



THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

Vol. 81 No. 4 MARCH 18, 1978

NATIONAL JOURNAL OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

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THE CAFONI

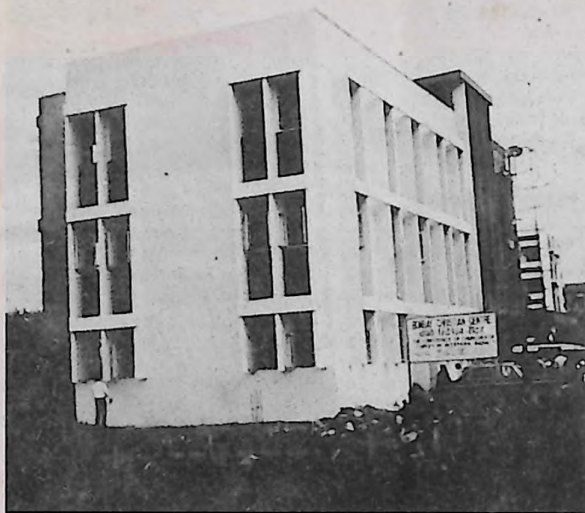
ABORIGINAL
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MISSION

INDIA — AUSTRALIA TOGETHER IN BOMBAY

Scenes at the opening of the Bombay Christian Centre on November 27, 1977 (see also p.5)



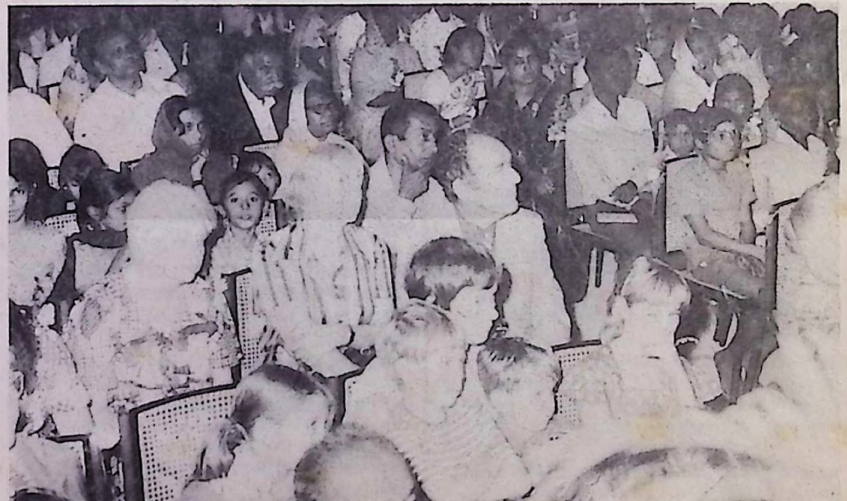
BOMBAY CHRISTIAN CENTRE —



Hariba Waghmode, Secretary Indian Conference reading history of Bombay work, with C.L. Fitzgerald, Chairman Overseas Mission Board.



Mr L.C. Shinde — Assistant pastor, Bombay Church of Christ.



Australians and Indians worshipping together in new building — (Valerie Main and children in front row)

APPRECIATION

The Conference of Churches of Christ in Western India and the Federal Overseas Mission Board, express sincere appreciation to the Australian Churches of Christ for providing the needed finance and prayer support, for the construction of the Bombay Christian Centre. The Centre not only provides a place for worship for our Bombay brethren, a manse for our pastor and hostel for you young people, but a base for a ministry among multitudes of non-Christians.



VIC BOETTCHER

**BUILDER — MINISTER
— CHRISTIAN CITIZEN**

By A.C. Male

The Ministry of "V.G". Boettcher, Queensland's Conference President Elect is one that is outstanding in its length of service, number of churches served and activity generated for Christ.

International Links

Victor George Boettcher's ("V.G.") grandparents originally migrated from Scandinavia to Germany and then to U.S.A. Some relatives came to Australia. The maternal grandparents — Dallingers — settled in the Mt. Sylvia district of Gatton whilst paternal grandparents made their home at Marburg over a century ago. Both sets of grandparents were devout Baptists and as pioneers in their respective areas they literally carved out their farm from virgin scrub. Ministers and itinerant evangelists were frequent visitors at the Boettcher home on the hill at Marburg and these journeymen for the Lord enriched young Victor's appreciation of scripture and the realities of "living for the Gospel".

Workers with Wood

Boettcher with a circumflex over the "O" correctly pronounced Betcher is by derivation a "Cooper" by trade. Nearly all the earlier Boettchers were "Workers with Wood" as cabinet makers, joiners, carpenters etc. The present firm of Boettcher's funeral directors of Ipswich continues that occupational theme.

"V.G." was born May 23, 1907, 3rd in a family of 7. Two older sisters Alma — mother of Maurice Pieper, minister of Taree, N.S.W. and Olga, who married a brother of E.C. Hinrichsen. Younger brothers were Arthur, Edgar, Allen and Mervyn.

When Vic was 4 his parents came into the Church of Christ fellowship at Marburg through the influence of P.J. Pond and H.V. Rodger. He made his confession of faith in 1918, baptized 10 days later, and received into fellowship on Feb 24. This marks 60 years of Christian activity from a remarkable man whose energy often amazes much younger men.

Many people influenced his growth towards a pulpit ministry, none less than Chas. E. Pratt.

Education in those days mainly ended at "scholarship" standard (Grade 7). After working on the farm — before any of the present day modern conveniences — "V.G." was unable to attain his ambition to become a doctor because of financial restrictions. He decided to enter the Churches of Christ Federal College of the Bible at Glen Iris in 1927. After two years Secular and three years Biblical studies,

during which he served as student minister at Gore St., Fitzroy, (3 yrs) Pakenham (1 year), and the final year with a.m. at Camberwell and p.m. Bambra Road, Caulfield, he graduated in 1931.

Queensland Executive members, W.A.C. Wendorf and H.W. Hermann, urged him to minister in Queensland. Marriage to Evelyn Schmidt took place in 1932 and a ministry in Townsville followed.

The Outside of a Church indicates many things

Vic's belief is that the Chapel and surrounds are always a pretty fair indication of the thinking and attitudes of the folk who worship there. This concern expressed itself throughout his long ministry of practical public relations exercises in this State.

Townsville's "improvements" were the first of many "extensions" and renovations that characterised his presence in the ministry. Ma Ma Creek ministry followed where the Golden

Jubilee Celebrations were organised in May 1935 with a fortnight's mission with W.L.Ewers. Kingaroy's chapel extended 100%, interior painted, new lighting installed in time for Half Yearly Conference in 1938. Roma where the church was "urged" to become self-supporting and has continued to remain so to the present day. During World War II "V.G." served as a Chaplain until a call to Toowoomba in 1943. Margaret St. Chapel was renovated, including the spire and the high front fence was lowered and chapel approaches sealed. Services were recommenced at Harlaxton, later to become an independent church in that suburb. During this ministry he was Conference President 1945-46.

As a Christian citizen this robust man of God led the campaign in this Flower City of the Darling Downs to raise loans for the war effort. This work earned him a citation from the then Prime Minister, J.B. Chifley.

The South Queensland Country Conference was commenced by V.G. and his colleagues, which in turn espoused the work at Warwick. Boonah was the next call in 1948 where the interior of the chapel was enhanced by installing a communion dais, pulpit panelling and new furniture. West Moreton followed with a ten year ministry at Lowood and the five churches with Esk as 6th for three years. From 1961, numerous interim ministries followed. Then to Roma again where the Memorial Hall was erected. Rockhampton followed for five years with both Chapels and manse being renovated and electronic organ installed at William St. He laid the foundation stone at North Rockhampton hall prior to departure. Ma Ma Creek for a second ministry for 3½

● Continued on Page 10

INNER SPRINGS

SHOWERS OF BLESSING



The length of time spent under the shower by some, makes it difficult to decide whether we are very clean or very dirty people. However there is no doubting the enjoyment of a shower, or the delight in feeling clean and refreshed.

But what of our spirits? Do they receive showers to wash away the dust and weariness that settles on them every so often, dulling their brightness? Our hearts uplifted in a quick prayer for our own or another's needs, a simple "Thank you" for some lovely thing. Some time at the beginning and close of day to read His word.

"Times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord" (Acts 3.19)

I saw God wash the world last night;
With His sweet showers on high;
And then when morning came
I saw Him hang it out to dry.

There's not a bird, there's not a bee
That wings along the way
But is a cleaner bird and bee
Than it was yesterday.

He washed every tiny blade of grass
And every trembling tree;
He flung His showers against the hills
And swept the billowy sea.

I saw God wash the world last night;
Ah, would He have washed me
As clean of all my dust and dirt
As that old white birch tree.

Prayer

Loving Father, as the showers from on high fall to earth cleansing and refreshing every living thing, so let Thy spirit fall afresh on us, creating a new spirit within our hearts that speaks of Thy Presence. Amen.

Acts 3:19

Florence Rosier

MILAN BRYCH

— PHYSICIAN OR FRAUD!

By A. C. Male

The Premier of Queensland (Mr Bjelke-Petersen) urged the Federal Government to be fair and open-minded and allow Brych into Australia so his claims could be tested.

People for and against Brych said it should not be difficult for experts to clear up the argument: Is Brych a fraud or medical genius? His opponents estimated that Brych was making up to \$600,000 a year from cancer sufferers — most of them Australians. They claimed the Cook Island Government was earning up to \$2 million a year by allowing him to use hospital facilities. But more and more people who went to Brych as a last hope are claiming that he cured them. They tell of feeling better after his first treatment and returning home after a Brych course to amaze their own doctors with their wellbeing.

Churches of Christ connection. James Arthur Surtees, 24, a member of the Albion Church, is a Brisbane electrician and will not hear a word against Milan Brych. Jim is the son of Alex and Mrs Surtees. Alex was formally Home Missions Director in Queensland.

Laying on of hands and much prayer.

Colin Smith, the minister of Albion Church tells of the days prior to Jim and his wife Robyn's trip to the Cook Island. Jim was very weak and ill, emaciated and the church had been called together for special prayer and the laying on of hands had been performed. When Jim left the manse he was hard pressed to walk the short distance from the front fence to the vehicle in the street. When he arrived in the Cook Islands he had to be carried from the plane.

Jim's case history.

★ In 1969 he had a tumour surgically removed from his left leg. Radiation treatment followed and the treatment appeared successful.

★ In 1974, a tumour was discovered in the left lung resulting in more radiation and chemotherapy for two years.

★ In 1976 — December, a tumour was discovered in the right pelvic bone and more radiation treatment.

★ In 1977 (July) he was admitted to hospital with fluid in the lung. Cancer was diagnosed.

"I was offered more chemo-therapy. I refused it because by this time I had heard about Dr Brych. I discharged myself from hospital and two weeks later I was in Rarotonga (Cook Is.)."

He said he applied to Brych to be a patient. Arrangements were made through a Brisbane woman doctor. That doctor told him his condition was "terminal".

The Cost of Treatment:

Jim and Robyn were in the Cook Is. for 5 months and 1 week — it cost them \$10,500.

Because he was in a Medical Benefits Fund table which paid for treatment anywhere in the world he has been refunded \$4000. Claims for other Cook Is. medical bills worth more than \$3000 were being processed. Patients stayed in privately owned units around the Island. This accommodation cost \$35 a day. Included in this was \$19 a day tax which went to the Cook Is. Government. Milan Brych had the use of 20 beds in the Rarotonga hospital.

Treatment.

Jim said he had six treatments, each requiring him to be in hospital from Monday to Friday.

The treatment consisted of the taking of blood samples and injections on Mondays, Wednesday and Friday. Three of four weeks were spent outside the hospital before the next treatment. Cost while in hospital was \$50 a day. Each of the six treatments cost \$680. The principle of the treatment was in immuno-therapy, the stimulation of anti-bodies in the blood to destroy the foreign cancer-cells naturally. Patients gathered that Milan Brych could identify different cancer strains in the patient's blood tests. The injections were prepared individually to cater for each patient.

Milan Brych was able to tell from blood tests the location of the cancer, the duration, how severe, and if the patient had more than one cancer strain.

What are the implications

★ The utter helplessness one feels when one ministers to cancer sufferers makes any attempt to find a cure seem worthwhile taking.

★ It appears certain that Milan Brych has no technical qualifications and it was because of this lack of accreditation that led to his deregistration as a Doctor in New Zealand. It seems he can only legitimately claim to be a laboratory technician.

★ History abounds with stories of men and women who were ridiculed by the professionals of their day and yet today are immortalised for their discoveries. Pasteur's sterilization process to nullify germs and Sister Kenny's cure for poliomyelitis are but two. Both suffered greatly for their beliefs.

★ Jim Surtees and a host of others are walking testimonies to the fact that something has occurred to prolong their life against all other prognoses.

A Biblical precedent:

In John, chap 9:25 Jesus healed a blind man and was held to public ridicule. When asked what had happened the man replied, "Once I was blind but now I see." Jim Surtees echoes these sentiments to those who inquire of him — "now I feel better".

The controversy continues:

Senator Baume, a doctor, said in Federal Parliament that "Joh Bjelke Petersen knew as much about medicine as he (Sen. Baume) knew about growing peanuts". The irrepressible Joh replied "it takes no medical training to diagnose blind prejudice."

Whatever the answer to Milan Brych, "Physician or Fraud?" all of us pray to God for an irrefutable cure for cancer that kills about one out of every 6 Australians.

KENMORE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

Fourth Full-time Lecturer

Professor and Mrs Harvey Beard have arrived at Kenmore Christian College. Thanks to the kindness of Mr and Mrs Eric Hart, they were able to move into the Hart home at Jindalee while the owners are engaged in an interim ministry at Nelson, New Zealand. Friends are making a car available for Mr and Mrs Beard. Professor Beard is on leave from Pacific Christian College and is interrupting a lecture tour to Japan, Korea, Hong Kong, and other Asian Mission areas to give a full semester of voluntary service to Kenmore.

Word has been received from the Principal and Mrs F. L. Ewers indicating that they are hoping to return to Kenmore for second semester. Mr Ewers' academic work at Hebrew Univesity, Jerusalem should be completed in mid-July. He will still have to complete his thesis to obtain his doctorate.

House full

The available College accommodation is fully occupied with some 52 full-time



Professor and Mrs. Harvey Beard.

students, including 23 newly enrolled this year. Several others accepted have had to defer their admission owing to sickness or business problems. Married students who could not be accommodated in College facilities have found satisfactory housing in the surrounding district or in church manses. About 20 part-time students are also attending lectures.

— (Dr.) D. G. Hammer.

"THEN CAME THE CAFONI"

BY ALLAN MATHESON

The headlines of the world press have been preoccupied with the violence that is increasingly a part of Italian life.

Kidnappings, street rioting, a constant political crisis, tear gas, murder, are too often the stories of Italy appearing in the foreign news pages of the Australian press.

There is another Italy that we in the church need to know and to hear.

There is Pettorano.

It is a small town in the central mountain region of Abruzzi.

The people of Pettorano are the Cafoni (the uneducated peasants).

The internationally known author, Ignazio Silone, (Bread and Wine), best described these people when he wrote:

"Above everyone is God, the boss of heaven,
and then comes Prince Torlonia, the boss over the earth.
Then come the guards of the prince,
then come the dogs of the guards of the prince.
Then nothing.
And then still nothing.
And then come the Cafoni".

It is these people who now regularly hold their church services in the public square.

Their story has recently appeared in the Italian Ecumenical News report and is one which has something to say to us in Churches of Christ.

At the beginning of the century, Pettorano had 5000 people, by 1961 it had fallen to just over 2000 and today only 1500 remain. Countries around the world, including Australia, are second fatherlands for each family.

And then there is Don Pasquale.

A New Pastor

Don Pasquale is the priest of Pettorano.

Last October the Bishop ordered him to leave the town and never set foot in it again.

The story of Don Pasquale is a challenge to all who call themselves ministers of the gospel. Arriving in Pettorano in 1974 after a ministry with the "baraccati", the slum dwellers of Rome, he very quickly became a part of the village life.

He believed that a priest or pastor must not place himself above the people; the gospel, he believed, meant

that he was called to be at the service of the most exploited, the most oppressed, the poorest. He wrote: "I felt my Christian and priestly task was . . . to give hope to those who mistakenly believe they have not the resources to oppose the powerful, because it is the poor who decide history".

His Bishop upbraided him for starting after-school activities for the children of the village. He was condemned for encouraging teenagers to read newspapers; for taking students on trips visiting, instead of monuments and churches, the slum churches of Rome and Florence. He supported other priests who stood for parliament.

The breakdown of his relationship with the church authorities took place in October 1977 when he was removed as pastor and a new priest was sent to the town.

The new priest had to be accompanied by thirty federal police who also served as his only congregation when he took his first service. The members of the church at Pettorano refused to accept the Bishop's decision and held a service in the public square. The children of the after-school program, their parents, the people of the town, the city council, have asked Don Pasquale not to go.

Prayer

And so, on Christmas Eve 1977, the people of Pettorano gathered in the freezing cold and held their service in the streets of the village as they have done since October.

At the service one Massimiliano Tortis, a 13 year old child of the village, read the following poem he had written about the coming of Christ.

"This year I'm not coming
I'm not comin' because I'm fed up
of 'comin' every year' on your earth
no one listens to me
I speak of friendship and you kill each other
I told you to help each other and instead you think of yourselves
I told you to become poor and instead you always search to become rich
I told you to break bread with the hungry and you exploit him
-I told you not to rob and you instead rob the money of the poor
How can I come on your earth which I gave you
how can I come on an earth divided into two categories
how can I come on an earth which calls itself civil and then kills its brothers
Listen to me closely, I have but one thing to say:
"Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near".
And you rich men, pharisees and exploiters will not conquer my kingdom.
No! it will be those whom you have treated as beggars, as Cafoni, as ignorant who will enjoy eternal life.
I gave you the Word in order to place it at the disposition of the weak
but you have made it private property to exploit the humble
I told you to preach my words, but you have closed yourselves in large buildings
Many babies are born in your world just as me in a stall a bare and dark stall in which mothers fear that the baby awakes because
they have nothing to give it; but you don't even look at them.
You beat them because of the colour of their skin
On Christmas instead of thinking about the poor you enjoy yourselves eating and drinking
You treat the poor like you treated me
but I say to you: blessed are those who cry for they will be consoled
blessed are those who are hungry for they shall be satisfied
blessed is he who is naked for he will be clothed
MY KINGDOM WILL BE COMPOSED PRECISELY OF THESE.

Alan Matheson is Secretary for Immigration, at the Migration Desk of the World Council of Churches in Geneva. Trained at the Churches of Christ in Australia College of the Bible, Mr Matheson was working with the Ecumenical Migration Centre in Melbourne, when he was granted three years leave of absence to take up his present post.

PREPARATION.

Today we speak about faith as a resource, not emphasizing on this occasion the content of what is believed, i.e. "That Christ died for our sins, as written in the scriptures, that he was buried and that he was raised to life again..." (1 Cor. 15:4), and so on; but faith as it is expressed in living by trust.

Many people can intellectually accept the content of the faith and yet it makes no difference to their living. Often on public occasions people will recite the Lord's Prayer or sing words of a hymn, and yet while accepting what they say it makes no difference to how they live. There would be many people who come to Church like that. This is living still in the carnal state (1 Cor.2: 14-3:3). While their minds have been enlightened, their lives have not been affected. There has been no infilling of the Holy Spirit (Jn. 7:37-39), and no living by trust. Timidity, fear, uncertainty, and desires of the flesh still dominate their lives.

These people have no sense of victory, and never venture in faith. What a tragedy if people like this get elected to Church Boards to provide the direction of the Church's life and program!

This state comes from — 1. The refusal to appropriate the promises of scripture. 2. Apathy towards the ministry and infilling of the Holy Spirit. 3. An unwillingness to trust God's provision. 4. A hesitancy about letting go of their own control on their lives and to letting God control them.

Only a rediscovery of God's promises and a willingness to trust him for those promises can ever enable faith to be a great spiritual resource.

PROCLAMATION.

Our God is able! This is a promise that runs throughout scripture. If you look at the promises where it claims that God is able to help you, no matter what your circumstances, and then really believe that so as to trust him for it, you will release the tremendous power of faith within your life. Think of the breadth of God's ability.

1. In times of defeat he is able to sustain you (Rom. 14:4; Heb.2:18; Jude 24).

2. In times of deficiency he is able to supply your every need (2 Cor.9:8-11).

3. In times of depression he is able to strengthen you within. (Rom.4:20-21).

4. In times of utter despair he is able to surprise you beyond even your dreaming (Eph.3:20).

5. In times of disgrace he is able to sanctify you and enable you to live as a saint. (1 Cor.6:9-11) Acts 20:32; Heb. 2:18).

6. Ultimately even in time of death he is able to save you (Rom.8:39; Heb. 5:7; and 7:25).

In any and all circumstances our God is able to supply whatever we need. To understand these promises and then to trust them releases the enormous power of faith within.

PRESENTATION.

Last week I spent 2½ hours in discussion and lunch with the famous Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. Probably more than any other man in this century, he has encouraged people to trust in their faith.

The whole emphasis that Dr. Peale has made on his "positive thinking" has been the under-girding factor — that we must trust what we believe to be true, and by trusting we will release within us power to change our circumstances.

A few hours ago a woman rang me to let me know what had happened following an address I gave in a psychiatric hospital many years ago. For the 20 years previously she had been receiving psychiatric care regularly, and was unable to continue a normal family life.

On this day I spoke about the limitations that fear places upon our lives, and how through faith we could overcome fear. She obtained a copy of a number of my booklets, including "How to Overcome Fear".

Faithfully she followed the steps and discovered the power that comes from within faith. She returned to her family situation and ever since has without a single return for treatment lived a triumphant life, and is now engaged in an organisation helping former mental patients. The simple technique of scripture helped her find release and to discover the tremendous resource she had within her faith.

GORDON MOYES.

OPENING OF BOMBAY CENTRE (see cover)



Bruce Coventry preaching the sermon with pastor B.C. Bhonsle interpreting.



Pastors Bhonsle and Shinde leading procession of witness from the old flat to the new building prior to the opening of the Christian Centre.

METHODS TO INCLUDE NON-CHURCH WOMEN IN FELLOWSHIP

As I consider the Outreach of C.W.F. it seems that the days of being able to draw outsiders to structured meetings are passing. The need now seems to be for small personal sharing meetings. The emphasis appears to be on caring and sharing today.

Everyone needs to feel that someone cares. Unfortunately, often our caring is only vocal. We must ACT! Maybe it only means taking a neighbour shopping, minding her small children, reading to a house-bound woman or doing her shopping, maybe it is only being a listener to her problems. There are many avenues for service in our streets alone.

Our growth must not necessarily be counted in statistics. It may take years to see the results of our caring, rather than the number of people to whom we reach out, in God's love. We may never know what our caring meant to that neighbour, but if by our hand she was brought nearer to God, that's what counts.

Our fellowship is as strong as its members desire it to be. By sharing our experiences when we come together we realise that God can use us greatly. If we see the opportunities He provides and make use of them, we find the strength that He gives.

M. Dredge, Qld.



RESOURCE KIT

C.W.F. Resource Kit leaflets for 1978 are on the Press. It is hoped to have them available by the beginning of April, in time for C.W.F. Conferences. You will receive a 'bonus' leaflet also. Thank you for the Promotion and Sales already undertaken. More Kits are available.



CONFERENCES

April is the month when most of the C.W.F. Conferences are held. All State Executives will appreciate your prayers. Start to pray now for Federal Conference.



WORSHIP MEDITATION CHRIST, THE ANSWER

"I don't know what's wrong with the world today; look at the mess it is in," we hear.

Looking back on history, I suppose people in every age could say this. In the beginning Adam and Eve's world fell apart. Later the world in which Noah lived became too wicked to continue.

It appears that man repeats his mistakes... Maybe they didn't know what was wrong, although there was always someone to tell them.

God knew, that without following His example of love and concern for each other, men could not get along together. In the time of Paul, they were no better. His own life had, despite his supposed righteousness shown cruelty and hatred to his fellow men. It was only when he found the saving love of Jesus that his life changed. It was not surprising then, as Paul went from city to city, seeing the way people lived, that he had only one message... the Cross of Christ.

Is our world any better today? "God sent His Son into the world not to condemn, but to save." On the earth, Jesus talked, shared, loved, healed, forgave, condemned the wrong but loved the sinner, saw evil and spoke against it, promised peace to those who love Him and today gives encouragement to those who follow Him.

Surely Christ is the answer.

Val Simons, S.A.

WHEN WE PRAY

What concept of God do we have? What do we know of the Person, Jesus, we talk to in prayer? What we don't know of God we don't experience.

Solomon's idea of God was this... "there is no God like Thee... who art keeping covenant and showing loving kindness to Thy servants..."

The concept that God is not only great and powerful, but that He tenderly loves those who love Him, can pervade our minds. He is faithful, and the first to help at all times.

Our idea of God is often narrowed by human limitations imposed on God. Mountain barriers are accepted as normal conditions. Our lack is not due to God, but to our incorrect perspective.

Our concept of God must be widened to believe that God is willing and able to attend to our requests. In prayer, we "see" God accomplishing our desire. God does not contradict Himself. If we ask we shall receive. Seeking involves time and effort, but when we seek we find. The "door" conceals our goal and puts it beyond our reach. Prayer knocking removes the barrier. When we are sure of God's character, then we pray with confidence.

Meryl Ridley, Tas.

"Praise the Lord, who carries our burdens day after day; He is the God who saves us",
Psalm 68:19. Good News Bible.

"GOD KNOWS!"

Where I work in a secondary college, more often than not these words are uttered — mostly in exasperation. Unlike the young people who use these utterances, I have come to be assured that God does know.

After having studied the theories of Freud, the psycho-analysis of Jung, the basic concepts of Erikson and others this year, I am convinced that the four gospels express more psychological common sense than all these other 'greats' put together.

Some examples would be the pompous pharisee and his need to satisfy his ego, compared with the self-conscious humility of the publican. The feeling of power and pride of the rich young ruler.

Maybe the most impressive examples were the blind dedication of His own disciples, which led to the bitter disappointment in Judas when Christ didn't meet His expectations, but Christ's absolute acceptance of Judas and his intentions; Christ's absolute love and forgiveness in His understanding of strong, tough Peter's cowardice in the face of his mockers; and the best intentions Jesus saw in the generosity of the prostitute who used expensive ointment to bathe His feet.

There are many more examples — some more familiar to us than others. How much like this present-day generation, these people Jesus knew were!

Many a time, I try to rationalise my behaviour, and God has His way of telling me 'to stop kidding myself' — I'm not kidding anyone else, and I'm certainly not kidding God! Yes — God knows alright! He's saying to me — 'Know yourself!'

Beth Butler, A.C.T.

NEWS OF THE STATES

Victorian C.W.F. Council meeting is going to meet in temporary accommodation for a while. Visitors to the State and to the Council meeting would be well advised to ring the Brotherhood Centre first. Two Workshop Seminars have been held this month, one at Bendigo for the country ladies, and the other at Berwick. Our March Effort will take the form of a Grand Celebrity Concert.

Queensland's C.W.F. campers will enjoy Prof. Wilson's talk on "Taking the Politics out of Uranium"... Really interesting! Their camp is in April.

N.S.W. C.W.F. President, Mrs Edna Morgan has been appointed Matron of the Forestville Guest Home for aged people. We congratulate her and promise her our prayers as she lovingly ministers to these worthy citizens.

W.A. Thank you to our Western Australian ladies, especially at Scarborough who made such an enjoyable holiday possible, with all the necessities provided. We received lots of kindnesses and loving care during our visit in Dec.-Jan. (Ed.)

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN



RECENT brief visits to a remote out-back cattle station in Queensland's channel country have brought home a couple of important lessons.

Firstly, it is hard for many rural dwellers to appreciate the social stresses, the exploitation, the emptiness and the despair of the cities.

And, secondly, we in the cities (and non-remote country areas too) don't really understand the concerns and pressures of the bush.

On the first count, my northern host, the station owner, who has literally hacked his livelihood out of a hostile environment for fifty heart-breaking years, has in recent times been unable to secure a rouseabout to help work the station. Any young fellow who accepts the position invariably can't handle the hours or the workload or the primitive conditions or the isolation and is soon off.

And so the boss concludes there is no unemployment problem: young people today simply can't take hard work and won't stick at a job.

His conclusion on unemployment is, I believe, wrong. But in the light of his immediate experience it is perfectly understandable.

On the second count, it was soon evident that tariff barriers, import quotas, fertilizer bounties, tax concessions, investment allowances and droughts, which we in the towns have little interest in, are of vital concern in the country. ■

THE BROADER questions these realizations have led to are these:

Are my firmly and self-righteously held convictions on social and political issues based on information drawn from within sufficiently wide horizons?

Or in forming my World-view is the World (and hence my neighbour for whom I will have a loving concern) defined as what can be seen from my cosy armchair in my cosy corner? ■

AS CHRISTIANS, are there positive steps we can take to encourage greater understanding across the different cultures within our community? I'm sure there are, both within the Christian church and in the wider world as well.

The old country to city and city to country weekends are a great idea. But do we make the most of the opportunities these exchanges present? When we meet and talk do we listen and hear? Or do we simply meet and talk? What can we do to make these visits more worthwhile? ■

MAY I CONCLUDE with two real situations which illustrate beautifully, if excruciatingly, the tension between rural and city attitudes:

ONE MORNING this past summer, a small farmer in mountain country was approached by a biologist who wanted to collect snake venom for research at a Sydney university.

"I doubt you'll find many snakes here," he said, "but you can look around if you like."

Later in the day the research worker from the city prepared to leave. "How did you go?" asked the farmer. "Did you find any?"

"Yes, thanks. I managed to catch eleven tiger snakes. So I got plenty of venom."

"Eleven?! What did you do with 'em?!"

The biologist, also a conservationist, replied, "I let 'em go again, of course."

OUR FRIENDS, John and Jenny, recently sold everything they had to buy a small block of land on the outskirts of a country town, 100km from Melbourne. They planned to raise their family in a log and mud brick cabin nestled among the colorful acacias and stately gums on their modest property.

After their first few visits they had finalized the plans, ordered the timber and met some of the neighbours.

One weekend as they arrived at the block, their next-door neighbour, a friendly old retired pioneer farmer, greeted them excitedly from across the fence.

"You've got a lot of timber on your new block there so I ring-barked all your trees with my chain-saw to make it easier to clear." ■

INPUT

FROM John Powell

The true listener wants only to understand, to arrive at that moment when he can honestly say: 'I hear you. I am sharing your feeling. I am feeling it with you.' To do this he must be available, be called out of himself in his act of listening. He is not afraid of what he will hear because all he seeks is understanding, not victory. He has no ready suggestions, no facile solutions, and no pink pills of pity ready to dispense. He doesn't interrupt except when necessary for his own better understanding. He doesn't think about his response while the other is talking. And when the emotions of the speaker take a clear shape, he does not merely tolerate them with condescension, he accepts them into himself.

JASON'S HOUSE

YOU'VE REALLY HELPED ME LATELY, JASON. REMEMBER LAST SUNDAY YOU SPOKE ON "WE SHALL RISE WITH WINGS AS EAGLES"...

AND THE WEEK BEFORE, ON "SEEK YE THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE ABOVE," SO I FIGURED THAT WAS GUIDANCE....

...TO BUY AN AEROPLANE.



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.

CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

To the Editor,

I was greatly interested in your reference contained in an answer in *Questing* re the so-called charismatic movement. You stated that "Churches of Christ have traditionally opposed a doctrine of continuing gifts" and went on to support this by reference to Jesse Kellams and Alexander Campbell. To the best of my knowledge this is the first occasion in all the discussion on the subject that our attention has been drawn to that important fact. I am of the opinion that we ought to hear more about it. Perhaps in a full page article.

You are of course well aware that it was not necessary to go to America to support your contention. Here in Australia the recorded writings of W. C. Morre and A. R. Main would give ample proof. Main, in particular, giving it as his conclusion that the gifts of the Holy Spirit (not to be confused with the gift of the Spirit given to the believer at baptism) were "miraculous powers peculiarly fitted to corroborate the message of the gospel in its first great conflict with the hosts of evil. Evidence is lacking that such gifts are at our disposal today."

As one who has received his share of criticism for "being untrue to the Churches of Christ position" over the years I find it difficult not to be a little amused at so many of my conservative colleagues forsaking the "old paths" and jumping on the bandwagon of neo-Pentecostalism. Maybe it's time we dusted off our copies of "First Principles" and took a look at what our forefathers believed and taught (from the Scriptures) about the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.

Murray J. Savage, W.A.

"TIME IS MOUNTING"

To the Editor,

Please find enclosed cheque. My subscription for the 65th year.

V. Florence Foote, N.S.W.

(Ed. — There are many who have found the "Christian" a window on the churches for a long time, but this must surely be a record. I last met Mrs Foote at Ringwood, Vic., and she is presently residing at Merimbula, N.S.W. We honour her for her longtime loyalty and support for the "Christian" and the churches it serves.)

MONEY TROUBLES FOR W.C.C.

The dramatic fall in the value of other currencies against the Swiss franc have brought grave concern to the World Council of Churches whose offices are in Geneva.

This fact, the high cost of living in Geneva, and the difficulty of gaining work permits for non-Swiss staff, is even causing the W.C.C. to consider moving to some other country.

A proposal to build an extension to the Ecumenical Centre has been deferred. A substantial reduction will have to be made in the amount spent on Conferences and a number of appointments to executive posts will be held over.

MUSTARD SEEDS

To The Editor,

In reference to the article "Mustard Seeds" by Alan Austin in *The Australian Christian* on March 4th, I have been constrained to make a protest that such an article has appeared in our national journal.

The article was written with a considerable amount of political bias carefully concealed under the guise of a comment on Christian morality. There is no need for the standard of journalism in "The Australian Christian" to descend to the level of 'muck-raking' of the mass media. If parts of this article had appeared as an answer to an H.S.C. Politics question, it would have been marked poorly because of its lack of objectivity, if we are to be guided by the comments in the Examiners' Report. We must remember that unfair bias is a form of intellectual deceit.

The writer had a right and indeed an obligation to comment on deceit and Christian morality, and some of the points are well taken, but such flagrant bias only incites an ugly controversy which is unworthy of our Christian newspaper, and does nothing to promote a spirit of national and brotherhood harmony.

John F. Youens, Vic.

INDIA FOLLOWING THE CYCLONE

"We completed 5,500 houses by 28 February," said J. K. Michael, director of the Church's Auxiliary for Social Action (CASA) speaking of his organization's effort to combat the devastation caused by the cyclone and tidal wave that hit parts of India last November.

The housing programme is only one of the facets of the relief programme that was put into immediate operation following the disaster and has been financed by a special US \$5 million world-wide appeal from the Commission on Inter-Church Aid, Refugee and World Service (CICARWS) of the World Council of Churches (WCC).

The first programme first phase helped some 100,000 victims with food, clothing, medicine and household utensils. This part of the programme ended mid-December when the victims had recovered from the initial shock and there had been some return to normal living. This first phase cost approximately US \$100,000.

The second phase included providing shelter for some 5,000 families; starting a nutrition/health care scheme for 5,000 people; assisting the local communities through cash-for-work programmes, and replacing looms for the weavers. This latter operation alone will assist about 600 families.

— E.P.S.

"MINORITY POWER"

To the Editor,

The phrase "minority power" seems to describe the new phenomenon of the few using intimidation to dominate and domineer the majority. Recent examples have been the Hilton bomb incident and the "hi-jack" that ended so tragically in Cyprus. Scarcely a day seems to pass that some minority isn't throwing its weight around trying to destroy democratic principles and make life as difficult as possible for the silent and suffering majority all the way from Southern Africa to Northern Ireland and places in between.

Of course minority power is no new thing. We've all heard of the sugar sweet life and mother who dominates her family without saying a word or ruffling a feather. She doesn't have to. The family all know very clearly the things that mummy likes and mummy doesn't like and not one of them is going to risk upsetting mummy!

The local congregation hasn't been free from minority power either. We all know of the family that threatens to withdraw its offerings if certain actions decided on by the majority are carried through. I sometimes wonder if their bluff were called if there would be much difference in the aggregate offering anyhow. Then there's the minister who tries to bend the congregation to his will by using the pulpit to put his case, with no right of reply. I know of one church that changed its mind about church fetes three times in five years according to the convictions of the ministers concerned. And I know of an elder who regularly threatens to resign whenever his four fellow elders agree on something contrary to his desires. His threat to resign is always made with the certain knowledge that the others will back down rather than cause dissension in the church.

Minority power seems to put wet blankets on church programmes, to resist constructive change, to force unwanted changes through, and to resist the Holy Spirit. As far as I can gather it was minority power that crucified Christ, and still does.

But cheer up Mr Editor, the majority of us are not going to cancel our subscriptions.

TERTIUS

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

URGENTLY NEEDS

REPLACEMENT — New and/or Voluntary Personnel

★ **Principal for Bible School**
replacement for R. Whan

★ **Trained Nurse**

to relieve present staff during furlough and to replace staff returning to Australia.

★ **Mechanic**

★ **Trained Teachers: —**

1. To oversee Mission Community Schools Staff, conduct in-service courses and liaise with Education Department.

2. To oversee Pidgin Schools Programme and literacy courses in vernaculars — replacement for R. Rofe.

★ **Carpenter**

★ **Pastor/Bible Teachers**

to assist in oversight of local pastors and to conduct a teaching ministry among churches. Included in this would be a replacement for August Ben.

NEW HEBRIDES

Requires

★ **A Double-Certificated Nurse**

for Duindui Hospital to replace staff returned to Australia.

★ **A Science Teacher for Ranwadi**

High School, Pentecost Island. Enquiries welcome from Science graduates with or without teaching qualification.

★ **A married couple for ministry**

among town and village people in Santo area — replacement for Mr. & Mrs. A. Baker — required early 1979.

★ **A Carpenter or Cabinet maker,**

preferably with teaching experience, to give instruction at Londua School. Single man preferred. Support already provided by Community Aid Abroad.

For further information and enquiries, please write to:
Mr. R. S. A. McLean, Secretary, Churches of Christ
Overseas Mission Board, P.O. Box 258,
Cowandilla, South Aust. 5033.

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

WHY GO TO INDIA?

Barry & Maureen Jenkins

(Barry and Maureen Jenkins and two sons commenced a ministry in South India in January this year with the Union Church)

Hopefully, no Christian would move house and family and travel half way across the world to another country, unless he had received the call of God. This was confirmed in our lives over several months as we corresponded with the Church, applied for (and received) missionary visas, and saw God leading new people into the work we were doing in Melbourne.

This move to South India has been a logical extension of our desire to minister in the areas of greatest need. We had responded to the invitation to work in Melbourne Inner Suburbs because we recognised this was a very needy and neglected situation. The Union Church, Ootacamund, has frequently been without regular minister and from February this year, 300 staff and students from Hebron School have been worshipping regularly at the church along with 50 other local Indian Christians whose primary language is English. Ooty is a strategic centre for tourists (Indian and International) and there is an important ministry available to all these groups by an English-medium congregation.

As a family we needed a change of life style. As a family we had been heading in different directions. Barry was involved with Inner Suburban Churches and the new Western Regions Centres in 1977. Maureen and the children were at West Preston. Commitments frequently

clashed and family life suffered. It is really important to us that our ministry at present involves the whole family, and we do so many more things together.

We also have a very real sense of the need to minister across cultural barriers. The Inner Suburban Churches are grappling with the difficult task of ministering to ethnic groups. We appreciated the ministry of Indian Christian leaders when they visited Australia (recently Theodore Williams and Sabudh Sahu, but also Paul Sudhaker and P. T. Chandapilla). Our desire is to make the Union Church here a 'house of prayer for all peoples.'

We believe that all Australians must come to grips more and more with the challenge of the Third World. It isn't comfortable to live with beggars at the Church gate, a World Vision orphanage over the back fence, and people describing at first hand the ravages of the Adnhra Pradesh cyclone — but it is more realistic than watching it on colour T.V. — and it demands a greater commitment to the poor and needy — and challenges us to a simpler life style.

Previously we worked at Hebron School — and this School for missionaries' children continues to have a great ministry for missionaries in India. John and Valerie Main have their four children in the School, and we are so pleased to be involved in 'this ministry which is a further support system for the ministry which is a further support system for the missionary community.'

We are very glad to be here and thank God for opportunities of ministry.

VIC. BOETTCHER (FROM P.2)

years part-time. Sunnybank for two years, Maryborough for an eight month interim during which the chapel at Pialba was pushed into existence and is thriving today with a full-time Ministry. Ma Ma Creek for a third Ministry to organize the 90th Church Anniversary (remember he was there 40 years before for their Jubilee!) Gatton was included in the circuit in the second year of this ministry and Gatton's 21st Anniversary was held. Gatton's first services were commenced by V.G. during a previous ministry at Ma Ma Creek. The Gatton and District Retirement Village "Amaroo" was initiated during this third Ma Ma Creek, Gatton ministry. The Old Hospital complex and former alcoholics' rehabilitation centre at Marburg was procured by V.G. through the Health Dept. and "Shiloh" Social Service Units of Churches of Christ are now situated on this land.

His ministry within the church was always concerned for the wider outreach. He was an active member of the Country Party — now National Party — and was for ten years a member of the Central Council. He unsuccessfully contested the

State seats of Toowoomba in 1947, Lockyer in a plebiscite in 1950 and Warrego in 1952.

In late 1977 he journeyed with his wife to India especially to see the Overseas Missions work at Bombay; Poona and Dhond first hand.

A Family Man

The "V.G.'s" have 4 children, Kenneth born in Townsville, Vivian born in Marburg, Noel in Roma, Dorothy in Toowoomba, and 15 grandchildren.

He is a Life Governor of the Bible Society in Australia and a foundation member of the Social Service Dept. in Queensland. He has the unique honour of attending the inaugural dinner which initiated the homes and was present for a similar dinner establishing the "homes" in Victoria.

Now a new highlight for a man who has served as college student and Minister for the last quarter of century is the call to be President elect of Queensland Conference, taking office in October, 33 years after his original presidency.

A man of vast experience and wide ministry V.G. is still "presenting God's word as it is to men as they are!"

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

JAY'S QUIZ

THREE BLIND MEN

1. Which magician became blind because he was evil?
2. Which blind man pulled down columns in the temple and killed thousands of people?
3. Who lost his sight on the way to Damascus and was blind for three days?

EMPTY CITY

There was once a mighty city called Kish located on the Mesopotamian Plain where it controlled all traffic on the great Euphrates River.

It had great palaces and temples, used a written language to carry on business, and developed many arts and sciences.

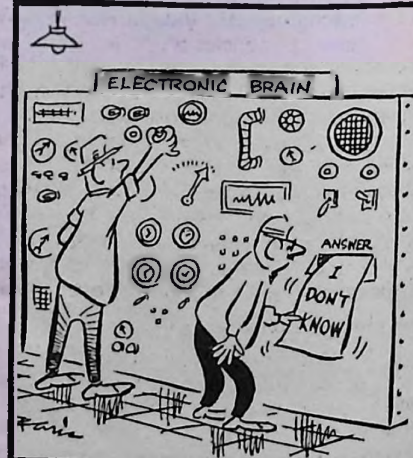
The land around it was fertile, watered by the great Euphrates River, and the city grew until it was a fortified capital some five miles long and almost two miles wide.

Inscriptions found in the city declare that it was the first city "founded after the flood," and remains of a four-wheeled chariot have been found — the oldest wheeled vehicle ever found.

And yet this mighty city became deserted almost overnight and its population moved away. Why? Because the Euphrates River simply changed its course and left it high and dry. A new city — Babylon — was built on the new course and Kish was abandoned.

Father (to son, doing homework):
You look puzzled, Son. Something got you stumped?

Son: Sure has, Dad. Is waterworks one word, or do you spell it with a hydrant?



N.S.W. MISSION TO THE COMMUNITY

Under the leadership of the Associate Director, Bob Smith, the N.S.W. Social Service Dept. has been encouraging, motivating and assisting churches in the development of programmes in "Mission to the Community."

Mr Smith made a thorough survey of the Wollongong church area and presented a proposal which suggested that the Department and the church combine in establishing a Friendship Centre.

The Friendship Centre caters for those who are lonely or socially isolated and for those with time on their hands.

Three initial programmes were commenced. The first is a "Singles Society". Appealing to those who have never married, were once married, divorced, separated, or widowed people, 80 attended an Inaugural Dinner and subsequent gatherings have been well attended.

The other programmes are a programme for isolated women and an activities group for Senior Citizens. Both are showing encouraging development.

Media coverage has been excellent. Mr Smith was interviewed on TV, and there have been local radio and newspaper articles covering the programmes.

Future plans are for more group activities and the possibility of full time family support counselling.

Another church involved in the programme is Hurstville where the church is host to over 100 people who attend the Adult Leisure Learning Centre. This Centre, an adaptation of the "School for Seniors" concept, was established by a community group, one of whom was Bob Smith, the Department being the main initiator of the programme.

Hurstville is also host to a Singles Society "The Community for Singles". An enthusiastic group of single adults from various churches of Christ are co-operating with Mr Smith in this project. Len McNally, student minister at Hurstville, and Robert Hough, minister of Tempe Church and chaplain to the group, are throwing their weight behind the programme.

Further programmes in "Mission to the Community" are being planned for Pendle Hill and Newcastle. In Newcastle the churches have already seen the results of meeting community needs in the Activities Programme for Senior Citizens established by Helen Ellis of the Dept. Mrs Ellis is helping establish this programme also at Wollongong.

The number of lonely, depressed, and socially isolated people in the community is growing and the N.S.W. Social Service Dept. is intent on seeing that they are not forgotten.

AFRICA'S REFUGEE PROBLEM

"Both black and white governments in Africa are creating refugees by intolerance and discrimination without hindrance from those Western powers reluctant to jeopardise their vested commercial or military interests", says a report just published from Christian Aid, the relief arm of the British Council of Churches.

In a comprehensive survey of the African refugee situation the report shows that there are now some 1.6 million refugees in 27 countries. It also points out that the current provision by both government and voluntary services is "gravely inadequate".

The 40 page report ("Refugees: Africa's Challenge") reminds Britain that she is not without blame as one of the former powers which carved up Africa without regard for ethnic, linguistic or economic grouping, leaving newly-independent governments with an inevitable legacy of turmoil.

AFTER THE FIRE

Russell, Thelma and Paul Pearce, who were burnt out in the disastrous fire at Banksia, Vic., wish to thank all of their Christian friends who helped them to be re-established. The Pearces were caring for the Banksia camp on behalf of the Dept. of Mission, Educ., and Develop.

The new address for the family is 66 McLeod St., Bairnsdale, Vic. 3875.

BOOKS TO READ

THE BURNING HEART
(John Wesley: Evangelist)

by A. Skevington Wood (Paternoster Press)

There is no lack of material on the life and work of John Wesley but this author points out in his preface that despite the abundance of Wesleyana there is hardly a title of a book covering his approach to evangelism. Although touched on by various biographers very little had been done to analyse seriously the evangelistic principles of the great churchman. What his message was and how he communicated that message so successfully to thousands is carefully studied here. Although it is claimed by some that Wesley's message and methods are not viable today, Skevington Wood strongly questions such a conclusion. The Bible was already under rationalistic fire in the 18th century and, like today, sermons had become "moral essays, characterized chiefly by a cold good sense, and appealing almost exclusively to prudential nature." Wesley's full-blooded proclamation of an uncompromising gospel produced a startling effect. "It remains true," says Wood, "that those who shrink from declaring the whole counsel of God, defeat their own ends" First published in 1967 this paperback reprint is well worth a place in the library. It is well documented, indexed, and has a comprehensive bibliography for those who wish to read more on Wesley.

ADVENTURES IN PRAYER

by Catherine Marshall (Hodder & Stoughton) \$2.30

For those who still want to believe that God is answering prayer today, this book will give strong support. Catherine Marshall says that admittance to the School of Prayer is by passing two tests. One, are you in real need?, and two, Do you

admit that you are helpless to handle that need? She herself had times of great crisis where prayer was the only source of help. She had a serious illness in her 20s, she lost her husband, Peter Marshall, in her 30s, and she had to care for her son and find a new career. The responses to her prayer discoveries are now shared in eight chapters that could well be used for a School of Prayer series in your church.

ALSO RECEIVED

Two more in the series "Good Morning, Lord": Devotions for Young Mothers by Mary Foxwell Loeks; and Devotions on Bible Prayers by Ron Hembree. Both published by Baker Book House. Two reprints of Macartneys Bible Characters: The Woman of Tekoah and other Sermons; and Sermons on Old Testament Heroes. Clarence E. Macartney was a much borrowed from preacher who filled a Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh twice every Sunday. These reprints by Baker were first published in 1935 and 1955, respectively. Two Puzzle Books: Bible Puzzles for Adults by Grace Vander Klay, and Crossword Puzzles from Bible Verses by Paul Nelson Jones. Also from Baker Book House.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Sorry, you've just been replaced by automation!"

BRISBANE CITY-WIDE CRUSADE

"Reach Out for a Brand New Life, Today," is the theme of the September Revival Fires Crusade throughout Qld. and NSW and possibly other states.

Cecil Todd, Director of our American Churches largest evangelistic association, will conduct the crusade with Dale Evans Rogers and the Good Twins in the Brisbane City-Wide Crusade in the Brisbane Town Hall, Sept. 10-15.

About 30 other evangelistic teams will conduct supporting crusades in Qld. country areas, Sept. 10-15, with local city churches and interstate crusades Sept. 3-15.

Supporting evangelists already confirmed include Reggie Thomas, return-

ing to Australia for the fourth time; Ed. Fausz, Ohio minister and returned missionary from Germany; Joe McElroy, who was in Aust. in 1970; Al Kargas, California minister with Sunday attendances of over 500. During a previous ten year ministry, 1000 new members were added; K. Backstrand, minister of the Rostvit Twins home church; Willie White, well known evangelist; and Ben Schiller, California preacher, returned missionary from India.

Many other well-known and experienced evangelists have indicated their intention to come. The teams will be accompanied by a plane load of tourists from our American churches.

ROSTVIT TWINS ALSO COMING

Janice and Faye Rostvit, identical twins from Colorado, U.S.A., have been playing and singing gospel songs around the world for several years. They now write and compose many of their own songs.

The girls are also accomplished ventriloquists and they take their talking dolls with them.

They have visited Australia several times and this year they will be in W.A. in April, in Qld. May, June and July, and in N.S.W. and Vic. in August.

W.A. TENNIS DAY

Seventy-one pairs entered the D.C.E. annual Australia Day tennis tournament

Country and city people get together with the largest representation being 17 from Mukinbudin. Trophies were presented by the new D.C.E. Director in W.A., Devin Caulton.

Winners: A Grade Men, R. Monger & I. Holmson. B Grade Men, B. Jones & G. Seaby. A Grade Ladies, A. Marshall & S. Clegg. B Grade Ladies, M. Rogers & J. Siggers. A Grade Mixed, L. & N. Farris. B Grade Mixed, A. Jackson & R. Baird. Junior Boys, J. Bennett, K. Somerville. Junior Girls, J. Caddy, R. Selkirk. — Organising Sec. G. Carslake.

The crusades will be preceded by two preachers experienced in international crusade preparation. Ronnie Epps will visit churches early in June, and Dave Thomas is expected in March to assist with prospect cultivation and personal workers preparation and visitation.

Churches desiring to participate in the crusades or meetings contact Doug Willis, 24 Manning Ave., Coffs Harbour, 2450.

C.G. TAYLOR FAREWELLED

(Chatswood) Mr & Mrs Clifford G. Taylor concluded over 14 years ministry with the church on March 5. A tea was held at which speeches of commendation were made to both. Representatives of all aspects of the local church, College Board, Overseas Missions, Brotherhood, Ministers' Fraternal, and Turramurra church, paid tribute.

The chairman of the church board, Barton Perkins, presented on behalf of the church, a nest of tables and a substantial cheque. Gifts and flowers were presented to Mrs Taylor from the three women's groups by the C.W.F. President, Mrs Rita Dickson.

Mr & Mrs Taylor will have a short holiday before taking up their ministry at the Gardiner church, Vic.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER (Croydon, L. Dewberry) A progressive dinner was organized by the ladies . . . The Boys' Explorers competed in swimming sports at Richmond.

Diary

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

March
24 Good Friday Devotional Service 10.30
April
4-9 81st Annual Conference
G.R. Stirling, Guest Speaker

VICTORIA

March
19 Aborigines' Mission Offering
April
1. Explorer Sports
2 Engaged Couples Seminar
7-9 C.W.F. Camp Halls Gap
12 Tertiary Students Tea
27-30 Vic.-Tas. Conference

QUEENSLAND

April
14-16 Women's Camp, Camp Cal

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

26-30 State Conference

NEW SOUTH WALES

March
18-19 Illawarra Reg. Conf.
24-28 Easter Camp

HAPPENINGS

Political prisoners are being freed in Argentina and then killed says Amnesty International. The organisation also claims that since the March, 1976, military coup, 15,000 had "disappeared without trace."

Latest figures show that in Australia more than 20,000 girls between 15 and 19 have abortions each year, only 4000 fewer than the number giving birth.

Canon Burgess Carr, the general secretary of the All Africa Conference has been dismissed from his post. His involvement in political issues and his support of the black guerrilla movements against South Africa had made many of his colleagues believe that he was making the movement too secular.

Johann Gutenberg printed the first ever printed Bible. It took him two years to shape the 46,000 letters and symbols by hand. The 150 book edition, finished in 1454, sold for about 20 guilders each (about \$1000). Three of the 48 complete or partial Gutenberg Bibles are being offered for sale in New York. The price could be as high as \$2.5 million.

TEAR FUND, "the caring arm of the Australian Evangelical Alliance" has sent \$10,000 from its emergency fund for relief in

Andhra Pradesh (India) where on November 19 last year a tidal wave and cyclone wreaked enormous damage. 50,000 or more are said to have died and the survivors are still in desperate need. Gifts may be sent to Tear Fund, P.O. Box 243, Box Hill 3128.

Western Mining Corporation plans to bury 27,000 tonnes of radioactive waste at its uranium processing plant just outside Kalgoorlie, W.A. WMC says that the level of radiation from the waste will be well below "permissible levels" but they won't specify what those levels are.

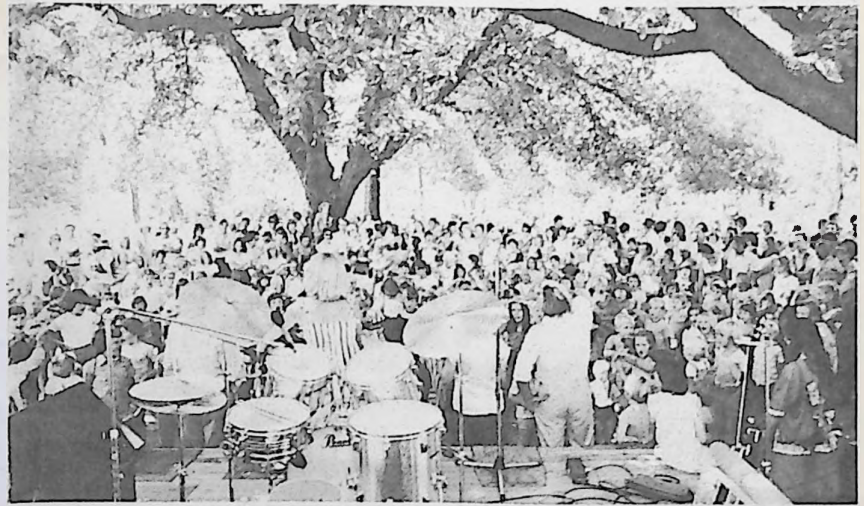
Mike Warnke, at present in Australia, is a former Satanist high priest, "who wined on human blood, patronised sex orgies, pushed drugs and fraternised with witches" according to "The Australian". He became a Christian, is an ordained minister and is here to give concerts and witness to Christ as Savior. He calls himself a Christian comedian.

Alan Walker of Wesley Central Mission, Sydney, has been awarded the Fench Institute de la Vie Award which honours those who have made outstanding and contributions to human and social welfare. The award was for Walker as founder of the Life Line telephone ministry. Only one other Australian has been a recipient of the award: Dr William McBride for his discovery of the effect of thalidomide on unborn children.

ALBURY OUTREACH THROUGH AND CRAFTS

On the invitation of Australia Council for the Arts, the Albury Church joined in the Community singing for children under the leadership of Barbara Sanderson. The community singing has been part of a programme at the Botanical Gardens organised by the Council of Arts, and on each occasion an estimated 400 children have participated. As a result of this enterprise, Barbara Sanderson has become a popular children's singer in Albury, and the church has had a great deal of publicity.

A further out-reach through Craft has been commenced by Mrs Glynnis Murray, who is conducting a Craft



Day each Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 2.30 p.m. at the Church's Family Centre. This is proving a very popular venture with 20 ladies being present the first day. They have the opportunity to learn such things as left and right handed crochet, Macrame,

Spinning, Leather work, Toy making and Embroidery. The ladies participate in their chosen craft in small groups. This has provided the opportunity for Church ladies to talk of their Christian faith and Church programmes.

SECRET EXECUTIONS IN RHODESIA

(Salisbury) — "The present policy of executing young men who have taken part in the war is the single most dangerous impediment to reconciliation of white and black", says a recent statement from the general secretary of the Christian Council of Rhodesia, Mr C. D. Watyoka.

The statement goes on: "The death penalty is the ultimate cruel, inhuman and degrading punishment. The fact that executions are now carried out secretly shows that the purpose is not to deter others but simply one of vengeance."

"The death penalty is regarded by the majority of our people as being an instrument of terror and repression. In itself it is an act of violence and tends to provoke further violence: a menacing shadow threatening the future."

The statement comes from "a body of Christian men and women praying and working for a reconciliation of all our people" and concludes by saying that: "If peace is to be enjoyed in this country many fundamental changes must be made but first should be an announcement that the death penalty will no longer be imposed for the carrying of arms of war." — EPS

MIDLAND (W.A.) There are eight new teachers for B.S. and two new classrooms at the Midland Tech. School have been allocated . . . "The Death and Dying" seminar helped many people . . . Blodwyn Tucker has been welcomed into fellowship . . . New deacons elected at annual meeting are W. East, P. Carlin and A. Looyen. New B.S. Supts. are D. Abbot (Midland) and R. Abbott (Helena Valley). A dedication and graduation service was held . . . C.W.F. was host church for Women's World Day of Prayer.

"GET INVOLVED — LEARN AND CARE"

Bishop Graham Delbridge, while expressing thanks for support for this year's Christmas Bowl, has urged all members of all churches not to sit back until next Christmas but to "Get involved" and to "Learn and Care for Christ's sake".

"The Christmas Bowl is the Australian Council of Churches' annual appeal for development projects" said Bishop Delbridge "but suffering and injustice know no Christmas".

Bishop Delbridge called on all caring people to join FORCE TEN, and to be committed to fighting ignorance, poverty, suffering, and injustice throughout all the year.

FORCE TEN is the joint development programme of the Australian Council of Churches and Australian Catholic Relief, and is a means of regular giving

throughout the year for such purposes. "The Near Edge", a development education film has been produced by Force Ten and is about "Three families of the global village".

The real-to-life "stars" of the film were chosen from the results of enquiries made throughout Australia and New Zealand, in a bid to find people who were seeking to find practical answers on the edge of great world problems.

The stories finally chosen comprise an Australian, a New Zealand and a Tanzanian situation.

Members of Force Ten contribute at least \$3 per month; however many, of course, give much more. Each month a different project is chosen to which contributions go.

Those who wish to become members of Force Ten or who wish to borrow "The Near Edge" can do so by contacting their state office of World Christian Action.

WOOLWICH BIBLE COLLEGE



The college exists to equip students to take up various New Testament ministries within the church.

Among the courses offered are the 4 year Diploma, 2 year Christian Service Certificate and 1 year Certificate in Christian Leadership.

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For further information please contact the Principal, Mr G. R. F. Ellis, P.O. Box 56,

Hunters Hill, N.S.W. 2110.

Phone (02) 89 1982.

ABORIGINES MISSIONS 2

By
A. D. PALLETT

Child Care

1. Orphans

The child care centres of the Churches of Christ are always willing to take Aboriginal orphan children into their homes. Although there is a percentage of these children in our homes there is not a large percentage. Aboriginal families will more readily take into their homes orphans who have no parents, than they will children who are neglected by their parents. This would possibly stem from their kinship system where the deceased mother's sister would then become the child's mother and assume full responsibility for him. The facilities provided by the Federal Board for children today cover a wide spectrum of activity involving not only their schooling, but work opportunities as well. Taking the case of the orphan, he or she would be cared for until they are properly settled or married.

2. State Wards, Parent Neglect, etc.

Unfortunately quite a percentage of our children at Norseman, Roelands and Eidsvold would fall into this category. Carnarvon on the other hand has a few State

Wards, but the bulk of their children fit into the category of non-wards. State Wards are children who enter our child care centres directly relating to parental neglect. This is usually always the outcome of a drink problem where parents are unable to properly care for the needs of their children. Their Social Service or wages cheque is cashed and spent on drink and there is not enough left to feed and clothe their children sufficiently.

A close check is kept on the family by a Welfare Officer in conjunction with the doctor or local Community Health sister and only as a last resort are the children taken from the parents and placed in a child care centre. These children quite often have serious respiratory infections and malnutrition. As these children are committed through the Court, the parents have no recourse to get their children out and to make matters worse they quite often fall even lower.

The old system of court committal was much stricter than it is today. It was even difficult for parents to visit their children under the old system. Today, however, these laws have been revised and the

always be remembered by all those who knew him. — C.C.N.

MacKELLAR, Flora Clarice (Lambert) (24.12.1977) Mrs MacKellar was born in 1889 at Glebe. She was involved in City Temple where her father was a foundation member. In 1915 she married Cecil Stuart MacKellar at City Temple. They lived at Rhodes where she resided until going to Ashwood House in 1974. They had four children — Stuart, Alan, Jean, and Patricia. Mr & Mrs MacKellar were foundation members at Epping, from 1923, and her membership remained at Epping until her death. A person of concern and compassion for others, Mrs MacKellar was a foundation member of Dorcas at Epping and served on several committees in the State C.W.F. (Finance, Ashwood House), and wrote to isolated sisters for more than 20 years. She was also very keen in her support of missionary work — particularly the Indian field. Mrs MacKellar was not only involved fully in the Epping Church but was also active in her own community affairs, P. & C. Assoc., and the Methodist Church Unemployment Relief during the depression which operated from her home and many unemployed lads congregated there for support and help. During the war Mrs MacKellar was one of the small group who began the Red Cross First Aid courses and midwifery classes, and the W.V.S. was initiated in Rhodes by her. Her really compassionate nature further expressed itself to any person in need and she 'adopted' an orphan girl who made the MacKellar home her own and was married from there. She was a very fine Christian woman and mother, much loved by her family and friends. — K.F.

parental position can be reviewed at shorter intervals. Children are even allowed out to visit their parents for a day or for holidays if the home situation is favourable. This decision is usually left to the discretion of the Superintendent of the child care centre. It is felt by most that a relatively poor parent is really more advantageous physiologically than no parent at all.

When a genuine effort is made by the parent or parents to set up a home, then the official bodies concerned do all within their power to encourage and help in the restoration programme. The child care centre is paid a subsidy by the State Government. Although this helps to meet the need to some degree, it is certainly not enough for full cover. This is why the support of the churches is very much needed and gratefully received. How grateful our centres are to receive this support and we thank God for each sacrificial effort that is forthcoming from our home churches. How excited the children are at Christmas time when they open their parcels.

3. Non-Wards, schooling, parents on stations, etc.

As mentioned earlier, Carnarvon is not quite the same as Norseman, Roelands and Eidsvold. This is related to the fact that the bulk of their children fall into a different category. This is known as the "Isolated Children's Allowance".

This allowance is paid to the child care centre for children whose parents are involved in other employment which makes them unable to reach towns because of distance. The outlook of these children is vastly different in that they have security in the knowledge that they are only boarding away for schooling and are able to return home for each school vacation.

These children are far more settled in their outlook, i.e. their respect for guardians, higher achievement in schooling, more friendly and outgoing and less introvert. The allowance for these children is paid for by the Commonwealth Government to the child care centre concerned. There is the added advantage of the children knowing their own parents have requested that they be placed for schooling and they react more favourably. This is entirely different from a situation where a white Welfare Officer forces them to attend school.

Under the heading of non-wards there are also other children in our homes who fall into different categories again, i.e.:

4. Ministerial Commitment

Where, because of illness the child's parents are unable to cope or in the case of a one parent family where it is impracticable for the single parent to care fully for the child's well-being, an agreement can be reached and signed between the parents, Welfare and the Superintendent of the child care centre.

In this case, foster rates are applied for from the Community Welfare Department, and when the parents or parent feel they can once again cope and the above authorities agree, the child is immediately placed back with its parents. This type of child caring is more favourable and the parents are urged to help pay some maintenance toward the upkeep of the

● Continued on Page

OBITUARY

GREATBATCH, Sydney.

Sydney Greatbatch was born to George and Fanny Greatbatch at Nubeena in 1888. He was a farmer for most of his life. He went to New Zealand for awhile where he worked in the bush, eventually returning to Nubeena, where he later married.

Syd was involved in many activities in the community, but his greatest and most lasting contribution was to the work of the Lord in the Peninsula area. His church work involved a great amount of time, having been Secretary for 20 years and Supt. of the Bible School. He was a Deacon for many years and was then appointed an Elder. His guidance, advice, assistance and sympathetic understanding, is truly something that has endeared him to all who were associated with him.

For the last 6 years Syd has had pacemakers attached because of a heart condition. Because of failing health, Mr & Mrs Syd. Greatbatch found it necessary to leave the district that had meant so much to them and to live in an Elderly people's home. But it wasn't long before Syd became involved in leading Bible studies at the home.

He was a gifted speaker. Syd's life was a sermon in itself, he lived a life that was pleasing to his Lord, whom he loved so dearly. He was a humble, quiet, trustworthy servant of God, a man of the highest Christian character, a most respected person who gave so willingly of himself at all times. Syd loved, believed and lived by the word of God. His christian example of life will

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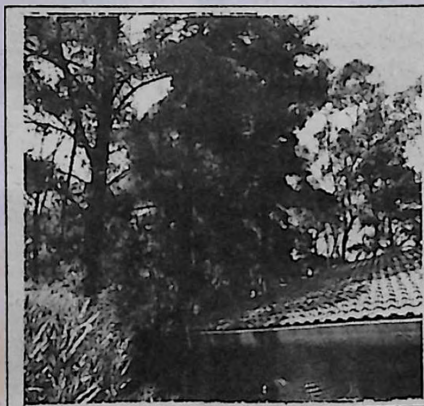
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Tel: 63 9711

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VICTORIA

ADDITIONS (Caulfield, K. Christensen) There have been five baptisms and eight additions by transfer... 68 were present when the pastor and elders presented positive progressive targets for next five years. The outreach aims to the community involve evangelism, youth work, social service, tape ministry, radio, conventions, retire-

ment village, literature etc. Working committees were formed... Jim Tidd improving after heart operation... Mrs Verity Sr. now at our Nursing Home at Murrumbena.
DAY OF PRAYER (Ormond, C. P. Clayden) Ladies supported Women's World Day of Prayer... Cricket Club screened "Paper Tiger" for film night... Mr Clayden attended Pastors' Management Course run by L.I.F.E. ... Ladies held coffee morning for Bible Soc. ... Coffee Shop on Feb. 25 featured the band "Streetlight"... Mrs Barbara Baulch is new B.S. sec. ... Some of our men helped

to transport ladies of Emmaus Rest Home to Croydon church for lunch on March 7... Mr & Mrs Brian Tunk of C.O.B. are meeting with us this year... Scripture Union Teas are being held monthly.

EXTENDED TERM (Oakleigh) The annual meeting was held on March 5 after morning service and lunch. Dr & Mrs Mackenzie have accepted a further three year term with the church from Jan. 1979... Student minister, Robin Harrison, was welcomed with his wife and family. He, with a second student minister, Michael Stevens and his wife, has been assigned to the new work at North Dandenong. A committee comprised of Oakleigh, Dandenong, and North Dandenong representatives has been formed to oversee this work... Harry Neal is home after surgery. Mrs Clencie is a patient at Evancourt Private Hosp. after a period at the Alfred.

CO-OPERATION (Sunshine, F. B. Alcorn) New B.S. Supt. is Peter Holliday. Church negotiating with Sunshine Uniting Church for cooperative B.S. in Glengala area... Y.P. group has been reintroduced led by Elaine West and Geoff Gibbs... Miss Shirley Strong (W.E.C.) spoke on Feb. 19 on her work in Gambia... Gospel services for 1978 have commenced at Glengala... Mrs Moyle very well in Western Gen. Hosp. ... Alan Brooking making good recovery after surgery.

CALL TO HARTWELL (L. Gibb). Peter Galliford has accepted a call to ministry at Hartwell, commencing early 1979... Friendship and Play Groups have made an enthusiastic beginning... C.W.E.F. heard talk and saw slides presented by Miss Maureen Savage of her stay in London in Jubilee Year... John & Eira Clapp, W.A. have been welcomed to Hartwell. John is a first year student at College of the Bible and will assist in the ministry this year.

ASSISTANT MINISTER (Preston/E. Preston, J. Manallack) Four young people were baptized recently... Doug Morffew, C.O.B. student, has commenced as assistant minister... Sen. Sgt. Smithwick of the Breathalyzer Squad was guest speaker at C.W.F. ... "Open Door" is fully operating again.

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NB On Good Friday, March 24th, there will be a special communion service at 10.00 a.m. Mr Webb will speak on "Why Did He Die?"

Ministers — Allan Webb & Bruce Morton.

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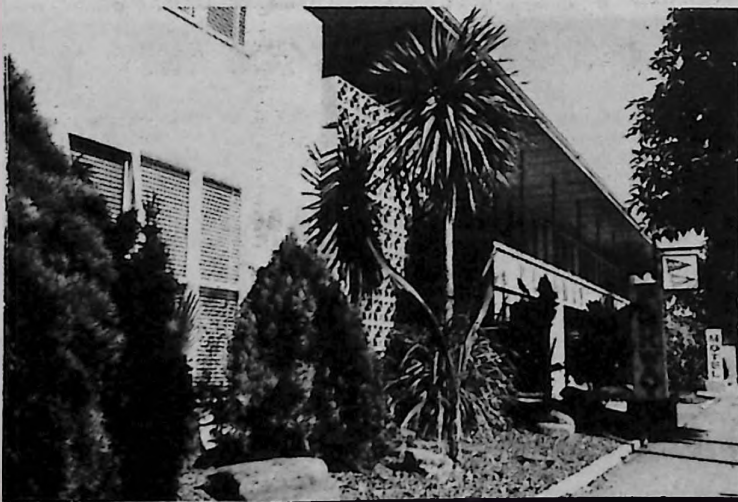
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NORTH FITZROY 105th CHURCH ANNIVERSARY APRIL 9th

Services 11 a.m. B.F. Duff

3 p.m. Dr K. Bowes

5 p.m. Fellowship Tea

5.30 Worship Around The Table —

Speaker I. Corlett

Service will conclude 6.15 p.m.

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GROUP VISIT NEW HEBRIDES

17 days

Departing Brisbane for Vila June 26. Returning July 12
Group will visit work of Conference of Churches of
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and AOBA.

Limited to eighteen people. Costs inclusive all travel and
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If you are interested in this group visit to New Hebrides, please
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Mr R. S. A. McLean, Federal Overseas Mission Board, P.O.
Box 258, Cowandilla. South Aust. 5033.

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\$1.75 for 25 words, plus 7c each additional word

BIRTHS

SANDERS (Davis) To Bernie and Elaine on March 3, 1978, a son, Luke Anthony, a brother for Katy.

ENGAGEMENTS

DELANEY-CARTMEL It is with great pleasure that we announce the engagement of Leanne, eldest daughter of Elaine and Ken Delaney, to Richard, youngest son of Joan and Noel Cartmel, Boronia, Victoria. 4-3-78.

APPROACHING MARRIAGE

MACDONALD-ROEDIGER The marriage of Wendy, daughter of Neil and Pamela Macdonald of Kaniva, Vic., and Kim, son of Ian and Nan Roediger, of Rosebud, will be celebrated at the Church of Christ, Kaniva, on April 1st at 2.30 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM

MADDERN, Kenneth. Ken was called to Higher Service on Jan. 28th, 1974, but he still lives on in lives of each one of us, who loved him so dearly. — Darling son of Leola and Russ, brother of Robin, Suzanne and Kaye.

TURNHAM, Henry Bay. With proud and precious memories of a beloved husband and greatly loved father, and grandfather: who passed into God's care, 28th March, 1977. Our Dad! Everlasting Love.

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★ Coming activities:

★ April 1 Fools' Night (33 Jacka St., Macleod)

★ April 28-30 Weekend at Loch Sport (Lot 1818 Pelican St.)

★ May 27 Yacht-see Night (32 Virginia St., Mt. Waverley)

★ June 24 Half-Way Dinner (East Kew Church) Entertainers plus Keith Horne, A. E. White

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SUNDAY 11 a.m. 7 p.m.
APRIL 9 **DES NELSON**

SUNDAY 11 a.m. ROGER BROWN
APRIL 16 5 p.m. BARBECUE ON CHURCH LAWNS
7 p.m. CHANGING MOODS IN CONCERT

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PHONE GEORGE BEARD 288 3537 (Melb.)

ENGAGED COUPLES ENCOUNTER



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Brotherhood Centre,
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(2-10 p.m.)

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- ★ Communication
- ★ Buying a Home
- ★ Sexual Responsibility

Further information and registration forms from: Dept. of Mission, Education and Development,
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Phone: 662 2377

JAY'S QUIZ

Answers (see page 10). 1. Elymas (Acts 13:8-11). 2. Samson (Judges 16:21-30). 3. Paul (Acts 9:3-9).

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If coming or interested please contact John Urquhart on 350 1645 (Melb.).

GOOD EXPERIENCES TO REMEMBER!
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Church News Editor: G. T. Alves

ISSUE

April 1

April 15

DEADLINE

March 22

April 7

— PERSONAL —

DISCIPLESHIP

● Delwyn Greaves, Glenys Larson, York St., Ballarat, Vic. ● Mrs G. Lawson, Hamilton, Vic. ● Kim Barndon, Frank Fergusson, Scarborough, W.A. ● Shane Bailey, Ken Mudie, West Preston, Vic. ● Doug Butler, Michael Lacey, Cheryl Lacey, Stephen England, Mrs Hogg, Annie Birch, John Schwarzrock, Ross Flerty, Wendy Barr, Maryborough, Qld. ● Linda Grieves, John Warmbrunn, Hans Osswald, Belmont, Vic. ● Mrs Valerie Beahan, Timothy Vincent, Allan Vincent, Ann St., Brisbane, Qld. ● Keith Hammat, Marion, S.A. ● Eric Adamson, Gary Franklin, Karen Smallwood, Kevin Grant, Patricia Grant, Ipswich, Qld. ● Narelle Ayres, Sharon Ayres, Sally-Anne Weir, Phillip Weir, Preston/East Preston, Vic.

MARRIAGES

● Debbie Johns to Doug Jenkins, York St., Ballarat, Vic. ● Robyn Leith to Colin Thompson, Hamilton, Vic.

DEATHS

● William Henry Shipway, Goolwa, S.A. ● Mrs Gladys Walker, Mrs Alf. Mauger, Fullarton, S.A. ● Alex Mitchell, Ormond, Vic.

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MANIFOLD HEIGHTS: P. A. Pitts, 40 Shannon Ave., Geelong West, Vic. 3218. Phone (052) 9 9464.

Secretary

BRIGHTON: C. R. Davis, 37 Clay Street, Moorabbin, Vic. 3189. Phone 95 3408.



LIFE LINE DIRECTOR

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

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

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

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VICTORIA

KANIVA FAREWELL (Kaniva — Serviceton) Farewell social evening held to farewell Judy and Barry Brown and family after ministry over past ten years. They move to Mildura . . . Dr and Mrs Trevor Banks visited . . . Students and teachers conducted morning service for Church School Recognition Day . . . Church Board recorded appreciation for many years of service by Bill Crouch at retirement . . . Mrs Coad (Bordertown Hospital) had 98th birthday . . . Miss Ada Vivian died after 57 years association with church. Hartwell Merrett died. Church expressed sympathy to their families, also to Mrs Bev. Barras and relatives at the passing of Ian Barras, to the Alan Goldsworthys when Harvey died in motor accident and to the family of the late Mrs Gladys Batchelor.

HEALING (Horsham, R. Roberts) Tape recording used on Feb. 19. Testimony of healing of Ray Roberts (no relation to pastor), who was pronounced dead, but a week later returned home

from hospital perfectly well after being a quadriplegic for 2½ yrs . . . Harvest, Thanksgiving on Feb. 26. Proceeds from sale of goods, 115, donated to Bethany Children's Home . . . Les Wills resigned after eight years as Treas. Replaced by N. Fulton . . . Geo. Mackley appointed new B.S. Supt.

PRINCIPAL AT COBURG (K.R. Milne) Dr Keith Bowes was speaker at planning day for Regional Churches . . . Young lady baptised and young man made decision on March 5 . . . Church encouraged by increased attendances and offerings and response to "Drop-In" Centre and Senior Citizens' fellowship . . . Buildings have been repainted and grounds improved. New signs ordered and building improvements considered . . . Two Bible Study groups operating and "Singles" club for Christians to commence.

MAN FROM FAR EAST (Bentleigh, R.W. Marshall) Neil Wescombe, Australian director, Far East Broadcasting Co., guest speaker for weekend of missionary meetings . . . Russell Ritchie, Carnegie, addressed church on behalf of Aborigines' work, with particular reference to Echuca and Cumeruogunga.

LEPROSY BANDAGES (Manifold Heights, P.A. Pitts) 27 girls from Girls' Club rolled 460 bandages for Leprosy Mission at home of Mr & Mrs L. Mountjoy . . . New clothing has been bought by C.W.A.F. for aboriginal boy at Carnarvon Mission . . . Graeme Titter, new associate student minister, welcomed on Feb. 26 . . . C.W.F. joined sister fellowships for ½ yearly combined missionary meeting at Norlane church. Julie Reid was speaker . . . "New Look" South Western District Conf. held at Belmont, March 5.

TRANSLATORS (Parkdale, R. E. Hilbrich). Dianne Cooper and Margaret Manning of Wycliffe Bible Translators addressed church; Margaret also spoke to Good Companions, showing slides . . . A.B.M. held after basket lunch . . . Morning worship to commence at 10.15 . . . Gavin Woodward completed B.E. (Mining), Melb. Univ., leaves in April to take up position in U.S.A. . . . Youth club for teenagers meets Friday nights.

COMMITMENT (Bayswater, R. B. Waldrom, D. Armstrong). Following the decision to seek a full-time minister in 1979, each person made a commitment to increase giving by 50% . . . A group of 12 people are undergoing a pilot scheme to establish cell groups . . . Church program for 1978 launched at family tea . . . Lance Fisher spoke of Aborigines Mission Work . . . Church and auxiliary leaders dedication service combined with Uniting Church . . . A further \$50 was raised for tennis club . . . V. Davis and A. Bulleen leaders of C.W.F. . . . Club leaders are undergoing further canoe training . . . Right Ons exceed 40 in membership.

SWIMMING POOL (East Keilor, Mrs C. Johnson). Three Y. P. baptised recently at services conducted round a home swimming pool. Jim Alves recovering after heart attack. Garnet Johnson, husband of minister, working in Brisbane for several months . . . Minister led Teens Camp at Hall's Gap. Adventure Club held two camps for boys . . . Prayer breakfast preceded commencement of Family Worship services . . . Luncheon held for Faith Smith, who has entered C.O.B. . . . Weekly after-school Adventure Time commenced for primary school children . . . Cell Group in Theology meets weekly to study "Christian Belief."

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

YOUTH DIRECTOR (Subiaco). Part-time Youth Director, John Spencer (P.B.I.) appointed . . . S.S. resumed and C.W.F. dedication service with Alan Morris, guest speaker. At Valedictory Service for Miss Jenny Marshall, J. Bolton, Chairman, was guest speaker. Presentation made to Jenny by J. Gordon.

POOL BAPTISMS (Scarborough). Five adults and two Y.P. baptized during a service held at swimming pool. Two further baptisms have taken place and five children have made decisions . . . Julie Hutchinson elected second vice-president of C.W.F. . . . Club '78 held family picnic . . . Kevin Caulton, new director of D.C.E. in W.A., speaker . . . Gateway Youth and Family Centre programmes included.



QUEENSLAND

HOUSE PARENTS (Maryborough, Nigel Merrick). Church sorry to lose after six years' service, House Parents at Gilson House, Ross and June Merlow, who leave for Lady Small Haven, Benowa. Mr and Mrs Kev. Hardy and Mr and Mrs Med

ABORIGINES

CHILD CARE (from P.14)

child whilst he or she is at the centre. This develops a sense of responsibility in the parents and keeps the child/parent relationship more meaningful. Quite often parents only pay a mere pittance but at least they are helping and this in itself engenders responsibility.

5. Secondary Grant Children

These children come from tribal areas generally, such as the Warburton Ranges, Cosmo Newbery, Laverton, Cundeleele, etc. in W.A. Norseman has some of these children at the present time. Owing to the fact that there is no Secondary or Project Education within the framework of the tribal areas mentioned, there has been, and still is, a need to bring these young people out for educational opportunities.

There have been many problems associated with this scheme in the past owing to: (a) homesickness; (b) teaching staff who have no orientation into the actions and reactions of the tribal people. Communication has been very difficult as these children have a very limited knowledge of English.

It would be difficult to evaluate the success or failure rate of these children. Especially as it is often seen only from a European's point of view. There is no doubt that, looking at the scheme through a European's eyes, there has been some measure of success, small even as this may be. From the tribal Aborigine's point of view, they may see the scheme as a disrupting influence upon their way of life. This is something we need to watch closely and continually review from time to time.

Part 3: Christian Centre Contact

Schmid have been relieving until the new parents, John and Del Lacey, take over in March . . . Reg and Sue Charles have joined in the ministry at Maryborough. . . . A member wanted to give two years' full-time service to the church but later felt God would have him continue working and giving of his earnings to engage someone else has guaranteed \$6000 per year for two years for Reg's salary . . . Others have pledged to give also and a family has offered to pay their rent . . . \$297 has been sent to C.O.C.O.A. as a result of the Christmas Day appeal.

TEN YEAR PLAN (Ipswich, Barry Rice) A ten year plan for development of Bundamba and Redbank Plains properties presented to annual meeting . . . Church to look into possibility of our own campsite . . . Terry Williams has entered Kenmore Christian College . . . No. 2 Section Boys' Brigade commenced at Bundamba with Ian Neumann as captain. Owan Swan replaced him as captain at East Ipswich . . . Lloyd and Jenny Carter farewelled prior to commencing ministry at Kingaroy . . . Chris O'Dempsey commenced as associate minister . . . Sympathy expressed to family of Fred Hinrichsen and Edward Neumann.

LOYALTY LUNCH (Albion, C.A. Smith) Church held Loyalty Luncheon on Feb. 19, after which minister and elders explained overall church plan for 1978, a stewardship year — a year of consolidation to increase effectiveness in areas of education, finance and growth . . . Thanksgiving service held Feb. 26 to give thanks for recovery of Jim Surtees after medical treatment in Cook Islands and for safe return of Jim and his wife, Robyn . . . Church joined Kedron church to watch presentation of plays by the Covenant Players of Adelaide.



NEW SOUTH WALES

FAMILY CAMP (Inverell, R. Powell). Family camp at Scout Centre at Copeton Dam. March 3 — 5, had Owen Wainwright as special speaker. Gladys Wainwright, Ross Wissman and Mark Powlesland also shared in weekend fellowship. Films shown were "God Owns My Business" and "Master Controlled". Additional members journeyed out on Sunday to share in morning service and picnic lunch. All messages were recorded on tape.

FOR BEXLEY NORTH Having farewelled Peter Pitts after four years of ministry, Fred Davis, a 1977 exit student from Kenmore Christian College, commences a new ministry here on April 2, following an induction service on March 29.



VICTORIA

HARVEST FESTIVAL (Hamilton, Ron White). Thank offering of \$178 sent to C.O.C.O.A. and Festival goods given to Children's Protection Society, Hamilton . . . T. Davey to retire as B.S. Supt., after many years . . . Mr and Mrs Russell

Wesley have accepted call to ministry with church early 1979 . . . Ken Danes and Roy Dunn recent speakers . . . Minister speaker at Werribee/Hoppers Crossing Anniversary services . . . Renovations to study completed . . . Six attended Portland C. of C. leaders' and teachers training session with new Field Officer, Miss Julie Reid . . . Members joining with South Western Dist. churches family camp at Narrawang.

SECOND MINISTER (York St., Ballarat, D. Gurney, L. Martin). Len Martin inducted. G. Scambler was Conf. Representative . . . Men's Home Bible study groups attracting interest . . . York Street and Peel Street combined for holiday period . . . D. Gurney led Salt Co. Camp at Hall's Gap . . . Evening services continue to attract large numbers in Teen/Twenty age group . . . Two young women baptised recently . . . Womens' Prayer Groups combined for luncheon. Tapes by Millie Dienert were played . . . Church family picnic and barbeque held at Lake Wendouree.

MINISTRY (Belmont, W. Harford). Don Thomas has requested release from acting as assistant minister to give time to inauguration of Geelong Lifeline . . . Ian Clark, C.O.B. student, appointed to assist in 1978 . . . Barry Ryall to take up full-time ministry early 1980 . . . Mrs Rowden recently celebrated 91st birthday and Mr and Mrs Dobson their Silver Wedding Anniversary . . . Two morning services held.

YEAR OF EVANGELISM (Swanston St., Melb., A. L. Webb, B. Morton). Our Year of Evangelism was formally launched on Feb. 26 in two most memorable services of commitment and dedication. At the conclusion some 140 members personally committed themselves to "pray daily and to support in every possible way this special emphasis on evangelism throughout 1978" . . . recent morning services have averaged 300 communicants . . . five new members were recently welcomed into fellowship following baptism. . . . First of our Guest Services for 1978 included interview, testimony, music and message . . . 20 of our students have enrolled in T.E.E. (theological education by extension courses) through Woolwich College . . . Church is preparing for week of special meetings, April 9-16, — Bible Prophecy with Max Hall from Newcastle.



TASMANIA

TAS. PLAY (Nubeena, C. Neville). Children presented play at S.S. Anniversary . . . At Girl Guides and Brownies breakup a special good conduct award, service to guiding, was presented to Mrs Alison Shoobridge . . . Richard Dangerfield showed slides on mission work in Thailand and Bruce Rattray gave illustrated talk on work at Calamanton near Borneo . . . Church saddened by the death in Hobart of former elder, Syd Greathbatch, aged 89 years.

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**SOUTH
AUSTRALIA**

MINISTERS AT SCHOOL (Elizabeth, Miss N. Hall, D. Tandy). Both ministers attended Summer School for Successful Ministry at Cheltenham, Melbourne . . . Tim Hanna, home from College of the Bible, ministered at new church at Salisbury East during January. Steve and Kay Ashley have settled in at College of the Bible, and Rick Lewis has entered Woolwich College, Sydney. Church now has four students in Bible Colleges.

INDUCTION (Strathalbyn, Herb Prime). Herb Prime was inducted into ministry of Strathalbyn, Milang and Point Sturt circuit by Ralph Oke, former minister . . . Margaret Pollard, State Pres., Womens Conf., spoke Ladies Aux. on Aboriginal work . . . Graham Butler, Roelands Mission, showed slides . . . Church appreciated ministry of John Elliott and Peter Broadbent of B.C.S.A. over past year . . . W.W.D. Prayer held in evening.

ADVENTURE TIME (Fullarton, J.A. Luff) Church sponsored "Adventure Time" with Alan Bailey at Glen Osmond school and gained five new S.S. scholars . . . Visitors well received after letter box drop within ¼ mile radius of church . . . \$102 given for Burgar family, P.N.G., & cyclone victims in India in retiring offering at Harvest Thanksgiving service . . . Mrs Gert Brown, treasurer of C.W.F. for 15 years, did not seek re-election . . . Project for 1977: \$388.58 for Bible Society and Missionary Aviation Fellowship . . . 20 scripture texts have been placed in S.A. rail cars. Leaflets have been placed in 14 motels in district giving details of church services.

CHRISTIES BEACH PROGRESS (M. Munyard) On March 5 a dedication of the Girls' Brigade was attended by 200 . . . Five Bible study groups are operating each week, involving 40-50. A Friday morning come at your own time prayer meeting to support the minister and ministry has 15 participating . . . Without canvassing the B.S. has doubled numerically . . . There have been several rededications and enquiries about the Christian way of life.

80th BIRTHDAY (Marion, R. Clymer, A. G. Mathieson) C. W. F. provided a cake for the 80th birthday of Mrs Clymer Sen. . . Lyn Fitzgerald spoke to church on his recent visit to Bombay and Madang mission fields . . . Dean Drilling, with his wife and daughter, entertained with their recorders . . . C. G. Dredge, administrator of Rest Homes, was speaker, and Julie Brittain, violin soloiste, at recent service.

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JAN. 14-17, 1979



VICTORIA

MOVE TO WARRAGUL (R. Pritchard). Several young couples have moved to Warragul and are worshipping with church . . . Maurie Conry of L.I.F.E. was guest speaker on Feb. 12 . . . Dedication of teachers of Warragul Church School was held on 19th. Members of school staff and the Uniting Church were present . . . The Church is open each Wednesday for one month during the hours of 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. for prayer. Those attending are given thought starters and prayer points . . . Mrs Allan Pedersen is home after surgery at West Gippsland Hosp.

NEW FOR NORLANE On Feb. 12 Robert Goldfinch was inducted into the ministry here by Dr Trevor Banks, Conf. Pres. . . On the 11th, a welcome BBQ took place at the home of Ruth and Gary Kuiper, where many church folk met Robert and Jan . . . On Feb. 19 we farewelled Norma Chivers and Jason, as Norma entered Bible College.

GUEST FOR BREAKFAST (Dawson St. Ballarat, G. Chapman, G. Rowcroft) Rowland Croucher was guest speaker at men's breakfast and board meeting on Feb. 18 and 19 . . . Youth leaders attended weekend camp with Ron Kallmier, Director of Christian Educ. in N.S.W. . . 12 small groups started again in homes with enthusiasm . . . C.W.F. organised a church organ recital . . . Church family picnic held at Log Cabin Lodge near Creswick . . . Members were saddened at the death of Mrs Kaye Constable. She was a faithful member for over 40 years . . . Mrs Myrtle Williams has entered "Kellaston" Home for the Blind. . . Max Birch is S.S. Supt. and Alma Hamilton is Sec.

TRAVELLING PAINTERS (Blackburn, Keating/Burnham) Painting Group journeyed to Echuca for camp and assisted at Echuca Church morning service . . . A.W.F. "Sail Away" afternoon had Mrs Freda Morris, Pres. of C.W.F. Conf. as guest speaker . . . Antiques and Antics Evening was opening program of E.W.F. . . Ted and Beryl O'Bryan celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary. A "Golden Circle" parcel was presented by the Senior Citizens' Club . . . Dave Watt and Ron Johnson have been nominated President and Vice-President of the Inter-Church Men's Fellowship . . . C.Y.F. Camp held at Cowes.

OUTREACH (Chelsea, T. Hanna, D. Wissman). "Outreach Through Friendship" theme for the year's special program of activities; . . . Miss Denise Wissmann has been welcomed as second student minister . . . Good Companions' Girls Club has two new leaders . . . Explorer Boys commenced year with 35 boys and leaders . . . Photographs of fellowship activities will go into publicity brochure for community distribution . . . Opportunity Shop raised over \$100 in first month's trading for 1978.

SWAN HILL OUTING (J. A. Caporn) Over 60 children and parents attended family barbecue and outing on the property of Warwick and Joan Dahl . . . Dr Trevor Banks, Conf. Pres., was recent speaker . . . Four young people's groups now operating . . . During first year of John Caporn's ministry, 14 were received into fellowship.

FAREWELL (Gardiner, A. W. Candy). Farewell function held for Mr and Mrs Dewberry . . . Three Y.P. from S.S. and three members of Friendship club baptised . . . Claude Candy Interim Minister until Mr Taylor commences in April . . . C.Y.F. rolled bandages for Leprosy Mission . . . Mrs L. Holmes now in the C. of C. Nursing Home.

N.Z. DECISION (West Preston, B.F. Goldsteen). Shane Bailey and Ken Mudie decided for Christ on recent N.Z. Tour. Over 100 Y.P. witnessed their baptism by Bruce Black of Warrnambool. A sound-colour film of the tour made by leader Malcolm Wilton was screened . . . Regular Sunday Youth Growth breakfast, led by elders . . . Patsy and Ian Cook have moved to Sydney to work at W.E.C. headquarters . . . Philip and Margaret Webber welcomed as Philip begins student ministry . . . Sympathy is expressed to Ethel Mudie and Shane Bailey in bereavements.

QUESTING from Page 241

a mention is in respect to its abuse and divisiveness. (This view regards Acts 2 and Acts 10 as describing those who received the Spirit as speaking other "languages. Acts 2 was the initial outpouring of the Spirit in the presence of Jews homing back to Jerusalem from many lands and speaking many languages. Acts 10 refers to the great crossing of the boundary between the Jews and the Gentiles.)

We cannot pretend that speaking with tongues had no place in the ministry of the Spirit. Paul even said that he would be pleased if all of the Corinthians used "tongues of ecstasy". But he also said that, although he practised the "gift" himself, in the congregation he would rather speak five words that others could understand than ten thousand in the words of ecstatic utterance.

Speaking with tongues is there in the Bible, but it is surrounded with flashing red lights and danger signals.

Next issue: The case against speaking in tongues

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QUESTING

WITH

A. E. WHITE



The charismatic movement — what it is and what does it mean for Churches of Christ?

Part 3: The gifts: permanent or temporary?

In one sense we do not receive "gifts of the Spirit," we receive the Spirit. The gift of the Spirit is a permanent, continuing gift to all Christians throughout their whole lives, and in every age. The "gifts of the Spirit" are the demonstrations of the presence of the Spirit as he equips us to walk with him in the world.

The majority of Pentecostal and charismatic leaders teach that there is a difference between the work of the Holy Spirit in the new birth of the Christian and the filling of the Spirit. For such leaders these are two separate events. They may come together, as they did for Paul and others (see Acts 10) but usually they are separated.

Most others, including Churches of Christ, have taught that there is no distinction between them. The believer is born of the Spirit and at once begins to receive the fullness of the spirit. The important word is "begins".

If the Spirit chose to equip the early church in special ways (with "special gifts") that was his right. If he chooses to do the same today, that again is his right. We cannot limit the Spirit to our understanding of the Bible record. As Jesus said, "The wind blows where it wills" and the Spirit is like that. He blows where he wills, and how he wills.

No can say that the present renewal

movement is not the work of the Holy Spirit. Nor are we in a position to say that everything about it is of the Spirit. But we are churlish if we don't rejoice in the Lord that hundreds, maybe thousands, in our land have found a deeper experience of Christ through the charismatic ministry.

What, then, is the problem? I guess it is the same problem they had in the old church at Corinth. The gifts of the Spirit (which were the Spirit himself) should have been uniting the church, but they were dividing it.

Paul had to tell that church that there were no leaders in the church more important than others — Christ alone was Lord. And there were no gifts more important than other gifts — they all came from the same Spirit. The gifts of teaching and administration were just as much gifts as were evangelism and prophecy, and from the same Spirit who gave the more spectacular demonstrations of healing and speaking with tongues.

It is not my intention to analyse the various "gifts of the Spirit" as set out in Ephesians 4, 1. Corinthians 12, Romans 12, and 1 Peter 4. This task was undertaken by Gordon Moyes in the "Australian Christian" last year in his "Word Talk" series on The Gifts of the Spirit. I know of many who keep these articles for reference and I commend this practice. Mr Moyes summarised the various gifts in the "A.C." for Nov. 12, 1977.

I am particularly concerned with two of the gifts, speaking in tongues and healing. And it is mainly the former which troubles people, although it is way down on the list of priorities in the N.T. Many feel that it can, and does, divide the church.

Strangely enough, if we believe that the speaking in tongues referred to in Acts 2 and Acts 10 is different from the ecstatic utterance referred to in 1 Cor. 12, then the only time that gift of tongues gets

● Continued on Page 23

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

THE LAST WORD...

Don't forget that a real prophet is critical of the generally accepted. False prophets are critical, too, but generally the object of their criticism if the real prophet. False prophets never openly criticize the establishment. They don't love it enough for that. Jesus was a real prophet who was not afraid to speak out against the establishment of his day.

— Alfred McBride

Secrets

Intimate secrets of this life of mine

To tell my friends I do decline
But to the stranger on bus or train

I do in great detail explain.

Lakenan Barnes

★ ★ ★

Keep your face to sunshine and you cannot see the shadow.

★ ★ ★

To be immortal a speech doesn't have to be eternal.

★ ★ ★

Young son: "It says here in the paper that Mr Smith went to the convention as a 'delegate-at-large.' What does that mean?"

Father: "It means he didn't take Mrs Smith."

★ ★ ★

A man who was a golfing bug married a woman whose hobby was attending auction sales.

One night the husband, in dreamland and about to drive from the first tee, shouted aloud, "Fore!"

The wife moved excitedly and hollered, "Four twenty-five!"

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