DEADLINE
June 24	June 16
July 8	June 30

—PERSONAL—

DISCIPLESHIP

● Simon Wing-Tang, Surrey Hills, Vic. ● John Timmerman, Sarah Squibb, Ulverstone, Tas. ● Tim Keating, Paul Ellingham, Mrs Dorothy Watts, Bruce Campbell, Joyce Holland, Guy Rainey, Trevor Wakefield, Blackburn, Vic. ● James Vincent, Ann St., Brisbane, Qld. ● Mr & Mrs A. Draper, Thornleigh, N.S.W. ● John Rinaldi, Dulcie Falle, Wally Tassell, Celia Atkins, Warwick, W.A. ● Vincent & Naomi Haywood, Colin Heywood, Croydon, Vic. ● Rosalie Jury, Shirley Quayle, Natalie Walland, Adrienne Jury, Graham Quayle, Sharon Howden, Joe Rudd, Lindy Marshall, Jonathon Rudd, Stirling, S.A. ● Dean Croft, Dawn Croft, Michelle Johnson, Malcolm Johnson, Oakleigh, Vic. ● Mr & Mrs Bob Eastcott, Northam, W.A.

WEDDINGS

● Susan Hawke to Wayne Bradborn, Footscray, Vic. ● Helen Harvey to David Scott, Blackburn, Vic. ● Stuart Saunders to Leone Bartrim, Tim Barnes to Gaye Steele, Tweed Heads-Coolangatta, N.S.W. ● Janice May to Murray Smith, Balaklava, S.A.

DEATHS

● Joseph Clark, St. Arnaud, Vic. ● Roy Clydesdale, Shepparton, Vic. ● Mrs Isla Bond, Caulfield, Vic.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS SECRETARIES

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VICTORIA

LOSS AT WANGARATTA (D. Stevens). Church saddened by death of Mrs Patrick (Nanna Pat) 90 years. Also Mrs Elvie Campbell, 73 years, active member to the end. Mr Withers, former minister and Mrs Withers attended funeral. Mr Withers assisted Dare Stevens at service . . . "JJ" Club for primary children held Wednesdays 4 to 5.15 p.m. . . Youth meets Wednesday nights, 6.30 p.m. . . C.W.F. ladies held Tupperware coffee morning at Pauline Cordy's . . . C.W.F. ladies visited Wesley Uniting Ladies Guild and took meeting . . . Cheshunt Camp Reunion held at Kevin Winch's at Coral Bank . . . Fellowship Wheel of "Care" is providing all members with opportunity of sharing with others . . . Three members taking part in World Vision 40 hour Fast.

NORTH DANDENONG OUTREACH (Oakleigh, Dr. C. J. MacKenzie). Four young people baptized from North Dandenong. New outreach at North Dandenong is conducted by student ministers and workers . . . C.W.F. raised \$140 from Cake Stall in shopping centre . . . Youth tea held, speaker Nigel Hall, Victorian Police Forensic Service.

57th ANNIVERSARY (Thornbury, G. J. Crossman). 57th Church Anniversary held with Principal Dr K. R. Bowes and

D. A. Prout (Collingwood minister) as Guest Preachers. Elders, Deacons and Deaconesses inducted to office . . . Family Service led by Mrs Beryl Amos . . . Members of Inter C.E. conducted a Youth Service . . . Oakover Singers presented Cantata: "Love and Kindness" . . . 38 Young People and leaders shared weekend camp at Mt Beauty . . . Regional meeting for discussion of Dept. of Christian Union document: "The Basis of Membership in Churches of Christ" led by Principal Emeritus E. L. Williams and Dr T. A. Banks.

BANGLADESH EMERGENCY U.N. APPEAL TO AUSTCARE

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Paul Hartling, has asked Austcare to find funds for a desperate refugee problem on the Burma Bangladesh frontier.

Sir Frank Woods, Austcare's new President, says that 200,000 refugees — half of them under the age of 15 years — have crossed the border from the Burmese State of Arakan into Bangladesh — one of the world's poorest countries. They are suffering from dysentery and malaria owing to food shortages, shelter and adequate drinking water accentuated by delay of pre-monsoon rains.

Funds are urgently needed for hospital supplies and facilities, plastic ground sheeting, temporary shelters, emergency water points, clothing and food to the value of A\$15½ million.

Please send donations to: AUSTCARE in your State.

OPEN DAY (Strathmore, S. Bannon) S.S. and church open day held . . . Boys' Club held "Bob-a-Job" month which raised \$20 . . . Good Companions had a night out to McDonald's . . . Noel Skillicorn engaged in visitation . . . Dave Hainsworth, Mrs Grace Sinclair and Mrs Lyn Pennell all back on deck . . . Mr Hammon now at John Wesley Uniting Home, Coburg.

ANNIVERSARY (Caulfield, K. Christensen) Fifty-eighth anniversary services held with Kevin Berston, previous minister, as speaker. A luncheon was provided by the ladies . . . Church saddened by passing of Mrs Isla Bond.



TASMANIA

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

BANQUET (Flinders Park, G. & J. Fewster) Church banquet held to present goals and aims (set by the board) to church. Evening included message from Des Kuhl, Murray Bridge . . . In recognition of many years of loyal service, the church has appointed George Houston and Fred Russell as "Elders Emeritus" . . . On May 14, approx. 200 people participated in a pentecost celebration, which included procession of children, banners and decorations. Each person shared a slice of birthday cake to remember the birthday of the church. A guest was Shanti Solomon, from India. At night deaconesses organised and led Mother's Day service, at which the Y.P. served supper . . . The church has issued name tags to members to facilitate fellowship.

SIX DECISIONS (Balaklava, J. May) On May 28 six young people made decisions for Christ . . . During May holidays our church and the Uniting Church held a youth camp . . . A family tea preceded a film on "Sharing". Mrs Daph. Clark showed audio-visual of "Church Life of One Hundred Years" at State Conf. . . Mesdames Bertram, Dorina Cottle and Merryl May, home from hospital . . . Prayer and study groups held after morning service.

LAND ROVER (Stirling, B.V. Coventry/V. Monterola) \$1,000 donated to purchase a Land-Rover for Jim and Dianna Parker in N.G. \$650 will also be sent to them . . . Special services conducted by Bill Watson, "New Life For All" Campaign; John Shapon, Director, Leighton Ford City-Wide Campaign; Neil Wescombe, Far East Broadcasting Corp.; and Don Beiler, who attended President Carter's Prayer Breakfast . . . Nine baptisms recently . . . On Victory Sunday, after baptisms, every family either host or guest for another family.



NEW SOUTH WALES

FINE SERVICE (Thornleigh, D. W. Mansell) At the annual meeting on May 31 all nominated for office were elected. Mrs J. V. Ellerby, treasurer since 1951, H. Bishop, B.S. Supt. for eight years, Miss J. Glazier, leader of the Girls' Brigade since its inception 15 years ago, and Mrs H. Bishop, C.W.F. Pres. for two years, did not accept re-nomination. They have all given fine service together with J. V. Ellerby, reappointed as church secretary after serving in that office for 25 years. Mrs Ellerby continues to serve as a Deaconess, T. O'Donnell is new treasurer, D. Clark is new B.S. Supt., and Mrs Mansell is new C.W.F. Pres. . . W. Armstrong returned as an elder.

KINDER DEPT. TRANSFERRED (Tweed Heads-Coolangatta, L. Wylie) Our building extensions have been held up by opposition so our Kinder Dept. is

transferring to the Civic Centre for three months trial . . . Street stall conducted by C.W.F. realised \$318 . . . 112 were present at Infant Dedication service. Junior Church Family evening service the same day had 85 to hear Miss Judy Gordon, State D.C.E. . . Mr & Mrs B. Melville have come to us from Camp Hill, Qld., and Mr & Mrs Brenden Little and family from Grafton. Mr & Mrs S. Saunders have moved to Charters Towers, Mr & Mrs Tim Steel to Mount Isa, Karen Winter is nursing in Brisbane, and Phillip Goulding was transferred in the Bank to Gunnedah.



TASMANIA

DECISIONS (Ulverstone, Alan Horne) Eight decisions for Christ so far this year . . . 50 travelled by bus to film "The Hiding Place" . . . Child Evangelism "Good News Clubs" held after school in homes of two members . . . Three early-morning prayer groups meeting . . . 50 ladies attended C.W.F. Mother and Daughter night . . . Manse extensions progressing . . . Family social found "Masterminds" to be Fergus Cameron, Elizabeth Orr and Mrs Mavis Vickers . . . "Concerned Christian Parents" group formed to oppose introduction of controversial material into Tasmanian High schools.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

OUTREACH (Carnarvon) An outreach team has recently been as far afield as Looma, near Derby. Ray Schmitt from Perth was joined by Ross Norling at Carnarvon and Joe Lannigan at Halls Creek. They made a round trip of well over 5,000 kms and meetings averaged 250 . . . Ross and Helen Norling are moving to Port Hedland and extensive outreach ministry . . . Farewell held for Win and Viv Hoskin, transferred to Roelands. Alex McKay of Mandurah has taken Viv's place at Ingada Village.

GROWTH AT WHITFORDS (Whitfords, G.E. Powell) May average morning attendance was 60, a record. Monthly Family Congregational dinner and Business Meeting has moved from homes to the Recreation Centre as 50 now attend . . . Conf. Pres., Len Jones, visited on the day the church moved to Craigie H.S. drama room. 71 present . . . First and third Sunday nights used for Cell groups for Bible study, prayer.

THEATRE (Bruce Rock/Merredin, D. Good) Jesus People from Perth presented "If My People" in Merredin Theatre and visited churches . . . Bruce Rock C.W.F. held "Friendship Night" . . . Both S.Ss. featured Bible Society project with audio-visual and projects . . . Merredin C.W.F. led Mother's Day family service and raised funds to purchase Good News Bibles for S.S. . . . Visiting speakers at Bruce Rock were L. Jones, Conf. Pres., J. Brighton, J. E. W. Merredin had K. Duffy

and Aborigines Committee speaker . . . Eastern Wheatbelt "Fifth Sunday" services held at Bruce Rock with Graham Carslake . . .

ACTION GROUPS (Warwick, G. B. Carslake) Four Action groups have been formed; Pastoral care and Evangelism, Social Fellowship and Publicity, Youth Planning and Finance and Building . . . Four adults have been baptised . . . Wednesday B.S. had 92 recently . . . 100 attended "The Hiding Place".

CUNDERDIN SERVICE (Northam, W. Randell). 55 attended monthly service at Cunderdin in June . . . Married couple baptised . . . May Friendship meeting was Quiz Night . . . Visiting youth groups attend service June long weekend . . . Creche commenced morning service . . . Mrs Higgs and Mr Cliff Hollett improving after sickness . . . Mr George Spicer in Northam hospital after operation in Perth . . . Two ladies Bible Study groups continue also mid week meeting.



VICTORIA

ANNIVERSARY (Bentleigh). Fortyninth Church Anniversary celebrated on June 4. Mr Marshall speaker. Members and friends gathered in afternoon to say farewell to Mr and Mrs Marshall as they take up their appointment in the Warracknabeal Circuit. Monetary gift and floral arrangement presented . . . J. Hunting speaker on 11th June and Les Warren, one of our own members conducted Evening Service. Mr and Mrs Alex Beddome on Overseas Tour.

Mrs Helen Banks representing our Australian C.W.F. at the World Quadrennial Assembly at Purdue University, June 26-30, is from Victoria. She is Vice-President of A.C.W.F. We are pleased for Helen, and justly proud of our representative. Our prayers will be with Helen as she travels to U.S.A.

Women from 15 countries, representing Protestant and Roman Catholic churches will be there.

The Theme for the Assembly will be "Behold a New Day".



A.C.T.

Alerted to the need by a recent talk by Rosalyn Williams, the Ainslie C.W.F. had a sewing bee to make skirts for New Guinea. We thought we were doing rather well until a statistically minded husband calling to fetch his wife, calculated that each sewer had only made 1.8 skirts in an evening. We will never get into the Garment Makers Trade Union.

At least half of the people from the combined Canberra congregations at a Seminar on Pastoral Care held at the Sacred Heart Seminary were women. This peaceful haven now run by lay brothers as a conference centre is becoming quite ecumenical.

Mary Goldberg. A.C.T.

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QUEENSLAND

FUND RAISING (Gatton, M. Tapper). Our ladies have been involved in fund raising for the proposed "Amaroo" Retirement village. Over \$25,000 has been raised by the combined Churches and Town Committee. Equity housing, first stage of the programme to be commenced soon . . . Mother's Day tea was followed by special evangelistic service. The musical contribution was by the "New Life Singers" from Toowoomba . . . Good Friday 1978 saw Gatton's first Good Friday Convention for the deepening of Christian Life. Three local ministers including our pastor brought messages on the theme: "That I May Know Him".

ANNIVERSARY (Ma Ma Creek, D.W. Telfer) The 93rd Anniversary commenced with a Saturday Variety Concert assisted by visitors from Murrarie. Visitors on the Sunday came from Ipswich, Nambour, Annerley, Murrarie, Toowoomba and Gatton. Geoff Hobson of Nambour was guest speaker. Geoff also gave a rendition of old hymns on bells. The evening service was preceded by a fellowship tea . . . Allan Dallinger and Jason Dallinger are in hospital with injuries.

CRUSADE (Chinchilla/Hopelands, A. Clarke) Crusade held with John Timms and team. There were 12 decisions and 5 baptisms during the Crusade and more will follow. Prayer meetings were held daily at 6 a.m.

101!!! (Ann St., Brisbane, C. G. Flood) Mrs S. Slater celebrated her 101st birthday with her children, grandchildren, relations and church . . . Youth Group has been reformed, led by Geoffrey Melvin and Wayne Kelly . . . On retirement from employment at Burdeu House, Miss Rose McNicol is residing at Redcliffe . . . Ivan Law has received the Associate Diploma in graphic design . . . There was a recent baptism . . . Dr and Mrs Ron Graham are expected from the U.S.A. in July for a visit.



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VICTORIA

SUPPORT FOR S. MELB. (Ormond, C.P. Clayden) Recent donations have swelled South Melbourne support fund for manse to \$2225.00 . . . 5 p.m. evening services have commenced for winter . . . Planning weekend was held . . . Mr & Mrs Brian Tunks (C.O.B.) are assisting . . . Minister and elders spent night at C.O.B. with students and faculty . . . Sunday, May 28th, completed 53 years of witness by Ormond church.

BAPTISMS (Carnegie, R. Ritchie) Julie Reid (M.E.D.) shared in baptism of two young people. There were also two rededications . . . Speaker on Temple Day was Clive Ward, Conference Secretary. 170 past and present members at luncheon. Afternoon programme provided by "Glenaires" who also took part at night . . . C.W.F. Evening Group celebrated 25th birthday . . . "Build Noah's Ark" project had 55 young people attending Vacation B.S. . . . Church saddened at death of Joyce Macumber . . . Y.P.F. visited Archeology Museum . . . On Mother's Day ladies conducted communion service, with film "In the Presence of Mine Enemies" screened at night.

SECRETARY RETIRES (Cheltenham, G. K. Moyes, S. H. Wilson, M. Humphries) Graham Hilbig was thanked for 13 years as church secretary, and presented with an automatic slide projector . . . Gordon Moyes' book, "Confident Living" has been commended by Norman Vincent Peale of U.S.A. . . . Education Centre filled for Peter the clown who entertained and slightly bewildered the congregation . . . Harold Souter, ex-secretary, ACTU, interviewed on attitudes to retirement and on his experience in the industrial field . . . Church donated \$77 to Gideons International and \$184 to Leprosy Mission . . . Care Group continues regular ministry at North Melbourne Centre for Homeless Men . . . 60 members saw film "Jesus of Nazareth"

. . . Our member, Jack Fawcett's film "The Big Day" concerning retirement screened in church service.

OUTDOOR COMMUNION (York St., Ballarat, D. Gurney, L. Martin) Outdoor communion held at Mt Cole picnic ground followed by barbecue . . . Series of weekend messages by Rev. Ronald H. Barnes included Family Service, Men's Prayer Breakfast, and Youth Dinner . . . Melita Curtain has been home on C.O.B. vacation . . . Study groups being held at various age levels. Several Y.P. cell groups meet for regular prayer breakfasts . . . Ruth and Ron Spencer from Missionary Aviation Fellowship led in song and testimony before leaving for Derby.

220 O/SEAS STUDENTS (Swanston St., Melb. A. L. Webb) Communicant attendances throughout the month of May have once again exceeded 300 . . . some 30 young people shared in L.I.F.E. weekend . . . Record enrolment of some 220 overseas students attended O.C.F. May Camp at which there were some 20 primary commitments . . . Church has enjoyed fellowship with three of our furloughing missionaries, Joy and John Sandefur and Glenyce Lovett . . . Another of our overseas couples has recently returned to Malaisia to serve.

WHITE ELEPHANT (Essendon, W. R. Newton) C.W.A.F. "White Elephant" effort raised \$547 for 1978 Temple Day offering . . . Elders, Jim Hemsley and Neal Cheal, back to services again after recent illness. H. Moss home after hospital visit . . . S.S. leader is Norm Warren, with average attendance of ten children.

PASSING (Shepparton, P. Kavanagh) Life elder, Roy Clydesdale, passed away at age 83. Funeral service bore witness to his standing in the community. He was also minister of Mooroopna church . . . C.W.E.F. street stall raised \$228 . . . Good Companions celebrated Mother's Day with a "Mothers' Night" . . . C.W.E.F. heard of the work of Goulburn Valley Sheltered Workshop and donated \$150 to John Cheer for their building fund.

TILE FACTORY (Springvale. R.C.

Cambridge) Men's Fellowship visited Wunderlich Tile factory for dinner and tour . . . Attendances increasing . . . Y.P. went to Cathedral Rock. New Youth Singers held final concert . . . Evening service, 5 p.m., for winter . . . Corry Snyders, better . . . Men taking evening services at Oakleigh Christian Guest Home during June.

SADDENED (St. Arnaud, Miss Pam Bowers) Members saddened recently at the death of Joseph Clark. Sympathy extended to wife, May, and son, John . . . Services are conducted by minister, Miss Pam Bowers, from Stawell, every six weeks. Other speakers are Harold Evans, Douglas Beasy and Arthur Chiswell from St. Arnaud, and every second month a speaker from Ballarat.

FUNTIME (Croydon, L. Dewbury) Morning holiday Funtime Program held in second week of school holidays with art, craft and games, and averaging 70 - 80 children daily. Program culminated in an early Sunday evening service followed by tea . . . Ringwood church joined in football matches and barbecue at Wandin East reserve on Queen's Birthday.

LADIES GROUP (Melton, J.E. Midgley) Ladies' group has recommenced and plans to meet weekly . . . New kindergarten-age class is growing . . . White chrysanthemums were distributed to all members of B.S. and congregation on Mother's Day . . . Lewis Norton recently ministered at Sunshine and Jim Midgley with Balwyn Wesleyans . . . R.I. classes to be conducted at Melton South primary school.

QUESTING from Page 24

from the path that we present does not mean that we have to surrender our own convictions. The folk concerned would expect us to be disciples with convictions.

We rejoice that they belong to Christ and we accept them with love, as they accept us and we shall be honest with each other. We shall not take advantage of them and coerce them to change, and we shall not betray our own integrity.

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37th Federal Conference: Melbourne

President: Gordon R. Stirling, 79 Underwood Rd., Ferntree Gully, Vic. 3158. Conference Arrangements Secretary: A. R. Haskell, 21 White St., Williamstown, Vic. 3018.

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QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



A family was received into our church recently as "Christians in Fellowship". There was no problem with the parents, but no one seems to know what to about their two boys, aged 10 and 12. Should they also be received as "Christians in Fellowship."

I am very much in favour of the principle of "Christians in Fellowship." It often happens that our own members move into an area where we have no church of our own and our people are made welcome in another church and are often given places of service and honour without formally seeking membership.

Sometimes, sadly, this can happen in areas where we do have a church, for one reason or another. It may be distance, or they may just not feel at home, but our people worship with another church and are accepted.

This is again a two-way traffic. Christians sometimes join with us because they are cut off from their own church, or perhaps they prefer our services. We may like to think that our services, are warmer, friendlier, and less formal. They are received by us because of their love for the Lord, even though they may have the right to full membership in a nearby church of another denomination.

The parents usually take the initiative and make the decision to link up with the new church, but there are times when the children first become involved and the parents follow.

Usually, the basis for accepting "Chris-

tians in Fellowship" is the fact that the persons concerned are members in good standing with another church. In some cases a letter to this effect is required. In other cases the word of the folk is accepted.

There should be no difficulty about the boys referred to in your question. If they were accepted as members in the church they left, then they could readily be received into fellowship with their parents.

If the boys have not taken the appropriate steps to full membership in their previous church, such as confirmation or baptism following personal commitment, then there are still clear alternatives.

1. If they desire to be recognized as church members then are ready to make their commitment to Christ in the manner they want to make it.

2. If they wish to give effect to this commitment in their former, even if distant, church, they should not be discouraged for doing this. They would then be received into fellowship on the same basis as their parents.

3. If the boys and their parents are willing to explore the way of discipleship in their new fellowship, care must be taken not to hurry them. (We sometimes baptize and receive children of 10 and 12 into our membership, but we would be wrong to press them). If it took as long as 12 months, it wouldn't be a bad thing.

The principle of "Christians in Fellowship" is a good thing, but there can be difficulties and you have raised one. We must be careful to fulfil our responsibility for declaring the gospel and the steps to discipleship according to the scriptures. The fact that we accept as brothers in Christ those who came into a genuine fellowship with Christ in a way different

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

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(see Page 13)



TAA
IS OUR FRIENDLY
AIR CARRIER

THE LAST WORD...

The God-experience is at the very heart of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Where there is a vivid personal understanding of the forgiveness of the grace of God, there is strength. Where there is no experience, religion becomes formal and dead. It is the personal discovery of God which keeps the Christian faith going. From the level of experience comes the power which fashions men and women of strength.

Alan Walker

LORD, IS IT I?

Who still may point
a scornful finger
at Iscariot
and recall,
"You were the man
who once betrayed our Lord!"
Is there not
some of Judas
in us all?

— Katherine L. Ramsdell

★ ★ ★

My three children are at the perfect age
— too old to cry at night and too young to
borrow my car.

★ ★ ★

Most of the things that shouldn't hap-
pen to a dog, happen to people.

★ ★ ★

Memo

Nine times out of ten you'll find
No matter where you roam,
The big noise at the office
Is the little squeak at home.

Joan I. Welsh

★ ★ ★

An old man was sitting on the porch of
a little village store when a big, shiny car
drove up with two strangers in it.

"Hey, Grandpa," one of them called out
derisively, "how long has this burg been
dead?"

The old man looked at them carefully
over the rim of his spectacles before he
replied: "Not long, I guess, you're the first
vultures I have seen."



"Know what? Reading's like your own
TV show turned on in your head!"