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IN THIS ISSUE

Rejoice in ministry



Force 10 in schools



S.A. Youth Choir



Pentecost Message

102nd Victim BANDITS ROB NURSING HOME

On April 19, the Churches of Christ Nursing Home in Wahgoon Road, Murrumbidgee, Vic., became armed hold-up No. 102 in this year's score.

The Director of our Social Service Department Fred M. Combridge, and members of the staff were engaged in the regular pay session when a gun barrel was poked through the pigeon hole and the door was ordered opened.

There were two masked men, each with a gun, and they menaced Mr Combridge and several nurses.

A number of the domestic and other staff had already been paid and this limited the thieves' haul to \$9386.

The robbery took place only 20 minutes after armoured guards had delivered the money, only one day after security guards had finished a three-week strike. There had been no payroll hold-ups during the strike when police had been watching cash movements.

The police were on the scene minutes after the robbery and the security firm, Mayne Nickless, replaced the stolen money so that staff received their pay the same day.

The Social Service Department is insured against loss.



PADDINGTON GOSPEL SINGERS AT SYDNEY SHOW

A singing group which had never performed together until an impromptu opportunity came at a Family Camp last year was offered the chance of presently presenting the gospel in song at Sydney's Royal Easter Show.

With consistent, lively professional performances in five half-hour sessions, the Paddington Church of Christ sang to a jostling, queuing Show crowd: "Christ is relevant today ..."

**"REJOICE
IN THE
LORD"**

**37th
FEDERAL
CONFERENCE**

**MELBOURNE
JAN. 8-14, 1979
PLAN NOW
TO BE THERE**

(See back page)

ALSO

**SUMMER SCHOOL
"PRESENT SHOCK"**

Jan. 8-14, 1979 and 6th National
Ministers' Seminar Jan. 14-17, 1979



KEITH HORNE UNVEILS PLAQUE AT GLEN WAVERLEY

At the opening and dedication of the Christian Community Centre at Glen Waverley on April 9, Keith Horne, President-Elect of the Vic.-Tas. Conference, unveiled the plaque commemorating the occasion. (See Page 2)

GLEN WAVERLEY CHURCH OPEN TO COMMUNITY

A new venture in church life and outreach has commenced at Glen Waverley with the recent opening of a Christian Community Centre. Careful research of the needs in the City of Waverley, the largest municipality in Melbourne with a population of 135,000, revealed a lack of counselling facilities.

The Glen Waverley church felt that to provide these needed services would be a practical expression of Christian care and concern. Consequently the new Christian Community Centre consists of a worship auditorium, which serves the worship requirements of the congregation and also provides a place for public seminars in the sphere of preventive social care, several counselling rooms and an office and waiting room.

Initially the professional staff is providing a counselling service in a voluntary capacity. Two Christian social workers and a careers/vocation guidance officer are providing a wide range of services. The office is staffed full-time from Monday to Friday.

The Centre was officially opened and dedicated on April 9. Over 450 people shared in praise and thanksgiving to God for the completion of the project, then inspected the suite of buildings, which has the added feature of a beautiful courtyard garden which is a memorial to a beloved elder, John Alabaster.

Present at the opening service were the Mayor and Mayoress of Waverley with most of the Waverley councillors, Keith Horne, President-Elect of Conference, the

secretary of Conference, Clive Ward, and representatives of Waverley service clubs and care groups. A lot of community interest has been aroused by this project.

The Glen Waverley church is indebted to the trustees of the Properties Corporation for their support and expression of confidence in the future of this congregation. The architect, Keith Butler, has given fine leadership in producing a Christian Community Centre that expresses the love of God in tangible terms. Based on a strong worship and evangelical emphasis, allied with a genuine concern for the total person, this is an exciting concept.

The church has adopted a slogan which embodies its ministry. "A community church, with the community at heart." The prayer of the congregation is that God will make this a reality in Waverley through the pioneering service of the Christian Community Centre.

NEW N.S.W. PRESIDENT

Bruce Armstrong was raised in the Lidcombe Church of Christ. He was educated at Berala Primary and Homebush Boys' High School, completing his trade course at Granville Technical College as a Cabinet-maker.

Involved with C.T.B.Y.P.S.C.E. and the D.C.E. Camping Programme and faced with the challenge of training for further service, Bruce entered Woolwich Bible College in 1959. Following graduation in 1962, he married Iris Flett. They now have 5 daughters.

Bruce served briefly with Caringbah and then as Director of Department of Christian Education for 6 years. He began and edited "Focus" for its life span of 8 years, introduced and edited "Australian

Standard" and introduced Youthquakes. After a ministry with the Belmore Church he is currently serving at Greenacre.

Bruce has selected the theme for 78-79 as "In Union with Christ Jesus."

As of Sunday 16th April, 1978 Bruce Armstrong has become the 1978-79 President of the Conference of Churches of Christ, NSW. He will be happy to be of service to you in consultation on church matters.

"THE HIDING PLACE"

The film, which opens at the Rapalla Cinema, Russell St., Melbourne, on June 2, tells the story of one of the most extraordinary personalities of our day.

Corrie ten Boom and her sister were members of a Dutch Christian family who became involved in helping Jews to escape from Nazi Germany.

The two women became heroines of the Dutch Resistance and the film tells of their witness for Christ in all of the horrors and brutalities of Ravensbruck, the Nazi death camp for women.

There are concession rates for 20 or more.

INNER SPRINGS

NO SPECIAL GIFTS



A visit to the church service had been planned for the smaller children of the Sunday School. "Would she," I asked, "read the Bible verse for us." Happily she agreed to do so. In due course we were seated in the church. I admitted to some misgivings. After all she was a very little girl to stand before an adult congregation. Would it prove too much for her? Would she read so as to be heard? The time came and she took her place beside the minister. With no trace of fear she began, each word ringing clear and confident, reaching to the furthestmost corner. She would have shamed many an adult reader! And I rejoiced that one whom I had trusted had not let me down. And I also wondered how often God has cause to rejoice in us for the same reason? We claim to have no special gifts to offer Him. From a worldly standpoint neither had Jesus. Yet His whole life is a radiant testimony to what God can do with an obedient heart. No special gifts! Dependability, enthusiasm, and willing co-operation are lovely things in this, changing world, and who else is God depending on but you and I?

Was it all for naught that He died
This Christ of the dreaming heart?

Or did He expect that you and I
Would love Him enough to play our part?

Prayer

Our Father, we thank you for the gift of life. Grant us the strength of mind and heart to serve Thee as we ought. And forgive us when we allow others to do those things we know we ought to be doing.

Colossians 3:12-17

Florence Rosier



Bruce Armstrong L. Th., Dip. R.E.

REJOICE IN MINISTRY

by
Gordon
Stirling

In his very long postscript to the Philippian letter Paul has disposed of the "dogs, evil workers and mutilators", he has wept about the enemies of the cross, he has appointed a counsellor for the quarrelling Euodia and Syntiche, he has burst into rejoicing in the Lord again and he has started a postscript to his postscript (4:8). Yet still he has not run out of rejoicing, but is rejoicing in the Lord greatly for the ministry of the Philippian Christians. What a Ministry!

At the beginning of the letter he thanks God for their partnership in the gospel. This was more than just a prayer partnership. Lydia and the jailer and a few others had been keeping Paul's mission on the road. This ministry of giving started the week after Paul got the Philippian church going. For a while when he was imprisoned in Rome there was no way of getting help through to Paul. But then they sent Epaphroditus to become Paul's housekeeper and he came loaded down with gifts. Paul, imprisoned in his own hired house made it a "Christian Outreach Centre", and it was financed from Philippi. To read the four chapters of Philippians between the lines is to discover and marvel at the ministry of the lay people of the churches in that city. Paul rejoiced in that ministry.

When I used to get a bit impatient with one church where I served I used to sit down and count the hours given voluntarily by my people in service to the church from leading and teaching and administering and cleaning and supporting to caring and sharing and loving and phoning and encouraging and visiting. The total that I knew about was formidable. It stopped the impatience and had me rejoicing in the Lord for ministry.

Christian Ministry seldom hits the headlines

For the church to hit the headlines a minister has to attack Communism, run off with the organist, say he does not believe in God, or call a halt half way through a service for a "smoko". The amazing ministry of thousands of Christians is not the stuff from which headlines are made in our sensation seeking press. And in any case it never occurs to most Christians that their continuing ministry is anything startling. It is part of what life with Christ is all about.

Because the church is not always hitting the headlines, leading protests and demonstrations, jumping up and down shouting hallelujah, involved in powerful missions, passing significant resolutions, reporting sky-rocketing statistics, and generally running the community, we may think that she has no relevant ministry. But any



pastor who is really out amongst his people knows of a thousand lovely ministries and rejoices in them. Probably a sizeable book would be needed in the average church to record all of the Christian ministry of that church in any one month. The book could be titled "Rejoice in Ministry".

Some Samples

Here are a few ministries that come crowding into my mind.

A woman with a history of emotional disturbance supporting another worse than herself, ministering as no other can, because she has "been there".

An elderly woman who looks round on Sunday to see who is not there and ministers to them on the phone during the week.

The mutual ministry of a "family cluster" deliberately including those whose circumstances make support more urgent.

A retired minister writing hundreds of letters of encouragement to people.

An Octagenarian minding the "P.K.'s" to enable the minister's wife to support her husband at the gospel service.

An elder unobtrusively slipping a coat over the shoulders of a "chesty" young minister shaking hands at the door.

A family whose home is open day and night to young people, mostly from non-church families.

A couple of men going to the local hospital two evenings a week to call on those without visitors.

People who quietly support families in grief, literally saving them from crisis neurosis.

I am out of space and still my head is full of pictures of real life ministries that I know.

To open our eyes and look for the church's ministry in any local congregation is to "rejoice in the Lord" for ministry.

MAKE
SURE
YOUR
CHURCH
GOES TO
MELBOURNE
JANUARY
1979

CONGO PLUNDERS CHURCHES

The Marxist government of the People's Republic of the Congo, has banned all sects, religious movements and associations in the Congo, with the exception of seven denominations. In accordance with decree No. 78/076 of Feb. 8, no less than 30 religious groups, sects and associations were dissolved because their actual aims, activities and actions did not concur with the general interests of the nation and its revolution. Their properties, furniture and houses were con-

fiscated by the Government. The only denominations allowed to continue their ministry are the Catholic Church, the Evangelical Church of the Congo (member of the WCC), the Salvation Army, the Church of Christ on Earth by the Prophet Simon Kimbangu, the Moslem Committee of the Congo, the Mission of the Prophet Lassy Zephyrin and Tenrikyo. All Youth Organisations, apart from the Union of the Socialist Youth of the Congo, (UJSC) the young

wing of the only party, are also forbidden.

Therefore, these churches are deprived of the possibilities of teaching religion to young people. The Congolese Information Agency reports that, during a speech mid-February, the Head of State reconfirmed that the UJSC is the only youth movement responsible for the education and guidance of the Congolese youth. Consequently, the existence of organisations supporting youth by means of recognised religious confessions is no longer admitted or tolerated.

— E.P.S.

CONFESSIONS OF A PENTECOSTAL PASTOR

by Leon Barrie Gourlay, A.A.I.M. Dip.Th. B.TH.

In 1958 I was a student in a pentecostal bible college. The dean, because of my rejection of the pre-millennial futurist view of prophecy, predicted that one day something terrible would happen to me. When he learns that I am now ordinary member No. 252 of the Hobart Churches of Christ his worst fears for me will have been realised.

I am confident that you all agree that it is a crying waste of a good brother if he leaves the Church of Christ to join the pentecostals. But just imagine how the pentecostals fell if one of their members joins those people who teach that if you aren't baptised by immersion you aren't saved! Well, that's what it says in my college notes headed 'Heresies of the Churches of Christ.'

What contributed to the erosion of my headline pentecostal position was four years of hard study with the Berean Christian Seminary in Wichita, Kansas, U.S.A., which resulted in a B. Th. That bastion of the brotherhood contributed much to my appreciation of the distinctive message of the Churches of Christ. But the one who made the greatest contribution to my entry into the brotherhood was Don E. Stewart.

In 1974 the Hobart branch of the Tasmanian Council of Churches commissioned three ministers to prepare a special bible study booklet from the book of Ecclesiastes.

What a trio!

A devout Roman Catholic turned

pentecostal minister (me); a devout Baptist turned Roman Catholic priest, and a confirmed Church of Christ minister. Whenever I made a theological statement Don Stewart had the disconcerting habit of saying, "but that's the Church of Christ position." He said it so often that in the end I found myself plowing through every Church of Christ book I could find.

I was amazed!

From Thomas Campbell to James Jauncey I was to find a theology that was the perfect echo of my own!

In May last year my wife and I, following the advice of the Lord in Luke 14: 10, took the lowest place in the brotherhood, resigned the oversight of a thriving church and with the promise of nothing sat in the pews of the thriving Hobart Churches of Christ.

My but it has been lonely! You see the pentecostals eschew us because we no longer speak in tongues publicly and some of the members of the brotherhood eschew us because we might!

Curious dichotomy!

More heat and less light is generated about the subject of tongues speaking than any other bible subject.

It seems to me that the Apostle Paul didn't help matters much because he didn't say enough about the subject. (Perhaps it might have been better if he said nothing!)

We will hotly debate the chronological termination of tongues (1 Cor 13:8) until Jesus returns. Like Alice through the

looking glass we will need to pass through to the other side to obtain a clearer picture. Then we will discuss the matter face to face with Paul (1 Cor 13:12).

However we are still left with puzzling reflections, for Paul also affirmed in the same passage that knowledge and prophecy would cease.

In the words of one of Alice in Wonderland's friends "curiouser and curiouser".

Let's face it, the Bible clearly states that the tongues speaker has a good thing going for himself (1 Cor. 14:4a) he, "edifies himself". But we in the brotherhood are much more interested in getting a good thing going for everybody else in the fellowship (1 Cor 13:4b) "he who prophesies edifies the church".

An immature tongues speaker is caught up in his own blessing, a mature prophet is interested in being a blessing to the church.

There are thousands of pentecostals who are weary of 'chasing the dove'.

But understand this, they are also well aware of the various arguments against the current validity of tongues speaking!

You are certainly entitled to confirm your own convictions about glossalia. If Don Stewart had only concerned himself with apologetics, instead of firmly proclaiming the *raison d'être* of the Churches of Christ, my wife and I would never have made the painful journey into the warm vibrant fellowship of the brotherhood.

We have something more wonderful than the glossalia to offer the pentecostals. Certainly something more dynamic than a dissertation on the possible dangers of speaking in tongues.

Try scratching where the discerning pentecostals are itching and you might discover that the spirit of God is capable of leading even those peculiar people into all truth- possibly into the Churches of Christ.

OVERSEAS TRANSLATORS MEET

Two translation teams from overseas met at the Bible Society's National Headquarters, Canberra, during February and March to review important translation projects — the Bislama and Pidgin Old Testaments.

Translation of the Old Testament into Bislama began last year and the project is expected to take about 12 years. When completed the full Bible will be available for the first time in the language most New Hebrideans use. The New Testament was completed last year and will be published in 1979. The project is being supported by the Bible Society and by the churches of the New Hebrides. It requires a budget of about \$20,000 a year.

The Pidgin Old Testament project was started in Papua New Guinea in 1969. All but five books have been translated.

Three New Hebridean men — Pastor Willie Mowa (Presbyterian), the Rev. Charles Ling (Church of Melanesia) and Morrie Tabi (Churches of Christ) — form the translation team. They and reviewer Moli Cisu and co-ordinator Miss Dorothy Dewar were involved in the review sessions in Australia, together with Bible Society Translations Secretary, the Reverend Euan Fry.

N.S.W. CHURCHMEN ON AIR

JAY BACIK and BRUCE ARMSTRONG have been conducting radio sessions on 2CH, Sydney, with the theme "In Union with Christ Jesus." The three week series on Sundays at 2.15 p.m. concludes on April 23.

Jay Bacik is also involved in a new 2CH programme of good music called "Night Song" each Sunday evening at 8.30 p.m.

WORLD VISION PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

Dr W. Stanley Mooneyham, President of World Vision International, will visit Australia for one week from May 7, visiting Perth, Canberra, Melbourne and Sydney.

Two special services in Sydney and Melbourne to mark the opening of World Vision's recently purchased national headquarters will be held in St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney and St John's Church, Camberwell, Melbourne.

Dr Mooneyham will announce details of a new international body that will involve people from the third world in the decision-making of World Vision at Board level. He is President-elect of the new organisation.

AINSLIE'S EASTER

The Canberra Churches (Ainslie, South Canberra, and Belconnen) led up to Easter with a study programme based on "Discipleship Studies" (A.C.C. 1978) by Dr Athol Gill.

Then came the Family Camp over the Palm Sunday weekend. This annual A.C.T. event draws the three churches together. The studies were again based on The "Discipleship Studies" already familiar to the churches. In the final session, in a time of commitment, 20 persons made commitment to a Pastoral Care Seminar late in April with Keith Horne.

A play, prepared for the camp concert by Ainslie's young adults, was repeated at Ainslie on Palm Sunday. It was entitled "What are we going to do with all these rotting fish?"

Moving into Holy Week, Ainslie held the Service of Tenebrae on Tuesday, "The Service of Shadows" — the shadows that fell across the life of Jesus in the final week-betrayal, inner agony, loneliness, desertion, accusation, mockery and

THE GOLDEN GLOVERS

Celebrating their Golden Wedding, and in church membership for more than 50 years, Frank and Aileen Glover have been worth their weight in gold to the Maylands church and the S.A. brotherhood.

Frank grew up in the "golden" days of copper mining at Moonta, where he was baptized, but he came to Adelaide in his late teen years, taking his church membership to Norwood. There he fell in love with Aileen Mauger. Both transferred their membership to Maylands, where they were married by the late Fred Collins in 1928. Their wedding was only the second to be held in what was then the new chapel. They moved into a new home in Royston Park, where they raised their family of two daughters and have lived ever since.

Both Frank and Aileen have given a

life-time of ministry to the Maylands church. Aileen was an organist for many years and Frank still keeps busy, although he retired from official positions to "make way for the younger ones".

Frank's great contribution was through the Bible School. A teacher and Junior leader for 14 years and general superintendent for 19 years (33 years in all), he led the school through the post-war boom when enrolments went over 350. During this involvement in youth work, he was also a member of the Conference "Youth Dept.", serving for some years as the chairman.

In addition, Frank was the secretary of the "Fellowship News" Committee, when that journal was the information medium of the S.A. churches. He has also served on the Boards of Federal Overseas Missions and the Christian Rest Homes.

SOUTH AFRICAN PAPER BANNED

The November, 1977 issue of "South African Outlook," a monthly church journal, published uninterruptedly for more than 100 years, was banned in March. This is the first time that the South African government has acted in this way to silence the journal.

The banned issue dealt with the Oct. 19 crackdown on organisations and individuals opposed to the government's apartheid policy. The issue included articles by the Archbishop of Durban on the work of the Christian Institute; a sketch of the contribution of the monthly theological journal "Pro Veritate" to

Christian thinking in South Africa, and biographical articles on Donald Woods, Rev. Theo Kotze and Rev. David Russell.

"The prime purpose of South African Outlook has always been to inform readers of the facts; to analyse what is happening, and finally to comment on events in the light of the biblical understanding of man and society," said the editor of the paper, Dr Francis Wilson. Mr Wilson, who has edited the journal for more than twelve years continued, "We must ask those responsible for the banning of this issue of 'S.A. Outlook', Is there anything in any article that is untrue?" — E.P.S.

Now in retirement, he is still the ideal duty officer and doorman, with his special gift for meeting visitors and making them welcome. During each week he is out visiting the sick and elderly, driving for "meals on wheels", and rarely missing any function at the church.

Both Frank and Aileen have physical problems to contend with, but no one ever hears a word of complaint from them. Many do not know that Frank has been troubled with cancer for years!

In his years of active business life, Frank held very responsible positions, first as a buyer for John Martins Ltd., one of Adelaide's leading retail stores. In this work he enjoyed several overseas business trips. Later he transferred to the Reid Murray group, and was with them at the time of their collapse in 1963. Both Frank and Aileen suffered heavy financial loss, but, again, no one ever hears any lament over that. They adjusted quickly and went on living for life's greater values.

Their two daughters, Rona and Judith, are both active also in our S.A. churches. Rona is married to Ray K. Johnson, real estate financier, treasurer of Federal Overseas Missions and also of the Bible Society in S.A., and a member of our S.A. Building Extension Committee. Judith is Mrs Barry Wills of Monteith. They are farmers and Barry has recently joined the ministry staff of the growing church at Murray Bridge. These two families have given Frank and Aileen seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild, all of whom they are justly proud.

But at Maylands and in our S.A. brotherhood we honour them most for their example of loyalty to the Church and for their active commitment to Christ and people.

YFC TALENT QUEST

Australia Youth for Christ has announced a National Talent Quest for musical groups, soloists, and instrumentalists for Sat. June 3, 1978.

Queen's Birthday weekend has been chosen so that groups can have time to travel interstate. The Quest will be held at the Assembly Hall, Margaret St., Sydney.

For further information phone Sydney 30 4917, Melbourne 29 3696, Brisbane 36 3700, or write Australia YFC, P.O. Box 83, Bondi Junction, N.S.W. 2022.

FOOD CRISIS IN LAOS

The Christian Conference of Asia has advised that Laos has suffered an unprecedented drought and that 30% of rice production has been damaged. There will be a shortage in 1978 of 113,000 tons of rice.

The CCA is appealing for funds for relief. Arrangements have been made to purchase rice at a special price in Bangkok and to transport it to Laos.

Other shortages are in milk, sugar, canned meat and fish, and vegetable oils.

Contributions may be sent to: Christian Conference of Asia, 480 Lorong 2, Toa Payoh, Singapore 12.

death. The choir led in devotional pauses as the falling shadows were traced through the events of the week. As each shadow fell, a candle on the full scale rough wooden cross was extinguished. At the close, the quietened congregation left the building in the dimmest of lighting.

Good Friday's communion service took up where Tenebrae left off. Added, however, was the reminder from William Temple that "The date of the triumph of love is Good Friday, not Easter Day. What remains is not to win a victory, but to gather its fruits."

Then on Easter Day, the church gathered expectantly and joyously to be greeted by the scene of the empty tomb with the young man (or was it an angel?) seated at the tomb and the figure of Mary coming with the spices, but some preferred to see it as Mary's meeting with the One whom she thought to be the gardener! However one saw it, all were brought to the scene in the garden by the arrangement behind the communion table.

Unexpectedly, the climax of Ainslie's Easter came one week later. Following the "open plan" approach reported last year, the Sunday School had worked for several weeks and came to lead the church ser-

vice. Taking the Walk to Emmaus story of Luke 24, the School presented "Easter Reflections" in which Clopas and his companion relate to Jesus the events of the past week. Actors on the raised platform behind the communion table played out the Emmaus Road story and the children of the Sunday School brought forward their handwork: posters, spears, swords, purple gown, crown of thorns, hammer and nails, bread and wine (for the cleansing of the Temple, bird mobiles soared above the congregation with a device of cord and pulley. As the story revealed that Jesus was made known to them in the breaking of bread, the service climaxed in the Lord's Supper.

Ainslie's Easter was not over. The A.C.T. Churches of Christ Choir had been working with the choir from Reid Uniting Church on Stainer's "Crucifixion." The combined choirs sang the cantata at Reid on Palm Sunday. Then, on April 2, it was Ainslie's turn. It was a very different medium from that used in the morning by the Sunday School, yet the impact was the same — people moved and challenged by the portrayal of the Easter story.

— R. N. Gilmore.

FORCE TEN LAUNCHES NEW SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Force Ten has launched a new development education program with project bulletins written specifically for use in schools.

The new Schools bulletins are being written at three levels for primary, lower secondary and middle secondary classes. The present regular monthly bulletin will be used for senior secondary classes.

Written by Teachers

The new Schools bulletins are being written by experienced teachers and are designed to be used in classes as pupil work sheets.

There will be eight project bulletins each year:

The bulletins will cover a range of development issues and countries. The first bulletins feature agricultural training in Tonga and the second bulletins will examine the position of refugees who have come to Australia to live.

The new Schools Force Ten program is an expansion of Force Ten's regular

members bulletins which have been a feature since Force Ten started nearly eleven years ago.

Force Ten is the development aid and development education program jointly sponsored by the Australian Council of Churches and Australian Catholic Relief. **Project of the Year**

Membership of Schools Force Ten will be at least \$50 a year for a class. At least \$30 of this minimum class contribution will go to Project of the Year which will be announced in the next bulletins. This means that a class ordering a copy of each of the eight bulletins for every member of the class will be contributing no more than \$20 towards the cost of providing those aids.

Sharing not Charity

Mr Roger Dadd, Promotion Officer for Force Ten sees the new Schools Force Ten bulletins as "a truly significant step in development education."

"The gulf between the rich and the poor is increasing and this will be the major question confronting us in the years ahead," Mr Dadd says.

"Schools Force Ten bulletins will be about the 'why' and 'how' of effective caring and sharing," concludes Mr Dadd.

For further information and sample copies of Schools Force Ten bulletins contact Force Ten, Box C199, Clarence Street P.O., Sydney, 2000 or ring (02) 29 2215.

SYDNEY MEETING ON HUMAN RELATIONS REPORT

A public meeting will be held on May 16 at the Chapter House, St Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, to discuss the Report and Recommendations of the Royal Commission on Human Relationships.

The implications of the Report on children, families, and society, with respect to prostitution, incest, homosexuality, abortion, etc., will be among the issues considered by the speakers: Dr Kevin Hume, Mr J. McCrudden, Rev. Fred Nile and Mrs Patricia Judge.

WORD TALK

NO. 175.

PREPARATION.

There are three basic concepts concerning peace in the Bible. In the O.T. the main word is "shalom". This was an ideal state of life, meaning our well being and harmony in living. It included material prosperity untouched by violence and applied to individuals, the community, and the nation. God's peace consisted of bodily health (Ps.38:3); security (Daniel.10: 19); long life (Gen.15:15); prosperity (Ps.37:11), victory in war (Judges.8:9); and sound sleep (Ps.4:8). God's peace was the proper relationship of one man with another, within the family, and within the nation. The source of this peace was Jehovah who overcomes the forces of disharmony both on earth and in heaven and blesses Israel.

God prepared for his peace to come on earth through a new covenant of peace (Ezek.34:25-31) which would be initiated through the Prince of Peace (Isa.9:4-7, 11:6-9). Jesus was the one who fulfilled this.

In the N.T. the basic concept of peace applied to our relationship with god.

Our reconciliation with God results in peace. Christ brought the peace of reconciliation (Eph.2:13-18). That peace is synonymous with our eternal life (Rom.8:5-11). Through the Cross Christ has reconciled all things to the Father (Col.1:18-22).

The work of Jesus in reconciliation is described in Scripture under several terms: Reconciliation; redemption; propitiation; Lamb of God; mediator; Justifier. Each of these terms described the atoning work of Christ.

The third use of the word peace has the meaning of serenity and it applied to the gift of Jesus (Jn.14:27). This was the peace possessed in the mind of a person whose heart was right with God (Phil.4:11-13). This was a distinctive N.T. meaning not found either in the Hebrew or classical Greek. It was a positive peace that held persons because they knew that they were in a right relationship with God (Rom.5:1). This was the peace that should rule our hearts and minds (Col.3:15). It was the result of a mind set on the spirit of God (Rom.8:6); it was one of the Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Gal.5:22) and was the result of our faith (Rom.15:13).

OUR SPIRITUAL RESOURCES.

PROCLAMATION.

On the Queensland Gold Coast recently I addressed the Christian Businessmen's National Convention on their theme "Peace in a Puzzled World". We looked at this world in which we live with all of the changes, tensions, and stresses, and of man's desire to find peace.

1. Harmony in the Aggressive World is part of God's peace. This aggressive world is seen through war, terrorism and violence. The scriptures speak of shalom being God's harmony among people. This is the work of God the Father and peace is his gift.

2. Reconciliation in the Alienated Soul is part of God's peace. Man lives alienated from his own true self, other people, the universe, and God. The purpose of Jesus was to reconcile man to God, his neighbour, his world and himself. This reconciliation was the Son's task.

3. Serenity in the Anxious Mind is another part of God's peace. This is the Gift of the Holy Spirit and one of the Fruits of his Presence. The anxious mind is seen in the many forms of escape and reaction among people. Serenity within the soul is found among those who take the teachings of Jesus literally (Matt.6:25-34) and who allow the Spirit to work within them.

Harmony, reconciliation, and serenity. This is peace by God, peace with God, and the peace of God.

PRESENTATION.

The N.T. is the Book of Peace. 88 times peace is mentioned as a gift to be given and received from God that peace becomes an enormous spiritual resource enabling people to cope with whatever stresses face them.

Jesus made many promises: "Today you will be with me in Paradise" . . . "I will never leave you nor forsake you" . . . "Lo I am with you always" . . . "I will come again and receive you unto myself".

But our greatest need is to find harmony in the aggressive world, reconciliation in the alienated soul, and serenity in the anxious mind.

He promised "Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest . . . and you will find rest for your souls" (Matt. 11:28-30). Only those who have come to Him find that rest and peace.

GORDON MOYES.

MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN

AMONG his colleagues my friend Roger was respected by all and admired by many for his perseverance with a group of fourth formers. These kids — known as Roger's ratbags — were considered by the staff of this suburban technical school to be the hopeless cases, the terminal delinquents.

One lunchtime, another staff member casually mentioned to Roger that he had just had a dispute with one of these kids and had ended it by landing a hefty punch. Nothing new.

Later it was found that the student had sustained a fairly serious injury and that the parents were seeking damages from the teacher concerned. The teacher thereupon denied all knowledge of the incident and sought, successfully, the support of his union.

As a Christian who took seriously his responsibility as Christ's representative in that school, what was Roger* to do?

If he spoke out against the guilty teacher he would be regarded as ratting on his mate or being disloyal to a professional colleague. The tension and bitterness this would cause would affect adversely not only his relationships in the staff room but his effectiveness in the classroom as well. Besides, speaking out could not change the outcome. With the union backing the offending teacher, the parents, the principal and the Education Department Roger was powerless. Yet if he remained silent he would be knowingly conspiring in an injustice and would be regarded by others as having extremely weak principles.

What were his responsibilities to his colleague, to the union, to the injured student, to the rest of the staff and to the rest of the students? ■

* the name has been changed but the story is true.

FOR THOSE amongst the readers of this magazine who are members of trade unions the above situation may be all too painfully familiar.

For others of us who are employers, the troubles with unions will be of a somewhat different nature.

But for most of us, the problems experienced in connection with union activity will be those of non-involved on-lookers who all too frequently are the ultimate losers.

In this issue, and the next one too, I'd like us to look briefly at the trade union situation and, hopefully, work towards ways of finding answers to questions like those mentioned above. ■

AT THE outset may I acknowledge that much union activity is undoubtedly beneficial, to both unionists and the wider community. But may I add that I believe we have seen recently far too much abuse of union power. Too often have unions resorted to extreme forms of action before exhausting other avenues open to them; too often have the damaging effects of strike action been way out of proportion to the benefits sought; too often have the objects of industrial action been purely and simply to grab more money. In short, and to put it into language which may sound familiar in this column, too often has a powerful minority sought its own selfish ends without due regard for the welfare of others. ■

SOME EXAMPLES in quite recent memory are strikes by petrol tanker drivers, airline pilots, SEC workers in Victoria's Latrobe Valley, Melbourne City Council mechanics, security guards and now meat workers and waterside workers. (By the way, did you know why 747 Jumbo Jets have that characteristic hump over the cockpits? They were redesigned that way when it was found pilots were sitting on their wallets.) ■

AS CHRISTIANS, what should be our response to militant unionism? What can we do?

First impression is that, humanly speaking, there is very little we can do. It's a totally different problem area from that of government and politics (in a democracy at least); the people involved are not our representatives; they are not answerable to an elected parliament; they will not respond warmly to submissions from the populace; and we cannot vote them out.

Yet whilst we may not be able to do very much, we can do some things. Here are a few tentative starters:

1. We can be praying for all those involved in industrial disputes: employers, unionists, arbitrators and the Government. Paul urged Timothy to offer prayers to God for "all men, for kings and all others who are in authority, that we may live a quiet and peaceful life, in entire godliness and proper conduct." And if this doesn't move you to pray for Messrs Halfpenny and Carmichael then there's always Matthew 5:44!

2. If we are members of a union we can use such means as are at our disposal, however meagre they may seem, to make our position known and our voice heard. This can be very effective. See next issue.

3. If we are employers we ought to be doing all we can to understand the causes of industrial unrest.

4. Where the cause of industrial action is injustice or the abuse of power on the part of the Government, then we ought to do all we can to remove these causes. And in a democracy, as has been observed previously on this page, there is quite a bit we can do in this area.

These things alone will certainly not remove the problem. It runs far too deep for that. Deep enough, and important enough I believe, for us to come back to it again next issue. Hope you'll join me again. ■

MEANWHILE, as food for further thought, may I pose these questions:

* To what extent is militant union action simply a reaction to greed and exploitation on the part of governments and big businesses? Is our society reaping just what it has sown?

* Why is it that so many unions, especially the powerful ones, are controlled by communists rather than by political moderates (or by Christians)? Could it be, as some have suggested, that only the communists have been prepared to put in consistently over the last one and a half centuries the sheer hard work needed to get labour organized in the first place and then maintain control?

* To what extent is the un-Christian state of industrial relations in our land a result of the apathy or inactivity or 'otherworldliness' (or perhaps even worldliness!) of Christians? ■

JASON'S HOUSE

WHAT'S UP WITH MRS. P. JASON?

I THINK I SAID THE WRONG THING. SHE ASKED HOW I'D FEEL IF THE LORD CAME AGAIN WHEN WE WERE AT THE CINEMA...

I SAID I WOULDN'T MIND AS LONG AS HE DIDN'T RUSTLE HIS LOLLY WRAPPERS.

I THINK I SAID THE WRONG THING.

YES. I THINK YOU DID.



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.

CHINA

To the Editor,

Alan Austin in "A.C." April 1, 1978, quotes a report to the effect that life in China is rather pleasant, and free from promiscuity, strikes, etc. These are the observations of many reverend gentlemen who have toured that country, but let us not forget that visitors get only a "visitor's eye view" of life there. This is extremely superficial.

In any discussion on China and its apparent tranquillity of life, let us always bear in mind the other side of the coin — that the church (and individual freedom) has been ruthlessly suppressed. In many areas of China, the church has been completely obliterated by the simple expedient of killing every Christian. I may be one-eyed, but I feel this fact is relevant in any discussion on the "blessings" and advances of Chinese communism.

As for there being no strikes, the reason for this is obvious. Ask anyone who comes from a communist country as to why they don't strike — he will assure you that it is not because the people are happy and contented, rather because they don't like being shot or clubbed to death.

For the life of me, I can't see why we place so much importance on the observations of visitors to these countries. Why don't we speak to the people who spend time living there? When we do, a different picture begins to emerge.

Len Martin, Vic.

MILAN BRYCH

To the Editor,

I am disappointed that you printed nearly a page on the Milan Brych controversy.

I make two comments: First, why does Milan Brych keep secret his supposed cancer cure, when thousands of people all over the world are dying of cancer? The answer can only be "for personal gain".

Second, you cannot expect Milan Brych's patients or their relatives to admit that the trip to the Cook Islands was a failure when they have sold or mortgaged their home to raise the \$10,000 necessary to try out the secret cure.

If your journal wishes to do anything to solve this controversy, it should recommend to any church of Christ patients of Milan Brych that they offer any injections they are receiving in Australia to medical experts for analysis. The likely ultimate cure for cancer is likely to be immuno-therapy. If Milan Brych has discovered this cure, it is up to him and his patients to offer it to the world.

Dr G. Hall, W.A.
Gynaecological Oncologist.

CASE AGAINST TONGUES

To the Editor,

I read with disappointment your articles "The Case Against Speaking in Tongues" in "A.C." April 1.

I have not spoken in tongues myself and I am an attending member of one of our churches.

1. The title of the article is an insult to any bible-believing Christian. Whether we practise a Spirit-given gift or not, what right do we have to crusade against these gifts as listed by Paul? Unless you can produce evidence denying the authenticity of tongues or any other gift mentioned in 1 Cor. 12, please refrain from denying what scripture tells us is fact!

2. You wrote of the occurrence of tongues in circumstances other than Christian. There are other

things not exclusively Christian. The Babylonian flood epic parallels the experience of Noah. Baptism is not exclusively Christian. The gifts listed by Paul are spirit-given, where similar experience in other cultures are not, but must we demand complete originality in these gifts? Are faith, wisdom, knowledge, also original?

I have witnessed Christians who have a closeness to the Lord I and my church can't seem to obtain. These Christians speak in tongues and exercise other spiritual gifts. The charismatic experience we observe today appears to have all the vitality of the N.T. experience. How many of us can testify to the joy and peace of the Lord in our lives daily? Do we have any of the gifts mentioned in 1 Cor. 12?

Please, let us be open to the our Lord's guidance. Let us not all be Pharisees.

Kim Wood, Vic.

NATIONAL PULPIT

To the Editor,

Referring to "National Pulpit", Open Forum, April 1, there is no way that politics (the "State") and the church can be separated realistically. Both religion and politics are important facets of our life today, as they were in Jesus' day. Everyone has his own political and religious views, and everyone has a right to express those views freely be it in the "Womens Weekly", the "Sydney Morning Herald" or the "Australian Christian".

The idea of the "Pulpit" is to teach us things that may equip us for life in the future, and because all our lives are controlled largely by governmental bodies, politics at times must also be brought to the pulpit. (Didn't Christ say, "Render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's and to God that which is God's"?)

In "Mustard Seeds", Alan Austin is simply

expressing his, one of the many different political views, as well as his social and religious views. We have the right either to accept or reject his views in our own minds, but we have no right to judge or condemn him if our views conflict with his.

It is our duty as Christians to take note of the politics of our country and weigh up where we stand as Christians in relation to the legislation etc. instigated, and to act accordingly.

Mark Butler, A.C.I.

THIRD ASIAN ECUMENICAL CENTRE

The Third Asian Ecumenical Centre (AEC 111) will be held in Manila, August 15-28, with the theme "Renewal for Full Humanity".

The goal of the AEC this year is to bring together recognised lay leaders (e.g. elders, presidents of women's fellowships, Sunday school superintendents, etc.) of local congregations to exchange experiences and to gain new insights for the renewal of the churches.

Information and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary, Churches of Christ in Australia, Box 101, Essendon North, Vic. 3040.

URANIUM CONFERENCE

(Melb.) "Australian Christians are not facing up to the serious moral and ethical implications of uranium mining and export," says Rev. Alan Harding, Chairman of "Christians for a Uranium Moratorium".

To highlight the issues, C.U.M. are holding a Conference in Melb., May 5 and 6, at the Y.M.C.A. Conference Centre, 489 Elizabeth St. Speakers include Fr Bill Daniels, Rev. Dr Stephen Ames, Rev. Harry Kerr, and Dr Joe Camilleri.

Information may be obtained from Mrs Barbara Dean, Phone 89 8954., Melb.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

OBSESSIONS

To the Editor,

I have become interested in obsessions. I didn't know what they were until I looked up my dictionary. It tells me that an obsession is the result of obsessive behaviour and that obsessive behaviour is behaviour in relation to something that has become an obsession. What it really means, I think, is that it is possible to be so wrapped up in something good that we become "one-eyed" about it. We tend to think that it is the only good thing for the church and the world, and that everything else is not worth the effort of consideration. For example small group obsessives see no future in a church that does not have any. There are temperance enthusiasts who believe that the new age will come when all grog is tipped into the sea. Some revivalists act as though the Kingdom of God will come when every one sings Scripture choruses. And there are those who seem to be saying that the only hope of the church is coffee shops or preaching "the return" or group life labs. or church growth programmes or getting back to the "old paths" or a charismatic "experience."

I have noticed a characteristic of those of us who are obsessives. We are amused when other people's obsessions are "sent up," but we are hypersensitive about our own. For example I notice that some people enjoy it when in my letters to the editor I "have a go" at other people's obsessions, but that the same people get quite upset when I "poke a little fun" at their's.

And talking of obsessions, I must confess to having the worst obsession of all — pricking the bubble of other people's obsessions. But woe to those who prick the bubble of mine!

Yours obsessively,
TERTIUS.

**GOOD NEWS BIBLE
TRANSLATOR TO DELIVER
MEMORIAL LECTURE**

Chief translator of the Good News Bible, the Rev. Dr Robert G. Bratcher, will deliver the fifth annual Olivier Beguin Memorial Lecture in May and June.

The lecture, on the theme, 'The Authority and Relevance of the Bible in the Modern World', will be given in Canberra, Sydney, Melbourne, and Hobart.

Dr Bratcher was Chairman of the seven member Good News Bible Translation Committee. He was also the translator of the New Testament in Today's English Version, Good News for Modern Man, which together with the Old Testament became the Good News Bible.

Both books have been runaway best sellers; the Good News Bible reaching sales of almost seven million worldwide in little over a year, and the New Testament selling 55 million copies since its publication in 1966 (and becoming the best-selling paperback in United States publishing history in the process).

Dr Bratcher is a minister of the Southern Baptist Convention. He was professor of New Testament at the South Brazil Theological Seminary from 1949 to 1956, including two years as Dean. He joined the American Bible Society's Translations Department in 1957.



The lecture series was established by the Bible Society in Australia in honour of the late Olivier Beguin, General Secretary of the United Bible Societies from 1949 to 1972.

"S.O.A.P." CONDEMNED

In spite of a large number of requests to the Federal Government and A.B.C., the A.B.C. have spent \$250,000 on a new sick T.V. series "S.O.A.P." and commenced the series on April 7, said the Festival of Light.

"The A.B.C. T.V. should be boycotted by Australian viewers until it recovers its good taste and quality.

"S.O.A.P. reverses the whole trend of a compassionate caring society. S.O.A.P. gets sick, cheap laughs from the real tragedies of families faced with the real life dramas of promiscuity, incest, impotence, adultery, transvestitism, etc.

"The A.B.C. should be setting the lead in quality T.V. programmes not undermining Australian family life.

"The Federal Government has a perfect legitimate right to interfere in the A.B.C. on this issue which is a clear cut question of taste and standards. It is not a question of political issues or political interference in A.B.C. news or presentations."

TV IN THE U.S. of A.

In a survey conducted by the Church of God in Tennessee, U.S., which involved more than a million Christians, the ten "most offensive TV programmes on the air are "Maude", "Soap", "All in the Family", "Three's Company", "Baretta", "Mash", "Redd Foxx", "Charles' Angels", "Jeffersons" and "Kojak".

Among the ten most acceptable programmes were "Little House on the Prairie", "Waltons", "Wonderful World of Disney", "Grizzly Adams", "Happy Days", "Eight is Enough" and "Family."

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

**PAPUA NEW
GUINEA
URGENTLY NEEDS**

★ **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.

★ **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.

★ **Mechanic**

★ **Carpenter**

**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.

NEW ALL-AGE PROGRAM FOR CHURCHES

The Churches of Christ Federal Board of Christian Education, through its relationship with the Joint Board of Christian Education is planning a new development in Christian education related to worship.

This follows the enthusiastic reception of the proposed approach at conferences held in various places in Australia and New Zealand over recent months.

The proposal is a program of Christian education involving all ages in learning together and closely linked to the local Church's usual worship program. The proposal would be available as an addition to the Christian Life Curriculum which will continue to be updated and improved as an effective age-graded curriculum for Christian education for all ages.

The first unit will be available later this year following a pilot project in selected

churches which include Churches of Christ.

The proposal could lead to adults, young people and children exploring the faith together in fresh ways and to a rediscovery of the vitality of the Church's shared life.

Planning for the new all-age program has included consultation with Churches of Christ ministers likely to use the program and others who represent a variety of thought within our brotherhood. Their response has generally been one of enthusiasm reflecting the felt need among many churches that there is room for relating education and worship.

Ministers and churches interested in the proposal may contact the Churches of Christ, Federal Board of Christian Education, 6th Floor, 177 Collins Street, Melbourne or their Department of Christian Education for further information.

KING ASSASSINATION REMEMBERED

The 10th Anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination at Memphis was observed throughout the USA on April 4 amid clamour for a retrial of James Earl Ray, who is serving a life sentence for the crime. The Rev. Jesse Jackson of Chicago and sixteen other religious leaders announced they had formed a committee which will seek a new trial for Ray, who, they alleged, had been duped. Mr Jackson openly charged at memorial services for Dr King that Ray had been "framed by the Memphis police."

An all night vigil of thousands preceded the day's activities in Memphis. Services were held at the Rainbow Motel, site of the slaying, and at the Church of God in Christ, attended by many civil rights leaders of the 60s who were associated with Dr King.

At a service in the graveyard of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta where Dr King is buried, Mrs Coretta King said her late husband's "dream is not yet fulfilled." She said the black citizens of the United States carry the

brunt of the current unemployment problem, still do not receive equal pay for equal work, and must continue to struggle for equal educational opportunities, and better housing. The graveside ceremonies were attended by the family and close friends of the slain civil rights leader.

Among those recalling Dr King's struggle for justice was Dr Eugene Carson Blake, former general secretary of the World Council of Churches and before that State Clerk of the United Presbyterian General Assembly. Dr Blake, who had spearheaded the churches' participation in the civil rights movement — said Dr King will be long remembered for his courageous, non-violent attitude which "led many of us to go the additional mile in our own personal and corporate witness."

Dr Blake's arrest and detention, while protesting segregation at a Baltimore amusement park, received wide public attention at the time and dramatised the churches' determination to work for racial justice in the United States — E.P.S.

PEACE AND JUSTICE

A conference on Peace, Justice and International Affairs (The Christian Responsibility) has been organised by the Australian Council of Churches and the Catholic Commission on Justice and Peace.

Special guest speakers will be The Rev. Dwain Epps (World Council of Churches), and John Scullion S. J., Melbourne.

The Conference will be in Canberra, July 14-15, 1978, and further details may be obtained from D. Purnell, P.O. Box 67, O'Connor, A.C.T. 2601.

SOUTH AFRICA TO OUTLAW 'GOOD SAMARITAN'

The Australian Council of Churches has called for prayer and action by its member churches to oppose three new bills to be introduced by South Africa's Apartheid government.

Introduction of these bills will confine

churches to a narrow range of strictly defined 'religious' activities. "This will in effect make it 'illegal' for Christians to practice what they preach," explained ACC General Secretary, Jean Skuse.

The three pieces of legislation will prohibit organisations and groups in South Africa from raising funds for, or channelling funds to, victims of oppression.

"Last October the Apartheid government banned 18 organisations working for justice and this legislation is obviously intended to prevent the formation and growth of other lawful organisations to take their place," said Miss Skuse. "For the churches, this means that 'Good Samaritan' act will be 'illegal,'" she commented.

SHOCK for young adults
SUMMER SCHOOL
Melbourne Jan. 8-14, 1979

JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

JAY'S QUIZ

THREE WITH COURAGE

1. Which lad faced a giant armed with sword and spear?
2. To which leader did God say, "Be strong and of good courage?"
3. Twelve spies were sent into Canaan, which two showed courage? (see page 18).

SPARROW

In the Bible, the word sparrow was used for any small bird. The sparrows which live around our homes is the English or European sparrow. It was brought here and liked the place. They were also taken to the United States. In 1850, eight pairs of sparrows were taken to New York, but they did not survive. Believe it or not, they tried again. A couple of years later they brought some more from England and these not only survived, they practically took over the country. They are now found everywhere. They multiply quickly. If there were only one brood a year and all the brood survived, at the end of 20 years there would be seven thousand million sparrows from the original pair. This doesn't happen because they have natural enemies, like cats, for instance.

A guest handed the hotel manager a bunch of flowers, saying, "It's for the telephone girls."

"Thank you very much, sir," said the manager. "I'm sure they'll appreciate the compliment."

"Compliment!" roared the guest. "I thought they had all died."



"You'll go stale doing the same things all the time, dear. How about coming outside and have a game of footy?"

BOOKS TO READ

A NEW DAY IN MADRAS

by Amirtharaj Nelson (Wm. Carey Library, U.S. 1976)

I am writing this review, not because I expect many readers to read the book but to give some opinions on church growth and the charismatic movement. The author, Raj Nelson, is a native of Madras who has studied and worked in U.K. and U.S.A. since leaving India in 1967. His book is a church growth study warmly commended by Donald McGavran. Mr Nelson will be guest speaker at the Keswick Conventions in South India's hill stations this May. Mr Nelson's survey of all the Protestant churches in Madras city shows that major growth has occurred through people movements and through outreach to groups of caste peoples. His statistics indicate that the lowest rates of church growth come from the older established churches, e.g. Mar Thoma Church (0%); Lutherans (0.8%) and Church of South India (2.1%). The fastest growing churches are almost all independent congregations and frequently Pentecostal (e.g. Evangelical Church of India 14.5% and Independent Pentecostals 160%). Figures are for a 5 year period 1966-1970. The problems faced by Madras churches are (a) ignorance of the Scriptures (b) liberalism and (c) the wrong concept of the church. Even evangelical churches in Madras have no strategy for growth; they press for decisions rather than disciples; some major on controversial secondary issues e.g. versions of the Bible, the wearing of jewels, cultural and caste practices etc. What is needed is more than Biblical preaching. A strategy for growth; mobilising lay people; multiplying house churches; training leaders; relating the gospel in culturally meaningful terms; these Nelson sees as keys for growth. Raj Nelson is optimistic about the future. He concludes one chapter thus. "The Holy Spirit is working all around the world through dedicated Christians. This present movement of the holy spirit with its emphasis upon the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the bestowal of spiritual gifts, the equipping of individual believers for the work to which God has called them, the effective functioning of the body of Christ, the ministry of evangelism, is all part of a larger plan of God to bring back his church to apostolic Christianity. We are surely seeing the first strategic move of God to the end of recovering the power and the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This is happening in a small way in Madras and it is high time to use all the resources at our disposal for the growth of the church in Madras." If in Madras, why not anywhere? — Barry Jenkins.

REDATING THE NEW TESTAMENT

by John A. T. Robinson (S.C.M., 1976)

This is just the book for those who like to play at being a detective. Here, the task is to investigate the date at which the various writings that go to make up the New Testament were written. It certainly helps to understand the background against which John Robinson writes — the scholarly world of "New Testament Introduction" (Introduction is a technical word used to describe a whole series of investigations about authorship, where, and under what conditions various writings were made and the date at which they were written). The conclusions which Robinson arrives at are very conservative indeed — John Robinson does not have a reputation for being a conservative, after all he was the author of the controversial book "Honest to God!" He claims to have begun this exercise because of feelings about the primitiveness of much of John's Gospel. His method of approach is fairly simple. He attempts to leave aside the scholarly assumptions and conclusions and to come to grips with the contents of the various writings, in particular any material that may have the potential for helping ascertain the date at which it may have been written. Next he endeavours to identify the historical situation that fits the content of the book. For me the book has been rewarding for I have felt for a long time that much of the procedure for dating the

various books of the New Testament (and the Old Testament) has been fairly arbitrary. Robinson seriously questions much of this material. He has produced a time table which places the writing of the New Testament books prior to 70 A.D. (The destruction of Jerusalem and the Temple by the Romans) and has also shown very clearly the tentative nature of all conclusions and especially the "assured results of New Testament scholarship" with regard to dating. The challenging of these assumptions has been long overdue. Perhaps one of the most surprising details from the book is the placing of the "Pastorals" in the period covered by Acts. Many have seen the Pastorals as coming from a period later than that covered by Acts. Robinson places I Timothy as having been written in 55 at about the same time as I Corinthians with II Timothy and Titus as having been written 57-58 about the same time as Philippians, Colossians and Ephesians. Perhaps the area in which he is least convincing is in the case of II Peter. There also seem to me to be some real gaps (which is not surprising) with regard to the "synoptics" (Matthew-Mark-Luke). I believe that this book should be a "corrective must" for all students of New Testament Introduction in that it has a valuable contribution in the question of how Introduction work should be done. — Don E. Stewart.

THE HAPPIEST PEOPLE ON EARTH

by Demos Shakarian (Hodder & Stoughton) \$3.05

This is the story of the Armenian-American who founded the Full Gospel Business Men's Fellowship International. He grew up in the biggest dairy in California. His family came from a Pentecostal tradition and Shakarian believes that the full gospel includes all of the gifts of the Spirit, including speaking with tongues. It is an incredible story of guidance and healing, promises and frustration, of strong faith and weakness. When the vision of F.G.B.M.F.I. came to Shakarian he had been helping Oral Roberts in a campaign. Roberts responded to the invitation to be the featured speaker at the launching. Shakarian felt that this would give the new movement an initial impetus. Despite the publicity and notwithstanding Oral Roberts' great drawing power, only 18 men turned up! Growth did not look any more promising than the birth. But gradually there was a response, in small trickles and then a great flood of witnesses. Demos is helped to tell his story by the pens of John and Elizabeth Sherrill.

MINISTER'S SIMPLIFIED FILING SYSTEM

by Merlo K. Heicher (Baker Book House)

An educated man, I think someone said, is not one who knows, but who knows where to find it. This book is designed to help you find your sermons, newspaper cuttings, book quotations, sermon illustrations, where and when you spoke on what etc. etc. etc. The man who is too busy to operate a filing system is probably too busy to cope unless he starts a filing system!! This book tells him how.

Unless otherwise stated, books reviewed on this page may be obtained from: The Baptist Book Store, 162 Russell St., Melb. 3000; N.S.W. Churches of Christ Book Shop, Shop 10, Endeavour Arcade, 360 The Kingsway, Caringbah, 2229; United Church Bookroom, 15 Mathers Lane, Hobart, 7000.

Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



"Car accident or protest march?"

LEBANON INVASION VICTIMS

The Australian Council of Churches has made a grant of \$5000 to assist the displaced people of South Lebanon.

Announcing the grant, ACC Executive Officer, the Rev. Martin Chittleborough said: "Unofficial estimates we have received indicate that a quarter of a million Lebanese and Palestinians fled the fighting zone. These refugees are left without homes and with little or no food or belongings. Out of compassion and in the interest of peace in the Middle East, the ACC has made this grant."

After a visit to the area, the World Council of Churches launched a \$200,000 appeal for the purchase of blankets, sandals, cooking utensils and medical care. High protein foods such as canned fish, cheese, beans and milk are also urgently needed.

MIDLAND BANK END SOUTH AFRICAN LOANS

Midland Bank, one of Britain's "big five" banking groups has announced in the Chairman's 1978 statement to shareholders that it has ended direct loans to the South African government and that no new loans have been made since 1975. It regards such loans as "unattractive commercial risks."

This decision follows similar action and public statements by banks in the Netherlands and by Chase Manhattan and Citibank in the United States.

The Midland chairman's statement marks the culmination of a campaign led by the pressure group End Loans to South Africa (ELTSA) and Church groups in Britain, which, in 1976, faced the bank with the first ever resolution on such a social issue to have been brought to a British company's AGM. — E.P.S.

Diary

VICTORIA

May
4-14 Week of Prayer
(Christian Unity)

NEW SOUTH WALES

May
5-13 DCE Car Camp
26-28 Men's Camp,
Naamaroo
June
17-18 Wagga Regional
Convention

**GORDON
STIRLING
SAYS**

**COME TO
MELBOURNE
JAN. 8-14
1979**

and
**"REJOICE
IN THE LORD"**

CLIFF RICHARD'S DOUBLE VISIT

Cliff Richard will arrive in Sydney in mid May for a four week visit with a double emphasis.

His commercial concert tour under the direction of Duet Productions Pty. Ltd. at Sydney's Regent Theatre, May 18, Brisbane's Festival Hall, May 20, Canberra Theatre on May 22, Melbourne's Festival Hall May 25, Adelaide's Apollo Stadium May 27, and Perth's Entertainment Centre May 28.

Following this series Cliff will be joined by his Christian manager and friend, Bill Latham (who is also an Associate Director of Tear Fund London), for a series of Christian meetings where he will sing and talk about his faith. The proceeds from these gatherings will go to Tear Fund Australia of which Cliff is a Council Member in London.

After visiting Bangladesh a few years ago, Cliff exclaimed, "I can never be the same again." He realised that his part was to raise the consciousness of Christian people around the world to know, care and act, expressing the love of Christ in action.

The venues for the Christian meetings are:— Sydney's Town Hall on May 31 and June 1, Brisbane's Mayne Hall June 2, Melbourne's M.L.C. Assembly Hall June 3 and Robert Blackwood Hall June 4, Hobart's Theatre Royal June 5, Adelaide's Prince Alfred College Theatre June 7, and Perth's Withrop Hall June 9. Tickets available through Christian bookshops in each capital city.

PALM SUNDAY



The entire Sunday School body at Camp Hill (Qld.) church took part in a dramatic re-enactment of the original Palm Sunday, employing a donkey, waving palms, shouting praises, having 'Jesus' overturn the money-changers tables and releasing doves. Later, inside the 'Temple', the story was again unfolded for them from the scriptures.

HAPPENINGS

This is how Korea sells for less: One young woman makes dolls' clothes for the U.S. market. She works ten hours a day every day except Sunday and earns 30,000 won a month — about \$62.50 Australian. Her working area is cramped, poorly lighted and unventilated. But she is grateful even for this work.

Four men were consecrated as bishops of the breakaway Episcopal Church (Anglican) in the U.S. The four bishops are leaders of about 10,000 who left the church because of so-called liberal trends: ordination of women, planned revision of the Book of Common Prayer, and relaxed stands on abortion, divorce, and remarriage. No firm name for the group yet, but could be Anglican Church of North America.

The Temperance Alliance of South Australia (now known as people for alcohol concern and education) will make a grant of \$100 towards the department of agriculture's marketing research into grape juices and non-alcoholic wines.

Dana Andrews, Hollywood movie star, has appeared in over 70 films. He will have a different kind of role when he will be guest speaker for a National Conference, "Operation Understanding," presented by the Sydney City Mission at Boulevard Motel, Sydney, May 8-12. Mr Andrews is a recovered alcoholic and spends much of his time as a special ambassador for the National Council on Alcoholism in America.

Ministers in the U.S. are granted property-tax exemptions. In the town of Hardenburgh, N.Y., 213 of the total of 236 residents are ministers of the Universal Life Church, based in California, which grants mail-order ordinations upon payment of a fee. A New York State Board has barred such tax exemptions and court cases may follow.

Trevor Huddleston, the author of "Naught for Your Comfort", an Anglican expelled from South Africa, has accepted election as bishop of Mauritius.

The frustrations of parents who care for their children's minds was seen in a letter to the "Age" lamenting that there are very few TV children's shows she will allow her children to watch. But these few programs are interrupted by commercials which are as mind polluting as the programs that the family bans.

OUR MAN IN BANDUNG

Recently, I attended a Church of Christ service in Bandung, the capital city of West Java. The service was held in the late afternoon and was in the Indonesian language. Apart from that difference, it was similar to services in Australia.

I was invited to take part in the service. With the aid of an interpreter, I conveyed greetings to them from our Australian churches. I was requested to take greetings from the Indonesian Christians to their brethren in Australia. Several men helped in the conduct of the service, and, at the end of the sermon which was preached by Paulus, the Indonesian Pastor, two men committed their lives to Christ.

We shared together in The Lord's Sup-

per and in a time of prayer for sick people. There was a time of fellowship at which a meal was provided by one of the church families. The welcome given to me was overwhelming. The language barrier was not a hindrance to our fellowship together. The bright service was a time of blessing and inspiration. Sunday School is held each Sunday at 7.30 a.m., and there are various activities during the week.

Shirley and John Truscott, of Wyoming church, N.S.W, who are working with American missionaries in the area, were kind and gracious hosts during my stay in Bandung. "In Christ There is no East or West".

— Russell Boak



COLOURFUL WEDDING

Sunny Waghmode and his bride, Fran McKenzie, at their wedding at Red Hill, Vic., on March 18. The ceremony was conducted by their minister fathers, Hariba Waghmode of India, and Ray McKenzie, formerly of the Dept. of Christian Education, and now of I.T.I.M. For the story of the wedding see "A.C." April 15.

ASIA SUNDAY MAY 7TH 1978

The Christian Conference of Asia invites all churches to observe May 7 as Asia Sunday. The following is a suggested meditation which may be used in church services or as a guide for personal devotions.

Invitation to Prayer

Leader — Let us thank God that we are made in his image, and belong to one another. Let us thank him for his new creation, making us one in Christ.

People — There can be no thanks without giving, no words without deeds that are done.

L — Let us thank God that Christians of different traditions are learning to understand one another better. Let us pray for our local congregations that they may grow closer together.

P — There can be no thanks without giving, no words without deeds that are done.

L — Let us thank God for our churches, and pray that we and all their members may be so filled with the spirit of faith, hope and love, that people may recognise the reality of the Gospel.

P — There can be no thanks without giving, no words without deeds that are done.

L — Let us pray for our local communities, thanking God for all that is done to help people live harmoniously together.

P — There can be no thanks without giving, no words without deeds that are done.

L — Let us pray for our countries in Asia, and thank God for all who work to bring about greater understanding between the young and the old, between employers and employed, between immigrants and host communities, and between the Church and those who have rejected institutional Christianity.

P — There can be no thanks without giving, no words without deeds that are done.

L — Let us thank God for our world and pray for its unity, for reconciliation and peace, for justice and compassion, between rich and poor, Christian and Muslim, between power-wielders and those dominated.

P — There can be no thanks without giving, no words without deeds that are done. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer and enable us to translate our thanksgiving into selfless discipleship. Amen.

TRAVELLERS CLUB AT BRIGHT

The C.M.F. Travellers' Club was formed about eight months ago so that friendships begun on Christian tours could be continued.

Recently, 43 went on a five day trip to Bright, Vic., by rail and coach. On Sunday the group joined the Church of Christ folk who met right next door to the guest house where the Club stayed. This fellowship meets each Sunday at 10.30 a.m. in the R.S.L. Hall.

A highlight was the Saturday night impromptu concert.

During the C.M.F. Christian Tour to New Zealand in March, the group leader paid a visit to Rod Brown, graduate of the College of the Bible, and new minister of Lower Hutt. He was in Christchurch hospital recovering from a road accident. — Dave Watt.

CORRECTION TASMANIA

In reporting the visit to Tasmania of the President-Elect of the Victoria-Tasmania. C.W.F. her name was printed incorrectly.

Her name is Mrs Betty Dow and she takes office as President this week.

TO VISIT DARWIN

The Secretary of Churches of Christ in Australia, A. E. White, will visit Darwin, June 8 to June 19, 1978.

He will contact as many of our new members as possible at "The Top End."

He will be glad to have names and addresses of folk in Darwin. Readers with helpful information are invited to write to him, P.O. Box 101, Essendon North, Victoria. 3041.

HELPFUL SPEAKERS

(Naracoorte) Church maintaining faithful witness although without a minister. Help given by local and visiting speakers . . . A. Neil Bright, Pres. S.A. Conf., was speaker at Harvest Thanksgiving . . . Fellowship teas and after church fellowships promote family atmosphere. Elders lead weekly prayer meetings . . . C.W.F. entertained Senior Citizens' . . . S. E. Dist. Women's Conf. held here. Mrs M. Copping, Pres., and Frank Johnson, aborigine pastor guest speaker. Mrs R. Brown (Wamponny) is incoming Pres. . . Youth work led by Garth Wooton has featured barbecue at Kykybolite, Bible studies, music evening, progressive tea.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

YOUTH CHOIR NOW OF AGE

AT THE OPERA THEATRE: The Yeoman of the Guard. By Gilbert and Sullivan. SA Churches of Christ Youth Choir.

Of all the Savoy operas, the 90-year-old "Yeoman of the Guard" is to many the most appealing.

Sullivan liked the more serious story of Elizabethan times and composed one of his best scores for it, embracing Gilbert's humor, romance and drama with relish.

The SA Churches of Christ Youth Choir has capped its fine record with a spick and span "coming of age" production full of original touches and a neat programme to match.

From the worthy overture, with white-gloved conductor (John Wilson) a-la-master himself, to the dramatic bridal finale, the polished performance reflects months of thoughtful planning and rehearsal under director Brian

Richardson and his team.

The chorus is excellent in singing and movement, the tower warders with their exceptionally clear part singing and drill being outstanding.

The witty dialogue and intricate situations were admirably handled by the well-balanced cast.

Lorna Orr's Elsie Maynard reached a peak with her rapturous finale which fulfilled the promise of "'Tis done, I am thy Bride" in both voice and demeanour.

Rex Millstead made a gallant Col. Fairfax and sang "Is Life a Boon?" with rich flavor, and John Howie was a debonair Leonard Meryll.

As Jack Point, the tragic-comic jester, Richard Trevasikis gave the best performance of his career, making an unconventional exit after his moving "I Have a Song to Sing, Oh" reprise.

Harold Tidemann in "The Advertiser".

OBITUARY

BEAMENT Ernest Henry

(26.3.1978) Born at South Yarra in 1896, Ern Beament became associated with the Church of Christ at Cheltenham during his early years, and was baptised by S. H. Mudge in 1916. Later, he was married to Elizabeth Royle in the same chapel in 1922 by P. R. Baker. The young couple set up home at Ringwood where they served with the church for 19 years. Ern served most effectively as a member of the Board of Officers, and was engaged in many avenues of youth work including Christian Endeavour, Bible School, Club Life, and other sporting activities. He served as secretary to the Eastern Conference of Churches of Christ, and was President of the Mountain District Christian Endeavour Union. Following this the family moved to Gardiner and while in membership of that Church, Ern became interested in the establishment of the little church at East Malvern and assisted in the services. After his retirement Ern and Mrs Beament lived at The Patch and became foundation members of the church there and were there for 19 years. They then returned to Gardiner in 1972 for a further six years. He was a man of strong convictions and not afraid to voice them. Even during the last days of failing health, he would speak freely of faith in the Scriptures, and amid his constant physical discomfort his genial nature and ready smile was a tonic to those who visited him at St Vincent's Hospital. The services at Gardiner Church and the crematorium on March 29 were conducted by two past ministers of the church at Ringwood and personal friends of Ern, W. T. Atkin, and A. W. C. Candy. He will be remembered lovingly, and Christian love goes out to Mrs Beament — Frank — Elsie (Mrs Lancashire) and the one surviving sister, Mrs Vera Osborne — A.W.C.C.

CARMICHAEL, Stanley

(6.4.1978) Stan Carmichael was born at Lawrence Kirk, Scotland, in 1908. He came with his father and mother and four brothers to Australia. He made his decision at the Caulfield church where the preacher was Fred Youens, who was to become his brother-in-law. He was baptized at Gardiner church. He married Irma Watt at the East Kew church, where all of the Watt family were married: Dave, Alice (Mrs Fred Youens), Irma, and Charles. Stan worked with the Gas & Fuel Corporation until his retirement. He and Irma were members of the East Kew church for all of their life together.

Three years ago, Stan became ill and lymphoma was diagnosed. It is a serious illness and the treatment was severe, but he faced the illness with bravery and with the cheerfulness of spirit which was a feature of his personality. Stan and Irma went to New Zealand for a visit in March which proved to be very happy and fulfilling. They were staying with Charles Watt in Auckland when Stan died suddenly. Eldred Cook, minister at Dominion Rd. Church of Christ led the service of committal there. A thanksgiving service was held at East Kew on April 18. Although they had no children of their own, Stan and Irma had an extended family in the nieces and nephews who had a special love for Stan. The church offers love to Irma and her family and shares their hope.

HARVEY, Allan Roy

Allan Harvey was born at Queenstown in 1904. He made his commitment to Christ at a Hinrichsen Mission at Devonport in 1923. So began a ministry which was to have significant impact upon the life and witness of the Tasmanian Churches. He attended the Croydon Missionary College in Sydney and found a life-long interest in the work of missions. Returning to Tasmania, he became associated with the Cook family at Mole Creek and with the churches in that area where his leadership and preaching gifts developed. He married Ena Byard in 1935, and they developed "Moss Vale". He was a hard worker and found great reward in his work on the land. To their family of Harry, Maurice and Glenys, they added a foster family of Jill, Laurel, Margaret and Pauline in a deep ministry of love. Allan gradually assumed more leadership and became minister of the Caveside/Mole Creek Churches. His active ministry of over 40 years in this area has brought the knowledge of Christ to many, and has given practical encouragement and help. He was a faithful pastor. Typically, the day before his death he was involved in a practical ministry of concern on behalf of a young widow. Allan was widely respected in his community, sharing in the local Ministers' Fraternal and inter-church activities. He was a consistent representative at State Convention and Quarterly Meetings and served for a time on the Home Mission Committee. Mrs Harvey has been a real partner in his ministry. Members from all parts of the State, civic leaders, ministers of our Tasmanian churches and from the Deloraine Fraternal, shared with Allan's family and the Caveside church in an open-air service of thanksgiving on Monday, April 3. — M.D.H.

MURRAY Geoffrey

RICKERT Shannon
(25.3.1978) Easter Saturday was marred by tragedy for the church at Goonellabah, N.S.W., when two of its young people were killed in a car accident when the driver swerved to miss a kangaroo on the Pacific Highway. Geoff Murray, 19, had been a Christian for only six months, but was actively engaged in the young people's work at the church. A quietly spoken, unassuming young man, Geoff, nevertheless, had a vigorous outgoing personality. He had just signed a contract to play 1st Grade Soccer

C. M. F.

The Victorian Christian Men's Fellowship had its annual meeting at the Richmond Church on April 18. Vic. Philpott was in the chair and Bill Burgess is secretary.

Musical items were given by Mark Radford, trombone and the speaker was Paul Burnham, associate minister, of the Blackburn Church of Christ.

The men's special project "GAS FOR NEW GUINEA" has resulted in \$2,800 being forwarded to the Overseas Missions Dept. to subsidise petrol and oil for P.N.G. an additional \$2,500 has been invested in the Properties Corporation. It is hoped to raise \$25,000 as an investment target to give continuing fuel support for this mission field.

Two of our members, Dave Watt and

in Lismore. He had been employed at the Northern Rivers College of Advanced Education as an audio-visual officer. Several weeks before his death he was appointed manager of the College's FM radio station. A Good Friday programme prepared by him produced much favorable comment. An avid photographer, Geoff had produced several short movie films on outings of church members which, with his commentary, proved an attraction at evening services. He displayed a keen zeal to spread his new found faith.

Geoff's girl friend, Shannon, was 17. She had been displaying a growing interest in the Lord's work. She was an active contributor to Y.P. meetings and had taken her turn in other church activities. An American by birth, Shannon had a keen mind backed by a pleasant personality.

Lismore church could not hold the hundreds of people attending the combined funeral service. Owen Wainwright, a past minister of the Goonellabah church, came from Sydney to conduct the service.

The Goonellabah brethren sadly mourn the death of this talented couple.

— K.C.D.

WILLIAMS, Inez Lamont

(8.4.1978) The Launceston church shares in love with the family of Mrs Inez Williams who died after some months of illness. She was born and raised in Launceston, and her early married life was lived there, but it was at the Oakleigh Church in Victoria where she made her commitment to Christ. Returning to Invermay in 1931, she continued a life-long active association with the Invermay and Margaret Street Churches. She was always interested in people and wanted to be of service to them. She worked for some time at Queen Victoria Hospital and as Assistant to the Matron at the Launceston Girls' Home. She loved to sing and was often a soloist at church in early days. A prolific reader, she had wide ranging interests. She was a faithful member of our Women's Fellowship and shared in a visitation ministry until illness prevented her. These past years brought a good deal of illness and limitation, but her cheerfulness, courage and faith were an encouragement to all who visited her. Her church family shared with her own family in a service of thanksgiving on April 11. We commend her children, Bill, Olive (Mrs Badcock, Melbourne), and Margaret (Mrs Ramsay) to God's love and care. — M.D.H.

Ron Johnson, have been elected President and Vice-President of the Inter Church Men's Society.

FIRSTS (Nth Essendon, R. J. Allison) Attendances have increased recently with seven received into membership . . . At Annual Meeting, the church elected David Ploog as its first elder, agreed to adopt the principle of "Christians in Fellowship" and were notified of negotiations for full time minister in 1979 . . . The Church's first family camp held at "Hindhope", Rosebud. Over 40 were involved in studies led by Paul Burnham (Blackburn), social activities and fellowship . . . Recent guest speakers were Athol Leach and Cheryl Johnson from East Keilor . . . A series of leaflet drops with visitation made in immediate ministry area.

THE ON-GOING WORK OF CHURCHES OF CHRIST

ABORIGINES MISSIONS

SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMMES AND ASSISTANCE

This, of course, varies in different areas with local conditions. As already mentioned, sewing and craft centres are opening up. Girls and boys from the children's homes participate in sports within the white community, i.e. basketball, netball, football, hockey, volleyball, badminton, swimming, etc. Recreational facilities are being introduced into the child care centres, as well as the town centres where young people can use up their surplus energy after school instead of roaming the streets and being idle. Children from the child care centres are being allowed home for the weekend or vacation holidays to mix with their people in an endeavour to rehabilitate the family. Film nights and socials are held regularly for relaxation and mixing. Young people go away on school bus outings. Camps are held for young people to attend. House parents take the children away for holidays who are unable to go home to parents at vacation time. Boys' and Girls' Clubs, Brigades, Scouts, Little Athletics are all part of our social welfare activities. At Carnarvon, homes for the aged are meeting a real need there.

Training Programmes

A recent venture has been undertaken in Esperance in W.A. Within our work we have a qualified panel beater and duco sprayer. At present, he has 7 boys working in full-time employment. This venture was started some four to five years ago. Two boys have almost completed their third year. It is hoped that this course will eventually be a fully recognised pre-apprenticeship course. The boys enjoy the work and have purchased their own motor bikes and cars which they can take to the garage and work on in their spare time. Adult Aboriginal Education pays a subsidy towards the scheme. Five boys are on Study Grants and the other two on the N.E.A.T. scheme. The Department of Aboriginal Affairs gives occasional grants to assist as well.

Roelands Village, 100 miles south of Perth, also has a training program called "The Vocational Training Program for Aboriginal School Leavers". This course works in conjunction with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Commonwealth Employment Service. This

By

A. D. PALLETT

4

scheme is also meeting with success. The boys are being trained in dairying, orchards both stone and citrus, fencing, plumbing, painting, driving, welding and other activities. The Roelands men are pleased with the relationship built up between them and the working boys. Each month an assessment form is compiled on each of the boys and their progress is watched and records kept.

We believe these training programs are another positive step forward in creating a developed practical approach to life whilst under the influence of dedicated Christian men.

Norseman has quite a large farming project. Boys in the project class from the local school were taken out to the Mission to learn killing and butchering of sheep. Although this is now inactive, it could be recommended at any time. The Mission at Norseman at present is collecting some 800-900 eggs per day from its 1,400 laying hens. It also has a piggery and runs its own sheep for meat.

B.S. CHANGE (Mildura, B. Brown) After long period as B.S. supt., A. McWilliams has resigned. Mrs N. Cuddy is new supt ... A "Picking Oranges" working bee at Stafford's raised \$200 for B.S. funds ... Church and B.S. picnic held at Merbein ... Theatre group, "Kaleidoscope" presented musical, "I am here, God is here" at Red Cliffs Salvation Army Hall. They shared same musical at Mildura Arts Centre in concert to aid Bible Society and Chaplaincy ... Young Adults (20 - 30) have re-commenced led by Robyn and John Hawtin ... Tweens (10 - 14) have Judy Brown and Robyn Hawtin as leaders ... Two members attended seminar for Citizens Advisory Centre ... C.W.F. provided program at Salvation Army women's meeting. F. Jenkins spoke on her recent rip to India. Mrs C. Dabby, Geelong, guest speaker on "Women in the Community" ... Allan Stanley has taken Laurie Stafford's place as Church Sec ... New building program well advanced ... Trevor Giles met with officers to discuss the Planned Giving program.

SPORTS PARADE (Blackburn, E.C. Keating, P. Burnham). At Sports Parade on April 16, Robert Rowan, who has represented Vic. in cricket and other sports, was interviewed. Burnham, Wakefield, Haythorpe trio participated in service ... Aboriginal singer and evangelist, Peter Jamieson from Tamworth, N.S.W., shared in service on April 16 ... At C.W.A. morning coffee Captain Wendy Oliver of Salvation Army was speaker and Nola Brown was soloist ... At A.G.M. the Board recommended the calling of a third minister from 1980 ... Cell and Visitation groups are in operation.

L.I.F.E. (Swan Hill, J. H. Caporn) Lay Institute of Evangelism meetings led by M. Conry in April. Two evening and one morning study groups are meeting each week ... A.G.M. elected Mrs Ivy Graham to officers' board, the first lady of our congregation in such a position ... Campaigners for Christ spent a weekend with the church for special youth activities, coffee mornings, and family night.

PENTECOST MESSAGE FROM THE WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Brothers and Sisters in Christ!

How often our messages begin with these words! That we should dare to speak in such terms is surely a miracle of the Holy Spirit! The only justification for doing so is the confidence which moves us, in union with our 'elder brother,' to address the Holy God as "Abba, Father!"

Certainly we are becoming better acquainted with each other. The faces of Christians from all parts of the world are becoming more familiar to us. We see them in magazines and films, on television and on posters. Sometimes we hear their voices from afar. Sometimes we even have the pleasure of meeting in person some of those with whom the Holy Spirit has made us one. We give God thanks for having made at least partly visible to us a fellowship which our predecessors were only able to live in faith. And with the apostle Paul we thank God every time we think of these brothers and sisters (Phil. 1:3).

This makes it easier for us to pray for one another. The human stories of some of our brothers and sisters are known to us today: some in dire distress, some suffering imprisonment and facing death for their witness to the Gospel, some persecuted for their defence of human life, some who proclaim the Gospel victoriously, many giving generously and cheerfully serving their fellows, some outstanding for creative scholarship or spiritual fervour.

At this time of Pentecost, why not make a list of all the persons, places and situations which bring this fellowship of brothers and sisters most vividly to our minds and use it as a guide for our intercessions?

But the fellowship to which we have been led by faith in Jesus Christ opens up to us a broader horizon for our prayers: the whole universe enfolded in the love of God. This love makes us one with all human beings and all peoples, in a way that transcends distinctions of sex, race, social condition, in a deep longing for the life, liberty, and justice which the Holy Spirit promises for the whole of humanity and for the entire universe. There is no hope, no pain, no persecution, no legitimate human endeavour or human creation which we cannot make our own in prayer to God.

The full unity of language, heart and mind, doctrine and fellowship, manifest at the first Pentecost, is far from visible among us. Nor are we clear as to how it is to be reached. But we are learning to see and understand one another more fully, day by day. And as we continue to 'pray intelligently', we express our love in words of thanksgiving, solidarity and hope, entrusting them into the keeping of the Holy Spirit who leads us ever nearer to the time when the promise of Pentecost will be made manifest in us all and in the whole universe.

The Presidents of the World Council of Churches.



● The Rev. W. M. Constable

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. TOUR TO WEST AUSTRALIA — at 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, second class rail, from Adelaide \$813-\$773; Sydney \$917-\$858; Brisbane \$1009-\$950.

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3. January 15, 1979 for Brisbane, Whitsunday Passage, Honiara, Espiritu Santo, Vila, Suva and Auckland. Accompanied by Rev. & Mrs. W. M. Constable, fares for this 20-day cruise are from \$620.00 — but book early.

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

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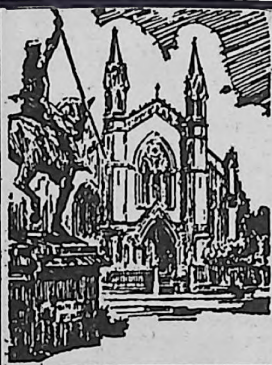
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AMBROSE Mary and Chris, 152 Derby St., Pascoe Vale, Vic., praise God for the birth of Roger William, born April 11th, 1978. A brother for George and Kate.

JOHNSON Joseph, Merrill, and Hildegard Johnson thank God for giving us Constance Anne (4.1.77) and Samuel Joseph (8.2.78). Jude 24, 25

APPROACHING MARRIAGE

HARVEY-HOUSTON. Mr & Mrs Errett Houston, Dennington, Vic., are happy to announce the marriage of their elder daughter, Heather, to Maurice, younger son of Mrs Ena Harvey and the late Mr Allen Harvey, Cavaside, Tasmania, at the Warrnambool Church of Christ on May 6, 1978 at 3 p.m.

ENGAGEMENT

DIX-BLENCOWE Myrtle and Malcolm Dix of Wembley together with Stan & Nessy Blencowe of Mt. Yokine have pleasure in announcing the engagement of Annette and Glen.

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DEATH

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(see page 10)

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Church News Editor: G. T. Alves

ISSUE	DEADLINE
May 13	May 5
May 27	May 19

—PERSONAL—

DISCIPLESHP

● Max and Mary Palmer, Morwell, Vic. ● Mrs Christine Plenty, Fremantle, W.A. ● Mark Condict, Jody Wilson, Blackburn, Vic. ● Mr and Mrs Bob Gray, Mrs Len Synfield, Caveside, Tas. ● Fred Chetland, Chelsea, Vic. ● Andrew Iliff, Sunshine, Vic. ● Helen Lee, Manifold Heights, Vic. ● Julia Perry, John Lee, Subiaco, W.A. ● Ken and Helen Joyce, Albany, W.A. ● Stephen Williams, Roger Nicolson, Nailsworth, S.A. ● Allan Cox, K. Kickbush, Shane Foley, Mrs Joan Walker, Tracey Walker, Jo-Anne Walker, Karen Roberts, Mrs Heather Munro, Mrs Lyn Kirby, Nambour, Qld. ● Mrs Pat Gill, Jenny Eager, David Eager, Glenelg, S.A.

MARRIAGES

● Mary Savill to Boris Ivancic, Essendon North, Vic. ● Wendy Macdonald to Kim Roediger, Karlva-Serviceton, Vic. ● Donna Langmaid to David Knox, Devonport, Tas. ● Chris Ledgard to Brice Routley, Nailsworth, S.A. ● Dianne Smyth to Albert Ray, Oakleigh, Vic. ● Mrs E. Brandon to W. Morris, Nambour, Qld.

DEATHS

● Mrs Holder, Fremantle, W.A. ● Allan Roy Harvey, Caveside, Tas. ● Hilda Davis, Inez Williams, Launceston, Tas. ● Miss Doreen Verco, Chatswood, N.S.W. ● R. F. Gillespie, Oakleigh, Vic. ● Arthur Guest, Nambour, Qld. ● Mrs Vera Redman, Glenelg, S.A.

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VICTORIA

INCREASED GIVING (Boronia, A. Taylor-Davis) Planned Giving Review program conducted by Trevor Giles resulted in 30% increase in church's giving . . . Seven people welcomed by transfer . . . 80 members attended local cinema on Sunday evening to view film "Jesus of Nazareth" . . . A smorgasbord was followed by evening with Peter Jamieson of our Tamworth church. Proceeds of evening to Aboriginal Work at Roelands . . . Young Adults spent week-end at Koo-wee-rup in study and fun. C.Y.F. conducted services at Werribee and Footscray . . . Church farewelled Wayne Henry on leaving for Sale.

NEW AT MELTON (J.E. Midgley). Three new members have been received into fellowship, doubling active membership to six . . . Don Smith (D.M.E.D., Vic.-Tas) ministered in early April . . . Hot cross buns and Easter eggs were used with spiritual significance for Maundy Thursday and Easter services . . . Church participated in local community combined service . . . \$500 has been invested with Properties Corporation . . . Mr Midgley is secretary of the Japan Evangelistic Band Australia council.

CELL GROUP (Bayswater, R.B. Waldron, D. Armstrong). Cell Group programme ready to start . . . Over \$500 raised at 2nd Annual Plant and Craft stall for Aboriginal Mission and Church Improvements . . . Ted Keating led Seminar for Presidents . . . C.W.F. held

meeting at Monbulk Camp . . . Tennis Club has had a further \$42 raised. Department of Youth, Sport & Recreation grants amounted to \$120 and \$55 for Explorers and Good Companions . . . All Church debts will be paid off by end of June.

CONFERENCE AT WANGARATTA (D. Stevens). People came from Wagga, Albury, Shepparton, Bendigo, Yarrawonga, for Riverina & Dist. Conference. Wangaratta billeted people in their homes. Carl Clayden from Ormond was speaker. Friday night was a tea for ministers at the manse and a business session in the Church. After Saturday morning session the men cooked a B.B.Q. at Merriwa Park. On Saturday night a packed church heard the "Changing Moods" from Melbourne as they presented "Show Me Jesus". Our own local Jazz Group "His" had everyone clapping along. On Sunday the Changing Moods took the service and presented "And God Is Love". Sunday afternoon was a P.S.A. and young people from Yarrawonga delighted with their singing. Music from Irene and Andrew Hurren and "HIS" again . . . Mrs J. Campbell and Mrs Cordy are ill and Baby Lee Keenan is home after being in Children's Hospital.

WORK PARTY (Manifold Heights, Peter Pitts) Officers' Board has given \$100 toward Carnarvon Work Party leaving on May 5. Trevor Cole has been elected chairman of the Board for second year. Roy Lee is new Treasurer . . . There has been one baptism and two adult re-dedications . . . Mr Pitts is presenting "Thought for the day" on 3GL . . . A Discipleship class has commenced for those desiring baptism . . . B.S. Adult study group recommenced . . . 75 members attended "The Hiding Place" film night . . . A bus Fellowship picnic held at Maroondah Dam on April 15.

ANNUAL MEETING (Malvern-Caulfield, Peter Nelson). Morning service on March 5 included annual business meeting. Film on church growth was shown. Lunch was prepared by Ron Flett. Preparations underway to bring the message of Jesus to people of Malvern . . . Regular visitation being done by members . . . Minister preached at combined Easter service in Malvern . . . Evening meditation held before Easter.

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WESTERN AUSTRALIA

SAMMY GROUP (Fremantle, D.J. Ryle) A.B.M held following election of officers the previous Sunday. A. Johnson, W. Robertson and C. Seggers re-elected elders . . . S.A.M.M.Y. group members presented program at C.W.F. This group held week-end camp at Mandurah . . . March 31 - April 2. G. Strack spoke recently on D.C.E. work.

FAMILY SERVICE (Albany, K.R. Ewers - Verge) 130 people, consisting of members and interested parents of S.S. scholars, attended family service, April 16 . . . Five members attended State Conf. early April.

DR BEAVIS LEADS (Warwick, G.B. Carslake) A family camp at Rockingham had church growth studies led by David Beavis, principal-elect of P.B.I. 102 attended with more day visitors . . . Registrations for "In the Spirit of Love" studies are 97, with nine groups functioning in homes over seven-week period . . . Recent speakers have included Gordon Stirling, C.O.B., Graham Chapman; Dick Hayman, Carnarvon; and Ken Patterson on his recent visit to Bombay. Wed. B.S. has over 70 in attendance.

IN NEW HEBRIDES (Subiaco) A newsletter received from Jenny Marshall tells of her safe arrival in the New Hebrides and a brief outline of her work as a teacher in the Ranwadi High School . . . There have been two recent baptisms.

PLANS MADE (Northam, M.G. Randall) Program for year introduced at church dinner . . . Ladies trio sang at week-end Convention of C.W.C.I. at Orange Grove. Three other women attended all sessions . . . C.W.F. choir sang at Women's Day of State Conf., also trio . . . Dr David Beavis was recent speaker . . . M. Randall was study leader at Scarborough family camp . . . C.W.F. organised "Old time" social . . . Two youth groups conducted evening service on April 16 with David Stanford speaker.

ROSTVIT TWINS (Nollamara, A. J. Anderson, N. Head). Rostvit twins, Janice and Faye, from Colorado, U.S.A., shared their music, puppets, films and testimony at four family evenings. Allan Anderson gave the gospel message. There were two decisions. Janice and Faye also visited schools and conducted children's session after school . . . Special Easter services attracted visitors. Gospel service was preceded by baptismal service . . . Nolan Head led studies at Youth Dept. Easter camp in Morawa . . . Bon and Sue Parry farewell to finalise preparations for overseas work in New Tribes Mission . . . Mr Anderson visited Wubin . . . There have been four decisions.

ACTIVE PALM SUNDAY (Dianella, J. Somerville). Men's B team won the finals of Summer Basketball . . . Special Palm Sunday service had members expressing personal feelings in verse, posters, discussions etc. On Jesus entering Jerusalem and how we would react if

he came to our town today . . . "Last Supper" service shared around the table with North Perth brethren on Maundy Thursday . . . David Murray and family will begin their ministry at Dianella in February 1979. David is an Exit student from Glen Iris.



QUEENSLAND

BIBLE MEN (Margaret St., Toowoomba, Arnold Caldicott & Graham Kerr). Chapel was used as venue by Bible Societies on two occasions to hear Dr. Oswald Hoffman (Lutheran Hour fame) and Tom Houston, British Sec., B. & F.B.S. . . . Bill Newman, recent guest preacher, reaped 11 decisions . . . Mrs Ellington Greenwood died after four years of intense suffering . . . Several attended Conference Women's Camp at Caloundra.

YOUTHQUAKE (Nambour, A. G. Leane). Bi-monthly Youth Quake run by senior Youth Group attended by 240 with two decisions . . . Junior Youth Group now grown to 20. Nine baptisms since December . . . Various church Auxiliaries share in gospel services . . . Special prayer meetings held for Mission in Sept. with Jack Bond . . . Bob Kirby undergoing major surgery . . . Youth from Camp Caloundra attended Easter Friday Service . . . Nambour church helping to form new church at Caloundra.

CAMPING (Ipswich, B. Rice) Young people attended Easter camps at Maroon and Leslie Dams. East Ipswich and Bundamba No. 2 section Boys' Brigade combined for hiking camp at Inglesby. East Ipswich, Leichhardt, and Bundamba Girls' Brigade combined for a camp at Toowoomba . . . An R.I. programme commenced at Bundamba High School . . . Kenmore students conducted visitation programme, after school "Happy Hour", and gave sacred concert in shopping centre as part of outreach programme at Redbank Plains. New contacts at services and "Happy Hour S.S." commenced . . . Patsy Venz, A.I.M., spoke of work in Kenya . . . East Ipswich and Bundamba ladies combined for "getting to know you" morning with wives of three students ministers.



NEW SOUTH WALES

CONGREGATION MEET (Inverell, R.A. Powell) Annual congregational meeting held. Stan McFetridge stepped down as a deacon after many years. Support increased for the church in Korea from \$55 to \$60 per month and for Armidale from \$30 to \$40 per week . . . Adventure Week, Outreach program with Rostvit Twins, a Revival Fires Crusade planned.

CAMP WAS TOPS (Chatswood, Terry Butler). Church Family Camp held

at "Stanwell Tops" Christian Centre has as study leader Ron Hewitt. Camp leader was Jim Kemsley . . . Recent speakers were Joe Shaw and Ray Roberts (Aboriginal Missions) . . . Church saddened by death of Miss Doreen Verco.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

ENCOURAGING (Flinders Park, Geoff and Joan Fewster) New ministry team inducted February . . . During past two months outreach work in the area surrounding new manse has seen establishment of Kidman Park women's study group . . . Three new families in the church. Gospel services more than doubling in attendances, seven primary decisions and three new members welcomed. 50 members are sharing in home Bible study groups . . . 198 attended Brigade Enrolment service.

FAMILY OF 48 (Victor Harbour, R.C. Mitchell) 48 attended church family camp at Point Sturt . . . Senior C.Y.F. presented singing items at Southern Districts' Conf. Ken Collins elected S.D.C. Vice-Pres. . . Recent features were church anniversary luncheon and introduction to Leighton Ford Crusade . . . Life Enrichment courses were completed . . . Junior and teen C.Y.F.'s presented lively youth service with audience enthusiastic participation . . . Comprehensive church directory distributed . . . Group of Y.P. went to D.C.E. Easter camp at Longwood.

SO IN CAMP (Nailsworth, D. Althorpe). 50 young people shared in Easter Camp at Loftia Park with studies on Holy Spirit. Young people also shared in J. Bond Mission at Keith . . . 'Abundant Life' singing group assisted in the evening services and at local church services on the Sunday morning . . . Minister has tea at Church of Christ Hostel each Tuesday, leads in devotions, and is available to the girls for counselling . . . Team from Solomon Islands visited over recent weekend.



TASMANIA

CONVENTION (Devonport, G. Risson). A Missionary Convention was held April 8 - 9. R. McLean, Sec. O.M.B. and Mr & Mrs Haribah Waghmode were guest speakers and visited the Sunday School. Mr Waghmode was morning speaker on 9th and showed slides on the work in India. Mr & Mrs Waghmode also sang at night . . . Evening service on 16th preceded by a youth tea.

INDIAN VISITORS (Launceston, M.D. Hamilton). Church visited by R. McLean and Mr and Mrs Waghmode . . . Recent Bike-a-thon raised over \$300 for Company colours and camping equipment for Boys' Brigade. Boys have collected 103,000 aluminium cans for sale for Brigade funds, a continuing project.

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NEW SOUTH WALES

EASTER CAMP (Wagga Wagga, E. W. Taylor) 110 attended the Family Camp at Forest Camp Site at Blowering Dam. Keith Farmer delivered six addresses on "Understanding You-Understanding Me." . . . Nearly 300 have participated in Spiritual Preparation Classes for the Bill Glass Crusade. Every house in Wagga is to be visited. Wagga church has undertaken to visit 1500 homes in next two weeks. Crusade dates are April 10-17.

TRAGIC DEATHS (Goonellabah) The tragic deaths of two of our young people in a car accident on Easter Saturday has stunned the church. Geoff Murray (19) and Shannon Rickert (17) had been active workers in the life of the church. . . . Church preparing for mission with John and Julie Bond in June. The Rostvit twins will also share . . . Extensions planned to present building to incorporate baptistry and amenities block . . . Family teas continuing each Wednesday night . . . Alison Clark in Toowoomba for tertiary studies. . . . The Officers' Board still seeking services of full-time minister.

DAY CARE (Georgetown, N. F. Proellocks). The Day Care Centre celebrated its 1st anniversary on April 6. A thanksgiving service was conducted by Mr Proellocks before the dinner. Among the official guests were the tradespeople of the district who have given tremendous support through the year. Mrs Richards, 92, and Rebecca Proellocks, 1, cut the birthday cake. Aged and invalid citizens who attend the centre come from a wide area of the district and were entertained by N. Traise and Mrs M. Doyle. The Centre caters for 50 guests each Thursday.

MEETING (Gilgandra, A. Franzen). At. A.B.M., secretary elected for the year was Miss D. Butler, Castlereagh St., Gilgandra . . . Mrs C. Butler is in hospital . . . Attendances at Y.P. meetings improved, being helped by Mr Franzen.

HARVEST FESTIVAL (Hamilton, F. D. Craig) At A.B.M. all elders and deacons were re-elected. A feature was report of successful activities of church's Day Care Friends Club . . . Harvest Thanksgiving festival included special tea, with speaker Miss Dorothy Parish, missionary in India with W.E.C. Guests included residents of Victoria Aged People's Home and members of Hamilton Friends Club. All produce for festival was donated to Victoria House at Mayfield.

THE LOFT (North Sydney) Y.P. starting drop-in centre ministry on Friday nights, "The Loft", advertising it with stickers which say "Ask Someone Who Knows". "The Loft" will run parallel to the "Make-it Club" which is aimed at young children . . . Church planning a teaching mission with Rex Ellis, and an evangelistic mission with John Timms.

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VICTORIA

DRESSING UP (Mitcham, R. McLean) Fancy dress evening opened S.S. year with children representing Bible characters . . . Boys' Explorers and their families held Labour Day weekend camp at Warburton . . . C.W.F. visited Wycliff Bible Translators at Kangaroo Ground . . . 150 attended church picnic at "Boronia Lodge," Narre Warren Nth., the home of Mr and Mrs E. L. Williams . . . All gifts from Harvest Festival were taken to the College of the Bible . . . Boys' Basket Ball teams were runners up in competition.

GUEST SPEAKERS (Kaniva-Serviceton). Recent speakers have been Les. Gason, Rosalyn Williams, Keith & Julie Ware and H. Waghmode . . . Interim minister for February was Don Kube . . . Annual business meeting held May 5 . . . Church joined others for "Welcome to Newcomers Social" and Women's World Day of Prayer . . . Explorers held Adventure Camp . . . C.W.F. travelled to York St. Ballarat . . . Presentation made to John Macdonald on becoming a cadet in S.A. Police Force . . . Dorothy Williams gave travel talk to C.W.F. . . . Correction Judy and Barry Brown served at Kaniva for five years not 10 as shown in church news on March 18.

SMORGASBORD (Caulfield, K. Christensen) E.W.F. held successful smorgasbord and social evening . . . Many responded to postal prayer ministry seeking help and prayers of church . . . Meeting held with Elsternwick Uniting Church for spiritual renewal . . . Marion Gray recovering from illness and Julie Hendy recovering from accident . . . Roslyn Williams spoke work of mission in P.N.G. The church gives for the maintenance of outboard motors etc. belonging to the Mission and has about \$300 in hand for a tractor for airstrips.

MISSIONARIES (West Preston, B.F. Goldsteen) Re-elected officers, Betty David and Bob Robb (Elders), Bill Nash

(Sec.) and Bill Griffiths (Treas.) . . . Missionary families have settled to their new work, the Cooks at W.E.C. Sydney H.Q; and in India, the Jenkins, from whom a cassette has been received incorporating Barry's Palm Sunday sermon . . . Student minister, Phil Webber, presented program on involvement with recent Venture for Victory Basketball tour to the Philippines, and also conducted Easter Sunday services . . . C.3 tennis team runners-up in summer competition.

MATURE COMMITMENT (Chelsea, Tim Hanna/Denise Wissman) A special service followed baptism of Fred Chetland, attended by eleven of his children and grandchildren. Church was full of love and affection and many members of our church rejoiced in the mature commitment of Fred at the celebration supper which followed (Tertius-March 4, please note).

ARCHEOLOGY (Sunshine, F. B. Alcorn). An archeology "Treasures of the Past" exhibition held in Uniting Church, Sunshine. David Searle, Australian Institute of Archeology, was recent speaker. On April 16 the film "Impact of Archeology", was screened . . . There was a baptism at morning service on April 16 . . . Relocated Bible School in co-operation with Uniting Church, working well . . . Mrs Moyles' health improving. Mrs Muller recently had eye surgery.

LADY ELDER (Strathmore, S. K. Bannon). Mrs D. Turner has been elected as Elder . . . A recent House Church service has proved successful . . . F. T. Morgan spoke at both services on April 9 . . . Our church paper editor is R. Baldry.

WORSHIP TRAINING (Glen Waverley, R.B. Elbourne). Training sessions in public worship are held weekly for all church members interested . . . 50 men from our church family attended at Men's Breakfast raising \$210 for Building Fund. Speaker was Trevor Giles. Five of our ladies did the cooking . . . At C.W.F. 24th Birthday the Glenairs presented musical "I'm Here, God's Here, Now We Can Start" . . . Midget and Inter Explorers held weekend camp at Woori Yallock and Apollo Bay.

QUESTING from Page 24!

goes so far as to say" if there has been anyone during the thirty years of my observation who has exercised the true 'gifts of healing'. I have never met or read of that person."

He declares two facts about today's healings. (1) There are extremely few if any demonstrable healings which have involved those with congenital deformities obvious to the public. (2) A great percentage of those who have sought healing at the hands of 'divine healers' have never received healing regardless of the form of illness or affliction they had.

But healings do take place and a discussion of the work of the Holy Spirit today can neither deny nor ignore them.

Healings take place at Lourdes, but the Roman Catholic Church does not promote Lourdes as a place of healing. Leslie Weatherhead wrote that when he went there those in charge of the pilgrims seemed reluctant to admit cures and they tried to avoid the sensational reports in the press. The Roman Catholics declared that the purpose of the pilgrimage is to deepen the spiritual life and to strengthen faith in Christ and his Church, and that miraculous cures were of minor importance.

I recall that Catherine Marshall, in "A Man Called Peter" was very ill of a lung condition. Medical treatment was having no effect. She asked for gifts of faith, made confession, sought spiritual cleansing, memorised faith scriptures and affirmations and then asked Christ to heal her. Healing didn't come. Then she surrendered herself to God, was quite ready to accept illness if that was God's will. She would no longer fight it. At that moment she began to get well. When she made God and not health the object of her search she found both.

Next issue: Healing in the charismatic movement.

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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 Gifts of Healing

I don't know of any minister who does not pray for the sick and to pray that they may be healed.

It is evident that ministers believe that there is a ministry of healing in the work of the Holy Spirit today. But it does sometimes seem less appropriate for a prayer to be offered for the healing of a very old person suffering expected aches and pains and diseases, than it would be for a young person suddenly afflicted with a dangerous illness.

Sickness and its healing does not receive that much emphasis in the N.T. outside the gospels. And even in the gospels the healing work of Jesus was limited. In Mark 6 we read that in his own home town "he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands upon a few sick people and healed them." In John 5 he healed a man at the Pool of Bethesda. There was "a multitude of invalids, blind, lame, paralysed" but apparently only one man was healed.

There was no limit to the power of Jesus, but there were limitations on his use of that power. He was shown as more eager to concentrate on his preaching ministry than on that of healing.

The gifts of healing in the New Testament describe the ability to speak with the authority of God and to say such things as "arise" (to the dead), "walk" (to

the lame), and "see" (to the blind). Instantaneous healing followed.

The term "gifts of healing" (never "gift") appears three times in the N.T., in 1 Cor. 12:9, 28, 30. The term does not appear in any other book. Peter and John never refer to it. Paul in his long letter to the Roman church does not include any reference. It is not in his pastoral letters, and the writer to the Hebrews does not mention it.

Only three exercise these gifts after the coming of the Holy Spirit. Peter healed a lame man at the gate of the Temple (Acts 3:1-10). The man was not seeking healing and there is no evidence that he was a follower of Christ or had faith.

There was a spontaneous outflow of healing in Acts 5, the only incident in the N.T. remotely resembling the healing campaigns held in some churches today. Believers brought the sick into the streets so that the "shadow" of Peter might fall on them. "and they were healed every one." In Acts 9, Peter healed Aeneas and Dorcas. Peter, however, never (in the records given to us) referred to these healing experiences or to the gifts of healing.

Paul and Philip were the only other two to exercise gifts of healing, which were certainly not common experiences in the N.T. But it must be acknowledged that healings did take place. If then, why not now?

It is extremely difficult to make out a case for seeking "gifts of healing". Some writers emphasise the great differences between most of the healing ministries of today and those that are recorded in the N.T. Don W. Hillis in "Tongues, Healing, and You," (Baker), says that both the techniques and results of today's healing ministries stand out in bold contrast to what is recorded in the Book of Acts. He

• Continued on Page 22

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

THE LAST WORD...

Felt much turmoil of spirit in prospect of having all my plans for the welfare of this great region and this teeming population knocked on the head by savages tomorrow. But I read that Jesus said: "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." It is the word of a gentleman of the most strict and sacred honour, so there's an end to it.

—David Livingstone

Never in this world
Does hatred cease by hatred;
Hatred ceases by love,
And this according to a law
which has existed forever.

★ ★ ★

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

★ ★ ★

And Your Clothes Fitless
From what I can witness,
This physical fitness
Is easy: just sitless
And eat quite a bitless.

Walt Streightiff

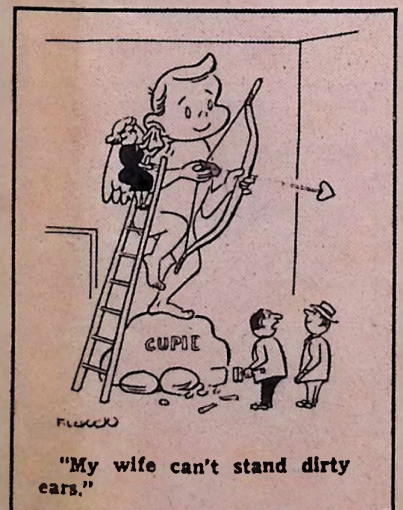
★ ★ ★

"That young man is very bad-mannered. He kept yawning all the time I was talking to him."

"But, my dear, perhaps he was trying to say something."

★ ★ ★

As a rule, meat eaters are more active than vegetarians — they have to be, to get the meat.



● Rejoice in the Lord

GORDON MOYES TO SPEAK AT MELBOURNE CONFERENCE

The 37th Federal Conference in January, 1979, will conclude with an evangelistic rally at the Melbourne Town Hall on Sunday, January 14.

The guest speaker will be G. K. Moyes, the present minister of the Church of Christ, Cheltenham, Victoria. Writer and Speaker, he has led many crusades in Australia and New Zealand. He is the author of "How to Grow an Australian Church," and writes the regular column "Word Talk" in "The Australian Christian."

In December, 1978, Mr Moyes will succeed Alan Walker as Director of the Wesley Central Mission, Sydney.

