



# THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

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FEDERAL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

### CHRISTIANS IN CANBERRA

The opening of the 1978 Parliamentary year was celebrated with a service in St Paul's Church, Manuka, A.C.T., arranged by the Federal Parliamentary Christian Fellowship. It was the tenth such annual service of worship.

The service was attended by the Governor-General and Lady Cowen, the Prime Minister and Mrs Fraser, the Deputy Prime Minister and Mrs Anthony, and representatives of both the Government and the Opposition.

Senator Gordon S. Davidson, the President of the Fellowship made an opening statement and the sermon was delivered by the Rev Principal T. Inglis, B.A., B.D. of Adelaide.

Among the 400 present there were also representatives from various Departments, the Diplomatic Community, and Canberra citizens. The Governor-General read the Old Testament lesson.

### STAN NEIGHBOUR DIES

Stan Neighbour, a minister who gave distinguished service to our churches in Australia, died in Adelaide last week.

Mr Neighbour, who trained for the ministry at the College of the Bible, was President of Conference in both Victoria and South Australia.

An obituary notice will appear in a later issue.

## BIBLE FOR GOVERNOR-GENERAL



The President of the United Bible Societies, Dr Oswald Hoffmann, presented the Governor-General, Sir Zelman Cowen, with Australia's 250,000th copy of the Good News Bible.

The specially inscribed copy of the world bestseller was presented to Sir Zelman Cowen in a short ceremony at Government House, Canberra.

Dr Hoffmann is internationally-known as the speaker on the Lutheran Hour, probably the most widely heard sermon on radio. The program is broadcast on

more than 1200 stations around the world.

The Good News Bible was published in December 1976 and sales in Australia reached the quarter million mark in about 15 months. At the beginning of 1977 Queen Elizabeth II was presented with the one millionth copy circulated in the United Kingdom and later in the year President Carter of the United States was presented with a copy commemorating world sales of five million. Today, world circulation stands at more than six million.

Summer school of

**"Present Shock!"**

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

## C.W.F. CONCERT HELPS CHILDREN

Every year the Victoria-Tasmania Christian Women's Fellowship holds a "March Effort" and has supported many goods with finance and promotion.

This year on March 15, the "Effort" took the form of a celebrity concert at the Melbourne Town Hall.

The top flight artists: Suzanne Steele, stage and concert musical star; Kel McMillan, saxophonist; Philip Gould from Young Talent Time; Martin Fields, pianist from Channel 9; and the Kelmier Orchestra — all gave their services free of charge.

During the evening Freda Morris, C.W.F. President, presented a cheque for \$3228 to Ron Brooker, treasurer of the Save the Children Fund.

# CHRISTIAN WRITERS MEET

An all-day seminar on Christian writing was held at Lincoln College, North Adelaide, on Feb. 25.

This workshop, organised by the Australian Religious Press Association, was attended by 35 editors of religious publications, and double that number of writers or 'would-be' writers, all armed with note-book and pencil.

Dr Sherman Wirt of the U.S.A., author of several books, and former editor of 'Decision' magazine, (circulation 4,000,000), was guest speaker. Dr Wirt said that to write effectively, the Christian writer should aim for clarity, smoothness, suspense (saving your best marbles till last), and shock. Writers should become craftsmen with words, learning to manipulate the English language with originality and skill.

To break into print, a writer must have motivation, discipline, contacts and tools (typewriter, reference books etc.) Dr Wirt stressed the importance of studying

## EVANGELISM IN SOUTH INDIA

Three gospel teams supported by Christian Evangelizers Association (Aust.) have reported that there were 181 baptisms in South India in Dec., 1977.

John Samuel, Secretary for the Assoc. of Churches of Christ in Sth. India said that there was a big increase in conversions in Oct. and Nov. last year. "These two months were rainy seasons. Only the persons who were inspired by God would come for the out-preaching. But we went each day in every home and preached more and more. So many more families accepted Christ."

C. John, leader of one of the teams wrote about their work in December, "There is no road to Arambakkam so we went by small boat for ten miles. This is a new experience for our team and we are happy about the Lord's guidance. Villagers are mostly engaged in fishing. So the fishermen are in a very backward area. This village is like an island. The people didn't know about Christ Jesus before we sang and preached the gospel of our Lord. And we also met each and every soul and told them about God. Please pray for these poor souls to come to Christ."

### CAMPERS AND PAINTERS

(Blackburn, T. Keating/P. Burnham) C.Y.F. campers took part in the evening service . . . Painting Group visited Echuca and scenes of the Murray River were displayed after the evening service . . . Cell Group Leadership study groups led by Ted Keating . . . Miss Julie Read visited S.S. Primary Dept. and participated in a Teacher Dedication Service . . . Evening service featured Roper Bell Ringers family group. Mr Roper was a bell ringer at St Paul's for many years.

the content of a magazine before submitting a manuscript to the editor, thus testing its suitability.

Warwick Olson, director of Pilgrim International, presented practical ideas for layout of parish magazines etc., and 'The Church's Role in Communication' was taken up by the Rev. Ivor Bailey, Adelaide Central Mission.

Mr Bailey suggested that the 'hard sell' approach in Christian television (e.g. Rex Humbarnd programme), is not an effective way means of reaching non-Christian viewers. A more effective is the use of C.T.A. 'spots', which are designed to shock, startle and stimulate, then, hopefully, implant a thought which may grow into a conviction! The story of an ex-junkie's conversion to Christ and victory over the 'habit', was cited by Mr Bailey as another powerful form of communication the Christian message to the world.

In addition to learning from pen-craftsmen there was the stimulation of mixing and sharing with fellow-writers. In Dr Wirt's recently published book 'You Can Tell the World', he writes:-

"keep looking for new ideas. The experience you have tomorrow may be the catalyst that will get you into print in a big way.

God's mercies are new every morning — and so are our writing opportunities'. It is obvious Dr Wirt does not fail to practise what he has preached. He has our respect for his resourcefulness and ingenuity.

— Helen Oatley

## NATIONAL CHRISTIAN BROADCASTERS FORMED

Twenty representatives, from six States, met at the studios of the Christian Broadcasting Association 18-19 and formed the National Christian Broadcasters.

The only clergyman present, Rev. Vernon Turner, founder of C.B.A., commented that, "This could be a second chance for religious broadcasts in this country." At a time when many religious broadcasts are being dropped or extremely shortened, this uniting effort could bring far-reaching results.

Mr Ben Whitnall, Station Manager of C.B.A. and a former commercial radio station manager, was elected President and former Queensland university lecturer, Merv Dunkin, Secretary of the association.

The National Christian Broadcasters will assist groups in each State, to set up high powered broadcasting stations, operating "quality of life" formats and professional caring services. Mr Whitnall emphasised that the proposed stations will be based on community service, with a Christian emphasis. — Ramon Williams.

## ABC RADIO

"Encounter" April 2, 8 a.m. "Jesus of Nazareth". A programme based on the new film which premiered in Melbourne and Brisbane at Easter.

## INNER SPRINGS

### THE LOOK OF LOVE



"And the Lord turned and looked on Peter". Is there anywhere in the Bible a sentence so fraught with significance? Not a word was spoken, just those steady eyes looking him through until it pierced the heart of Peter as no open condemnation could. And the shameful thing he had done rose up before him to send him out in despair and utter aloneness and "he wept bitterly". "Ah! Peter, how could you", we cry. But are we really any different? Isn't there a similar picture hanging in the gallery of our past. Might there not be others in the tomorrows to come. It is very easy to voice a denial when our comfortable way is threatened and it is often those of His own household who are most guilty. We may answer with all the assurance of Peter and fail just as surely.

Beware of Peter's word  
Nor confidently say

'I never will deny Thee, Lord'  
But "grant I never may".

Mercifully the story does not end there, in defeat and despairs, but in glorious triumph. For that look would again be turned full on Peter. Of that moment William Barclay, in the Master's Men writes, "No man will ever know what happened when Peter met his Risen Lord, but Peter must have found 'the forgiveness beyond reason which can meet the sin beyond excuse.'" And he arose, and walked a new man, with a new spirit in his heart. Thus does the Lord look on you and I and there is no hardness in that look. Only a tender pleading and a question.

As three times to His saint He saith,  
He saith to me, He saith to thee,  
Breathing His grace — conferring breath:  
Lovest thou Me?

Prayer: Our Father, in the gift of your Son, you have shown us what love is. In the death of your Son you have shown us what love does. Enable us by your Spirit to act lovingly to all with whom we have to do, and so manifest the love of Christ.

Amen  
John 21:1-17

Florence Rosier

# VOTE FOR UNION FAILS

The Churches of Christ in Great Britain recently voted on whether or not to join the United Reformed Church. Although about 70% voted for union, this majority was not large enough. To enter into union two-thirds of the churches were required to have a 75% majority in favour.

The following comments on the outcome of the voting and background information were written by Kenneth Slack and printed in the Church Times (Eng.).

Churches of Christ in Britain have known that shrinking that has attended most churches in these past decades, but in possibly a more acute form. The mobility of the population today militates against the maintenance of any denomination with a very partial spread across the country. The present communicant membership is only around 5,000.

But the role of the Churches of Christ ecumenically in these islands is not to be measured by such tiny numbers. Older ecumenists will recall the leadership given to the Faith and Order movement on both British and world levels by the greatly beloved William Robinson of Overdale College. Only a few weeks ago the present general secretary of the Churches of Christ, Philip Morgan, was chosen by the British Council of Churches to succeed the Bishop of Manchester as chairman of the Division of Ecumenical Affairs. Indeed, this small group of churches has been phenomenally fortunate in the quality of its leadership for which many larger churches could possess a godly envy.

The problems attending a very small Church were such that it was understandable that the very perceptive leadership saw that the greater hope of contributing the particular insights of the Churches of Christ to the Coming Great Church must reside in a worthy union with an existing Church rather than with an attempt to preserve denominational identity. Accordingly, throughout the closing years of the negotiations which led to the formation of the United Reformed Church, observers were present from the Churches of Christ.

On the very day of union the challenge came from the Churches of Christ to give reality to the declaration made by the URC that its union was open-ended. The URC was asked to enter conversations to plan union between the newly formed Church and the Churches of Christ. The challenge was accepted. Since 1972 a joint committee has met under the chairmanship of Dr. Norman Goodall and has prepared a scheme of union for formal decision by the two denominations.

The leading features of the scheme were two. One was an attempt to hold together in one Church two understandings of Christian initiation by infant baptism and by believer's baptism — and to do this not by "smudging" but with theological integrity. The other was to move towards two forms of ministry, both fully ministries of Word and Sacraments. One would be stipendiary and the other auxiliary.

The sad result of the voting of the local congregations of the Churches of Christ is a clear majority, but not that great one which had had to be laid down as requisite for so large a change as organic union. Two-thirds of the churches were required by a seventy-five per cent majority of those present and voting to opt for union. And those churches had to represent seventy-five per cent of the

denominational membership. I understand that almost sixty per cent of the churches achieved the seventy-five per cent majority, representing virtually seventy per cent of the membership. It is a very poignant result for the leaders, and indeed for the considerable majority.

It is possibly vain to try to interpret the inability to gain the necessary very demanding majority. We may guess that some of the factors were the feeling of being overwhelmed and lost in a far larger Church, the sense of danger of the total loss of the particular witness of the Churches of Christ, and the reluctance of many Christians of all Churches to face radical change.

It is more important to pray that this fine group of Christians and their notable leaders will see the way forward from a situation that, humanly speaking, is so disappointing. Having shared across five years in the conversations, I would testify that there are mustard-seeds of vital truth in that small fellowship.

## QLD. AND EDUCATION

The Festival of Light National Co-ordinator, Rev. Fred Nile, has commended the Queensland Government for responsible and firm action over the use of destructive and permissive educational materials in State primary schools such as M.A.C.O.S. (Man, A Course of Study — a values course).

The grounds for the Queensland action is fully supported by evidence from the U.S.A. where federal funding for the M.A.C.O.S. course has been stopped by the U.S.A. Government. The course is rapidly being withdrawn from U.S.A. schools and is only being used in less than 2% of U.S.A. primary schools.

Mrs Roslea Midgley, the Convener of the F.O.L. Educational Working Group says, "The M.A.C.O.S. course should be withdrawn from the Australian primary schools and any State or Federal government financing cancelled for the following reasons:

1. The M.A.C.O.S. Course is no longer approved or financed by the U.S.A. Federal Government.

2. It has been rejected even by U.S.A. schools because of its secular-humanist brainwashing and expert manipulation of children's minds.

3. The U.S.A. publishers are seeking to promote these discarded Courses for financial reasons in Australian primary schools.

4. The Course is unsuitable for cultural reasons in Australia.

5. Educational experts such as Dr Rupert Goodman, University of Queensland have condemned the M.A.C.O.S. Course.

6. The M.A.C.O.S. Course largely draws on the harsh, violent experiences of an almost extinct pagan eskimo tribe which has no relevance to our Australian society.

7. Australian parents in Queensland have a right to ensure that courses such as M.A.C.O.S. should not be forced on their children.

The Queensland Government has acted because of the deep concern of Australian parents.

Mr Nile said "We call on the Federal Government; the Hon J. Carrick, Minister for Education, and the N.S.W. Government and other State Governments to suspend the use of this course in Australia and conduct a public inquiry into its suitability for Australian Schools and whether any individuals are receiving secret commissions for the sale, purchase or use of the M.A.C.O.S. Course.

**TESTIMONY** (Mandurah, R. Sack). Mr Wolf, Scotland, and Roeland young people with Maurice Rule gave testimony in song . . . A tea on March 16 in cottage followed by planning meeting. Commencing on April 2 for a three month period there will be a special young adult class. B.S. 9.30 to 10 a.m. church 10.15 to 11 a.m. . . . C.W.F. has Rita Sambell as leader. Sed. is Lyn Robinson . . . Church happy to have Mrs Sack at weekends . . . Matron Helen Maiden gave talk on Christian Nurses . . . Special meetings held prior to Easter. On Good Friday there was witness walk to each church with communion at 9.30 in Church of England . . . C.E. recommenced under A. MacKay and S. Caddy.

**CAMP** (Devonport, G. Risson). Highlight of church activity was "Family Camp" at Turner's Beach, March 11, 12 . . . The Annual Business Meeting was held during camp week-end . . . On March 19 first Brigade Parade for 1978 was held. Parents of Girls and Boys' Brigade Members saw film "A Step Over the Edge" . . . Les Walshe has recently returned home, but continues under medical treatment.

**WELCOME** (Pt. Lincoln, John Brear). A barbeque, followed by get-together in chapel was held to welcome new minister, John Brear . . . At A.G.M. elders elected were R. Young, S. Grant and F. Reid, Sec. is Neill Prosser and Treas. is Mrs M. Lanthoise . . . Two women attended Longwood Camp . . . S.S. picnic and men's camp held at Redcliffe.

## PUSH FOR NEW HEBRIDES ELECTIONS

The Australian Council of Churches has called on the Australia, British and French Governments "to take every initiative possible" to see the present undemocratic Assembly in the New Hebrides is dissolved new elections are held under United Nations supervision.

The ACC Executive Committee, meeting in Sydney, recognized that "the present Assembly established by the British and French Governments in the New Hebrides does not have the electoral support of the majority of New Hebrideans". According to the ACC the present Assembly is "divisive and should not frame the future constitution and structures of the Government of the New Hebrides".

Any new elections should allow 18 year olds the vote as agreed to by all parties and restrict voting to New Hebrideans.

The Rev. Dick Wootton, joint Secretary

on Human Rights for the Uniting Church and the Australian Council of Churches, has been in regular contact with the Vanuaaka party in the New Hebrides. Vanuaaka is the New Hebrides independence party led by Anglican Priest, the Rev. Walter Lini. Mr Wotton also recently accompanied Fred Timakata, Vice President of Vanuaaka and Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of the New Hebrides in a visit to Foreign Affairs Minister Peacock to seek Australian Government support for the Actions outlined above.

The ACC resolution is being forwarded to the British Council of Churches and the French Roman Catholic Church and Protestant Association.

The Council also called "in Australian churches to support the New Hebridean Christians by prayer and other non-violent ways in their present crisis".

**FAREWELL AT LOWOOD** The church farewelled Mr and Mrs M. Gibson and family after a ministry of three years. N. Gilbert has welcomed as new minister for Marburg/Lowood circuit . . . Prior to recommencement of SS in February church-members, scholars and parents had a get-together at Atkinson Dam . . . At church annual meeting on Feb. 26, the following officers were appointed: Elders: N. E. Volger and H. I. Walmsley. Deacons: L. Cole, V. Springhall, D. Teis and R. Volger. Church Secretary: H. I. Walmsley. Treasurer: K. Volger . . . On March 12, N. E. Volger was presented with a copy of the Good News Bible to honour his 24 years faithful service as church secretary.

Young Adults  
Summer School of  
**"PRESENT SHOCK"**  
Melb. Jan. 8-14, 1979

## WORD TALK

NO. 173

### PREPARATION

When the N.T. talks about hope as a spiritual resource it is speaking about a distinctively Christian resource.

Hope is one of the three great pillars of the Christian faith, along with love and faith (1 Cor. 13:13). It is a characteristically Christian virtue and is impossible for the non-Christian (Eph. 2:12). The N.T. concept was that only the Christian can look with optimism towards this life and beyond.

The concept of the Christian hope does not appear in any detailed way before the N.T. epistles. Only after the resurrection of Christ was salvation complete, and therefore the basis of hope (Rom. 5:1-5) made sure.

That hope is the source of our salvation "By hope we are saved" (Rom. 8:24). This is not a wishing for the future, but a knowledge of what has already been achieved and which will be revealed.

The Christian hope consists of: 1. Our resurrection from the dead (Acts 23:6, 26:6, 1 Thess. 4:13). 2. Our reconciliation with God (Gal. 5:5). 3. Our salvation both in this world and in the world to come (2 Cor. 1:10). 4. Our eternal life (Tit. 1:2, 3:7). 5. Our sharing in the return of the Lord Jesus (1 Pet. 1:13; 1 Jn 3:3).

This hope is assured for us in heaven (Col. 1:5), grows from our own experience (Rom. 5:4), is a product of the Gospel (Col. 1:23); and is completely dependent upon Jesus and his work (Co. 1:27; 1 Tim. 1:1).

Christians rejoice in hope (Rom. 12:12), are saved by hope (Rom. 8:24); and are kept steadfast by the hope we have in Christ (Heb. 3:6, 6:11, 18).

Having just passed through the Easter experience we remember with gratitude that our hope is based upon the fact of the resurrection of Jesus.

### PROCLAMATION

Many people live in despair. Despair is the mark found in the personal lives of many, in the events of world politics, as the result of the educational process, and as a factor of our technological age.

Future shock has led many people to despair of life itself. Yet Christians live with hope. That hope is not wishful thinking, but confident living because of the knowledge of who we are and what lies ahead of us.

1. God will complete the work that he has begun within us.

## OUR SPIRITUAL RESOURCES

He will bring to completion what he began in our creation. "God is working his purpose out as each year succeeds year".

2. God's judgment will come out into the open. That judgement of sin, of the believer, of all who are outside of Christ, and of the nations will be obvious to all, but the Christian has already passed to eternal life and does not come under that judgement. (Jn 5:24).

3. Christ will return, and his return strengthens the hope we have. He will establish peace on earth, social justice, recreation of the environment, international righteousness, and the reign of God. Until his return we live in that hope.

4. Our life will continue with God. Our citizenship is in heaven. We will live with him in a state of perfection (1 Jn 3:2).

Pessimism and despair abound, but Christians live with hope! Only they who know what Christ has already done live in confidence. Because we know that God is in control of the ends of this life, we can live differently now.

### PRESENTATION

In the film "Poseidon Adventure" many people are trapped when a giant ocean liner is capsized by a wave. They are entombed in the hull of a ship but like Jesus being raised from the dead there is a resurrection for those of faith. The theme-song "There's got to be a morning after" emphasizes the hope that is necessary in the hearts of people if they are to survive.

The time most people die is within six months after their last birthday.

Philip R. Kunz, a Brigham Young University sociologist, took a random sample of 747 obituaries published in Salt Lake City during 1975, and checked the dates of death against the deceaseds' birthdays. He found that 45 per cent of the deaths came within three months after a birthday and 31 per cent more during the next three months. Only 8 per cent of the subjects had died during the three months preceding a birthday.

What do birthdays have to do with dying? They are significant events in our culture. Kunz thinks, and therefore may exert a psychosomatic effect on health. People look forward to birthdays, he believes, not only for the celebration, but as a kind of milestone to be achieved, enhancing the will to live. But the period following a birthday can produce a let down — Kunz theorizes — one that can lead to depression and a loss of will.

Hope allows us to live — not only in this life, but the next!

GORDON MOYES



GARFIELD TODD

# THE PROPHET WHO WOULDN'T BE SILENCED

By  
ROBERT L. FRIEDLY

He's tall. Over six feet. The eyes are penetrating but the smile friendly and genuine.

He has a rugged complexion and dark skin, with gnarled hands, like the rancher that he is.

He has a rapid-fire speech — one writer described it as being 200 words a minute — like a politician, which he is.

He's pastoral, makes you comfortable with him from the moment you met him — like a minister, which he is.

He has been called one of the most forward-looking whites on the continent of Africa. But he has been called other things as well. Like radical. Subversive. And for five years in the 1950's he was called Mr Prime Minister in the country of Rhodesia. In recent years he has been called prisoner.

Reginald Stephen Garfield Todd may well be the member of the Churches of Christ who has made more of a Christian witness in the political realms than any other person in the century and three-quarters of the movement.

There have been other heads of state from Churches of Christ of course. Mr Todd's namesake, James A. Garfield, was President, as well as a preacher. Lyndon B. Johnson. David Lloyd George, Britain's World War 1 prime minister.

Alexander Campbell had political influence. James Madison thought Campbell "the ablest and most original expounder of the Scriptures" he had heard.

But Garfield Todd, as a missionary from his native New Zealand, taught black Africans all people were equal in the sight of God, attempted as Prime Minister to bring blacks into partnership in governing Rhodesia and lost his post as a result. He served five weeks in solitary confinement, served five years under house arrest, and continues to speak what he sees as truth with little regard to his person.

In the twilight of his career and ministry — he is 69 — Mr Todd wants to see a peaceful shift of power in Rhodesia to the blacks who outnumber whites 22 to one. He wants to see a democracy in which everybody has the vote.

An adviser to black nationalist Joshua Nkomo, Mr Todd feels there still will be a place for whites in Rhodesia. Black leaders know that whites are important to the economy and that they, too, are Rhodesians — or citizens of Zimbabwe, as the new nation would be called.

But Mr Todd is concerned that efforts to establish a freely elected government on the basis of one-person-one-vote in the next couple of years will fail. And that will mean, he fears, that change will come even more violently and with black infighting.

He has given up on Prime Minister Ian Smith, whom he calls a man of violence, and asserts that there is going to have to be massive outside intervention to bring the Smith government down. When questioned about that, he names Britain and the United States. And he talks in terms of economic pressure, not military — cutting off oil supplies.

"But I can't be completely pacifist," he says thoughtfully. "I have seen the patience of the people and how they have suffered."

He elaborates: "I believe in being a peacemaker. But there has to be some basis on which to establish peace. And that basis is justice."

Mr Friedly is executive director of the Office of Communication of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Mr Todd first went to Rhodesia as a 26-year-old missionary. He and his wife were in charge of the Dadaya Mission School, a place where they still live near Shabani, 200 miles southwest of Salisbury.

His wife had a pupil named Ndabingi Sithole, a bright young man. He later went into the ministry and earned six college degrees, three of them while in prison, as he emerged along with Mr Nkomo, Bishop Abel Muzorewa and guerrilla leader Robert Mugabe as the four key black nationalists of Rhodesia.

"The great proportion of the people are Christian," observes Mr Todd. "The schools started the revolution. They taught those people that all were equal in the sight of God."

With five years' business experience in his family's manufacturing industry in New Zealand before he went into the ministry, Mr Todd acquired a 50,000-acre ranch above the Ngezi River and went into cattle and crops. And into politics. He still preaches often.

He was elected to the Rhodesian parliament in 1946. Seven years later, he rose to the head of his United Rhodesia Party, which gained power and thrust him into the prime minister's post for five years.

He lost his seat in 1958. He says flatly, "I was kicked out." A reference book explains that he lost support when four right wingers in his cabinet resigned over his policies.

He said publicly in 1960 he was retiring from active politics to concentrate on farming, but the very next year he was forming a New Africa Party aimed at abolishing the color bar.

In 1965 when Ian Smith was declaring independence unilaterally from Britain, Mr Smith first restricted Mr Todd to his ranch. The former prime minister was detained there for a year.

In January, 1972, after Mr Todd and his daughter, Judith — one of three Todd daughters — vigorously opposed independence proposals agreed upon by the Smith government and Britain, five carloads of armed men descended on the Todd ranch, arresting father and daughter and confiscating 10,000 documents, most of them relating to the period of Mr Todd's government service.

The government promised to keep only the documents needed as evidence. They returned everything. Mr Todd was locked in solitary five weeks with no charges filed. Then he was sent home under house arrest and permitted no farther than 800 paces from his residence.

When called upon by world leaders to explain, Prime Minister Smith said that Garfield Todd and Judith were involved in murder and arson. But there was no further action against them.

For a time the government kept a guard at the 800-pace perimeter. Then the guard vanished. Mr Todd busied himself — since he was not permitted to write or telephone or receive visitors — building a swimming pool and putting a dam in the river, all within the prescribed 800 paces.

Then, as suddenly as it began, and as inexplicably, in June of 1976, after four years, the house arrest was lifted. Mr Todd feels that world pressure spurred by Judith, now living in London, and others did it. In about four months Mr Todd was in Geneva, Switzerland, with black nationalists negotiating with the Smith government and Britain about Rhodesia's future.

Mr Todd feels the situation in the white-ruled, predominantly-black countries of Africa is grim. He believes that by this April there must be a satisfactory agreement reached for initiating the new Zimbabwe and that by September, 1978, the change must be taking place.

A settlement without further bloodshed, and with equality for the black majority, would be the fulfillment of a four-decade dream for this unique missionary — teacher — rancher — politician — revolutionary.

— "The Disciple"

# "KUM BA YAH"

## A DREAM COME TRUE

By G. R. Stirling

For four sun drenched Western Australian weeks Lesley and I stayed at "Kum Ba Yah". It was there that we heard about the dream.

It was a May day six years ago. Les and Elsie Peacock and their daughter Merle were driving home from holiday. Merle was unusually quiet for most of the journey. When asked the reason she said, "I've been dreaming of a Christian Conference Centre." She unfolded her dream of acres of quiet bushland with facilities for conferences, retreats, day seminars and family holidays. Within a fortnight Les Peacock was dead and the dream had to be put into storage.

Three years later on a cold wet day, just the sort of day for dreaming, the dream came again. With it came some realism as Merle realized that she and Elsie could scarcely cope alone with all that bush and all those buildings miles from anywhere. But the dream would not go away.

Meanwhile some leaders of the D.C.E. were doing their own dreaming. Their dreams arose from the frustration of being told that the Waterman's Bay Camp could not be used again until many thousands of dollars were spent to bring it up to the required standards of the up and coming suburb of Marmion that was mushrooming all round it. Obviously it could not be restored as a camp. But what could it become? They were dreaming up answers to that question.

When God's people dream his Spirit becomes active. Merle and the D.C.E. heard of one another's dreams and found that they could be blended. The Spirit even guided them through local government regulations. It was not possible for Merle to buy the land and develop it. But it was possible for her to lease it for 25 years and "restore" it as a Conference Centre. While the Spirit was at work he warned the heart of a developer over the road to include the Centre in some deep drainage plans to save many months of delay and many dollars of cost.

On August 15, 1976 "Waterman's Bay" closed down at a nostalgic gathering of old campers of all ages representing 35 years of camping. The next day demolition began. At the August 15 service Merle asked for ideas for names for the Centre-yet-to-be. Several suggestions were made. It was Stella Walkington's suggestion "KUM BA YAH" (Come by here) from the well known negro spiritual that was chosen. The work was finished and the keys handed over on August 23, 1977.

We sampled the dream, become a reality. We stayed in Unit 6 with a window view of the sea just 200 metres away. It was the unit specially fitted for wheel chair patients, and my friends had better not see anything significant in that. Our unit was Thailand. The other five over Cambodia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Indonesia and New Zealand, all named from places where Merle Peacock has taken her Christian touring parties and all furnished with suitable tonings and carrying souvenirs of the tours.

Five of the six units cater for four people each and the sixth for eight. It can be used for a mini-camp. Each unit is self contained with a living and sleeping area, a separate shower and toilet room with vanity basin, and a fully equipped kitchen area.

As well as the units there is a large building containing a dining area for fifty, and an even larger carpeted lounge area. In this building is the well equipped community kitchen that could easily handle the simultaneous cooking of a hundred meals. Temporarily Merle has retained the last of the old camp buildings and renovated it. There are 14 beds in the one section and 24 in the other. Along with this is a laundry and toilet block. The Centre is less than 20 kilometres from the city and close to some of the best surfing beaches in Australia. For those with less adventurous marine tastes there is a "granny's pool" in the rocks nearby.

During our stay our unit neighbours in-

cluded families from Nollamara about six miles away, some young couples from South Perth church during Christmas week, and the Adam's from Victoria and others. The Butlers from Canberra used the single caravan site. The North Beach church celebrated Christmas together at a family lunch.

Already Kum Ba Yah has been used for church life conferences, elders' planning weekends, marriage enrichment programmes, and various teas, evenings and one-day-seminars. It has been booked for two wedding receptions, some of the guests staying in the units.

As an interstater I found myself wondering about the use of Kum Ba Yah by visitors to W.A. It is ideal for families who can go to the West to enjoy its all year round holiday climate. It would be tremendous for parties of church people who want to combine the Nullabor adventure with a week long camp conference at Kum Ba Yah. I could do a little dreaming and see interstate leadership conferences using its facilities to discover together God's future from our Brotherhood. Meanwhile, those whose appetites are whetted towards Kum Ba Yah may write for details to Merle Peacock, Kum Ba Yah, 12-14 Lennard Street, Marmion, 6020, W.A.

## NEW ISRAELI LAW HARMS CHRISTIANS

The danger to religious freedom in Israel posed by the new "Anti-Mission Law" is causing considerable concern to the United Christian Council in Israel. A three-man delegation from the Council visited the Ecumenical Centre, Geneva, to explain how the new law, officially called the Penal Code Amendment Law (Enticement to Change of Religion) 1977, would affect Christian witness and life, and to express "the profound concern felt by Christians in Israel" on the passing of the law. The law calls for fines and prison sentences for those who offer or receive material inducements which could lead to a change of religion.

The delegation highlighted the dangers posed by the law as it affects human rights; the legitimate freedom of the small Christian minority community in Israel and particularly the serious damage that may be caused by the new law to Christian-Jewish relationships. The delegation also outlined the expectations of the Christian community in Israel in this regard. These consist, mainly, in repealing the new law and in ensuring that the Israeli legislature "will never again be misused for such scurrilous verbal attacks on the Christian Church as preceded the passing of the new law."  
— E.P.S.

## TALKING CHRISTIAN UNITY

"CHRISTIAN UNITY TODAY" is the theme for a consultation in connection with the Annual General Meeting of the S.A. Council of Churches to be held at St Francis Xavier's Seminary, Morialta Road, Stradbroke Park, Rostrevor, Friday and Saturday, April 7 and 8, 1978.

The Ven. S.M. Smith, who has just returned from spending three months at the Anglican Centre in Rome, will speak to the "Issues of Unity." Fr. Constantine Iana of the Romanian Orthodox Church, and Commissioner Gladys Calliss of The Salvation Army, will respond from their Churches' perspectives.

Fr. Augustine, Chairman of the Catholic Ecumenical Affairs Committee, will lead our worship on the theme of Christian Unity.

During the opening worship, the Rt. Rev. L.E.W. Renfrey will Commission the Rev. David C. Withers to the Council as a Field Officer.

All Church people are invited to attend the sessions. Details of the programme and further information are available from the S.A.C.C., 3rd Floor, Epworth Building, 33 Pirie Street, Adelaide. Phone 212 3550.

## ELDER RETIRES

(Tas.) On March 7, the Board of the Launceston Church of Christ received with regret the resignation of C. J. Robinson from the Eldership. Mr Robinson has served with great distinction and capacity as minister and elder for over 19 years. He has been a wise spiritual counsellor and friend, who has given free-

ly of himself and his time in ministry to others, and the contribution he has made to our lives has been a most significant one. He is one of those people whose "retirement" has been used creatively and his continuing pastoral concern has been of great comfort to many in recent years.

# MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN



WHEN I read the following news item from America I didn't know whether to laugh or cry. I do hope I won't offend anyone but I decided to laugh.

I intend no disrespect whatsoever for the Lord's Supper — precisely the opposite, in fact!

Kenneth Bowers of Phoenix, Arizona, feels that communion is "a beautiful thing" but it is "time consuming and cumbersome because of the individual cups involved."

His solution: a new company called "Communion Pak, Ltd." which produces handy air-tight packets which contain a small biscuit-like pellet in one compartment and two grams of grape juice in another compartment. Sort of a disposable Lord's Supper.

According to *The Wittenburg Door*, the magazine which brought this to my attention, the advantages of "this is my body packaged for you" are numerous.

The last hindrance to a completely self-contained religion are removed. With television, drive-in churches, dial-a-prayer and offerings by mail one need never come into contact with people again. And Paul's warning in 1 Corinthians 11 need never be feared again. "Many of you are weak and ill — this is because you have been using unsterile cups and fermented grape juice."

Mr Bowers, when interviewed, commented "I feel we have not done any violence to the Lord's Supper."

I disagree, strongly. ■

"SHOULD the Church be involved in politics?"

Definitely not, according to a number of respondents to this column. Definitely yes, according to a similar number of writers.

'Input' for this issue consists of four brief extracts lifted from a resource paper on Australian politics published by the Zadok Centre in Canberra.<sup>1</sup>

These quotes (admittedly out of context and edited slightly) are presented as another person's perspective on the above question. As it happens (and as you would expect), I do agree with these comments from Mr Williams. But the crucial question is, does Mr Williams (and Mustard Seeds) agree with the Biblical principles that apply to the matter?

Whether in agreement with or in opposition to this week's Input, your reactions are invited. What will be most helpful will be comments which address the question in the light of Scriptural teaching, though any responses are welcome.

Hope to hear from you. And may I say thankyou to the many who have written already. ■

THE FOLLOWING item was spotted late last year in the conservative Australian weekly evangelical newspaper, *New Life*:

"Not often in such a column as this will Marxist China receive complimentary recognition. In a weekly magazine which enjoys world-wide circulation there appeared a report from a competent visitor to the land. He emerged from it non-plussed. Godless it was, yet its people exhibited admirable social and moral virtues. "Promiscuity is unheard of, sexuality is not emphasised . . . children are respectful toward their elders, old people are generally looked up to and divorce is rare. Such a contrast to the bawdy, materialistic West!" The personal observation of churchmen visitors, previously hostile to the regime, negate earlier con-

victions. Representatives of capitalism are, not surprisingly, impressed with the absence of the plagues that afflict the more advanced nations — strikes, absenteeism, etc."

It is not often indeed! But points well made. ■

ANOTHER British dream that had become a nightmare has ended. Construction of the tunnel under the English Channel ground to a halt last month — almost before it had got under the ground. Seventy million dollars has been spent out of a budgeted figure which started at \$780 million and had grown to over \$4,000 million. They had tunnelled a total length of 200 metres — out of 51 kilometres.

I still say they should have accepted Freddy Longbottom and Son's tender for 138 pounds in 1962.

"How do you propose to go about it, Mr Longbottom?" enquired the Minister for Public Works at the time.

"Easy. I start one end with my wheelbarrow and shovel. My son, Eric, starts at the other and we meet in the middle."

"But what if you don't meet in the middle?"

"No skin off your nose, mate. Two tunnels for a hundred and thirty-eight quid!" ■

## INPUT

FROM John Powell

"To commit ourselves to a faith in Jesus Christ as Lord means that we are enlisted as his agents of reconciliation. We are to work with Him in His re-creative work of making all things new."

"If the Church is to be one of God's agents of His re-creative and redemptive purposes for the world, then invariably and inevitably the Church and the individual christian have to come to terms with politics. Politics is the process by which power is acquired and exercised in human affairs."

"Those movements which are helping to establish indications of the hope of God's rule in Christ and of His coming Kingdom are those to which christians must commit themselves."

"To do nothing positive in the Australian political arena means, in fact, granting support to the status quo and tacitly supporting the powers and parties which sustain the status quo."

1. Zadok Centre, 4 Ryrro Str., Campbell, ACT, 2601

### JASON'S HOUSE

THAT TALK WAS UNREAL, JASON. FANTASTIC! I DIDN'T REALIZE YOU WERE SUCH AN EXPERT!

TELL ME, HOW COME YOU UNDERSTAND SO MUCH ABOUT NEGLECTED WIVES?

I LIVE WITH ONE!



# 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.

## NATIONAL PULPIT

To the Editor,

Alan Austin's Mustard Seeds leaves a lot to be desired. Many of us are still choking on the March 4 issue.

If I were to bring politics into the pulpit at Margaret Street I would have a riot on my hands. The objection would centre around using the pulpit to peddle my own personal political views.

Surely the same can be said for Alan Austin using the National Pulpit, the Australian Christian.

Long ago Abraham Lincoln emphasised Church and State should be kept separate. Experience has proven that it is disastrous for the Church to meddle with the State, viz., Europe in Luther's Day — Rome ruled the world, Henry the Eighth had his troubles in England, The Spanish Inquisition, The Slaughter of the

Huguenots (France), Hitler and the Jews, Communism and the Church of our day.

How about the National Pulpit filling this page with the redemptive gospel, with doctrine to feed the sheep.

Arnold C. Caldicott, Qld.

## NO RELATION

To the Editor,

Reference "Questing" (March 18), Mary Baker Eddy was the founder of the "Christian Science" movement, not the Seventh Day Adventists. It was Ellen Grace White involved with the S.D.A.'s.

Don Prout, Vic.

Ed. Thanks. It was a typing error and not a knowledge error. Maybe, subconsciously, I was trying to keep the Whites out of it!

Seven other readers pointed out the error.

## SCRIPTURE UNION'S CAMP COOLAMATONG

With the approval of the Education Department, school students attend camps at Camp Coolamatong on the shore on Lake Victoria, one of the Gippsland lakes. These camps conducted by The Scripture Union of Victoria, are not just holidays. Students spend the week studying the ecology of the bushland and wetland areas of the property, and in learning something of how a farm works. As the staff of Coolamatong are all dedicated Christians, the reality of the Christian faith comes through clear and strong in demonstration more than words. This is God's world, and it is fascinating to learn how He put it all together, making plants and animals interdependent, and man dependent on both.

Because the schools recognise the educational value of such activities, Scripture Union is able to run study camps throughout the year. Groups of 30-40 students from a school come for a school week, accompanied by two or three of their own teachers — but the teachers may be there to learn too! Before the camp begins, the teachers and the camp staff work out the programme together, but the main burden of teaching falls on the S.U. staff who are familiar with both the farming and environmental aspects of the studies, as well as being experienced in conducting outdoor adventure activities. There is plenty of opportunity for the camp staff to present a Christian view of life, especially of man's relationship to the Creator and the creation.

Coolamatong has three great assets — a farm, bushland and a freshwater coastline. In the State of Victoria, 70% of the total population lives in Melbourne. This means that there are thousands and thousands of teenagers who have virtually no knowledge of what happens on a farm.

Attitudes to the world of nature are certainly changing. Coolamatong has a 15 acre swamp, which early pioneers would have regarded as useless land. But today the swamp has been promoted to a position of respectability; it is now described

by environmental scientists as a wetlands area harbouring an amazing variety of bird life and water creatures, providing a fascinating study of the interdependence of nature.

But life at a Scripture Union study camp is not all work and study. There are recreational times too. Horseriding is a big drawcard, and with Lake Victoria "right on the doorstep", sailing and kayaking are two favourite pastimes. There is plenty of space for football and cricket and just roaming around in.

Information and details of costs, etc. may be obtained from David Crawshaw at the Scripture Union office, 2A Waltham Street, Richmond 3121, phone 42 4934 (Melb.)

## CHURCH ACTIVE IN CHINA

(Hong Kong) — A recent issue of China Talk, a newsletter published by the China Liaison Office, Board of Global Ministries, United Methodist Church, Hong Kong, recorded an interview held in Hong Kong with a young Christian from China, Ms Wong, whose entire family is Christian and peasant.

Ms Wong spoke of the house worship and Bible Study in which her family joins and recalled the time of the Cultural Revolution. "As far as I know," she said, "no one in the village suffered". She went on to say that some of the Cadres are also Christian. "Occasionally, they would ask us not to sing too loudly during house worship, but other than that, they did their work and we did ours."

Explaining the system of worship Ms Wong said that Saturday is observed as the Sabbath as normally there is no work on that day. "People attend various house meetings whenever they are free and interested," she said. She explained that singing, praying, reading the Scripture and preaching all took its place in their services and that everyone was expected to share in those activities. — EPS

GIVING (Chadstone, A. Clark) Planned Giving Program conducted by Trevor Giles, including family dinner . . . Manse repaired for student from C.O.B., Len Healy, and family . . . Project '77 raised \$2,057 through the year with cake stalls, paper drives, junk and jems, etc. . . Keith Bowes conducted Induction Service for Alan Clark . . . Clark family contributed musical items at evening family service . . . Sunday night Bible study takes place at the Manse. . . Junior Youth Club meets every Saturday night led by Len Healy . . . \$595.50 contributed to the Christmas Bowl appeal.

## LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

### "BLOTTED OUT!"

To the Editor,

I had lunch with Eric our church secretary last week. We were chatting about some of our church people. I said to him, "How come that Arthur isn't a board member? With his experience and ability he'd be quite an asset!" Eric said simply, "Apparently he did a little philandering away back and people got to know, so it has always seemed best not to ask him — someone who remembers might get awkward and cause a stir."

Probably I would have forgotten this conversation except that my wife came home crestfallen because her nomination of Gladys for fellowship secretary had been turned down. The president was very gracious about it apparently. She explained sweetly and without malice that when the children were small Gladys couldn't take the pressure and cleared out for a few days. And you couldn't have someone who might be unreliable under pressure could you?

I found myself reflecting on what our minister is on about so much when he preaches nearly every second Sunday on the forgiveness of God. "When God forgives he looks on us as if we haven't sinned," he says. "Everything on the record against us is blotted out," he says. He always quotes from 1 John about if we confess our sin God is faithful and just to forgive us our sin. Then he always goes on, "When God forgives he forgets!"

So forgiven sins don't really exist — except that for the good of the cause some of God's devoted people feel the need to keep them in their memory files. Perhaps God can afford to forget. He doesn't have to run a local church. Or does he?

TERTIUS.

# ABORIGINES MISSIONS 3

## Child Care

### CHRISTIAN CENTRE CONTACT

#### Fringe dwellers

These are people of Aboriginal descent who live on the fringes of European society and are going through the trauma of radical cultural change. Let us pause for a moment and remember these important factors which are still uppermost in the Aboriginal mind.

- i. They do not think as white people.
- ii. They were never trained to be ambitious in the same sense as white people.
- iii. They have always lived in close harmony with nature, taking from it their day to day sustenance.
- iv. They need no clothing.
- v. They had no means of storing food.
- vi. They shared and ate what and when they had it, never thinking to save for a rainy day.

The European is inclined to say they are improvident, careless, and lack ambition. On the other hand, the European is:

- i. Ambitious, wants to get on, wants to make every post a winner.

- ii. He wrestles with nature, forcing it to yield.

- iii. He requires adequate clothing, his home is his castle.

- iv. He stores food and saves for a rainy day.

- v. He provides almost exclusively for his own family even to the point of being selfish.

#### Christian Centre

There is however one thing the Christian Centre worker has in his favour. He is a person used and directed by the Holy Spirit of God. The Aboriginal fringe dweller is a person who is well aware of the Spirit world and we do at least have this common ground to work from. The fringe dweller is one who lives on the outskirts of towns. They are people not very far removed from their tribal state living in tin shanties, sub-standard housing or tarpaulin wind breaks. The Centre man can and has played an important part in helping these folk not only spiritually but also helping them meet many of their welfare needs.

#### Tribal People

The normal centre worker does not have a lot to do with the tribal people in the strict sense of the word. However, in a place such as Looma in the north-west of Western Australia, we have an Aboriginal family working full-time with their own tribal people. A centre worker using discretion can be of some help to tribal itinerates who may be passing through. He may be able to contact certain authorities or assist in arranging transport to see they get home safely. He may be called upon to be an intermediary between them and the police if they fall foul of the law, due to a drink problem. He may visit them in jail and be of some consolation to them.

By

A. D. PALLETT

#### Young People

Contact from the Christian Centre to young people is wide-ranging indeed. The Centre worker has a wide open door as far as young people are concerned. The Centre can be a place of fun and good clean fellowship. Christian Centres are introducing sporting and recreational facilities where young people can come and go under minimal supervision and can really enjoy themselves and let off steam. This is one way of keeping them off the streets after school. Clubs have been started for different age levels where young people can meet together and where the wise Centre worker can introduce these young people to the Lord. From these clubs and youth meetings he may also channel these young people into Sunday School and Church attendance.

#### Ladies

Here again the Centre plays an important part, and this is where the wife of the Centre worker comes into her own. She can encourage ladies' prayer groups, take sewing classes, have hospital visitation programmes. Valuable contact can also be made in the selling of second-hand clothing at a reasonable cost. The Centre worker's wife can also be of assistance to the Aboriginal women folk in the setting up of their homes, also in counselling where a woman may have a personal problem she is not able to share with the Centre worker himself. The Centre worker's wife requires much patience and love in teaching the women how to budget, how to look after their husbands and families. She needs to be an excellent hostess and makes many many cups of tea. The Centre worker's wife in her supportive role to her husband needs much prayer and encouragement as she is constantly giving out. Not only does she feel the strain mentally and physically, but there are times when she may feel spiritually drained as well.

Men

Although there have been many men reached for the Lord through the Centre contact, the legalising of the drinking rights have made the Centre worker's task much more difficult. Many of the Aboriginal folk are so confused they find it hard indeed to face up to reality. Drink offers them a way of escape. In some areas of the work, the Aboriginal women are praying openly for their husbands. Quite a few of these women are under very strong, and at times even violent, opposition from their menfolk and yet they are continuing to pray believing a change will come. The menfolk need some incentive to occupy their minds, something that will take the place of drink. At present a Centre worker may reach a man for Christ only to find that inactivity and social service payments drag them back once more. Many of the men have lost control of their home situations and the women are endeavouring to hold the home together. Please pray that a venue and facilities may be available for the men to meet for recreational purposes and hobbies. This would help to keep them away from the hotels. Councils are being formed by the Centre workers in an endeavour to engender initiative and self-determination. The Aborigine needs to see that he can make a valuable contribution and life can be worth living after all. As mentioned before, Social Service payments make it extremely difficult for the Centre worker to reach the men. Many of the menfolk as soon as they receive their cheques, are off straight away to buy strong drink. It could be much more helpful if there were some way the men could work for the Social Service, at least it could bring some self-respect back to them. The men openly admit that the drink is killing them, but find no way of escape from the web that is entangling them. We know that Christ is the answer, but the Gospel must reach into every avenue of a person's life. Please pray for wisdom for the Centre worker as spectrum of activity. He needs to be an adjudicator, a nurse, a minister, a social worker, a taxi and bus driver, an outreach worker; his wife a dressmaker, needs to be hospitable, sales woman, personal worker, but above all else they need the love of Christ and the patience of Job.

#### Part 4: Social Welfare Programmes and Assistance.

### FACE TO FACE WITH HEAVEN AND HELL

The old priest, who was dying, composed himself on his bed and said a prayer for the repose of his soul. He was troubled about Heaven and Hell. What were they like? God knows he had spent a lifetime preaching about both places. Now, at the age of 84, he wasn't sure.

Dimly, he saw two figures at the foot of his bed. He knew who they were. The tall, muscular one was Moses, and the other was Peter the fisherman. When they beckoned to the priest, he got up and followed, walking through the wall of his bedroom. Silently, they led him through the galaxies of the night sky. In a far-off place, they stopped before a big house. "The Kingdom of God is made of many mansions", Peter explained, "So too is Hell. Step inside. We will show you the first room of Satan's palace".

As the priest walked in, his ears were assaulted by a bubble of complaints. Many people were seated at a large table. In the centre there was a big pot of the priest's favourite dish, beef stew. Although everyone in Hell had a spoon and could reach the pot, the people were starving. The spoon handles that were attached to their hands were twice as long as their arms. They could catch the stew, but they couldn't bring it to their lips. The cries of the starving were so loud that the priest begged to be taken away.

Peter and Moses took him to another mansion in a faraway place. Moses invited the priest to step inside the outer room of Paradise. There the priest saw a similar large table surrounded by many people. In the centre was a huge pot of beef stew. The spoon handles were too long for human arms, but there were no cries of complaint. No one was starving. All the people were feeding one another.

# GREAT REJOICING

by Bob Whan, P.N.G.

The Churches of Christ Bible School at Tsumba has completed its first two years of pastoral training.

The two year course has been one that has allowed for great diversity in practical training with the students ranging over the whole of the mission area and into relatively untouched areas. They have assisted in five main areas:-

1) In areas where churches have not as yet been formed but have folk attending discipleship classes.

2) Where churches have just recently been formed but which in their infancy need constant teaching and building up.

3) In churches that have got off to a good start and are now facing the difficulties of making their worship and practical church life relevant to the formation of a truly national church.

4) Churches which have lost their first love and have grown cold and involved with worldly pursuits.

5. Areas where the people have only a nodding acquaintance with the gospel but are nevertheless hungry for the Word.

The students have spent a total of about three months each year involved in practical outreach and assistance to churches and needy areas outside of their regular study programme and weekend ministries. All of this helps the students gain confidence as they anticipate taking up their own pastoral responsibilities.

The final week of the Bible School year encompassed along with the graduation service, a Pastor's Workshop, as we call it, in which practising pastors, church leaders and students discussed various aspects of their ministries and received

valuable assistance in organizing their church programmes.

The highlight of the week was the graduation service. Not all the students graduated as pastors. Of the fourteen receiving certificates, eight were appointed as pastors and six as functional pastors or church workers. The basis on which the appointment of pastors was made was largely on the involvement in church leadership outside of the immediate College context. As the six functional pastors also prove their calling through experience, it is anticipated that some of these also will be appointed as qualified pastors. Refresher courses anticipated for the future should also help to build up all pastors.

The graduation service was capably led by Bill Buli, with August Ben bringing the charge to the students. College Choir items, testimony, thanksgiving and the presentation of certificates by the Chairman of the Church Mission Council, Bisepe, a National Christian leader, all served to enhance the service as a memorable occasion. Bisepe had a personal word of encouragement for each student which was greatly appreciated. Although a lengthy service of almost two hours duration, there was throughout, an atmosphere of rejoicing and a sense of having reached an historical landmark in the development of the work here in P.N.G. There was also a conviction that we had come of age as these men were formerly committed to the Lord and His work, by the prayers of three leaders.

## MUSIC BUSINESS FOR GOD!

Nine years ago two Christian business men in Launceston were discussing the financial needs associated with various aspects of Christian work. "Why don't we buy a Thomas electronic organ, then sell it and give the profit to the Lord's work", one suggested. They did.

From this small beginning has grown the business of Tasmanian Christian Enterprises Inc. which last year sold over one million dollars worth of organs and musical instruments from the 'Organ Centres' in Hobart, Launceston, Devonport, Burnie, and from the 'Music Mall' in Launceston.

The concept of devoting profits to Christian work has continued, so the company is an association having no profit sharing shareholders or paid directors.

Approximately \$60,000 has been distributed since the commencement of this enterprise for use in a variety of ways in the Lord's work.

Substantial support has been given in Tasmania.

Beyond Tasmania funds have provided

a translation of the New Testament in a new language in Papua New Guinea — equipment for Wycliffe Bible Translators — support for a full time national translator of the Scriptures in Papua New Guinea — assistance to Missionary Aviation Fellowship — training at a missionary college for a number of overseas Christians who will return to their own countries to engage in evangelistic outreach.

## BELGAIN CHURCHES QUESTION BANKS

The Protestant churches in Belgium, in co-operation with the Episcopal Conference, have questioned the Belgian banks over their investment policies in South Africa. By this action they are publicly joining the series of interventions that the World Council of Churches initiated some years ago. — E.P.S.

News Forms are available to assist in preparation of church news. Write to the editor.

# JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

## JAY'S QUIZ

### THREE PARENTS

1. Which father caused trouble by having a favorite among his children?
2. Which prophet mentions a father eating a sour grape?
3. Which father wished he could have died for his son who met a tragic end? (Answers on page 18).

## MUTINY

The captain was pleased with his crew. "I can assure you," he told them, "that all who merit it will be promoted on your return."

He set unusually long leisure hours, explaining, "I have ever considered this among seamen as conducive to health... It adds much to their content cheerfulness." He was constantly worrying about their health: "The ship being wet below, I had good fires between decks and kept the men as comfortable as possible."

He favored one man — so much so that an officer later declared, "When we got to sea I saw your partiality for the young man... you had him dine and sup every other day in the cabin and treated him like a brother." That man was finally promoted over the head of older officers to become acting lieutenant and second-in-command.

Despite all this, the day finally came when his young protegee, Fletcher Christian, took over H.M.S. Bounty and set his patron, Captain Bligh, adrift in the Pacific in one of the most famous mutinies of all time.

We can never be sure on whom to depend, unless we place our final trust in God.

— M.D. Hamilton

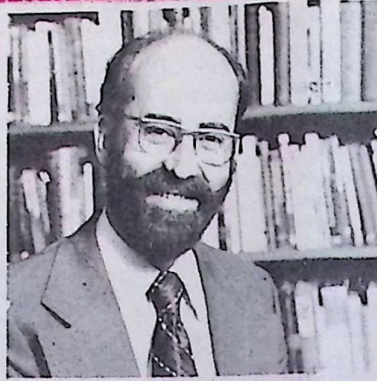


"I don't know much about dolls, but I like that buggy's suspension system."



# SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S 104th CONFERENCE

commences with  
Anzac Day Picnic,  
Nightingale Reserve, Magill,  
and continues  
26 - 30 April  
with Pioneers' Afternoon, Wednesday, 2 p.m.  
Conference President: A. NEIL BRIGHT



GUEST  
SPEAKER

**BILL  
TABBERNEE**

B.A. (Hons.), S.T.M., L.Th.,  
Dip. R.E.

LECTURER,  
COLLEGE OF THE  
BIBLE,  
GLEN IRIS.

## PREACHING THEME — "I BELIEVE"

- **PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION:** MAUGHAN MEMORIAL CHURCH WEDNESDAY 7.45 p.m.  
**I BELIEVE IN THE CHURCH:**  
the church of Christ or the church of God?  
— *a Trinitarian Interpretation*
- **WOMEN'S CONFERENCE:** GROTE STREET CHURCH THURSDAY 10 a.m. - 3.30 p.m.  
**I BELIEVE IN CREATION:**  
the image of man or the image of God?  
— *an Existential Interpretation*
- **MINISTERS' CONFERENCE:** GROTE STREET CHURCH FRIDAY 2 p.m.  
**I BELIEVE IN THE INCARNATION:**  
the myth of God incarnate or the crucified God?  
— *an Historical Interpretation*

- **EVENING OF CELEBRATION:** GROTE STREET CHURCH SATURDAY 7.45 p.m.  
**I BELIEVE IN THE RESURRECTION:**  
the dance of death or the dance of life?  
— *an Experiential Interpretation*
- **GOSPEL SERVICE:** THE TOWN HALL, ADELAIDE SUNDAY 7 p.m.  
**I BELIEVE IN LIFE EVERLASTING:**  
the future now or the past then?  
— *an Eschatological Interpretation*
- **BUSINESS:** Deliberative Groups/Plenary Sessions  
Thurs. & Fri. April 27, 28 7.15 p.m. Adelaide Girls' High School,  
Saturday, April 29, Grote St., Church 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Conference Report Book \$1.20 (plus 40c postage) South Australian Conference Office,  
104 GROTE St., Adelaide, 5000.

## Diary

WESTERN AUSTRALIA  
April  
4-9 81st Annual  
Conference  
G. R. Stirling, Guest  
Speaker

### VICTORIA

April  
1. Explorer Sports  
2. Engaged Couples  
Seminar  
7-9 C.W.F. Camp  
Halls Gap  
12 Tertiary Students Tea  
18 C.M.F. Rally  
27 C.W.F. Conference  
27-30 Vic.-Tas.  
Conference

May  
4-14 Week of Prayer  
(Christian Unity)

### QUEENSLAND

April  
14-16 Women's Camp,  
Camp Cal

SOUTH AUSTRALIA  
April  
26-30 State Conference

### NEW SOUTH WALES

April  
12-16 Annual  
Conference

May  
26-28 Men's Camp —  
Naamaroo

12 (108)

## HAPPENINGS

The Salvation Army has been using that name for 100 years. It was formed in 1865 as the Christian Mission and the name The Salvation Army was adopted in May, 1978.

Protestant churches in France number one million members out of a population of 52 million. But a recent market research survey stated that the number of French people declaring themselves Protestant is three million.

The second largest U.S. bank, Citibank, has announced that it will make no further loans to South Africa. Church pressure is believed to be an important factor in the decision.

Billy Graham has been invited by the Baptist Union in Poland to conduct religious meetings and it is understood that the government has given approval.

14 pipes from the organ at the chapel at the University of Miami in Florida have been stolen. Varying in length from about

4 inches to three feet and valued at \$600, the theory is that students have stolen them to use for marijuana smoking.

The founder of the Worldwide Church of God, Herbert W. Armstrong, 84, was married to Ramona Martin, 40, a former WCG secretary. Garner Ted Armstrong performed the ceremony. Armstrong's first wife died ten years ago. Mrs Martin's first marriage ended in divorce but the WCG ruled that it was an annulment. In other news about the church led by the Armstrongs, 500 children of WCG members have been forbidden by their parents to receive inoculations against measles in California schools. School officials say that the parents' refusal is unfair to other children whose health is jeopardized.

Danish film-maker Jens Jorgen Thorsen still hopes to start making his film on Jesus as a homosexual. Refused permission to produce the movie in Denmark, Sweden, and Britain, Thorsen expects that he can operate in the U.S.A. with Danish and Canadian finance.

B. J. Thomas, the singer whose records have sold 20 million copies (including "Raindrops Keep Falling On My Head"), became a Christian recently and is now prominent in making his witness in entertainment circles.

# VIC.-TAS. MEN

## Papua New Guinea

The "Gas for New Guinea" appeal launched recently has reached \$2,500, including donations from some ladies.

The aim is for \$25,000 which will be invested and the proceeds used to subsidise the high cost of fuel on our P.N.G. mission fields.

The Queensland Department of Men's Work has adopted "Gas for New Guinea" as its 1978 project, and the Qld. Overseas Missions Committee is giving encouragement.

## APPOINTMENT FOR 1979

(Boronia, A. Taylor-Davis)

Harvey Miller has accepted call to minister to church commencing Feb. '79 ... Annual meeting was preceded by basket tea. New office bearers: Olne Goodwin-Elder, B. Lewis, S.S. Supt., Bev. Jeffreys, Gayle Thompson-Deacons, Max Collyer, Assoc. Sect. ... Easter meditation service held each evening of Easter week, conducted by Bruce McIntosh. Thursday evening was communion service at Uniting Church. 9.30 a.m. Good Friday in our chapel was also combined ... C.W.F. commenced own monthly publication "Reachout" edited by Neil Collyer ... Ladies entertained patients at Murrumbena ... Good Companions lamington drive raised \$121 for member of Neil and Anne Ewart's "family" at Roelands ... C.Y.F. had camp at Cape

Kerrie Haythorpe, who has returned from P.N.G. is available to speak to any group about the need for "gas" for our missions.

## Prisons

Some of the members of the C.M.F. are visiting men at Pentridge and Bendigo prisons.

## Sunday Help

The Central Board of the C.M.F. is still arranging for men to preside and to read at Sunday services at Werribee-Hoppers Crossing. Some men have come from Bendigo, Geelong, North Balwyn, Blackburn etc.

Patterson ... Peter Thompson appointed school captain at Scotch College ... Miss Lil Shields, Mrs Brown and Mrs McAlister in Ferntree Gully Hospital.

## L.I.F.E. AT RICHMOND

After concentrated training weekend at Richmond, weekly Lay Institute for Evangelism classes being held to enable laymen and women to reach community. Those trained will participate in systematic visitation program either by going out or by remaining at the chapel to pray for the others.

... Melbourne Girls' Brigade Company No. 26 officially affiliated on March 20 when, during their first church parade, 12 girls received badges and Miss Jill Bartlett was commissioned as Chaplain ... Commissioner Mrs Claire Wilkinson gave the address.

## ROD BROWN IMPROVES

Rod Brown, who was involved in a serious accident in New Zealand, is making remarkably good progress in view of the extent of his injuries. Both legs were shattered and a hip bone fractured. At one stage he was not expected to survive. He will be in hospital for some months yet, but it is hoped that he will be transferred to the Lower Hutt Hospital very shortly.

Mr Brown was to have commenced his ministry at Lower Hutt early this year.

Both Mr and Mrs Brown are appreciative of the strong prayer that has supported them in Australia and New Zealand.

# PORT PIRIE

## "BACK TO C.W.F." LUNCHEON

will be held

on May 10th 1978 at 12 Noon

Theme will be Mother's Day. Come and share old times. Accommodation available if necessary

R.S.V.P.  
21st April

Sec. Mrs K. Ridge  
10 Bensley Street,  
Pt. Pirie, 5540.

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## 37th FEDERAL CONFERENCE CHURCHES OF CHRIST IN AUSTRALIA

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Please register my name for  
Melbourne, Jan. 8-14, 1979

Tick box if  
accommodation  
required in  
Univ. college

Mr   
Name Mrs .....  
Miss (surname) (initials)

Address .....

City ..... State ..... Postcode.....

Church .....

**TAA IS OUR AIR CARRIER**

**SEE OVER FOR ELECTIVES**

Other members of Family Attending  
(If under 18, state age)

Mr   
Mrs .....  
Miss (surname) (initials)

Mr   
Mrs .....  
Miss (surname) (initials)

Mr   
Mrs .....  
Miss (surname) (initials)

Indicate if Cot/Bassinet required .....

Travel (tick method)

I/We intend to travel by car ..... air ..... caravan .....  
train ..... bus .....

Tours

A tours brochure will be sent to all who register:

Registration Fee

This fee covers the cost of the Conference Handbook,  
postage and a few other Conference expenses:

Adults (18 years & over)	\$10.00
Husband & Wife	\$15.00
15, 16, 17 yrs & students	\$ 5.00

Amount enclosed \$ .....00

Post to

**JOAN WARD, REGISTRAR**  
CHRISTIAN CENTRE  
52 LATROBE STREET  
MELBOURNE 3000

# OBITUARY

## CUMMING Miss Irene

With the death of Miss Irene Cumming at Burdeu House, aged 79 years, a link with the history of the Ipswich church was broken.

Miss Cumming's father donated the land on which the buildings at East Ipswich now stand. He was also very involved in the construction of the first chapel, now the S.S. Hall. Miss Cumming was the first church organist and was also pianiste for a Hinrichsen/Brooker mission. Following nursing training at Ipswich, she trained in midwifery at Maryborough and then in child welfare. She worked in a number of areas in Queensland and was for many years in charge of the Maternal and Child Welfare Clinic in Ipswich, a position she held until her retirement. She pioneered clinics throughout the West Moreton area. Her community activities were many — O.P.A.L., subnormal children, Red Cross, Quota (of which she was a charter member, and who once named her Woman of the Year), local Eisteddfod, Cambrian Choir and the Bible Society. She visited hospitals and aged homes regularly until her health no longer permitted this ministry. She was a person who gave of herself to her family, her work, the community and her Saviour, and was a wise steward of her time. A private cremation was conducted at Mt Thompson and a memorial service at the East Ipswich chapel by B.A. Rice, Representatives of many community organizations were present. — B.A. Rice.

## KIRBY Lillian Margaret

(nee Gardiner) (3.3.1978) Mrs Kirby was a member of Churches of Christ from 1918 being baptised and received into fellowship at the Footscray Church where she was later married. Due to circumstances, including the war years when her husband George was away on overseas service for almost all of six years, she moved her home several times and had fellowship with churches at Malvern/Caulfield, Wedderburn and again at Footscray. She was a foundation member at the Maidstone Church of Christ, and then spent her last active years at East Bentleigh. She was a faithful and steady worker for the Lord through her church and throughout her life. A very active person, she worked hard for her family, for many years in various employments outside her home. Sadly, for the past eighteen months, due to age failing physically and mentally, she did not know either friends or family. With her immediate family we all grieve deeply. — A. R. Tanner.

## WICKING Alice Louisa

(7.3.1978) Alice Louisa Wicking died in the Royal Melbourne Hospital after many years of poor health. She was born in Footscray in 1901 and most of her life was spent there. In 1933 she gave her life to Christ and joined the Footscray Church where she was lovingly known as "Auntie Al". The faith she expressed at that point in her life was the basis for her love, encouragement and service for over 40 years, in the worship service, her work in girls clubs and B.S., in her family life and her encouragement of others. She loved people and always looked for and

brought out the good in others. She cared for her family when in need and encouraged the whole church by her faith, trust and prayers. We express our love to her family and pray that they will find strength in their sorrow in Jesus Christ. —I.A.T.

**FEDERAL PRESIDENT** (Box Hill, S. Downie). G. Stirling, Federal Conf. Pres., was speaker recently . . . Oakover Choir and The Mesurier Family Singers were guest artists . . . Cricket Club progressive dinner held . . . Matron Jean Mullen speaker at C.W.A.F. . . . Women's World Day of Prayer held in chapel . . . Harvest Thanksgiving held . . . Ron Muller spoke at Y.P.C.E. on trip to India . . . Two Y.P. decisions . . . Theo's Group guest artists . . . Easter presentation by S.S. "A Child's Message of Easter." Salvation Army Singers were guests . . . Wayne Clinton, student assistant, commenced year of service.

**ADVENTURE CLUB** (Essendon) Adventure Club program by Mr White and Mr Coleman to foster S.S. Pamphlets distributed at local schools and door-knock initiated . . . C.W.A.F. ladies held picnic-lunch at Monbulk . . . Gospel service conducted by Y.P. of the Gospel Theatre Production . . . Church celebrated 63rd anniversary . . . A.B.M. held . . . Members spent Labour Day holiday home of Mr and Mrs J. Strack at Aireys Inlet . . . Mrs D. Murphy admitted to hospital . . . Sympathy to Mrs I. Rogers in the passing of her mother.

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I/We are interested in the following electives:

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(G) New Games

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(J) Communicating Christianity

(K) Church Growth Strategies



(L) Lay Visitation

(M) Mission Strategy

(N) New Forms of Worship

(P) Painting

(Q) Gospel in the Streets

(R) Prayer Workshops

(S) Singles

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(Y) Deacons and Elders

(Z) Public Speaking



Keep Watching "The Australian Christian" for Programme Information

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# OVERSEAS MISSIONS

## PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### URGENTLY NEEDS

#### *REPLACEMENT — New and/or Voluntary Personnel*

★ **Principal for Bible School**

replacement for R. Whan

★ **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.

★ **Trained Nurse**

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

★ **Mechanic**

★ **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 married couple for ministry**

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

★ **A Science Teacher for Ranwadi**

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

★ **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



● The Rev. W. M. Constable

# SEE AUSTRALIA WITH AUSTRALIAN CHURCH TRAVEL SERVICE

Take one of our popular  
Australian Pacific Coach Tours

- 1. TOUR TO CAIRNS** — leaving on July 15th from Melbourne by luxury coach for Sydney then to Brisbane and Cairns. Cruise to interesting Islands — a well planned 23 day tour. From Melbourne \$1084; Adelaide \$1174; Sydney \$905.
  - 2. TOUR TO ALICE SPRINGS AND THE RED CENTRE** — departing by air on 3rd August. Sightseeing in Alice and surrounding areas, then back by coach. This 14 day is very popular. It is hoped Mrs Rita Dunkley will be able to lead the party. From Melbourne \$768; Adelaide \$645; Sydney \$790; Brisbane \$862.
  - 3. TOUR TO WEST AUSTRALIA** at Wildflower time. Leaving by coach on October 2nd this 18 day tour is really something special. Two nights are on the train from Perth to Port Pirie. From Melbourne \$912 first class rail, \$872 2nd class rail; from Adelaide \$813-\$773; from Sydney \$917-\$858; Brisbane \$1009-\$950.
- SEE BEAUTIFUL TASMANIA** with A.C.T.S. and Trans Otway — Our 11 day Best of Tasmania Tour is in such demand that we plan to repeat it during November, 1978. Send now for details and make your tentative reservation.

## OVERSEAS TOURS

**LANDS OF THE BIBLE TOURS.** We will repeat our Lands of the Bible tours on the following dates, spending 13 days in Israel, 9 days in Greece, and 4 days in Rome.

1. Departing August 1st with Rev Mervyn Roberts of Brisbane.
2. Departing September 5th with Rev and Mrs Jim Mills of St Geo., East St. Kilda.
3. Departing Jan. 2nd, 1979 with Rev and Mrs Les Hatton, recently of St. Cuthbert's Brighton — Mr Hatton is now Chaplain at St. Andrew's Hospital. These are probably the most popular of all our tours, and the price from Melbourne or Sydney is \$2188.00. Send for details, and make your reservation early.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FOR BROCHURES & INFORMATION ON THESE AND MANY OTHER HOLIDAYS

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# HAPPENING '78

APRIL 14 — 16

## BELGRAVE HEIGHTS CONVENTION CENTRE

This year bigger than ever!

ALAN MARR Youth Director, Blackburn Baptist Church.

JIMMY JOHNSON. Leading youth evangelist with Wesleyan Church in U.S.A.

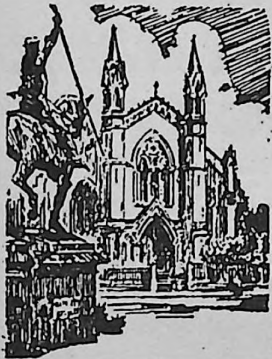
BARBARA MACKAY. Of Griffith, N.S.W., whose husband disappeared last year following drug investigations.

MUSICAL HIGHLIGHTS — YOUNG WORLD from Sydney, SONRISE SEARCHLIGHT, ICHTHUS, CORNERSTONE, Bulleen Baptist Youth Choir, JOY KEEBLE, Aboriginal singer PETER JAMIESON

Application forms available from:

## YOUTH FOR CHRIST

433 Camberwell Road, Camberwell, Vic. 3124. Phone: 29 3696



## Swanston St. Church

333 SWANSTON ST.  
In the heart of Melbourne  
Opposite Public Library

April 2nd:

9.30 a.m. & 11.00 a.m. Preacher: Bruce Morton.  
7.00 p.m. Preacher: Allan Webb.

April 9-16:

Sundays 9.30 a.m., 11.00 a.m., 7.00 p.m.  
Week nights 7.45 p.m.

Preacher: Max Hail, Newcastle, N.S.W.  
8 Prophetic Sermons with magnificent colour slides of Israel.

For special notice SEE PAGE 19

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

THE

# ANNUAL MEN'S RALLY

TUESDAY, 18th April at the RICHMOND Church of Christ  
7.45 p.m. corner Coppin & Murphy Streets

Speaker: PAUL BURNHAM • MUSICAL ITEMS & SINGING

## OUR GOD IS MARCHING ON!

In many places there are evidences that the Spirit of God is moving throughout Australia —

- Record student enrolments for ministry and missions.
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- Old churches renewed.

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Church of Christ

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Each Lord's Day —  
Bible School, 9.30 am  
Worship, 10.15 am (new time)

Meeting at Child Welfare Centre,  
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Minister — J.E. Midgley, Dip. Th.  
Phone: (03) 743 3610

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Enquiries and replies to Churches of Christ in Queensland, Social Service Committee, 363 Gregory Terrace, Brisbane. Phone 221 7503.

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICE,  
Churches of Christ Centre,  
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\$1.75 for 25 words, plus 7c each  
additional word

### ENGAGEMENT

**DYER-CAMAC.** Mr and Mrs Reg Dyer of Kaniva, Vic., are happy to announce the engagement of their only daughter Rosemary, to Colin, the younger son of Mrs Camac, and the late Mr Lyall Camac of Victor Harbour, S.A. Marriage on Saturday, June 3, at Kaniva.

### IN MEMORIAM

**BOAK,** Russel James, April 2, 1965. Ever loving brother of Dorothy (Mrs Baines), Lorna (Mrs Coates). Ever remembered.

### CARAVAN

On site 20 foot caravan to let, beautiful Warburton, 77 kilometres east of Melbourne overlooking Yarra. Scenic drives, walks, tennis, fishing, etc. Available April - May. Enquire (03) 857 6740. P.O. Box 67, Doncaster. 3108.

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House for Rent — Doncaster, Vic., available till Dec. 1978. 3 bedroom, modern brick veneer air-conditioned home situated in a court. Double garage. Enquiries phone: 88 5883 after 6 p.m. (Area code 03).

### TO LET: VICTOR HARBOUR

Two-Storey House The Esplanade, Victor Harbour available for letting. Modest rental with special rate for pensioners. Apply to owner's representatives: Hardy, Steele, Allert & Co., 187 Fullarton Rd., Dulwich, S.A. 5065. Phone 332 3733 (Adelaide).

### COMPANION WANTED

Live-in companion-housekeeper for active elderly lady in Brighton, Vic. Attractive bed, sitting-room, good working conditions, pleasant surroundings. References if possible. Phone 337 8358 (Melb.)

### JAY'S QUIZ

Three Parents (see page 10) 1. Israel (Jacob) Gen. 37. 2. Jeremiah 31:29, 3. David (2 Sam. 18:24,33).

### TYPISTS WANTED

The College of the Bible needs the help of voluntary typists for up to six weeks to type catalogue cards for the changeover of the library classification system. Any able to minister in this way please phone the Librarian, Bill Tabbernee on 25 8324 or 848 5085 or leave a message at the College Office 25 6085.

You can come when you like for as long or as short as you like. Travelling expenses will be paid.

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is sponsoring a

## TERTIARY STUDENTS' DINNER

WED., APRIL 12, 1978 — 6.15 P.M.  
RICHMOND CHURCH OF CHRIST  
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Cost: \$1.00

REV. ROWLAND CROUCHER

(Senior Minister — Blackburn Baptist) will speak on issues affecting the Christian in a tertiary environment

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**FRIENDSHIP, PERSONAL  
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THE ALBURY/WODONGA  
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### A CONFERENCE

For Christians concerned with the implications of Uranium mining will be held in Melbourne.

**SAT., MAY 6th**

Country people accommodated.  
Lunch provided.

FULL DETAILS LATER ISSUES  
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Further information: Barbara Dean  
(89 8954)

Donations: Rev. Sandy Yule, 196  
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## BUNDOORA CHRISTIANS

will meet for family worship on

**April 16, 23, 30, and May 7,  
10.30 a.m.**

at the home of  
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Vic.

Enquiries: Phone  
Ron Weir 467 1516  
Eila Sharp 44 2068

## FOOTSCRAY CHURCH CENTENARY

22-23 APRIL

Saturday 22nd — 5 p.m. tea and program

Sunday 23rd — 11 a.m. worship and communion

Dr. T. Banks president — Speaker Mr F. B. Alcorn (B.A., B.Ed.)

3 p.m. Musical afternoon arranged by Jeff Cheal.

5.30 p.m. Buffet tea.

7 p.m. Gospel Service — Speaker Mr I. A. Tippett (L.Th., Dip. R.E.)

Past members and friends invited.

For hospitality, contact Mrs H. Crowther, 57 Tuppen Street, Yarraville,  
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"A community church with  
the community at heart"

AN INVITATION is extended to all past members and friends to  
share in our Dedication Service on

**APRIL 9, at 2.45 p.m.**

for the opening of the new Worship Auditorium and Christian  
Community Centre. Afternoon tea will be provided.

The Gospel Service at 7 p.m. in the new Chapel will feature  
special attractions.

# A MISSIONARY CONVENTION

WITH A DIFFERENCE!!

SWANSTON ST. CHURCH OF CHRIST

APRIL 9-16

Featuring **Max Hall** from Mayfield N.S.W.

Preaching a series of sermons on bible prophecy and illustrated with a magnificent set of colour slides on Israel. Sunday evening meeting commence at 7 p.m. week night meetings at 7.45 p.m.

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**C. G. TAYLOR**

ON SUNDAY, APRIL 9 at 11 a.m.

Conducted by A. E. WHITE

**PUBLIC WELCOME**

SUNDAY, APRIL 9 at 8.15 p.m.

FOLLOWED BY SOCIAL HOUR

ALL VISITORS WELCOME

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Telephone: 379 1219

EDITOR: A. E. WHITE

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Church News Editor: G. T. Alves

ISSUE DEADLINE

April 29

April 21

April 15

April 7

## — PERSONAL —

### DISCIPLESHIP

● Mrs Van Lingen, Harlaxton, Qld. ● Raymond and Paula Kronk, Trevor Pedler, Dalby, Qld. ● Max Faragher, Ormond, Vic. ● Todd Butler, Karyn Freebairn, Mask Higgins, Victor Harbour, S.A. ● Sharan Reid, Catherine and Jillian Spicer, Eddie Robinson, Kalgoorlie, W.A. ● Rosemary Moser, Box Hill, Vic. ● Gregory Yeates, Miss Leeann Goodwin, Pt. Lincoln, S.A.

### MARRIAGES

● Annette Pearce to Robert Porter, Joan Large to Leslie Christensen, Harlaxton, Qld. ● Suzanne Sweetman to John Turner, Victor Harbour, S.A. ● Ida Handasyde to Tony Bradford, Beverley Kierath to John Pilton, South Perth, W.A. ● Lynette Lloyd to Lindsay Miller, Launceston, Tas. ● Leeanne Skewes to Donald Altmann, Croydon, S.A. ● Elaine Neumann to Howard Charles, Ma Ma Creek, Qld.

### DEATHS

● Mark Sill, Chelsea, Vic. ● Mrs Joyce, Prospect, S.A. ● Curt Tucker, Victor Harbour, S.A.

### CHANGES OF ADDRESS

### MINISTERS

DARETON: B. Spencer, 27 Avoca St., Dareton, N.S.W. 2717.

BOWRAL: Warren Hamilton, 56 Wingecarribee St., Bowral, N.S.W. 2576.

### SECRETARY

TOOWOOMBA: Warren Savill, 12 Lovett St., Toowoomba, Qld., 4350.



## VICTORIA

**INDUCTION (Montrose)** On Feb. 5 induction service was led by Trevor Giles to welcome Louis van Laar to ministry . . . Church School celebrated fifth anniversary, average over 50 children . . . Family Camp held at Yarra Junction . . . Graham Butler, Supt. at Roelands, W.A., spoke to church on Aboriginal Missions . . . Three cell groups meet for prayer, Bible study, and sharing . . . "Drop-In" Centre has reopened and is much appreciated.

**HOME COMING (South Yarra, P. Nelson)** At annual Home Coming, speaker was Dr T. A. Banks (Pres. Conf.) and duetists, Mrs D. Allison and Mrs Lyn Leach. A lunch, a tea and a P.S.A. with the Oakover Singers were held . . . New concreting been done at rear of church with financial support given by E.W.F. and Gospel Singers.

**OPEN AIR (Collingwood, D. Prout)** Open air meeting amid high-rise flats, conducted by Open Air Campaigners, attracted large crowds . . . Miss Marlene Atkinson has entered Kingsley Bible College . . . Albert Wright acting as assistant pastor . . . Youth Club growing. C.W.F. Birthday rally attended by 50 ladies . . . Services held at 4 p.m. instead of 7 p.m.

**CHANGE OF NAME** Church decided to change name from Hoppers' Crossing to Werribee and to make application for affiliation with Conference . . . Commitment service held when 14 members from 8 churches received into membership. Taking part were G. Dowling, Elder emeritus, Footscray; M. Carter, elder,

Footscray; Les Keatch, pastor; and Bruce Alcorn of Sunshine as speaker. Luncheon followed . . . Church and B.S. anniversary held with Ron White of Hamilton as speaker . . . Properties Corporation negotiating for purchase of land . . . Church plans to erect equity homes. Footscray church has made gift available of \$9000 towards property.

**BRADY BUNCH (Bentleigh East, M. Dunn, A. Tanner)** New Christian Educ. venture, "Jesus' Brady Bunch" meets Sunday mornings and Monday afternoons assisted by Fusion Community Centre . . . Church family tea held and out-door family service conducted . . . Church office now carpeted and furnished . . . Cell group in Theology undertaking "Christian Belief" . . . Vern Smith has been ill.

**CHURCH MEETING (Cheltenham, G. K. Moyes, S. Wilson, M. Humphries)**



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121st annual church meeting adopted a budget of \$100,000 and showed membership of 367, increase of 58. Graham Hilbig completed 13 years as secretary . . . Covenant Players performed at evening service . . . Chelsea Salvation Army gave band recital of old favourites . . . 50 CYFers spent weekend at Creswick . . . L.I.F.E. conducting weekly Bible study course through M. Conry, and church joined inter-church study groups for few weeks . . . Bill and Lois Follett celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with open house.

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## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**NEW BUILDING** (Kalgoorlie) Plans being finalised for new church building . . . C.W.F. at G.B.M. elected Joyce Spicer, president . . . Four baptisms in February.

**FRIENDSHIP MEETING** (Northam, M. Randell) Friendship Meeting held on Hair Care . . . Ladies involved in C.W.C.I. day convention with Mrs Pat Richards as speaker . . . M. Randell exchanged pulpits with B. Wells of Riverdale . . . Beatrice Mach and Neville Roediger furthering studies in Perth . . . John Ingham is new church secretary.

**KING'S HARVEST** (South Perth, D. Nelson, L. Cox) New music and singing group, King's Harvest, formed under Phil Riseborough . . . Annual meeting held . . . Saturday morning prayer group led by Leo Cox . . . Bound Members' Directory shows details of membership . . . Series of musical services planned for Sunday evenings . . . New garage being built at first manse. Well and reticulation being installed at second manse and church and new timbered fascia above platform installed . . . Participants in Mr Nelson's Holy Land Tour met for discussion . . . Peter and Pearl Sumner of Christian Blind Foundation conducted service . . . Missionary Hazel Skuce recent guest speaker . . . Angela Owen studying at W.E.C. College, Tas. . . Mrs Collins and Mrs Simons home and attending church.

**TO DONGARA** (Carnarvon) 30 folk travelled approx. 340 miles south to Dongara to spend weekend with Geraldton, Morawa, and Dalwalinu churches. Alan Anderson led the studies. Highlight was baptismal service conducted around swimming pool on Sunday evening . . . An outreach team has returned from Port Hedland, after visits to isolated fellowships of Roebourne and Onslow.

**ABORIGINAL EMPHASIS** (Nollamara, A. Anderson, N. Head) March 12 services conducted by 17 members who are or were associated with brotherhood Aborigine work . . . Hazel Skuce visited to give focus and show slides on India . . .

Family Directory prepared by A. Anderson for prayer help and means of contacting church family . . . P.B.I. graduate Trevor Wolfe screened audiovisual from Lesley and Ian Polmear, our representatives in Indonesia . . . Seven members conduct R.I. in four schools in district . . . Young Teens held weekend camp at Pieese's Brook. Anderson family shared in Nth. Dist. combined camp at Dongara . . . C.W.F. conducts two morning cell groups . . . Ladies visited Balga C.W.F. where Ros Anderson and Jill Head led "American Night."



## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**MINI FESTIVAL OF ARTS** (Prospect, R. Sercombe) Talented people displayed creative ability in foyer . . . First combined service with Uniting Church held at Highbury St. Church . . . Ladies 'Keep Fit' class commenced for 1978 . . . Prayer Partner Scheme operating . . . Frank Johnson, Pastor of local Aboriginal Church, preached on Aborigines Sunday . . . Elder G. Bonney, outlined special plan on "Goals for Our Congregation" . . . Question box items answered prior to sermon . . . Camera Club screened film . . . Food from Harvest Festival given to Christian Rest Home at St. Georges.

**YOUTH SERVICE** (Victor Harbour, R. Mitchell) Y.P. led service at Goolwa and home church . . . A.G.M. elected W. Bradley, secretary, and A. Harwood, treasurer . . . Decision made to continue support for Korean pastor . . . Peter Broadbent appointed student pastor in last year at B.C. of S.A. . . . A piano has been donated anonymously to church . . . Church cricket match and barbecue held. Also tea for students at B.C. of S.A. . . . Men's and ladies Life Enrichment courses commenced . . . Harvest Thanksgiving goods distributed to Southern Nursing and Ross Robertson's Elderly Folks Homes, and brotherhood Social Service.

**TERM EXTENDED** (Croydon, Rex. Chamberlain) Mr Chamberlain to continue ministry for further three year term,

to January 1982 . . . John Schaper from Canada, Co-ordinator of coming Adelaide Reach-out, was recent speaker . . . Cliff Manning spoke on Aboriginal Missions.

**FRIENDSHIP CENTRE** (Maylands, N. S. Moore) Friendship Centre opened, offering craft tuition, activities and games . . . Mr Moore preached at St. Batholomew's church, Norwood . . . Four Family Dinners held . . . Harvest Thanksgiving goods presented to Norseman Mission and St. George's Christian Rest Home . . . Members joined in Red Cross door knock appeal . . . Services assisted by choir led by Ron Pitkin . . . Church regrets death of Mrs Owens, one of our members resident at the Everard Park Rest Home.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

**WELCOME** (Gilgandra, A. Franzen) Welcome held in church hall for Mr and Mrs A. Franzen and family . . . Increased numbers of B.S. and youth areas . . . Miss Dianne Mudford has gone to Kenmore Bible College, Qld. . . Mrs C. Butler celebrated 84th birthday.



## TASMANIA

**PLAQUE** (Launceston, M. D. Hamilton) At Salvation Army Congress in Launceston, G. J. Foot was presented with a plaque and citation in recognition of more than ten years service on the Appeals Committee . . . Youth Service arranged by W.W.D. of P. Committee led by secondary school students and youth groups of city, held in our church . . . Community service speakers heard from Lifelink and St. Vincent de Paul Society . . . Visitors from Blind and Deaf Assoc. shared in service to hear Miss Laurie Hogg of Christian Foundation for Blind . . . Evening and afternoon C.W.F. had tea session with Mrs Dow prior to State Conf.



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## QUEENSLAND

**NEW MEMBERS** (Dalby — Branch View, B. Thygesen) Eleven new members from Branch View welcomed into fellowship with Dalby . . . Three from Branch View baptised . . . Services held each Sunday at Branch View . . . "Effective Christian Living" courses underway in both churches . . . Family camp planned . . . Several families journeyed to Murgon for Western Dist. Fellowship Half-Yearly Conf.

**FAMILY CAMP** (Kedron, J. Dow) Family Camp shared with Centenary Heights church with army chaplain Rod Tippett as study leader . . . Annual meeting added Laurie Thomas to Jack Stevens, Ted Brumby, and Geo. Haigh as elders . . . Albion church joined with us to hear "The Covenant Players" . . . 30 YAYM's had wet and exciting camp at Stradbroke Is. . . C.W.F. had guest speaker from Red Cross. E.W.F. had work night for April Fair.

**RECIPE SALES** (Ma Ma Creek, T. D. Telfor) Over 2100 recipe books have been sold with funds for "Amaroo" Retirement Centre Village . . . Alice Metcalf and Clarence Roberts in hospital for surgery, and Ben Dallinger for treatment. Gary Neumann home after knee injury . . . Ruth Telfor and Muriel Keating re-elected pres. and sec. of C.W.F. Kym Arndt and Debbie Dallinger are pres. and sec. of Y.P.C.E. . . Mr and Mrs Telfor and two others attended Maroon Dam Easter camp.

**INCREASES** (Harlaxton, R. K. Sansome) A.B.M. heard of increase of attendance at Sunday services and in number of active members . . . Support of Fay and Jan Christensen as Living Links with Overseas Missions and Aborigines Missions to be continued . . . Fund commenced toward appointment of Youth minister in 1978 . . . John Timms, Paddington, N.S.W., conducted series of Stewardship meetings . . . S.S. scholar and a young man made decisions for Christ . . . Over 100 attended C.W.F. Birthday meeting. Gifts received for work of Glenda and Bastian Kastanya, Indonesia . . . Work commencing soon on extensions to chapel . . . C.M.S. held annual meeting. Guest speaker was Peter Jerdan, Senior Check pilot with Cathay Pacific Airlines.

**MARGARET ST. MINISTRY** (Toowoomba) (Arnold Caldicott, Graham Kerr) Resignation of Arnold Caldicott has been accepted and will take effect as of Dec. 1978, having accepted a call to minister at Mile End (home church) S.A. This will culminate a 12 year ministry in Toowoomba. Church is now seeking a replacement. Graham Kerr, assistant to the minister, has had his term extended . . . Aileen Draney has returned to New Guinea . . . Murray Fenner has been accepted for field work in New Guinea as an electrical engineer . . . Warren Savill recently appointed church secretary. Elders are Harold Hansen and George Varidel.



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## QUESTING (from Page 24)

of faith is diminished. But the New Testament places the emphasis upon faith, both for salvation and for the continuing Christian life. Paul said, "We walk by faith and not by sight." One could add, "and not by sound!"

3. There is no evidence that Jesus ever spoke with tongues. I have never seen comment on this fact by any Pentecostal or Neo-Pentecostal writer, but to me it is crucial. It is Jesus whom we are to follow and, so far as we are able, to imitate. It is beyond relief that the gospel writers, and particularly Luke, would have ignored this experience in the life of Jesus if it had been there. It is no answer to say that the Holy Spirit was not yet given. He was not yet given to the church, but he was given to our Lord at the baptism by John.

Incidentally, Jesus demonstrated all of the gifts of the Spirit mentioned in Ephesians 4; 1 Cor. 12; Romans 12; and 1 Pet. 4 — all of them, that is, except one, speaking in tongues!

4. If speaking in tongues were a sign of the fullness of the Spirit, it would be expected that the lives of those who possess this gift would be on a higher plane than those who lack it. John P. Kildahl in "The Psychology of Speaking in tongues" (Hodder & Stoughton, 1972) says that the extensive researches which the book summarizes showed that tongues speakers and non-tongues speakers proved equal "in their ability to be loving and to do responsible work."

5. The interpretation of tongues is regarded as a special gift, equivalent to tongues speaking. Very few report having this capacity. Where interpretations have been given they have usually been of a very general nature. When a taped example of tongues speech was played privately for different interpreters, the interpretations were not at all similar. To be fair, the interpreters claimed that God gave one in-

terpretation to one person and another to another person. But this result strengthens the conviction of many of us that speaking in tongues is of value only to the one who speaks, giving him an assurance of the presence of the Holy Spirit — an assurance which is not necessary and, so far as I know, was not needed by Stephen, Philip, Barnabas, Silas, Dorcas, Apollos, Aquila and Priscila, George Muller, William Booth, William Carey, John Wesley, David Livingstone, Saint Francis, Mother Teresa, or Alexander Campbell.



## VICTORIA

### CENTRAL AND NORTHERN DISTRICTS CONFERENCE

(Kyneton P. Wyllie) Conference held at the Kyneton Church on March 4. Keith Skilicorn spoke on Leprosy Mission in Inida. Youth Segment led by Martin Rees and P. Wyllie, C.O.B. students. Mr Rees is new assistant minister at Bendigo Church. Participating churches included Bendigo, Boort, Castlemaine, Harcourt, Kyneton, Pyramid Hill, Swan Hill, Wedderburn and Woorinin.

**INDUCTION** (Williamstown, C. Wilson) Charles Wilson was inducted as full-time minister by W.W. Saunders and a special welcome was given to Charles and Robyn . . . 130 people met to honour Mr and Mrs Griffith on the occasion of their Golden Anniversary . . . Church's 90th Anniversary celebrated . . . Mr Thorne spoke in morning, P.S.A. given by Thornbury Salvation Army; and Dr Joe MacKenzie, a past minister, spoke at night.

**ECCLESIA** (Ivanhoe, A. Withers) Successful Coffee Shop run by Ivanhoe and East Kew Y.P. features top Gospel groups after evening service last Sunday each month . . . Mark Andrews elected to Vic.-Tas. Youth Ministry Committee . . . Stephen Ashley from S.A., with wife Kay,

welcomed as student minister . . . Y.P. conducted evening service . . . Pastor Sir Douglas and Lady Nicholls worshipping with us regularly . . . Hariba Waghmodi, guest speaker at recent morning service.

**FOUNDATION MEMBER** (Chelsea, T. Hanna) In ill health for a number of years Mark Sill died, aged 73. He leaves a widow, three children and three grandchildren. Mr Sill was a foundation member of the Chelsea congregation and was one of a team of voluntary workers who did the carpentry for the building of our first wooden chapel in 1924, and who planned the present church hall.

**CORRECTION** In the news item from the Sunshine church in the last issue it was incorrectly stated that Mrs Moyle was well. Mrs Moyle is, in fact, very ill in Western General Hospital.

**DECISION** (Carnegie, Russell Ritchie). A young married lady rededicated her life to Christ . . . Family Choir formed . . . Programmes of Prayer and Study meeting have included Graham Butler, speaking on Aboriginal outreach and tape "Hi! I'm Ann." . . . At annual meeting J. B. Ferguson was elected Elder; M. McColl, L. Gellie are Deacons; and L. Gellie, B.S. Supt.

**"APOSTLES"** (Ashburton, H. Miller). "The Apostles" were featured at evening service . . . Family Film Night featured and many members participated in Family Camp at Phillip Island . . . Student assistant, Phillip Prince, welcomed . . . Church mourns death of Phyl Leech and Ken Devenish . . . Ian Edgecombe was soloist at guest service.

**STUDENTS** (Ascot Vale, I. Corlett) Chris Pedley and Ross Bourdon commenced studies at C.O.B. . . . Jean Armstrong, from Scarborough, W.A. is student minister for 1978. Her son Brett will also be part of the fellowship . . . During January young mothers and children went on picnics together each Thursday . . . Jumble Sale raised 600 . . . Distribution to the housing estate of the Ascot Vale Community Directory commenced.

## FEDERAL DIRECTORY

### 37th Federal Conference: Melbourne

**President:** Gordon R. Stirling, 79 Underwood Rd., Ferntree Gully, Vic. 3156.  
**Conference Arrangements Secretary:** A. R. Haskell, 21 White St., Williamstown, Vic. 3016.

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IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DEPARTMENTS TO ADVISE CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

# QUESTING



WITH  
A. E. WHITE

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

The case against speaking in tongues.

For many in the charismatic movement, speaking with tongues has added a dimension to the Christian life.

One cannot doubt the sincerity of writers such as Ralph Martin in "Hungry for God" (Fontana, 1976). He says "Our experience is also showing us that speaking in tongues is intended to be a basic part of a Christian's prayer life . . . Every Christian can expect to receive this gift." Martin is a Roman Catholic, a sensitive concerned Christian whose devotion to our Lord makes him brother to us all. I use him only as an example of the high regard I have for many charismatics in many traditions.

To read a book like "Perspectives on the New Pentecostalism" (edited by Russell P. Spittler, Baker Book House, 1976) is to be impressed by the wide range of Christians who are charismatics and who are also respected theologians and leaders in the traditional churches.

In "Perspectives" there is, however, strong criticism and one can admire and respect and accept those who speak in tongues without feeling obliged to assert that their lives have proved their cause. Dr Clark H. Pinnock denies what Pentecostals affirm: that the only sure sign of the baptism of the Spirit is speaking in tongues, and he appeals to the Neo-Pentecostals (who, of course, would not

go so far) to correct their one-sided emphasis on tongues speaking. He says that to suggest that speaking in tongues is a normal accompaniment of the Spirit is not supported by scripture. He believes that the Neo-Pentecostal movement has been raised up not to divide the Body of Christ on the spurious doctrine that speaking tongues should be the normal experience of every Christian, but to open our eyes to the availability of many gifts of which Christians are unaware.

Speaking in tongues is the least of the gifts and achieved its only real prominence in the New Testament in the letter to the church at Corinth where the gift was being misused and misappropriated.

The following are reasons which incline me to argue that speaking in tongues is unnecessary and potentially divisive:

1. Speaking in tongues is not uniquely Christian and cannot be exclusively related to the Holy Spirit. Robin Minney in "Of Many Mouths and Eyes" (Hodder & Stoughton, 1975) quotes Bishop Bengt Sundkler as giving examples from South Africa and as saying that speaking in tongues is certainly pre-Christian. "Various forms of native speaking with tongues have been known since time immemorial among the Zulus . . . long before the first Zulu ever heard the name of Christ." Ecstatic utterances are also mentioned in early Egyptian writings and both Plutarch and Virgil recorded phenomena similar to tongues speaking.

2. John Sherril in researching for his book "They Speak with Other Tongues" (Hodder & Stoughton, 1964) said that when he asked Pentecostals what tongues did for them, the first answer was always, "Assure me that I have been baptized in the Holy Spirit." If this assurance, a physical sign, is required, then the role

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

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AMOUNT ENCLOSED:

## THE LAST WORD . . .

Many may speak glibly of the Cross, but there are few who really understand it, and fewer still who practice it . . . The civilization of this present day is in exact opposition to the Cross, for it makes, self the centre, and puts its claims first. — Kagawa.

### LORD, IS IT I?

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

— Katherina L. Ramsdell

★ ★ ★

The grave is but a covered bridge leading  
from light to light through a brief  
darkness. — Longfellow

★ ★ ★

### Frozen Assets

I marvel at the modern girl  
Who cooks without a flaw,  
Then likes to sit and brag because  
It's the best she ever thaw.

★ ★ ★

A dollar won't do as much as it used to,  
but then, do you?

★ ★ ★

One city bus driver never seemed to have trouble with his passengers; they moved back to the rear of the car and sat down, and that was that. One day an inspector got on the bus and learned why. The fellow was saying to the passengers as they paid their fares, "Please regard my bus as the church of your choice."



"The liking that I have had  
for you, Chauncy, has ripened  
into a deeper emotion—dis-  
like."