

THE LOVING CUP



'A.C.' IN NEW ZEALAND



"A.C." SURVEY



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**SNOW VILLAGE** *at Carnegie*

Faced with an average attendance at the Gospel service last year of 10 the church at Carnegie with its minister Russell Ritchie devised a programme based on Noah's Ark to run for about nine weeks. This was scheduled at 5 p.m. and attracted up to 70 in attendance. There was one problem. When the series finished and the Gospel service went back to 7 p.m. the numbers went back to the same faithful few.

This year realising that to attract the families they needed to stage the whole of the program for a longer time period and to make the whole lot attractive for families to continue coming.

Russell Ritchie this year devised the series around the theme of a "Snow Village".

**HOW IT WAS ACHIEVED**

The whole project has involved the church and its contacts fully.

The ideas for the set were devised and the sets designed. During the May school



The Abominable Snowman

holidays the sets were made at an Adventure Time for the local children. They worked on each aspect of the sets decorating them themselves as well as having games and other activities each morning.

Kevin Macleod has been involved in setting up all the electrical work — the lighting and sound aspects of the stage.

The ladies of the church designed and made over 12 large glove-type puppets.

Each week either as a team or separately Russell and Margaret Ritchie and Stuart Crane have produced the next week's script for the puppets which take about 15 minutes of the program. There have been 14 scripts so far and the series may be continuing until late September or October.

**ACHIEVEMENTS**

When asked about the achievements of the 'Snow Village' Russell said that it had developed a Young Adults group for the church. This group had started to meet weekly to tape the script for each week's puppet play and had a great amount of potential.

As about 25 people were needed each week to operate the 11 puppets and all the other props it meant that many young adults and teens were involved in the church. Many of these were contacts of the church and it looks like developing a young peoples group out of those who help.

Another benefit has been the church's image in the community. The Carnegie church is seen as a family church with many families attending as a group and staying for the regular Family Teas which help with contact. The community has seen the church as involved with children and several local school teachers have offered to train the church members in handling childrens activities.

After the puppet segment the children move to work on a different craft activity. On Father's Day this involved painting a handkerchief for dad but had included a special 'Snow Village' hockey board as well as helmet, shield and sword.

During this time there is the opportunity to express the meaning of the Gospel to the adults in a low key informal atmosphere that had been developed because of the first part of the service.

(Cont. on p.20)

# UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY

OCTOBER 24, 1979

This "day of world-wide fraternity and understanding amongst children" was proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1954. It is sponsored by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and children and adults from an increasing number of countries take part each year.

The fourth Wednesday in October is Universal Children's Day in Australia — this year also United Nations Day on Wednesday, October 24.

## TO SAVE A CHILD'S SIGHT

The educational theme of Universal Children's Day 1979 is linked directly with the objective of the UNICEF fund-raising appeal for the International Year of the Child. This is an appeal for funds for the purchase of high-potency Vitamin A capsules to prevent young children going blind through deficiency of Vitamin A in their diet. It is estimated that as many as 250,000 children go blind each year from this cause in the Asian, tropical African and Latin American countries.

Because of the widespread risk to the children of these countries, UNICEF and the World Health Organisation (WHO) have supported the research which has provided a successful new way of protecting children from this needless loss of sight.

These children can be safeguarded against the blindness due to Vitamin A deficiency (xerophthalmia) with one dose of high-potency Vitamin A (200,000 international units) every six months from the age of three months to six years.

One nation where Vitamin A therapy has been available since 1973 is Bangladesh, where the goal is to reach the entire population of infants and young children with six-monthly doses. The capsules are made in Australia and are administered twice a year by family welfare workers. To this time, a total of eleven million children have been treated. Other countries where UNICEF is assisting in these sight-saving programmes are India, Indonesia and The Philippines.

It means so much to see the world around — the faces of family and friends. It costs so little to save sight at risk through Vitamin A deficiency.

## REACHING PARENTS THROUGH CHILDREN

Pollster George Gallup, Jr., an Episcopal layman, has advised that "churches should step up their efforts to reach the parents through the children". Interviewed in the monthly Church Business Report newsletter, Mr Gallup commented that "this is a more effective route than is generally acknowledged because kids have a great deal of influence on their parents. He indicated that his surveys show that people who had religious training in the home are much more likely to go to church as adults than people without it.



Youngster in the town of Bogra, Bangladesh, receives a high-potency Vitamin A capsule from Nitu Seal, malaria eradication worker.

— UNICEF/Sue Steiner

## INNER SPRINGS

### A PARABLE ON THE GOLDEN RULE



In a certain town there once lived a carpenter who was well known for his fine workmanship.

One day a friend whom he had not seen for many years came to him with a request — "I want you to make me some furniture for a friend who once did me a great kindness. When you have completed it, let me know the cost and I will see that you are paid and tell you to whom it is to be delivered."

Now the carpenter was a good man of high reputation, but with inflation, the timber cutter's strike and a large family to support, life had become a struggle to make ends meet. Also being a very astute man he saw an opportunity to make a little extra money.

In the carpenter's shop were two kinds of wood. The one was of the finest timber to be found. The other looked equally as good but lacked the strength and lasting qualities of the first. "Why not," reasoned the carpenter, "use the poorer wood and charge the highest price?"

So he set about his task and worked hard for many days.

At last the furniture was all completed and he notified his friend that all was ready.

Very soon he received a letter, in which was enclosed a cheque for the amount specified, and a covering note which read — "Since I know you to be a man of high repute and trustworthy, there is no need for me to inspect the furniture. I also know that you have had to sell many things to keep your family in these troubled times so perhaps this gift will help. The friend for whom the furniture is intended is yourself.

I trust that it will give you great pleasure.

Yours in gratitude,  
Mr. True-love.  
Florence Rosier

Matt 7-12

## 75 YEARS OF PROGRESS

On August 5 Blackburn (Vic.) celebrated its 75th Anniversary with a Day of Reminiscing, Thanksgiving and Anticipation. Among the 200 visitors returning for the day were special guests. Frank Hunting — the first full-time Minister of the church from 1933-1939, Don Smith — Director of the Department of M.E. & D., Graham Gilmour — a former Chairman of the Board, former Victorian and Federal Conference President, and Jim Wright.

At the morning service, Jim Wright, Minister at Blackburn 1942-1946, who will be joining the current ministry team in 1980, was the guest speaker. The beautifully attired choir sang during the services, and gave a moving rendition of the Prayer of St. Francis. Seven new members were introduced to the congregation by the Elders.

The church was packed for the afternoon session of "Memories." Among the speakers from all decades who presented the history of the church as they saw it were Vic McDowell, Mrs. Amie Miles, Eric Patterson Ferg Minahan, Ern



The Ministers' Quartet brought the house down! Wayne Clinton (Piano), Ted Keating (Recorder), Jim Wright (Tambourine — hidden), and Paul Burnham (Guitar).

Baxter and Mal Wakefield. The past was featured in a comprehensive photographic gallery.

420 stayed for a time of tea and fellowship. The tea was followed by an interesting slide presentation.

The evening service again involved the choir and a Ministers' quartet with E. C. Keating, P. B. Burnham, C. H. J. Wright and W. Clinton. The Chapel was filled to hear the three-part sermon on the challenge for the future by the 1980 Ministry Team of Ted, Paul and Jim.

— Raelene Burnham

## LAYWOMAN TO HEAD URUGUAYAN CHURCH

The first laywoman to become leader of the Uruguayan Methodist Church, Miss Margarita Grassi, took up her position as president on August 15.

A vice-president of the church (Iglesia Evangelica Metodista en el Uruguay) for the last two years, she succeeds Rev. Oscar Bolioli, who leaves the post after serving the maximum term.

— E.P.S.

## ON MY MIND (8)

# THREE CHEERS FOR THE CHURCHES OF CHRIST

— Eric Hart

Eric Hart is one of our veteran ministers. Amongst many leadership responsibilities he has been Secretary of the N.S.W. Conference, Director of the Queensland Social Service Department and President of the Federal Conference.

I was won to Christ at the age of 19 in the church at Kingsford; a church that knew the art of nurturing and provided Ministers who really cared for the flock; a church that believed in the ministry of healing prayer.

Within two years I really needed their healing ministry with a top specialist doubting whether I would ever walk again and when I did walk, promising a bleak future with the spectre of crippling arthritis before I reached 40. "Let's hope," he said, "that before you reach 40 we will have conquered arthritis." What that doctor did not know was, that in addition to his skill, I had the support of a praying people who believed James when he said "... and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him."

The arthritis didn't appear until I was 64! And today my type of arthritis is overcome with shining stainless steel and plastic hips. I am in the midst of this renewal and am experiencing once again the concerned ministry of a praying church, this time at Kenmore, plus my brethren throughout the brotherhood. You will surely agree I have the right to cheer a praying people! My second cheer is for our Colleges.

I could never have become a minister, in the full-time sense, without "Glen Iris." I thank God for those patient teachers who gave of themselves as

they imparted knowledge and particularly knowledge of the Restoration Plea.

Now three Colleges train more men and women than we dreamed possible with the same message that today is more meaningful than ever, and with the things we stand for meeting wide acceptance in a way that would have made the pioneers of the Restoration Movement marvel. We should rejoice in all the Christian union manifestations, the new emphasis on the Word and the seeking out of the New Testament pattern, and the general acceptance of believers' baptism as revealed in that Word. All of which points to a significant reason for our existence as a separate entity until that day when we all come in a unity of the faith based on the pattern of the New Testament alone.

My third cheer is for our Missionary enterprise today. I believe, of course, there is only one Mission Field, — the World. So I put them all together, the overseas field, work with Aborigines, youth work, care of the aged and the shepherding of the flock right here at home.

The work maintained per capita is beyond reasonable expectation. What other group of 30,000 (Active Membership) would attempt to support 367 Ministers in the Home Field plus the undergirding necessary to run 408 Churches; support three Colleges and maintain the work in the Overseas field? Do you wonder that sometimes from my little corner of the arena I look up and say with a poet who challenged me once.

"Me thinks I hear the clapping of the nail pierced Hands!" Perhaps we don't warrant that, but I'm still proud enough to give my three cheers for the Church.

# CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP "UMBRELLA"

## CONCLUSION AND POINTS OF VIEW.

### "UMBRELLA" NAME

Christian Women's Fellowship is an "Umbrella" name which covers all women in the Church family.

All work in the Churches, local, state and federal, that pertains to women, also comes under the "Umbrella" name.

C.W.F. organisation does not dictate forms and programs, but guides in Brotherhood interests at a State and Federal level. Women in the local Church family, in prayerful, loving discussion, and mutual agreement, decide what is best for the women of that Church. Each woman is able to express opinions, make suggestions, constructively criticise, and make a real and vital contribution.

Whatever forms of expression are chosen, the basic goals of C.W.F. are upheld, i.e. i. to promote the Spiritual growth of women of the Church family, and ii. to evangelise by friendship, love and sharing with non-church women.

This calls for total commitment to Christ of each Church woman.

### SOCIAL CHANGE BRINGS NEW OPPORTUNITY.

Because of the rapid, dramatic change in women's roles in Society, undreamed of areas of work, interest, and involvement are opened up for women of the Church family.

Some women through necessity or option have gone back to work.

Other women, because of educational opportunities made easy, have resumed studies, either to extend their careers, or to start new ones, or to stretch their minds, or to gain confidence in their abilities.

Older women, who had to leave school at an early age, and feel the need to better themselves in various ways and for differing purposes, are giving some time to study.

Change in Society also provides involvement in all sorts of voluntary Community interests and activities. These are providing a satisfactory form of expression for Christian service, and filling a desperate need in the Community.

Wonderful as these new opportunities are, they are time consuming. They demand that Christian women look at their priorities of time and loyalty to determine the best way of serving God, while at the same time improving themselves for that service.

It is not only on the personal level that Social change is felt. It has had a profound affect on methods and forms of women's groups. While previously the formal structured type of group was satisfying to most women, now some women find it less satisfying. These women are seeking new ways to express themselves as Christians. They are finding it in Small groups and Community service.

There are still many women content to remain within a more formal structured group and are satisfactorily serving God in this way.

### PERSONAL OPINIONS

Some opinions of C.W.F. from a cross-section of Church women have been gathered. They are summarized below.

J. Small groups rather than formal meetings seem to meet the needs of working, studying and career younger women. J. feels that her role at present is to have fellowship with couples, centering round building firm foundations for marriage and family life. She says, "Group life of the Church needs to be round peoples' needs, and not round auxiliaries."

R. Women who prefer to fulfil the role of wife and mother exclusively tend to support the formalised C.W.F., and women who find additional satisfaction in careers and work, tend to favor small groups, mixed family activities, and Community service. She suggests that C.W.F. should be less meeting-orientated, and more flexible in times, places, and structure, thus fostering friendship. Different forms of Christian service need to be accepted. Opportunities for spiritual growth through Christian education, and support through personal sharing and service through a Christian contribution to Community life/Social action, must be present in C.W.F.

Most important of all is the need for Creative Worship in C.W.F. C. Has not seen a real effort in evangelistic outreach, and spiritual growth, possibly due to a lack of spiritual content in many programs. Absence of real worship, resulting in weakness in witness and challenge to 'fringe' women and 'outsiders'. She says, "I loathe the idea of separate evening and afternoon fellowships, which tends to foster competition in some places." C.W.F. is good for fellowship and building friendships.

F. C.W.F. provides for large variety of topics, studies, and activities over a wide range. e.g. i. Home interests. . Plant cultivation, Crafts. ii. Intellectual "mind-stretchers" . . Book reviews, Bible studies. iii. Community awareness. . Speakers from Police, Flying Doctor Service. iv. Community Service . . C.W.F. provides for endless possibilities in community service. . meals on wheels, taking Handicapped shopping.

Coffee a.m.'s could deepen fellowship and are ideal for introducing 'outsiders' into the group. Small groups within the Church have great advantages.

At state level, Good Companions (Girls' Clubs) as "Junior C.W.F." could help girls to develop beliefs and attitudes for later life and service in the Church. F. suggests that as all women are not interested in formal C.W.F. program "non-attendance must not be made an issue of disloyalty". Each woman is free to decide her priorities. Remember C.W.F. Aim and Purpose and practise it.

F. C.W.F. is great for fellowship, and support of C.W.F. projects. Responds readily to call for help from Minister or Board. Has definite means of outreach. Flexible leaders can achieve much. Well run groups run good programs. F. suggests that if Church is small, C.W.F. can come together with other Churches in areas to maintain interest groups. She says that Interest seems to be limited to within the Church. Interest is limited in 'mind-stretching' programs. There is a complacency about evangelism. Programs are uninteresting to strangers.

### POINTS OF VIEW COMMON TO ALL CONTRIBUTORS.

1. All women agree that the C.W.F. "Umbrella" name covers all women of all ages and interests in the Church family. They believe that C.W.F. should provide for Christian growth, and be evangelistic.
2. The main criticisms of all are . . .
  - + Some rigidity of structure.
  - + Over emphasis on money raising and discussion of it at meetings . . . (F. suggested an annual subscription)
  - + Lack of young women in C.W.F.

### CONCLUSION

The genius of God the Creator is that He made us all different, with differing abilities, interests, and imaginations. Within Churches of Christ, under the "Umbrella" name of C.W.F. we are able to live together in love regardless of differences.

So we have formal C.W.F., small groups, Bible studies, Coffee a.m.'s, Prayer groups etc. While some women who are not the "Clubable" type find service to God in other ways — still as part of C.W.F. Others serve in the Community and make their witness there. They are also part of the Fellowship — part of its outreach.

Lesley Stirling.

### AVNELL HEIGHTS QLD.

Young and old women are in our C.W.F. group. 10 women have accepted Christ. 22 women are involved in small groups, Bible study and Prayer, in groups of 4-6. We meet in homes and back gardens. Our aim is to win women for Christ. When women decide for Christ, they are put into small groups to learn to pray and study the Bible. We love God and one another.

# MUSTARD SEEDS

BY ALAN AUSTIN



"I know it's an extraordinary thing to think about," said a Reader's Digest editor, "but we've condensed the Odyssey and the Russian novelists, and there's no reason to think we can't do the Bible."

The magazine has chosen the Revised Standard Version, and editors have already condensed the books of Daniel, 1 Samuel and Acts. One editor said the project will involve "just a reduction in length, like any of our condensations. You simply take out what you can without distorting what the author meant. Only, in this case, the author has more stature than most."



Since the above report appeared in Sojourners, earlier this year, the gospels also have been condensed. A leaked copy has reached your correspondent who is proud to offer his readers a preview of this rare literary and spiritual achievement.



## CHAPTER ONE

And it came to pass that after Jesus was conceived, annunciated, born, adored, circumcised, raised, left at the temple, found again, baptised, tempted in the wilderness and transfigured, he came unto Jerusalem.



## CHAPTER TWO

And going unto the temple he was taken up by Satan to the pinnacle thereof. "Throw yourself down if you

are the Son of God!" But Jesus entered by the narrow gate and healed the man lame from birth who had daily lain at the gate. And lo, after teaching there and arguing with the scribes and pharisees, he threw out the money-changers, destroyed the temple utterly so not one stone remained upon another, rebuilt it in three days, healed the demoniac and was given a fragment of the scroll of the prophet Isaiah to read. "Good news! Freedom and salvation. Verily, amen."

And all wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth.



## CHAPTER THREE

One day when Jesus was walking on the Sea of Galilee because there was much water there, behold, a herd of swine rushed down the steep bank and perished in the waters. Suddenly, a storm blew up and the multitudes standing on the shore and likewise the fishermen who hadn't left their nets were sore afraid. "Fear not! Cast thy nets on the other side!" And lo, there were so many loaves and fishes that there were twelve basketfuls left over. And in the mouth of the very first fish was a shekel to be rendered unto Caesar.



## CHAPTER FOUR

And when he returned to Capernaum many were gathered together so there was no longer room at the inn,

even about the door. Then Nicodemus, Zaccheus, a man sick of the palsy, a woman caught in adultery at the well, ten lepers and a rich young paralytic were lowered unto him by night through a hole in the roof. "What must we do to have eternal life?"

"If you would enter, then you must keep the two Commandments." And Jesus, turning to his seven disciples, said, "Truly I say unto you, the rich are okay provided they're humble. An eye for an eye and a camel for a camel."



## CHAPTER FIVE

And he spake unto them a parable. "Verily, there was a rich fool who went out to sow his seed. But his younger son came unto him and said, "Give me my share of the inheritance for lo, the laborers are few and I have been toiling here since five o'clock." And so he girded his loins and set off, past the ten sleeping virgins and poor Lazarus sitting at the gate. Suddenly he fell among the robbers who smote him on the other cheek and left him naked. And seeing a figtree by the wayside he went to it, but found nothing on it.

Now by chance a levite, an unjust steward, a man born blind, Pontius Pilate and a eunuch were going down that road. When they saw him they passed by reading the Other Side. Suddenly a servant came unto them. "Come, for behold, the banquet is now ready!" But they all alike began to make excuses. "I have bought a field and must go out and see it." And another said, "But we have been toiling all day and have caught nothing." And another said, "I went and hid the talent in the ground. Behold, here it is." Now, verily, I ask you, which one did the will of his father? Go, thou, and do likewise. He who has ears, let him hear."

And the people marvelled at the wisdom with which he spoke.



## CHAPTER SIX

Then behold, in the fulness of time, he was arrested, convicted, executed, buried, resurrected and ascended. The End.

### JASON'S HOUSE

WHAT HAPPENED, CLEM...?  
... CAR SMASH...?

NO, NO...

... WE WERE JUST DISCUSSING ONE OF HER CRAZY IDEAS... SOON WE STARTED YELLING, THEN I SORT OF GAVE HER A SLAP... AND NEXT THING...

GOSH! WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?

SHE WANTS US TO GO TO THAT MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WEEKEND.



## Professor Suggests Replacement of Infant Baptism

A noted German Protestant theologian has suggested that the Christian meaning of baptism does not fit well in the practice of infant baptism.

Jurgen Moltmann, professor of systematic theology at the University of Tubingen, asserted that "only when the baptism of infants is slowly replaced by baptism as a free response to the call to discipleship can there be a reform in the church which creates community."

He made these comment in a discussion of baptism that was featured as the second of a three-part series on "The Church and the Sacraments."

Asking what should happen to newborn children of Christians if they are not baptized, the theologian said, "I believe it's not so much their baptism . . . rather the vocation of the parents, the sponsors and the Christian community to the Christian nurture of children. For with the advent of a child comes a new charism, the gift of parenthood.

"The appropriate liturgical celebration of this is a blessing of the children which should include calling upon parents and sponsors to exercise this new charism entrusted to them. From this call addressed to the parents, the sponsors, and the congregation to nurture children follows the task of incorporating these children

into the story of the gospel, into the story of Christ; that is, to instruct them in their basic identity as part of the community.

Noting that "Christian baptism originated out of the baptismal movement of John the Baptist," the theologian commented that "Therefore, it has nothing to do with an initiation ritual. It is also not a substitute for the Hebrew ritual of circumcision. The movement of John the Baptist was a prophetic call to repentance in the light of the inbreaking judgement of God."

The kind of baptism which corresponds to the Christian meaning of baptism, therefore, is, for my understanding, baptism as an answer to the call of discipleship."

— The Disciple

## WORD TALK

BY GORDON MOYES

No. 205

## I Believe in . . . EVANGELISM

### IN THE STUDY

Most of church history has seen little interest in evangelism. Apart from Martin Bucer, most Reformers believe that the Great Commission of Jesus (Matt. 28:18-20) died with the apostles. The Dark Ages, the Monastic Movement and the impact of Islam all blunted the mission of the church.

The Roman Catholic Church also saw mission in terms of its own families within the faith until the great Portuguese and Spanish expansion where mission became linked with territorial gain and economic expansion. Similar results followed the Protestant missionaries of the 19th Century, but we believe these to be result rather than motive. Francis Xavier was the outstanding exception in the Roman Catholic Church. The Protestant missionary movement was spearheaded by the examples of Dr Livingstone, William Carey and Hudson Taylor.

Mission refers to the task of proclaiming Christ as Lord throughout all the world, geographically, socially, economically, politically, and spiritually. Evangelism is the primary method of fulfilling the mission of the church. All evangelism starts with God who sends His Son. Jesus Himself came to seek and to save the lost (Lu. 19:10). The Holy Spirit equips and empowers the church in evangelism.

The 19th Century was the great era of missionary expansion. However, the 20th Century is the greatest century of evangelistic response. The latest computerised survey from Nairobi (interestingly enough in itself for it is the centre of statistical analysis of the church's growth) indicates that in 1978 some 3,000,000 adults abandoned the faith in Europe and North America, while in Africa some 6,000,000 adults were baptised and joined the church, and in South East Asia a further 39,000,000 likewise joined the church. In Latin America evangelical Protestants who numbered 50,000 at the beginning of the century are expected to number 100,000,000 by the end of it.

Today the church is growing faster than ever in any period of its history and in some continents is rapidly outstripping the population explosion. The world's largest congregations today are in Sao Paulo, Brazil; Seoul, Korea; and Santiago, Chile. It is anticipated that African Christians will number 351,000,000 by the end of the century when that continent becomes the centre of the Christian population.

### FROM THE PULPIT

Every day (1979 figures) 63,000 new people become Christians and every week 1,600 new churches open their doors. Modern church growth has come about because of a definite

strategy of evangelism, particularly in people's movements.

The apostle Paul had a definite strategy for evangelism.

1. Urban. Paul selected places that were centres of Roman administration and peace, Greek culture and language, Jewish influence and religion, and commercial trade and travel. These became the centrepoints of his major thrusts.
2. Provincial. From the urban centres, Paul moved to strategic provincial cities and into the provincial areas beyond, frequently not travelling there himself, but sending his support ministers like Timothy, Titus and Silas on smaller preaching campaigns. Note the ministries of Antioch, Ephesus, Philippi, and Corinth.
3. Global. Paul's worldwide ambition for the gospel was fundamental to his desire to visit Rome, then to Spain (Rom. 15:19-23). "My ambition has always been to proclaim the good news in places where Christ has not been heard of, so as not to build on a foundation laid by someone else."

Luke closes each stage of Acts with a brief summary as the church moved into a new region: Jerusalem, Judea and Samaria, Antioch, Asia Minor, Europe and Rome. We live in an era when strategy is essential for effective evangelism.

### AMONG THE PEOPLE.

Great impetus has been given to the Christian church in its task of evangelism through a series of international conferences on evangelism and mission, commencing with Edinburgh (1910) and progressing through a great series of ecumenical conferences on mission including Jerusalem (1928), Tambaram (1938), Mexico City (1963) and Bangkok (1972). Likewise, in the Congresses of Evangelization at Berlin (1966) and Lausanne (1974). In these latter conferences, emphasis has been made upon a fully-orbed evangelism to the total man. In 1980 we will see great congresses on world evangelism, both in Thailand and Melbourne.

Today the impetus for evangelism comes as a result of the impact of four movements within the church: renewal, charismatic, church growth, and liberation theology.

Living in a global world there are no longer sending and receiving countries. The fact that Canberra will be evangelised in late 1979 by a Nigerian evangelist is significant.

Modern technology has greatly aided the proclamation of the evangel. Billy Graham, Oral Roberts, Rex Humbard, and Robert Schuller all effectively have worldwide evangelistic ministry through television. World Literature Crusade workers visit over 1,000,000 every day and last year spoke to 387,000,000 people, giving them two gospel tracts each.

Behind Moscow's red brick Kremlin walls, is a multi-storied yellow building called The Armory. Coming from every corner of the Soviet Union and the world, thousands enter this inner city fortress to view the ancient glories and wonders of the Czarist rulers and empires.

After standing in line for hours and upon entering the old but well-preserved structure, an Intourist guide will lead your group down corridors and aisles and past display cases too numerous to count which contain the rich remains of the former Russian rulers.

Before our eyes we observed ancient armor worn by the soldiers, mother-of-pearl inlaid rifles, heavily embroidered and jewelled vestments of the Orthodox clergy, elegant gowns worn by the empresses and other ladies of the court, dinner ware of gold, copper and silver, sets of pottery containing hundreds of pieces, old baroque carriages and huge Bibles with thick metal covers laden with jewels — diamonds, rubies, amethysts.

One case which caught my eye contained several shelves of huge silver bowls. Upon inquiry, our guide told us these were called Loving Cups, used by royalty who drank from them, then passing it on to the next person at the table who could also indulge in its liquid refreshments, and so on down the line. Thus, it became known as a Loving Cup.

I was reminded as I stood there observing these great silver vessels — these Loving Cups — of an incident which took place at the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Convention of Churches of Christ. The members had gathered at the Overland Park Christian Church from various nations and cities of the U.S.A. After introductory procedures, our first item on the Agenda was The Lord's Supper.

Some forty of us entered the sanctuary. We silently walked to the chancel area and all stood surrounding the large communion table. Following a brief meditation and prayers by the elders, the loaf, situated on a pewter plate, was broken by the president of the World Convention who, in turn, served the person next to him until all had served one another.

Then a pewter chalice of juice was passed from one to the other. Each individual either drank from the cup or held it while the person next to him dipped his bread and partook of the emblem of the Supper.

At this Feast of Love, that pewter chalice became a Loving Cup for those serving one another in that international circle of Christian fellowship. As we so often use individual cups in our communion services these days, we are prone to forget that Jesus no doubt used a simple chalice at that Last Supper — a Loving Cup — to symbolise his shed blood and that unbelievable love which he had for those Disciples, and for us, and for the whole world.

The cup — is it not a cup of blessing? Yes, but even more, it is a Cup of Love for you and me. Drink from the Loving Cup and you will discover springs of living water, your thirsty spirit will be quenched and the Lord of Love will provide you new life and hope and faith.

## THE LOVING CUP

Allan W. Lee  
(General Secretary, World  
Convention of Churches of  
Christ)



Gwen and Ed Roffey with the loving cup.

### GOOD GRIEF!!

Clergy in the U.S.A. are now taking out insurance against being sued by their parishioners who come for counselling and don't like the advice they receive. It costs about \$20 per year for a cover of \$300,000. Good grief!

## RELIGIOUS STUDIES

### A Course for the Curious

A six-week evening course that plans both to arouse and satisfy people's curiosity about religion will be offered at Rusden State College, Clayton in October.

Entitled Religious Studies — A Course for the Curious, it will look at some of the fundamental questions people ask about religion.

This is the first time such a course has been offered to the community by Rusden. Beginning Wednesday Oct. 3, it will cost \$30.

No academic qualifications are required for enrolment. Nothing more is

needed than a lively curiosity.

The course will be strictly non-sectarian and non-proselytising. The conveners will be Ken Dear, Head of the Social Studies Department, and Miss Patricia McLaughlin, senior tutor in Drama.

"Rusden is not a religious institution," Dr Wisch Principal of Rusden said "but it is pleased to offer its expertise in the fields in which it excels. Religion has been described as the most enduring phenomenon of mankind, and many people are asking questions about it, particularly its place in modern life."

Further information is available from the Social Studies Department at Rusden, phone 544 8544, ext. 351.

# 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.

## NO CREED BUT CHRIST

To the Editor,

I disagree with the view expressed in Page 13 (Aug. 4). What should be scrapped is the attitude "I do not wish to offend our denominational friends" that has become a part of our preaching. Today in our churches if someone expresses or signifies that they want to receive Christ and the abundant life He offers, they are counselled and given explanations before baptism and being received into fellowship. Is it any wonder that a new Christian thinks we have a creed which includes a lot of beliefs.

If brethren from our pulpits preached Jesus the Christ, his death, burial and resurrection, e.g. Peter's sermon on the day of Pentecost and Phillip's preaching to the Ethiopian, and the application of baptism then when someone receives the word they can be baptised immediately knowing it is for the remission of sins and to receive the Holy Spirit. The new Christian is joyously received into the fellowship of the church and with regular coming together with the saints for Bible study and worship and prayer will continue steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and gladly accept without question

'No creed but Christ  
No book but the Bible'

Gordon C. Collins (Asquith, N.S.W.)

## "BAPTISM IS NOT IMMERSION"

To the Editor,

You are so right. Christian baptism is more than immersion in water. "Immersion in water is the external witness to an inward grace" — sometimes. Sometimes baptism does coincide with "spiritual baptism". The key to "spiritual baptism" is, as you say, when "one responds openly to God". Openness is essential, but it must be more than that. Emptiness of self (i.e. brokenness) is necessary for an infilling from the Lord. Unfortunately so many of us are neither broken nor empty of self at baptism. Consequently we do not receive a real "baptism of the Spirit".

Our main problem, however, lies in that we teach and believe that when we are baptised in water we are also baptised in the Spirit. For many this is not so. That is why many today are finding a real "baptism of the Spirit" years after their baptism as, like the people of Samaria in Acts 8, hands are laid on them and the "spirit baptism" takes place. Then — WOW!

Don Jackson (Dianella, W.A.)

## AUTHORISED VERSION

To the Editor,

I comment on the Authorised Version as compared with the Good News Bible.

Not caring for the translation of "happy" (G.N.B.) in Matthew 5 I chose to use the A.V. with my Bible School scholars (still at State School) using the word "blessed".

I asked the scholars why "happy" wasn't always exactly the same as "blessed". Could they be "happy" without being "blessed"? I was given a very good description of the difference. The lass said "Well if you won Tatslotto you would be happy but you

wouldn't call it blessed would you?" I feel that explained things very well and that is why I don't always think we can transfer from the old to the new versions.

Teachers please don't use the new versions always. The A.V. is too beautiful to throw out.

Nell Crymba (Kyneton, Vic.)

## CHRISTIAN UNITY

To the Editor,

For those with a concern for Christian Unity, the "AC" Aug. 4 made interesting reading.

As Owen Wainright enumerated the truths for which we stand I realised how fortunate we are to be involved in various Councils of Churches. In these councils the position of Churches of Christ is both ex-

pressed and heard. For some it is the first time they have heard our position explained.

Furthermore, within the councils we are hearing discussions of the integral relationship between evangelism and the unity of Christians as in John 17:21. A unity which is not spiritual only but a unity which the world can see so that they will believe that God sent His son into the world. Such unity can only be based on common allegiance to Jesus Christ as Lord. It is therefore somewhat confusing to read in the editorial comment the suggestion we give up our traditional statement, "No creed but Christ", just at the time when Christians of all traditions around the world are talking of the Lordship of Christ. Today the call to both individual Christians and the Churches is to place themselves under the discipline of the crucified Christ.

T. A. Banks (Belmont Vic.)

The editorial comment suggested that we give up this slogan "No creed but Christ" unless we are prepared to accept people as genuinely Christian on their simple confession of belief in Jesus as Lord. — Ed.

## LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

### PULPIT EXCHANGE

To the Editor,

Our Minister has gone into hiding. We are hoping that we can find him soon and build up his confidence before Sunday.

It happened this way. Each year the churches in our suburb have a pulpit exchange. They organise it over two Sundays so that each minister can be at home to look after his guest. Our minister has always bragged at Fraternal about lay participation in our churches and that it is the nearest thing to the New Testament (although I've never been able to find the chapter and verse in my concordance!) Lately with all of this layman's liberation movement in the churches, the other ministers have become very interested. There was some competition among them to come to our church to see this marvelous thing . . . lay people taking part in church services. Last Sunday was our exchange day.

It was a catastrophe. The president arrived breathless, just on time. He had forgotten to write down the hymns, so each time he had to announce one he had to go into contortions to see the hymn board. He might have saved himself the trouble because he couldn't be heard with his head turned round that way. In this rush before the service he got our guest's name wrong, and while welcoming him mispronounced the name of his church. He welcomed the visitor's wife who was not present. He was disconcertingly long winded, feeling that he had to comment on every item. His "communion talk" started so far from the cross that it took him eight minutes to get there.

The secretary was racing round for helpers at the last minute, so one of them missed the whispered hint from our minister not to go to our guest for the offering. The inevitable happened. The one that didn't get the message noticed that his colleague had passed the visitor, so he crossed ostentatiously right over the church to present the plate to him.

The first reader was so nervous that he read the passage like the last half of a race commentary. The second reader forgot to ask in advance about the pronunciation of some proper names in his lesson. He was consistent. He muffed them all. And the brother who gave the pastoral prayer obviously thought that God hadn't heard the announcements, so he mentioned them to him again.

Our guest was gracious. Our minister was livid. But when I come to think of it, our lay helpers on that day were not untypical. It's just that it shows up a bit more when we have visitors.

Yours blushinglly,  
TERTIUS

# OPEN FORUM

COMMUNITY CARE HELP WANTED

To the Editor,

Five years ago a group of Christian women established in Sydney a Community of Christian Care, offering resident guests a place of fellowship, spiritual renewal, and counselling. There were no charges but donations helped to make this a viable proposition. The Community has helped people such as missionaries in transit, Christians under stress, the lonely and the troubled.

It carried on in a home the use of which has now been withdrawn. Unless accommodation is found the Community will be forced to disperse.

We are looking in faith for a building with six or more bedrooms in the more rural parts of Sydney, the coastline, or indeed anywhere in the country providing a restful environment, accessible by public transport from Sydney or Newcastle. The Community has funds to pay for minor alterations but not for buying such a property at market value.

Should any of your readers know of a suitable property which might be made available perhaps on a low rental, would he or she write to me at the address below:

The Secretary, Community of Christian Care, 8 Tryon Street, Chatswood, 2067.

— Deaconess P. J. Nelson (Chatswood, N.S.W.)

## AUSTRALIA NEEDS A REVIVAL

To the Editor,

The number of "unchurched" Australians rose by more than 1.1 million, or 68.8%, between the 1971 census and the 1976 Commonwealth census to 2,723,263 Australians who said they had no religious affiliation.

We may blame the rise of materialism and humanism and the failure by the churches to adopt new approaches to community needs. Most churches and their institutions are not changing to meet these new circumstances.

The real tragedy is that people have turned away from the churches because they do not experience reality when they go. Spiritual renewal for ministers, leaders and all Christians is imperative in the mainline churches, if God is to use them in significant evangelism.

If we do not respond to the Holy Spirit's movement today and if we force it out of the churches, then He will raise up other groups who are ready to be used by Him. Today the fastest growing churches are independent charismatic churches, because people encounter the power of God which changes their lives.

— Ken Clinton (Noble Park, Vic.)

## TURKISH MOVES

Turkey has expropriated five Greek Orthodox churches, charges Ecumenical Patriarch Demetrios. He named five church properties that he said had been "occupied" in April.

The Orthodox primate urged Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit to "intercede" with the government department that oversees church properties, which, he charges, "is more oppressive than ever before," including the rule of the Ottoman Empire. Demetrios appealed to Ecevit for "an immediate halt to abusive treatment" of Greek Orthodox Christians. "This is a time to heal existing wounds," he said, "not to open new ones."

## A BELOVED VETERAN WRITES TO THE "AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN".

Dear Sir,

I am grateful to those who have written to you (and to me) in praise of my booklet published by the Historical Society, "A Preacher's Progress". Thanks for its publication should go to the Editor of the Society. He is always seeking historical information concerning our churches and their beginnings. So I sent him my memoir and he did the rest. I think his hardest task was to know what to leave out of the 120 or so pages.

I have been asked several questions and have chosen two to answer here, with your permission. (a) Why did I stay so long (21 months) with so little salary? The simple answer is that people of the district who were farmers did the same. (b) How have I continued in the ministry for so long with so little education? Because of the help and encouragement given to me by so many ministers of an earlier generation. G. T. Walden in 1913 visited Tumby Bay and we both addressed the same gathering. From that day on he gave me books, urged me to study and never give up. A. R. Main guided my reading and encouraged me with my results. H. G. Harward encouraged me to memorise the scriptures and always trust my memory. "Memory likes to be trusted."

And so, to this very day when addressing a congregation I have no need of notes and quote scripture from memory. Jas. E. Thomas was always my friend and helper. So I could go on to tell of T. J. Gore, H. D. Smith, G. B. Moysey, D. A. Ewers and many more, all friends and helpers. But most of all my mother taught me that whom God calls He prepares and can be trusted to provide. And He has. And to Him, for all the help He has given, and for men of the past whom He gave me as friends and helpers, I give the praise.

Yours sincerely,

Roy Raymond, Perth, W.A.

## DOCTORATE FOR BILL TABBERNEE

Congratulations are extended to Bill Tabbernee, Lecturer at the College of the Bible, on being awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the University of Melbourne. His 900 page thesis on "Opposition to Montanism by Church and State" was undertaken with the Department of History.

Montanists were a dissenting group in the early church and the thesis covers extensively the period 165-550 A.D. Through his careful research over a number of years Bill Tabbernee has extended his expertise in the history of the early church, one of the major areas in which he teaches. He has become one of the leading writers in the world in the field of Montanism. The degree will be conferred on December 15.

— Keith Bowes.

## LIGHTNING STRUCK THE QUEENSLAND SUNSHINE COAST — AGAIN!

— Jack Dunner

We had been told that lightning never strikes twice in the same place but it did — at Nambour's "LIFE! For You" Crusade with missionary Jack Bond, Soloist Bettye Harcus and Song Leader Geoff Hopson from August 25 to September 3.

The highly successful (72 decisions) "Back to the Bible" Crusade ended on Sept. 20 1978, so some of us were staggered when it was suggested that another Crusade be held in 1979.

We prayed for guidance and received it in the form of a letter from Jack Bond that he was moving to Western Australia but would be available for a week at the end of August. It was decided to "go again" and it was to be an "all stops out" affair.

There were many problems. Our buildings would not accommodate our full membership let alone outsiders. But members with building knowledge produced a plan which would increase seating capacity and this was to be done quickly. Bettye Harcus was invited as soloist. She accepted but would be attending a wedding at Tamworth on the day the Crusade was to start. Worse was to come in that Jack Bond was reported dangerously ill following an operation.

The prayer Convenor commenced regular meetings all along the Coast and problem began to be solved. Miriam Bond wrote to say Jack was improving and was confident the Lord would deliver him to us. Council approved the building plans, offerings increased to cover the costs, subcontractors found they could meet the requirements and two young people offered to do an all night dash to Tamworth and return to deliver Bettye in time. Geoff Hopson agreed to take on the song leading. The local radio station agreed to broadcast invitations at reduced rates. 11,000 handbills were printed and sent out through the post while others were delivered by hand. Posters were placed in shop windows in the town.

The Bonds, including Jack's 87 year old mother, arrived safely by car, Bettye was delivered sleepy but as lovely and enthusiastic as ever. Final clean ups around the re-vamped buildings were finished. We could now seat almost 300. Promotion was in full swing, creche and music rosters ready, counsellors and follow up members trained, doormen with smiles and handshakes ready, song leader with baton ready, P.A. systems go.

First night saw a near capacity crowd and 5 decisions. The 10 day Crusade saw total attendance in excess of 2,000 and 48 commitments.

The one thing we know is that no task is too great for the Holy Spirit.

Lightning in the form of the Holy Spirit did "strike twice in the same place" and it is a glorious experience "the second time around".

# OVERSEAS MISSION NOTES

**Dr R. J. Parkhe:**

Word has been received from India that Dr Parkhe is confined to bed with a heart attack. Dr Parkhe went through our Boys Home at Baramati at the same time as Hariba Waghmode, then to University in Poona for medical studies. After graduation he served in our Dhond Hospital for a brief period with Dr Lindsay Michael then returned to Poona for further post graduate studies in surgery and built up an excellent reputation as a specialist surgeon. Over the years he has been a friend of young people from our Conference area and has given unselfish service to those in need of specialist services.

In late 1977 and early 1978 he again assisted our Dhond Hospital in an honorary capacity one day per week. The party which visited India for the opening of the Bombay Christian Centre will remember him for the way he treated and provided medicine for those needing a check up.

He married the daughter of one of the leading Christian Evangelists in Maharashtra. They have one son, Neitain who is also a doctor having studied at the Christian Medical College, Vellore.

— Bruce Coventry

## Missionaries in Indonesia have to leave:

Dr Bill Nottingham of the Division of Overseas Ministries of the Disciples of Christ in the U.S.A. has sent details of an article which appeared in the Korea Christian Press on July 21. It reported

- that the Indonesian Government had:
- ★ announced that the visas of some 40 missionaries on Java would not be renewed.
  - ★ predicted that this would be the case with another 50 or so stationed outside of Java.
  - ★ made it clear that these people and the related Indonesian Churches would have six months in which to train successors.
  - ★ requested that the missionaries involved leave the country by the end of those six months, and
  - ★ demanded of all churches throughout Indonesia their financial statement with indications of all amounts received from foreign sources.

This report has now been confirmed.

A letter has also been received from John Harper of the Independent Christian Churches working in Salatiga, giving the latest news. The Harpers will have to return to the U.S.A. in October. Other missionaries in the team have also been refused visa extensions.

Neville and Dorothy Munyard working with O.M.S. International have been granted a visa for six months, but others in the group have been asked to leave.

The whole matter is of deep concern. The Overseas Mission Board is grateful to John Truscott and Trevor Kallmier for their assistance in providing the latest information. The Board is seeking to be fully informed on developments so that it may make the wisest decisions on the proposed Australian involvement in Indonesia.

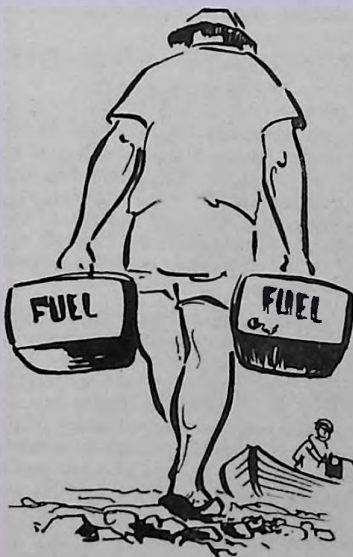
— George Mathieson.

## C.M.S. KEEP THE MOTORS RUNNING

Someone had an idea. The Federal Dept. of Men's Work took that thought and with dedicated people spearheading the project, \$17,000 has been raised since late in 1977. The aim is for a \$25,000 capital fund to provide \$2,500 each year for fuel. This would help provide gas for Papua New Guinea and the New Hebrides. Just 800 men giving \$10 each and the whole project will be achieved.

The price of petrol is sky-rocketing. The mission fields are being battered financially. Outboard motors don't use any less fuel than they did last year. The churches in Australia are faced with an option. It is either reduce the amount of outreach work in terms of church development, or pay the extra.

The Overseas Mission Board greatly appreciates the support of all those men who are making sure the right decision is being made.



THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN

# JAY'S FOR JUNIORS

**JAY'S QUIZ**  
**Bible Race**

The New Testament describes a race between two of the Apostles. Who were they? And who won? (See page 29).

## Stubbed Toes and Shoes

An old legend tells about a king who, while walking along a path barefooted, cut his foot on a sharp stone. As soon as he returned to his palace, he called his ministers in and ordered them to cover all the paths in his kingdom with leather in order to protect his royal feet from future injuries. His ministers knew that it was impossible to carry out the king's orders. They also knew the dire consequences if they failed to solve the king's problem, and so they frantically racked their brains for an answer. Finally one man hit upon a solution. He fashioned a set of leather coverings for the king's feet. Thus was created the first pair of shoes.

Christians, if they are to carry out the Lord's work, must be protected from the distractions and divisiveness of false doctrines all about. It is quite apparent that we cannot suppress all these teachings. But we can fashion shoes for ourselves and our fellow Christians — that is, we can provide sound teaching that will keep us from being "carried about with every wind of doctrin."

"John is two-thirds married," said his sister to a friend.

"How's that?"

"Well, he's willing and the preacher is willing."



"It's for my boyfrie leggie. Do you have one with a 'fuzz' adjustment?"

# BOOKS TO READ

**"THE PLIGHT OF THE AUSTRALIAN CLERGY"** by Dr Norman W.H. Blaikie (University of Queensland Press) \$19.95.

Some time early in 1970 I remember spending many hours filling in a very long and detailed questionnaire sent to me by Dr Blaikie. 70 other Victorian Churches of Christ ministers also filled in that questionnaire. In total 1,000 protestant ministers in Victoria from the six major denominations filled in the questionnaire. The results have just been released in a 250 page book. This is the most detailed, large-scale study into ministers, their attitudes, beliefs, satisfactions and frustrations ever produced in Australia.

It is illuminating, alarming, assuring, provoking, and stimulating.

We have always known that ministers are frequently caught between the demands and expectations of their congregations, their families, and their own sense of personal integrity and beliefs. Here stripped bare are the responses of ministers to hundreds of questions about their private lives, public statements, beliefs, practices, and ideals.

This study was made at the end of the turbulent 1960's — that era of secular theology, political involvement, church growth expectations, and the rise of evangelicals.

Churches of Christ ministers gained close attention: they have the lowest average age of any denomination, the lowest level of higher education, the highest rate of resignations from the ministry; they are the least tolerant of the presence of other religious groups, they are divided over the issue of church union, confused over whether our ministry is that of a "rescue ship" or "leaven in the lump", but determined to convert unbelievers as their primary aim of ministry.

The Victorian Churches of Christ ministers worked incredibly long hours, and believed that their excessive workload was necessary. 70% of them regarded their salary as satisfactory in spite of the fact that it was way behind the average weekly earnings of the man in the street.

The survey reveals a large number of marriages were under great strain and Churches of Christ ministers registered the highest rates of frustration and negative attitudes towards their ministry, especially when they sought to be church organisers and social reformers. Yet, of all denominations they were also seen to be the most determined to continue their ministry.

For the first time we have a close-up inside look at what is happening within the personal lives of our ministers. This book is essential reading for anyone taking the future of our brotherhood seriously.

Perhaps at a federal level a special research group might closely examine Dr Blaikie's findings to see how the future development of our brotherhood could be helped through a better ministry to our ministers.

— Gordon Moyes

## ONCE UPON A TREE:

by Calvin Miller (Baker): \$3.50

A small, hard covered book consisting of 10 meditations on the cross, totalling less than 90 pages. The book is beautifully set out, well argued and the poetry and Bible passages quoted all fit in to make well balanced essays. The book is not for most people partly because of the price and set at a deeper level than most of us enjoy.

To the brother or sister who enjoys beauty and think deeply, slow and quietly about the cross this book will be a welcome addition to your library.

— J. Urquhart.

## HEARING CONFESSIONS

by Kenneth Ross (S.P.C.K.)

Written primarily for those who are involved in hearing confessions in the Anglican church this book is of interest to those involved in pastoral work and counselling in our churches. The

book is written as a practical guide to those who would hear confessions. In Churches of Christ we have rejected this role for the minister but maybe we need to look at what advantages it may be in helping a person in their relationship with God. Of particular interest were the chapters dealing with the history and theology of confessions and the administration of the rite of confession.

## NOT MY WILL

By Andrew Murray (Zondervan): \$1.50

The book is described as a contemporary translation of a devotional classic and it is certainly in easy to read, modern language. Although written last century these 30 meditations on various Bible passages are just as relevant to finding God's will today as at the time of writing. The author is famous for his piety and understanding of God's word and will. I find that he is just a good, if not better, than I have read and so I feel that the book is well worth buying.

— J. Urquhart.

## THE HOLY SPIRIT

by Billy Graham (Collins) \$8.95

Billy Graham himself says of this book: "My sole concern has been to see what the Bible has to say about the Holy Spirit". As would be evident from that quote the book covers a vast range of the biblical material about the Holy Spirit.

There are large sections devoted to the fruits of the Spirit and each one such as love, joy, etc. is covered in detail. There is also a long look at the question of the gifts of the Spirit.

One interesting chapter featured Billy Graham's understanding of sins against the Holy Spirit including the unforgiveable sin.

One feature of the book was the large number of illustrations of God's actions in peoples lives which added real human interest to the book. Many of these would be excellent as sermon illustrations.

## SPURGEON'S POPULAR EXPOSITION OF MATTHEW

by C. H. Spurgeon (Baker) \$4.95

This was the author's final literary effort and was previously published under the title "The Gospel of the Kingdom". I put off reviewing this book because of its size — 258 pages of smallish print on reasonable size paper and because I feared that a book by "the prince of preachers" would be beyond my lay understanding. In my years of reading I have never before read anything so straightforward, simple, to the point and with such breadth of understanding. Admittedly on a few points Spurgeon shows the prejudices of his era (1834-1892) but only on a very few occasions does he let his biases take over.

Whilst this is the first book I have read by the author I hope that it will not be the last. At just under \$5 it is quite good value for its size and I particularly recommend the book for lay preachers and those who preside frequently.

— J. Urquhart.

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, 9 Endeavour Arcade, The Kingsway, Caringbah, 2229; United Church Bookroom, 15 Mathers Lane, Hobart, 7000.

## Church Chuckles by CARTWRIGHT



# HAPPENINGS

An Argentina evangelism crusade. Youth '79, was climaxed in the Buenos Aires Luna Park stadium late last month. Samuel O. Libert, pastor of the fastest-growing Baptist church in Argentina, at Rosario, preached. Five area campaigns preceded the intensive five-day crusade in the capital.

An evangelistic rally in Haiti drew what local observers believe to be the largest assembly ever gathered in that country. The estimated forty thousand were at the final service of a crusade held in the Port-au-Prince stadium by North Carolina evangelist Clyde Dupin in March under the auspices of the nation's Council of Evangelical Churches.

Sir. Hugh Fraser, the Scottish owner of Harrods' department store has agreed to buy the island of Iona. It will be turned over to the British government as a preserve. The island is dominated by the Iona Community, a Christian society formed in 1938.

The world's largest evangelical church has been inaugurated in Brazil. One of five

Brazilian member churches of the W.C.C., the Brazil for Christ Evangelical Pentecostal Church was founded in 1955. The headquarters temple was dedicated last month with 8,000 present and is described as "the world's largest evangelical church."

The new archbishop of Canterbury next year will be the current Bishop of St Albans, the Rt. Rev. Robert Runcie. Bishop Runcie is 57 and he was a hero of World War II during which he won a Military Cross.

Jack Manallack, minister of the Preston/East Preston church, is recovering at home following an illness which had him in the Intensive Care ward of hospital for over a week. It is thought that the illness was some form of heart complaint.

The Victorian Council of Churches has admitted its first Catholic members. The councils 11 member churches voted unanimously to accept the membership of the Melbourne archdiocese and the Ballarat diocese of the Catholic Church. These two dioceses contain 87% of Victoria's Catholics.

A new book on Sir Douglas Nicholls has been published. It is titled "The Boy from Cumerogunga" and was written by Mavis Thorpe Clark. It is designed to be read by children and is based on the authors previously published book "Pastor Doug" which was published in 1965.

The Swedish Parliament has passed a law prohibiting parents from striking their children or treating them in any other humiliating way. The bill prohibits such punishment as slapping, whacking or spanking of children.

More than \$11,000 has been contributed to a Brotherhood fund in New Zealand this year to aid the needy in Zimbabwe-Rhodesia. This represents an amount of approximately \$2.50 per member. \$7,000 has already been distributed in the form of food, medicine, medical treatment, blankets, burial expenses, monetary contributions to widows, etc.

Homosexuality is not a genetic disorder or illness, but a 'learned behavior' that can be 'unlearned' by many homosexuals seeking a change according to a new study by sex researchers Dr William Masters and Virginia Johnson.

Ministers of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in the U.S.A. earned an average of \$13,388 including manse allowance in 1978.

The United Nations has designated 1981 as the International Year for Disabled Persons.

A new analytical concordance, the first of its kind for the Revised Standard Version of the N.T., has been published after 14 years of work. The concordance contains not only the English words but also the various words in the original Greek which have different translations into English.

The Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission has developed an auto aid kit designed to help people become "Good Samaritans" on the roads. The kit includes basic emergency equipment such as jumper leads, instructional information including a first aid folder and tracts on how to witness.

In Detroit, U.S.A., a study of white suburban married women revealed that couples who married when the bride was already pregnant have significantly lower incomes and living standards than other couples.

## DIARY

**NATIONAL**  
 October  
 7 Annual Offering — Colleges  
 7 World Communion Day  
**NEW SOUTH WALES**  
 September  
 28-October 1. D.C.E. Camp  
**QUEENSLAND**  
 October  
 6 Country Carnival — Rosevale  
 8-10 Ministers Seminar  
 10-14 State Conference  
**VICTORIA**  
 September  
 28-30 C.W.F. Camp  
 October  
 5 C.W.F. Country Council  
 7 Engaged Couples Encounter  
 14 Boys' Sunday  
 16 Explorer Leaders' Annual Meeting  
**SOUTH AUSTRALIA**  
 October  
 13 "At Home" St. Georges Rest Home  
 19 4 Kilometre Churches Rally — Maylands.  
**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
 September  
 29 "Dinner Down Under — Indian Style"  
 October  
 5-9 Young Adult Bible Study Camp.  
 18-21 Way-To-Christ Crusade.

# 25 Years Ago

R. T. Pittman wrote 25 years ago in the College issue of the "A.C." an article on "Jesus as Preacher".

"Preachers today do well to employ the methods used by Jesus — public proclamation, private interviews and systematic planning."

There was a report of the acceptance of a call to minister at the Margaret St., church in Launceston, Tas., by C. H. J. Wright who was then at Albion, Qld. E. J. Miles had accepted a further term of three years at Caulfield, Vic. A. B. Clark had reported six decisions during the first week of the Stirling Mission conducted at Boonah, Qld.

The issue of the "A.C." of Sept. 21, 1954, featured the opening of the first Church of Christ hall in Tamworth, N.S.W. The speaker on this occasion was Stan Laney the N.S.W. Conf. President and the minister at Tamworth was H. I. Walmsley.

W. R. Hibburt then at Essendon, Vic., wrote an article "In Praise of Church Officers".

"Each officer has a right to view his position as a special call to service by Christ. It demands responsibility, dependability and an increasing fitness."

One point that he made should still be considered by all in these positions.

"Officers' meetings are not the place to air pet ideas, win one's way by political methods or to be a party tool."

## BIBLE SHIPMENT BOUND FOR CUBA

A special shipment of 10,000 Bibles has been sent to Cuba by the United Bible Societies.

The Cuban government gave approval for the import valued at \$38,000, to the Ecumenical Council of Cuba. The council chose the new UBS Bibles because they are written in everyday Spanish and are easy to read and understand.

The new Bibles, entitled 'Dios Habla Hoy' ('God Speaks Today'), are a translation produced by an interconfessional team of biblical scholars that included both Roman Catholics and Protestants.

The Cuban Bible Society closed down in 1968 after the government placed restrictions on private businesses. During the next 10 years, four permits for the import of Scriptures were allowed. The last United Bible Society shipment was in 1977 when 2,500 New Testaments were sent.

— E. P. S.

## **SURVIVAL KIT FOR THE EIGHTIES**

# Page 13

A bush-walking friend of mine always takes with him in his rucksack what he calls a survival kit. It is small and compact, and he tells me that it contains the irreducible minimum for physical survival for a week.

I find myself wondering what is the irreducible minimum to be able to survive as a real person.

### **DREAMING AND LIVING**

One day I might get round to retiring! In which case we hope to do a little caravanning round our wonderful country. That is if we can afford a car big enough to tow our van and if we can afford the petrol to run a car that big. This has been a dream for many years, but it may not come off. If it does not my wife and I will not feel depressed. For us fulfilled living does not depend on fulfilled dreaming.

### **OWNING AND LIVING**

I know some people who have material security laid on. For them every device and every comfort that TV advertises as essential to living is necessary for their happiness. Yet they are not living fully. If through some tragedy they lose all or most of what they have they may not be able to survive emotionally or mentally. What they own is nearly all they have.

### **DEPRIVED AND LIVING**

We spent some time with a family of six in a Bombay suburb. They lived in a one room tenement. Their entire wardrobe was in three small suit cases. In a fourth case were the children's school books. The beds were mats rolled up and stored on a small shelf. There were five or six shiny brass pots, and a few earthen containers holding all of their food. There was a well worn Bible and that was it. We sat on the floor with them. Physically they were near to an irreducible minimum. Yet that family was fully alive. If they lost

the few chattels they had, they would still be alive.

So what is the irreducible minimum needed for survival as a person?

### **AFFLUENCE AND LIVING**

My wife and I are quite affluent by world standards. Even when we start to draw the pension we will still be better off than three quarters of the world's population. We enjoy our affluence!

In many countries of the world in the last 40 years millions of affluent people have been levelled in a single disaster. I know that it could happen here. If it happened to me, what would be the irreducible minimum that I would need to survive as a person, living fully, or abundantly as the New Testament puts it?

### **THE MINIMUM FOR LIVING**

I believe that the irreducible minimum for my survival as a person would be the love between myself and my wife and family, love with other people, and the continued assurance that no matter what happens God would give me what it takes to see it through. And if I lost all of the rest of what I have called the irreducible minimum and only had God left, I believe that he would still give me abundant life to the extent that I was willing to receive it.

### **FAITH, LOVE AND LIVING**

I am sure that almost every one who has read this far will be agreeing with me. Yet good eating, comfortable shelter, cars, gadgets, entertainment, and recreation and what we like to call the "creature comforts" play a very big part in our lives. But they are not part of our survival kit for the eighties. God and relationships of love are. It looks as though there is real point in keeping our survival kits in good repair.

## **INTERPRETING THE BIBLE**

The Bible has to be interpreted. Did Jesus really mean that we should literally cut off our hands if they offend? Did he really mean that we should hate our parents and other relations? Obviously not! So we need to know something of the background, customs, language, events and history of the Bible, in order to understand what it is saying.

### **PRINCIPLES OF INTERPRETATION**

Alexander Campbell set out the sort of questions that ought to be asked of a passage or a book in order to understand it. For example,  
Who wrote it?  
When was it written?  
What were the circumstances?

To whom was it written?

Why was it written?

What did the people of that time understand it to mean? If we studied the Bible using such commonsense questions we would quickly see what God was doing and saying then, as a guide to what he is doing and saying now.

### **FOR EXAMPLE**

In the current discussion about women in the church some quote Paul's "there is no difference between male and female" and others his restrictions upon some women in some places and circumstances. Only a knowledge of the background and times and personalities involved can enable us to discover what could be the mind of God upon the issue now.

### **WHAT TO DO?**

But how can the ordinary layperson get answers to these questions about date and place and circumstances? There are excellent one volume Bible com-

(Continued on Page 18)

## CELEBRATING AT AN HOTEL

A. C. Male



John Sherriff receiving from first "Hotel Canberra" guest, Stan Newberry, the vase presented to him 50 years ago.

The Canberra Hotel, Brisbane, is 50 years old.

On its opening the Canberra Hotel, the first temperance hotel in Australia, was Brisbane's largest and most modern hotel. In the 1920's it was generally held that hotels without liquor were not financially viable. Arthur Toombes secretary of the Queensland Prohibition League set out to prove them wrong.

### SEVEN MILLION PEOPLE

50 years later, more than seven million people have passed through the doors of the Canberra. Toombes' great desire was to build a first class accommodation hotel that catered to the travelling public. In 1922 he visited America and returned with a basis upon which to augment his idea for a hotel. The building cost \$125,000 to erect.

The initial 233 rooms have grown to 305 and the hotel can accommodate 465 people. Five stories have grown to nine.

In 1958 the pressure of numbers called for the addition of floors adjoining the hotel in Ann Street giving facilities for up to 400 guests at seminars, dinners, luncheons and all types of functions. Upgrading over the life of the hotel has cost an estimated \$1½ million. The Canberra Hotel has more bed space than any other hotel in Queensland and caters for more people annually than any other Brisbane hotel — a worthy achievement in its 50 year history.

### JUBILEE CELEBRATION

The focal point of the celebration were held on July 20. This was a congratulatory

dinner for the Hotel honouring 50 years of dedication and service to people from all over Australia. The dinner also paid tribute to the Queensland Temperance League which owns and controls the Canberra Hotel.

Original guests were invited to spend two days at the Canberra and to attend the Jubilee dinner. During the function a king size birthday cake weighing 140kg. was cut by Stan Newberry from Jandowae — the Canberra's first guest. Queensland's Justice Minister, Hon. W. D. Lickiss attended.

### CHURCHES OF CHRIST INVOLVEMENT

John Sherriff is Canberra Hotel Manager and Canberra Hotels Director of Marketing. He is also Secretary of the Queensland Churches of Christ Conference.

He says, "Our modern amenities demonstrate that a first class hotel can be successfully conducted without a liquor service. Constant innovation has been a key part in keeping our clientele satisfied that they are getting the best of everything."

Other Churches of Christ members of the Executive are Len Brooks, Don Cranston, A. C. Male and Harry Payne.

The church's witness is positive through the Canberra's providing alternative life-styles from soul and body destroying alcohol ways of life. A Non-Al bottle shop has been opened and Youth Camps conducted encouraging young people to live alcohol-free lives.

## NOBODIES OF THE BIBLE

### Tychicus

Ty who? We could be excused from asking this as Tychicus is only a minor figure of the New Testament. He is mentioned in Acts 20:4, Eph. 6:21, Col 4:7, 2 Tim. 4:12 and Titus 3:12.

The name Tychicus means fortunate. I guess a man who was a Christian would be fortunate to have been a companion of Paul on his trip from Greece to Jerusalem and then to have been trusted with Paul's letters to the church at Ephesus (Eph. 6:21) and then Colossi (Col 4:7). We are also fortunate that some unknown person collected Paul's letters together at a later date so that we are able to grow more of our understanding of God through these letters.

Called beloved and trustworthy (faithful) there are many who quietly follow the example of Tychicus in our churches. They are reliable in all their actions and what they are asked to do quietly going about every task asked of them — even carrying messages. We need more like Tychicus today.

Tychicus was considered as a replacement for Titus in the work on Crete (Tit. 3:12). How many are suitable to work in the ministry to replace others needed elsewhere? Are they willing to go and free others as Tychicus appeared to be willing or do they reject the call?

Tradition says that Tychicus was later a bishop of Colophon (city near Ephesus) and a martyr but this is apparently based on guesswork.

### E. German ceremony for youth

More than 272,000 boys and girls in East Germany have sworn total allegiance to their communist state in a "youth dedication" ceremony. The figures represented 97.5 per cent of all pupils in the eighth grade.

The ceremony called "Jugendweihe" (Youth Dedication), is a substitute ceremony for the Christian rite of confirmation.

During this year's Easter weekend alone, 49,000 young people in 1,040 dedication ceremonies were "festively inducted into the ranks of adulthood so that they may give themselves unreservedly to building socialism".

— Lutheran News

# THE SINGLES MINISTRY (Contd.)

Jay Bacik

Jay Bacik continues his report on his research in the U.S.A. as the 1979 Australian Christian Foundation Scholar. The scholarship is provided by Christian Projects Limited (C.P.L.) a Trust that enables concerned people to invest in creative Christian projects. His research was in "The Church's Ministry to Singles".

## 3. IMAGINATIVE PROGRAMMING NECESSARY

An attractive programme that will draw a significant number of people becomes a very important factor in beginning any singles ministry. Singles will be frightened off by any small — innocuous — ineffective programme. This is why I would recommend a regional programme where a group of suburban churches cooperate or a Provincial programme run by one church in a country town.

## 4. CHRISTIAN BUT NOT RELIGIOUS

Any singles programme run by a church or churches must make the fact that they are "Christian" very evident. Some Christian Singles programmes fail because they appear to set a programme style that is "too Spiritual" — people who aren't heavily into the church consequently feel threatened and uninvolved. They either don't come at all — or come once and never return.

If we realise that the Singles ministry has as its target many people who are isolated, bruised and hurting we will determine to set a spiritual environment where the grace, love and forgiveness of Christ can be encountered in a non-threatening atmosphere.

That the programme is Christian must be clearly stated and expressed each time the group meets — but this doesn't necessarily mean that the group has 20 minutes

of singing hymns from the Alexander Hymnbook — as I experienced in one Australian Singles programme I visited.

## 5. SOCIALISING

A strong social programme needs to be developed to provide activities for people who are not involved in normal family life. The type of social activities depend very much on the needs of the people and can be as varied as theatre parties, tennis nights, picnics, "talk it over nights" and of course some Bible study discussion groups can be a surprising and helpful addition to a social programme. There are as many social options as there are interests of people and these must be functioning and advertised so that singles can meet for friendship and fellowship. Something must be happening every week.

## 6. "SINGLES ANONYMOUS"

One of the most important factors I saw working in successful singles programmes was the establishment of a network of caring people who can act as supporters and encouragers of their fellow singles. It works on the same principle as Alcoholics Anonymous — a person in need has a number of people they can call on maybe just to "talk it out".

It could be argued that an effective functioning church should provide this support to its members whether they are singles or not. The fact is however that most churches develop their programmes around the family and sometimes "singles" don't feel included. And of course when singles need support and encouragement it's likely to be at a time when other church members are involved with their own families. Members of a singles group then can be a form of a pastoral care unit supporting their own fellowship. (Actually this already happens in youth groups.)

## 7. MARRIED LEADERSHIP

The conduct of the Ministry to Singles varied quite dramatically in the U.S. with some churches having a multiple staff concentrating on Singles only. Most had a pastor working at least part-time with this group of people. (The reason for this is quite clear. Here are a group of easily identified people who are willing to admit their need and do something about it.)

Wherever I went where there was staff involved in ministry to singles they were served best by a married pastor or leader. He may have been previously married and remarried but it seems that singles need the security of the stability of a married leader though the ancillary staff may be singles.

Another interesting aspect I saw work very well in a number of churches was the use of a "sponsor" couple — generally a married couple in their 50's who can relate well to the singles in the 23-40 age group. These people function as mentors for this group and are available for people in crisis.

## 8. SINGLES ARE ON THE MOVE

Singles are "in transit". They are on the move. One of the frustrations of working with this group of people is this fact. They are in a state of change and transition either in status, geography, or vocation. Key lay personnel must be enlisted and trained, but always there is the likelihood of them moving on.

## CONCLUSION

The secular world is well acquainted with the needs of the singles community — hence the development of Parents Without Partners and a variety of "Singles Bars" and "Discos" in our capital cities. My belief is that singles — even those with little or no contact with the church are looking for something more. I believe we in the church have got it — but we will need to pray, think and programme to meet the challenge of these people with enormous needs and very few supports.

## AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP — 1980

A scholarship of up to \$2,500 is available for overseas study in 1980 for a minister or member of Churches of Christ who satisfies the Foundation Committee that a projected course of study will benefit his or her service to the Kingdom of God in Australia.

Applications close — November 1, 1979.

Application forms are available from:-

THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN  
P.O. BOX 101, ESSENDON NORTH, VIC. 3041  
Phone (02) 379 1219

Funds for the scholarship are provided by Christian Projects Ltd., a trust administered by the trustees of the Christian Building Trust of Victoria.

## "THE CHRISTIAN" GOES TO NEW ZEALAND

The Editor has been part of a team conducting "Good News" programs at Dunedin, Christchurch, Nelson, Palmerston North and Lower Hutt, in New Zealand. Other team members were Lesley Stirling (specialising in women's programs) and College of the Bible students Denise Wissmann and Greg Shaw.

A heavily overbooked N.Z. Airways schedule had us travelling by British Airways Jumbo Jet to Auckland and then down to Dunedin.

### THE AGONY THAT WAS ABBOTSFORD

The giant mud slip that took 70 homes with it and has left a further 100 leaning precariously at the edge of it, had been in press and TV news headlines as we were leaving Australia. As we arrived in Dunedin government emergency services had moved to the scene. Those who have lost homes will be compensated. The churches are giving financial help. The Salvation Army has been on the spot providing for emergency needs of families concerned and also assisting those cleaning up. Fortunately there was no loss of life. One of our Dunedin church families lost their home. Another family may have to evacuate their's.

### CITY OF CHURCHES

Dunedin is a city of beautiful church buildings. The Scots who settled here built churches, schools and a university to the credit to their dual belief in Christianity and education. The two most central monuments in the city are to the first Presbyterian minister and to Bobby Burns, its Scottish bard.

The churches still give strong leadership to the Dunedin community. Just recently they appointed a Chaplain to the Unemployed — probably a first in the world.

The St. Andrew St. Church of Christ is one of the largest congregations in New Zealand, and meets in a fine building near the City centre.

### NEW ZEALAND CHURCHES OF CHRIST

New Zealand Churches of Christ are moving towards their Conference in the first week of October. Harold Bischoff will complete his valued service as Conference Secretary and retire for the third time. He will be succeeded by Graeme Todd of Nelson, a nephew of missionary-statesman, and one-time Prime Minister of Rhodesia, Garfield Todd.

One of the main issues before Conference will be the ordination of women. A ballot will be taken on the proposition, "That in the event of a woman being satisfactorily trained and called to minister to one of our churches, Conference accepts the principle of the ordination of women at and by Conference."

### UNITY AND TENSION

Discussions between Anglican, Churches of Christ, Methodists, Presbyterian and Congregationalists towards unity have ground to a halt. It appears that they will not continue in the near future.



Houses in Abbotsford (N.Z.) slip.

(Photo — Evening Star, Dunedin)

The discussions caused some tension in Churches of Christ between those favouring the proposed union and those opposing it. The latter formed within the Brotherhood a Restoration Fellowship who publish their own paper to support their cause.

The shortage of Ministers in both New Zealand and Australia, has necessitated the calling of a number of Ministers from the independent Christian churches of the U.S.A. The culture gap between the American independents and some in the New Zealand churches has created some further tension.

### THE WILL TO STAY TOGETHER

At the last New Zealand Conference delegates squarely faced these tensions and resolved unanimously to "identify the

causes of disharmony and to get rid of them." A recommendation is being put to the coming Conference, "that Conference aim towards a Service of Committal through Christ to each other as churches and individuals, acknowledging that we have at times misunderstood and wronged each other."

The Restoration Fellowship has also been in discussion with the Conference Council, expressing a mutual desire for internal harmony. Conference President, John Fulford, writes monthly in the "N.Z. Christian" and uses his letter to call for unity in the Brotherhood. It appears to us that our New Zealand brothers and sisters are manifesting in a real way the genius of Churches of Christ — that is living in manifest unity in the midst of great diversity.

## SHEPPARTON CHURCHES FAMILY EMPHASIS

As its contribution to the International Year of the Child, the Shepparton Ministers' Fraternal conducted a Family Festival to emphasise the Christian belief in the importance of the family, and to show the community that there are many resources and agencies which support the family.

The main features of the Festival were a Children's Pageant, a Community Leaders' Breakfast, information booths in the shopping area, and the distribution of a Directory of Community Services.

The idea of the Festival came from a similar programme conducted in Frankston as part of National Marriage and Family Week in May 1977. The coordinator of the Frankston programme, Stan Stewart spoke to a meeting of the Shepparton ministers. In April the Fraternal agreed to sponsor a Festival, and appointed three of its members, Revs. Pat Kavanagh, Leigh Wilson, and Fr. Donald Gibson to act as conveners.

The visit of the "Covenant Players", during May-June, acted as the focus for the Children's Pageant.

On a sunny June afternoon, many families gathered on the lawns of the International Village site, on the outskirts of Shepparton, to share in the Children's Pageant. Many local ethnic groups in colourful costumes presented national dances, a piper led hundreds of children in a procession around the Village, and the Covenant Players entertained the crowd with a series of their "Little World" plays, which emphasise responsibility and care in personal relationships.

With the ready co-operation of the local media, a "community awareness" programme was conducted. Clergy, social workers, and other community leaders agreed to make comments about family life as they observe it. The local newspaper ran articles daily, and the radio station featured comments as brief "spots" broadcast frequently over a week. "We sometimes forget that families are where people are made, and the quality of people depends on the quality of the families," was one such comment.

About 70 leaders met for breakfast to hear Fr Maurice Duffy, of Mooroopna speak on "Responding to the needs of the secular community".

An attractively produced "Directory of Community Services" was prepared and distributed to every home in Shepparton and Mooroopna, together with a leaflet produced by the Bible Society especially for the Festival. Support came from the local City Council which had intended to produce its own directory, but withdrew its plans in favour of the Fraternal's Directory. It generously subsidised the cost of the Directory.

So that folk could follow up particular enquiries resulting from their reading of the Directory, information stalls were set up in Fraser Park in the centre of the business area on a Friday and Saturday.



Pat Kavanagh and Rev. Leigh Wilson discussing the Directory.

The newest welfare agency in Shepparton, Early Childhood Development Programme featured a large display.

An on-going feature of the Festival is study groups open to folk of all congregations. The first of these will use Generation 2000 material. Local school librarians are arranging evenings on children's reading matter for interested parents.

Copies of the Directory and other literature pertaining to the Festival together with more detailed information, may be had by writing to Rev Leigh Wilson, 10 Leahy Street, Shepparton, 3630 including \$1 for postage and printing.

### MISSION NOTCHES UP 117 YEARS OF SERVICE

The Sydney City Mission has just celebrated 117 years of service to Sydney's needy.

When the Mission was founded by Benjamin Short, the AMP Society's first full-time insurance agent in Australia, the population of Sydney was only 96,000.

Now the Mission has 14 centres spread throughout Sydney, and it gives as-

sistance to thousands of people. These include alcoholics, the homeless, drug dependents, the unemployed, needy children, young people in crisis, ex-psychiatric patients, poor families.

The annual report shows that all these services cost the Mission \$2,468,516 last year, ending the year with a deficit of \$98,475. It also shows that 91 cents of every dollar donated to the Mission went directly to people in need.

Some of the activities include:

The Mission provided 335,800 meals to destitute men and women during last year and homeless men and women were provided with shelter and a bed 29,100 times.

Young people were counselled 18,000 times at the Mission's King Cross Centre, 108 unemployed young people were equipped to find jobs at the Mission's Vocational Employment Training Centre at Green Valley.

1100 children and adults attended the Mission's Community Centre at Green Valley weekly and 100 aged shut-ins were visited by the Mission and brought fresh fruit every fortnight in the Glebe area.

The Mission's purpose is not simply to give handouts. Its aim is to give a "hand-up" to people, until they can stand on their own two feet.

# OBITUARY

**BISMIRE, Darrell K.**

(9.6.79). While on the Brighton (Vic.) tennis courts, Darrell collapsed and died with suddenness which came as a great shock to his family and to his many friends. Darrell was born at Parkdale in 1928, and early in life became associated with our Churches. In 1956 at the Cheltenham church he married Marjory Stafford, the service being conducted by the bride's father, Vivian Stafford. While living at East Benteleigh they were active in the Brighton church. In 1960 Darrell's service with the Commonwealth Reserve Bank necessitated the family moving to Sydney. For the next nine years they were valued members of the Narraweena church in which Darrell served as Deacon, Treasurer and leader of the Boys' Brigade. On returning to Melbourne the family resided in Mt. Waverley and were identified with our Burwood church. Here he was Board Chairman for two years, church secretary for five years and at the time of his death President of the Day Kindergarten. These positions he held with both devotion and distinction. The business world was quick to assess his quality of character and the excellence of his ability. The Reserve Bank appointed him their Chief Audit Officer. It could be truly said of Darrell Bismire that he "walked with God" — not in any self-conscious or sanctimonious way. To him God was real and his faith was fixed in his Lord and he lived his whole life as before Him. To the fellowship of the Church he gave his best freely, fully and gladly. He was friendly, out-going and happy. He was capable of great depths of compassion which always issued in positive healing and helping action. He will be greatly missed in the business world, in the church and in his family to whom we extend profound sympathy. His many friends join in surrounding in their love and prayers the sorrowing relatives and in particular his wife Marjory and children Stephen, Michael and Tracey. The writer, assisted by Peter Wing Tang and Graham Hilbig conducted the funeral services at the Burwood Church and the Springvale Crematorium.

—Stanton Wilson.

**BROWN, William Albert.**

(17.8.79). In his early years Will Brown accepted Christ at the North Fitzroy church. He fellowshipped with the Moreland church until 1913 when he moved to Miram. He enlisted in the Army and served in the First World War as a Warrant Officer with the Light Horse in Egypt and later in France. On his return he was placed in charge of the rehabilitation of returning personnel. During his 24 years at Miram Mr Brown joined ardently in the activities of the Kaniva church. He formed a Christian Endeavour Society whose young people included Will Wigney, Claude Cunningham and Mary Clipstone (now Mrs Harold Finger), who all entered the ministry. From 1927-1937 Mr

Brown was the Secretary of the church. He also edited the church bulletin. In 1937 Mr Brown returned to Melbourne. Until 1971 he served the firm of J. J. Webster Pty. Ltd. as Managing Director and Chairman of the Board. His church membership was transferred to Bambra Rd., Caulfield where again he manifested zeal and faithfulness. He edited the church paper, was Deacon, church Secretary, Chairman of the Board, preacher and Elder. He was honoured by being appointed as life Elder. Mr Brown loved the brotherhood and generously supported all its work. He was a member of the Department of Social Service and served as its Chairman. A service of remembrance and thanksgiving was held at the Bambra Road church conducted by K. Christenson and the writer. A. B. Withers sent a written tribute which was read. We share with Mr Brown's family, Norma and Murray Selwood, Reg and Nola Brown and Lila and Tom Frazer, 9 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren, their sense of loss and the gratitude to God for all that Will Brown was and is.

— W. W. Saunders.

**PRITCHARD ROLAND**

(1.9.79). The Church and the Brotherhood across Australia grieves the loss of "Roly" Pritchard the minister of the Warragul church. Over the years of his ministry he endeared himself to the many people to whom he became pastor and friend. Roland was 58 years of age. He entered the College of the Bible from Warrnambool in 1947 and upon his graduation in 1950 went to Bordertown (S.A.) for his first ministry. Other ministries were to follow in Western Australia at Nedlands-Sheraton Pk. and Harvey. He moved back to Victoria and further ministries followed at Maryborough, Bendigo and Swan Hill. In 1974 he took up his ministry with the church at Warragul and was serving that church at the time of his death. Roland Pritchard was a man of the people. His humour and energetic commitment to the needs of the people he served endeared him to all who knew him. He moved among his brother ministers as the friend of the little man. The C.M.S. have lost a loyal supporter and his commitment to their work was appreciated deeply and evidenced by the attendance of C.M.S. Committee men at the funeral service. He had a heart big enough to share himself with causes beyond his own congregation. He chaired a State Overseas Committee — he was a School Chaplain and deeply involved in the Bible Society, Gideons and the Council of Churches. Most of all Roland Pritchard could be truly called "a man of God". He loved the Church and he gave himself without reservation to the preaching of the Word and the shepherding of the flock of God. His achievements, made in spite of handicaps that would have deterred lesser men, reveal something of the inner strength of this good man. Through all those years Alma was a loyal and loving supporter of the man and his ministry. Over the past few

years Roland has not been well and recently he felt that it might be necessary for him to go into part time ministry and go on to an invalid pension. Warragul Chapel was filled to overflowing and churches of all denominations in the area were represented. Tom Weir, a long term friend, and Keith Horne who represented the Brotherhood and his brother ministers shared the service. We commit this good man to God, and thank God for him. We pray that Alma and the children, Colin, Kingsley, Olwyn and Gavin will "walk tall" in the memory of this man of God who enriched us all by his ministry.

—K.D.H.

**REED, Joan.**

(1.8.79) Joan was born in Toowoomba in 1924, and spent some of her early years at Stanthorpe and Pittsworth. With neither of these places having a Church of Christ congregation. Her parents received correspondence lessons from the Postal Sunday School. Joan put her trust in Jesus Christ during her early teens. As the oldest of seven daughters Joan was the first to leave home and come to Toowoomba for high school. She was baptized at the Central Baptist Church but never took up membership. She met her husband Kevin Reed, during the war years and they were married at the Margaret St. Chapel in 1947. They were blessed with seven children — Judith, Annette, Naree, Petrina, Kevin, Rodney and Rosemary (twins). They gave their family every opportunity to express themselves in music and singing, and the family were often represented at Toowoomba Eisteddfods. For many years, Joan, with the help and support of her husband were able to run their farm as well as teach in the Margaret St. Sunday School before coming to Harlaxton for worship. Apart from teaching, Joan saw her main work as being her involvement in the W.C.T.U. For some years she was Secretary of the Queensland Temperance League and Treasurer of the local W.C.T.U. branch. She was the Vice-President of the Toowoomba branch at her death. She was National Fruit Juice Superintendent. In this capacity she spent many hours giving demonstrations in Schools, at weddings, parties etc. During the World Convention of the W.C.T.U. in Sydney two years ago she provided fruit-juice drinks for 700 delegates. Her letters to the editor of the Toowoomba Chronicle on social issues showed her understanding of scientific facts and positive Christian principles. During the past 12 months her health deteriorated. For the last few months she was bedridden but never did she complain or rebel against her illness. A crowd of over 250 from various churches attended her funeral service from the Harlaxton Chapel.

The services were conducted by the writer and Geoff Charles. To her husband and family, together with her mother, Mrs. Isabel Beasley and all their loved ones we express our love and christian sympathy.

— Ron Samsome.

## INTERPRETING THE BIBLE From Page 13)

mentaries. The Scripture Union Bible Study Books are available as paper backs or in hard covers. And there should be regular classes in the churches training members to have the sort of working knowledge of the Bible that would enable them to know exactly where they are wherever they may dip into it (this

could be a lot more useful than many of the discussion groups that regularly pool the continuing ignorance and prejudices of members!). It has been suggested that if Marxists knew "Das Kapital" as well as Christians know the Bible, Communism would wither and die.

# A.C. Interview with TERRY BUTLER

When in Sydney the "Australian Christian" arranged an interview with Terry Butler. Terry is currently lecturing at Woolwich College in the areas of Theology and Counselling.

A.C.: — How long have you been in Australia and what family do you have?

Terry: — I have been in Australia now for 18 months arriving here in Feb. '78. I am married with two children. My wife's name is Carol and we have two boys Garrett, 8 years, and Jeremy, 3 years.

A.C.: — Are you involved in ministry here?

Terry: — Yes. I am one of the elders at the Chatswood church and the regular speaker there. Before we came to Australia I was associated with the ministry at the McKinley Park Christian Church in the city of Tacoma in Washington state.

I was involved in full time pastorates for 12 years with the non-denominational Churches of Christ.

A.C.: — What training have you had?

Terry: — I completed a B.A. in Pastoral Care at San Jose' Bible College in California. I then completed a M. Div. at the Lincoln Christian Seminary in Illinois. I am currently working on a D. Min. from the Californian Graduate School of Theology in the area of counselling.

A.C.: — What differences would you see between the churches here in Australia and those in the United States?

Terry: — There is a double side to this answer. I sense that most church members have been lacking in strong Biblical teaching and yet there is an eagerness for the "meat of the Word".

In things that churches do collectively Australian churches would be better organised than those in America. But at a local congregational level members are seemingly less prepared to do what is best.

There is a tendency to let Conference do the job. This was not intended but has happened. There would also seem to me to be a lack of strong foundation to carry on the collective enterprises.

A.C.: — What do you see happening in Australia?

Terry: — I see us leading our people in a battle over the Bible. This will be on the interpretation of an authority of the Bible.

It will be on such issues as the charismatic issue, W.C.C. issue and issues raised by such things as the Billy Graham Crusade.

I have sensed that the traditions of the Brotherhood are more important here than Bible issues.

A.C.: — Where do you see the answer to these concerns?

Terry: — The answer is to make an emphasis on a properly trained and competent leadership. You need to put more resources into the Bible colleges. There is a need for strong foundations.



The 70's phenomenon has not been a battle over social issues but over personal issues. At least half of the students at College are there to find personal answers and not necessarily for leadership.

A.C.: — Have you found Australian culture different?

Terry: — Culturally we have settled in very well. Personally we have been well accepted and cared for in Australia.

Australian culture is openly much more secular than America. However legally there is more recourse to religious action here but it is little used.

## ASIAN BIBLE MAN IN AUSTRALIA



Alan Ang is the Scripture Distribution Secretary for The Bible Society of Singapore, Malaysia and Brunei. He arrived in Australia early in Sept. for a five week program that takes in all states.

Born in Singapore during World War II, and of Chinese parentage, he was raised as a Buddhist and knew nothing of Christianity.

At the age of 15, Alan Ang began feeling frustrated with life and wondered if there

## "COCIAC COLUMN"

COCIAC stands for Churches of Christ Inner Areas Conference and consists of the following inner suburban churches of Melbourne ... Ascot Vale, Collingwood, Malvern, North Fitzroy, Prahran, Richmond, South Melbourne, South Yarra and the Regional Board Churches — Coburg, Pascoe Vale and Brunswick.

Some exciting things are happening in these small but very much alive churches and we want through this column to keep "A.C." readers up to date. For example, at Prahran recently a church family camp launched four "House Church" groups which meet every week for study and prayer. Members of the Ascot Vale church offer accommodation to anyone in their area who is temporarily homeless. This puts them in touch with all kinds of people and at the moment they are working closely with a group of alcoholics. The Regional Board operates a Friday Club for children and young people.

Attendance is now up to the mid-twenties since their start a few months ago. Richmond church has organised a number of leaflet distributions in its area and members have visited many people in the community. At South Melbourne a youth drop-in centre is operated at an old house in the suburb. The South Melbourne church receives a grant from the local council for this service.

The Malvern-South Yarra churches are planning a Festival of Faith featuring drama and music. This will be held in September from the 17th to the 23rd.

## AN INVITATION.

Perhaps you would like to come and visit us some time. You are most welcome to attend any of the church services. We would also encourage bus tours of our inner suburban churches. If your group or church is interested in organising such a tour you could ring George Warren — 662 2377 or 306 6785 — and he would be happy to help you in any way he could.

was any purpose to his existence. His rebellious nature led him into a teenage gangster group that indulged in chicken stealing. He had many misgivings about his lifestyle and lived in constant fear of death and the unknown. During this time, Alan was attending a church school where he was taught about Jesus Christ, but because of his Buddhist background he couldn't accept the teachings and often argued with the Bible teacher.

A three-day special program at the church school was the trigger for Alan Ang's acceptance of Jesus Christ. He reluctantly found himself attending the first lesson, but amazingly his heart was warming to the Word of God.

On July 23, 1957, the third day of the special program, Alan Ang came forward to give his life to Jesus Christ. In 1961 he joined The Bible Society as a colporteur and now 18 years later, he is totally committed to furthering the Bible Cause.

Tour dates for the Rev Alan Ang are: Brisbane - Sept. 10-14; Sydney - Sept. 15-30; Canberra - Oct. 1-2; Melbourne - Oct. 3-10; Launceston - Oct. 11-14; Adelaide - Oct. 15-16; Perth - Oct. 17-18.

# SNOW VILLAGE

— Carnegie

(From page 1)

On the first evening there were about 250 parents and children attending. Since that time there are about 75-90 present each week of whom 50% would be contacts of the church.

Russell Ritchie and the church would be glad to share any thoughts they have had to help other churches develop this type of ministry or for people to visit to see the 'Snow Village' for themselves.



The Singing Snowballs

## BIG ATTENDANCE AT EXPLORER SPORTS

Over 200 parents, leaders and boys shared in the annual Explorer Indoor Sports Finals held at Carnegie on August 11. Organiser of the programme was George Beard of the Explorer Executive. Prior to the finals local clubs have participated in zone finals. Bornia and

Frankston clubs were the winners of the Intermediate and Junior competitions. Les Stewart, Explorer Chief, awarded pennants to winning teams. Explorer Executive members and Department of Mission, Education and Development staff were encouraged to see a higher attendance than for some years.



## 50th ANNIVERSARY

Over 50 years ago an active group of teenage girls met once a week as a chapter of the Phi Beta Pi in the South Yarra church (Vic.) under the leadership of Mrs G. Lee.

In 1929 Mrs Lee suggested that it would be a good idea if everyone kept in touch by returning for a reunion at South Yarra once a year. This suggestion was made to Elsie Lee her daughter-in-law.

From 1929 to 1979 a reunion meeting has been held each year without a break. Unfortunately numbers have been declining over the years. Now the meetings are held in the surroundings of the Botanical Gardens.

Care and concern is shown not only at that time of reunion. If any one is sick they are sent a bouquet of flowers. A floral tribute is sent to the family in the case of death of one of the members.



## TO THE SOUL THROUGH THE STOMACH

In a programme that has pulled people of all ages and interests together the Albury Church of Christ has had to face the embarrassment of too many people.

Every Wednesday night of school terms the church comes together for Family Night. In three years the attendance has grown from 18 to over 90 people. The evening commences with a Family Tea that offers a two course menu with three choices on each course. The prices are Adults — \$1.00, and children — 50¢ or a family for \$3.

**UNITY THROUGH FELLOWSHIP.** Meeting together in such an environment week in, week out has drawn the church together in a warm and friendly way. The kitchen is where it really happens. Hot stoves, baked spuds, delicious aromas and lots of laughs leave the four catering ladies tired but happy.

A lucky draw decides the wash-up team and the kitchen sink draws people together in happy, fun packed encounter.

**EACH TO THEIR OWN.** At 6.45 p.m. the various groups move to their meeting places. The Mini-Midgets for under 7's loudly charge off to their club room for songs, games and story time. Youth leaders round up their members to the Youth Room for a wide variety of social and educational activities while the adults gather for the introduction to Bible Study. After a 10 minute introduction they divide into six groups of six or seven people for lively Bible based discussion. At 7.30 p.m. the groups return to share their conclusions or dispute another group's logic.

**AND HOME NOT TOO LATE.** Finally after 2¼ hours of rich fellowship and learning, it's time to collect the kids and head for home, except for those still continuing private discussions from the groups. With the finishing time at 7.45 p.m. families will be home by 8 p.m.

Family night has proved to be a winner. This has been a successful means of bringing together Singles and married couples together with their children, and proved to be evangelistic beyond all expectations.

— B. Aldred.

## MERGER PROPOSALS

Proposals to merge Britain's Free Church Federal Council into the British Council of Churches were overwhelmingly repulsed at recent meetings of both bodies as "not immediately practical." The Free Churches in Britain are all the Protestant denominations that are not "established" — the Churches of England, Wales and Ireland (and the Scottish Episcopal Church), and the Church of Scotland (and the Presbyterian Church of Ireland).

These established churches make pronouncements on their own behalf apart from the BCC; the Roman Catholic Church is not a member. This leads the Free churches, most of whom also belong to the BCC, to feel a need for the separate FCFC to specially represent their interests.

— Christianity Today

## "THE AUSTRALIAN CHRISTIAN" AND PARTY POLITICS

The Queensland Conference passed the resolution enclosed in the letter printed below. With permission of the Queensland Conference Executive we publish the letter from the secretary John Sheriff and our reply to it.

### THE LETTER FROM JOHN SHERIFF

Dear Brother Stirling,

Your comment in reply to Roy Clark's letter in Open Forum in the July edition is noted and I think it appropriate to draw your attention to the following minute of our last State Conference—

"That this 95th Conference of Churches of Christ in Queensland, believing that our paper, the Australian Christian is to serve the churches of Australia by glorifying Jesus Christ and giving needs of churches, protest to the Editor in using our Christian paper to promote biased party politics as has been done in recent issues."

It is apparent from your comment that you have no record of this minute being conveyed at the time. This being the case, I feel the need to reiterate the strong feeling about such issues which was expressed at that time.

Kindest Christian regards,  
John Sheriff, CONFERENCE  
SECRETARY

### THE EDITOR'S REPLY

Dear John,

I write to your Executive to thank them for forwarding to me the resolution passed at the 1978 Conference concerning "The Australian Christian," and protesting about what was believed to be the party political bias of certain material published in some issues prior to that Conference.

I write to assure your Executive that at no time will "The Australian Christian" wittingly publish material that has party political bias. I have already offered right of reply to any one who believes that such party bias has slipped past our watchful editorial eye.

I know that your Executive will realise that to avoid apparent party bias is not easy. What some would call party bias others would call Christian principle. Further, almost all of our

readers would welcome political comment that appears to favour their party, while many would object to such comment if it appeared to be out of harmony with their party political convictions.

In fact "The Australian Christian" has published material from Queensland which was regarded by some readers as having party bias. I refer to an item in a Queensland state report in which the writer eulogised Mr Bjelke-Petersen at some length. I also refer to a statement published by the Queensland Home Mission Department claiming that one of the reasons for the growth of our Queensland churches was the premiership of Mr Bjelke-Petersen. Those opposed to Mr Bjelke-Petersen's policies could have objected to these inclusions in "The Christian" in the same way that others did to Alan Austin's eulogy of Mr Whitlam. Perhaps the editor should have blue-pencilled all of these submissions!

I also draw your Executive's attention to another problem. That is that each political party stands for certain principles that are also Christian principles. The problem is that in stating such Christian principles some politically sensitive people may feel that party bias is being expressed. To express the Christian principle of individual freedom may be interpreted by some as endorsing the Liberal Party platform of individual enterprise. Expressions of Christian compassion and concern for social justice may be thought by some to be favoring the Labor Party. And an exposition of the parable of the labourers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16) with its emphasis on "from each according to his ability and to each according to his need" could be interpreted as being pro-Communist.

I believe that your Executive will be sympathetic with our problem and trust us to be as fair as we can in "glorifying Jesus Christ" and in helping our people to discover his mind and will for us, not only while we are in church, but also out in the world of affairs where we pray that his will "may be done on earth as it is in heaven."

I am yours in Christ,  
Gordon Stirling

### DOOR KNOCKING PROVED FRUITLESS

The First United Methodist Church of Glendale, Calif., came up all but empty-handed when its members engaged in a little local evangelism.

Members knocked on 728 doors, actually talked with 133 persons and came up with only one who was "definitely interested" in coming to church.

"In the '50's and '60's in the suburbs I knew that if I visited 20 homes we would

have at least two new prospects or two new families who would sooner or later join the church," said Don Locher, minister of First United Methodist Church.

He was undaunted by his latest experience, since he says studies show that 70% of new members are attracted by a personal invitation to come to church.

— The Disciple

## TRUST IN THE LORD AND WRITE TWENTY LETTERS

Yet another chain letter has come onto our desk. This one is semi-religious. It starts with text, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart" and then assures the reader that he will have good luck in three or four days.

### "THE CHAIN MUST NOT BE BROKEN"

The reader is urged to make 20 copies of the letter and post them to friends or acquaintances. To fail to do this is to break the chain. The letter tells of terrible things that have happened to previous chain-breakers. But on the brighter side it reports concerning the good luck of those who kept the chain going. One won two million dollars in a lottery by copying the letter and "trusting in the Lord."

### WHAT TO DO?

The post office is the only likely beneficiary of such letters if people are foolish enough to do what the writers ask. Christians should burn chain letters.

The fact that they crop up from time to time shows that there are still some people who are warped enough to start them and enough people superstitious enough to keep them going.

### WHY BOTHER TO MENTION THE MATTER?

We would have ignored the present letter that lies in front of us except that anxious Christians have from time to time spoken to us of their fears of breaking such chains. We would remind all of our readers that at best chain letters are hoaxes and at worst mischievous devices to play on the superstitions and fears of simple folk. They should be treated with the contempt that they deserve, especially when an attempt is made to give them a religious cloak.

## ACC WELCOMES AGREEMENT ON ZIMBABWE/RHODESIA

The Executive Committee of the Australian Council of Churches has welcomed the agreement reached at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Lusaka for Great Britain to call an all party conference on Zimbabwe/Rhodesia.

The ACC Committee also agreed to commend the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, for his leadership on this issue at the recent Commonwealth meeting and expressed its "strong support" for the Australian Government policy on Zimbabwe/Rhodesia.

In taking this decision, the ACC "reaffirms its long held hope for a peaceful negotiated settlement to the civil war and for the establishment of a just and independent government in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia."

— A.C.C.

# WHAT OUR READERS THINK OF US

Our Sub-Editor Manager has just completed a survey of our readers. He worked on a random sample of 300 subscribers from six states, involving equal numbers of male and female, and covering an age range from the twenties to the over eighties. Both large and small churches were represented in both town and country. We appreciate the assistance of those who responded.

## AGES

We discovered that 53% of our subscribers are over 50, 75% over 40 and 92% over 30. Perhaps our people take up serious reading of Christian literature later in life. Or do younger people read their parents' copies of "The Australian Christian"? Or do churches and ministers take for granted that younger people will start subscribing without having some one to introduce them to the "A.C."?

## SECTIONS OF THE "A.C." ENJOYED BY MORE THAN HALF OF THE RESPONDENTS

We find that 67% of subscribers read almost all of "The Christian". We list here those features enjoyed by over half of our readers, in order of preference.

TERTIUS  
OPEN FORUM  
QUESTINGS  
HAPPENINGS  
MUSTARD SEEDS  
WORD TALK  
INNER SPRINGS  
TODAY'S WOMEN

83% of our survey people indicated that they will read features and articles up to a page in length . . . if they are interesting.

## WHAT THEY READ FIRST

Of the 300 who responded 87 have no first reading preferences. The rest do, and what they read first is listed here.

FRONT PAGE 84  
CHURCH NEWS 40  
TERTIUS 25  
QUESTINGS 23  
OPEN FORUM 21  
MUSTARD SEEDS 13  
INNER SPRINGS AND BOOK TALK 11

56% of readers read all of the church news. 12% read their own state news only. 30% read the news of their own church only. This latter is interesting because they probably know of all of the items of news in their own report up to three or four weeks previously.

## WHAT FEATURES SHOULD WE KEEP IN THE "A.C."?

In the light of some of the recent comments it is interesting to look at features readers most want kept in the "A.C.". We present them in order of preference.

TERTIUS (but just under 2% want him/her dropped)  
QUESTINGS  
OPEN FORUM  
CHURCH NEWS

MUSTARD SEEDS (but 6% want this feature dropped)

It is interesting in the light of the Conference resolution that twice as many Queensland respondents want to keep Mustard Seeds as want it dropped.

The new features "On My Mind" and "Page 13" were not included in the survey as it was commenced just as they were starting. We shall have to survey them later.

It is interesting to note that of the 300 respondents, 58% have been subscribing for over ten years. One has been subscribing for over sixty years. Four have been subscribing all their adult lives.



## VICTORIA

**HARTWELL** (P. R. Galliford). Outreach campaign "Spring into New Life in Christ" conducted. Message to the community was 'Discover the warmth of God's love'. Speakers were W. J. Gaunson, K. D. Horne and K. W. Barton. Special music supported speakers . . . Family night held with entertainment supplied by Allan Rowe . . . P.S.A. program presented by Voice of the Gospel Group . . . Church received with regret the resignation of P. R. Galliford as minister from Dec. due to ill health.

**BENDIGO** (M. D. Keatch). Mr. Keatch conducted an evangelistic mission at Echuca . . . Young man baptised . . . Young woman made decision at recent morning service . . . Mrs. Briggs celebrated her 90th birthday . . . Recent speakers have been C. Ward — Conf. Sec., L. Lanyon, J. K. Martin, G. Grainger, G. Doolan, J. Hulls and Dr. C. J. Mackenzie . . . G. Turner, E. Mott and T. Beckwith have been in hospital . . . Mr and Mrs Kingsley of M.A.F. New Guinea spoke recently.

**BRIGHTON** (W. Tabbernee, F. Smith). Outreach programs continue to work with interest groups . . . W.A.S.P. program for Primary School children (held Tuesday afternoon) has an average attendance of 25-30. Friendship and contacts built up with children and their parents . . . Mr and Mrs Harold Bischoff will return from New Zealand to commence a part-time ministry for 12 months commencing Jan. 1980 . . . Special appeal for one day's pay contribution to be undertaken to support Faith Smith and team visiting India at the end of the year.

**BOX HILL** (S. Downie). Church helping refugees. Two Vietnamese couples settled in house in district . . . \$3000 contributed towards the cost of church bus . . . Don Thomas new associate minister . . . Film "Sports Odessy" screened . . . Y.P.C.E. attended film "Born Again" . . . Y.P. visited Murrumbidgee Nursing Home . . . Y.P. held camp at Adanac . . . Christian Auto Sports Club presented program at Y.P.C.E. . . . One netball team won grand final . . . Three baptismal services held recently . . . Explorer Boys held walkathon for Christian Foundation for the Blind . . . Senior Citizens' Choir, Elizabeth Aumann and Kevin Baxter participated in gospel services.

### COMING!

**RICHMOND**  
Church of Christ

**90th**  
**ANNIVERSARY**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20th**

All past members and friends warmly invited

## MISSIONARIES BURNT OUT IN TEN MINUTES

Neville Muir was secretary of the Colingwood (Vic.) church until going to Japan and then to Seoul, Korea, to work as an expert with the deaf. He is married to Lill. They recently lost their home by fire. Their letter to their friends Barry and Maureen Jenkins of Ootacamund, India, tells the simple, tragic story.

I wish that this letter was telling you of the arrival of our baby, but so far nothing yet has happened which, in itself, is a miracle, because two days ago our house burnt to the ground.

We are praising God that the nine in the house at the time (including three babies) all escaped unharmed from the house which went up in a frighteningly rapid time. Virtually everything was destroyed, the house completely, and most of our possessions, although we have been able to salvage an incredible amount of stuff from the ashes.

Nothing was insured so it's a total loss, house included! It has been a wonderful experience to know God's peace at this time and to be helped so much by friends and even folk whom we have never met.

Lill is holding up marvelously. Brent keeps complaining about how dirty everything is, and our little foster baby Joshua thinks it's all a great joke and just giggles away. We are all under a strain, filling police reports, wondering when the baby will come, cleaning up and looking for a place to live again — so we would covet your prayers.

Two of the four boys living with us are away, but the other two have been given a week off work to help us, and they have been just marvelous. Most of their things were damaged or destroyed. In Sun lost everything. Yet she has been so tremendous but, in the Korean way, blames herself for the fire (which had nothing to do with her) so please pray for her, too.

We are really rejoicing in the Lord though, and feel really great, although exhausted. I hope that next time we can bring you some good news of our new baby, and how the Lord has used our little tragedy for his glory.

Neville, Lill and Brent Muir, (C/O World Opportunities, 1415 Cahuenga Boulevard, Hollywood, California, 90028.

(Note: The day after the above letter was written a boy was born to the Muir's. Mother and baby are well.)

### The Yukana Singers

Tuesday, September 25th 1.30 p.m.  
Emerald Church of England — C.W.F.

Birthday

Sunday Sept. 30th 5 p.m.  
Carnegie Church of Christ  
Wednesday Oct. 3rd 1.30 p.m.

Parkdale Women's Club  
Directress: Doreen West  
874 1505

## INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD

### MATTHEW 18: 2,3.

Little children cry for forgiveness when we punish them for wrongdoing for they agonize when seemingly separated from our love.

So they teach us to draw near to God, our Father.

Little children are full of curiosity and wonder for all about them.

So they teach us to seek knowledge and truth and appreciate the beauty around us.

Little children need love, security, stability and constant guidance.

So we recognise our need for a greater intelligence and power and love beyond ourselves to reach our full potential.

Little children need to learn and to achieve.

So they teach us to be teachable and open to new ideas and new knowledge.

Little children are very alert and sensitive.

So they shame us if we are dull and oblivious to the beauty and tragedy around us.

Little children rely on our promises.

So they teach us to rely on the promises of God.

Little children are energetic and imaginative, totally absorbed in what they are doing.

So they teach us to be vital, creative and useful.

Little children have a simple faith in us and believe what we tell them.

So they teach us to have simple faith, so we can love them with God's love.

Little children are full of laughter and joy.

So they teach us to laugh and see the joy in life.

Little children are spontaneous and fearless, bold and accepting.

So we are astonished and humbled when we see how much we can learn from our little children.

Jesus was God's little child, his crucified and risen child.

So he teaches us about truth and how to live and love and die for him, because now he reigns for us.

Thank God for the gift of his little child and for the blessings of little children.

by Gillian Moloney (A.C.T.)

(A mother of three).

## UNEMPLOYED TEACHERS NEEDED

The Sydney City Mission is in need of teachers who are unemployed, to teach unemployed young people on a voluntary basis at its Green Valley Community Centre.

The teachers are required to provide intensive remediation in mathematics, reading, writing and in teaching practical life skills.

Mrs Merle Hurcomb, Associate Executive Director said: "Over the past two years, of the 400 young people who applied to do the Mission's Vocational Employment Training Scheme, nearly 50% needed intensive remedial education before they could join the VETS Programme.

Some 46% of those young people rejected from the first VETS course were still unemployed three months after and many will continue to remain unemployed unless we do something positive to help them.

That is why we are looking to use the talents and skills of concerned teachers who are unemployed, to equip unemployed young people for the job market."

Contact Merle Hurcomb (02) 61 6136 A.H. (02) 43 5247; Ken Harrison (02) 61 6136, A.H. (02) 525 1695.

## AMY DAVEY, LOVER OF THE BROTHERHOOD

An example of Christian stewardship which we might all emulate was given by Miss Amy May Davey who died recently in our Murrumbidgee (Vic.) Nursing Home.

Miss Davey would not be counted wealthy from the world's viewpoint but she was rich in spiritual qualities, service to Christ and people. During her 89 years she fellowshipped with and gave devoted service in the churches at Windsor, St Kilda and Bambra Rd., Caulfield and was a regular attendee at Conference gatherings. She supported Conference Departments practically as God prospered her.

As in life so in death for almost the whole of her estate was devoted to the furtherance of the Lord's work. The church at Bambra Rd., Caulfield was a beneficiary of her will as were the Aborigines Mission Board, College of the Bible, Department of Christian Union, Department of Community Care, Department of Mission, Education and Development, Federal Board of Christian Education, Literature Department, Overseas Mission Board and the Properties Corporation.

She might well exhort us as Paul exhorted the Philippians "Be ye followers together of me."

W. W. Saunders



## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**WARWICK** (G. B. Carslake). C.O.B. team visited. 45 men attended breakfast. The team also spoke at a Sunday afternoon service following afternoon tea . . . Graham Hyman (Burleigh Heads, Qld.) spoke recently. Several decisions made . . . 100 attended a performance of "The Witness" . . . Junior C1s basketball team lost the grand-final by one point . . . Church showed ministry of love when one family suffered the death of a four-year-old child.

**BUNBURY** (Barry Ryall). Joan Last showed film on Radio H.C.J.B. Ecuador . . . Dr Bowes and team from C.O.B. visited and showed film "Super Minister" . . . Y.P. have travelled to other S.W. churches to help with gospel services . . . C.W.F. are sponsoring an African child through World Vision . . . Sympathy extended to the Crawford family on the death of Mrs Crawford Snr. . . Bains, Horns, Sullivans and Mrs Pridmore spent five weeks at Carnarvon. Men built a garage and women helped with sewing.

**MUNDULLA** (B. Reid). Annual meeting held. L. Parker and E. L. Milne re-elected as Sec. and Treas. . . Junior Youth Group meets fortnightly and Seniors meet monthly.

**SUBIACO S.S.** numbers increasing . . . Recent baptism . . . Recent speaker at Bible study was Reg Baggs from N.S.W. a Baptist minister and former missionary . . . Second Bible study group formed . . . Dora Gordon improving in health . . . Tim Hanna, C.O.B., shared in recent service . . . Church looking forward to Nigel Merrick commencing ministry at end of year.

**CARNARVON** Visiting speakers have included Darryl Krause, Collie minister, and his wife Carol . . . Mike and Margaret Dawson, Perth, shared in their new work in missionary service on the Ivory Coast, West Africa . . . David and Cathy Selkirk have joined the staff at 'Ingada Village' . . . Decided to conduct classes in counselling and witnessing prior to an organised outreach to the town of Carnarvon . . . Church challenged to pray for minister as position vacant for nearly three years.

**NOLLAMARA** (A. J. Anderson, N. Head). John Hicks from Kenmore College has accepted a call to an associate ministry for five years commencing in 1980 . . . Nolan and Jill Head will be returning to the U.S.A. to do further studies . . . Balga joined adult family group to hear Dr. Keith Bowes from C.O.B. . . . A. Anderson conducted Project Phillip and Church Growth seminars in S.A. for Home Missions Dept. . . . Missionary Convention held in Aug. with Leroy Randall from Scarborough as guest speaker. Slides and talks featuring Zambia were given. Missionary societies presented displays. Y.P. shared in an African meal. Faith promises of \$13,000 were received.



## TASMANIA

**LAUNCESTON** (M. D. Hamilton, R. J. Allison). Girls and Boys Brigade Open Night for parents and friends well attended . . . Combined service on Aug. 26 was a baptismal service when Brigades also paraded . . . Lot of sickness among members.



## NEW SOUTH WALES

**HURSTVILLE** (Robert L. Drown). Four further additions by baptism . . . Recent guest speakers have been August and Maelene Ben, Trevor Kallmier and Dr. Roy Millar (Conf. Pres.) who was presented with the traditional presidential briefcase . . . Team from Bible College featured at recent gospel service . . . Attendance at services continues to increase . . . Auxiliaries are examining the feasibility of buying a minibus . . . C.W.E.F. have allocated \$210 to State C.W.F. project, \$200 to Gas for Missions and \$100 for the outreach work for Darwin.

**BEVERLY HILLS** (Daryl Thorpe). Whilst pastor was on holidays preachers have been Dr. Lloyd Jones, Peter Moyle and Ron Hewitt . . . Church delighted with response to missionary project to provide tanks and desks for the Londua school, N.H. . . . So far 28 wage-earners have covenanted to give \$52 p.a. . . . 147 attended girls' netball parade. Junior 1 team won the district final. The manager of our six teams, Mrs Joan Broadbent, was honoured for her service to netball in the district by the Canterbury Council with the award of a Centenary commemorative medal.



## QUEENSLAND

**ALBION** (C. A. R. Smith). A new image and name for S.S. now Search Squad under superintendent Mrs B. Walsh . . . Search Squad will take special service for the I.Y.C. . . . Church looking to future as Mr Smith will leave at the end of his term . . . Frank Beale, Youth & Christian Education Dept. will conduct mission in Sept. . . . Young man baptised and two have made decisions . . .

**TOOWOOMBA**. Toowoomba churches combined Christian Men Serving recently planned an offering to enable the Mission boat engine in N.G. to be replaced. The target was \$1,000. A concert was organised and the appeal made. \$1,030 has been received. Opportunity was also given to pay tribute to Aileen Draney as she enters her 21st year of service in N.G. H. J. Finger spoke of the situation in N.G. and the work performed by Aileen. A gift of \$516 was received to get her roof waterproofed.

**DALBY, BRANCH VIEW**. A major Crusade with Ambassadors for Christ is being planned. It will be held Sept. 29-

Oct. 7 in the Dalby Show Pavilion. Some of the Crusade team will be appearing on The Epilogue on local T.V. They will also be visiting schools, service clubs and Bible study groups. Judy Evans will be running a separate children's program while the Crusade is on. As preparation for the crusade she will be coming to Dalby on Sept. 26-28 to run an after school program for the primary school children.



## VICTORIA

**SHEPPARTON** (P. Kavanagh, P. Hodgson). Ministers Fraternal organised Family Festival in July. Directory of Community Help given to all homes, information stalls of Community Help groups set up in streets for two days, Covenant Players attended schools and International Day was held at the International Village . . . Restoration of chapel continuing . . . 12 Y.P. attended indoor camp on property near Strathmerton . . . S.C.F. Moorooopa held a church parade . . . Ladies held afternoon for Mrs Rattray's 92nd birthday . . . Sharing in services have been Alan & Nola Baker (New Hebrides), Ken Williams (Sumatra) and Ron Kingsley (M.A.F. — P.N.G.) . . . Film of Wycliffe Translation work screened.

**NORTH ESSENDON** (Robyn Schaefer). Sympathy expressed to Mrs. Brens and family on the death of Mr. Brens . . . Mrs. Mabel Reardon celebrated her 89th birthday . . . Geoff Foot (Conf. Pres.) was recent speaker . . . Boys club growing fast . . . B.S. is also growing but suffering a shortage of teachers . . . Board held a weekend camp at Monbulk to plan for the future . . . Bill Ellison speaker whilst minister at camp . . . Rosemary Edwards returned following illness . . . Church involved in packing 50,000 showbags under the direction of Ruth McRae.

**BORONIA** (Harvey Miller). Evening services returned to 7 p.m. . . . Neil Ewart — Roelands and George Warren — Dept. M.E.D. recent speakers . . . Good Companion fashion parade raised \$170 for Roelands and North Fitzroy mini-bus. Leaders attended training and craft sessions at Box Hill and Glen Waverley . . . Explorers received pennants for inter-club activities . . . Y.P. shared in meal & fellowship at leaders' homes after 5 p.m. services . . . Special business meetings held to consider capital works . . . Special offering to assist resulted in \$1300 plus investments with Properties Corp. . . . C.W.F. Community Care Committee held annual welfare meeting in church . . . Youth group held camp at Koo-Wee-Rup. . . Men's breakfast held as prelude to fuller involvement of men addressed by Gordon Stirling . . . Couples attended Marriage Enrichment Seminar.

**WERRIBEE** (Les Keatch). Second A.G.M. changed name to Werribee Church of Christ . . . Weekly Bible study prayer meetings begin with casserole tea . . . Planning for Nov. 'A Faith that Works' Mission led by Keith Farmer . . . Assistance from C.M.F. and Footscray with worship service leaders and helpers appreciated.



## VICTORIA

**MALVERN** (P. Nelson, D. Hamilton). 90th Anniversary held on Aug. 19. Two present were older than the church — Dr G. H. Oldfield one of first ministers and A. Moody a former elder . . . 246 present at morning service when A. B. Clark, former minister, spoke. 300 at buffet luncheon. G. Foot, Conf. Pres., afternoon speaker. A history of the church was made available as well as an exhibition of photographs, books etc.

**CHELtenham** (A. E. White, S. Wilson, M. Humphries). New constitution adopted embodying a statement of the purpose of the church and the basis of membership . . . Large size print Good News Bible donated for pulpit reading . . . Bro. Theo of Community Aid for Those Caring for the handicapped interviewed on emergency care . . . Lois Follett recovering from serious illness . . . Student minister Phil Bradley displayed selection of non-alcoholic beverages which caused interest . . . Lowanna Singers conducted concert at the State College — nearly 1000 tickets were sold and proceeds going to Child Care Welfare . . . tennis teams made the finals and three finished premiers . . . Get to know you lunch introduced about 40 people to each other . . . The Alf White novel noticeboard causes traffic jams in the foyer . . . Maurie Conry started cell group for fellowship, Bible study, sharing and prayer.

**FOOTSCRAY** (Ian Tippett). Presentation made to Donna Ruck, Rotary exchange student from New York, on leaving . . . W.R.O.C. prayer meeting held in chapel . . . Evening services led by Ascot Vale, East Keilor and C.W.F. . . . Academy award film on handicapped children "Who are the de Bolts" screened . . . Annual meeting held. Board members responsible for special areas of community care . . . Ladies attended Missionary Rally at Brighton . . . 28 Bendigo members visited on Aug. 12 and conducted service. Mr Keatch was the speaker . . . Bruce and Judy Grayden attended and after lunch spoke of their work in the Philippines.

**CHADSTONE** (Allan Clark). Two S.S. and Explorer boys were baptised . . . Girls club took part in indoors Intermediate Explorers' sports and came third . . . Sue Wilson and Irene Schmode attended Berwick seminar . . . Members took evening services at Christian Guest Home during July . . . C.W.F. raised \$120 by cake stall . . . Mrs Moorby spoke on prison rehabilitation . . . "Night Song" screened at family night . . . House church evenings held . . . Oakleigh C.F. led musical program . . . Alan Baron, youth worker, — B.S., speaker.

**WARRAGUL** Church saddened by the sudden death of Roland Pritchard, the minister. Mr. Pritchard had not been in good health for some time. The funeral service was conducted by T. V. Weir, a former Warragul minister, Keith Horne and Colin Murdoch, student minister. Coffin bearers were four ministers who are members of the ministers' fraternal.

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Sunday October 21st

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## GARDINER CHURCH OF CHRIST

65th

### ANNIVERSARY

### HOME COMING

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th.**

11.00 a.m.: Speaker — I. Corlett

5.00 p.m.: Anniversary Tea

6.30 p.m.: Speaker — C. G. Taylor

Soloist — Mrs C. G. Taylor

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**Sunday October 28th**

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57 3329

## OAKLEIGH CHURCH OF CHRIST 63rd ANNIVERSARY, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th

11 a.m. Mrs C. G. Johnson. L.Th.

1 p.m. Fellowship Luncheon.

2.45 p.m. P.S.A. Marie Gauder &  
Melodettes.

4.45 p.m. Fellowship Tea Service.  
A.A.G. Baker. L.Th., Dip. R.E.

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a.m. 7.00 p.m.

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— Micah — Nahum  
Visit by crew from Logos shp

**Sept. 30**

9.30 a.m. & 11.00  
a.m. 7.00 p.m.

Studies in the Minor Prophets  
— Micah — Nahum  
Guest preacher — Neil  
Wescombe Australian Direc-  
tor F.E.B.C.



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**FRANKSTON:** Peninsula Singles Club (03) 783 3235 or 781 4257.  
**TEA TREE GULLY:** Tea Tree Gully Singles Club (08) 264 5954.  
**WOLLONGONG:** Wollongong Singles Society (042) 28 4342.  
**PORT PIRIE:** The Singles Club (086) 32 2435

Visitors to these centres are welcome and may obtain information re meeting times by phoning the numbers listed above.  
 Other Singles Clubs operating who wish to be listed here on a share-cost basis should write to Mr R. K. Aldred, P.O. Box 478, Albury, 2640.



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### BIRTHS

**KITTO.** To Denise and Steve of Keith, S.A., a daughter, Christy Denise born 20.8.79 at Naracoorte, a sister for Paula and Robynne. A wonderful and precious gift from God.

**MUNYARD** (nee KEATCH) Adelaide. Simon Andrew born to Greg & Raelene 8.9.79. First grandchild for Morrie and Florence. "To God be the glory."

### ENGAGEMENT

**CLINTON-ROWORTH,** Ken and Norma Clinton of Vermont, Vic., happily announce the engagement of their only daughter, Janis to Gregory, eldest son of Peter and Margaret Roworth of Largs North, South Australia.

### MARRIAGE

**THOMPSON-ALLEN,** Mary and Ross Thompson, 27 Weeroona Road, Murrumbidgee, wish their eldest daughter Jenny, God's blessing and much happiness on her wedding to Wayne Allen of Cheltenham, Vic., Saturday 15th September 4.30 p.m., Carnegie Church of Christ.

### IN MEMORIAM

**STREADER,** Olive Maria, 10.8.1978. We never lose the ones we love, for ever though you're gone, within the hearts of those who care, precious memories are ours to share. Loving husband Edgar, Don and Joy, Alan and Daisy, Geoff and Alison, Sylvia and Charlie, Ivan and Pat, Gwen and Gordon and families.

### FOR SALE

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Saturday 27 October 8.00 p.m.  
Fairfield Church of England —  
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BOOKINGS CLOSE 30th OCTOBER, 1979

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Church of Christ

### 2nd ANNIVERSARY

7 October, 1979

10.30 a.m. service

Followed by B.Y.O. Basket Luncheon

All past members and friends warmly invited

### VIC./TAS. MINISTERS' ASSOCIATION

Monday October 1

10.30 a.m.-12 noon

College of the Bible

Speaker —

Rowland Croucher

(Insights from his Korean visit)

Bring your own lunch and use the College facilities as required.

### MITCHAM CHURCH OF CHRIST

50th ANNIVERSARY  
SUNDAY OCTOBER 28th

10.30 a.m. — Dr Keith Bowes

Luncheon

Afternoon programme

Please let us know if you are coming

I. Roberts 874 5110, B. Coleman 878 7438

### HAMPTON Church of Christ 68th ANNIVERSARY

Sunday, October 14  
11.00 a.m.

Followed by luncheon  
Evening Women's Fellowship  
25th Birthday

Saturday, October 13

7.30 p.m.

Details

D. Allen  
95 8504

L. Cooper  
99 4304

## "THE WORLD OF THE CHILD"

### Lecture Series

sponsored by Christian Women's Fellowship of Victoria

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Lecturer Dr. A. R. Nell, M.B.B.S., D.C.H.

Lecture 2. "How do I Teach my Child About God?" Lecturer Mr E. C. Keating, B.A.,  
L.Th., Dip. R.E.  
"Is He Really Ready to go to School?" Lecturer Mrs M. Keating.

Lecture 3. "The Child With Special Difficulties". Lecturer Miss Eileen Ellis, B.A.,  
T.P.T.C., Dip. R.E.

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110th

**CHURCH ANNIVERSARY**

Sunday 21st October, 1979

11 a.m. Worship  
Speaker Mr B. J. Grear (Conf. Pres.)  
2.45 p.m. Pleasant Sunday Afternoon  
6.45 p.m. Gospel  
Speaker: Mr A. E. Cremin

THE AUSTRALIAN  
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**ISSUE**

OCT. 13  
OCT. 27

**DEADLINE**

OCT. 4  
OCT. 16

**PERSONAL**

**DISCIPLESHIP**

- Allan Hornsby, Greg Hornsby, Truellan Tapping, Trudy Hill, Sandra Maxwell, Kathryn Dixon, Anne Dixon, Warwick, W.A.
- Joanne Hissey, Wayne Miller, Vivienne Jose, John Johnson, Hurstville, N.S.W.
- Wendy Batchelor, Shepparton, Vic.
- Rodney Shaw, Albion, Qld.
- Terry Evans, Jenny Wilkinson, Steve Johnston, Lim Gahan, Bunbury, W.A.
- Margie Andrews, Dawn Bryant, Wangaratta, Vic.
- John & Chris Dubbeld, Murray & Daphne Allen, Brian & Dione O'Grady, Bronwyn O'Grady, Chris O'Grady, Jocelyn O'Grady, Vicki White, Mt Evelyn, Vic.
- Fiona Haslam, Launceston, Tas.
- Bruce Watson, Boronia, Vic.
- Samantha Haselhurst, Subiaco, W.A.
- Linda Wray, Owen, S.A.
- Janet Saunders, Footscray, Vic.
- Dennis Clare, Vicki Brennan, Sean Beeston, Billy Sitch, Mark Mallaby, Box Hill, Vic.
- Mae Fong, Craig Dorant, Stewart Robertson, Trevor McCarthy, Nollamara, W.A.
- Karen Williams, Northcote, Vic.
- Bill Ainsworth, John Crabtree, Paul McDonald, Horsham, Vic.
- Carol Gower, Cathryn Gloyn, David Cornish, Robert Cornish, Andrew Walladge, Peter Lord, Craig Stratfold, Blackwood, S.A.
- David Surtees, Paul Walker, Chadstone, Vic.
- Philip Pithie, Bendigo, Vic.

**MARRIAGES**

- Wendy Newman to Gary Britten, Shepparton, Vic.
- Robyn Page to Robert Barr, Boronia, Vic.

**DEATHS**

- Mark McWilliams, Warwick, W.A.
- Mrs Elvie Probyn, Shepparton, Vic.
- Edwin Frost, Mrs Phil Richardson, Blackwood, S.A.
- Roland Pritchard, Warragul, Vic.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS**

**DIMBOOLA:** Secretary — Mrs N. A. Holland, c/- Wail P.O., via Dimboola, Vic. 3414.

**WANGARATTA:** Secretariat — c/- 30 Younger St., Wangaratta, Vic. 3677. Phone (057) 21 2443, or (057) 21 2801.

**WERRIBEE DISTRICT CHURCH OF CHRIST** — Name changed to Werribee Church of Christ.

**RICHMOND:** Minister — W. J. Gibney, Phone (03) 428 4844. Secretary — G. J. Basinski, Phone (03) 428 7112.

**JAY'S QUIZ**

Answer: (See page 10). Peter and John — John won (John 20:4).

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## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**HENLEY BEACH** (Don Sonsee). "Good News Weeknd" held Aug. 17-19. Jeff May, Balaclava, was guest speaker on the theme "What is this Life Anyway?" Friday evening featured "Brothers," Sue Elbourne and Kathy Moore. Saturday evening a church dinner was held with features by the "Brothers" and Colin Pearce. Sunday evening service included the "Brothers," Fred Russell and Alan Hartley. Colin Rawlins and Graham Bing helped at the piano and organ.

**PROSPECT** (R. H. Sercombe) Annual General Meeting decisions included interior of church to be repainted . . . Church to meet with Kilburn one gospel service per month at Kilburn church . . . Grow group formed at Prospect to help community . . . Four new members welcomed into fellowship . . . The aboriginal Church of Christ took recent gospel service. A record number of baptisms took place . . . Camera Club preparing Ausio-Visual show to exchange or lend to interested churches in other states . . . Family nights continue . . . Ladies held street stall to raise funds for overseas aid.

**TUMBY BAY** (M. D. Williams). Combined evening service held with Uniting church when four of their members were baptised . . . S.S. Anniversary held.

visiting speaker was Mark McKenzie of the Aboriginal church in Pt Lincoln. Offering for Far Eastern Broadcasting Company raised \$104 . . . Combined Youth service led by Peter Chambers of the Uniting church. John Williams, executive officer of People for Alcohol Concern & Education was speaker and showed film "Thinking & Drinking" . . . Church challenged by visit of Bruce Waldron and Bill Tabbernee from C.O.B. Bruce spoke and sang at morning service and both shared informal discussion during luncheon. Evening service featured discussion and interviews.

**NARACORTE**. Dorothy Geyer spoke of her work in India while on deputation . . . An Overseas Mission Sunday held with Ron McLean speaking at both services and showing slides . . . Film "Sammy" screened . . . S. S. Anniversary featured children. Kindergarten featured children of the world and upper school presented plays of children of the Bible. Roger Brown, Mt Gamber, was guest speaker . . . Win and Viv Hoskins home for visit from Roelands Mission. Viv spoke and luncheon held . . . A. B. M. showed all auxiliaries working well.

**BLACKWOOD** (L. Cooke). A group of members met with Goolwa members for a combined Communion service at Macclesfield followed by lunch . . . Greg Ratcliff appointed President of Boys' Brigade in S.A. . . . Ladies' Guild posted a parcel of sewing weighing 71 kgs to Duindui.

**LONG PLAINS, OWEN**. (John Wilson). At combined meeting of the two churches members decided to disband the circuit. Formed in 1943 the first minister was Wilkie Thomson. Two officers who were at the original meeting, Harold Freebairn and Aleck Good, were also at the closing meeting . . . Series of Bible study groups of five weeks duration held at Owen. Two groups are to continue . . . Adelaide Plains Uniting Parish and Owen Community Centre each made financial donations to the upkeep of the manse . . . Visiting speakers at Long Plains have been John Williams, Temperance, and Ken Wray, C.O.B.

**MAYLANDS** (N. S. Moore). Annual meeting held with the largest attendance for many years. New officers elected: E. Parker — Elder, G. Heath and B. Ahurt — Deacons . . . David Brooker and Arthur Tanner, C.O.B. students, took evening service . . . C.W.F. held Devonshire Morning Tea and trading table and raised \$200 for Overseas Missions . . . Two former members remembered the church in their wills. Miss Alice Mauger left \$769 to the church and an equal amount to the Christian Rest Home. Miss Rhoda Johnson bequeathed \$10,000 to the Cameron Vawser Fund which honours two missionaries from the Maylands church . . . Church saddened by the death of Albert Davies whose family has been involved at Maylands for years.



# COLLEGE OF THE BIBLE ANNUAL OFFERING

## SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7th



## VICTORIA

**HAMPTON** (T. Hanna, B. Williams) Program dinner held ... Film "He Leadeth Me" shown ... Visiting speakers have been Robin Haskell David Brown, M. Tardiss, representing Gideons ... Group from Cheltenham C.Y.F. helped in evening service ... Tim Hanna sharing in C.O.B. Team in W.A.

**BLACKBURN** (E. C. Keating, P. B. Burnham) 75th anniversary held ... Working bees commenced to transform Surrey Road manse into Pastoral Care Centre ... A group of 50 went to see the Charles Colson film "Born Again" ... Young Wives held mid-winter dinner at the Coffee Bean ... Blackburn United under 13 football team 1980 premiers.

**BERWICK** (D. McLeod) Large services marked the final day of Barry and Gay McMurtrie's ministry ... Good News Singers lead celebration service ... Board held dinner for Barry and Gay ... Media Committee established ... Laurie Dunn and family lead service with film ... Church singing group, Sugar and Salt, at evening service ... Copies of "Early Risers" study starters for groups available at 50c from church office ... Over 70 now meeting in diverse house groups planning for development committees set up; ... Planning underway for 1980 Fun Day and 1979 Carols by Twilight, Christmas Eve at Civic Centre ... Church dinner being held in October ... Young Marrieds now meeting monthly ... New constitution debated at church meeting ... Youth Study group see film "The Champ" ... Junior Youth Group visits snow ... Parent effectiveness course held.

**PASCOE VALE** (M. Stevens) New brick toilets completed and work to commence on new fence ... Table tennis players won five out of six handicap titles in the E.B.C.T.T.A. Title winners were Jacqui Thomson, Tom De Bonis and Jim Boffa ... A second barbecue has been built behind the church ... Julie Reid speaker ... Family tea had Ross McLean as speaker ... Ladies' group met at Dorothy Thomson's home ...

**SWANSTON STREET** (A.L. Webb, A.H.B. Morton). 70 participated in a Day of Prayer ... In one week five decisions were made on campus at Melbourne Uni and three at Latrobe Uni. ... Students from five different nationalities have been baptised recently ... 150 overseas students participated in two different training camps ... Living Circle Youth Choir preparing for presentation of the Gospel Musical "The Witness" on Sept. 8-9 ... \$3,500 received towards new church roof ... Service in Mandarin conducted for 70 Vietnamese refugees ... Communicant average for August in excess of 300.

**ORMOND** (C. P. Clayden, B. Tunks). Conf. Pres. G. Foot recent speaker with talk back held at lunch afterwards ... Eight week seminar being held using Bruce Turley's book "Being there for others" ... Mrs. Jean Adkins of Community Care spoke to C.W.E.F. ... C.W.A.F. visited "Billilla" an historic home and cultural centre ... Drop-in centre members conducted tea table evening service ... Five leaders attended resource seminar at Camberwell ... Puppets introduced to monthly 9.30 a.m. service for S.S. scholars and parents ... films shown recently have been "Follow Me", "Time to Run" and the Bible Soc. film "Down but not out".

**MANIFOLD HEIGHTS** (P. A. Pitts, G. Titter) July featured month of Missions ... Church agreed to raise \$2000 for missionary project. Roy Lee, sponsored for \$1,400, pushed a wheelbarrow 25kms, to Mountjoys farm where damper & tea were served in shearers' quarters. Audrey & Len Milligan & helpers have made 1,000 dozen snowballs, raising \$630 ... "Shalom" singing group held dinner and concert providing \$450 for building fund ... Church adopted recommended building plan ... 20 y.p. spent weekend and Mt Buffalo & Hotham ... 40 men attended C.M.F. tour at "Yallambie" ... Verdun Newham baptised & six welcomed into fellowship.

**MOUNT CLEAR** (G. Chapman). Minister elect Mark Dunn and wife Jan shared in a dinner and family night ... C.W.F. arranged "Day of Fellowship." Mrs Helen Banks spoke on experience at

Quadrennial Assembly. Groups worked on projects leading to Communion ... C.W.F. took part in evening service with Albert Graham speaking ... Family service had over 130 attend. Children sang two songs ... Lloyd Jenkins spoke to Men's Fellowship on the ages of houses in Ballarat. They also visited Inst. of Archaeology in Melbourne.

**PARKDALE** (R. E. Hillbrich). Evening service taken by Tennis Club featured "Orison" group (Murrumbeena Baptist) ... Youth fellowship service featured group from Aspendale Presbyterian and a play written by Fellowship member ... Miss Parkdale Good Companion raised \$89 for service project.

**MT. EVELYN** (B. J. O'Grady). Brian and Dione O'Grady and family welcomed to the Ministry ... Darryl Kernick (W.B.T.) held two Sundays of meetings with Worldwide Missionary Vision emphasis ... Visiting speakers — Alan Myer (L.M.C.), Bill Wind (L.M.C.), Fred Kelly (Mooroolbark Baptist), Martin Dubbeld.

**BAYSWATER** (W. R. Newton). Annual meeting held and Alice Bulleen elected as first Deaconess. Danny Hills and Ray Davis were elected Deacons and Ken Leake S.S. Superintendent. Church decided to go ahead with building alterations ... Junior Explorers slept at church after which all Explorers took part in Family Worship service ... Annual progressive dinner enjoyed and raised \$60 for church furnishings ... C.W.F. evening group held copper craft night with two of our own ladies Nancy Nelsen and Lorraine Albury.

## QUESTING

From Page 32

they become fellow disciples they discover that we are not ourselves doing what should be done? Can it be that we are content to show others the cross, but not prepared to carry it. If so, then it is no wonder that we are "unmaking" disciples.

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

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IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF DEPARTMENTS TO ADVISE CHANGES IN PERSONNEL.

# QUESTING

WITH A. E. WHITE

Jesus said that we were "to make disciples." In our church we are having much more success in unmaking them. At least, our membership is falling, so we are definitely not making disciples. What is a disciple and how are they "made?"

I am intrigued by your phrase "unmaking disciples!" If we realise what we are doing to "unmake" them, we may stop it and see the churches grow.

We may not have as much success in making disciples as we would like, but they are being made. In some parts of the world, e.g. South America, Indonesia, Korea, there are churches which are growing in large numbers. Even in churches that regularly report losses, there are additions every year. Unfortunately, the losses exceed the gains. In our own churches in Australia there are more than a 1000 new disciples made every year.

We have a vital role given to us in making disciples. We declare the gospel, we witness to Jesus as Lord in our lives, and we introduce folk to him. Then, it is Jesus himself who gives himself to his new followers, filling them with his Spirit, and teaching them his way.

We tell people clearly what discipleship means: "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." Matt. 16.24.

"Whoever does not take up his cross and follow in my steps is not worthy of me." Matt. 10:38.

We share with Christ in making disciples when we teach his way and obey his will, but we are much more successful in winning them, than in keeping them. Old disciples who fall away must, of course, bear their own responsibility. If they declare their faith in Christ and desire to hold to him, nothing can take them away.

But thousands do leave Christ and the church and if we are honest with ourselves we shall confess that we share the responsibility for "unmaking" disciples as we share the privilege of making them.

There are three facets of discipleship that we show to others. We must also accept them for ourselves. We know that others cannot be true disciples without them. These are: taking up the cross, self denial, and following Christ.

We say to others that these must be done if they are to be true disciples. Those of us who have been longer on the Way with Christ, must also accept the rules of

the road.

Someone has said that we have been ready to accept the invitation from the pulpit to receive the Christ of the cross, but rather reluctant to accept also the cross of the Christ. The two are inseparable. True discipleship demands the acceptance of both.

If we are assisting in the unmaking of disciples it could be that we have been too ready to tell others what it means to follow Christ, but not so ready to do what is required of us.

We have made of the cross a beautiful symbol. Before Jesus came it was a horrible representation of judgment, torture, and death. We must search the scriptures to find out why Jesus chose this symbol as the badge of discipleship and the way of life.

It is much more than a club membership badge, much more than a sign of friendly fellowship. It is a sign of practical commitment to Christ and of our relationship with him in God's redemptive plan for all mankind. The cross for Jesus was the evidence of his total commitment to his Father, and the cross must be for us the evidence of our total commitment to the Son.

Is it fair to say that we are still "making" disciples because people are persuaded by our words about Jesus and his programme for love and life, but when

(Continued on Page 31)

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Children who drop  
Bright verbal jewels  
Often end up  
In corners, on stools.

Liz Stoffel

★ ★ ★

College Chum: "What are you going to do this summer?"

College Pal: "Work in my dad's office. What're you doing?"

College Chum: "Oh, nothing much either!"

★ ★ ★

To live above with saints we know,  
Oh, that will be glory!  
To live below with saints we know,  
Well, that's another story!

★ ★ ★

"It isn't that I'm afraid to work, ma'am, but there isn't much doing in my particular line."

"Why, what are you?"

"I'm a window-box weeder, ma'am."

## THE LAST WORD

Mistress: "Marie, when you wait on the table tonight for my guests, please don't spill anything."

Maid: "Don't you worry, ma'am. I never talk much."

★ ★ ★

The man who graduates today and stops learning tomorrow is uneducated the day after.

★ ★ ★

When you dislike a person do something nice for him.

★ ★ ★

He: "If you put three ducks into a crate, what would you have?"

She: "A box of quackers."

