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MOORoopNA AT CROSSROADS

by Don Oakes

For over twenty years, the Mooroopna Church of Christ has been conducting regular worship meetings. The Victorian-Tasmanian Aborigines Mission Department has kept closely in touch with the congregation because many of the members are of aboriginal descent. Membership has never been high, but at the moment, the Department is very concerned with the future. It seems there are two quite opposite possibilities for this small church. Before we look at these, here is a little background.

The crisis has been accentuated by the passing of two particularly fine workers in the Church.

Roy Clydesdale, especially since his retirement from his occupation, gave untiring effort in ministering to his aboriginal friends. He was widely loved and respected by black and white alike, and was in a very true sense the unpaid minister of the church. Many turned to him in times of trouble, and his leadership at services was a constant inspiration. Even after an accident which made it necessary for him to preach from a chair, he continued his work.

Jeff Atkinson was also one of the leaders of this Church. This aboriginal man was always willing to help in all sorts of ways. Many will remember the duets he and his wife sang with such feeling, but of course his work and influence extended far beyond this.

Now that both Roy and Jeff have died, meetings at the Church have fallen to a

low ebb. There are other willing helpers, and we appreciate their efforts, but it seems these two are being sadly missed.

It is for the possibilities rather than for the problems that we are seeking the prayers of the Brotherhood.

In the Mooroopna-Shepparton district there are hundreds of aboriginal people. Almost all of them have been contacted at one time or another. When there is need for the services of a Church — for weddings, funerals or some kind of problem — these people consider themselves to belong to Churches of Christ. Here is a ready made mission field!

Beyond this district, along the Murray valley, there are many more aboriginals. One work currently being commenced is at Albury-Wodonga, where Cecil Grant, an aboriginal pastor with the Aborigines Evangelical Mission is being sponsored by our Federal Aborigines Mission Board. He will make occasional contact with the Shepparton-Mooroopna folk, but this will obviously be limited by time and distance.

Our plans are that the Mooroopna district should also have a full-time worker. He would almost certainly need to be a coloured person if he were to relate to the aboriginals. The Federal Board is able to find funds to support such a worker. Our concern — and our request for your prayers — is that the right person be found. Both ourselves and the Federal Board have been making enquiries, but without success to date.

Will you follow our work and support us with your prayers?

● NEW SOUTH WALES AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST CONFERENCE CENTRE

Stanwell Tops

Bill Impey has been appointed Manager at Stanwell Tops and serves with a team of four other men plus their wives in developing this significant area of Christian ministry.

With the acquisition of the Zionist Centre, Stanwell Tops has become the largest Conference Centre in Australia. Sleeping accommodation is available for 400, up to 650 can be fed in the main dining complex and the Auditorium caters for 1,200 people. The site can be used as a total unit or it breaks down into three smaller sites which can operate quite independently of each other.

Billy Graham Crusade

Preparations are now well under way as Churches prepare to participate in the visit of Dr Billy Graham to New South Wales in April, 1979. Several of our men are involved in the preparation — B. Armstrong, Council of Reference; K. Baker, Vice Chairman; D. Holmes, Forces Committee Chairman; K. Crawford, Visitation Committee Chairman. Others are becoming involved as preparations reach out

Chatswood Ministry

Dick Haymen has accepted the invitation to minister at Chatswood in a team ministry in association with Terry Butler. Terry Butler is also involved in lecturing at Woolwich Bible College.

From Singapore DR G. D. JAMES IN NEWCASTLE

Dr G. D. James, was the guest preacher for the Missionary Convention at Mayfield Church of Christ, August 11-13. Dr James is a Tamil Indian and Founder/Director of the Asia Evangelistic Fellowship. He is in Australia working with Asian students, in particular at Macquarie University. His forthright messages were greatly appreciated. There are many Asian students attending the church from Newcastle University and they supported the meetings, and arranged an Asian luncheon at the church.

Dr James was also speaker at the Campus Rally 1978 held jointly at Newcastle University and College of Advanced Education. Others to participate in the Missionary Convention were Neil and Ruth Wescomb from Far East Broadcasting Company and the Rostvitt Twins. This year a Faith Promise Missionary Offering was established and the promised amount so far is \$8806. More is expected.

This will be divided among Churches of Christ missionary work and several other missions specifically working in South East Asia which the church considers to be its prime missionary objective. Two people indicated their intention to consider full time missionary work.

INNER SPRINGS

SPRINGTIME — WITHIN AND WITHOUT



Spring! What magic is in the very word and in spite of its repetition year after year, it never fails to stir our hearts into new awareness, and how could it? For loveliness abounds. In shower spray of blossom, in the tender misty green of birch and willow and the haunting fragrance of some hidden flower caught up and borne on the passing breeze. The whispered presence of God is everywhere. But this lovely visitor has a way of revealing the shabby places and wives are seized with and husbands become the victims of the age-old desire to spring-clean, and tidy up our little corner of earth. But what of that inmost dwelling, the secret place of the most High?

Look around the room my soul, and see
what lumber
Thy house doth cumber.
Old fears, old carelessnesses, old
jealousies,
Old enmities:

In vain thine own attempt to sweep and
garnish
To paint and varnish —
The dirt half hid, the part erased stain,
They still remain.
To cleanse thy soul there is but one way
sure
His Presence pure.

"Dear Lord, light Thou a candle in my heart that I may see what is therein and sweep the rubbish from Thy dwelling place."

WATCHING THE BIRTH OF AN AUSTRALIAN CHURCH

By E.W. Heard



"What is the Gospel" and "What are the signs of its presence" in our churches. In "the Cross and our Standing Places", Dr. Hughes powerfully challenged the thinking of the participants to affirm that God is at work showing us that the local congregation needs to become the Good News to its community.

An Australian Church Speaking the Good News to the Australian People.

The leaders of the Australian community have dismissed the Church, therefore, for the people of our nation, there is a need for a Gospel which appeals to them, which speaks to their cultural needs. Dr. Dicker warned us about a cargo cult mentality evangelism waiting for the big white PanAm bird to bring the Gospel to us from another and different culture.

The Australian Character was seen to fit no stereotype and had wide variations from the British and United States models. Its facets were firstly an opposition to authority and its structures, an endemic insubordination well illustrated by bushrangers and diggers of the A.I.F.'s. The Church is seen by most Australians as an authority structure.

Secondly, Australians are secularised, declining to submit their lives to ecclesiastical direction or pronouncements. Regarding themselves as religious they pursue happiness as the chief end of life. Their folkly Christianity puts great store on christenings, weddings and funerals and these few "religious acts" are not to be denigrated.

While we are not so good at it, Australians are strong on the Second Commandment, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself". To do that is the desire of Australians and this religious point of view is expressed by Australian authors from Patrick White onwards.

The Gospel comes to Australians as good news when it speaks to the bad news of the problems over which they fret. Essentially, Australians think of themselves as battlers, which is the O.K. way to be an Australian. Its basis is deep in our history, with the Anzac's senseless defeat seen as the symbol of our nationhood.

The Church's Gospel for Australia

The good news for proclamation to this culture instead of being an appeal to the Sovereignty of God will be a presentation of Christ for Us. It is the picture of the forsaken Jesus led out to die. It tells of the crucified Christ who passes through adversity to triumphant glory. It is a vision of the Lord and His Way for us . . . "take up your cross and come, follow Me".

As an observer from another Communion sharing and watching the evangelists of the Uniting Church I had a deep feeling of joy among these relaxed, purposive and happy people. I believe I was watching the birth of the Australian Christian Church. It was a Church not tied to Canterbury or Rome. It was a Church responding to the powerful thrust of a divinely accomplished union of three denominations. It was a Church whose representatives took seriously the words of its Lord, "Go and make disciples of every nation . . ." in the Australian context.

Big John Mavor has worked out of Sydney as a Methodist minister for years, mostly where the action is for the Church. In Papua he trained indigenous leaders in Group Life Laboratories, then ran Christian Education courses across Oceania for the Pacific Council of Churches and has stimulated development education thinking and sharing for Australia's World Christian Action aid project.

Rev. John Mavor is now a minister of the Uniting Church in Australia and his focus has turned to evangelism. With many of his colleagues he sees the major challenge to the Uniting Church in Australia as a need to recruit more members and to learn to speak the Gospel in an authentic way to the Australian community.

His ability and good humour were in full play when he recently led a National Conference on Evangelism for the Uniting Church in Australia. Representatives of each of the six Synods of the Uniting Church came to Sydney for a four day conference in August, 1978, from across Australia. There were 14 from each State, some members of Synod staffs, some from the Evangelism committee of the new Presbyteries, some ministers and laymen from local congregations.

The Conference was hosted by the Assembly Committee for Evangelism at Vision Valley. This superior campsite of Sydney's Wesley Mission, set in isolated bushland, only 25 miles from the centre of Sydney is a million dollar property.

One talented minister, Ron Elliott of Harden, N.S.W. parish described the Conference gathering: "From the far North of Queensland they had come. They rubbed shoulders with the friendship of the West and South Australians. To the mainland from Tasmania, from the Mallee of Victoria and the land of N.S.W. from the shores of New Zealand; people had come to the Valley of Vision.

"The bushland opened its vastness of splendour and touched off new sunrises of awareness within jaded consciousnesses. The quiet whispering of the breeze played gentle host to the terrain of hearts awakening to the movement of the Spirit. Footsteps on bush rocks became dimensions of Calvary. Gum trees mixed with tall ideas. Small flowers mixed with the

littleness of God, cobwebbed in the admiration of man's slender thread with His Creator.

"Pilgrims had come to search, to share, to struggle, to be made Man. The uncomfortableness of the spirit swirled its own dust of agitation and action. Trailor loads of irrelevance were transported away on vehicles of disdain, thus exposing the real soil of urgency.

"The four days are now over. The valley will soon be silent again. Yet, across Australia, there prayerfully will spread the renewed vision of a gospel that can transform this nation and the world".

How Come Churches of Christ were There?

Since 1974 when the Methodist Church invited the Churches of Christ in South Australia to be partners in Mission '75 of the World Methodist Church, I have been a member of the Committee for Evangelism in South Australia and shared programmes with their Director, through the Methodist churches and Churches of Christ. This co-operation continued with the formation of the Uniting Church in Australia in June '77. Mrs Jean Middleton joined me in these consultations for inter-church evangelism between the two co-operating churches. As a member of the Synod Committee I was invited (expenses paid) to attend the Conference.

The Conference's task was to attempt to answer questions in relation to the Gospel and the Church and our cultural environment, such as, What are the needs of the spiritually restive, unhappy Australian people?, What is to be said theologically about Australian Church statistics? and What is the Gospel for the rich and for the poor?

A formidable contribution to our thinking was made by Dr. Graham Hughes, a New Zealand theologian from the United Theological Hall, Sydney, in a series of Bible studies from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians. "How come we are so pre-occupied with evangelism?" he asked, "because that question never occurs in the New Testament!" Rather than evangelism which is high on the agenda of most Australian Churches, our problem is

A PRESIDENT'S DIARY

BY
KEITH HORNE
PRESIDENT
VICTORIA-TASMANIA

TAKING THE CONFERENCE TO THE CHURCHES is the purpose of a series of meetings planned for Victoria. Don Smith (Mission, Education Director), Clive Ward (Conference Secretary) and the President (Keith Horne), visited Horsham for the first of these meetings. Seven Churches of the region met in what was a most successful program. During August, the first two of ten metropolitan area Regional Dinners for Elders, Board Members, key persons, were held. Almost eighty people attended each of the dinner meetings at Footscray (western) and Ivanhoe (northern). Following the dinner, the President made a presentation on the general theme of Church Growth and Development. A supporting team of departmental representatives made brief statements on highlights of their program. The major part of the evening

was given to question time and open discussion on any aspect of the Brotherhood's work the meeting felt to be important. So far, taking the Conference to the Churches has proved to be a stimulating, informative and much appreciated program in which the Churches and the Conference are being drawn even more closely together.

ARCHBISHOP ANTONIOS MARCOS OF THE COPTIC CHURCH belongs to a section of the Church very different from our own. The Coptic Church dates its history back to the first century in Egypt and in liturgy and vestment seems even further removed from us who belong to the more free church tradition. Nevertheless, the meeting of the Bishop with Heads of Churches over morning tea exposed us to a man who obviously had a pastoral heart. His role involves him in "African Affairs", and his simple faith in Jesus Christ, his commitment to the Word of God, as revealed in the Scriptures, and his confidence that in spite of bombs under churches, persecution and uncertainty, God is still the Ruler of all, was a most moving presentation of faith and testimony. I came away from the meeting feeling I had been ministered to by a man with a true Shepherd's heart, a love for people and a concern for the hurting world God calls us all to serve.

A SPARKLING GROUP OF ASIANS FROM LA TROBE UNIVERSITY WAS A STIMULATING GROUP INDEED. My subject was "A Christian Approach to Morality", and it opened up all the usual aspects of girl/boy relationships in a contemporary age. The questions were the same, the problems are the same, so also was the desire to find God's will and way in a world of clouded values came through strong and clear. Our country has been blessed with the coming of people of a wide variety of culture and background, so different from our own. Those Churches of our Brotherhood in Victoria who have Asians in their membership, are blessed indeed.

FROM INDIA (Inverell, R. A. Powell) Mr and Mrs Hariba Waghmode visited here Aug. 25-27. Members enjoyed meeting and learning from this fine Indian couple . . . Revival Fires Crusade with Mr and Mrs John Shafer (from U.S.A.) was conducted Sept. 3-14. Meetings for second week were held at Hampton Place, as was Men's breakfast on Sept. 9. Mr Shafer had been in hospital only a few days before coming to Australia and his effort in undertaking the long journey and heavy speaking program was greatly appreciated.

WORD TALK

NO. 185

PREPARATION

The most decisive conference in the history of the Church is recorded in Acts 15. The Council of Jerusalem met to determine whether gentiles would be received into the membership of the Church. In Acts 10 and 11 we read of a number of God fearing gentile believers being baptised and welcomed into the Church's fellowship. Then Paul and Barnabas (Acts 13 and 14) won scores of gentiles to Christ and a crisis loomed for those Jewish people who felt threatened by the presence of gentiles.

Acts 15:1-29 and Gal. 2:1-10 refer to the Council held in Jerusalem. Possibly the Council met on two occasions as there are different issues involved in both these records. The basic point concerned the reception of gentiles into the Church membership. The Council of Jerusalem decided that circumcision would not be a pre-requisite to membership for gentiles, and that fellowship between Jewish and gentile Christians at the mealtable did not depend upon the gentiles keeping the Levitical rules.

James, and the other brothers of our Lord, the Apostles, and Paul and Barnabas were all present and the dispute was strong. Paul won a great victory with his insistence that salvation was not dependent upon our works or upon keeping the requirements of the Law.

Acts presents the Jerusalem leaders as possessing supreme leadership and authority in the early Church, and this has become the basis for the Presbyterian form of Church government.

We should not forget the broadminded courage of the Jerusalem leaders in breaking with tradition and their own conservative natures, to support Paul. The significance of this conference decision was monumental for the history of the Church. Without that conference decision, none of us would be Christian today. Without it, Christianity would have remained an obscure Jewish sect. God guides His Church through the collective wisdom of His people who meet under the guidance of the Holy Spirit in conference.

PROCLAMATION.

Why do we need conferences of Churches and of individual Christians on a world, Federal, State or regional level? What spiritual benefit can we gain from attending such conferences? Are they not a waste of time, effort and money? I believe in the value of Church conferences because:

1. We need to do together what we cannot do separately and conference is the opportunity for us to work together in mission, among the aged, the Aborigines, for theological training and literature, publication and Bible production etc.

OUR SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

2. We need fellowship with each other for we all need the inspiration of the strength of the Church.
3. We need to be reminded of our heritage, our destiny and our purposes. Great preaching, study groups, business discussions and debate look both backwards and forwards.
4. We need the stimulation from others to spur us on with our own local work.
5. We need to give as well as to receive, for other Christians depend on the fellowship and support that we give.
6. We need to learn, to serve and to grow. None of us separately are as wise, as thoughtful, or as knowledgeable as all of us together.
7. We need to review our work and witness, to see where we have been and where God's spirit is leading us in new ventures.

As we meet together in conference God speaks to us, and we are spiritually uplifted and directed into His purposes.

PRESENTATION

As you read this, I am in conference in Singapore. I have been meeting throughout this past week in the World Summit Convocation of world Church leaders. These men who have been exercising a significant ministry have been called together to discuss ways in which God can work through us. In my case I have been invited, not from any ministry I have exercised, but on the basis of my succeeding Dr. Alan Walker as Senior Minister of the world's largest City Church.

At this conference there are Ministers from most of the world's largest Churches. One such Church has a membership of 80,000 meeting weekly in Chile; another has 40,000 members meeting weekly in five great Services each Sunday in Korea. We have been discussing how we can effectively know God's will for the mission of His Church today, and how we can support each other to fulfil that will.

We cannot do without each other. We are all part of the body of Christ and the hand needs the eye, and the ear needs the foot. (1 Cor. 12).

Recently a Minister complained to me that he was lonely in his work, felt that no one from our Brotherhood cared for him or the work he was doing, and felt that the rest of the Churches ignored his efforts. I asked him just one question: "Why do you not attend the regular Ministers Fraternal, Brotherhood gatherings and State Conferences?" He replied — "They are just a waste of time!" I felt there was nothing I could do for my brother Minister, for I remembered the words of Jesus: "The measure you use for others, is the one God will use for you."

GORDON MOYES

REACH OUT FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN TOOWOOMBA QLD.

(Toowoomba, Qld.). Preparations for "Reach Out for Life" in September have been the most intense of any previous campaign by the Margaret St. Church.

There was a distribution of some 25,000 dodgers through the

Toowoomba "Chronicle".

An hour long Revival Fires TV film hosted by "The Good Twins" on Channel 10 received wide coverage and appreciation. Interviews on TV and ABC kept the tram of five Americans busy.

Photo. The photo on the cover was taken in front of one of the fountains at Vera Lacaze Memorial, Queens Park, Toowoomba. From left to right: **Al Karges** (Evangelist from California), his wife, **Carolyn**, **The Good Twins**, **Steve Karges** (youth evangelist).

SEVENTEEN IN YOUTH TEAM FOR SOUTH EAST ASIA

On Aug. 26, 17 young adults left for a tour of South East Asia. It is a tour with a difference. They are members of the Doncaster Church of Christ Young Adult Fellowship, and their itinerary includes Singapore, Kuala Lumpur and Penang.

While their itinerary was planned through a travel agent, the content is quite different from the ordinary. The young people are all active members of the Doncaster Church of Christ, and will be conducting services in Churches in the three centres they visit.

These churches include two Methodist Churches, one Presbyterian Church, and a Gospel Assembly in Singapore, a Youth Camp with 100 Chinese and Malaysian young adults in Kuala Lumpur,

and services with the First Baptist Church and Evangelical Free Church of Malaysia, and then on to Penang, and a service at Butterworth.

The group is talented and includes singers, pianists, guitarists, vocal groups and speakers. The minister, Keith Horne, said, "The tour grew out of my experience on a Study Tour sponsored by my church two years ago. The arrangements were made direct with the Churches in South East Asia, and with the help of Chinese members of my congregation at Doncaster. Quite apart from the usual pleasure a tour brings, this experience will expose our young people to the work of the Church in a totally different culture, and I believe nothing but spiritual blessing and personal growth for my young people can result."

COVER PHOTO

The minister (Keith Horne) with some of the team L to R: Rosemary Inglis, Warren Cutler, Warren Clencie, Evan Butler, Elizabeth Aumann, Richard Cutler, John Gowers, Gina Wood-Burgess, Margaret Crouch, Sue Pinches, Jill Brough. (Absent: Graeme Rogerson, Glynis Smalley, Andrea Waddingham, Roslyn Howden, Ross McLaren, Mark Porter).

1000 BOYS IN EXPLORER SPORTS

Victoria's Explorer Boys' Clubs completed their Indoor Sports Competition in August. In the previous Zone Heats and Finals which spread over two nights, over one thousand boys and leaders were involved. George Beard, club chief and coach for Burwood was the organiser of the metropolitan championship. The Explorer work is under the sponsorship of the Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Mission, Education & Development.

Glen Waverley JUNIORS "at the ready" for the Grand Final of the BATON RELAY . . . the photo catches the concentration and well-trained technique of No. 1 and No. 2.



CRUSADE SEMINARS

The Billy Graham Sydney Crusade has organised a series of courses and a one-day seminar to train people in small group work in preparation for the 1979 Crusade.

Commencing Sept. 26, there will be three evening courses of 8 weeks, with 2 hour sessions and one day course of four weeks with 4 hour sessions. These will be at Parramatta, Lindfield and Hurstville South on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The 4 week day course will be held on Wednesdays at Lindfield. These courses will cost \$15 which will include the cost of a handbook.

A "crash" course will be held at Trinity Grammar School, Summer Hill on Sept. 9 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., which will cost \$10.

Registrations to be made at:- Sydney Billy Graham Office, Box A1979, P.O. SYDNEY SOUTH 2000.

14 BAPTISMS (Boronia, A. Taylor-Davis) 14 baptisms over recent weeks and three welcomed by transfer. Membership now stands at 207, plus seven Christians in Fellowship . . . United service of Boronia churches held in our chapel . . . Special Board meeting set priorities for 1979 . . . Supplementary song book compiled and being used . . . Explorer Midgets won Metro. final of Indoor Sports . . . New communion cloth enhances communion table . . . Cake stall on Council election day raised \$80 . . . Mr and Mrs V. Burden left for overseas holiday . . . Two morning services combined recently, 180 present. Lunch followed . . . Members urged to express views on massage parlours and prostitution to local councillors as Council considers the matter in conjunction with other councils.

PREACHERS (Warragul, R. Pritchard) Pulpit occupied recently by Miss Jacky Bowden and Mrs Norelle Stillwell . . . Ladies travelled to Cheltenham for C.W.F. Missionary Rally . . . Recent stall raised \$120 to support Indian girl, surplus going to Gas for P.N.G. Fund . . . Mrs E. Martin again in West Gippsland District Hosp. W. Whiteside is out of hospital and recovering from accident . . . Church badminton team won the Pennant (Top section) in the Warragul and District Churches Assoc.

● Reachout Crusade in
Melbourne

LEIGHTON FORD RETURNS

Leighton Ford is returning to Melbourne for the Melbourne Reachout Crusade from Oct. 11-22, 1978. Last year over 21,000 people attended the six day Crusade with Leighton Ford in Dallas Brooks Halls. The response led the Melbourne Reachout Committee to plan a more extensive Reachout Crusade this year.

Born in Canada, Leighton Ford has been with the Billy Graham Association since 1955 and is now vice-president. He is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian church in North America. The author of several books on Evangelism, his latest being "Good News is for Sharing", he is regularly heard on the "Hour of Decision" broadcast over 900 radio stations around the world. He also has a syndicated Television News Feature in many areas of the United States.

Time magazine singled him out as being "among the most influential preachers of the modern gospel."



The Crusade Schedule

- Oct. 11-13 Dallas Brooks Hall, 8 p.m.
- Oct. 14 and 15 Dallas Brooks Hall, 2.45 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Oct. 16 Dallas Brooks Hall, 8 p.m.
- Oct. 17-19 Dallas Brooks Hall, 6.15 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Oct. 20-21 Sidney Myer Music Bowl, 8 p.m.
- Oct. 22 Sidney Myer Music Bowl, 2.45 p.m.

"Go as a Group" is the slogan the Operation Andrew Task Force, under the leadership of Mrs Joyce Dick is using to encourage churches and organisations to book blocks of seats at the Crusade programs. Group reservation tickets are now available from the Reachout Office, P.O. Box 339, Hawthorn, Vic. 3122. Phone 82 7081.

ANGLICANS AND UNITY

By overwhelming majorities the bishops, clergy, and laity of the General Synod of the Church of England voted to enter into discussion towards covenanting on the basis of ten propositions proposed by the Churches' Unity Commission, with those Churches also willing to covenant — in effect the Churches of Christ, the Methodist Church, the Moravian Church and the United Reformed Church. But its conditions for doing so are the acceptance by these Churches of the historic episcopate at the inauguration of the covenant, and an amendment was added to the terms to make it clear that this would be by the consecration of

bishops. Further, the mutual recognition of ministers involved in covenanting would be effected "by the action of the whole episcopate of all the covenanting Churches, incorporating . . . the existing ministers into the historic threefold ministry by invocation of the Spirit in a prayer which makes it clear that such incorporation is intended and conveyed, by a distinctive sign for the conferring of a gift of the Spirit, and by concelebration of Holy Communion". In this way, the Church of England representatives go into the next crucial stage of negotiations with conditions laid down in advance that some of the other Churches might find too high a price.

CHELTENHAM CHURCH OF CHRIST (Vic.)

CENTENARY OF CHAPEL

Sunday, October 1st

SERVICES AT 9.30, 11.00, 3.00, & 7.00

These will be special services focussing on the 100 years of service in the present building. All past members and friends are invited to share in this day.

The speaker will be **GORDON MOYES**

ROBERT COLMAN, one of Australia's outstanding Gospel Singers will be Guest Soloist at the 3 p.m. service, when the special Temple Day Offering will be received.

ALL WELCOME

EVIE RECEIVES GOLD RECORD

Sacred Productions Australia have just announced that Evie Tornquist has become the first Gospel Artist in Australia ever to receive a Gold Award from the Australian Record Industry Association.

Evie was presented with a Gold Album (representing sales in excess of 20,000) for her "Gentle Moments" album. The presentation took place at the recent Christian Booksellers Association Convention at Denver, Colorado, U.S.A. The Gold Album was presented by Stan Moulton, Joint Managing Director of Sacred Productions Australia.

Evie was extremely excited about receiving the award from Australia, since her past visits to this country has put Australia in a special place in her heart.

"Evie has given Gospel Music an acceptance in Australia we have never seen before," says Mr Moulton. "Every day we are seeing an increasing acceptance in the media and on radio."

EVIE ON TV

The gospel singer Evie Tornquist will be seen in a TV program on Channel 9 (Melb.) on Sunday, October 29, 11 a.m. In "Step into the Sunshine", Evie sings her songs and tells stories to a group of children in the studio.

RETIREMENT SUNDAY

"Retirement Sunday will be held on Oct. 15, 1978 and in Melb. a special service will be held at 3 p.m. where the guest speaker will be Professor John F. Scott, Vice-Chancellor of LaTrobe University and the theme will be "Fulfillment in Retirement". His Excellency, the Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Winneke, will attend. The Rev. Arthur Preston, of Wesley, will preside.

322 COMMUNICANTS (Swanston St. A. L. Webb). A near record attendance of 322 communicants shared a baptismal service when nine new members were welcomed . . . For two successive weekends many of our students have been in leadership training camps . . . Our young marrieds participated in a Young Marrieds Enrichment evening . . . Six of our members are flying to Roper River (in Northern Australia) during September in a Cessna 206 (piloted by our Associate Minister — a missionary pilot with 20 years experience in missionary aviation) to assist two of our missionaries in practical household chores to enable the missionaries to concentrate on Bible translation . . . Our Young People are engaged in training programme in Friendship Evangelism.

WERRIBEE DISTRICT Members led evening services at Footscray and Williamstown . . . Students from C.O.B. led morning service then shared lunch with members at Cherie and Wayne Pilkington's home . . . Church Board in full swing organising activities for coming months . . . Last home meeting held at Mr & Mrs Dowling's . . . Sue and Michael Ewers welcomed into the fellowship from Qld. . . C.W.F. combined with men and families in a Great Games Night.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN



After a recent trip away from his Mornington Island home, an Aboriginal stockman was being driven along a track by the white station manager. As they reached the top of a rise tears began to flow down the stockman's face. The startled driver braked uncertainly. The stockman stepped out and removed his shirt. Through welling tears he spoke softly to the perplexed manager. "This is my land."

★

A visit to Mornington Island, Queensland, earlier this month revealed many aspects of the complex Queensland Aboriginal issue which we Europeans have so widely and so tragically misunderstood.

The relationship of the people to the land is a prime example. Whereas we Europeans find security and identity in our qualifications or our possessions or our occupations, Aboriginals derive theirs from the land. The land cannot be bought and sold. It is not theirs to sell. It is there to meet the needs of their children's children just as it fulfilled those of their fathers' fathers.

★

From discussions with the Aboriginals, the mission staff and government officials further insights included:

- To the Aboriginals, wealth and income are not essential factors in maintaining dignity and self-respect. Freedom to manage their own affairs and to be consulted regarding their future are.

- The islanders' level of knowledge and understanding, even of complex political processes, is often greatly underestimated. "You can't manipulate these people" and "Never doubt the intelligence of these people" were

typical comments from the whites interviewed.

- A deep sense of disillusionment and despair is felt by the people towards the Queensland government as a result of what they see as years of paternalistic decrees and unfulfilled promises.

- At the moment the Aboriginal community is trusting firmly in the federal government to intervene on their behalf to secure self-management as it has promised it will.

- The Queensland government employees are unquestionably well-meaning and sincere. Many of them, however, simply do not seem to understand the unique culture of the Aboriginals, their aspirations, their fears and their spiritual needs.

★

As Christians, if we are to stand in solidarity with these people and express our love in action, our very first step must be to listen and understand.

"Will you write what is really happening here?" asked Janie Dugong, the highly respected wife of one of the Aboriginal councillors. "Or will you just put the government's view like all the other papers?"

I assured her as earnestly as I could that I would write only what I believed to be right.

"Then you tell the people where you come from that the Queensland government are the stirrers. We need self-determination, not white bosses all the time. We're sick and tired of the government's talking and the government's lies ..."

"Tell your people to keep praying for us and supporting us. Now we don't know who we can believe. We just trust God. He is our Boss."

INPUT

from a Uniting Church parish magazine.

In the Book of Kings there is a story about Ahab, king of Samaria. "One day, Ahab made a proposal to Naboth: 'Your vineyard is close to my palace; let me have it for a garden; I will give you a better vineyard in exchange for it, or if you prefer, its value in silver.'

"But Naboth answered, 'The Lord forbid that I should let you have land that is in my family'. So Ahab went home sullen and angry because Naboth would not let him have his ancestral land."

To make a short story shorter, Ahab's wife Jezebel, discovering the cause of her husband's moodiness said 'Are you or are you not king in Israel? I will make you a gift of the vineyard of Naboth.' She then arranged for Naboth's murder and the takeover of his land.

In the Book of Kings of Australia there is a story about the king of Canberra and the king of Brisbane. They discovered something valuable in the garden of their neighbour named Aurukun.

They made a proposal to Aurukun. "Your garden is close to our hearts and our mining interests. Let us have it for a little bauxite garden. We will give you a better piece of land in exchange, or if you prefer, its value in paper money."

But Aurukun said, 'The Lord forbid that I should let you have land which has always been in my family.' So the kings of Canberra and Brisbane went home sullen and angry that Aurukun would not let them have his ancestral land.

The sequel to the story about Ahab was that a prophet, Elijah, a man of God and not a bit political, went to the king and made some nasty non-political remarks. 'Have you killed your man and taken his land as well? Where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, there dogs shall lick your blood.'

Elijah knew how to speak in a non-political way to a king.

The sequel to the story about the kings in Canberra and Brisbane is being written now.

Where is the prophet to say anything to them? The kings of Canberra and Brisbane usually get their man and their land. So did Ahab. Elijah couldn't stop him.

Will the church be able to stop Canberra and Brisbane? Not biblically likely. The church in Australia must not say or do anything political, must it? That would be very unbiblical, wouldn't it?

JASON'S HOUSE

... NOW LET'S UNITE
IN JOYOUS WORSHIP WITH
"LET US WITH A GLADSOME MIND..."



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.

TERTIUS AND C.E.

To the Editor —

Tertius "A.C. July, 8" writes "That C.E. has gone to its archival resting place," Sir, Christian Endeavour is not dead, but very much alive. In January, 1978, C.E. held its 37th National Convention in Adelaide. The venue was the Prince Alfred College. Representatives from all Australian States were present. 700 delegates were registered. At times the auditorium was filled to capacity (750). There was excellent representation of all age groups.

Recently a district C. E. Rally in Victoria had 60 young people present. In S.A. a seven day Christmas camp is conducted. Last year 180 were in camp. S.A. has just held its State Convention, the highlight being the Junior Rally, 700 people present, 100 children at one time on a stage involved in the programme.

C.E. is alive and very well and still has potential to teach young people to be leaders in Christian work. It is said that 95% of full time Christian workers throughout the world today had their beginning in C.E. It still is the only organisation to train young people to lead, read, pray, and be fitted for leadership tomorrow.

M. Munyard,
National Vice-Pres. A.C.E. Union.

PROTEST

To the Editor,

I protest against certain articles in the "A.C." First, in Aug. 5 issue in Mustard Seeds a whole page was devoted to glorifying a politician, Mr Whitlam. Our paper is for the purpose of glorifying Jesus Christ. If we must glorify men let it be Christian men and not make our paper an organ of political propaganda. So far as I know Mr Whitlam does nothing to glorify Christ or help the church.

Secondly, in Happenings in Aug. 19th issue, there is a statement by Senator Alan Misson and Barry Jones making ridiculous and untrue statements about the Qld. Government. As a Queenslanders I can assure you that there is no violation of human rights by the

Qld. Government although some radical groups and the media would like southerners to believe that there is.

Senator Misson and Mr Jones have a right to say things under parliamentary privilege for political propaganda, but it grieves us to see our editor publishing statements by these men.

R. D. Clark, Qld.

HAPPINESS ... ISI

To the Editor,

I was naturally very interested in 'Tertius' comments concerning Temperance.

About 20 years ago our minister told us that Christians should be the happiest people in the world. I may have forgotten a lot of other things he told us, but that has really stuck in my mind.

It is strange that many Christians and in particular those who abstain from alcohol go around with really long faces and look so unhappy.

As surveys indicate that abstainers from alcohol are decreasing by 25 per cent each five years I can't help but think that these Christians who abstain and have long faces are a stumbling block to other people.

If we know Christ and don't need a drug, i.e. alcohol, then we should respond with happiness to the world.

Hoping 'Tertius' is the same happy person.

John Williams, S.A.

MUSTARD SEEDS

To the Editor,

Ever since the column 'Mustard Seeds' appeared in the "A.C." I have tried to discover why it is there.

The Aug. 5 edition is obviously an attempt to introduce party politics, and I have discovered devout Christians in various parties, but when believers get together parties are not mentioned — Christ is central.

I may have missed it, but I cannot find one verse of scripture; anything that will edify or inspire to better living, just the exaltation of a confessed un-

believer with a half-hearted attempt at justifying what is said, by a reference to Cyrus.

The comic strip "Jason's House," which accompanies the articles could well have been designed by a skeptic, and ridicules rather than exalts the Bible which is the World of the living God.

I think if the "A.C." looked for something Christian and inspirational it would serve its purpose better.

A. A. Clarke, Qld.

SINGLES

To the Editor,

The Christian Singles group in the Northern and Western suburbs has taken the name "North-Western Club for Single People". The program has spiritual, cultural and social emphases."

Those requiring detailed program information may write to me at 9 Service St., Coburg, Vic. 3058.

John Urquhart, Vic.

CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

To the Editor,

Charismatics have been accused of overemphasising experience in religion. All doctrine leads to dead legalism and all experience can become a dangerous introspective diversion. However, God is using this movement to bring about a new emphasis on a religion of "True Experience".

L.W. Marshman ("A.C." 19.8.78) is concerned about division. Throughout the history of the church, including the history of Pentecostalism, it is doctrine which has been divisive. The experience of the Spirit of Christ within brings unity and it is this that guarantees eternal life, not the possession of correct doctrine (1 John 5:11,12).

Eric Hollard ("A.C." 19.8.78) quotes many sources to promote his concept of "True Religion" as opposed to "Experience Religion". However, to quote the Word of Truth, Paul's aim is that he may "Know Christ and experience the power of His resurrection" (Phil 3:10 T.E.V.). It is the goal of his life.

The Bible is a catalogue of man's experiences with God. The Charismatic experience often parallels these accounts. Our relationship with the Father, the Saviour, and the Holy Spirit is of necessity experiential.

Faith, repentance, the new birth, baptism, being filled with the Holy Spirit, serving the Lord, the fruit and the gifts of the Spirit and our fellowship and growth in the church are all experiential.

Let us not fall into the trap of arguing divisively over this matter, but let us grasp the true doctrines of scripture and the vital experience which comes through the operation of the Holy Spirit in the individual.

Trevor R. W. Holmes, Vic.

WELCOME (Brooklyn Park, G. D. Agnew) An informal reception held in the church lounge to welcome the Lauer family from U.S.A. Richard Lauer will serve as D.C.E. Director for 12 months. He preached here on September 10 . . . Intergenerational church camp held at Longwood. Participants divided into "pretend" families for weekend and invited to share in a variety of activities . . . 13 have been welcomed into church fellowship over last two months, five by transfer and eight as Christians in Fellowship . . . Our Children's Ministry Task Group has produced first issue of "Sharing", a leaflet to explain our current emphasis on inter-generational worship and learning . . . 160 attended concert and raised \$180 to assist development of our Resources Centre .

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

BIBLE WITH A HANDLE

To the Editor

We've just been staying up north in a beachside holiday cabin. On Sunday we went to church and greeted our neighbours in the next cabin as we went. They could see where we were going. We carried our bibles.

On the way back to our cabin we passed our neighbour on his way to the beach. He quipped, "My bible has a handle on it!" We knew what he meant. The bottles by his bin showed that he used his bible-with-a-handle a lot more than I use my bible.

I'm always a bit slow on replies, and he was swinging his towel a hundred yards away before my mind came up with some possible answers. Perhaps I could have said, "Using a bible-with-a-handle doesn't exclude you from using my bible!" or "There are problems when people use my bible the wrong way, but that's nothing to the problems when they use yours the wrong way." or "Perhaps people who use your bible most need my bible most urgently!"

I wonder why it is that people who use the bible-with-a-handle often feel that they are excluded from using the Holy bible! Perhaps the Gideons are helping to overcome that problem. They put bibles in pubs!

Hoping you are the same,
TERTIUS

COVENANT PLAYERS

FOR MELBOURNE CONFERENCE

Folk at Federal Conference, Jan. 8-14, 1979 will have a chance to see and be involved with a group which has won world acclaim for its efforts in presenting the Christian message through drama.

The Covenant Players, which began as the "brain child" of a Hollywood writer, producer and director in California in 1963, will present the Gospel in their own special style.

The group has been in Australia for over four years and has seven full time

touring units in all parts of Australia and New Zealand.

The group has a vast repertoire of one act plays and shorter vignettes as well as several three act plays, specially written for their use.

Through their work the group speaks on issues in a manner that forces people to face the ultimate truth of their own personal behaviour.

The group presents its work through audience participation so that people not only see, but experience the message.

In addition to being featured at the Festival of Faith at the Melbourne Town Hall on Jan. 13, the Covenant Players will also lead an Elective programme on drama. The fee for this Elective will be \$10.00.

MINISTER FOR GISBORNE



(Vic.) Dare Stevens, currently of Wangaratta, has been appointed to a full time ministry at Gisborne to commence in 1980. The appointment has been made with the help of the Dept. of Mission, Education & Development and represents the Department's first major move in providing full time ministry for the newly established Western Region churches. The Gisborne church sees its ministry on a regional basis to the area. With the help of the Properties Corporation a five acre site was purchased in 1977. A manse will be built during 1979. Meetings are currently held in a local hall. A vigorous programme of visitation by student minister Peter Wells has made contact with a number of new families, some of whom have already linked with the church.

MINISTRY (Long Plains/Owen, J. Elliott) John Elliott has accepted invitation for further 12 months' ministry to Circuit . . . At annual meeting at Long Plains a new auditor was elected owing to retirement of A. R. Good. Other office-bearers were returned unopposed . . . The Northern Districts' Conference will be held at Long Plains, Mar. 4, 1979 . . . A Youth Rally was held at Owen, led by Jeff May of Balaklava . . . Dulcie Good making good recovery after surgery.

DEATH OF C. G. FLOOD

The church at Ann St., Brisbane, announces the death of Cyril G. Flood on Sept. 10.

Mr Flood who served churches with distinction in Australia and New Zealand was minister at Ann St. for seven years and recently went back to conduct an interim ministry while the church is waiting for the coming of Ron White in Dec.

Eric T. Hart conducted the private cremation service on Sept. 12, and a memorial service was held at Ann St. on Sept. 17.

An obituary notice will appear in the next issue.

BOYS & GIRLS (Canley Heights, J. Hohnke). At recent Battalion Sports carnival, Boy's Brigade Sect. 1 came 2nd, and Sect. 2 came 3rd. At Figure Marching Sect. 1 came 2nd. In Girls Brigade Netball, 8 year old team won Grand Final and 12 year old team came 2nd . . . Church ladies held luncheon for senior citizens instead of having C.W.F. Anniversary . . . Recent visiting speakers at church services have been Roy Greenhalgh, The Disciples Motor Cycle Group, and David West with Belmore Young people singing . . . Gospel Service changed back to 7 p.m. for summer months.

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You will never have a better opportunity than this of seeing some of the loveliest and most interesting parts of Australia.

At prices no one else can match!

TEN DAY RANGES TOUR

Includes Eureka Stockade, Hattah Lakes National Park, Sunraysia City (Mildura), Silver City (Broken Hill), Flinders Ranges, Wilpena Pound, Whyalla, Barossa Valley, Naracoorte Caves, the Grampians. All travel, accommodation and meals for only \$350.00. Leave Melbourne Jan. 15, 1979; return Melb. Jan. 25.

SIX DAYS GOLD AND RIVERS TOUR

Includes Ballarat's Sovereign Hill, Wedderburn and the boomerang factory; Swan Hill and the Sound and Light tour; Echuca, once Victoria's second largest port. Back through Bendigo and its gold mine. All travel, accommodation and meals, only \$130.00. Leave Melb. Jan. 15, 1979. Return Melb Jan. 21.

TWO DAY GRAMPPIANS TOUR

Short tour of the Grampians Mountains, the wonderland of nature. Includes Ballarat, Great Western vineyards. Native deer, kangaroos, emus, koalas and birds abound. All travel, accommodation and meals, only \$40.00. Leave Melb. Jan. 15, 1979, Return Melb. Jan. 16.

PENGUIN PARADE

Folk come from all over the world to see the fascinating evening return of up to 3000 Fairy Penguins after their day's fishing. The largest fairy colony in the world. You will also see seals, mutton birds, and koalas on Phillip Island which is their natural home. Afternoon and evening, Tuesday, Jan. 9, 1979. Only \$10.00

For full details of these and other tours associated with the "Rejoice in the Lord" Conference, write to:

RAN TIPPETT, Churches of Christ Centre, 52 La Trobe St., Melb. 3000, or phone him at home (03) 877 3502.

HAPPENINGS AT RANWADI

by Ken and Jan Warne

School Life: Second term is already nearing completion and like first term it has been a good one with no serious student troubles or mechanical breakdowns. Praise the Lord! Generally, a happy working relationship has been maintained amongst students and staff.

Some Australian visitors provided opportunity for much mid-term activity, and the students were kept busy making local artifacts (canoes, combs, coconut houses, woven fans and baskets) to sell to them.

During this time, too, Lennyce Westaway and a group of students worked very hard making 45 or so batik-print dresses for the girls as their new school uniform. The boys were given white T-shirts for their uniform and all the students looked very smart to meet the visitors.

This term also saw the introduction of evening classes for village people. Courses were offered in General Knowledge, English for French speakers, and woodwork. The General Knowledge course didn't receive any response unfortunately, but the English class now has an enrolment of 25 and woodwork 12. The courses seem to be quite successful although rather tiring for those staff concerned.

Australian Visitors: On two successive Fridays, the two groups of 8 visitors (12 from S.A. churches, 1 from W.A., 2 from Victoria and 1 from N.S.W.) spent the day at Ranwadi. A morning program of welcomes, introductions and inspection of the school, was followed by a sporting program. Our visitors enjoyed the games of softball and football, being spectators in the true Aussie tradition. A 5-hour (!) concert in the evening gave the visitors an insight into custom ways from our 14 different islands and as many languages.

The visitors, who were here to gain an insight into our mission work here in the New Hebrides, also made day visits to several of our local villages to meet the people and share in kais (feasts), learning how to husk a coconut, etc. These visits were on Pentecost and Aoba islands. They also visited Banmatmat Bible College where a special program of singing, meeting the students, etc. had been arranged for them.

Catering and accommodation on Pentecost was organised by the New Hebrideans and they are to be commended for a job well done. One visitor

VISITORS TO TOWNSVILLE (Alan Weedon) The church in Townsville shared fellowship with a number of visitors in recent weeks including Conf. Pres., Jim Ferguson and his wife and Stan and Marlene Mitchell, W.E.C. Missionaries seconded to International Nepal Fellowship, and home on furlough... Minister assists church at Charters Towers once a month... Twenty 14-19 year olds spent a week at Camp Irwin with minister and Youth Group leaders... 1977/78 Faith Promise Offering has been exceeded.

commented that their stay at Ranwadi where they were housed in one of the hospital buildings, was like staying in a 5-star hotel!

Church Life: Over the last few weeks we have seen encouraging signs in the spiritual lives of the students. While a few have made initial commitments or rededications to Christ, about 30, some students, have been confessing stealing and swearing.

Twice a month teachers are holding small group meetings in their houses which give a closer contact with students. These are interspersed with youth and gospel services.

Family Life: Our plan is to leave Ranwadi on Nov. 21, arriving in Brisbane on Nov. 24. There is so much to be done before we leave. The time will certainly pass quickly. At this point of time, we don't think we will be returning to Ranwadi next year and are awaiting God's leading.

Ken has made a few enquiries with the N.S.W. Education Department and also to Christian Community Colleges, but as yet the way is not apparent to us as to what we are to do.

We pray sincerely that other folk will be led by the Holy Spirit to fill all the vacancies needed for Ranwadi next year. "He faileth not" and so we await and trust in expectancy.

Thank you all again for your letters of encouragement and your prayers for us and Ranwadi. As always these are valued by us.

"TOP 40 MUSIC PROGRAMME"

"Open Door", a programme produced specifically for young people, is being distributed by CTA to six radio stations in Victoria. A half-hour of contemporary music together with comments from youth on the theme of the show, which changes each week. E.g. Freedom; Concern; Smiling; Grief; Sexuality, etc. etc.

"Open Door" is broadcast on the following stations... 3NE Wangaratta — 8.20 p.m. Sunday; 3MA Mildura — 5.30 p.m. Sunday; 3BO Bendigo — 9.45 p.m. Sunday; 3WM Horsham — 11.30 p.m. Saturday; 3UL Warragul — 7.30 p.m. Saturday; 3HA Hamilton — 11.30 p.m. Wednesday.

O.A.C. (Bayswater, R. B. Waldron/D. Armstrong) Robert Adams, from Open Air Campaigners, shared in recent service as part of their Victorian 30th Anniversary celebrations... 27 participated in Progressive Dinner and \$49 was raised towards Manse repairs... 38 attended A.G.M. on Aug. 13. Ken Leake was elected S.S. Supt... Section 4 tennis team won Grand Final and also won their match against Section 4A top team... The Right-On's Singing Group presented a bright concert at Emmaus and also shared in Sunday service as Ashburton.

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

JAY'S QUIZ

Who said this?

This is a word from the Bible, do you know who said it? "Choose this day whom you will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." (Answer on Page 18)

NATURE IS SMART

It looks like an ostrich, but it's not. It is a big bird three to four feet tall; it cannot fly; it runs swiftly along the ground. Many persons, seeing one in a zoo, mistake it for an ostrich, but it is a rhea instead. It does not come from Africa, as does the ostrich. It lives in South America. The ostrich has only two toes, but the rhea has three, each armed with a hooked claw that it uses for defence. It also lacks the plumage for which the ostrich is noted. It has no tail at all, and the rest of its plumage is so coarse it is used in Argentina for making dust brooms. The skins are used for making rugs. Rheas have a remarkable system for producing offspring. A male may have two or three mates, and all of them lay their eggs in the same hollow in the ground. After a dozen or so have accumulated, the male takes over. By himself he hatches all the eggs at the same time!

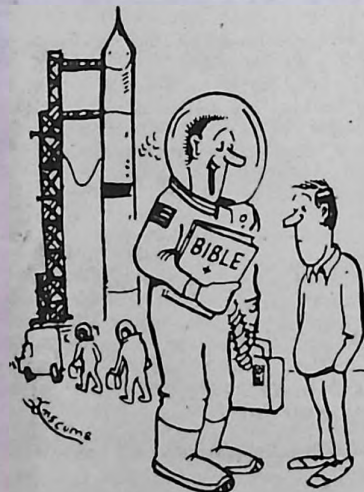
"Did I ever tell you about the time I came face to face with a lion?" asked Steve.

"No. What happened?" said Dave.

"Well, there I stood, without a gun. The lion growled ferociously and crept closer and closer..."

"What did you do then?"

"I moved on to the next cage."



"I'm hoping to get it autographed."

REVIEWS

PASTOR AND PARISH — A SYSTEMS APPROACH by E. Mansell Pattison (Fortress Press)

Fortress Press have recently introduced a new series of books called "creative Pastoral Care and Counselling Series". Each book has approximately 88 pages, therefore relatively brief — just the thing for busy ministers. This particular book with the uninteresting title has a very important message. Dean Kelly in his book "Why the Conservative Churches are Growing" leaves us with a number of unanswered questions about which we need to know a great deal more. In this book I believe Pattison has material which will be of great help in supplying some information we need for helping us to translate Church Growth principles into the Australian situation. Pattison has had a career in the examination of systems and brings his insights to an examination of the church and its pastoral care functions. For Pattison the church is an organisation in its physical manifestation, and therefore a system subject to the same sort of analysis as other systems. He looks at the functions that are needed for healthy growing systems as compared with ineffectual ones. The section on the role of leadership should be studied carefully by every leader in the church. Areas like commitment, behavioural taboos and sanctions, organisation, goals and tasks are some of the issues that he discusses as important factors in effective systems. This book could help ministers in their understanding of their role in the life of the church. The descriptions of the ways in which groups form will be useful to all who are concerned with the development and growth of the church. This is a useful Church Growth book with important pastoral care implications. — Don. E. Stewart

CRISIS COUNSELING

by Howard W. Stone (Fortress Press)

Another book in Fortress Press's Creative Care and Counseling Series that deserves consideration is Howard Stone's "Crisis Counseling". Every minister from time to time is confronted with crisis situations that make large demands upon his time and energy. We need to improve our methods for handling these situations. Stone is talking directly to ministers about the kinds of crises that arise in any congregation and points out the advantages ministers have in dealing with them. He discusses ways in which a crisis develops. He says, "In a crisis a breakdown of thinking occurs when the individual's mental circuits become overloaded, so to speak, and a large input of information is incompatible with the pre-crisis pattern of thinking

about oneself, one's world and one's interpersonal relationships. This overload . . . interferes with the usual ways of planning and carrying out effective behaviours." His ABC method of crisis intervention consists of the following three phases: - A. Achieving contact with the person in crisis. B. Boiling down the problem to its essentials. C. Coping actively with the problem. Finally, he sees the church as a caring community in which the love of God can be expressed through the Minister and the congregation to persons at their greatest times of need. As one who has had on occasions to utilise methods similar to those discussed in this book I believe it can be a help to improving the quality of our pastoral care to those going through crisis situations. — Don. E. Stewart.

GOOD NEWS COMMENTARIES

Edited by David Field, John Stott, Leighton Ford (Collins/Fount)

A series of commentaries based on the Good News text of the Bible. Just as the Good News Bible bridged the communication gap and enabled men and women and young people of today the opportunity of reading God's Word in the speech of the factory and office, so these commentaries explain the Word in the same common speech, avoiding theological jargon and not assuming the background of a lifetime in church. Among those available are: *The Way Out* (Luke) by Andrew Knowles, \$2.25; *Born into Battle* (1 and 2 Thesalonians) by Eddie Gibbs, \$1.95; *Act it Out* (James) by David Field, \$2.25; *That's Life* (Proverbs) by Chris Sugden, \$1.75; *The Man who said No!* (Jonah) by Geoff Treasure, \$1.75; *What is Love?* (Hosea) by Kevin Logan, \$2.25. — 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



"Honor thy Father and thy Mother" surely doesn't apply to someone like me with an I.Q. of 1357"

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AT YOU • & YOU KNOW IT

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MINISTRY TRAINING WITH A POINT

HAPPENINGS

The Aurukun and Mornington Island Aborigines are not giving up their struggle for self-management. Four of the sacked councillors from Aurukun told a Uniting Church group in Melbourne that they do not feel depressed and they do not seek pity. Their aim was to see the Prime Minister in Canberra, to remind him of his solemn commitment to ensure that the two communities are given freedom to manage their own affairs. However, when they went to Canberra they saw only the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs. They heard only the familiar assurances which they know mean nothing, because they have meant nothing so often before.

The Victorian Council of Churches has opened a Resource Centre in its offices at 100 Flinders St., Melbourne. It has 4000 volumes of ecumenical publications and is available for study and research purposes. Two books recently added were "the first and the last" in that one was a report on

Diary

NEW SOUTH WALES

September
24 Brotherhood Sunday
October
6-9 D.C.E. Camp
6 CWF Harbour Cruise
14 CFA Meeting & Cabaret
21-22 Newcastle Reg. Conf.
28 Youthquake
VICTORIA
September
22-24 CWF Camp, Monbulk
24 Boys' Sunday
26 CMF Planning Night, Footscray.
October
1 College annual offering
1 World Communion Sunday
2 Explorers' Annual Meeting
6-8 Men's Camp, Monbulk
14-15 Vic.-Tas. Half Yearly Convention, Ballarat
22 Girls' Sunday

the Conference on Missions in U.K., 1860 and the other is "The Christian Community in Mission" (1977). The V.C.C. Secretary, the Rev. Douglas Dargaville said that both significantly represented the continuing emphasis upon evangelism.

Gordon Stirling, President of Conference, Churches of Christ in Australia, has been invited to the New Hebrides to open the new Christian Centre at Santo on Sept. 30. He and Mr and Mrs Stirling will also share with our New Hebridean Churches on Oct. 1.

Action International Ministries (Philippines) took 60 young people from the streets and jails of Manila to attend a Street Kid Camp. 59 trusted Christ as Saviour. In the regular ministry in the Metro Manila Jails 184 prisoners made decisions in July. For their relief work with prisoners and underprivileged there is need for good used clothing (baby size to adult), towels, bed sheets and soap. To send, pack in small boxes marked "Used items for Religious Use, NO Commercial Value" and address AIM, P.O. Box 110, Greenhills, Metro Manila, 3113 Philippines, surface sea mail.

Billy Graham will preach in six major cities of Poland, October 6-16, 1978, on his second preaching mission to a communist country in Eastern Europe. The evangelist will preach in Poland's capital city of Warsaw and in the historic university and religious centre of Cracow.

There is a renewal in the Coptic Church in Egypt according to Bishop Antonias Markos who is visiting Australia. The Coptic Orthodox Churches comprise 8 million Egyptian Christians. The Egyptian Primate, Pope Shenouda 111, leads a Bi-

ble Class of 8000 every Friday evening for two hours. Bishop Markos was addressing Victorian church leaders at V.C.C. headquarters.

The Seychelles Government has ratified the original 25 year broadcast license issued to F.E.B.C. Australia Seychelles in 1970. The new license fee has now been increased to £ stg.60,000 or approximately \$97,000. In view of the \$US1,000,000 fee imposed on the American government's satellite tracking facilities, this fee is seen as reasonable. The fee also encompasses the lease of 1 square mile of sea bed on which the large aerial array is situated.

Despite the word from the Bishop of Wangaratta to the Lambeth Conference that there are more than 300 ordained women priests in the Anglican Communion throughout the world, a majority of the 400 bishops at the Conference voted to defer action on the issue. This means that no decision can be made for another ten years. One factor which may have exerted some influence is the growing relationship between the Anglicans, the Orthodox Church, and the Roman Catholic Church. Both of the latter oppose the ordination of women.

A spokesman of the World Council of Churches said that the Council "deeply deplores the reported shooting down of a civilian aircraft in Rhodesia". He added that at the same time as deploring this action the Council strongly condemns the killings of thousands of defenceless African civilians in refugee camps inside Rhodesia and in neighbouring countries. "This latest action only reinforces the WCC's earlier stated position which supports efforts to achieve a just and peaceful settlement through negotiations involving all the parties concerned and in the interests of them all," said the spokesman.

The Queensland Films Board of Review banned 95 films passed by the Australian Film Censorship Board during the past four years. Recent films that have been banned in Qld. include "Sex in a Convent" which distressed many Catholics and the child prostitute film "Pretty Baby" with a 12 year old actress simulating acts of prostitution. The Festival of Light deplores the present system of classification which, it says, was the result of the permissive film policies of Don Chipp and Lionel Murphy.

Dr Philip Potter, General Secretary of the World Council of Churches has cabled the State President of the Republic of South Africa, Nicolaas J. Diederichs, appealing for a reprieve from the death penalty for Solomon Mahlangu. The cable reads in part:

"Although Mahlangu was involved in an incident which tragically resulted in two deaths, he was not himself the killer. Nor is he an ordinary criminal, but rather a youngster who has lived through the horror of Soweto on June

A CHURCH DISTURBED

A lot of disturbing things have been happening at our church lately. Young people have been making commitments. About 30 people have been gathering each Monday evening just for prayer. There has been a great interest in Bible studies and discussion groups. Where is all this going to end? Well, I don't really know what we can do to stop the trend. The only way out seems to be for people to put away their Bibles, to stop praying, and for preachers to devote their energies to social rather than the spiritual needs of people. Then, and only then, will the good old days return and all things be put dead right. (The Church is Epping, N.S.W., and the minister is Keith Farmer.)

There is a call for a Week of Prayer for World Peace. The dates suggested are Oct. 22-29, 1978. The W.P.W.P. was launched in 1974. The period was chosen to include United Nations Day, Oct. 24. A folder is available for each day of the week. The Australian sponsors include representatives of Churches of Christ: Sir Douglas and Lady Nicholls and Neil Gilmore. Copies of the folder may be obtained (\$4.00 per 100, plus postage) from Frances Boyd, 43 Trentwood Avenue, North Balwyn, Vic. 3104.

1976 and who is dedicated to the building of a better and more just society for all South Africans. To spare his life would be a statesmanlike act, and one potent to offer healing to South Africa's wounds." Philip A. Potter General Secretary, World Council of Churches.

The first Australian Baptist woman minister, Miss Marito Munro, will be ordained to the ministry on October 1.

Summer school
of

"Present Shock!"

Newman College
Melbourne Jan. 8-14 1979
Young adults (18 & over)
Limited to 60

WHITE PAPERS

ON FAITH AND LIFE

THE PROGRAMME TO COMBAT RACISM or WAS THE GOOD SAMARITAN BAD?

The WCC, through its Programme to Combat Racism, recently made a grant of \$US 85,000 in response to applications from the Zimbabwe African National Union and the Zimbabwe African People's Union. These are the two groups of the Rhodesian Patriotic Front led by Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo.

The applications were for "food, health, social, and educational" programmes. Whether one agrees or disagrees with the policies and actions of Mugabe and Nkomo (and I certainly hold no brief for them, I am totally against their acts of violence and terrorism) there is no questioning the need for welfare assistance in the lands bordering Rhodesia-Botswana, Mozambique, and Zambia.

To be against the excesses of the Patriotic Front doesn't mean support for Prime Minister Ian Smith who, with the white minority Government in Rhodesia, is responsible for the present mess. This is not a biased religious viewpoint. This is the affirmed and confirmed view of the United Nations (including Australia). Ian Smith stands condemned before the world as the leader of an illegal regime.

But that is not the real issue. The statement by the Rev. Russell Rollason, Information Officer of the A.C.C., in the Melbourne "Age" (in rebuttal of the attack by the "Age" Foreign Affairs writer, Michael Barnard) said some fine things but spent so much time analysing the political situation (and questioning the charges made against the Patriotic Front) that the welfare needs of the victims of racial injustice didn't get the prominence they deserved. Mr Rollason probably didn't intend it but his apology came across as too strong a defence of the Front leaders.

Points I would like to stress are:

1. Money used in PCR projects has been specially given for that purpose. Money given to general funds or Christmas Bowl is never used for the PCR.
2. No evidence has been produced that any gift for the PCR has been used directly to support or encourage violence.
3. Illustrations of other PCR giving are to the Federal Council for the Advancement of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders and the Nth. Qld. Land Rights Committee.
4. Although many church people (individuals and organisations) have protested the grants made by the PCR to the Patriotic Front (the Salvation Army went so far as to suspend its membership of the W.C.C. over the issue) the questions of right and merit are not the issues. If we had to satisfy ourselves that a cause was righteous before we supported it we would find it difficult to help anyone.
5. There is no side in the bitter civil war in Rhodesia that could be supported without qualification. Both sides use violence and intimidation. We condemn equally the terrorism of the Patriotic Front and the vicious reprisals of the Rhodesian forces. In both, the main victims are pathetic people caught between ruthless forces.

We still use the Good Samaritan as an example of unquestioning aid to a victim of violence. What if the Samaritan did ask questions! Suppose, just suppose, the fellow left on the road was an active enemy of the Samaritans, that he enthusiastically encouraged the discriminatory rules applied against them. Would that have made the slightest difference! Not according to the way Jesus told the story. The question was one of need, not politics.

Maybe we are being simplistic, but when Jesus told us to love our enemies, he surely meant also that we should love other people's enemies. Whether they are Catholics or Protestants in Northern Ireland, Arabs and Jews in the Middle East, Christian and Muslims in Lebanon or the Philippines, or whites and blacks in Africa, we do have a responsibility, to seek justice for all and to aid the victims of any injustice.

I have not previously made any contribution to the PCR but today I have sent a small gift to the A.C.C. for the Programme.

In no way do I regard this as a vote for or endorsement of Mugabe and Nkomo. It would be a further disaster if either or both gained power in Rhodesia through violence. But I would like to think that in the refugee camps on the borders of Zimbabwe the victims of a fearsome struggle, between blacks and whites and between blacks and blacks, know there are people in the churches across the world who, without knowing all the answers, do care about human suffering.

CONTINUING SCHOOL (Cheltenham)
The School for Continuing Education has third-term courses on tennis for women, macrame, oil painting, creative writing, alcohol awareness . . . The church resolved to contribute communion and church furniture to the church at Santo. While our members, David & Lyn Edwards, were in the New Hebrides for an interim period, the church enabled the motor transport to be reconditioned and put on the road again.

MINISTRY EXTENDED (North Balwyn)
The ministry of W.J.S. Gaunson has been extended to Jan. 1983 . . . A two-night rally with Dr Eric Hutchings from U.K. five first decisions and 20 rededications resulted . . . Ten films by Dr Francis Schaeffer on "How Should We Then Live?" were shown five Friday nights. After expenses met, \$168 was forwarded to L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland . . . Fasting by some members resulted in \$1200 being forwarded to World Vision for famine relief . . . The Rostvit Twins from U.S.A. sang and witnessed at three services . . . Mr and Mrs Ron Barthomew were farewelled on their return to Sydney . . . Church family camp at Marysville was highlighted by discussion led by Jim Gibson from J.E.W.

LOSS OF FOL. MORGAN

After an illness of some months, Fol. Morgan died on Sept. 6.

Mr Morgan was recognised as a pioneer school Chaplain and was the longest serving Chaplain with the Victorian Council for Christian Education in Schools.

An obituary notice will appear in the next issue.

125TH ANNIVERSARY PRAHRAN CHURCH OF CHRIST

OCTOBER 14-15

Speakers: K. J. Clinton, H. K. Christenson.

Sat. evening: A play — "The Centurion"

Sunday: Luncheon, Historical Display, Sunday School Anniversary

Past members and all interested friends invited to join our celebrations.

Enquire: Ian Bunnett Ph. 51 2119

B. Pigdon Ph. 25 3855

CROYDON'S HOMECOMING & THANKSGIVING

Sunday, October 29

10 a.m. Family Worship

12.15 Lunch

2.15 P.S.A.

Speaker: A. E. White

Musical Items

7 p.m. Gospel Service

Past members & friends welcome

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OBITUARY

CARR, Stephen R.

(7.7.78) Shepparton, Vic., Church of Christ was saddened by the sudden death of one of its most stalwart members. Stephen was born at Rainbow in 1903. He was baptized at Latrobe Terrace Church in 1918. He and his wife Dorothy were married at Latrobe Terrace in 1927 and last year celebrated 50 years of marriage with their friends at the church. When Stephen qualified as a civil Engineer in 1920, he was the youngest to have done so. They moved to Shepparton in 1948 and he was elected a deacon in 1949. He served the church in many ways, as church secretary, 1988-70, Chairman of Board, usher, serving at the Lord's table and particularly as supervisor of the building of the Church Family Centre in 1965. Stephen was called home while mowing the lawns at the church which was not surprising as he devoted much of his time in practical service to his Lord. The tribute at the funeral service was given by Reg Hillbrich, Bruce McIntosh and Pat Kavanagh. His service to the community was recognised by the attendance of the Mayor of Shepparton. — H. Stevenson.

JONES, Jessie

The church at LaTrobe Tce., Geelong, was saddened at the death of Mrs Jones, wife of our Elder Arthur Jones. At the funeral service on July 21, Laurie Barker officiated and read a message from Nell Hodgkiss. Jessie Gowan accepted the Lord Jesus as Saviour in 1913. As a teenager she was very active in youth work. In 1923 she married Arthur Jones and continued right through life in the Master's service. She was 12 years secretary to the Ladies' Aid Society, and an official of the Mission Band. She had a lovely voice which she used for the Lord and had a wonderful talent for arranging flowers in the sanctuary. In later years she and her husband served as visitors especially the ill. Her death is a great loss to the church. Sympathy, love, and prayers go out to her husband, Arthur.

LACY, Mrs Elsie.

The Church at Bendigo was saddened by the death of Mrs Elsie Lacy. Elsie Rhoda Elizabeth Schuman was born in 1894. In 1913, aged 19, she was baptised at Boort by the late Thomas Hagger. This was the foundation of a faith that was sufficient though it was to be tested through suffering and grief. In 1917 she married Alfred Thomas Lacy, and set up home in Pyramid Hill. A service for the Breaking of Bread was begun in their home, and continued there till the church building was erected in 1925. They moved to Bendigo in 1935. Her husband died in 1937, and Mrs Lacy was left with the responsibility of four boys, Ron, Harold, Ken (now deceased) and Keith. In the church she was Kindergarten Supt. and S.S. teacher for many years, and an active member of the Women's Fellowship. Her involvement in the W.C.T.U. was recognised by a Life Membership badge and certificate, and in 1975 the Bible Society of Victoria presented her with an Honorary Life Governorship, in recognition of 64 years service. Her life was truly a portrait of faith, and those who knew her, loved her for the quality of her life. We express our love for her family, Ron and his wife Iris, Harold and his wife Rae, Keith and his wife Bette, and to all her grandchildren and great grandchildren. — M.D.K.

McKENZIE, Peg. With her husband Clyde, Peg McKenzie moved to Runaway Bay on the Queensland South Coast to retire in June this year. The church at Doncaster where she was a member have been saddened to hear of her sudden death after a very short illness. Peg was one of four children who made the family of John and Celia Tully. She was born in Doncaster in 1918 and baptised at the age of 15, during the ministry of C. Lang. She married Walter Triplett in 1939 and moved from Doncaster to live in the Berwick District. To them were born Patricia (Mrs Schelling) and Dianne (Mrs Peterson). After the death of Walter in 1966 she married a life time friend in Clyde McKenzie and moved back to live in Blackburn Road, Doncaster. She became associated with the Church again and regularly attended services until the move to Queensland. A president of the local Bowling Club and a member of the Royal Women's Hospital Committee, Peg was artistic, warm and friendly and will be sadly missed by all who knew her. Her funeral was conducted by Noel Newton, minister at Southport, Qld. — Keith Horne.

PRENTICE, Ruth Alice.

(21.8.78) The church at Chelsea sustained the loss of its member-of-longest-standing with the death of Ruth Prentice. Even at age 83 years, Mrs Prentice was one of the most regular attenders at both services each Sunday, maintaining an example of faithfulness over many years. Her pleasant smile, her words of encouragement, and her obvious confidence in the Christian faith were her special ministries to others. She served as church organist and BS teacher; she faithfully attended the weekly prayer meetings. She was agent for collecting Leprosy Mission boxes, a duty she maintained even during her frail years. Her son, Stanley, is minister of the Uniting Church at Mordialloc. Even on the Sunday before her final illness Mrs Prentice was at both worship services, despite difficulties. The funeral service was conducted at Chelsea by Don Oakes, previously a minister at Chelsea.

MITCHELL, Kenneth Bonar

(9.8.1978) The death of Kenneth Bonar Mitchell has severed a link with the Swanston St. Church in Melbourne where he was brought up by parents whose service to Christ he honoured by establishing a Memorial Cairn at the Kenmore Christian College in memory of the Pioneers and his own parents. Ken at no time enjoyed robust health but this did not prevent him following an active business career and enlisting in the Armed Services during World War II and seeing service in the Islands. After the war he came to Queensland to establish a branch of the brushware firm of Thomas Mitchell and Sons and became associated with C. R. Burdeu in the work of the Social Service Committee and the establishment of the Kenmore Christian College. Ill health caused premature retirement from business but enabled him to pursue an Art Course which in turn saw him using in service to Spastic Children at Lone Pine. The sympathy of the Church at Kenmore where he served as a Deacon has been conveyed to his wife Ella, his son Leslie, his daughters, Gillian (Mrs Williams), Wendy (Mrs Warhurst) and their families. A private service was held at the Mount Thompson Crematorium. — E. T. Hart

PROBYN John

The church at Shepparton has been saddened by the death of John Probyn after a long illness. He had been in membership with the Shepparton church for 24 years, having transferred from Wedderburn. A large gathering attended the funeral service which was conducted by Louis Van Laar and Pat Kavanagh. Mrs Probyn and family received many cards and letters from friends and amongst them was a letter from a previous Pastor — Reg Hillbrich. The closing paragraph reads "Jack will always be remembered for his patient endurance, his kindly disposition, sincerity and the depth of love for each member of the family and friends. There was a graciousness about his nature that commended him and also his faith. We console ourselves in knowing that he has passed through the door into a larger and unlimited life." — P.T.K.

STREADER, Mrs Olive Maria.

(10.8.1978) The Church of Christ at Boort (Vic.) was not large enough to hold the congregation of over 160 people who came to pay tribute to the late Mrs Olive Streader. Mr and Mrs Streader had lived in Boort since their marriage in 1921. During those 57 years Mrs Streader had been most active in the church. Even in her later years of life she continued to take her turn at playing the organ and preparing the communion, arranging flowers and sharing in the Ladies Guild. Hospitality was always shown to student ministers, visiting preachers, missionaries and in any other ways in which a ministry was required. At the age of 13 she made her decision for Christ. Her Christian faith was not only revealed to her Lord but also in sincerity and deep love she served her husband and family. Mrs Streader (nee Walters) was born at Woodbrook, near Castlemaine in 1895. She attended S.S. at Barkers Creek which later became the Harcourt Church. To her husband, Edgar Streader, and her family, Don and his wife Joy, Alan and his wife Daisy, Geoff and his wife Alison, Sylvia Ellery and her husband Charles, Ivan and his wife Pat, and Gwen Henderson and her husband Gordon and to the 23 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren we offer our Christian sympathy. Gordon Henderson, minister and son-in-law of Mr and Mrs Streader gave a prayer of thanksgiving and Mr Keatch minister of the Bendigo Church led the service of praise and thanksgiving. — M.D.K.

WHITE Mrs Ethel

(14.8.1978) Ethel Holmes was born at Naracoorte, S.A. in 1886. When 13 she moved with her family from the Neuarppur district to Red Hill, Vic. She spent the rest of her life (almost 79 years) in the Red Hill/Main Ridge district. She was baptised at Brim. In 1914 she married Edna White. They shared 41 years together, and were active members of the Red Hill church. Mrs White was always active in the women's work and served as President of the Guild. She was the first organist of the Red Hill church, took an interest in the wider church and attended Federal Conferences. For the past 18 months she was a patient in the Dromana Hospital. She had an active mind, a keen memory and a delightful sense of humour. She had a deep love and concern for people. We remember Collin, his wife Marge and family, and other members of the Holmes family. Services at the Red Hill church and Dromana cemetery were conducted by the writer. — R. McKenzie

RADIO ANNOUNCER AT BLACKWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST

Des Feary



Radio announcer, Des Feary, took \$8000 worth of equipment to Blackwood Church of Christ on Aug. 6, using professional microphones and tape recorders through a mixing panel with an adequate public address system to tell the story of Christ Centred Radio.

The meeting heard excerpts of the kind of music they can expect on air if CCR is successful in its licence application to the Australian Broadcasting Tribunal in Adelaide on Sept. 5.

"Through the superior sound capability of FM stereo for the first time we will be able to show just how good Christian

music really is," said Des Feary.

He said that CCR's broadcasting attitude will be one of caring for the community; having a radio broadcasting station wholly owned and operated by Christians is a privilege and opportunity which may not yet be fully appreciated by the Christian public.

"We will be catering for all members of the family, we have a specialist in children's programmes available to us, and we will provide segments for teenage listeners too," he said.

Further enquiries about CCR to P.O. Box 62, Walkerville, S.A.

MINI MISSION (Devonport, G. Risson) Good News '78 Mini Mission with G. Stirling and C.O.B. Students got under way with two coffee meetings followed by a Youtharama at Ulverstone . . . On Saturday there was a Men's Breakfast, a Y.P.'s barbecue and a family service. Sunday morning services were held at both Ulverstone and Devonport and a combined service was held at night.

MISSIONARY (Manifold Heights, P.A. Pitts) Young girl from B.S. baptised . . . Alan King, Worldwide Evangelization Crusade missionary from Venezuela, recent speaker . . . A Mini Mission with David Gurney forthcoming . . . Winter 5 p.m. services ended . . . Robert Fraser home from hospital . . . church now debt free.

HOLIDAY CLUB (Traralgon, Miss D. Symes) 30 attended Holiday Club each session during school holidays. Theme — "Our Creative God" was expressed in art and craft. Local T.V. news coverage by G.L.V. 10 Traralgon — program concluded in display evening . . . Audio-visual for overseas Mission Sunday screened during morning service on New Guinea Missions . . . Special family fancy dress evening held with 80 attending . . . Y.P.'s six weeks' Bible Study completed . . . Bruce Burns guest preacher while minister on C.O.B. deputation.

HELPING (Bentleigh) We appreciate G. Crossman in the pulpit whilst awaiting full-time minister . . . Ian McDonald has been leading singing at evening services . . . On Aug. 13 Peter Wing Tang, Martin Rees and Bruce Williams from C.O.B. took part in worship service . . . Rod Lindroth is acting secretary whilst Edwin Bishop is away . . . Mrs Saunders transferred from Frankston Hospital to Murrumbeena Nursing Home.

THEATRE (Dandenong, J. Edwards) Gospel Theatre Productions presented musical "Leo", a true story of a bikie gang leader finding faith in Jesus Christ . . . 150 Good Companions, parents and leaders from regional clubs celebrated a Festival of Joy with items and display of gifts for hospital patients . . . C.W.E.F. celebrated birthday with concert . . . Dr Cedric Taylor speaker on Christian concept of total health . . . B.S. Film on work in Sri Lanka shown.

PASSING (Chelsea, T. Hanna, J. Wis-smann) Longest standing member Mrs R. Prentice passed away at age of 83 . . . Explorers had inter-club worship night at Frankston . . . D. Wissmann conducted "Holiday Club" for two days in school holidays . . . Tom Frazer of Cheltenham addressed all services while student ministers on deputation visits to country churches . . . Board preparing a pictorial information brochure on church facilities for community.

FULL-TIME MINISTER (Warracknabeal, Brim, Dimboola circuit, R. W. Marshall) R. W. Marshall inducted by Don Smith. Visiting speakers during interim without a full-time minister included ministers of the Uniting and Baptist Churches . . . C.W.F. groups at Brim and Warracknabeal conducted cake stalls . . . Five students from the C.O.B. conducted meetings throughout the circuit.

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Applications and enquiries are invited for the above position which would suit a married couple willing to work as a team.

Duties will include care of 10-acre garden and bushland property, supervision of live-in groups and general management of centre and staff. Practical, basic management and catering skills required. The position requires effective liaison with a wide range of church and secular groups. A modern residence is provided. This is an opportunity for a Christian couple to fulfil a specialised ministry.

Further particulars on application: D. H. Smith, Administrative Director, Dept. of Mission, Education & Development, 52 La Trobe St., Melb. 3000. Phone 662 2377

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The Lord willing there will be Christian Parent-Controlled school beginning Feb. 1979 in Geraldton, a large coastal town north of Perth W.A. We seek a qualified teacher capable of acting as principal desiring to teach to the glory of God on the basis of the scriptures.

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NEXT ISSUE OCTOBER 14

DEADLINE OCT. 6



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**ANNUAL
OFFERING**

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1

HALF YEARLY CONVENTION

VICTORIA — TASMANIA
YORK STREET, BALLARAT

Saturday, October 14, 1978

Commencing with lunch 12 noon
Afternoon Session — 1.30 p.m.

Speakers: K. D. Horne — A. A. Avery

Theme:

"THE CHURCH, THE LIVING BODY OF CHRIST"

Evening Session — 7.30 p.m.
Musical Programme "The Kaleidoscopes"
Brotherhood Focus

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DONCASTER HOME-COMING

115th ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

Previous members and friends of the Doncaster Church are invited to share in the special anniversary services of the church to be held on

Sunday @ October 1st 1978

9.15, 11.00 G. R. STIRLING
7.00 K. D. HORNE

For hospitality and further details contact the church office 848 1546.

INTER-CHURCH TRADE AND INDUSTRY MISSION (VICTORIA)

Applications are invited for the position of

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for the North East Region which comprises the Albury/Wodonga, Wangaratta, Shepparton, Goulburn Valley area.

The position will include chaplaincy to a number of work communities, co-ordination of the work of local chaplains in the region and an experimental ministry on-site at Mt Buller during the snow season.

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BOOKINGS CLOSE 23rd OCTOBER, 1978.

NORTH FITZROY BIBLE SCHOOL

105th ANNIVERSARY

Sunday Oct. 8th 3 p.m.

HAMPTON CHURCH OF CHRIST

67th ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, October 8, 1978

11 a.m. Dr Keith Bowes
Fellowship Luncheon
7 p.m. D. Murray, W. Talbot,
Pam Benton

D. ALLEN — PHONE 95 8504

THE CHANGING MOODS CONCERT

Saturday, 30th September 1978
Flinders Park Church of Christ
Adelaide, at 8 p.m.

Sunday, 1st October, 1978
Brooklyn Park Church of Christ
Adelaide, at 11 a.m.

Going places? Give yourself about 30 new friends this Christmas.

Choose from the following line-up of super tours for your Christmas holidays.

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NEW ZEALAND		
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Departs December 27	18 Days	\$685
Departs January 2	16 Days	\$660
TONGA/WESTERN SAMOA		
Departs December 31	22 Days	\$940
NEPAL TREK		
Departs December 28	22 Days	\$1550
BARRIER REEF		
Departs Dec. 27, Jan. 3	19 Days	\$395

TASMANIA		
Departs December 26	17 Days	\$420
Departs January 8	19 Days	\$445
WESTERN AUSTRALIA		
Departs December 27	25 Days	\$490

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ENGAGEMENT

JOHNSTON-SNIBSON David and Beryl, together with Allan and Joan, are delighted to announce the engagement of Rosemary and Derek.

BIRTHS

JOHNSTON (Beard) Jenny and Edward welcome with love their daughter Jacinta Taree born on the 12th September. (46 Gladstone Rd., Mile End, S.A.)

David and Shirley Mansell are delighted to announce the birth of their first grandchild, just in time for their 25th wedding anniversary celebration. Philip Paul was born to Jennifer and Paul Ogden on Jennifer's 22nd birthday, August 26. Grandson to Ron and Bonnie Ogden of Telopea and Great Grandson to Frank Winch, formerly of Auburn Church. "God's Blessing to us all."

GOLDEN WEDDING

MARTIN (nee Pedersen) John K. and Myrtle, on Oct. 13, 1928, at Church of Christ, Warragul, by T. H. Scambler and W.A. Wigney. Thanks for Golden Years and sight. Gifts to Eye and Ear Hospital.

DEATHS

ARNOLD Evelyn Emma, in private hospital on Sept. 4th, peacefully after long illness. Loved wife of Charles, loved mother of Edwin, Grace (Mrs Brice), Ray, Leslie (dec.) and Norman (dec.). "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

FLOOD, Cyril Grosvenor. Of 31 Cribb Avenue, Oxford Park, beloved husband of Jay and father of John, Valeria, Leonie and Ross, passed away at Brisbane on September 10.

MANSELL Ethel Mary (82 years) died 24th August. Beloved wife of Walter (dec.) late of Punchbowl, past members of Wiley Park and Greenacre. Mother of Jeanette, Pauline (dec.), David & Shirley & John. A loving mother to Thelma, Joan, Florence, and many other children. Precious Grandmother to all their children. We wish to express our deepest gratitude to Matron and Staff of Cole House for all the love and tender care they gave our mother during the last years.

MORGAN Follott Thornton, passed into the Eternal presence on Sept. 6. Beloved husband of Linda; much loved Dad of Frank & Margot, Alan & Margaret, and Helen. Dearly loved Grandpa of Lucy, Bill, Michael, Rhys and Rhylla. A soul like his can never die, but lives and loves and works, through all eternity.

SUMPTON (Sanders) Lavinia Polly — On Saturday, 9th September, at her home, 3 Francis Street, East Brighton, Vic., cherished wife of the late Frederick Joseph, most loved and loving Mother of Ruth (Mrs Hood), Joy (Mrs Streader), and Freda (Mrs Gordon), loved and esteemed mother-in-law of Harry, Don and Leon, dearest Nan of Lois, Jillian, John, Pam, Noel and Chris, also of Ron, Tom and Bill, great-nan of Brendan and Nigel.

With Christ whom she loved and served so quietly and faithfully.

Reunited with Dad.

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OCTOBER 1, 1978.

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2.30 p.m. P.S.A.

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JAY'S QUIZ

Answer: (see page 10) Joshua said it.
(Joshua 24:15)

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This is an executive secretary position in the New Zealand Brotherhood of 43 churches.

The present General Secretary retires at the end of 1979 but the starting time for the successful applicant is negotiable.

Possibly interested people (ministers or laypeople) should contact the chairman of the New Zealand Conference Council:

Mr L. E. Scott
9 Cracroft Terrace
Christchurch, 2
New Zealand

for further information and conditions of appointment.

WATTLE PARK ANNIVERSARY AND HOMECOMING

Sunday, October 8

11 a.m. Bill Tabernee, speaker
Kevin Smith, soloist

Past members and friends are invited to share.

M. Brough
Phone 288 2815

—PERSONAL—

DISCIPLESHIP

● Christina Lawrence, Redcliffe, Qld. Barbara Fryer, James Nash, Redcliffe, Qld. ● Peter Pullar, Mrs Robyn Ferguson, Bruce Parks, Richmond, Vic. ● Robyn Elms, Kathy Chapman, Debbie Pritchard, Dawson St., Ballarat, Vic. ● Mrs King, Sharon Haines, Perty City, W.A. ● Allan Fox, Peter Collett, Tony Lorenz, Kim Drysdale, Franny Drysdale, Lee Prince, Karen Markey, Harold Peterson, Rosalyn Whiffin, David McKitterick, Burleigh Heads, Qld. ● T. Martin, Mrs H. Jackson, Sandra Martin, Mr & Mrs Russell Elms, Brett Jackson, Karen Kickbush, Glenn Montgomery, Lynne Montgomery, Lyn Hooper, Mrs E. Elms Sr., L. Duhs, Nambour, Qld. ● Brian & Kerry Faust, Kim Faust, Sue Whyte, Charlestown, N.S.W. ● Melissa Simper, Manifold Heights, Vic. ● Philip Sargent, Jenny Sargent, Ma Ma Creek, Qld. ● Brian Morris, Belconnen, A.C.T. ● Robyn Wrigley, Elizabeth Clark, Susan Clark, Epping, N.S.W. ● Ian Reidy, Colleen Evans, Montrose, Vic. ● Karen Earl, Kerri-Ann Duncan, Kerryn Fox, Jodie Wilson, Warragul, Vic. ● Peter Griffiths, Peter McLeod, Rosemary McLeod, Dianne Jeffrey, Kerry Scott, Anne Whitney, Geoff Thompson, Paul Witney, Timothy Green, Ester Grapentin, Graeme Beigmeier, Jeanne Campbell, Julie Shirley, Jenny Crosby, Boronia, Vic. ● Karen Almond, Lynette Best, Kathryn Johnston, Blackwood S.A. ● Heather Gordon, Karen Storey, York St., Ballarat, Vic. ● Ralph Brown, Andrew Ellingham, Blackburn, Vic. ● Vivienne Heinrich, Mrs Fowler, B. V. Katoulas, Greg Katoulas, Wyoming, N.S.W. ● Colin Carbis, Northcote, Vic. ● Wayne Briggs, Box Hill, Vic. ● Elizabeth Webb, Canlay Heights, N.S.W.

MARRIAGES

● Melanie Gray to Todd Anthony, Epping, N.S.W. ● Robyn Harlow to Les Wright, Warragul, Vic. ● Jo Mussared to John McClusky, Wyn Greatbatch to Glen Unwin, Elizabeth, S.A. ● Jane Coe to Derrold Turner, Burleigh Heads, Qld.

DEATHS

● Mrs R. Prentice, Chelsea, Vic. ● Mrs Charles, Bayswater, Vic. ● Margaret Jane ("Peg") Gibson, Hamilton, N.S.W. ● Arthur Frith, Essendon North, Vic. ● Daisy Parker, Ted Chambers, Coburg, Vic. ● Folliot T. Morgan, Preston, Vic. ● Mrs Evelyn Arnold, Box Hill, Vic. ● Cyril G. Flood, Ann St., Brisbane, Qld. ● David Little, Chinchilla/Hopelands, Qld.

PRAHRAN 125 YEARS HISTORICAL DISPLAY

The loan of any photos, records, etc. of Prahran Church of Christ history is urgently needed for our Anniversary on

OCTOBER 15, 1978

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Enquiries to —

Ian Bunnett, Phone 51 2119 or B. Pigdon, Phone 25 3855

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

THORNLEIGH (Secretary): J.V. Ellerby, 23a Dural St., Hornsby, N.S.W. Phone (02) 477 1523.

KALGOORLIE (Secretary) Robert Hammer, 7 Premier St., Kalgoorlie, W.A. 6430.

CHAPLAINCY: G. J. Crossman, Secretary, RAAF Board of Chaplains, Chancery House, 485 Bourke St., Melbourne, Vic. 3000. Ph. 60 0261, Ext. 570. (Home: 20 Dwyer Avenue, Reservoir, Vic. 3073. Ph. 470 4145).

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HOMECOMING AND ANNIVERSARY

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SUNDAY 1st OCT. 1978

Special Speaker — Dr Eric Hutchings

Special Music — Ulster Christian Choir

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At the invitation of Churches overseas during the next 18 months, sixteen or more new Australian missionaries will be required to serve in partnership with national co-workers on our overseas fields.

Partnership in Mission does not mean that missionaries from Australia are no longer required.

THE FOLLOWING WORKERS ARE NEEDED:

NEW HEBRIDES:

Married Couple for ministry in Santo — Double Certificated Nurses — School Teachers Secondary or Primary for Ranwadi High School.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA:

Double Certificated Nurse to relieve present staff during furlough and replace staff returning to Australia — Mechanic and Carpenter to serve as Technical worker — Married Couples to assist in oversight of local pastors and conduct teaching ministry among churches — Education Secretary to share in educational programs and strengthen Christian witness in schools.

INDIA:

Manager, Bombay Christian Centre — Double Certificated Nurse for rural medical work.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Please contact: Ron McLean, Secretary, Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board, P.O. Box 258, Cowandilla, S. Aust. 5033. 'Phones: Office — 352 1904, After Hours — 352 5906. Area Code 08.

"Pray therefore the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest."



MAKE A RESERVATION

on your

A.C.T.S. HOLIDAY NOW!

1. BALKANS DISCOVERY TOUR:

This usual tour will depart on 5th October for a 24 day tour of Yugoslavia, Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria with Rev & Mrs W. M. Constable. Accommodation will be in first class hotels, and meals are included. Only a few places remain, and the tour is well priced at \$1854.00 from Sydney or Melbourne.

2. SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE AUTUMN:

A few places remain on our October departure, but bookings must close soon. We will repeat the tour leaving on March 17th 1979. The 18 day basic tour visits Auckland, Waitomo, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Picton, Nelson, Greymouth, Franz Josef Glacier, Wanaka, Queenstown, Te Anua, Milford Sound, Dunedin, Mount Cook, Christchurch etc. There are private facilities at all hotels/motels, and breakfast and dinner are included each day. Fares are from Melbourne \$821; Sydney \$798 and Brisbane \$816 (subject to direct flights, and provision is made for extensions to either 22 days or 26 days. Our New Zealand tours are very popular, so make your reservation early and avoid disappointment. Leader: Rev Paul Harrison.

3. ENJOY OUR 11 DAY BEST OF TASMANIA TOUR:

Leaving on 19th November for Launceston, St Helens, Bicheno, Hobart, Port Arthur, Queenstown, Burnie, Devonport etc. This high standard tour is in association with Trans Otway will be accompanied by A.C.T.S. staff Member Mrs Pam Bartlett. Fare from Melbourne is \$589. Only a few places remain on this tour, but we plan to repeat it departing from Melbourne on 18th March 1979. Secure your place by booking now.

4. LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOUR:

These tours are now well known and are very popular. The next departure is on 2nd January under the leadership of Rev Les Hatton. 13 days are spent in Israel, 9 days in Greece, and 4 days in Rome, with liberal sightseeing with local guides, and adequate free time. An extension to Europe can be arranged if desired, but reservations should be made without delay. From Melbourne or Sydney the fare is \$2188.00.

5. GRAND TOUR OF EUROPE WITH ISRAEL & GREECE:

We plan to repeat this tour leaving in May 1979. The anticipated cost of approx \$4000.00 includes 26 days on the Continent, 14 days touring Britain, 8 days in Israel and 3 days in Greece with 12 nights accommodation paid in London. There is free time at your own expense, and the time in Europe can be extended if desired. A Brochure will be available soon, but you can register now without obligation.

6. 1980 IS OBERAMMERGAU YEAR:

We are presently accepting registrations (without obligation) for tours to Europe including a visit to Oberammergau for the Passion Plays. Performed only every ten years, this is a never to be forgotten experience. Register now, and details will be forwarded as soon as available from Europe.

7. A.C.T.S./SITMAR CRUISES:

We are holding allotments on a number of Cruises for 1979, and are planning to charter a coach for a 12 day tour to Darwin to connect with one of the sailings in June/July. Brochures are now being printed and will be forwarded on request.

8. VISIT U.S.A. & CANADA:

Following a very successful tour to U.S.A. & Canada in 1978, we are planning to repeat the trip in 1979 and to include Salt Lake City. Our party will be limited strictly to one coach, so registrations should be made as soon as possible.

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Sth Aust: 2nd Floor, Walsh Bldg, 44 Gawler Place ADELAIDE 5000 Ph. 212 1055
Qld: cnr Elizabeth & Edwards Sts., BRISBANE 4000. Phone 221 3922



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

MERREDIN-BRUCE ROCK (D. Good) Bible Society Week observed both churches. Members brought oldest Bibles. A.G.M. held both churches after luncheon following morning service. Merredin C.W.F. invited Bruce C.W.F. to luncheon meeting. S.S. held social & film evening in lieu of picnic. Afternoon communion followed by barbecue at members' home in Muntadgin. S.S. will commence later and church will commence at 10.30 Both will share 15 minutes of worship. **Bruce Rock** Child Thanksgiving service held G. Gideons' rep. spoke in combined service with Uniting Church.

NEW TIME (Fremantle, D. J. Ryle). New 10 a.m. time for worship service has B.S. sharing for first 10 minutes . . . Recent Gospel Service taken by W.A. Univ. E.U. . . . On Bible Sunday a Gideons member was speaker . . . At "Missions Evening" arranged by S.A.M.M.Y. group members shared experiences of working in New Hebrides, of teaching tribal Aborigines and of preparing for service at home and overseas.

FOUR LANGUAGES (Perth City, R. Taylor) Combined service held with Slavic Church in four languages . . . Tithing Demonstration Sunday followed by regular thoughtful giving . . . Recent soloiste was T. Streeton . . . Recent House Parties led by G. Povey, Mr Moyle and Dr and Mrs Bridge from Bangladesh . . . CWF has been visited by Conf. Prayer Comm., and by Bull Creek CWF. They were given an afternoon of music by Mrs Calladine, and visited the Spastic Centre . . . Youth pre-gospel teas involve parents . . . Our Korean link reports progress, particularly with children . . . Church offers sympathy to Povey family in the death of Colin, one of our old boys.



NEW SOUTH WALES

PASTOR ELDER (Thornleigh, D. W. Mansell). The church received back into fellowship Mr & Mrs Ron Bartholomew after being in Melbourne for 18 months. On Aug. 20 they were welcomed and Mr Mansell set aside Mr Bartholomew as Pastor/Elder of the church and co-worker with Mr Mansell. Mr Mansell's main avenue of service will be preaching and counselling and Mr Bartholomew pastoral oversight.

PRAYER GROUPS (Charlestown, J. Friebel) Eight prayer groups meeting in preparation for mission with Ed Thomas . . . Survey in area being carried out . . . Plans for new hall rejected by Council . . . Paul Cameron led studies at Y.P.'s camp at Glenrock Lagoon . . . Barbeque lunch held after church at the Blackbutt Nature Reserve.

MINISTER ILL (Hamilton, F. D. Craig) Our Pastor, Don Craig, was recently in hospital for two weeks and was also given a month's rest at home from the ministry . . . Our beloved member, Margaret Jane

"Peg" Gibson, of Betheden Rest Home died in Aug. We express sympathy to the Gibson, Roberts, Dixon and Jones families.

V.B.S. (Wyoming — Berkeley Vale, E. K. Morrison, M. Leask, I. Morton). 170 children contacted during Vacation Bible School at Berkeley Vale. 96 attended Family Dinner & Service. There were three decisions and three baptisms. On final Sunday of Mini-mission there were 43 communicants . . . From Sept. 10 Family Services commence 9.30 a.m. in Berkeley Vale Community Hall, Kurruba Pde.



QUEENSLAND

NEW LAND (Burleigh Heads, G. Hyman) Block of land purchased at West Burleigh for our Church Centre . . . 50 attend K.A.T.S. (Kids Activity Times), a primary school mid-week club and Church School group. Special service for K.A.T.S. had 130 including parents at evening service . . . "Spirit of Love" program has over 50 participating seven weeks in preparation for Reach-Out Ford Crusade 1979 . . . Harold Patersen baptised in member's swimming pool in public witness . . . 42 at Church Family Camp at West Burleigh Convention Centre were led by Eric Hart.

GROWING (Nambour, A. G. Leane) Further 12 baptisms, total 21 since December. Increase in active membership to 146, Bible School to 95. Large alterations being made to existing chapel for growing congregation. Working bees preparing adjoining property for parking . . . Minister invited and accepted further three years after 1979 . . . Jack Bond, Bettye Marcus and David Capuano team up for "Back to Bible" crusade, Sept. 2-20 . . . Youth Group raised over \$1,000 for stackable chairs . . . Bi-monthly "Youthquake" still attracting over 200 young people. "Country & Western" social raised \$120 for Bribie Is. Nursing Home.

APPRECIATION (Ann St. Brisbane) Appreciation for his invaluable temporary ministry was extended from the Board of Officers and members to Cyril Flood, upon the conclusion of his interim ministry. . . . Upon the Board of Officers suggestion, additional time prior to a Sunday morning service, was devoted to prayer for the "Reach Out For Life Crusades). Bruce Roberts, Home Mission Director, led the session.

SENIOR CITIZENS TREAT (Ma Ma Creek, D. W. Telfer) C.W.F. entertained

130 Gatton Senior Citizens. Mrs Betty Evans played the piano and Mrs Margaret Cole was in charge of the program. Mrs Lois Beel of Brisbane gave an item and a German folk song was sung in German by one of the Senior Citizens. To conclude, the guests were entertained to lunch . . .



TASMANIA

SPEAKER EXCHANGE (Nubeena, C. Neville) Recent speaker Stuart McDonald of Kingston . . . Exchange Sunday held with John Morrow of Hourah who also gave address at Highcroft on Sunday afternoon.

C.O.B. VISIT (Launceston, M. D. Hamilton). Highlight of recent weeks was the visit of C.O.B. team (Mr and Mrs G. R. Stirling, Mark and Jan Dunn), for a weekend of fellowship and activities. Program included an afternoon on Evangelism through Pastoral Caring, a Youth Tea, leadership in Sunday services, and a Worship Training session . . . Jim Harrison, who has given outstanding service as church secretary for many years, has retired, and with Peggy, is spending several months with John and Colleen at Norseman . . . Our G.B. Company was Swimming Sports at recent carnival, and several individual trophies. This function was organized by L. Peart . . . C.W.A.F. annual meeting elected Mrs A. Nelson as President.

NUBEENA MINI-MISSION

After several weeks of preparation by prayer and visitation a Good News Program was held at Nubeena on the Tasman Peninsula with Gordon and Lesley Stirling. Three College of the Bible students, Jan and Mark Dunn and David Murray, made up the team.

This Mini-Mission proved to be a very uplifting and encouraging time of fellowship, rich in blessing.

In addition to two first decisions the attendance cards and follow up visitation of twenty-seven people has indicated several wish to become members, others have made commitments and re-dedications to the Lord.

All the meetings were well attended and the program provided an opportunity to reach all age groups.

Objectives of this program were to enrich our own spiritual experience, to bring non-active members back to service and to prepare ourselves for a full scale Evangelistic Mission in October.



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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

HOSPITALITY (Kensington Pk., R. L. Oke) On Hospitality Sunday members went to one another's homes. A Good number were out for a Youth Service with Richard Berry ... Mrs Christine Stafford guest soloist, Aug. 20 ... Colin Stock from J.E.W. spoke and screened the film "The Last Generation". After Church Fellowship followed ... Mr & Mrs Oke have accepted a call to the Gawler Church, S.A. ... A Christian cinema has commenced for fourth Friday each month, aimed at providing good films, particularly for Y.P.

MINISTRY (Elizabeth, Miss N. Hall/D. Tandy) Ministry of D. Tandy extended for two years from Feb. 1979 ... C.W.F. contributed towards clothing for Aborigine boy at Carnarvon ... Y.P. participated in service at Elizabeth Salvation Army. They also shared games at Y.M.C.A. ... Netball teams held break-ups with presentations of trophies ... Elderly members held Sunshine Hour Birthday celebrations on Aug. 30 ... Film "The Last Generation" screened on Sept. 3.

REACHOUT (Maylands N.S. Moore) 100 joined in Fellowship tea when Director, John Schaper of "Adelaide Reachout", outlined program ... A Thanksgiving and Parent Dedication Service was held on Aug. 20 ... Two carloads of our members visited Riverland Churches and assisted with services on Aug. 27 ... At Annual Meeting all officers were re-elected with one new deacon in David Beasley ... Norm Marsh, an elder and member of executive of C.F.A., addressed the church on C.F.A. A positive response was the offer by a visiting lawyer to give legal help whenever needed.

CELEBRATION SERVICES (Flinders Park/Torrensville, Geoff & Joan Fewster) For B.S. celebration "78 Senior" Dept. presented musical "Zack Jrn" ... Eight baptisms during August ... Attendance at gospel services averaged 170 and included a local scout and guide parade and two baptismal services ... One of the netball teams won a grand final and the netball girls led evening service.

HOLIDAY MISSION (Strathalbyn, H. Prime) Holiday Mission, sponsored by Scripture Union in conjunction with Strathalbyn churches, held in old primary school during vacation ... S.S. purchasing overhead projector ... Olive Bartlett able to attend morning service with walking frame after 12 month's sickness.

WORK PARTY (Blackwood, L. Cooke) A work party of four has gone to Norseman and Esperance Aborigine Missions to help with building and repairs ... Charles Dow has left for 12 months' study leave in the U.K. ... Church involved in United Mission with week of home groups, then week of mission meetings in our church led by Rev. Geoff Bingham. Other churches in district participating.

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Next Issue Dated
OCTOBER 14
DEADLINE OCTOBER 6



VICTORIA

RENOVATIONS (Belmont, W. Harford, Ian Clark, Student) Renovations planned . . . Planned Giving Review resulted in 35% increase. Annual Meeting approved budget of \$600 per week. Women now included in the Eldership . . . Christian Encounter '78 bringing together congregations of 12 churches in area. Gordon Moyes will be missionary in October . . . Minister elect, Barry Ryall, to commence October 1979.

4000 MILES TO CHURCH (Dareton, N.S.W. B. Spencer) The small Anabranh congregation was swollen to 140 people as the five congregations travelled an average of 40 miles each for their first anniversary of the Uniting Church (in which the Dareton C. of C. is in co-operation). Annual progressive dinner now in its third year. \$405 was raised . . . 30 children and 10 adults attended S.S. camp at Koorlong campsite.

SNOWBALLS AND SOUP (West Preston, B. F. Goldsteen) Snowball and Soup Drives aiding tennis court funding . . . Debbie Crump new librarian . . . Blind Fellowship led Williamstown evening service . . . John David out of hospital . . . Dryer provided for W.E.C. headquarters in Sydney . . . Camp for 25 teachers and leaders at Rita Roberts Lodge . . . Regular help provided by church with catering to Naturalization ceremonies at Coburg . . . Vacation School held late August.

NEW LIFE (Hamilton, R. White) "New Life for All" weekend conducted by Noel Smith resulted in nine prayer cells meeting regularly . . . Gordon Stirling conducted school for presidents and readers video equipment . . . 38 ladies met for morning coffee with Gordon Stirling . . . Evening Fellowship combined with Afternoon Ladies Fellowships of all denominations for Annual Social. Mrs. Forbes was speaker. Recently returned from U.S.A., Margaret Broad gave talk to

C.W.A.F. ladies . . . Acts International survey covered entire Hamilton, Dunkeld, Merino and Casterton area . . . Four made decisions for Christ . . . Russell Wesley met with Church Board for planning day in Grampians . . . Mothers with Play Group of under-3 year olds meet regularly. Jane Alexander demonstrated making Ugh slippers . . . Recent speakers Les Becker, Bert Stevens and Ken Danes.

TOTAL HEALTH (Richmond, W. Gibney) 13 people have been participating in the current 10 weeks series of Total Health with T. H. Advocate Frank Ellerton . . . 12 from Richmond and other churches are in evangelistic training on Tuesday nights with Brian Venton of L.I.F.E. . . . Mr Gibney has announced his intention to accept a call to minister at Horsham in 1980.

DECISIONS (Tootgarook, D. Hovey) Two ladies made the good confession recently, and Mrs Mary Watts welcomed into fellowship . . . Three College students led recent service. Other speakers have been H. Farmer and R. Patterson . . . Mrs Helen Banks spoke to CWF on her visit to U.S.A. and Canadian Women's Conf. . . Amount set for "Maxi-Market" is \$2000 . . . John Rankin in Rosebud hosp. after returning from holidays.

MINI-BUS (Footscray, I. Tippett) Church has purchased a Mini Bus . . . At business meeting on Aug. 6, George Hall appointed Elder and Mr and Mrs Mac Miller, deacon and deaconess . . . Regional meeting with Conference Officers and 75 representatives of Western region Churches had tea, catered by Footscray ladies . . . August prayer meetings being held in homes . . . Christian Literature on sale in foyer . . . Ladies have clothed a 7 year old Aboriginal girl . . . Nine people took part in 40 hour Famine Relief and raised \$255.40 . . . Mrs Lucke has entered Christian Guest Home.

FAITH SHARING (Frankston, A. Avery). Faith Sharing Groups meet in six homes involving 60 members . . . Explorer boys came 2nd in Junior State Titles and 3rd in Intermediate section . . . Junior

Good Companions won pennant for best poster in Southern Zone . . . 45 leaders and children held S.S. camp at Toolangi . . . Garden Club is now affiliated with the Royal Garden Society of Melbourne and registered with Horticultural Society . . . Bertram family led Creative Family Worship service recently . . . Four tennis teams played in Winter Comp. The men's singles team, Jim Backholer, and Neville Avery reached the semi-final . . . Junior Explorer leader, Merv Chiswell, confined to home with glandular fever . . . Kevin Hillier is leading the choir and has started a Junior Choir . . . The sympathy of the church is extended to Mrs Glen Cook in the death of her mother, Mrs Shields, in her 90th year . . . Glenda and Graham Daff lead C.Y.F.

DEEPER LIFE (Dawson St., Mt Clear, Ballarat, G. Chapman, G. Rowcroft) Graeme and Helen Chapman spent 10 days at Hobart and Howrah churches for "Deeper Life" Mission . . . Geoff and Elaine Rowcroft spent a week ministering at Kaniva . . . Items for church concert were given by small groups to end second term . . . C.O.B. students took service on Aug. 20 . . . Church families lead in "Family Worship" services each month. Casserole Tea held before informal evening service in S. S. hall . . . 70 young people held progressive dinner organised by I.T.C.H. group. Three young ladies baptized recently . . . Planned Giving programme under way.

ASIAN TOUR (Doncaster, Keith Horne) Three adults baptised . . . 17 young adults to tour Singapore and Malaysia and meet Asian Christians in services and study fellowships . . . Callisthenics had first Church Parade, John Birt guest . . . Changing Moods "In Concert" held . . . Planned Giving program increased giving to Brotherhood Departments.

RANCH WEEKEND (Montrose, L. Van Laar) Two baptised recently . . . Y.P. spent week-end at Mill Valley Ranch . . . Three students from C.O.B. led morning service . . . "Drop In Centre" group visited "El Kanah" Christian Fellowship at Marysville . . . C.W.F. represented at Missionary Rally at Cheltenham.

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IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DEPARTMENTS TO ADVISE CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

QUESTING

WITH A.E. WHITE.

Do "The Virgin Birth" and "The Immaculate Conception" refer to the same event? If they do, why are two descriptions used?

They are not the same. The Virgin Birth refers to the birth of Jesus and the Immaculate Conception refers to the birth of Mary, the mother of Jesus.

Although they are not the same thing, the two doctrines are often confusingly related.

The Virgin Birth is clearly stated in the gospels of Matthew and Luke and over the years this column has defended the doctrine when it has been questioned. None of the alternative theories of the birth of Jesus have been able to stand. No biblical historian has greater authority for integrity and accuracy than Luke, and Luke was in a position to talk with Mary herself.

Although the Bible does not say so, some theologians believed that the Virgin Birth meant that Jesus was free from original sin. Original sin was regarded as the transmission from generation to generation of the historical first sin. It was argued that Jesus was free from this original sin because of the miraculous nature of his conception.

Then the theologians considered the position of Mary. Would she not have been tainted with original sin along with the rest of the human race? And if she was so affected, how would this affect her child?

To meet this problem the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was offered. It is not in the Bible, and is regarded as self-justifying. It must have been so for the recorded facts demanded that it be so! The doctrine of the

Immaculate Conception declared that Mary herself was conceived without sin. Her mother is not named in the Bible. In view of the honours conferred upon Mary by the Roman Catholic Church it is not surprising that eventually the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception was declared. The doctrine appeared fairly early but was not readily accepted. Bernard of Clairvaux rejected it in the 12th century and Thomas Aquinas denied it in the 13th century. Although strongly disputed up to the 16th century, it gradually gained acceptance and was declared an "infallible truth" by Pope Pius IX in 1854.

Since all babies were supposedly conceived in sin, they were sinners until their salvation was effected by baptism. Since many children died soon after birth, the doctrine of original sin necessitated an emphasis on infant baptism.

Our churches do not believe that children are conceived in sin or born in sin. Nor do we believe that children need anything done for them or to them in order that they might enter into a relationship with God. Our Lord has by his life, death, and resurrection achieved a reconciliation with God.

When a child reaches an age of understanding he accepts or rejects his position as a child of God.

Roman Catholics give far more significance to Mary than we do. We honour and respect her, but cannot accept the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church that she mediates all

graces, that she co-operates in the redemption of mankind, or can have the title of Co-Redemptress with Jesus our Lord.

She was an instrument of God's grace and is honoured and respected by us all, but the greater honours given by the R. C. Church are not to be found in Scripture.

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

WORLD CONVENTION

E. W. Roffey will hold a repeat meeting with further information for those interested:

Blackburn, Vic. Monday, 8 p.m.
September 25
Glenelg, S.A. Wednesday, 7.45 p.m.
September 27

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Conclusion ● Goodbye ● see you later ● adios ● farewell ● fin ● paid in full ● good grief ● say no more

THE LAST WORD.

Those who profess to favour freedom, and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without ploughing up the ground.

— Frederick Douglas, Negro slave, 1857

Criticism

Criticism comes from those
Who are nursing trodden toes.
Criticism, born of pride
On oneself should be applied.

by Jo-anne Meyers

The conductor of the community orchestra was almost out of his mind because at every rehearsal at least one member would be missing. At the last rehearsal, he called for attention and said, "I wish to thank publicly the first violinist for being the only member of the orchestra to attend every rehearsal."

"It seemed the least I could do," the violinist said humbly, "since I won't be at the concert tonight."

The personnel manager turned to the young man seeking a job. "Tell me," he said, "what have you done?"

"Me?" answered the startled applicant. "About what?"

Wife to husband, fidgeting in his seat at the opera: "You don't like it, dear?"
"The tenor is simply hideous."
"Let's go home, then."
"Never! He will be killed in the third act, and I want the pleasure of seeing it."



"Let's not turn on television. Daddy is studying his Sunday-school lesson."

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