



THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

IN THIS ISSUE

**CELEBRATION
IN SANTO**

**TOTAL
HEALING**

**Crusades at Albury
Stn. Barwon,
Nubeena,
Hervey Bay**

● OVERSEAS MISSIONS

BUDGETS AND STAFF SALARIES REDUCED

It is with considerable regret the Overseas Mission Board advises that, in November all field budgets were reduced by 15% and all staff salaries overseas and at home were reduced by 20%. The possibility of reductions being made was mentioned in the October 28th issue of the "Australian Christian."

It is earnestly hoped that these reductions will only be temporary and the Board's Finance Committee will constantly review the situation and when finance becomes available will restore salaries and allowances.

As national as well as Australian workers are involved, giving which will benefit the total work is encouraged rather than specific gifts for particular persons.

At present the Board is committed to an annual budget of \$357,430 of which \$323,270 is required from the churches. This latter amount is an increase of \$41,270 from the previous year. Unfortunately, giving has not increased to enable the Board to provide the increases. To cover expenses, \$10,000 was recently borrowed from the Contingency Fund, but this must be repaid as soon as possible, as it is needed for urgently required capital expenditure.

The continuing fall in value of the Australian dollar is one of the con-

tributory factors in the present financial crisis. At the time of writing, the following exchange losses apply:—

India, before devaluation A\$1.00 = Rs. 10.85 now Rs.9.03.

P.N.G., before devaluation A\$1.00 = Kina 0.95 now K.0.78.

New Hebrides, before devaluation A\$1.00 = Fr. 0.99 now Fr. 0.80.

The effect this is having on Overseas Missions finances is explained by the following example. In November, the P.N.G. field required Kina 8509, apart from staff salaries. Before devaluation we would have paid approximately a similar amount in Australian dollars. (The kina, when first introduced, was on a par with the Australian dollar.) To purchase Kina 8509 in November, we had to pay A\$10,824, which means that for the Papua New Guinea November field remittance alone we paid \$2315 in exchange. Devaluation means that we are paying thousands of extra dollars from our "G.O." (Gospel Outreach) fund to provide for our commitments overseas.

Despite the difficulties now being experienced let us think positively, continuing to move forward and as the Lord enables us accept new challenges and opportunities in Christian witness.

R. S. A. McLEAN, on behalf of Aust. Churches of Christ Overseas Mission Board Inc.

RE-BAPTISM ISSUE EMERGES IN UC

The questions of giving believer's baptism to those already baptised (as infants or in later years) has surfaced in the Uniting Church.

Increasing numbers of people are reported to be seeking believer's baptism as a consequence of conversion experiences or of "release in the Spirit" associated with movements of religious renewal.

Some Uniting Church clergy are reported to have acceded to requests for a second baptism by their parishioners, which is a departure from long-standing tradition both in the denominations which formed the Uniting Church and in the historic mainstream of Christian practice.

Maribyrnong Valley presbytery decided last week to seek clarification of the Uniting Church's official stance on the matter of re-baptism.

The question was raised in relation to an ordination candidate's attitude on the issue. There was considerable debate at the presbytery meeting on whether the candidate should be ordained, and it was decided not to ordain him until an answer is received from the relevant Assembly committee.

The presbytery's pastoral relations committee and others will meet with the candidate for further discussion of his understanding of baptism.

"CHURCH AND NATION"

WORLD CONVENTION

Posters concerning World Convention will be posted to all churches within two months. In the meantime information can be gained by writing to E. W. Roffey, Churches of Christ Centre, 104 Grote Street, Adelaide, S.A., 5000. Paid registrations to date number 133 with 78 for tour 4 including Oberammergau Passion Play. A limit of 280 has now been set for that tour. The earlier white form completed by some 266 people gives no priorities. Priorities where they need to be applied will be for those using the Gold Registration form and forwarding \$20.00 per person — \$15.00 for Hawaiian and \$5.00 for Australian registrations.

STILL TIME TO REGISTER

**37th FEDERAL CONFERENCE
JAN. 8-14, 1979, MELBOURNE**

**6th NATIONAL MINISTERS'
SEMINAR JAN. 15-17, MONBULK**

A DREAM IS COMING TRUE

An idea was born. Would it be possible for the Churches of Christ at Ascot Park and Clovelly Park to unite and relocate, enabling better use of their gifts and resources for the service of Christ and the wider community?

The idea germinated. When two and one third acres of land near the junction of Marion Road and Alawoona Avenue became available for purchase, another possibility opened up. Could some of the land be used for the erection of home units, so forming the basis of a Christian community? A decision was made. Purchase the land and join together. From the beginning of this year the churches have formed the Marion Church of Christ, and, as the Ascot Park building

was sold at auction, the buildings at Clovelly Park have been utilised.

At State Conference the proposal for the Christian Rest Home Board to purchase approx. one acre of the site was accepted. Plans are in hand for the erection of 15 two bedroom units to be available to suitable applicants on an equity funded basis. The facilities of a caring congregation will be available to the residents and the residents themselves will be able to contribute to the life of the church and the community.

On Oct. 26 a contract for approx. \$164,000 was signed by Ed. Roffey, on behalf of the congregation, for the erection of the new church complex. Unique features will include a baptistry which will be passed on the left as one enters the sanctuary. Here is symbolised that through the act of baptism we enter the church. A special sound insulating, moveable wall separates the sanctuary from the hall. When this is pushed back into its recess, it enables the whole area to be used for gatherings in excess of 300 persons.

From the kitchen one can serve into both the hall and the lounge simultaneously. The north facing lounge will serve the residents of the units

throughout the week. Not only will it accommodate 75 persons, but can be partitioned with folding doors, dividing the area into three areas, each with its separate entry.

Such flexibility makes it ideal for church oriented and community serving programs. Above the entry foyer is a mezzanine area which has great potential for youth and other Christian education activities. Two studies, an office, and a toilet block complete the complex. The building is basically a steel structure with brick in-fill. This gives the possibility of expanding the building in any direction when the congregation grows and the programming requirements change.

The Clovelly Park building has been sold for \$120,000 with settlement on Jan. 5, 1979 and closing services will be held on Dec. 31. Until the opening of the new complex in April/May next year, meetings will be held in the Mitchell Park Primary School, Renown Avenue.

With George Mathieson moving into the offices of the Federal Overseas Mission Board, the church will have as ministers for 1979: Bob Clymer, who continues his full time ministry, and Eric Hollard, in a part-time capacity.

The new church is grateful to the Brotherhood for assistance throughout this project. The Building Extension Committee (including the Mutual Fund which has helped financially) and the Christian Rest Home Board deserve special mention.

The church is excited about the future possibilities.

NEW UNION LEADER

Miss Pam Bowers has been appointed chairperson of the Vic.-Tas. Dept. of Christian Union, Dr. Keith Bowes, chairman for the past six years, relinquished the post owing to increasing commitments in view of relocation of the College of the Bible (Glen Iris). Miss Bowers thanked Dr. Bowes for his strong leadership over this time and noted that he will continue to contribute as a member of the Department.

Miss Bowers, who is minister of Stawell Church of Christ, was an Australian Churches of Christ delegate to the Nairobi assembly of the World Council of Churches. The Vic.-Tas. D.C.U. acts also as the Federal Department and it is believed that this is the first time a woman has become chairperson of a Federal Department.

E. L. Williams is vice-chairman and treasurer, and Dr. T. Banks continues as secretary.

WARNED AGAINST TM

In a feature article in the "Central Times" the Uniting Church sounds a warning on Transcendental Meditation (TM). It has been given some access to churches because of its surface appearance of being an easy, relaxing and non-religious technique, with both physical and psychological benefits. Adherents are not told of the religious aspects of the technique which is presented in scientific terms. But TM has been ruled by courts in the USA and Britain as of "an undoubtedly religious nature." The initiation ceremony offers prayers to Hindu deities and the founder of TM Maharishi Mahesh Yogi, teaches principles in conflict with the bible. He denies evil, sin and personal responsibility, teaching that man expresses his "inner" divinity in meditation. The bible affirms sin as a reality. The benefits of TM can all be met by personal acceptance of Jesus.

INNER SPRINGS

THE GIFT OF EMPTINESS



The coming of Spring brought the blackbirds to nest in our climbing vine. For a time all went well. Eggs were laid and duly hatched, and we watched with joy the progress of the little family. But our joy was short lived! A day came when the nest lay empty upon the ground. The neighbouring cats had done their work well, and one could only guess at the fate of the small inhabitants. For our feathered friends a broken home, hopes unfulfilled.

A gift of emptiness! Yet, paradoxically, when this happens in the affairs of men, it can mean instead an enrichment, a fulfilling of dreams and a new dimension to our capacity for living. Concerning this, one F. B. Meyer writes, "The education of our faith is incomplete if we have not learned that there is a providence of loss, a ministry of failing and of fading things, a gift of emptiness. The material insecurities of life make for its spiritual establishment.

God placed Elijah by a dwindling stream, "and it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up". It must have seemed to Elijah an empty promise that tried his faith to the uttermost. But he remained faithful and his gift of emptiness became his cup of opportunity. Consequently he became a better man and a wiser prophet.

The problem of human suffering remains one of the great mysteries but this I do know. That what He takes from me and what I let go willingly has the power to enrich my life and deepen my relationship with Himself. He can take our broken dreams, our disappointments, our unfulfilled hopes and transform them in a way undreamed of by us.

Prayer: O Living Spirit, all our powers reclaim,
Let Thy compassion set our souls aflame,
Form Thou in us a purpose true and pure,
That what we build together may endure. Amen.

1 Kings 17:1-7

Florence Rosler

INTERVIEW WITH FORMER RHODESIAN PRIME MINISTER GARFIELD TODD

This exclusive interview with Garfield Todd was recorded in London by Australian Council of Churches Information Officer, Russell Rollason.



Garfield Todd, now 70, and his wife have lived in Rhodesia since 1934 when they went there as missionaries from New Zealand, sent by the Churches of Christ. Todd became Prime Minister of Rhodesia in 1953 but lost his post five years later because of his liberal racial views. He has since spent several weeks in prison and several years under house arrest for his criticism of the regime of Ian Smith. Todd now lives in Dadaya, Rhodesia, and was passing through London after an extensive tour of the United States of America.

Q. There has been much controversy over the WCC grant of US\$85,000 to the Patriotic Front. What is your opinion of this grant?

Todd: The church, through the grants from the World Council of Churches has been Christ in the villages. The only practical manifestation of our Christianity in Rhodesia in this terrible time is the work of the World Council of Churches and other Christian agencies.

We are so thankful for this help even though it means hard dollars going into the Reserve Bank of Rhodesia and thus assisting Mr Smith in his war effort; this help has gone to the women whose bread-winners have been detained, for the families who need food and school fees.

Q. How do you react to the criticisms of the grant?

Todd: I am absolutely shocked at the churches' reaction to the World Council gift.

It is a tragedy that Christians are erecting political barriers to stop these children and older people, refugees from the terror of Rhodesia, from receiving help. Who is going to look after these 30,000 to 40,000 children who need schooling, clothing, shelter and food?

This is what the Patriotic Front is getting this bit of money for and it's a tiny fraction of the bills they are having to pay.

So my criticism of the grant is that it is 5 percent of what it should have been.

Q. The guerrillas have been blamed for many atrocities, do you think that this support for the Patriotic Front condones violence?

Todd: I hate every atrocity. But we are in the position where we may make the mistake of putting one atrocity against another atrocity, one accusation against another accusation and just build it up. What we are wanting is to get peace in the country, freedom for the people to elect their own government on a one man, one vote basis. They haven't got that and the internal settlement won't give it to them.

Of course there have been atrocities. But we are coming to the point now where every white man may be a target.

I do not understand Smith, and I never have. For 20 years I've been pleading for

peace and an evolutionary change. Here we are in the third quarter of the Twentieth Century, with 270,000 people still unwilling to allow the masses to have their full political power; still trying to bring in a bogus constitution that will allow white power to continue for another 10 years.

Q. What is your opinion of the Internal Settlement?

Todd: The Internal Settlement visualizes three roles — a white role, a black role, a combined role — in different basic structures.

Less than 4% of the people have been given 28% of the representation in parliament — that is 28 seats out of 100. They have been given that as part of a deal, and the deal simply is that within the constitution are the rights for the whites to have control of the army, the police and the civil service for the next 10 years.

If the whites hold 28 of the 100 seats in parliament they can veto any change in the constitution. Now this is quite unacceptable to the people as a whole. I believe, with some justification, that the Patriotic Front has the support of the majority of the people in Rhodesia.

Q. What evidence can you give that the Patriotic Front has the support of the majority of Rhodesians?

Todd: When the Internal Settlement was signed it was to stop the war which Muzorewa and Sithole said they could do. They assured Smith that they could stop the war. On that basis Smith came to an agreement with them forming the Interim Government, which was first charged with stopping the war. It would then get international recognition and following that would come the lifting of sanctions.

Muzorewa and Sithole said they had 80% of the people behind them. In the U.S. the other day Sithole said he had 90% of the people behind him.

Now, on two counts, they could have fulfilled their promises if either of them was correct. If they controlled the guerrillas, and they called on them to lay down their arms, they would have laid down their arms. They called on the guerrillas to lay down their arms, they didn't lay down their arms.

But the guerrillas having refused to lay

down their arms, and if they had 80% of the people behind them, they could have told the people not to help the guerrillas. The guerrillas absolutely depend on the people for their portage, their food, their protection. They live amongst the people in safety and in harmony. This could not happen if the people and the guerrillas were not one.

Q. Have you met the Patriotic Front leaders? What kind of people are they?

Todd: Yes, I know both Nkomo and Mugabe. I have advised Nkomo on several occasions and attended the 1976 General Conference as one of his advisers. In December, I personally visited one of the refugee camps in Lusaka and in that camp there were about 5,000 girls aged from about 8-15 years old. Nkomo stood there with me and said "What on earth do I do?" The refugee problem is enormous but Nkomo will not let these 30,000 children die or leave them without housing, without clothing or without education.

Mugabe is not his own best friend when it comes to appearing on radio and talking about Marxism. But the media always break off when he says "But of course, it will depend on the people. Whatever system they want, they will have."

Mugabe is a practising Roman Catholic and there is no argument about that. I know, for example, that when he and his wife met after he was released from detention two years ago, they celebrated by going to Mass.

People speak about the Internal Settlement where you have a Bishop and a Reverend, you know — all sorts of nice people, and the externals are apparently Marxists from Mars. But these people come from our villages, they are our people; some of them have come from the Sixth Forms of our secondary schools, some of our teachers have gone, some of the very finest people that we have got have left and are in Zambia and Mozambique ready to fight for their freedom.

Q. Finally, what future do you see for Rhodesia?

Todd: You know, I'm not anti-white. I think that the whites have made a tremendous contribution and I'm distressed beyond measure to see them leaving at well over 1000 a month with nothing. Many of them are vital to Rhodesia. In five years time, the blacks will all still be there, but how many whites will be there is the question.

My main concern is to get the whites to relinquish their power and let it go to all the people.

WORD TALK

NO. 189

OUR SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

Burdens

PREPARATION

At first sight it seems strange that the burdens that are placed upon us can be a spiritual resource. But our own burdens, and the burdens we accept for other people, can be the means of great spiritual blessing. "In all of these things", these heart breaking, overwhelming things "we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us!"

Christians are called compassionately to care for other people, to share the burdens that others bear, and to bear their own burdens. We are encouraged to be kind to everyone (Gal. 6:10); to serve in the name of Jesus (Mk 10:44); and to realize that whenever we do anything to help another we are doing it to Jesus (Matt. 25:42-44).

Jesus condemned the priest and the Levite in the parable of the good Samaritan not because of what they did, but because they did not help bear the burden of the injured man.

There are three kinds of burdens: (a) The unnecessary burdens which are needlessly acquired — old feelings of guilt; bad habits; the results of poor judgement; and wrong decisions. (b) Inevitable burdens that come as a result of previous actions. What we sow, we reap. (c) Voluntary burdens taken upon ourselves in order to help another. "We that are strong ought to bear the burdens of the weak" (Rom. 15:1).

We are commanded "Bear one another's burdens and so fulfil the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).

But each Christian has a responsibility of carrying his own burden as well. "Each man must bear his own load" (Gal. 6:5). This is not a corrective but a collaborative. This is a second truth that goes along with the first. Life is a chorus "Bear one another's burdens", and also a solo "Bear your own burdens".

Four times in Galatians Paul uses the words meaning "Shoulder your own load". (a) 5:10 We must bear the burden of the judgement of God; (b) 6:2 we must bear the cares and concerns of others; (c) 6:5 we must shoulder our own responsibilities; (d) 6:17 we must bear the marks of Jesus, shouldering our cross as he shouldered his.

PROCLAMATION

How can you bear your own burdens, or another's taken up voluntarily so that it does not overwhelm you? This is one of the great secrets to learn before the weight of that load is fully felt. It is a secret to be tested in fair weather, so it can be trusted in foul! There are five steps to bearing a burden victoriously:

1. Accept that burden as yours. Acceptance is a key to victorious liv-

ing. Many people faced by burdens try to escape through alcohol, drugs, sexual affairs, fantasy, and even illness. People want to flee their burdens (Ps 55:4-7), but serenity comes when a person begins to accept.

2. Share that burden with others. You cannot bear your burdens by yourself. You rob another person of the privilege of sharing by trying to keep worry, fear, guilt, concern, to yourself. A burden shared is a burden halved.

3. Cast that burden upon the Lord. A loving father wants to help a burden child. If you are travelling on public transport, you don't have to hold all your parcels in your arms — you put them down and let the bus or train carry them. Let the Lord take the load.

4. Pray your burden through. When you pray do not ask for the load to be removed, but for greater strength to bear it. "Are you heavy laden, and burdened with care, reach out to Jesus, you'll always find him there." "Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Saviour, still our refuge take it to the Lord in prayer".

5. Lift that burden by adding to it. By adding to it? Yes, add the thing that enables you to lift your burdens. The heaviest part of an eagle is its wings. Yet the weight of its wings is the very thing that enables it to fly. "They who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles..." (Isa 40:31).

Jesus called "Come to me all who labour and are heavy burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you... for my yoke is easy and my burden is light." (Matt. 11:28-30).

PRESENTATION

Peter Ainslie, one of our American preachers early this century said.

It has been well said, "On no man are more burdens laid by troubled hearts than on a minister. He is constantly a man of comfort and courage. Men who wear a smooth face before other men show a furrowed one to him. Homes that show only happiness and peace before the world show him their closet with its skeleton."

"In sickness, the doctor is called, but so is the minister, and if death comes it is the minister who stays to make the after days bearable."

"Absent children, business anxiety, failing health or powers, intimate needs too sacred to share with other closest friends, are his familiar concerns."

"If he has gained from his people the confidence he ought to have, he is the chief burden bearer of the community."

GORDON MOYES

ELECTIVES AT FEDERAL CONFERENCE

Drama and Painting

There are still a few vacancies for the Drama and Painting Electives at Federal Conference.

They will each have four sessions on the afternoons of Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, January 8, 10, 11 and 12.

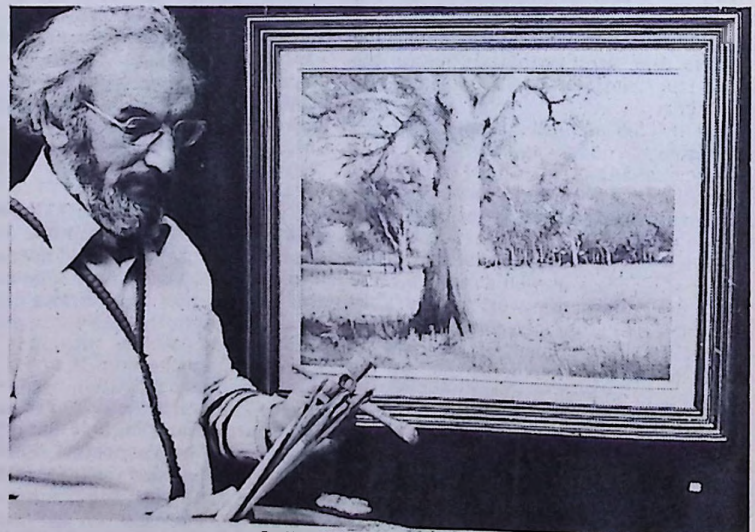
Drama

The Drama School will be conducted by the Covenant Players who have specialised in presenting the Christian faith through short sketches and longer pieces and have established themselves throughout Australia as leaders in their field.

The fee for the course is \$10, and the school will be limited to 30. Melbourne churches especially have a fine opportunity for encouraging folk to attend in order to develop drama resources in their own congregations.

Painting

Colin Waddingham is a well-known artist whose regular classes are proving a popular addition to Melbourne's art



Colin Waddingham

scene. He exhibits both landscapes and portraits, and his work is more and more in demand.

Colin is a member of our Doncaster Church of Christ and he will lead the school assisted by other well known artists. The course will be in both oils and

water colours and will cater for beginners as well those who have had experience.

The \$10 fee will cover canvasses and paints. Melbourne folk who are not able to attend Conference as delegates may take advantage of this opportunity. The class will be limited to 30.



Deane Hutton

T.V. PERSONALITIES AT BROOKLYN PARK



Sue Ellbourne

Two well known T.V. personalities from Adelaide's Channel 9 will be featured at Brooklyn Park's "CHRISTMAS IN SONG" programme this year. They are Sue Ellbourne and Dr Deane Hutton.

Miss Ellbourne is 9's Hostess and Weather Girl, while Dr Hutton appears every week on the award-winning "Curiosity Show." Both of these people have outstanding Christian testimonies.

The "Christmas in Song" series will cover both morning and evening services right through the month of December. An impressive line up of well known singers and musicians from many parts of Adelaide will come to Brooklyn Park to use their talents in presenting the

Christmas Message. Among the soloists will be Lorna Orr, Dean Patterson, Ruth Buxton and from the Australian Opera Company, Aileen Fisher.

In addition, the popular folk-Gospel group "Brothers" will have strong appeal for the many teenagers expected to attend the evening service on Dec. 3.

Brooklyn Park's minister, Graham Agnew, says that the annual "Christmas in Song" series aims at attracting contact people and community folk generally to the Church's worship services.

Last year a total of over 1000 was recorded for December and this year the Church is working for an even greater response.

DEVELOPMENT OF DEPARTMENTAL LEADERSHIP

(Vic) For two weeks, the Frankston Church of Christ had the benefit of the leadership of Trevor Giles, the Field Director from the Department of Mission, Education and Development. Mr. Giles led a similar program in the Frankston Church of Christ three years ago.

Because of his efforts and labours, the Frankston congregation will see an overall lift in the income of the Church from 700 dollars to nearly 1,000 dollars. This has been a wonderful response. Twelve of the families pledged twenty dollars and more. One of those pledges was a twenty five dollar pledge from a recently bereaved widow in the congregation.

All areas of the program were very ably dealt with, and Trevor leaves a very happy satisfied client of the D.M.E.D.

Over the years our Departments have brought into the field men who showed abilities and skills, and not only have the men made a contribution to the life of the Churches they have served, but the experience itself has also helped in the development of the leaders themselves.

Allan Avery.

NORTH ESSENDON MINISTRY Russell Allison concludes his ministry on Nov. 26. Mrs Robyn Schaeffer (from W.A.) commences her ministry in February . . . Secretary Laurie King is back after his illness . . . After 27 years membership, the church will be sorry to lose the fellowship of Alf and Beverley White . . . A church picnic was held on Cup Day at Greenvale Reservoir . . . Owing to petrol shortage the visit from Stawell Church for Nov. 11-12 postponed . . . Harold Reardon celebrated his 89th birthday.

FETE (Burwood, R. Brown). Annual Fete organized by B. Jacques raised \$848 . . . Payments for main church building have been finalized . . . Bus load attended Melbourne Reachout . . . Good News Bible now used at services . . . Sporting clubs conducted gospel service with N. Kenning as speaker . . . B. Knights was speaker at evening service conducted by Good Companion leaders and girls. A presentation was made to Betty in appreciation of many years of leadership. A Barbecue preceded this meeting . . . C.W.F. conducted a.m. service. Guest speaker was Mrs B. Dow . . . Following combined communion service at Uniting Church, members of both churches journeyed to Ferny Creek for picnic . . . E. Keating was speaker at mens breakfast which was attended by 55 men, D. Parkin (Haw. Coach) read the lesson.

FEATURES (Launceston, M. D. Hamilton). The Melbourne based group "Searchlight" visited here on Oct. 29. At night the Invermay Section of the B.S. presented "Get on Board", the story of Noah, in word and song, with special effects . . . Walking Club had outing to Meander Falls on Monday holiday . . . Singing group "Friends" shared in evening service on Nov. 12 with programme, "Jesus is the One" . . . Tom Bain re-elected Chairman of Church Board . . . 21 Good Companions camped at Coora Lynn for weekend.

THE BIBLE ALIVE IN TODAY'S WORLD

Late last year the Bible News series of cassettes was introduced to Australia and proved an immediate success. The Joint Board of Christian Education which handled Bible News was excited by the obvious impact. Now the eagerly awaited New Testament series of Bible News is available. Titled The Jesus Programmes, this series of ten programmes on five cassettes presents the dramatic stories of Jesus' life in the format of a modern news broadcast.

"This is the news . . . Jesus of Nazareth was arrested late last night in the garden of Gethsemane."

"And in the early hours of this morning in a hastily arranged trial before the Sanhedrin Court, he was found guilty of blasphemy."

It is in this modern idiom, using the techniques of newscasting that Bible News brings the biblical narratives out of the ancient past into the contemporary world, and brings them vividly alive.

The Jesus Programmes have been prepared with careful attention to scholarly accuracy as well as with a sense of present day news worthiness. They have been painstakingly researched from biblical and other ancient sources. On the cassettes, panels of experts discuss the significance of events described by the "on-the-spot" reporters.

"Imaginative, well informed, yet reticent," is how the Archbishop of Canterbury described the Bible News programmes.

Professor F.F. Bruce of Manchester University, the noted authority on New Testament history declared;

"The programmes do a great service in dispelling the notion that Bible Stories belong to the realm of fantasy. I can commend them without reserve."

Throughout Australia, ministers, school chaplains, teachers and parents

have remarked about the value of the Bible News broadcasts. From their reports and the initial interest shown it is confidently predicted that The Jesus Programmes will be received with even greater impact and usefulness. They are an invaluable, stimulating aid to the study and teaching of the Bible and are highly suitable for listening to in the home as well as in study situations.

The Jesus Programmes complete with programme guide, maps, background briefings and news summaries make an outstanding family Christmas gift which will be used with interest and usefulness. These new Jesus Programmes and the Bible News, Abraham to King Saul are available at \$29.95 per set from the Education Resources Centre, The Joint Board of Christian Education, 5th Floor, 177 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000 Phone 654-4988. (See page 9).

BEER STRIKE SAVES LIVES

The following item appeared in the "Toowoomba Chronicle" during the recent Queensland beer strike:

There appeared to be a relationship between the current brewery workers' strike and the number of admissions to hospitals, the medical superintendent of the Toowoomba General Hospital, Dr D. A. O'Rourke said yesterday.

He said the orthopaedic ward, which dealt with accident cases, was almost empty.

Figures taken out indicated that the number of admissions had dropped substantially.

Only 750 had been admitted in 20 days, compared with 2291 in August and 2421 in September.

Dr O'Rourke said he believed that the position was the same throughout the State.

GOOD CITIZENS AWARD TO "SULLIVANS" SCRIPTWRITER

The National Chairman of the Australian Festival of Light, Dr Vincent Morgan, presented Tony Morphett with the Festival of Light's Annual Good Citizen's Award (T.V. Division) at the T.C.N. Studios, Sydney.

The engraved silver Plaque was accompanied by the following Citation: "The Australian Festival of Light Movement has much pleasure in presenting the Annual Good Citizen's Award to Tony Morphett for his high quality contribution to the television industry.

"Tony Morphett has particularly made a valuable contribution as a script writer for the popular Australian T.V. drama series "The Sullivans," a Hector Crawford Production presented by the T.C.N. Channel 9 Network.

"In these days of extensive T.V. viewing, with children spending, on the average, more time in front of the T.V. set than in their classrooms, the modern T.V. scriptwriter can have a tremendous influence for good or evil.

"We congratulate Tony Morphett for using his talents for good in co-operation



L to R: Mrs Leone Hay, Rev Fred Nile, Dr Vincent Morgan (Chairman F.O.L.), Tony Morphett, Alex Gilchrist.

with other concerned members of the Australian Television Industry.

"The T.V. series "The Sullivans" has consistently maintained high standards, and is a valuable influence in our Australian Television Industry.

"The Sullivans" has particularly presented the positive aspects of family

life — parental responsibility, the valuable role of a caring mother and a dedicated father, decent values, loyalty, religious faith, patriotism and integrity.

We salute Tony Morphett and all those associated with this fine T.V. series."

The 1977 Award was presented to Roger Climpson of A.T.N. 7.

LIFE'S FOR REAL WEEKEND ATTRACTS LARGE CROWDS AND A VIRUS.

Large numbers of people turned out for Albury's "Life's For Real — Be In It" Weekend with Gordon Stirling, Oct. 27-29.

With a wide media coverage and extensive advertising campaign, this modern approach to evangelism drew a majority of the church's contacts to its functions.

Even an unwelcome visitor in the form of a virus that attacked at least 25 people including Mrs Stirling was not able to mar the effectiveness of the weekend.

Garden Party

A Garden Party was held at the spacious home of one of our members. The garden, beautifully landscaped and in full flower, sparked a lot of interest. Undaunted by the rain, the ladies entered into a lively discussion with a guest speaker from the Horticultural Society on garden problems before listening attentively to Gordon Stirling. In spite of the rain, this was one of the largest ladies' meetings held by the Albury Church in 15 years.

Singles Dinner Dance

The Church's ministry to Singles was given a spiritual thrust at the Dinner Dance at the New Albury Hotel. Entertainment and dance music was provided by The Murray River Ramblers.

The band presented a mixture of secular and gospel songs and Gordon Stirling spoke on the need to be born again under the title, "Red Lizard on My

(Vic.) On Nov. 5, in the Glen Waverley Church, Neal Hodgekiss (formerly minister at Geelong) was commissioned as a full-time chaplain in the Inter-Church Trade and Industry Mission. A number of chaplains and other representatives were present.

Mr Hodgekiss will serve Australia Post, State Electricity Commission and the Australian Mutual Provident Society.

The minister, Ron Elbourne, presided and B. Hodgson, assistant Manager of A.M.P. read the scriptures. After receiving Mr and Mrs Hodgekiss and family into the membership of the church Mr Elbourne introduced Harry Hall, chairman of the I.T.I.M. board of management (representing nine member churches including Churches of Christ),

who gave the charge which Neal resolutely responded.

Mr Hall called on Fred Combridge, Director of the Department of Social Service and Churches of Christ member on the I.T.I.M. board to commission the chaplain into his new area of ministry, after which he offered a prayer of dedication commending Neal and his work to God.

The Rev Alan Scott, Research Co-ordinator and acting Director of I.T.I.M. gave the address.

Victoria/Tasmania Churches of Christ now have three full-time chaplains in industry — the other two being Ray McKenzie and Bruce Burn. A number of our ministers also serve as local chaplains.

CHAPLAIN COMMISSIONED

Shoulder". Four people have since made enquiries about commitment to Christ.

Balloons, Clowns & Puppet Theatre
Saturday morning drew over 400 children to Albury's Civic Square where Bible centred stories by Gordon Stirling, Puppet Theatre, children's sing-along and free gas-filled balloons held the children's attention and enabled hundreds of handbills to be presented to parents.

Standing Room Only for Family Cabaret

Featuring "His People" from Wagga and Albury's local talent, the audience responded to the change of moods from hilarious to serious to challenge. A sing-along session that mixed old favourite secular and gospel was the hit of the night. Again Gordon Stirling challenged folk to respond to Christ.

Slumber Party & Breakfast

... Was an outstanding success for the Church's young people and their friends. Sleep was in a minority but this didn't deter breakfast jokes and the spirit of fun. After breakfast the young people listened attentively to Gordon Stirling.

Sunday Services Climaxed with a Thanksgiving Tea

Featuring interviews with well known personalities and top quality musical items, the services brought the weekend to a fitting climax. Gordon Stirling's messages, the sense of purpose, the response of contacts in coming and the overall awareness of God, made the weekend a great success in using modern approaches to present the changeless message.

In the week that followed, the Minister, Bob Aldred, has been busy counselling people for commitment.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN



"All this talk about unemployed youth . . . You hear about it all the time, but I'm not convinced.

"I know a young bloke who just left school. He sat around for a while till he got sick of that. So he decided to get a job. Well, he'd get up early and buy the Saturday papers. He went for interviews and kept on looking around. Sure enough, pretty soon he found something. When he got sick of that he left and looked around for something different. Once again, he pretty soon found another job somewhere else.

"So I wonder about all this unemployment business. It seems to me kids these days just can't be bothered going out and hunting around." ■

Like many popular opinions on contentious economic issues, the above is, I believe, quite fallacious. The fault in the logic, however, is by no means obvious. The analogy of the football spectator may help.

Suppose I'm a footy follower who buys a standing room only ticket and has difficulty seeing the game. If I decide to take along a ten-inch stool to stand on then my view of the game will be greatly improved. But suppose everyone decides to do the sensible thing and bring a ten-inch stool to stand on. Then no-one is better off. ■

This same principle applies to many paradoxes in economics, including our present unemployment situation. If one person is resourceful and highly motivated, has a forceful personality, can handle all the inevitable knock-backs and can afford the cost of chancing around, then he or she will eventually find a job. But it is not true that if

everyone searched tirelessly the unemployment problem would disappear.

The sad facts are that at least half a million people are wanting jobs and yet there are only 20,000 vacancies at any one time, a ratio of roughly 25 to one. ■

In an attempt to be seen to be doing something about the youth unemployment situation, our various state and federal governments will attend a top-level conference on December 12.

According to the official agenda, on the first day they will review recent changes in the economy. On the second day they will hear speeches from representatives of governments, employers, unions, social workers and academics on the social effects of these changes. On the third day the conference will discuss all these things.

This would appear to be an excellent lead-up to some hard decision-making and policy-formation on days 4, 5 and 6. But no. On day four they will all go home. ■

This is just one more indication that the actions of almost all governments on this issue are either designed to aid the employers rather than the unemployed or are purely cosmetic. This applies at state and federal level and irrespective of political party (although some are clearly worse than others.)

Schemes such as the Special Youth Employment & Training Programme look terrific. And for employers wanting cheap temporary labour they are terrific. But as for reducing the vast numbers of unemployed youth or assisting unemployed kids in handling their idleness their impact is negligible.

We hear plenty about job enrichment these days. What about unemployment enrichment? Is it any wonder we have such high levels of juvenile crime, drug taking, teenage alcoholism and sexual promiscuity? ■

In a similar way, Christian action on youth unemployment seems to be largely misdirected.

Along with everyone else, churches and Christian groups, if they involve themselves at all, seem to be concerned with equipping kids for work. We run skill-development courses or self-esteem building programmes. Or we give kids work experience in voluntary projects. All these are great as long as there will one day be permanent jobs available for the kids to take.

But what if there simply will never be jobs for these young people? What if our present unemployment situation continues to worsen further? What if the pessimists are right and technology continues to eliminate more and more of the jobs these unskilled kids are wanting? ■

As long as this scenario looms before us as a possibility, and it certainly does at the moment, then why are we concentrating on equipping kids for work? If there aren't going to be any jobs anyway, then what is this doing to our own validity and integrity? And what is it doing to the kids? Are we really being honest? Are we really being loving? Or are we just sending cheery get-well-soon cards to someone we know is soon to die? ■

Practically no-one in our community is working towards the development of constructive leisure activities for kids as a permanent solution. Why not? Probably this is because virtually all of us, except perhaps for our Aboriginals, see a person's value and worth as what he does rather than who he is.

Shouldn't we be challenging that pervasive false assumption? We are not valuable because of our job. We are valuable because God created us in His image. And because His Son, Jesus, died for each one of us. ■■■

P.S. This article is not intended to present answers or to simply air my personal opinions. Rather it seeks to encourage us to be asking the appropriate questions. Your response to any of the above is most welcome.

JASON'S HOUSE

JASON, YOU KNOW THESE PASSAGES ABOUT HOW WE SHOULD DO A SOLID DAY'S WORK...

AND HOW IF A FELLER DOESN'T WORK THEN HE SHOULDN'T EAT...

WELL, HOW ABOUT A SOLID DAY'S LOOKING FOR WORK? DO YOU THINK THAT COUNTS?



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.

ERRORS?

To the Editor,

There are two major errors in the Sept. 23 issue which need correction:-

Firstly, E. W. Heard ("Watching the Birth of an Australian Church") has erred from basically, and properly, letting Scripture interpret Scripture. He states (last paragraph) that the Uniting Church is not tied to either Canterbury or to Rome. Most certainly, it is not tied to Canterbury, but Revelation teaches us that the protestant churches are going back to Rome, (Rev. 13). Therefore, it is not a "divinely accomplished union of three denominations."

Secondly, A. E. White (Questing) says "Our churches do not believe that children are conceived in sin or born in sin". If this be true, then could he/she attempt to explain away Psalm 51:5 "Behold I

was formed and brought forth (liberal Hebrew) in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me"? Or how about 1 John 2:12 "I write unto you little children, because your sins are forgiven you for His Name's sake."

Jim Tomkins, N.S.W.

Editor: "With respect to the second part of the letter, it argued that because God is just, children could not be regarded as bearing the guilt of their parents or even their greatest grandparents, Adam and Eve. Children may and do suffer the consequences of the sin of others, they may and do inherit tendencies to sin — which is a far different thing from guilt. 1 John 2:12 does not directly touch on this issue. If the "little children" John was writing to were able to read and understand the letter, they couldn't have been all that young.

NUBEENA MISSION

(Tas.) Ted Keating, Blackburn Church, Vic., came to Nubeena to conduct an eight day Evangelistic Mission, which commenced on the Sunday morning followed by lunch and fellowship at the church.

The Sunday gospel service and each night meeting was geared for evangelism. There were combined luncheons, ladies' coffee hour, men's breakfast, young people's barbecue and fun night.

The family night featured the Boys' Brigade, Girl Guides, and Brownies in a Church Parade with parents and friends totalling 102.

The final Sunday morning service had an attendance of 108. Three adults committed their lives to Christ. Again everyone stayed for lunch.

Many attended the Mission who had not been near a church for many years, others expressed a desire to come back, others are wanting to commit their lives to Christ.

Many homes were visited, personal invitations being given, many more were contacted during the Mission.

The secret of the success of the Mission, we believe, was the preparation by prayer before the Mission commenced and the early morning and evening prayer meetings held each day of the Mission.

Cec. Neville is minister.

TASMANIAN WOMEN'S CAMP

About 40 women from Hobart, Howrah, Ulverstone and Launceston churches met at the Christian Youth Centre at Ulverstone for the Annual Women's Camp. The theme was, "To Grow or not to Grow".

Study Leader was Mrs Doreen Gordon, Vic., who introduced the studies from John 15 at the opening session on Friday evening. The film strip, "The Fuzzies," aroused interesting discussion.

Saturday and Sunday mornings offered opportunity for discussion and sharing, and our fellowship with one another deepened as a result. On Saturday afternoon we looked at some fictitious letters which enabled us to face some real prac-

tical problems, and apply Biblical principles in their solution.

Saturday evening provided opportunity for impromptu items on the "growing" theme. These caused much hilarity, and brought to light some hidden talent! "Landscape" was presented by Hobart and Howrah groups. Mrs Gordon showed slides of C.O.C.I.A.C., and Norma Russell, who came with Doreen, led our evening devotions.

Sunday Communion was a highlight of the weekend, and the offering of \$94 will be forwarded to Mr and Mrs Rodney Foster, working in New Hebrides.

— J. Younger, Tas.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

HOW UNIQUE ARE WE?

To the Editor,

My older brother Secundus departed from Churches of Christ a long time ago. There was trouble in his local church and he took refuge in another denomination. We seldom discuss it because the hurt is still there. But the other day he raised it himself. I had innocently mentioned that our minister had talked about the unique witness of Churches of Christ.

That was enough to get Secundus going. "What unique witness?" he said. He went on, "You have government by elders, so do the Presbyterians. You have weekly communion, so do the Anglicans. You baptize believers by immersion, so do the Baptists. You encourage lay participation, so do the Methodists. You have congregational government, so do the Congregationalists. You say the Bible is your only rule of faith and practice, so do all of the Reformed Churches!"

As usual I didn't know what to say to him. After he was gone I turned on the TV to an advertisement for pantihose. The young lady concerned talked of the various things unique to various brands. Then she claimed that her company had put all of these things together into the one brand. I knew immediately what to say to Secundus. "Sure, all of the other denominations have unique practices, but the unique thing about Churches of Christ is that we have tried to put them all together. Maybe a little denomination like ours needs to exist to see that when Christians unite that none of these things is forgotten." But Secundus was gone!

Hoping you are the same,
Tertius.

MUSTARD SEEDS

To the Editor,

On reading Evan Adermann's reaction ("A.C." 11.11.78.) to my review of the Langmead Report Mustard Seeds, 14.10.78.) I felt I might have inadvertently misrepresented Ross Langmead's real message.

Mr Adermann assures us that in his church "the old-fashioned outdated approach somehow seems to work." If so, then Ross Langmead and I would both want to join him in praising the Lord for that. In the last part of the article in question Ross asks, should we do something different with Sunday evenings from the traditional evangelistic gatherings? If the answer is no, as at Nambour, then by all means let evangelistic meetings continue. The problem remains, however, that many churches, far from bursting at the seams, are really struggling. Particularly is this so in industrial areas within our big cities. It is to this situation that the Langmead Report is primarily addressed.

Mr Adermann also appears to have misunderstood the use of the word 'structure'. Structuring is not something some of us rush around doing. It is something all of our churches have already done whether we realize it or not. Ross's message is that some are more effective than others and that we should be checking that ours really are appropriate for our situation.

To the main point of Mr Adermann's letter, however, that faithful proclamation of the Gospel of Christ will bear fruit, Ross and I would both say a hearty amen

Alan Austin

FOLLOW UP (Nubeena, C. Neville) Follow up of mini-mission conducted by Gordon Stirling and team resulted in four baptisms prior to a Sunday morning service. An extensive visitation program conducted by minister is bringing results.

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1978

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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CELEBRATION IN SANTO

Gordon Stirling

The planned starting time for the opening ceremony of the new Santo church house in the New Hebrides was 9.30 a.m., Saturday, September 30. The first bell rang an hour before. The second bell rang at 10 and the opening ceremony began. We praised the God and Saviour of all men as we sang, "Presem hae God we i sevem ol man". It was to this service that some eight hundred New Hebrideans came with invited guests from the French and British sectors of the Condominium Government, from the local Council, from the churches of Santo and from the community.

Elder Abel Bani

After prayer and bible reading Elder Abel Bani rose to speak, telling the story of twenty-five years of witness in Santo. He was then invited to open the door. Then as many as could entered the building singing "The Church's One Foundation".

Those unable to be accommodated gathered by the windows, sat in the marquee or found vantage spots under trees on the bank of coral rock towering above the grounds of the church house. Amplified to over five hundred people outside who could see in it was rather reminiscent of the drive-in-church concept — without the cars and individual "speakers".

"Yumi Kam Presem Jisus Kraes"

Pastor Samuel Vusi presided. Representatives of the churches and community gave greetings, and of course we sang. We sang spontaneously while everyone was getting settled. Someone sings the first line, then everyone breaks in with a powerful burst of harmony. Everything is sung twice. The spirit of it all was summed up in the Bislama words of a couplet from "All Hail the Power". "Nao yumi evriwan i joen long kampane blong hem" (Now we all join together in the company of Christ).

The duplicated order of service was a guide to what was happening, but observed more in the breach than the rule, but nobody worried. In Australia under similar circumstances ulcers would be developing everywhere. New Hebrideans make no claims to having a special "hot-line" to the Holy Spirit, they just seem to be joyfully open to go along with his leading.

Items

The word "Item" was scattered innocently amongst other program details, as in an Australian order of service. We were yet to learn the significance of that word. The item is announced and one or two people come out to the front. You think it is to be a solo or a duet. Then others start to join them, and then others. On this occasion some came in from outside. It took three to five minutes for an item to get under way. But not to worry;

during any lull someone starts up another chorus. Every interval was a time for praise.

Items came from the Santo C.W.F. in uniform long frocks and from the choirs of the Apostolic, Assemblies of God and S.D.A. churches. In the islands all choirs seem to be unaccompanied. Then the way was opened for others who had prepared items to present them. We still had not learned all that could be implied by the word item. There was still the concert to come on the Saturday night. Two and a half hours after the second bell I was called on to speak and the congregation settled back to give me all the time I wanted.

Preaching in a Different Culture

I was never more nervous in my life as I faced that expectant audience. My preaching style has always been to bring a word from God to the lives and needs and feelings and circumstances of people. How could I know what was happening in the families before me? How was I to know their hurts and hopes and heartaches? So using Acts 2:42-47 I talked of the church of another culture, that of the first century, and tried to discover with them its implications for Santo and Vila and Duindui and Ranwadi. They were very generous in the response from their eager faces and later with their gracious words.

In Australia when I go to the door to shake hands I am often left all alone in a draughty foyer until I go inside again to meet the people there. In the New Hebrides the women file out seat by seat from the front, followed by the men likewise. A packed church house is emptied in about three minutes flat. Of course it is always warm enough to enjoy post-service "koinonia" outside.

Kai

Very soon eight hundred people were eating in an assortment of specially erected temporary kai houses or leafy shelters. Sixteen bullocks, a half a ton of rice (shovelled from a great heap into buckets), dozens of pigs and chickens, dozens of square metres of banana and taro lap lap, with sweet potatoes and yams were consumed. The meat cooked in trenches in the ground was as tender as young chicken and the flavour was excellent.

What was over from the immediate meal continued to be consumed as often as anyone was hungry for the next twenty-four hours. The whole thing was organised by the people themselves. Hundreds of years of experience with ceremonial kais seems to have produced a smooth organisation that involves everyone in playing his or her part in a relaxed and efficient way. I never saw anyone fussed or bothered or irritated.

(To page 15)

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

JAY'S QUIZ

Who Am I?

I was born in a place called Ur, but I left my homeland to serve God in distant places. Jews, Christians, and Mohammedans all respect me. Who am I? (answer on page 18)

AT SEA

He seemed destined for academic life. He was born in the university town of Cambridge, Massachusetts, the son of a famous poet and critic. He led a sheltered, culture-surrounded life during boyhood, and finally entered Harvard. After an attack of measles, however, his eyesight gave him so much trouble that he dropped out of school. Then, this frail, scholarly youngster with poor eyesight signed on as an ordinary seaman for a voyage around Cape Horn. He became a target of the abuse and harsh discipline that was borne by sailors of that day. This revealed to him for the first time the hardships and cruelty suffered by seamen. He survived, however, and wrote a book to expose the harsh treatment of seafaring men. His name was Richard Henry Dana, and the book he wrote was the classic *Two Years Before the Mast*. As a result of his description of the treatment of sailors, reforms were made that still protect seamen.

"Why do they call our language the mother tongue?"

"Because a father so seldom gets a chance to use it."

"I shall now illustrate what I have on my mind," said the professor as he erased the board.



"I wish you would study your lesson before we leave for Sunday school."

BOOKS TO READ

MY SON JOHNNY

John Edmund Haggai (Emu Book Agencies)

Dr John Haggai, founder and president of the Haggai Institute in Singapore, writes this moving story of his son, Johnny, who was brain damaged at birth and massively handicapped until his death in 1975, aged 24. Despite his handicap, he shared his life with others in a remarkable way showing great intelligence and courage. Dr Haggai says "Johnny had a message for people — for those who are lonely, misunderstood, frustrated. A message of love to people who can't see beyond a person's skin, who miss the wealth of discovering that life's greatest beauty can sometimes be found in what seems to be life's greatest ugliness." Johnny's mother, Christine, had so much love for her son that her crushing task became a channel of God's grace. Dr Haggai is convinced that Johnny interceded powerfully for the Haggai Institute's ministry to the Third World.

A GIFT OF LOVE

by Patricia E. Russell \$3.75

Mrs Russell's earlier book, "Jottings to God," was very well received. It showed a teenager's developing response to God. This new book tells in verse and pictures the wonder of life from the time of awareness of pregnancy to birth and on into the realm of childhood. It would make an excellent gift to a new mother. The verses rejoice in the new life and point to love as being the main force in the new relationship. "You must learn to teach with love, not fear, for love is the greatest attribute between parent and child. Love has many faces." There are many photographs and the book is beautifully gift printed.

BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

*** NEW FOR YOU ***

"MY SON JOHNNY" by John Haggai (\$5.95 + \$1.05 pack and post). A true story of a mother's love and care for a brain-damaged son.

"JANANI: The making of a martyr" by Margaret Ford (\$2.75 + 60c). The life and death of Archbishop Luwum of Uganda.

"HOW TO HELP A FRIEND" by Paul Welter (\$6.45 + \$1.05). As the title indicates. Practical.

"CONQUERING FAMILY STRESS" by J. Allan Peterson (\$3.85 + 80c). Every family experiences stress, crises, problems: this is a guide to action in times of crisis.

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(Among the photos is one of the entrance to the Church of Christ at Elizabeth, S.A., where the author is a member). Copies may be obtained from Mrs P. E. Russell, 8 Ashfield Rd., Elizabeth, S.A. 5112. Add 50c per copy postage.

HANDBOOK OF CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

William Hendricks & Cora Vogel (Baker)

This book is prepared for churches who find it difficult to come up with something fresh every time Christmas comes around. There are full length Christmas programmes, and shorter services traditional rather than gimmicky and with parts for children and adults as well as worship leaders. S.S. classes, youth groups and women's organisations will find something usable. There are patterns for dressing children and also Christmas symbols are outlined. The book is 11 inches by 8½ inches and the U.S.A. price is \$5.95. Printed in the book are music and words of carols which may not be in normal church hymnbooks.

"WHY NOT BE A PREACHER?"

By Dr. Arnold Caldicott.

This is a well written and extremely interesting book. The writer is one of the most effective ministers Australian Churches of Christ have produced. The book is further commended to us in the urgency of the Foreword by President Harvey Bream, of Cincinnati Bible Seminary, Ohio, U.S.A. I greatly appreciate the cogency of Dr. Caldicott's remark that young people need a book of this nature, and that the years of youth are indeed "decision making years". Following his training at Woolwich Bible College, N.S.W., he furthered his spiritual education at the Chateau de Bossey, Celigny, in Switzerland, under the Dutch theologian-missionary, Dr. H. Kraemer, subsequently serving with churches at Bedlington and Gateshead in the North of England. On returning to Australia, he took up the ministry in the West Moreton district, Qld., and later had long and profitable pastorates at Lismore, N.S.W., La Trobe Terrace, Geelong, Vict., and at Margaret St., Toowoomba, Qld. At the end of 1978, he commences a ministry with his old home church, Mile End, S.A. Dr. Caldicott, himself a forthright preacher, has spared no pains in encouraging young men to take up this grandest of all callings. He helpfully and systematically deals with — The Call of God, Early Preparation, Serving as a 'Cadet Preacher' under a qualified minister of the Gospel, Advice relating to College training, Personal and Ethical problems. He also presents worthwhile hints on important aspects of a preacher's life such as the 'Gospel Invitation', Pastoral and Administrative problems and Team ministries. This is a very commendable volume, and should be read with eagerness and profit by all young men who may be planning to give their lives to Christ as preachers and pastors. With considerable pleasure, I perused these pages, realising how eminently suitable and truly helpful they will be for youthful enthusiasts who hope to preach the Gospel. — A.G.E.

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



HAPPENINGS

The National Council of Christians and Jews has announced an international boycott of the Passion Play at Oberammergau if the town council of Oberammergau does not change the script which is regarded as anti-semitic. The Council is urging that the 1750 script be used. The earlier script makes Satan the real villain and shows the Jews as divided over Jesus.

Following the controversy raging over the W.C.C. Programme to Combat Racism, the British Council of Churches has reaffirmed its support for the Programme. However, there was concern expressed that the Programme might appear to support violence.

When the New Zealand Conference of Churches of Christ voted to require a year's study by the churches before a

decision was made to ordain women into the ministry, the effect was the cancellation of the service of ordination for Barbara Stephens, minister of St. Albans Church of Christ, and part-time Brotherhood worker in the Church Life Programme. Roderick Brown, minister of the church at Lower Hutt, where the Conference was held, then declined to be ordained in what seemed to him a discriminatory situation. Mr Brown, a 1977 graduate of the College of the Bible, Glen Iris, was not ordained in Melbourne with others who graduated, preferring to wait for ordination in New Zealand, his homeland and area of Christian ministry.

Dr A. C. Caldicott will conclude his ministry at Margaret St. Toowoomba, Qld. Dec. 3. The church will hold a dinner on Dec. 2 to honour Dr and Mrs

Caldicott and family. The Caldicotts take up ministry at Dr Caldicott's home church at Mile End, S.A. on Dec. 10.

A Qld. Roman Catholic Church has been granted a bar liquor licence. There have been protests from church, and temperance interests and the Festival of Light. With the growing recognition that alcohol is responsible for the majority of road fatalities, crimes, and broken homes, it is argued that this action by a church will encourage rather than discourage the use of alcohol.

Churches making their programmes for 1979 are informed that the Christian Conference of Asia has suggested May 27 as Asia Sunday.

The Soviet authorities have given permission for 25,000 Russian Bibles to be imported, the biggest shipment ever of Bibles to the USSR. The All-Union Council of Evangelical Christians-Baptists in the Soviet Union has asked the

United Bible Societies to supply the Bibles as well as 5000 Russian concordances. The UBS has to raise the money for printing and shipment but churches and individuals are expected to respond to the opportunity.

The General Synod of the Church of England defied the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Coggan, when it voted against the ordination of women priests. The clergy voted 149 to 94 to keep the priesthood a male prerogative. In the U.S., Canada, New Zealand, Australia, and Hong Kong there are already 150 Anglican women priests.

A report to the Federal Health Department shows a worsening of infant mortality among Aborigines. In the Northern Territory the rate rose from 53 per 1000 live births in 1976 to 75 per 1000 live births in 1977. In Qld. there was an improvement with the corresponding figures being 67 in 1976 and 54 in 1977.

Gudina Tamsa the general secretary of the Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Ethiopia, was arrested while working in the church office. He has been held incommunicado and no reason was given for his arrest. The church with 350,000 members is a member of the Lutheran World Federation.

Diary

NEW SOUTH WALES

November
25-26 Far North Coast Regional Conference
26 Home Missions Offering
December
16-21 Mini Midgot Adventure Camp

VICTORIA

November
26 Annual Offering MED
December
3 Explorer Final Rally
9 CMF Board Break-Up
9 Youth Ministry Committee Social Programme
26 Summer Camps commence
28 9th National Youth Convention commences

NATIONAL

November
26 Home Missions Offering
January
8-14 37th Federal Conference Melbourne

HERVEY BAY GROWTH

Following a challenging year when 16 per cent growth was recorded, our membership has found the pursuit of evangelism contagious. Recently concluded is a 10 day "Hervey Bay Crusade for Christ", with Evangelist Bill Newman in his 60' x 12' tent, purchased from "Priscila & Acquila tentmakers", of the U.S.A.

200 people made commitments during the crusade which was sponsored by 5 denominations, and 7,000 people attended the meetings. Our local church had 28 people referred from those making commitments.

Allan Bartlem of Ambassadors for Christ, will come onto the church staff, with his secretary, Coleen Campbell, and Youth worker, Judy Evans, for a month from mid-November to mid-December, to conduct personalised Discipleship and person to person Evangelism with the members, new Christians and contacts of our local fellowship. This is a new style of venture for our Churches and we feel it will be of great value in the consolidation and evangelism areas.

MONTRORSE ANNIVERSARY (L. Van Laar) The news item in "A.C." for Nov. 11, should have read: At the 101st Anniversary of the church on Oct. 29, adults and children of our church, assisted by an orchestra from the Blackburn High School presented the musical, "It's Cool in the Furnace."

QLD. WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

Theme, "And they'll know we are Christians by our Love".

200 women attended. Townsville, visitors from Tweed Heads, one overseas visitor, new ministers' wives and guests were welcomed.

Mrs Henderson, president, opened Conference with Call to Worship. Mrs Beale brought a meditation recalling an experience in New Guinea whereby an action in love had been shown just as Jesus had compassion with the 'women at the well', and showed his love.

Mrs Holt, Youth and D.C.E. Supt., presented a map of Queensland showing Q.C.W.F. veiled in Prayer by 49 C.W.F. groups scattered throughout the State.

(Vic.) Twelve congregations in South Barwon shared in "Christian Encounter '78" with Gordon Moyes as preacher. The churches included Roman Catholic, Church of Christ, Baptist, Church of England, Lutheran, Uniting, and Full Gospel.

The Chairman, Cyril Germon, Uniting Church, stated that in the six days, Oct. 10-15, Mr Moyes met and spoke with people in homes, schools, church halls, a Rotary Dinner at a local hotel, seven churches, a church camp, and on seven occasions in the new South Barwon Civic Centre. 1070 attended the final Thanksgiving Rally.

Mrs Smith conducted a short "Sing-In". Mrs Ferguson led in prayer, and G. Thomas, violinist, played "The Lord's Prayer".

Mrs Brumby gave thanks for \$204 offering going to C.O.C.O.A. and Indian Orphan Fund.

Mr Ferguson, General Conference President, led in Dedicatory Prayer for the newly elected officers. Mrs M. Leckie, Leckie is the new president. Theme is "Faith is the Victory". Mrs Hicks was soloiste.

Three Tableaux; "Women at Work," produced and presented by Mrs Milligan, showed women being used by God throughout the centuries. — M. Cobine, QLD.

CHRISTIAN ENCOUNTER '78.

The Full Gospel minister was particularly impressed by the Saturday men's breakfast attended by at least 400 men. Laurie Ford, Convener of the C.E. 78 Youth Committee was thrilled when 69 young people made commitments at Youth Rally. Peter Woods, a primary school teacher thought the Encounter the most significant event ever conducted by Christian Churches in the city of Geelong and district.

Dr Trevor Banks of the Belmont Church of Christ said that Christian Encounter showed the relevance of the Christian gospel in 1978. W. Harford, Belmont's minister, was organising secretary.

DEATH OF FRED W. REYNOLDS

The sad news of the unexpected death of Fred W. Reynolds came from Djakarta, Indonesia, to us through the Australian National Railways with which he was employed as a Civil Engineer.

Fred Reynolds is well known in Churches of Christ for his ministries to a number of congregations and for his missionary service in the New Hebrides. Fred and June Reynolds have maintained a strong supportive role for the overseas mission outreach of our churches following our own period of service. Fred's service to the churches in interim ministries has continued along with his own professional service as a Civil Engineer. He was currently ministering at the Mile End Church.

At the time of his death Fred was making one of his not infrequent visits on behalf of the Railways to Indonesia. He was leading a mission of three who were to be in Indonesia for four weeks sharing their technical experience.

The telex received on Tuesday, 14 November indicated that Fred Reynolds had become ill and died in bed on the Monday

evening at 47 years of age. Cause of death was yet to be learned.

While so many are saddened at the loss of a very faithful servant of God our thoughts turn to his wife June (nee Garrett) and their children David (first year University of Adelaide), Judy (final year at Mitcham Girls' High School), Philip and John (in school at Goodwood). It is impossible to minister to this family without being aware of the family bond that is theirs — a bond of love and vibrant faith in Christ.

A service of thanksgiving for the life, faith and service of Fred Reynolds is planned for Sunday, Dec. 10, at 3 p.m., at Church of Christ Mile End. Mrs June Reynolds' address is 11 Myall Avenue, Blackwood, S.A., 5051. Phone (08) 278 7315.

FAMILY FAREWELL (Townsville) C.W.F. Family Fun night provided an opportunity to farewell Alan and Gwen Weedon and son Joel after a nine-year ministry. "This is your life" compered by Garry Hispeter culminated in surprise introduction of Alan's parents from Hervey Bay.

A digital clock and a wallet of notes were presented to Alan by the Church Secretary, Arthur Sellers, and the C.W.F. President, Mrs Heather Wilbraham, presented Gwen with a dainty sapphire pendant on behalf of the ladies.

Charters Towers members shared morning service on Nov. 5, when a silver tray was presented in appreciation of Alan's assistance in that centre.

The Weedons have accepted responsibility for a Family Group Home at Mackay. Mr and Mrs Roger Wall and family will commence a ministry with Townsville church in the new year.

S. A. WOMEN'S CAMP

70 ladies were at Longwood Camp for the Annual Study day. The subject was "Talking". Study Leader was Mrs Margaret Knauerhase, a language teacher from Colonel Light Gardens Uniting Church, daughter of the late Winifred Kiek, first woman minister in Australia.

Morning topic was "Conversation", based on Moses' words "What will I say to them?", and of Jesus, "By your words shall you be justified". Mrs Knauerhase discussed the Dangers, Benefits, and Power of speech. As Christians we must take note that ideal conversation becomes the highest good of the hearer through the highest knowledge of the speaker and is the outcome of conversation with God.

Jean Middleton, Dorothy Jacobs, Barbara Robb, Doris Lauer, and Dianne Sutton answered questions on a variety of personal and family situations.

A lighter note was brought by a piano solo, "Twinkle, twinkle . . . with variations" by Jenny Drilling. A conversation game in which each lady held a brief conversation with a dozen or so different ladies with a change of subject each time, concluded the morning.

The afternoon topic was "Encouragement". We were reminded how essential encouragement is in anyone's life, and of sources of encouragement — God, Jesus Christ, Companionship, Appreciation, Helpful advice, and Detailed Information.

We then joined in "Syndicates of Encouragements" — groups of 8 considering real-life situations, facing a disgruntled Church member, a deserted wife, a cancer suspect and a mother of a convicted criminal. Suggestions as to how these could be encouraged to face life were shared from the small groups with the whole assembly. — A. Saunders, S.A.

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Sunday 17th December 1978

7 p.m. Moorabbin Town Hall

An unforgettable Christmas evening with features for all the family.

- A Festival of Christmas Music by the four outstanding choirs of the Cheltenham Church of Christ.
- Guest Soloist — John Fulford — winner of "Sun Aria" 1978, ABC TV "Quest '78".
- John Atwell playing Christmas favourites on the mighty Wurlitzer theatre organ.
- Gordon Moyes preaching on the Christmas Message. This will be his final address concluding a noteworthy 13 year ministry.
- Distinguished community and church leaders will pay tribute to the ministry of Mr and Mrs Moyes as they leave for Sydney where Mr Moyes succeeds Dr Alan Walker as Superintendent of Wesley Central Mission.

You are warmly invited to be present. Free admission with an offering for expenses and the Christmas Bowl.

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OBITUARY

BESSION Royston Douglas (Bert) (14/9/78). After several years of increasing physical weakness Bert died at the age of 74. Singing had been a part of Bert's life from the age of eight when he was a choir boy and then contralto soloist at ten while living in London. After coming to Ballarat at the age of nineteen he formed a choir at the local Methodist church. He returned to Melbourne after farming in NSW for a time and married Ruby Taylor in 1936. Bert became choir leader at the Hartwell Church of Christ and later at Malvern Church of Christ. He led these choirs for a total of 22 years. Singing was the way he loved to share his faith and minister to the body of Christ. Bert established his own electrical and TV business at Mt. Waverley until his retirement four years ago to Rosebud. Bert worshipped with the Tootgarook Church until his death. He is survived by his wife, Ruby, son Leon and daughter Glenys. A full church, with many past choir members present was a testimony to the respect and love he had earned. The singing at his funeral was not only a tribute to his ability as choir leader but also to his faith and sure hope.

BUCKINGHAM, Florence (29.10.1978) Greatly beloved as the oldest surviving member of the Bamba Road Caulfield church, of which she had been a member for the past 45 years, Mrs Buckingham died at the age of 93 years. Born in India in 1884, she was brought to Australia in 1889 following the death of her mother. At the age of 13, she was baptised at the Collingwood Tabernacle, and was associated with Churches of Christ for the remainder of her long life. In 1909 she married Alec Buckingham, and together they were associated with the Lygon Street church, followed by membership at Windsor, where they remained until the closure of the chapel and its removal to North Essendon. In 1933, with her husband and family, she began a long association with the Bamba Road church which continued until her death. An invalid for the last five years, Mrs Buckingham was nursed by her daughter, Marjorie, at home, and with her quiet patience and Christian fortitude was an inspiration to all who called to see her. To her surviving children, Marjorie, Isobelle (Mrs Scott) and Laurie and their families, the warm sympathy of the church has been extended in the loss of their dear one. She was predeceased by her husband exactly 21 years ago. There is comfort in the thought that mother and father, now reunited, await the Resurrection morn.

—D.G.

EDWARDS, Mrs Harry (9.10.78) Mrs Harry Edwards' association with Churches of Christ commenced in March, 1952, when she was baptised at Lane Cove Church. She had been associated with the Salvation Army. She attended the Naremburn Church for a period. In 1980 she and her husband moved to Hornsby and became a member at the Hornsby church (now Thornleigh) and remained in membership there until she died. Her main interest and contribution was the Churches of Christ Social Service Department. When the late W. C. Roffey was Director she and Mrs Vic Dallinger were ac-

tive in the Depot at Campbell Street, Surry Hills. They commenced Street Stalls and continued to assist with the Hornsby Street Stall up till a few months ago. She made a tremendous contribution to the Social Service Department when she became Matron of "Bingley Hall" the home of Aged at Hornsby. She was ably assisted by her husband till their retirement in 1972. We honour them for their contribution. To her husband and members of her family we extend our deepest sympathy. There was no funeral as she willed her body to the University. — J.V.E.

HALLET, Charles Hindmarsh Church of Christ was full to its capacity to express a sincere indication of true sympathy in the death of Charles Hallett. Through his life he faced every difficulty and problem of life in the light of scriptures. His life conveyed the true meaning of a certain faith, hope and trust, thus giving to all associated with him a feeling of security. Our brother as a husband, father and a brother in the Lord was true and sincere, he held those that loved him with a love that was rich and pure. He was esteemed as a devoted Elder of the church and in every way was worthy of his calling. His life and knowledge of scripture made a capable Bible student and teacher. Projects sponsored to help others within the Rotary Club had a special appeal

for practical and liberal subscription. He was interested in and worked with St John's. He served the brotherhood as an executive officer with credit and satisfaction. In the closing days of his sickness he faced a permanent weakness of his body and terminal condition with a deep faith.

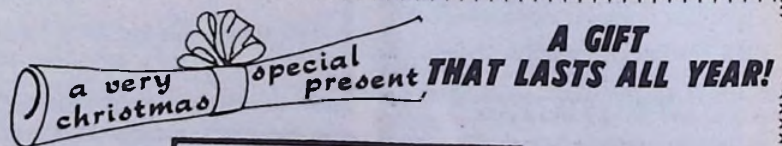
YELLAND Mrs Sara Innes Pearce. (17.10.1978) Miss Sarah Innes Pearce was baptised in the River Murray in 1895, not far from the present Point Sturt church and campsite. 83 years later she died at the age of 98 and was buried in the churchyard there, in the countryside where she had spent all but the last eight years of her life. Due to failing vision her last years were spent with her daughters Beryl and Norah. Of Cornish stock her characteristic outlook of patient, uncomplaining acceptance remained undiminished. Mrs Yelland was vitally interested in her home and family. She was a keen home-maker and gardener. Her loyalty to the Point Sturt church and Southern District activities reflected her discipleship. Always seeking to help, she never sought the limelight. She was married to William Yelland in 1911 and he predeceased her by 18 years. She is survived by four children: Beryl (Mrs Tuckwell), twins John and Norah (Mrs Cranwell), and Graham. There are 16 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. — H.S.P.

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GOAL OF TOTAL HEALING

Twenty-Five Years of Medico-Clerical
Co-operation

By A. J. Storay

(Vic.) A concern for the whole person is the basic motivation that draws together, what appears to many to be, two diverse professions such as medical practitioners and ministers of religion.

When in 1946 a "Fellowship of Christian Healing" was formed under the leadership of Bishop Baker of the Church of England, it was soon felt that there was value in the establishment of a society through which doctors and ministers could share their concerns for and enhance their ministry to their patients/parishioner.

An approach in 1953 to the Victorian Branch of the British Medical Association provided information on the results of discussions concerning closer co-operation between doctors and clergy sponsored by the Churches Council of Healing in London (British Medical Journal 1947 Vol. 2 P. 112). Following the acceptance by the Victorian Branch of the B.M.A. of the principles outlined in the above discussions, an invitation was forwarded to the heads of major denominations to send representatives to a meeting for the purpose of establishing a Christian Council of Healing. This meeting was reported in the Medical Journal of Australia in 1954. Prominent doctors and ministers formed an advisory panel which later became the Standing Committee for Medico-Clerical Conferences.

The aims of "developing an improved understanding and closer co-operation between clergy and doctors, irrespective of race or creed" and "gaining greater knowledge of the basic principles of spiritual, mental and physical health and their inter-relationship in total healing" have been promoted over these past twenty-five years

The first public meeting held at the University of Melbourne was chaired by Sir Albert Coates and attended by approximately 200 members of the respective professions.

Conferences in the early days were held at Retreat House, Cheltenham, under the Presidentship of Dr Robert Southby. As the co-operation between the professions gained momentum, a committee was formed to further promote such conferences. Overseas speakers have included Professor Seward Hiltner, University of Chicago, Professor Granger Westburg, as Associate Professor of Religion and Health, and Professor Howard Clinebell, all from the United States, and Dr Roger Treadgold of the United Kingdom. There was snaring with other Medico-Clerical Groups in National Conferences of Doctors and Ministers conferences in Melbourne, Adelaide, Brisbane and Sydney.

Bert Storay is minister at the Brighton Church of Christ, Vic., and also Secretary of the Medico-Clerical Society.

The Society, under the leadership of Dr Morris Davis, has further expanded its activities. Regular "Luncheon Meetings" in hospitals have been quite successful in getting the busy Doctors and Ministers together. A Newsletter of the Society's activities brings news to an ever-increasing mailing list.

With the advent of a series of Clinical-type sessions conducted by Dr Morris Davis at the Alfred Hospital, further co-operation is taking place in the area of patient care. Dr Davis emphasises our belief in the need to see the patient in wholistic terms. Illness and its meaning ought not to be separated from the patient's life context. Labels need to be used with caution as a patient's illness can often be aggravated either by ignorance or misunderstanding of the process of the illness. It is

CELEBRATION IN SANTO

The Concert

The big celebration was the concert on Saturday night. It was preceded by the announced "small service at 7" that started at 8. This short devotional concluded at 9.30 after singing, items, and a powerful message by Principal John Liu, with several decisions for Christ. Then we went outside for the concert.

After about twenty minutes there came running into the arena a great crowd of Aobans in white with black belts and in "military formation". The first "item" was under way. It consisted of singing hymns and choruses in Bislama with vigorous ceremonial dancing to the glory of God. Here were intertwined three traditions.

First there was the traditional ceremonial dancing dating back thousands of years. Then of recent vintage were the directions of the leader — "left turn, right turn" — and the military precision acquired from the U.S. Forces over thirty years ago. And through it all was the Christian tradition, for all that they did was in the name of Christ.

During part of this item the "old fellows" (elders) of the church were honoured and presented with leis and flowers. They stood between tall sticks of sugar cane, symbol of the fact that their ancestors had been "black-birded" to Queensland as kanakas to work in the cane fields, and there had learned the gospel and brought it back with them to the islands in the early 1900s. Many of them suffered persecution for their new found faith, but it was rewarded in the spectacle that celebrated it that night.

The item lasted for a half an hour. Then it and the people disappeared and I thought that a happy day had ended with this great climax. But soon a similar "item" was made up and another lot of singing runners came onto the arena with crowds of spectators returning to enjoy it.

hoped that future developments in both the Clinical Programme and other meetings of the professions will promote the belief in the totality of medicine.

The Medico-Clerical Society has continued to function through a period in history where great changes have taken place in both professions. The expansion of medical knowledge has been tremendous, but due to the greater specialisation, there appears to have been some alienation of the differing branches of medicine. The clergy went through a period of loss of confidence in their message and ministry during the sixties, but have now regained a sense of purpose and are steadily endeavouring to re-define their role. Nowhere is this seen more clearly than in the field of pastoral care.

The Medico-Clerical Society, with its expanding activities and influence, will continue to aid the process of development of more adequate care of people by providing opportunities for doctors and ministers to learn from each other and to challenge each other to share even better ways of caring for people.

Rev. A. J. Storay (Hon. Secretary).

From page 10

And Then Sunday

The 10 a.m. service was under way with the bell at 10.30. We were out by 1.30 p.m. There was worship, there was joy, and there was celebration, and not even the Australian visitors felt that it was too long. A moving part of the service was the ordination of an elder and some deacons of the Santo church and some deacons from some of the "bush churches" on Santo island. The men kneeled and the elders laid hands on them along with prayers and the reading of the scriptures.

During the ceremony the ancient fraternal tragedy was made right again when Abel (Bani) ordained Cain (Sesi) to the eldership. A thank offering was taken towards the cost of the new building and amounted to \$1,358.04. Of the total cost of \$24,799.91, only about \$5,000 still needs to be paid off. (Groups interested in a project might like to have a "shot" at liquidating this as a fraternal gesture.)

The Sunday night services gave the opportunity for all unused "items" to be used. Again the place was packed with dark faces at every window. During the service, suddenly, the lights went out. Within seconds someone started "We are family, we are one". It takes more than darkness to frustrate the family of God. Most New Hebrideans carry torches, so an eerie glow made us aware of our singing neighbours. Then as old Manasseh started us on "We are walking in the light of God" the lights came on again and the service continued — for two and a half hours altogether.

As soon as it was over the place was deserted. A hundred Aobans were to return by boat that night. Captain Ron Wilson who had given his testimony in the service was at the wheel as the ship moved away from the crowded wharf. Boats and planes were going to be busy for two or three days returning the celebrating Christians to other islands.

(to be continued in the next issue)

OPERATION ANDREW (Bexley Nth. F.J. Davis). Several of our young people attended the D.C.E. October Camp at Stanwell Tops . . . Church representatives attended local seminar for Operation Andrew for Billy Graham Crusade. Monthly Saturday afternoon contact visitation recommenced . . . C.W.F. raised over \$370 from Trash and Treasure Day. The ladies also held "Recipe Night". Four of the ladies demonstrated one of their favourite recipes . . . The B.S. raised \$87 towards 'Bibles for Korea' . . . A Social Night held on Oct. 20 . . . Response to Temple Day was an exciting \$2,046.20.

MINISTER TO MOVE (Fremantle, D.J. Ryle). D.J. Ryle will conclude his ministry in June 1979. He will move to Canberra to share in team ministry . . . Among former members at 86th Anniversary on Nov. 5 were Mr & Mrs C.J. Robinson of Tasmania. Fellowship luncheon held. At night a choir conducted by C.M. Nelson exalted Christ as King, the theme of that service. Maureen Furr was soloiste and Ron Raymond guest organist . . . At annual combined service of Fremantle churches on Nov. 12, Mr Ryle preached. Our ladies served supper . . . The inaugural meeting of the Community Activity Centre, sponsored by the Churches of Fremantle, was held in our hall on Nov. 7.

SINGING CHURCH (Cheltenham, G.K. Moyes, S. Wilson, M. Humphries) Children's choir presented programme at Bentleigh Elderly Citizens' Club, Reflection Youth Choir took service at Berwick, and the Lowana Singers sang "Sing Praises to our God" at Sydal . . . Maurie Conry conducted "Discover the Abundant Life" weekend on Christian Growth . . . Film "Love in Action" screened showing details of Wesley Central Mission, Sydney, and the work to

be supervised by Gordon Moyes . . . \$880 worth of motor bike parts and medical supplies forwarded to David & Lyn Edwards, working in the New Hebrides . . . Cheltenham Lions' Club donated \$500 as first payment on video service to television sets in the Christian Retirement Centre and Pine Lodge, followed by a further \$800. This will tape our services by landline to the residents . . . Tom Cuddy, our wandering missionary, returned from Carnarvon.

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BIRTHS

HALL (nee Ewers). Marian and Colin praise God for His gift of a son, Richard Andrew on 19th October. A brother for Mark.

WHYATT (Dillon). Margaret and David are delighted to announce the safe arrival of Rebecca's sister, Sarah Elizabeth, on October 10 in Adelaide.

APPROACHING MARRIAGE

HOOD — MOSS. The marriage of Jillian Ruth, younger daughter of Mr & Mrs H. E. Hood, 9 Osborne Ave., McKinnon, Vic., to William Allan, only son of Mr & Mrs W. H. Moss, 93 Carrington Road, Box Hill, will take place on Friday, December 8, at 5.30 p.m. at the Church of Christ, Ormond.

The families of **Dalice Hunt** of Clovelly Park and **Neville Bradley** of Burnside are happy to announce the approaching marriage of their parents at Maughan Church, Franklin Street, Adelaide, 11.00 a.m. on Monday, 1st January, 1979.

DEATHS

ABERNETHY. Hatty May, on October 30th at Horsham, loved wife of Frederick (dec.), much loved mother of Royal (Horsham), Mavis (dec.), Jean (Mrs Sherriff, Horsham) and Evelyn (Mrs Williams, Doncaster). Age 86 years. Rest in God's care.

BUCKINGHAM, Florence, October 29 - at Nhill Hospital, passed peacefully away, widow of the late Alec, loved mother of Edward (dec.), Charles (dec.) Marjorie, Isobelle (Mrs Scott), Donald (dec.), Essie (dec.) and Laurie. Dearly loved by her nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren. Late of 40 Emma Street, Caulfield. In her 94th year. Re-united with her dear ones gone before. "Some from earth, from glory some, severed only till He comes."

GIBSON. Passed peacefully away at the Launceston General Hospital on November 9, 1978, Ruby Victoria, beloved wife of James Gibson of 24 Maitland St., Launceston, loved mother of Brian and Shirley, loved mother-in-law of Noreen, loved grand Ma of Robin, Mark (dec.), Ian and Nigel. In her 78 year.

IN MEMORIAM

JENNER Fond memories of Stan, passed away 2nd Dec. 1977. "Trusting Him whate'er befall, Trusting Jesus that is all."

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

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● Michael Green, Richmond, Vic. ● Paul & Rita Pietzsch, Bev. Love, Jean Holzer, Pat Howes, Margaret Findlay, Jan Beale, Joyce Schneider, Leila Herbert, Graeme & Evelyn Watkins, Julie Thorpe, Mt Evelyn, Vic. ● Ronnie Greenwood, Wayne McArdle, Raelene McArdle, Maryborough, Vic. ● Mr & Mrs McPherson, Mrs Huggins, Christine Silk, Rochelle Brunton, Greg McPherson, Cheryl Fawster, Alison Jones, Julie Conry, Lisa O'Niell, O. Loescher, Mrs Andrews, Christine Andrews, Flinders Park, S.A.
● Tracey Monteith, Footscray, Vic. ● Phillip Khoury, Ian Birt, Epping, N.S.W. ● Robynlyn Webster, Anne Spencer, Stuart Spencer, Glerf Waverley, Vic. ● Vicki, Sharon, and Colleen Collins, Nollamara.

MARRIAGES

● Pamela Rau to Andrew Purdy, Richmond, Vic.
● Julie Wonnacott to Keith Rule, Fremantle, W.A.
● Joy Rowe to John Vickers, Magill, S.A.

DEATHS

● Mrs Edith Frick, Blackwood, S.A. ● Mrs R. Heard, Ormond, Vic. ● Mrs Winstone, Richmond, Vic. ● Mrs Paton, Mt Evelyn, Vic. ● Mrs Edith Ann Martin, Warragul, Vic. ● Ruby Gibson, Launceston, Tas. ● Horace Bates, Croydon, S.A.
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- 1) Leaving on March 17th for Auckland, Waitomo, Rotorua, Napier, Wellington, Picton, Nelson, Greymouth, Franz Josef, Wanaka, Queenstown, Milford Sound, Te Anau, Dunedin, Ohau, Mt. Cook, Tekapo, Christchurch etc. 18 days with good hotels, comfortable coaches, 2 meals per day, entrance fees. Leader: Rev. Paul Harrison. Price: from Melbourne \$821.00, from Sydney \$796.00, from Brisbane \$816.00. This tour can be extended to 22 days travelling via new Plymouth to Auckland, or to 26 days taking in the Bay of Islands.
- 2) We also have a 16 day Tour leaving on April 7th for Auckland, Waitomo, Rotorua, Taupo, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Te Anau, Milford Sound, Queenstown, Ohau, Mt. Cook, Tekapo etc. Two meals per day are included, and hotels, coaches and all arrangements are of good standard. Our Leader is the Rev. Gordon Kemlo, of the Uniting Church in Shepparton, and the price is from Melbourne \$720.00, Sydney \$695.00, and Brisbane \$719.00.

3. ENJOY OUR 11 DAY BEST OF TASMANIA TOUR with Trans Otway.

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- ★ We will be in Hobart at Tattoo time, and application has been made for tickets which will be additional to tour cost.
- ★ Prices from Melbourne \$639.00, Sydney \$727.00, Adelaide \$719.00.

4. GRAND TOUR OF EUROPE with Israel & Greece.

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5. VISIT U.S.A. & CANADA —

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

MISSIONARY CONVENTION (Elizabeth, Miss N. Hall, D. Tandy). Annual Missionary Convention speakers, Nov. 3-5, included Bruce Pederson, former member, who leaves with his wife and family for New Hebrides in February. Living-link missionaries, G. Warne, New Hebrides, and Kevin May, Irian Jaya, sent greetings on tape. Annual missionary target of \$2600 was reached . . . Evening service Nov. 12 featured S.A. Churches of Christ Youth Choir with theme "Breaking Down the Barriers." . . . Church building being used as centre in Elizabeth area for Adelaide Reachout training with John Schaper . . . In recent weeks, there have been two decisions and two reconsecrations . . . Summer sporting programme includes six tennis teams and two netball teams.

FAMILY CAMP (Cowandilla, R.W. Saunders). 50 attended Family Camp at Point Sturt, all ages including four Vietnamese young men, and Dick, Doris and Karen Lauer from the U.S. Studies led by Ron McLean, elder. Campers attended morning worship at Strathalbyn. At home, Mrs. Saunders preached in the morning . . . C.W.F. took program of Australian songs and slides to St. George's Rest Home on Oct. 18. . . Mr and Mrs Taylor celebrated 60th. wedding anniversary. Son and daughter-in-law from Melbourne joined them and grandchildren and great-grandchildren were surprise visitors from Victoria for an "At Home" . . . Churches of Christ Youth Choir conducted evening service on Oct. 22. On the 29th our Girls' Brigade led by Captain Val Simons brought a Cantata "The Best You can Be". Girls and leaders presented choir and individual singing and dialogue. Offering was taken for Girls' Home at Shrigoda, India . . .

NEW GUINEA (Marion, A. G. Mathieson, R. Clymer). Peter and Pam Beaumont interviewed on their recent visit to P.N.G. Julie Brittain gave violin solo . . . Bruce Ninnis appointed coach to Venture for Victory Basketball team to tour Philippines and Hong Kong . . . Mrs Palmer confined to bed, Mrs Froud out of hospital, Mrs Flora Glastonbury home again after arm operation . . . Bob and Shirley Clymer to minister at Colonel Light Gardens in 1980 . . . Contractors have begun work on new building site . . . Concert in Edwardstown church hall held to aid building fund.

INTERVIEW (Kensington Park, R. L. Oke). Mr Oke interviewed John Wehr concerning the Aboriginal situation at Wilcannia, N.S.W. . . . The film "Of such is the Kingdom" produced by the Child Evangelism Fellowship was screened . . . 60th Church Anniversary celebrations held Oct. 21-22. 120 were at Barbeque on the Saturday. On Sunday, Open S.S. had number of previous scholars, teachers and friends present. 160 attended morning service. W. N. Bartlett, a previous minister, preached, with the church choir contributing to worship. Luncheon for over 150 was followed by a P.S.A. with

guest artists. R. Clymer, another previous minister, was speaker at night. Mrs Petrea Johnson from Blackwood was guest soloist and church choir again contributed. A total of \$2923 was received at Birthday Gifts.

24 HOUR SEMINAR (Blackwood, L. G. Cooke). Board held 24-hour Seminar . . . Visiting speakers included Robin Haskell, Colin Dredge, Richard Lauer, and Jeff May . . . Focus at different services by B.S. Depts. . . Guests from St George's Rest Home entertained for lunch in members' homes.

B.S. SPECIAL DAY (Pt Lincoln, John Brear). B.S. participated in morning and evening services and basket lunch . . . 30 attended weekend camp at Murray Telfer's property Ungarra . . . Ladies attended Christian Women's Convention Coffee Morning . . . Group discussions held regarding possible future building developments . . . Men visit prison on social basis . . . Women's camp held at Redcliffs. Mrs Jane Manning was study leader . . . Miss Pat Connell, O.M.F., guest speaker at C.W.F. . . E.W.F. held book and music evening with American authoress, Miss Rene Butler, speaker . . . Youth camp held at Karkoo.

WIDER SERVICE (Croydon, R.V. Chamberlain) — Former members Barry Grear and Marj. Battersby are Presidents-Elect of State Conference and Women's Conference, respectively . . . 9.30 am alternate service well supported and included in 1979 programme . . . A barbecue tea preceded Men's Fellowship final meeting for year . . . Telephone survey conducted in selected area as part of outreach programme. Responses increased awareness of present community needs . . . The graduation and ordination of Peter Galliford, College of the Bible, has special meaning for our church and he is supported by our prayers.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

VISITORS (Carnarvon). Visitors recently have included Living Link, Hariba Waghmode, and wife Shalini, who spoke of work in India and showed slides, Trevor Booth and Ian Sexton, Bible Society of W.A., and Don Butler, Federal Aborigines Mission Board . . . A number have made decisions recently.

DECISION (Kalgoorlie) Visiting minister from Mukinbudin, Gary Hamilton, led a youth service, resulting in one decision and testimonies from youth . . . Frank Griffiths visited for two weeks in program of visitation . . . An audio visual on "Soon", a newspaper sent to S.E. Asia, was shown by Mr & Mrs Creeper visiting from S.A. . . . The S. S. anniversary theme on Oct, 15 was "God's Heroes."



NEW SOUTH WALES

BIBLE SCHOOL (Thornleigh, D. W. Mansell). B.S. Anniversary held. Kindergarten session speaker was Miss

Sue Freckelton. Upper School presented night program and speaker was Miss J. Gordon, D.C.E. Dept. . . . Two ladies attended State C.W.F. Convention at Stanwell Tops and two members shared in Brotherhood Planning Conf. there.

FROM NEW HEBRIDES (Taree, M.H.A. Pieper). Graham Warne, at present at Banmatmat Bible College, New Hebrides, has accepted invitation to dual ministry with Taree and Wingham churches from Feb. 28. He returns from missionary service late 1979. He will cooperate with M.H.A. Pieper, minister of Taree church in Manning Valley . . . Two financial appeals concluded during November. Besides other missionary giving for the year the church raised \$6000 through Faith Promise offerings . . . The church was also major contributor to the Bible Society of Australia to purchase a Bible Van for Peru for \$5600, a united effort by Taree Ministers' Fraternal.

CHURCH CELEBRATION (Nollamara, A. J. Anderson, N. Head) Church anniversary, Nov. 4 and 5. On Sat. the "over the hill mob" played "the rest" at cricket and softball, followed by barbecue tea. Sunday morning worship led by Robin Taylor (Wembley Downs Baptist). Evening led by N. Head with A. Anderson as speaker and musical items by Wilma and David Drew. One decision. Record local offering for month of \$887 p.w. . . . Men hold prayer breakfast 6-7 a.m. each Friday and Chain Gang meets for same purpose on Saturdays . . . Church Band assisted in concert at Northam. They also played at Joondanna Lodge on 12th . . . Mrs Connie Eaves is C.W.F. Pres. for 1979 and Mrs Val Underhill is Sec. . . . P.A. system has been upgraded and three ceiling fans installed in chapel.



QUEENSLAND

MANSE READY (Ann Street, Brisbane). On eve of coming of new Minister, Ron White, L.Th., Dip. R.E., on Dec. 4, 1978, a working bee directed by John Watson, Chairman of the Board, transformed the manse property. The church is expending \$4000 in refurbishing the manse . . . During two years without a minister, church members proved their loyalty to Christ and maintained good attendances . . . The Church appreciates the many who assisted in the pulpit and E. T. Hart is generously filling that bill during November . . . Wayne Kelly, a student at Kenmore College, who with Geoffrey Melvin served as youth leader, relinquished the position at the close of the academic year and Mr Melvin and the youth group organised a surprise party at Redcliffe. The church expressed appreciation for his work with the youth for six months . . . Dick Proud an elder, is convalescent in Royal Brisbane Hosp. after surgery, resulting from car accident.

AMAZING GRACE (Mackay, N. Flett) Recent Amazing Grace Crusade resulted in 22 first decisions, with 19 baptisms so far. 200 people attended on the final night. Team consisted of David and Kathy Bycroft, Cindy Betts, Lyn Ayleshire and song leader, Rob Holt.

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VICTORIA

ON SICK LEAVE (Warragul, R. Pritchard). Minister has been in bad health for some time. Church has granted him sick leave for six weeks . . . C.W.F. birthday meeting on Nov. 8 has as Guest speaker, Mrs E. Baxter . . . Proceeds of second-hand book and record sale in church hall to aid Chaplaincy Fund . . . Recent speakers have been Vin Rowe, Jacky Bowden, and "Fusion" Group . . . Church saddened by the death of one of its oldest members, Mrs Edith Ann Martin.

AFTERNOON (Ormond, C. P. Clayden). W.C.T.U. held annual afternoon for L.W.R.s and L.T.L.s . . . Good Companions participated in worship on Girls' Sunday followed by barbecue at Cheltenham Park . . . A return visit to Wangaratta church included barbecue, sightseeing, concert, and worship . . . Twelve participated in Freedom From Hunger Doorknock, collecting \$370 . . . Student Brian Tunks and Y.P. conducted services recently . . . Evening services conducted at Emmaus Rest Home during October . . . \$2000 received at Fete for South Melbourne Fund for \$5000 to pay off their manse debt. Surprise combined service held at South Melbourne church to hand over the \$5000.

27 YEARS (Tootgarook, David Hovey). Church Anniversary had Barry McMurtie as speaker, Fellowship Tea with David Hovey as speaker and the Price Family Singers gave messages in song . . . C.W.F. attended Bayside Fellowship meeting at Black Rock C. of C. . . Mrs Bev Nash and Frank Webster home after hospitalization . . . Mr and Mrs Stan Allison had a Garden Party to aid maxi-market funds.

113th ANNIVERSARY (Swanston St., A. L. Webb). The 113th anniversary of the Church was celebrated with special services. A Baptismal service in the morning added another four young people to our fellowship. At night a festival of praise and music conducted by our Hong Kong Quartet with the Choir and other musicians and songsters assisting. Temple Day Offering exceeded \$1500. This money will defray hall renovation costs . . . Mr Webb has been in Malaysia, having attended the Asian Leaders Conference on Evangelism in Singapore before visiting returned students and undertaking preaching appointments . . . Two of our young people will soon leave for short term missionary service in Pakistan and Indonesia . . . A number of students are considering training for full-time service next year . . .

NEW HALL PLANNED (Swan Hill, J. A. Caporn) Board has approved plans for new hall complex to adjoin present chapel. Building should commence early 1979 . . . 16 y.p. with Mr and Mrs Caporn shared weekend camp at Wood Wood . . . Morning congregation had late lunch on Nov. 19 with barbecue outing to Ron and Lola Bailey's home 40 miles away . . . Church took group to film, "Jesus of Nazareth."

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VICTORIA

EIGHT MORE BAPTISMS (Boronia, A. Taylor-Davis). A further eight baptisms have been conducted . . . Training in leading and assisting in worship sessions held over four weeks . . . Senior citizens group have chosen "Koinonia" (deep friendship or fellowship) as name of group . . . The minister will conclude his ministry on Nov. 19 . . . Tapestry depicting the Last Supper, a gift from elders Olive Goodwin and Gerald McLeod, hung in family room . . . Y.P. conduct evening service at regular intervals . . . Social Concern Group has published booklet on aspects of social concern . . . Conference Executive met leaders from East Suburban churches in our building . . . Keith Bowes and Alf White recent speakers.

NEW MINISTRY (Horsham, R. Roberts) H. Clark, presently at Peel St., Ballarat, will minister to the church for 12 months commencing Jan. 1979 . . . C.W.E.F. hosted combined churches ladies' night, Mrs N. Hovey spoke on Remedial Teaching . . . Recent guest speaker was Neville Muir of "World Opportunities" on work with deaf children in Korea . . . Baptism held on Oct. 22 . . . C.W.C.I. held dinner meeting with Beryl Slatter as speaker . . . District craft shop in Sept. realised \$76 for missions . . . Mrs Roberts spoke at three coffee mornings in Hamilton.

ANNIVERSARY (Chelsea, T. Hanna, D. Wissmann) 54th anniversary on Oct. 29 featured musical items and highlights of past year, followed by barbecue in church grounds; then A.G.M. . . . Good Companions Girls conducted service on Girls' Sunday . . . Explorer Boys participated in the statewide 'Keep our Country Clean' campaign . . . Student ministers concluded their year with four baptisms on last two days of ministry . . . Church planning for full-time minister in 1980 . . . C.W.A.F. raised \$405 from street stall.

ANNIVERSARY (Manifold Heights, P. A. Pitts). S.S. anniversary began with Kindergarten singing, prizes and Cradle Roll presentations. Speaker was Mrs Gee. Senior scholars presented Gospel musical "It's a Miracle", trained by Mrs Heather Pitts. Mr Pitts was speaker . . . Don Prout was guest speaker on Oct. 29. Nov. 5, 7 and 8 was a "Time of Teaching" with Keith Skillicorn as speaker . . . Church planning day for 1979 held at Lara, Nov. 11 . . . Our singing group, "Shalom", had a Dinner and Variety concert to raise funds for amplification equipment. Result was \$610.

NEW FORMAT (Castlemaine, P. Haylock). A new format has been introduced to spread work evenly with directors in charge of departments . . . B.S. celebrated its anniversary on Nov. 12 with musical entitled "Sam" (the Good Samaritan). Prize-giving followed and then Christian fellowship at afternoon tea. Many parents and friends attended . . . At annual meeting on Oct. 23 office bearers elected were Elder, Reg Kuhle; Board Chairman, Cec Kuhle; Secretary, Patricia Revell.

WORSHIP (Footscray, Ian Tippett). October emphasised worship with special worship experiences. Fran and Sonny Waghmode illustrated worship in other lands. The Livett family with singing, and all auxiliaries shared in worship . . . Evening Fellowship celebrated birthday with an "Old Time Music Night". Devotions led by Mrs Dow, C.W.F. President . . . Elders led training class for Presidents, readers and helpers . . . Church will share actively in Western Suburbs Crusade in March 1979 . . . 18 Y.P. from Mildura spent the weekend with Youth Fellowship and shared in evening service. E.F. ladies had evening with ladies from Werribee District Church . . . Mrs Wadleton, a regular worshipper with us, died after a long illness.

ANNIVERSARY (Richmond, W. Gibney). Richmond held its 89th Anniversary in Oct. Morning speaker, K. Horne (Conf. Pres.) Evening Speaker, W. Gaunson (Past Minister).

ORGAN (Mt Evelyn, T. R. W. Holmes). Electronic organ purchased . . . Trevor Holmes' ministry will terminate at end of this year . . . Annual Report showed 12 new members, 11 baptisms, 13 confessions of faith . . . Mrs Paton died . . . Presentation made to Foundation Member, H. Thurrowgood, on retirement from Eldership.

21st ANNIVERSARY (Norlane, Robert Goldfinch). Past members joined in fellowship, barbecue, Scottish Dancing, plays, and film on erection of original church building. Mr Mountjoy opened the newly bricked church. J. Edwards, previous minister, preached, R. Grazules sang, D. Tattersall spoke of experiences. A luncheon followed.

QUESTING

from Page 24

that they worked an average of ten hours a day and four of these were on administration. The trick is to make those hours count. Some churches could be likened to a car, running flat out — in neutral! There is action, noise, expenditure but no progress. The minister's job is not to have his church running on the spot, but to move forward.

It is easier to say what ought to be done, than it is to do it. In our present spiritual climate, it is not easy for a minister to do his work successfully, but if he tries to do it all himself, he is almost certain to be a failure. His task is to help the congregation to witness, to care, to teach, and to help move the church forward.

There is another side to this and that is that the congregation must show loyalty to the Lord and the church and back up the minister in his work. The apparent failure of some ministers is, in reality, the failure of the people.

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

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IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DEPARTMENTS TO ADVISE CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

QUESTING

WITH A.E. WHITE.

How much does success in a church depend upon the minister?

The minister is very important but he is not all important. He is indispensable in some churches and would not be missed in others.

One minister who is weak, lazy, or fuzzy can hold back a church.

Another minister who is strong, active, willing, and clear in his grasp of the gospel may not do any better than the former, if the congregation is weak, lazy, vague, or disloyal.

There is nothing standard about ministers or about congregations and there is no straightforward answer to your question. The best response is to say what the honest minister should be doing and what the honest congregation should be about to help him do it.

A good minister can make a congregation strong and a good congregation can make a minister better.

Preaching is the first function of a minister, but this does not mean he has to be a spell-binding orator. Some fairly ordinary preachers have made excellent ministers. However, preaching came first in the Great Commission and it is the declaration of the gospel that brings men

and women to commitment and builds churches.

Preaching is not the only task of the minister and a minister whose concern is preaching only may give his church an appearance of strength that may not outlast him. In visiting a church in N.Z., where a famous preacher had served large congregations for years, I was told that the congregation barely survived his leaving.

In the other qualities that a minister has, there are opportunities for enhancing the power of his preaching. He is expected to use all of his abilities to equip the church for ministry.

Every Christian is expected to be a minister. Ephesians 4:11-12 puts it this way: "and these were Christ's gifts, some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip God's people for work in his service, to the building up of the body of Christ."

That would appear to be Paul's measure of the success of a minister: whether or not he builds up the people to whom he ministers. If one great task is to win men and women to Christ by his preaching, the minister's next task is by

preaching, teaching, counselling, and leading, to equip his congregation for ministry.

Teaching is a vital part of the minister's work. A favourite name for Jesus was "Rabbi," meaning teacher. Again and again we read that Jesus "taught." This does not mean only the formal or informal group discussions or declarations of spiritual principles. These were there, but there were also learning situations. When the disciples failed and discussed their failure. When they witnessed successfully and reported their mission to Jesus.

Another vital area is that of counselling. Life is difficult for many people. They are disturbed by the business of day to day living. They are often under great pressure and in high tension. A wise counsellor can assist the congregation to cope with life. Crisis counselling is very time demanding and many ministers are using "preventive counselling," in which general areas of stress are looked at and resources are shared. Not only are crisis situations averted, but the folk involved develop a caring personality that equips them to help others and take some of the burden away from the minister.

Administration is another area in which the minister is expected to show skills, in the day to day running of the church. A survey of hundreds of ministers showed

(Cont. on page 23)

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

THE LAST WORD.

Mrs: I stood in line for an hour today.

Mr: What for?

Mrs: I don't know. It was all gone when I got there.

★ ★ ★

I never sing at church,
Even if I know the song.
The congregation carries one
Tune;

So the one I carry must be
wrong.

★ ★ ★



Our natural inclination is to make ourselves happy and our neighbors virtuous . . . the world would be a better and a happier place if we attempted instead to make ourselves better and our neighbors happier. —

T. W. Manson.

Bow with Abel at the Cross of the slain Lamb,

Catch step with Enoch and walk with God,
Launch out with Noah on God's waters,
Go forth with Abraham in Pilgrim faith,
Dig wells with Isaac and get down to divine resources,

Climb ladders with Jacob and see God,
Be clean like Joseph and live with God.

— John W. Weddell

★ ★ ★

The cheaper the stockings, the more of a run a girl gets for her money!

★ ★ ★

"Never finish your sermon without telling your congregation what you want them to do about it!" — David Pawson

★ ★ ★

"Most people commit the same mistake with God that they do with their friends; they do all the talking."

— Bishop Fulton Sheen.

★ ★ ★

The Church is the duller experience that we have in this country. — Disc Jockey.

Madge: "Is that all there is to the story?"

Marge: "I guess so — I've already told you more than I heard."

★ ★ ★

A man is really the head of the house when he isn't afraid to use the guest towels.

★ ★ ★

It's very hard to convince some people that they are of retirement age-especially small children at bedtime.

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