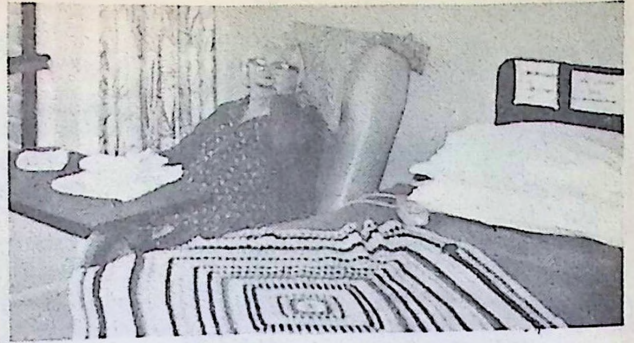


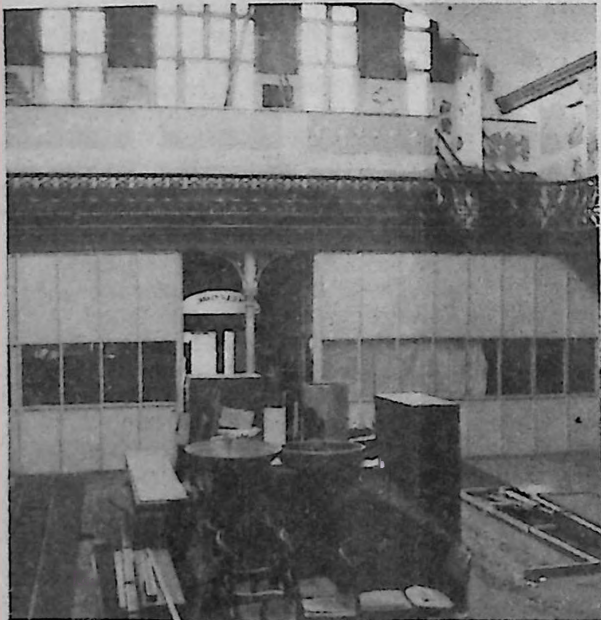
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... He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, brought him to an inn and took care of him ... (Luke 10:34.)

... He who despises his neighbour sins, but blessed is he who is kind to the needy ... (Proverbs 14:21.)

... Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble ... (1 Peter 3:8.)

**SOCIAL SERVICE
ANNUAL OFFERING**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

THE AUSTRALIAN
CHRISTIAN

Vol. 83
No. 14

August 9
1980

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CHRISTIAN

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SUB-EDITOR
MANAGER: C. R. AMBROSE

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DO WE LOVE IN WORD ONLY — OR IN DEED? Beryl Cole

Beryl Cole of the Pendle Hill Church (N.S.W.) has a long social service history. Her parents, the late Jim and Annie Nichols were with Clive Burden and Charles Young in the beginnings of the Victorian Social Service Department. She is married to N.S.W. Social Service Director Charles Cole. Her twin daughters and their families are active in Christian Service. She is a grandmother five times.

Dear Lord Jesus,

I've been reading again your words to your Disciples, and it occurred to me that you were talking to me too. The things you say are so relevant to living today. I felt puzzled, tho', that you should ask me (and Peter) the same question three times — "Do you love Me?" Certainly I do! But somehow I feel there is more to your question than that. I'll have to give it more thought.

I was in the city recently when I saw a young man searching through a rubbish bin. As I watched he pulled out of the bin a half-eaten sandwich — AND ACTUALLY ATE IT! As I continued through the park. I saw others doing the same thing!
"IT IS ALL I HAVE"

As I waited at the office, who should knock but . . . He was filthy, unshaven and the worse for alcohol. When he saw me he said: "I'm tired! Can I sleep on the floor behind the door for a while? Will you give me some clean clothes? I can't help myself. I have to drink. IT IS ALL I HAVE." He pulled up his trousers to show me his leg — it was covered with sores — as, he said, was the whole of his body.

It was 8 p.m. before we left the office and as we came out we had to step over a white-haired, white bearded old man wrapped in newspapers, settling down in the doorway for the night. He was apologetic about inconveniencing us — but could he sleep there at least until the police moved him on? Lord, I believe there are thousands of homeless men wandering around our cities!

"SOMEONE TO TALK TO"

When driving to hospital in the ambulance with Mrs . . . , I was talking to the Ambulance Driver and he told me of the hundreds of calls from people who take an overdose — JUST BECAUSE THEY WANT SOMEONE TO TALK TO — but, no doubt, you know all about this, Lord. AND, I've just discovered that Mrs . . . from OUR CHURCH is lonely!

Lord, there are so many things I want to tell you — about the children and others who are starving, about those caught up in political struggles and the victims of permissiveness. There are children who are ill-treated. There is bribery and corruption in high places. The news headlines tell of murders, bashings, kidnappings. Some people are mentally sick and misunderstood.

When I think of all these people and their needs and then look at my own life — my family — my home — my friends — all the love that surrounds me — all the things I take for granted — I am so grateful to you, but so ashamed. The words of a song come to mind:

"I'm looking from my balcony, upon the world below,
And all along the busy street I see the people go.
And some are full of weariness, with heavy loads to bear,
And some are sick and sorrowful, but no-one seems to care."
Again I think of your question —

DO I love you? DO I care? HOW MUCH do I care? I hide my face because I have been so ineffectual — my Church has been so ineffectual. If only we would come down from our balcony into the stream of humanity and SHARE your love — through OUR love, our time, our money, our ALL!

I am beginning to understand why you HAD to ask me more than once if I loved You. My actions speak louder than words.
BUT I DO LOVE YOU!



CHURCHES OF CHRIST, N.S.W.

SOCIAL SERVICE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP ASSOCIATION



City Temple — Campbell St., Surrey Hills

The following incident, recorded by Beryl Cole, actually happened. Beryl, who is married to the New South Wales Social Service Department Director, sees it as a pointer to a new life for the old City Temple building.

I answered the insistent knocking at the door. There stood a tall man — dirty, dishevelled, and the worse for alcohol. He didn't wait for me to speak but demanded: "Play that hymn louder, lady! — the one about Jesus. People out there need to hear it — they need Him!" He talked on and on — about his grandchildren, about war, about their possible involvement, about world conditions, etc. He was quite distressed.

As I stood there at the door of "City Temple" I reflected upon the past. Names like Ashwood, Harwood, Morris, Illingworth, Taylor, Bagley, Stimson — and many others — flashed across my mind — faithful men and women who, in that old building for many years had "played the hymn — the one about Jesus" and people had responded to its message. In recent years, however, "the

hymn" had died away and few came now to worship and sing about Jesus, and I felt sad.

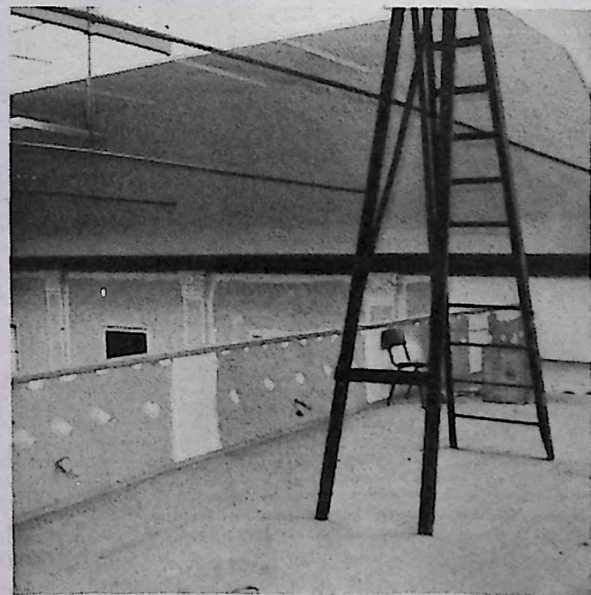
But as I stood there reflecting, I heard the pounding of the workman's hammer. Looking in, I was aware of the swish, swish of the painter's brush, and my heart leaped with joy! The old building, "City Temple", was taking on a new air and within the next few months "the hymn — the one about Jesus" again will be played louder, and ever louder in this place.

For in old "City Temple" a "Club" is to be established for lonely men of the city — and there are at least 1000 of them in and around the City of Sydney. Men who have been "down in their luck" who need friendship and companionship, a place to go — instead of to hotels — who need to hear "the hymn — the one about Jesus". Here, at City Temple there will be a Restaurant, Games Room, T.V. Room, an Auditorium, Christian people — a Manager, Chaplain, Social Worker — will be involved — they will start to "play that hymn louder" — until, under the Spirit of God, many will hear and respond once again to its saving message.

This is a costly dream of the Social Service Department. \$100,000 has to be paid to Conference Executive for the old white ant-ridden building. Another \$70,000 is now being spent on its renovation. Equipment will have to be purchased.

But, knowing the value God puts on a soul, we are moving out in faith believing He will provide our needs.

CITY TEMPLE LIVES AGAIN



The gallery is being turned into a comfortable T.V. and lounge room.

BIBLE TRANSLATORS EVACUATE FROM SANTO, NEW HEBRIDES



Bislama Translation team:- Pastor Bill Camden, Rev. Charles Ling, Morrie Tabi.

Immediately following the coup on Santo in the New Hebrides, the Bible translation team scattered to surrounding islands. But the work still goes on.

Father Charles went to Mota Lava in the Banks Islands and has completed the task of fitting a Bislama text of the Gospel of Luke to a new film entitled "Jesus". This will be screened throughout the New Hebrides later in the year. He is now continuing his work on 1 Maccabees from the Apocrypha.

Dorothy Dewar, now at Walaha on Aoba Island, writes, Morrie Tabi is working on Pentecost Is. on his Apma New Testament. He had gone to Pentecost with his wife and family mid May for the Churches of Christ annual conference. His wife was due to have a baby early in June and wanted to have it at the hospital on her home island. So they were out of Santo when the trouble

erupted. We praise God for this as their little daughter was born on June 2.

The wives and families of the other translators were already on their islands when the trouble broke out . . . only the men had to escape from Santo. We praise God for this too."

Pastor Bill Camden, who has completed the first draft of the book of Genesis, Evan Fry of the Bible Society and other members of the translation team plan to meet at Torgil on Aoba Is. to continue work on the second draft of Genesis during August.

Copies of draft translations and the cassettes of Luke remain behind at Santo. Prayers are requested so that they may be kept safely.

The Bislama New Testament is currently being printed and it is hoped that it will be ready in November or December this year.

— George Mathieson

ON THE MOVE

'How do we help individuals, as members of congregations, live out their faith commitment?' 'How do we release the gifts of the laity?' These were the questions that gave shape to the July issue of *On the Move*. Included are stories of what churches are doing to identify, develop, and support the ministry of their lay people. These point to a great variety of starting places in the processes leading to healthier congregational life. We hope that these real stories will encourage others seeking to **RELEASE THE GIFTS OF THE LAITY**.

Ideas for Advent and Christmas feature in a larger than normal section of *On the Move*. It includes music for worship and offers resources for linking the learning program of the local church to congregational worship. There is an article by Doug Purnell outlining an interesting way of illustrating a sermon.

On the Move always tries to be practical. In this issue, besides the regular 'Swap Shop' of ideas tried in the local church, they have included articles on:

- How to lead discussion groups.
- How to get the most from Bible study.
- How to help families share their stories and grow in ability to talk about the faith.

There is also a simulation game that will help people identify the gifts they have for ministry, and some 'discussion starters' on the nature of evangelism. There is news about new books and a new youth movement. There is an article for the 200th anniversary of the Sunday school on the role of the teacher in the local church.

Published by the Joint Board of Christian Education, 177 Collins Street, Melbourne. Subscription: \$7.20 p.a. (4 issues per year).

NEW LEPROSY MISSION DIRECTOR

The Leprosy Mission (Australia) has announced the appointment of a new Executive Director to replace W. R. Edgar who leaves to take up his new position at the International Office in London. He is Kenneth W. Martin who has been with the Leprosy Mission since 1978 as State Secretary for Queensland.



Kenneth W. Martin

Mr Martin (36) has had considerable experience in business working for Remington Office Equipment in N.S.W., Qld, and Papua New Guinea where he was appointed Sales Manager. This position brought him into contact with many missionaries.

Since his conversion in 1958 at the Sandgate Baptist Church, Ken Martin has been associated with a number of Baptist churches in Eastern Australia and P.N.G.

One characteristic of his Christian life has been a ministry to young people. In 1966 he was Queensland State Intermediate Superintendent for Christian Endeavour. During his stay in P.N.G. Mr Martin was Scripture Union Counsellor at the Burgandi High School in Lae for two years, and later, while based in Port Moresby, he assisted in the youth work of the Boroko Baptist church, as well as being an active member of the Missionary Committee.

Throughout his ministry, Mr Martin has been ably assisted by his wife Shirley who is an accomplished musician, both as a singer and pianist. She is also keenly involved in several Know Your Bible groups in Brisbane which are run by the Christian Women's Conventions International.

Ken and Shirley Martin with their three children, Jeffrey (13), Desley (11) and Lyndal (7), will be moving to Melbourne to take up their new position.

PRESBYTERIAN HARASSMENTS

Another leading Presbyterian has been arrested in Taiwan. The Rev. C.M. Kao is the general secretary of the Presbyterian church in Taiwan. The arrest follows a human rights protest. A number of Protestant churches in that country have sent protests to the government calling for Kao's release.

PROJECT PHILIP SEMINAR IN HOBART

A record number of people attended the Project Philip Seminar held in Hobart on the weekend of July 19 and 20. The church invited Rev. Gerald Hanscamp, Australian Director of the World Home Bible League, to conduct the Seminar, which introduces the evangelism program of World Home Bible League.

Because we believed that it was important to have as many people as possible from Hobart Churches of Christ participating, we decided to subsidise the Seminar and enable people to register for the cost of the material.

Publicity started six weeks before the event with regular articles in the church paper, pulpit announcements, registration forms distributed through Small Groups and on Sundays, and sermons on evangelism by the ministers. The Seminar was also advertised amongst all the other churches in Hobart. We were thrilled when 65 people attended, 63 of whom were members of Collin Street and Howrah.

The Seminar was highly motivational and challenged us to take opportunities and make opportunities to share our faith. There was a strong emphasis on the need to back all our witnessing and programs of evangelism with prayer. We were encouraged to become a praying people and experience the unlimited power of God.

The Seminar emphasised the importance of the whole church being involved in evangelism, each sharing the good news in its own way and according to the gifts God has given, rather than leaving it to an elite few. In addition Project Philip presents specific programs which may be used to supplement existing programs of evangelism in the church.

Two programs which may be used separately or together in the church are based on a Bible study booklet "The Touch of His Hand". Both are geared to sharing the Good News with non-Christians. The first is a Bible correspondence course; the second is sharing the gospel in homes with the aid of film strip and study booklet.

The Seminar deals with one of the significant problems which the church faces, that of incorporating new converts into the life and witness of the church. Project Philip endeavours to deal with this problem by talking about the circle of evangelism. This involves not only making converts but also making disciples who become witnesses.

The Project Philip Seminar was a very significant experience made even more significant because of the large number of people from our church who attended. The Elders will now be prayerfully considering what the next steps should be to gain the maximum benefit from the Seminar.

In addition the Seminar was a tremendous experience of learning and sharing together, deepening our faith. A number of people have expressed the desire to share a similar experience in a different area of faith and life.

— George E. Powell

FACULTY NEWS FROM N.S.W. BIBLE COLLEGE

Ted Bjorem, B.Th, M.R.E., has joined the College as an honorary faculty member. He will be lecturing in Christian Education and Church Growth. He is available to help churches particularly in the area of church growth.

Dennis Nutt, B.A., M.A. (Hons.), Dip.Ed. has accepted an invitation from the Board to join the faculty full-time from the end of January 1981. He will be lecturing in Biblical Studies and Church History.

Miss Dianne Feeney, B.A.(Hons.) is working steadily towards her M.A. degree with the University of Queensland. Her research deals with the impact of Christianity on the indigenous people our missionaries are working with in Papua New Guinea. Her work has been highly acclaimed by our Overseas Mission Board. She is helping them as Missions Promoter in New South Wales.

Terry Butler, B.Th, M.Div, has been completely booked out this year by

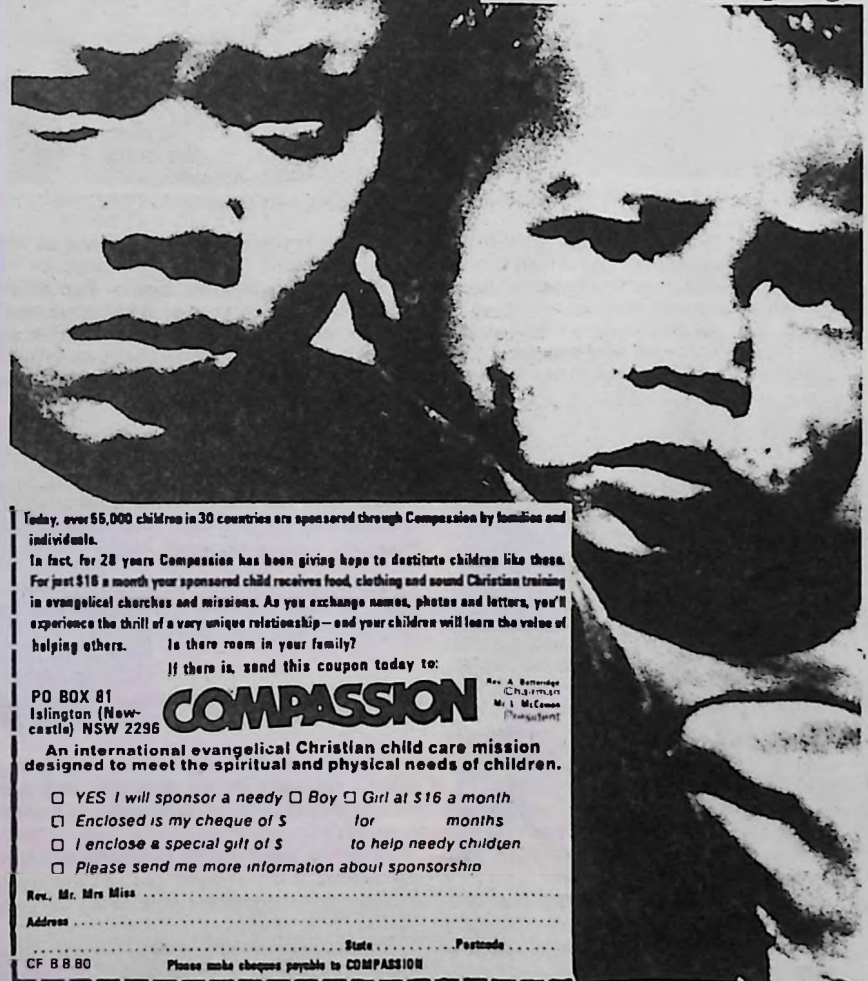
churches seeking his help in Eldership training, Prayer and Family seminars and Church Life Development. He and his family are planning to spend the first half of 1982 in the U.S.A. to visit their supporting church and their families. Terry hopes to finish a D.Min. degree while there.

Gary and Lyn Walker have now left for the U.S.A. Gary is enrolled at Cincinnati Christian Seminary for M.Div. studies. He will be doing some lecturing in the undergraduate school, Cincinnati Bible College, and preaching part-time. Their address is care of the above Seminary, 2700 Glenway, Cincinnati, Ohio 45204, U.S.A.

COLLEGE GRADUATION

Due to a week being lost during the relocation of College, the College Graduation will now be held at 7.45 p.m. on Friday, November 28 at the chapel of the Church For All Nations, Metropolitan Road, Enmore.

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THE CHURCH CARING

One of the fundamental principles of the church is the ministry of care for people. Care is synonymous with the gospel — the Scriptures repeatedly demonstrate care and concern for people.

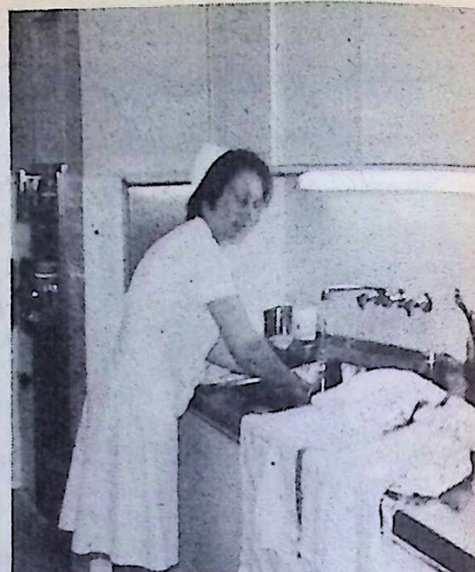
Compassion is one of the great words of Scripture, it is more than just pity or concern, it inclines one's feeling into action. This action is motivated by love of God and love for our fellow.

Caring is essentially the work of the church. In these days the local church is confronted

people in our churches and community, these call for greater understanding and partnership.

CARING THROUGH WELFARE

How many are aware of the function of the Christian Fellowship Association? — This is the very life-blood of our benevolent program in Victoria. Confidentiality and embarrassment prevents us from telling the details of



Caring hands of staff

by our churches in Victoria and their average age is about 85 years. This type of care is expensive but essential as revealed by the many inquiries and applications received especially from frail and dependent aged persons.

In spite of bureaucratic claims that there are adequate nursing home beds available in this State we know there is still a great need for such care in church and charitable organizations. The constant cry is — "Can you possibly get my mother (or other relative) into your home?" They continue "The hospital where she now is can't do any more for her and they press us to take her out".

People in our homes are there for life and receive tender loving care at the hands of staff and chaplains.

CARING THROUGH CHAPLAINS

The ministry of chaplains in hospitals and in industry continues to demonstrate "The Church Caring" for people in their times of illness and at their place of work. We share these ministries with other communions. **WILL YOU BE A PARTNER IN THE CARING MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH?**



Some of the people from churches who care

with the responsibility in meeting human need right where it is witnessing. There is also the continual responsibility at Brotherhood level where the ministry of care must be exercised in co-operation and supported by the local congregation. In both areas we face new demands for desperately needed services to families and

how C.F.A. has helped people — Families have been saved from eviction — Assistance has prevented costly legal actions — Funds have been provided to assist with unexpected funeral costs — Help in times of physical and mental illnesses — Assisted widows in financial difficulties — Shared in providing shelter for homeless people.

These are but a few examples of how \$8,000 was spent in 1979-80. C.F.A. is NOT funded through church budgets, but functions through personal and individual membership. It is essential to continue this part of the Church's Caring Ministry.

In addition to C.F.A. assistance to people is given by way of food, clothing, advice and referrals to specialist organisations.

CARING FOR THE AGED

Have you ever thought what would happen to the aged in our churches and community if churches had not taken up a caring program?

Caring for aged people in hostels and nursing homes is an integral part of the caring ministry. 240 people are now being cared for



Keeping fit at Christian Guest Home



Restful care at C.G.H.

ANNUAL OFFERING SUNDAY AUGUST 17

Projects now commencing
 30 bed Nursing Home at Southport
 Youth Emergency Centre at Broadbeach
 Family Group Home at Bundaberg
 5 self-contained Units at Maryborough
 2 self-contained Units at Bribie Island
TOTAL COST \$930,000



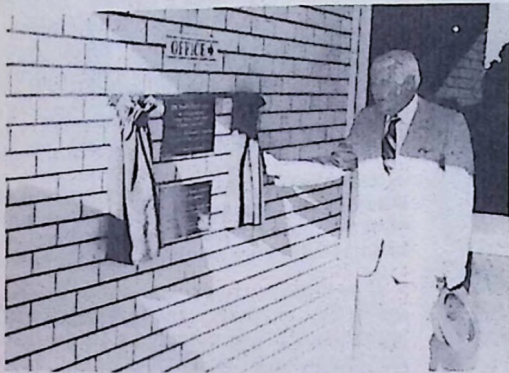
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**Don E. Stewart,
 DIRECTOR**

**HERE ARE SOME OPENING
 SHOTS**

Last year this is what we said we would do.



ERIC FRANKS NURSING HOME providing accommodation for 30 guests requiring nursing care at Southport, was opened by His Excellency Sir James Ramsay, Governor of Queensland, on 7 June 1980.

IRWIN BLOWERS YOUTH EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION at Merrimac opened by Sam. D. Doumaney, Minister for Welfare in Queensland on 9 February 1980. The Home accommodates 8 youth.



Serving the Lord through service to people through his Church



BUNDABERG FAMILY GROUP HOME opened by Sam S. Doumaney, Minister for Welfare on 16 February 1980. The Home accommodates 8 children.

7 EQUITY HOME UNITS were opened. Two were located at Bribie Island and five at Fairhaven in Maryborough.

COLIN SMITH was appointed as Full-time Churches of Christ Chaplain to the hospitals, Homes and Prisons in Brisbane on 4 February 1980.



Much has been achieved but much more remains to be done. We seek your help so that with God's help much more will be done to meet the need.

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.

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO SUNDAY EVENING?

To the Editor,

I have just read with much interest and enjoyment the article by Gordon Stirling ("A.C." June 28).

His account of "how it used to be" is how I personally have always known it to be and I am still a few years short of the 35 years he refers to.

Undoubtedly I have been fortunate to have had a strongly evangelistic background. I have also been fortunate to always be where the good old gospel message has been preached. Even so I cannot imagine doing anything more enjoyable on a Sunday evening than attending the gospel services. In fact on the odd occasion I have been unable to attend I have found myself sitting at home wondering what I was missing out on and wishing I was there.

As a further matter of interest, over recent months, it has been exciting to see up to 300 or more crammed into our church singing their hearts out and enjoying every moment of the services. There can be no greater thrill than to see people responding to the gospel invitation. (More than 130 public confessions of faith have been registered this year) as week after week our minister Kevin Denton has preached his heart out.

To those of other churches who are missing out on this experience I am sorry for you.

To me and others in our church it is exciting. I wouldn't miss out and neither would my 3-year-old son. To him Sunday is the high spot of his week.

— David J. Bond (South Perth, W.A.)

REFLECTS ON A LETTER

To the Editor,

Let me express appreciation of Len Martin's letter (A.C. June 28), for the reading of it led me to a rich experience which I now relate.

It seemed that I was taken to ancient hall, where sat men in strong debate over one, Jesus of Nazareth. They spoke of him, as Nicodemus spoke with gentle voice, of Mary the woman from Magdala, of tax collectors Levi and Zacchaeus the small one who had given to the poor his ill-gotten gains. "See, said he, these are changed persons through his work."

Angry murmurs filled the room. One, in priestly garb, with acid voice, spoke over all the clamour, "But what of all the others whose company he kept — those other women of the streets, the tax-collectors, the lepers whom they say he healed — where and what are they? Why not speak of these?"

Then I heard another voice, fraught with pain. I thought it came from strange tree on hill beyond the city walls. It drowned the clamour from the hall. "A sower went out to sow . . . some seed fell on good ground and brought forth . . . some fell on hard ground . . . but, he, who sows no seed lest the soil be unfit, never reaps a harvest". Then again, "The rain — it falls on just and unjust!"

Those who struggled in debate gave no heed nor even heard the pain-filled words . . . "He who gives the cup of water in my name must give account — but to me!"

For such experience, I am deeply grateful to Len Martin.

Neil Gilmore, Canberra, A.C.T.

CHRISTIANS AND POLITICS

To the Editor,

Please why did you let Don Jeffries misquote me on Jimmy Carter ("A.C." July 12). Geoff Fairley "is not" happy with Jimmy Carter and a lot of other present day 'sacred cows' as I previously mentioned. I'm glad Don supports me.

The subject of Christians and politics is a curly one especially when party lines are taken. This is obvious from the present Alan Austin pro and anti feeling.

At present a pamphlet 'Local Government and You' is being circulated in N.S.W. by the Council of Churches (Elections are in September). The sentiments are good but in practice Christians even at this level of politics don't generally get support from people in their own church or from the leaders of other churches (unless they want something).

I speak from experience as I am just completing my second term (six years) as an 'Independent' Alderman on the Wollongong City Council.

— Geoff Fairley (Dapto, N.S.W.)

AUSTRALIAN WINS SPEECH CONTEST

The Senior Speech Contest for Women at the World's Woman's Christian Temperance Union Convention held at Sheffield, England recently was won by Mrs. Nancy Garth of Preston, Victoria. The subject of the speech was "Alcohol — Guilty or Not Guilty". The 58 Australian delegates from all States were thrilled with her win.

JOIN US AT FEDERAL CONFERENCE

ASKING PAUL

To the Editor,

I am sure that Arthur Simpson is going to be quite upset if he doesn't meet Paul "in Glory".

Whenever we get bogged down in our Bible study group on something from the Epistles he says, "That's another thing I want to ask Paul about when I see him." He wants to ask Paul if his prohibition on women in ministry was meant to be for all time. He wants to ask him whether the "thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to buffet" him was his wife, and whether he still condones slavery and women being obedient to their husbands. The main thing he wants to know is whether Paul would have written his letters just as he did if he had known that they would become part of the Bible.

I imagine that there must be thousands of others like Arthur and that the queue outside Paul's "mansion" must be miles long. That is the problem of being such an outspoken apostle. No doubt no one bothers Nathaniel or James the Less or Matthias.

Or maybe the Lord has arranged life after death so that we can enjoy him and one another and Paul in such a way that the questions we ask and the issues we fight over here no longer seem terribly important there.

Yours inquisitively,
Tertius.

MELBOURNE CITY MISSION RECEIVES FUNDING FOR NEW PROGRAM

Melbourne City Mission has been awarded a \$367,060 grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation of U.S.A., and \$180,000 from the Australian Government to help establish a demonstration hospice program.

Australian Trusts and Foundations have given an additional \$106,000.

Bruce Addison, Director of Melbourne City Mission, said the grants will enable the Mission to provide specialised care for some cancer patients who are dying and want to be at home with their families.

"Through the hospice program, the patient and the family will be the unit of care, with access to appropriate services, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. From the moment patients come into care, skilled counselling will be provided to them and their relatives. This care will continue for as long as it is needed."

The Medical Director will lead a multi-disciplinary team consisting of a physician, a nurse, members of other community agencies and skilled volunteers.

It provides care for the whole person — medically, socially, and spiritually. The program will begin early in 1981 and will be organised from North Fitzroy. During the demonstration period, the Hospice will work with about 30 patients at any one time.

For those who might need in-patient care, the Mission has set aside 10 beds.

Mr M. J. ('Mac') Gregory has been appointed as Administrator of the Melbourne City Mission Hospice. Mr Gregory, is a graduate in Health Administration from the University of New South Wales.

LETTERS FROM TERTIUS

PU'UHONUA O HONAUNAU

(Place of Refuge)

The fragrance of frangipani was in the morning air as 57 Australian pilgrims to the World Convention of Churches of Christ gathered for communion in the garden of the Keauhou Beach Hotel, on the Island of Hawaii.

CITY OF REFUGE

The Australian party was soon to visit Pu'uhonua O Honaunau, a national park, being restored to what it had been over a hundred years ago. The Hawaiians had gods who jealously observed the Kadu, or myriads of sacred laws. To break even the smallest one was to have the gods sending lava down the mountain side to destroy their villages, so woe betide the law breaker. His fellow villagers would be after him to kill him. It was up to him (or her) to run and swim faster than the pursuers to the place of refuge. Here one came under the protection of the gods, and after purification could return to the village forgiven. The early missionaries saw a parallel with the Old Testament city of refuge, and the Pu'uhonua came to be called just that.

COMMUNION

The little group in the garden took bread and shared it with one another.

We passed tumblers of wine from hand to hand. Our loved ones back home were off to work on Monday morning but for us it was the Lord's Day and we were remembering how through the cross God has provided a city of refuge. Principalities and powers may pursue us to



Allan Lee, General Secretary World Convention.

THE CHURCH IN A JUMBO

On Saturday, July 12, we were reminded that the church is not the gothic structure on the corner but is made of living, vibrant "stones" — the people who are called by God. The church was at Tullamarine under the watchful eye of Ed. Roffey (Vice-President elect of the World Convention) while it went through em-



Forrest D. Haggard, President 10th Assembly 1975-80.

destroy us. But God receives us, forgives us, and sends us back into the world as though we had never sinned. In gratitude we joined hands and sang "Blessed Assurance".

barkation procedures. The church was at the tail end of the Jumbo Jet "City of Bunbury" (or 175 of us were). The church was in the Sydney transit lounge waiting for our people from N.S.W. and Queensland to join us. And the church having left Australia at 10 p.m. on Saturday night arrived at Honolulu at 11 a.m. on the same Saturday. Being very religious we had observed two sabbaths.

LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES

A small language problem found some Australians luggage-less on arrival on the Island of Hawaii. In Honolulu transshipping centre they failed to pronounce Hawaii as Ha-waii. They made it sound like Kauai where the other half of the Churches of Christ party were going. So their luggage went along with them. So for a day it was a bit like the Acts 2 "all things in common" as gear was shared around.

THE BEST IS YET TO BE.

As we write some of our party are out in a glass-bottomed boat "coral-fishing". The others are discussing theology in the swimming pool. We are soon to return to Honolulu to join the rest of the 420 Australians for the 50th Golden Jubilee World Convention. As our plane jets away from the strip, set up on lava like some part of the moon we will be saying "Aloha" to our people from round the world in Honolulu. "Aloha" means both hello and farewell. (Editor).

CHEERS! NOT BOO'Z

At the Rugby League headquarters — Lang Park, Brisbane, a 16 metre sign carrying the words "Cheers! not Boo'z" in bold print was erected. The Queensland Temperance League's advertising agency had arranged for its erection directly beneath the Brisbane Bitter Beer Booth. That was the only space available and the incongruity was not lost on spectators.

Senator Ron McAuliffe, President of the Lang Park Trust said the sign was unauthorised, even though Australian Posters have an understanding about signs at Lang Park.

A. C. Male made up the saying to emphasise that sport and alcohol do not mix. He points out that the breweries in Queensland are major sponsors of the rugby league code.

"We do have responsibilities to our established sponsors Castlemaine and Tooth's" Senator McAuliffe explained by way of saying that he is not biased.

Arthur Harwood, the General Secretary of the League said he "hoped spectators would drink in the double meaning of the sign before they reached double vision."

The slogan is franked on all Q.T.L. correspondence and the banning of the sign gave the League much wider publicity than the original intention at Lang Park.

DEATH OF DR RATHAN PARKHE

Bruce V. Coventry

News has just been received that Dr Rathan Parkhe died suddenly in Poona on Wednesday, June 25. He grew up in our Baramati Boys' Home and then went to University. Following graduation and internship, he served at our Mission Hospital in Dhond for a short period in the early 1950's.

After moving back to Poona he completed further post graduate studies in surgery. Later he became a lecturer at the B. J. Medical College Poona, and a very widely known and famous surgeon. As a wonderful friend to any lad who went through the Baramati Boys' Home, his help, counsel and Christian friendship will be greatly missed.

His son, Nitán completed his medical degrees at the Vellore Christian Medical College and after internship is now working in Poona preparatory to undertaking post graduate studies.

The tour party that visited India in 1977 appreciated the help of Dr. Parkhe when some were feeling the need of a medical check up. At that time, all appreciated fellowship with him and his wife, Kamal, who has always been a wonderful helpmate for him.

GIFT

The Victorian-Tasmanian Conference Executive wish to acknowledge the receipt with thanks the anonymous gift of \$100 through the mails which was designated for the work of the Aborigines Missions Department.

SUNDAY WORSHIP:

Services are back up to 175-200 and the format of the service has been changed and lengthened. We believe this will be for the better.

BAPTISMS:

Five people were baptised on June 29th. One hundred and eighty five witnessed the service at the shore in front of our flat. Twelve people have been baptised in Madang this year.

NEW DISCIPLESHIP CLASSES:

20 have indicated their desire to accept Christ, attend discipleship classes and be baptised.

TRAINING SESSIONS:

These are held each Thursday night for 20-25 adults. Here we are covering teaching, Christian growth and encouragement for those who desire to become workmen in the church. This

program will continue until late 1980 and will be repeated in 1981.

NEW MADANG WORSHIP CENTRE:

We will be notifying squatters to move from the land and then start clearing the bush. We hope to see Michael Burger soon about plans to be submitted to the town council. I think that Kina 20,000 (\$A26,326) would see us well into the Worship Centre (first building stage).

FUTURE LEADERSHIP POTENTIAL:

Our New Guinean Pastor Pekene is doing well. Hopefully at least one man now at Gokto Bible School will be helping in 1982. A faithful high school student is giving serious consideration that God has called him to the ministry.

APPRECIATION:

All of us here appreciate the efforts of the home office to provide our where-withall. We thank you for your prayers and heart-felt support.

Dr. Dorothy M. Tweddell, M.A. B.D. Ph.D., has been appointed National Research Officer for the Bible Society in Australia, from July, 1980. On the retirement of National Distribution Consultant, Lionel R. Sheehan, in February, 1981, her title will be changed to National Research and Distribution Officer.

Miss Tweddell's doctorate is from the Michigan State University, U.S.A. and her masters degree is from the Graduate School, Wheaton College, Illinois, U.S.A. In her advanced studies she has majored in Comparative and Advanced Education; Cross-Cultural Relations; Journalism; Editing; Social Psychology and Anthropology.

NEW STRATEGIES DEVELOPED FOR WORLD EVANGELIZATION

Widely different fields for evangelism, from secularised cities to the jungles of animists, from Marxists to refugees, from Hindus to Chinese, were subjects discussed at the Consultation on World Evangelization (COWE) which has just concluded its 10-day meetings in Thailand.

The Mini-Consultation studying the people living in inner-city conditions, grappled with the claim that God is biased in favour of the poor. They compiled an exhaustive list of Biblical references to poverty as a basis for private study by those who read the report. Its conclusion was that God is biased to justice, and that it is the world that is biased against the poor in its constant injustice.

Another Mini-Consultation looked at opportunities for evangelism among the world's vast Chinese populations. Its report notes that today at least 22 former Protestant church buildings had been

reopened for public worship in Mainland Chinese cities since 1979. Up to 2,000 weekly worshippers are reported from the church in Shanghai, and house churches have existed in every province of China throughout recent years in much larger numbers than was previously believed.

"All China ministries", counsels the report, "should be conducted in closest co-operation with believers in China. Those engaged in China ministries should also be sensitive to the danger of subverting them by financial inducement that would bring a mixture of double-mindedness and time-serving along with the erosion of personal integrity."

A call for a new emphasis on social action, signed by about one-third of the participants, encouraged LCWE to continue with plans for a Consultation to consider the inter-relatedness of "What Shall They See?" as Christians work through this Consultation's theme of "How Shall They Hear?"



Dr. Dorothy Tweddell

From 1970-75 Dr. Tweddell was based at the Christian Leaders' Training College, Banz, Papua New Guinea. There she was involved in the training, planning, coordinating of a publishing program and a multi-media extension program; also organising seminars, consultations for church-related media and educational personnel.

In 1979 Dr. Tweddell was a guest lecturer at the International Institute of Christian Communications, Daystar, Nairobi, Kenya and a guest lecturer at the Asian Institute of Christian Communications, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

A graduate in Arts of the University of Queensland (1968) Dr. Tweddell has also had wide teaching experience. She was involved in the planning and conducting of holiday camps for secondary school students for the Scripture Union.

At the request of the United Bible Societies, and with the approval of the Australian Council, Dr. Tweddell may undertake short assignments in the vast Asia-Pacific Region.

SOUTH AFRICAN BISHOP INVITED FOR ONE WORLD WEEK

The Right Reverend Desmond Tutu, an Anglican Bishop and General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, has been invited as special guest for the One World Week (September 21-28).

The One World Week gives an opportunity to focus attention on our responsibilities as members of a world community, and to share these concerns with others. The programme is sponsored by the Australian Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Bishops Conference.

As a Christian leader from South Africa, he is able to bring the message of hope for One World grounded in the day to day realities of the struggle for justice and the unity of all in Christ.

Further information about the One World Week programme is available by contacting the national office at 100 Flinders Street, Melbourne, Victoria. A briefing kit for local groups participating in the programme will be available in early July.

MERCY RESCUE

There has been another rescue by the World Vision relief ship, Seasweep. The vessel picked up 358 people, mainly ethnic Vietnamese from eight disabled boats. The boat-people were carried by Seasweep to a major refugee camp on the Anambas Islands, in Indonesia.

According to the United Nations, about 6000 boat-people are making their escape weekly from Vietnam. World Vision believes more are heading south towards Indonesia to avoid attack by Thai pirates.

JOYTONES NOW ON RECORD



Ruth Greenwood, Joan and Arthur Thurrowgood

Toowoomba gospel group the Joytones have their first album released in local music stores and record shops.

The Joytones have toured areas of the United States, the Philippines, and all five mainland states of Australia.

They have entitled their record, "He's the One."

The group comprises Arthur Thurrowgood, his wife Joan, Arthur's sister Ruth Greenwood, and Geoff King.

Arthur and Ruth began as a duo about 20 years ago, later to be joined by Joan when she and Arthur married, and in 1973 by Geoff King.

The Joytones recorded their album last year at Multi-Media Pty. Ltd. studios,

Brisbane, prior to their four-week tour of the U.S.

The group was well received in the U.S. and often received inquiries for tapes or recordings of their work, which they were then not able to supply.

The album is something the Joytones wanted to do for several years.

In a tribute to the Joytones on the album cover Reggie Thomas, evangelist, describes their songs as beautiful and says the listener will find their music heart-touching.

The Joytones have another musician working with them at present. He is Arthur and Joan Thurrowgood's 11-year-old son Chris, who plays base guitar. It was Chris who suggested the record's title.

HOUSE CHURCHES IN CHINA

What is a house church? How is it different from the churches to which we are used? In what ways does it resemble the churches of the New Testament?

Such questions are not answered in the following extracts, taken from an article by an overseas Chinese Christian who visited her native land recently, after many, many years.

She writes:

When I arrived at my home town in Fukien, the person in charge of the closest House Church invited me to preach on that Sunday. I was told that I was free to preach on any subject, and that the service was in two sessions of two hours each.

The attendance that Sunday was about 200, including children and youth, sitting on benches of different types, some of which were about 4 inches in breadth and without a back. I learned that these benches were borrowed from the neighbourhood. No one was talking or sleeping, but everybody was listening attentively while I delivered my long sermons. The morning service was from 10:00 to noon. Then we had lunch together. After a few minutes of rest, they learned new hymns. The afternoon session started at 2:00 p.m. I preached till 4:00 p.m. When the service was over, a man voluntarily stood up and prayed, with tears in his eyes.

I was invited to many other churches in the area, though I could not accept all the invitations.

After the detention of the 'Gang of Four' in 1977, these underground House Churches appeared above ground gradually. At first they were controlled, and sometimes disturbed, by the Cadres. Starting from early 1979, they became increasingly free. A pastor's wife told me that the House Churches are "like flowers blooming everywhere". It is true, because Fukien is a province where there is freedom of worship.

The preachers at these House Churches are not theologically trained. They are voluntary workers. There are also free evangelists visiting the House Churches and holding revival meetings for days.

The regular attendance at these House Churches is over 100. As these Christians are farmers, free of government support, they do not worry about restrictions.

One thing which appeared strange to me was the fact that there are many children and youth among the worshippers. Moreover, I met many new converts, although there has been no freedom of worship for more than a decade. This seemed to indicate that a great many people were converted through personal evangelism.

I had a wonderful time with these rural Christians. Wherever I went, Christians gathered together and I was requested to preach and to spend more days with them. With whichever family I spent the night, I always held family worship where all relatives and Christians around came and joined and all, especially the children, were very happy. — (CCAN)



"TELE-LINK" for Doncaster. The Doncaster church has commenced a Tele-link service for the elderlies and shut-ins in their community. Using Tele-Com Conference Call facilities, six or seven people will have their phones linked to engage in a shared telephone conversation, once a week. Several links will operate depending upon the demand. Picture here, from left to right, Keith Horne (Minister), Dot Wood-Burgess (Church Administrator), Dorothy McNicol (Tele-link Convenor), and the Mayor of Doncaster and Templestowe, Mrs Margaret Seedsman.

HAPPENINGS

Robert K. Leland has resigned as the executive minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Canada. He has held this position for the past seven years.

The Victorian Temperance Alliance has released information on proposed changes to the Liquor Control Act. Copies of the information are available from its office at 130 Lt. Collins St., Melbourne, 3000.

The Australian Religious Film Society has moved its Melbourne office to St George's Building, Warncliffe Rd., Ivanhoe, (P.O. Box 132), Ivanhoe 3079. Phone (03) 497 4022.

Spiritual issues sent book sales soaring in the US in the past decade — though they didn't always deal with the Christian angle. Best sellers included The Exorcist, Jonathan Livingston

Seagull, The Late Great Planet Earth and Chariot of the Gods.

Kidnappers are still holding Gudina Tumsa, the general secretary of the Ethiopian Evangelical Lutheran Church. He was seized in July, 1979 and his kidnappers still remain unknown. His kidnap came as the church celebrated record growth. Created 21 years ago, the church has grown from 20,000 members to half a million.

America has more teetotalers — one out of three adults — than any other country.

The Church of England has appointed a Bishop of Europe. He is 55-year-old John Satterthwaite, who will be responsible for churches from the Canary Islands to Moscow. He said, 'The churches in Europe are far livelier and better attended than the churches at home.'

diary

- NATIONAL
- August
- 17 Annual Offering — Social Service
- September
- 7 Fathers Day
- October
- 1-3 Federal Ministers Seminar
- NEW SOUTH WALES
- August
- 24-29 D.C.E. Camps
- VICTORIA
- August
- 13 C.W.F. Missionary Rally
- 16 Youth Ministry Seminar
- 23-Sept. 7 School Vacation Camps
- September
- 12-14 H.S.C. Camp
- QUEENSLAND
- August
- 17-22 Midgets/Juniors Camp
- September
- 6 Overseas Missions Bible School Rally

SOUTH PERTH GROWTH

Over the last six months the South Perth church has experienced a time of joy and growth. During that period there have been public confessions of faith every Sunday evening and baptisms almost every Sunday night. Up to date there have been 120 public confessions of faith of whom 70% have been first time commitments.

Attendances on Sunday nights have been full to overflowing on most occasions. This has led the church to begin experiments with the use of closed circuit television. On Sunday, July 20 350 were present at the service in the chapel (full house) with another 70-80 in the hall watching the service on a 6' television screen. While extensions to the building or relocation are being considered the use of closed circuit television will continue. — Kevin Denton.

CECIL G. KING

Cecil G. King who would be one of the older graduates of the College of the Bible (graduated mid-1920's) is still active in the Goombungee area. (Present address: "Bonnington" Goombungee, Qld.)

Friends, relatives and members of the church in Toowoomba honoured him on his 80th birthday. Well known for local community work, he has been Chairman of Goombungee Public Hall Committee for 36 years, and Show Secretary for 32 years. A key person in the scouting movement since its inception in the district, as group Scoutmaster he attended most Jamborees.

A few years back he was able to procure a pulpit made and used by Stephen Cheek and forwarded it to C. R. Burdeu. Since then it has been polished and now is a valuable item in the Historical section of Kenmore College in Brisbane.

VENTURE FOR VICTORY BASKETBALL TOUR

The 6th., Australian Venture for Victory Basketball team will tour the Philippines and Hong Kong, December 28, 1980 through to January 27, 1981.

Christian basketballers are invited to write for an application form, immediately, as selection for this exciting missionary outreach, should be completed by the end of August.

28 days . . . touring in the Philippines and Hong Kong, playing . . . basketball. Using sport to earn the right to share the message of Jesus Christ with many of our Asian neighbours. An unparalleled opportunity is available for Christian basketballers to combine their love of Jesus Christ and sport in an overseas tour.

You will cross national and cultural boundaries as you travel by various methods of transport, between villages, cities, islands and countries. Accommodation will be in homes, hotels and village huts.

Write today! for an application form and for further details to: Australian Venture for Victory Basketball Board, Box 1717 G.P.O. Adelaide, 5001. Phone (08) 212 4611.

INNER SPRINGS

LISTEN — WITH YOUR HEART.

I once spent an evening listening to the rock opera Jesus Christ Superstar — some young people's interpretation of the trial and crucifixion of Christ. It was well worth the eighty-seven minutes required to play it through. As with any piece of music that has a story to tell it must be listened to with the heart as well as through the usual channels. Although written in the modern vernacular and "with it" phrases, it loses nothing in drama and tenderness. It closes with an exquisite passage of music that gathers up the whole story with deep sensitivity and feeling for the reverence of the subject.

I am glad, very glad, that I listened to the record and not to the controversy. It made me realize again the folly of being so obsessed with the way a thing is being said that we fail miserably to hear what is being said. A plea for help and understanding may be couched in strange and unfamiliar words but it remains a plea nevertheless. When it meets a closed mind the results can be tragic. "A successful suicide", wrote Graham Green, "may be a call for help that wasn't heard in time." And from Kenneth Wilson in Christian Herald, "One of the most terrible tragedies, I think, is to be a Christian and never hear a lonely cry."

"Take heed how you listen", said Jesus. And He told the people parables knowing that those who were attentive would understand Him and be enriched, while those whose minds were allowed to wander would go away poorer than when they came. How poor or how rich we are will depend on whether we listen with criticism that divides, or with compassion that binds both speaker and listener together in that warm understanding so needful to us all.

O God our father, save us from being insensitive to the needs of others. Forgive us when we are unresponsive in word or deed. Help us to use every opportunity to listen, to comfort, to encourage and above all to love others as you love us. Amen.

James 1:19-27

Florence Rosier

POOR BOXES, DORCAS SOCIETIES AND GROCERY PARCELS

We celebrate in this issue the magnificent work being done by our Social Service and Community Welfare Departments in all states. This work is easily the most spectacular of any that we do as a Brotherhood. It is all out of proportion to our size. Yet organised social service work at a Brotherhood level has only been with us for about half a century.

POOR BOXES, DORCAS SOCIETIES AND GROCERY PARCELS

Before organised and centralised social service, a lot of good work was done in local churches. Many had "poor boxes" in prominent places to receive gifts for local people in need. Dorcas societies met weekly, making clothes for struggling families. Groceries were regularly collected and taken to families hit by sickness and unemployment. (There were no sickness and unemployment benefits then.) Most "charity" was undertaken by local congregations and benevolent societies.

VERY VERY PERSONAL

Where local congregations handled social service there was always the personal touch. The spending of money was accompanied by a lot of friendly caring. People took round the grocery parcels and stayed to talk or to help with a few chores. The Dorcas ladies visited to measure trousers and blouses and chatted in the process. A lot of personal love went with handouts. Large numbers responded to this love and to the Christ who prompted it.

Such intimate personal care is not so easily possible in our institutionalised and centralised work. And local churches have tended to move out of the area of material need with its caring overtones, feeling that the institution is doing the job for us.

CENTRALLY ORGANISED SOCIAL SERVICE WORK ESSENTIAL

Obviously we had to move to centrally organised social service work, with state departments. While in earlier times many congregations were active in such service, many were not. Often congregations in areas of greatest need were themselves too weak and impoverished to do much. And few congregations by themselves could handle the establishment and running of homes for the aged, hospitals, hostels, counselling services, extensive financial aid, and chapchaphaplaincies.

A PARTNERSHIP

Both the centrally organised and the locally expressed concern and care are necessary. There is no reason why we should not have both.

The central body may provide expert counselling in legal, financial and relational problems, but it is the local pastor and church that can play the continuing supportive role while this is going on. The central body provides a home for the frail aged member of the local church, but the pastor and people of that church

Page 13

continue to care for the member. The central body can provide clothes, money, furniture, and housing for the person or family in distress, but this will not be enough unless there is a loving, caring fellowship surrounding the person or family in their struggle.

But all too often the local church hands over to the central department and the aged person is forgotten. The people receiving good counselling do not feel around them the warm fellowship that they need, and it is assumed that all the distressed family needs is clothes money and food parcels.

NOT LESS COMPASSIONATE THAN PREVIOUSLY

Unwitting neglect by some congregations and individuals does not mean that we are less compassionate than we were before there were social service departments. We really care. That is why we support social service. The problem is that it is easy to feel that once having referred people to departmental care, all of their needs are being met. We tend to forget that shelter (albeit the best in Australia), food, clothes, furniture, money and professional counselling are not the sum total of human need. In fact those with material and social needs are often the very ones who have deep emotional and personal needs requiring the care of loving individuals and the support of accepting congregations.

WE ARE AWARE OF THE LOCAL CHURCH'S ROLE

Most of us of course are aware of the local church's need to be in partnership with the central state organisation. But there is another problem. We tend to assume that some one or some ones, are looking after the local church's side of the partnership. We assume that some one is visiting the aged member, and that some one is providing the supportive care for the person who has been referred for counselling, or the family of the alcoholic, or the unemployed person who has been receiving material help. And very often that "some one" thinks that "some one else" is doing it. But not to worry; if no one else is doing it the pastor is there. He usually is, but that is no substitute in such matters for caring members of a local church.

BUT THERE ARE NO NEEDY PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY!

Some readers may be quite sympathetic to what we are saying but know that their local church is in a more affluent area where no one needs the services of either the central department or the local church. Could we suggest to these readers that material need is only one of the many needs of modern Australians.

In affluent areas there are lonely people, insecure people, people who feel no reason to go on living, people with distressing relational problems, and people who are eating their hearts out in anger, bitterness and resentment. They are not "down and outs". They are "up and outs." They live in our street. Their children play with ours. They work at the next bench or desk. They are in our lodge or our bowls club. They need our compassion, and ultimately our Lord.

(Editor.)

OBITUARY

OLIVER, Roy. Roy passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at 50 years of age. Roy's Christian experience began as a teenager at the Maidstone church where he held the position of Bible School treasurer, and at the age of 19 during a Snodgrass-Pollock mission he committed his life to Christ. In 1952 Roy and Lesley Buckley were married by A. E. Hurren at the Footscray church. Shortly afterwards they took up residence in Box Hill and became members there. Roy immediately became involved with the work particularly in establishing a Kappa club for boys, and serving as treasurer of the Bible School. Subsequently he was elected as a deacon and brought his experience and enthusiasm to the office of church treasurer, a position which he held for 12 years. Roy was a plumber by trade and was able to use this ability on many occasions in assisting brotherhood activities such as erection of churches in one day, and other maintenance programs arranged by the C.M.S. He was deeply involved in junior football, and held the positions of president, captain and coach of the local church football club on various occasions. His interest extended to the E.S.C.F.A. where he served as vice-president and was a member of several committees with that association. Roy was always ready to express his views and to endeavour to enthuse others in adopting policies which he sincerely believed were the best for developing the outreach of the church. He shared his Christian expectations with his family and they in turn supported him in the various activities with which he was involved. Since his passing, Lesley and the family have continued to trust in the presence of God.

SMITH, John Douglas.

The church at Doncaster has suffered the loss recently of Doug Smith, after a very long illness. Born in 1913, into the home of Samuel and Olive Smith, he grew up on the orchard of his parents and older sister, are still alive. Douglas was baptised at the age of 28 by A. W. Connor, and from that time on, and until health made it impossible for Doug to regularly attend the services of the church, he was a loyal member of the congregation. Twenty years ago, ill health became a way of life for Doug Smith and arthritis, several bone operations, and then operations for eye cataracts followed. In spite of the pain with which he had lived for so many years, this man never complained and carried on as a person who possessed an incredible inner strength and great will power. He went into hospital approximately three weeks before his death, and his passing was a great relief from the suffering he had so courageously endured. A man of simple faith, not given to taking positions of leadership or responsibility, he was nevertheless incredibly loyal to the church. One of the last visits he was able to make to the church was a week-day visit some few years ago, when he could still drive his motorcar and he came to deliver his offering envelopes on that occasion. This was typical of the man at the point of his loyalty and commitment. The funeral was conducted in the Doncaster church and later at the Templestowe Cemetery. In the passing of Doug Smith, the church lost a member who, truly faithful in all things. — (K.D.H.)

"HAWAII FIVE-O"

420 Australian delegates to the Golden Anniversary World Convention of Churches of Christ had dinner together at the Surf Rider on Waikiki beach, Honolulu on the night preceding the opening of the Convention.

Alan Lee, W.C.C.C. Secretary spoke to us and reminded us of the 50 years of World Convention and the significance of 50. The Convention was held in the 50th State. There were 5000 delegates. There were 500 in the choir. Canada aimed to have 50 delegates and came up with twice the number. There were 50 New Zealanders and almost 500 Australians present. There were 5000 special World Convention Bibles on sale. And we were at the headquarters of Hawaii Five-O.

SHARING THE WORD WITH THE WORLD

The theme of the Convention was "Sharing the word with the World".

The sharing commenced before the celebrations started. Alan Lee told of dropping in for coffee at one of the many eating houses in Waikiki to find that the famous Hawaiian singer, Eddie, was performing. Eddie is a Christian and was singing one of the songs from his religious album. Alan heard a section of the audience joining in and discovered it was the New Zealand delegation. They went up on the stage at Eddie's invitation to sing with him "The Old Rugged Cross".

THE HULA SHOW

Visitors to Honolulu all visit the free Kodak Hula Show that has been running for 40 years for shutter-bugs. The world Convention made up half the audience on the pre-convention day. I never believed that there could be a deafening click of cameras in unison, but it was almost like that. The Convention itself had lots of shutter-happy people prompting a comment from one speaker. He said, "I was at a convention and my camera broke down, to my disgust. Then an exciting thing happened to me. I found myself looking at the world with my own eyes rather than through a camera lens."

The price of film has found us reluctant to do much clicking. We are enjoying the scenery and taking the camera out of its case when the compulsion of a shot motivates us.

BRASS FANFARE

Fittingly the 10th World Convention of Churches of Christ opened with a fanfare from "The Impact Brass" a band of young men and women from Ozark Bible College. For 4 years talented groups of young people from the United States have been raising money to come to the World Convention to add to the worship and inspiration with their skills. Other outstanding groups included the 60 young people of the "New Creation Choir" from Oklahoma and the Youth Choir from First Christian Church, Amarillo, Texas.

Probably the most moving event of the Convention was the performance of the

Handbell Choir of the Woodhaven Learning Centre. These were 30 young people in red and white robes. They are all severely handicapped and retarded. The Woodhaven Centre is run by the Disciples (Churches of Christ) Benevolent Association. These young people played with hand bells a number of pieces, with "Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring" as the climax. They were given a standing ovation. The churches of the area, including President Forrest Haggard's Overland Park church raised the money for their fares.

JUST A COLLECTION OF CHRISTIANS

The great Blaisdell Centre was packed for the opening night with 6000 present. The Mayoress, a Japanese Hawaiian greeted us on behalf of the city. She is an active Christian and a member of the Honolulu Christian Women's Club. Forrest D. Haggard referred to his becoming President because of the untimely death of Barnett Blakemore (an Australian who became a distinguished church leader in America). He said that some of his more negatively minded friends had criticised the W.C.C.C. as "just a collection of Christians". He said that no phrase more aptly described the people known variously as Churches of Christ, Disciples and Christian Churches, who starting with 30 people in Brush Run, now account for 8 million Christians in the heritage of the Restoration Movement. (Editor).

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NUNAWADING (E. C. Keating, C. J. J. Wright, P. B. Burnham). Old Time Music Hall presented by C.W.E.F. . . . "Help, I'm a Parent" seminars held during July . . . Rip-off (weight reducers) raised \$500 for World Vision during 40 hour famine . . . Paul Burnham spent a week pastoring at Ulverstone, Tas. . . . "New Life" featured in Gateway service and following coffee shop . . . C.Y.F. took part in service at North Melbourne mission . . . Gloria Wong gave Chinese cooking demonstration at young wives dinner . . . Number of members at World Convention . . . Springfield Road chapel now debt free . . . Property next door to Pastoral Care Centre purchased . . . Bookshop opened . . . C.W.A.F. had musical afternoon from Bellburn Singers . . . Kindergarten, Intermediate and Primary Depts have taken part in worship services . . . "The Witness" presented during gospel service . . . "The Brothers" from S.A. made final appearance together at worship service . . . C.Y.F. held re-birth dance with Renaissance providing music.

SIGNS OF THE KINGDOM

Australian Council of Churches Meets

Trevor Banks

"Set your mind on God's Kingdom and his justice before everything else and all the rest will come to you as well." With these words the 30th General Meeting of the Australian Council of Churches was called to worship. There was a sense of expectancy in the beginning which was reflected in greater confidence than was evident at the last meeting.

A tribute was paid to **Bishop Graham Delbridge** at the first business session. Bishop Delbridge was president of the Council when he was killed in a motor car accident on June 8.

NEW MEMBER

The **Syrian Orthodox Church** was welcomed into membership. This brings the total membership to 12 churches. The election of **Bishop Gibran** as president for the next two years underlines the growing interest of Orthodox churches in the Council. Churches of Christ had five representatives and two others were present in consultant capacities. **Ian Allsop** was subsequently elected to the executive of the Council. Reflecting the widening concerns of the Council the **Aboriginal Evangelical Fellowship** and the **Australian Fellowship of Evangelical Fellowships** have been invited to send fraternal delegates to the next meeting.

CHALLENGE

To live "as if" the Kingdom were already here was the challenge contained in an address by the General Secretary (**Jean Skuse**). The signs of the Kingdom kept confronting us: There were signs of it in the fellowship we shared; glimpses of real 'Koinonia', (especially at the meal tables). This gave us a glimpse of the real koinonia we will experience at the 'bridal feast' we still await.

The signs were also seen in the presentations and concerns presented. The reflection on the World Mission and Evangelism Conference was an encouragement. The report on conditions in Korea where human rights have been violated reminded us of the faithfulness of Christians under persecution.

Worship segments with which the meeting began and ended and in which we shared morning and night were other signs of the kingdom. The bringing together of different forms of worship were a sign of the growing understanding of each other.

ABORIGINAL ISSUES

These were a major item on the agenda. A challenge was issued to the Christians of Australia through a presentation by three aborigines. The challenge was to the Christian church to be leaders in righting the injustices of the past 200 years. Subsequent motions on this issue were addressed to the United Nations, Federal and State Governments, the World Council of Churches as well as Australian churches and individual Christians.

World trouble spots such as New Hebrides, Kampuchea and others also

brought resolutions from the business sessions. The status of women and unemployment were among the local concerns which were discussed.

CHURCH CO-OPERATION

Church co-operation was, naturally, another area raised. The Covenant for Unity proposals came up for review after resistance from the churches and were commended for further study. The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity was seen as an opportunity for Christians to worship together. The growing membership of the Council and invitations to other groups to share in the activities of the Council have already been noted.

The basis of all such activity is because of an understanding of what God is doing in the world. Two papers in particular set out theological bases; first for the Church, the Churches and the Australian Council of Churches and secondly Inequality in Australian Society. Again we were reminded that the church is not a sanctuary whereby we escape from the demands of life, but rather as the suffering body of Christ, as a sign of the Kingdom he came to establish. For as Bishop Heywood stated in his paper on inequality "In the end it is only a fundamental change in community attitudes which can bring more equality to Australian society. Our Christian task is to bring that about by direct evangelism even more than moral persuasion."

VIC

DONCASTER (K. D. Horne, K. W. Farmer). Seven baptised in past four weeks . . . Mrs Isa Tully held luncheon for Americans touring after World Convention . . . Men's Fellowship tea with Keith Farmer as speaker held . . . Young Family Fellowship involving six families commenced . . . Netball parade held. Trophies presented after service . . . Marriage Enrichment weekend planned.

BERWICK (D. McLeod, N. Bunch). Music ministry continues to develop with a large number participating in group, choir and individual singing . . . Children's Choir "Little Lanterns" presented musical . . . Vacation Bible School with 40-50 volunteering to help planned for next school holidays . . . Fellowship luncheon held for all assisting in services followed by training session . . . Keith Farmer led "Understanding You, Understanding Me" four week seminar . . . Board retreat held . . . Ron Hurrin led 11 a.m. service . . . Guitar group formed to assist in services . . . August to be missionary month . . . Fellowship tea held with Ian and Marie Borham from Spain . . . Study House groups using Getz's book "Building up one Another" . . . Breakfast group studying Orlist "Disciple".

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BANKCARD WELCOME

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MARGARET ST., TOOWOOMBA (Bruce Armstrong). Three attending World Convention . . . Joytones record now available . . . Retrospect singing group rehearsing new musical . . . New office secretary is Kay Higlett . . . Bethel teacher-training class held mid-year exams . . . Open Door held each Thursday morning . . . Bob Aldred, Nat. Singles President, visited and appeared on two local radio stations as well as night meeting . . . Allan King home after surgery, Russell Higlett in hospital . . . Mylo Aged Persons Home now out of deficit funding . . . 22 couples attended marriage enrichment weekend seminar.

DALBY, BRANCH VIEW (B. Thygesen, L. Prior). Four baptisms recently . . . Six welcomed into fellowship . . . Gospel services at Dalby recommenced . . . Kings Kids Club has large attendances . . . Bus purchased for youth and S.S. work . . . Branch View has secured land for proposed church . . . Week of ministry with Open Air Campaigners in Sept. . . . Four have gone to World Convention . . . Conclusion of six years' ministry with Barry and Roberta Thygesen at end of year.

VIC

PRESTON, EAST PRESTON (J. Manallack, P. Wells). Nancy Garth, representing Australia, won speech contest at W.C.T.U. World Convention in Sheffield, England . . . 60 present at Preston C.W.F. Hawaiian night for 28th birthday . . . C.W.F. heard Ron Mill speak on opportunity shops.

GLEN WAVERLEY (R. B. Elbourne). Minister, Conf. Pres. attended North West District Conf., Horsham, backed by Glenairs, Meja Production audio-visuals and Lindsay Croxford as song leader . . . Glenairs presented musical at evening worship service . . . Ladies catered for tea for Conf. reps . . . 302 present at recent

baptismal service . . . Youth 2 raised \$336 in World Vision 40 hour famine . . . Recent guest speakers C.H.J. Wright, (George Warren and John Liu (N.H.)) . . . Inter Good Companions won central zone indoor sports and Inter and Junior Explorers in finals.

OAKLEIGH (Dr C. J. Mackenzie). Minister and others at World Convention . . . Tom Weir, Reg Hillbrick and Williams family from Geelong, recent speakers . . . Harvest Festival produce distributed to C.O.B., Emmaus, Christian Guest Home and Burwood Children's Homes . . . Evening family service held with Bev and Ray Johnson using puppetry . . . Girls Brigade held wake-athon and raised over \$200 . . . Film presented by Keith Skillicorn, Leprosy Mission.

BURWOOD (P. Wing Tang, B. Williams). Final payment made on church buildings . . . Regular Sunday family teas featured at 5 p.m. services . . . C.W.F. held meeting at manse to get to know Bruce and Joy Williams . . . J. Tipping and G. Beard have constructed pigeon holes and notice board in foyer . . . Small prayer cell group meets weekly . . . Recent guest speakers have been Mr Giles (Bible Society), E. Ots, (School chaplain), B. McIntosh (E.S.A.), G. Warren (Dept M.E.D.) and N. Thomas (African Mission).

CHELtenham (A. White, S. Wilson, M. Humphries, D. Smith). Family luncheon held to farewell Malcolm, Beth and Simon Humphries to new ministry at Frankston Baptist Retirement Village . . . Alf White returned from World Convention . . . C.W.F. groups and L.S.S.A. combined to equip and clothe aboriginal boy at Carnarvon . . . Dr Bowes and Dr Tabbernee guest preachers . . . Musical group Voskres performed . . . Five netball teams in semi-finals . . . C.Y.F. conducted table tennisathon over 40 hours . . . CARE group assisting in rehabilitation of recently arrived Vietnamese and Melbourne City Mission expressed appreciation for gifts . . . Anonymous donor contributed swinging glass doors for chapel. These erected by Cam Daff . . . Nellie Griffith resumed ministry at Elanora Home for the Blind after illness . . . Children's Choir under Jennifer Sheppard presented musical. Tom Bandy led team on lighting.

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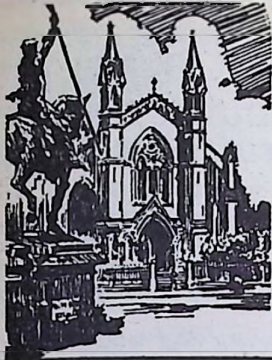
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KINGSFORD Coffee mornings, Bible study groups, film nights held . . . International night held. People wore national costumes and message presented by George Tinker, New Tribes Mission. Supper consisted of dishes of many countries . . . Three baptisms recently . . . Special speakers included Evan Davies, Principal of W.E.C. College, Launceston . . . Five members of board took a turn to preach Sunday evenings . . . Each Sunday 40-60 people sit down to a hot dinner after the morning service.

EPPING (R. Whan, P. Cameron). Training given by John Liu (Principal, Banmatmat Bible College) during four successive evening meetings . . . Paul and Mandy Cameron overseas in Europe and on study course in Israel . . . Many attending World Convention.

INVERELL (R. A. Powell). Mr Powell has accepted invitation to minister with Burwood from Jan. 1981 . . . S.S. held social evening to get to know parents . . . On Education Sunday scholars will participate in special service. Mr Paton, District Inspector of Schools, will be guest speaker . . . C.W.F. sent clothes for Aboriginal child . . . Y.P. screened film at coffee shop program . . . Lyall Wylie, past minister, to speak at 75th anniversary in Sept. . . Charles Cole conducted seminar on work of Social Service Dept. after church luncheon . . . Alan King from W.E.C. recent visitor . . . Tracey Powell to go to Japan in January as Rotary Exchange Student.

sa

BRIGHTON (Neville Morre). Kevin Harvey farewelled after 12 years ministry on June 29. 300 present at final service. A family tea was held at which a cheque was presented to Kevin. Mayor of Brighton, J. Crawford, chairman of local ministers fraternal, E. Penner, and Conf. Sec. Ed Roffey spoke of Kevin's work and community involvement. Ray Dickson and Graeme Miller spoke on behalf of church. Kevin and Gwen are moving to Koorngal Homestead, Williamstown, where they are opening a retreat centre for seminars, conferences and counselling with live-in accommodation.

CASTLEMAINE (Peter Haylock). Marilyn Haylock leading 30 ladies in Know your Bible study group on Nehemiah. Study of Hebrews to commence in August . . . Three baptised in recent weeks . . . Mr Westmore, President North Central Conf., guest speaker . . . Several members travelled to Pyramid Hill for half-yearly convention.

PARKDALE (Bruce Waldron). Two prayer cell groups and one Bible study now meeting weekly . . . Y.P. holding Bible study after evening service . . . Bruce and Sharn Waldron have contacted large number of Y.P. . . . Playgroup commenced organised by Pam Taylor.

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TITTER-ALLEN Mark Allen (Lot 3 Jacksons Rd., Mulgrave) and Mary-Anne Titter (3 Lee Street, Noble Park) happily announce their engagement.

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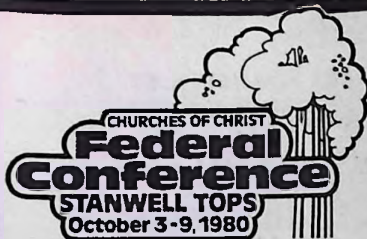
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MARRIAGES

● Cathy Laney to Joe Marson, Epping, N.S.W. ● Sonia Ross to Neville Harris, Shepparton, Vic. ● Shirley Crawford to John Briggs, North Dandenong, Vic. ● Janet McDonald to David Kilsby, Marion, S.A. ● Jenny Threadgold to Greg Burrell, Jane McHugh to Rob Beard, Burwood, Vic.

DEATHS

● Mrs Jean Smith, Margaret St., Toowoomba, Qld. ● Stan Nicholls, Catherine Tysoe, Maryborough, Vic. ● Ida Smith, Horrie Hiron, South Yarra, Vic. ● Mrs Ethel Body, Hartwell, Vic. ● Jas Beason, Malvern, Caulfield, Vic. ● Mrs Mary Lowrie, Mrs Dulcie Pinnock, Fremantle, W.A.

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This tour is a little unusual. Leaving on 6th October we spend 2 nights in Singapore, 5 in Burma, 10 in Thailand, 4 in Nepal and 4 in Hong Kong. There is liberal sightseeing, adequate free time, and an optional Flight over Mount Everest. Our Leader is George Glazier, President of the N.S.W. Branch of the Pocket Testament League. The price is from Sydney \$2199.00; from Brisbane \$2271.00; from Melbourne \$2278.00 and from Adelaide \$2324.00. HURRY!

5. SEE BEAUTIFUL NEW ZEALAND IN THE SPRING

Leaving on October 11th we visit Christchurch, Tekapo, Oamaru, Invercargill, Te Anau, Milford Sound, Queenstown, Alexandra, Fox Glacier, Greymouth, Picton, Wellington, Napier, Rotorua, Waitomo, Auckland etc. This 18 day tour can be extended to include the Bay of Island. Prices are: from Melbourne \$980.00; Sydney \$948.00; Brisbane \$969.00. Bay of Island extension \$205.00. Tour Leader: Rev Russ McKinnon of Warrnambool.

6. WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT WILDFLOWER TIME WITH A.C.T.S./AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC

Our 18 day tour leaves on 20th October and all travel is by luxury coach except for 2 nights by train across the Nullarbor one way. This is a very popular tour and prices are — from Melbourne 1st rail \$1111 (2nd rail \$1070); Adelaide \$984 (943); Sydney \$1143 (1077); Brisbane \$1253 (1187). Concession for Pensioners is available.

7. A.C.T.S./S.M. TOURS VISIT CHINA TOUR 1980

Departing on 23rd October with Leader Gwen Ray we spend 3 nights in Hong Kong; 16 nights in China (Kwangchow, Hangchow, Shanghai, Chengchow, Peking), and 2 nights in Manila. The group is limited to 24 members, and the price from Sydney is \$2465.00. Make your reservation promptly to visit China this year.

8. MIDDLE EAST ADVENTURE TOUR

This fascinating tour takes us to both Bangkok and Singapore and then to Jordan for 3 nights (including Petra), Israel 10 nights, and Egypt 9 nights. Our Leader is Tom Paterson, former Director of Road Transport in the Commonwealth Department of Transport. This is the 'in' area to visit today. Others have copied us but we still have an excellent value tour. Send for details.

9. TOUR TO INDONESIA

We plan to bring back our interesting tour to Indonesia and Singapore during April/May 1981. Our Leader will be Lois Walker (nee Hulse) and details will be available shortly.

- Again during 1981 we will have a good selection of Sitmar Cruise allotments. Send for details, but making your reservations early and avoid disappointment.
- Our next U.S.A./Canada Tour is being planned for May 1981.
- Details of our 1981 Grand Tour of Europe with Israel & Greece available soon.

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MALVERN-CAULFIELD. (P. Nelson, R. Harrison). Church camp held at Yarra Junction . . . 5 p.m. services for July included Festivals of the People of God, two services led by Sister Rosalie of Shalom . . . Miss Betty Willis spoke of problems

of Jewish people who had survived the Holocaust and were now living in Australia . . . Members of St James Anglican church joined this service. Church saddened by the death of Elder-emeritus Jas. Beason.



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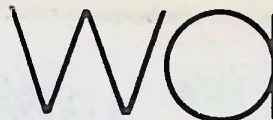
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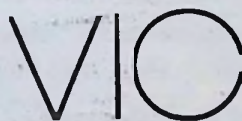
Devote yourself to the reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. (1 Tim. 4:13)



NORTHAM (M. Randell). Joshua Randell recovering from meningitis . . . Two baptisms one in Avon River . . . Sympathy extended to Ernie and Elsie Nixon on death of Elsie's mother, Mrs Host . . . Visit of Kenmore Flying Squad . . . Church to celebrate 75th anniversary in Oct . . . Cottage prayer meetings commencing in three areas of Northam plus one in Bakers Hill.

BULLCREEK (A. S. Fletcher). Four baptisms recently . . . "Foundation Night" family social held . . . Fund raising for building . . . Ladies Bible study using C.W.C.I. Know your Bible material . . . Song group "Image" has released cassette . . . Senior youth meeting fortnightly for Bible study.

FREMANTLE (E. J. Sewell). Our memorial hall continues to be venue for fortnightly Community Activity Centre for "shut-ins" which is a joint venture of churches in the city . . . Friendship Centre conducted by our own members on alternate weeks . . . C.W.F. have contributed \$317 for the half year . . . Women's Auxillary President and members of the Prayer Committee have visited C.W.F.



SHEPPARTON (G. S. Deuble). Dedication of restored chapel. Guest preacher Pat Kavanagh. Dedication by Greg Deuble. Service followed by tea and social . . . Large group of Y.P. travelled to Boronia for weekend of fellowship . . . Nine Y.P. have been baptised and another nine have joined by transfer . . . Six attended Scripture Union youth/teaching seminar at Bendigo . . . Evening service on abortion with local doctors and Right to Life people . . . Daryl Curnick, Wycliffe Translators, showed film.

HURSTBRIDGE Following final service of Mr Quayle's ministry presentations were made from church and auxiliaries. Mr Quayle was responsible for establishing the Over-Sixties Fellowship also Senior and Junior Youth Clubs . . . Brownies held church parade . . . C.W.F. celebrated 19th birthday . . . New hall nearing completion.

SOUTH YARRA (Peter Nelson). Good Companions joined Chadstone for games night . . . Church has been saddened by the deaths of Ida Smith and Horrie Hirons . . . Some members have travelled to Honolulu for World Convention . . . Church grateful for help with presiding and readers.

NORTH DANDENONG (Alan Baker). C.Y.F. group formed . . . B.C.V. and C.O.B. students took part in services . . . Trip held to Coal Creek . . . Jesus Gang (S.S.) celebrated 4th birthday . . . Special family worship with puppet show and "Ground Level" folk rock group planned.

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DONCASTER: One-Up! (03) 848 1546 or 848 8636

ALBURY: Albury Singles Club (060) 25 1910.

NUNAWADDING: Unhitched (03) 877 6077 or 873 4531

FRANKSTON: Peninsula Singles Club (03) 783 3235 or 781 4257.

WOLLONGONG: Wollongong Singles Society (042) 28 4342.

PORT PIRIE: The Singles Club (086) 32 2435

BRISBANE: Gleneagles Singles (07) 379 9122

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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SO

GLENELG 88th church anniversary held. Minister elect Daryl Thorpe guest preacher. Attendances 170 a.m. and 140 p.m. Three Y.P. made decisions and another a week later. At morning service pew Bibles (New International Version) dedicated in memory of Mrs Lillian McGlasson (Member from 1922-1977) whose bequest provided the Bibles. At Fellowship Hour after evening service 22 farewelled to World Convention . . . \$21,000 provided by members as gifts and interest free loans to enable bank loan to be repaid.

GAWLER (R. L. Oke). Recent speakers have been John Nicolle, Africa Inland Mission, and Ron McLean, Fed. Sec. Overseas Missions to whom \$830 was presented for special project in N.G. . . . Evening services in winter at 5 p.m. Tea services held once a month. Margaret Pollard member state Aborigines Committee spoke at tea service . . . Church involved in Indo-China Refugee Assoc. sponsoring a Vietnamese family . . .

MARION (E.P.C. Hollard). Several members attending World Convention including minister Eric Hollard . . . Features at Five service highlighted by baptism. Three others welcomed into fellowship . . . Ken Dawson interviewed on Gideons . . . Recent speakers have been Colin Dredge and George Mathieson who showed audi visual on New Hebrides . . . Robert and Heather Walker contributed musical items at one service while Terry Pomeroy was soloist at another service.

DULWICH, ROSE PARK (T. Bray, T. Lawrie, G. Ellery). T. Bray on long service leave. G. Young is interim minister . . . G. Ellery final year student at Parkin-Wesley involved in Y.P. work . . . Y.P. camp held in April . . . 80 attended family camp at Victor Harbour . . . S.S. now has 42 in roll. 32 attended overnight sleep-in in church hall. Parents and other adults joined them for breakfast. Over 100 attended family worship that followed . . . New Life Mission held with Rev. Alan Jackson from Sydney .

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VIC

WATTLE PARK (D. Prestidge, J. Clapp). Wintertime church services at 5 p.m. . . . Phil Chapman speaker at "Features at Five" and youth tea following . . . Y.P. conducted sweet sale to raise money for C.O.A. . . . Temple Day to be day of thanksgiving on achievement of debt free church . . . C.Y.F. had a "day tripper" night, travelling the tram routes of Melbourne . . . Sympathy extended to Mrs L. James on sudden death of her brother-in-law . . . Mr and Mrs A. Clutterback in Sydney attending Accoustical Soc. Conf . . . Junior Explorers won zone heats of indoor sports. Inters came third.

NOBLE PARK (Ken Clinton). North Dandenong church meets with Noble Park for p.m. service . . . Bible Society speaker at C.W.F. Ladies knitting singlets and jackets for Children's Hospital . . . Church experiences divine healing . . . Annual meeting held — Ken Clinton elected for further 18 months . . . Mrs Beth Hunphries spoke and showed film of the Santo situation . . . Alan Baker guest speaker at p.m. services.

MARYBOROUGH (K. Haythorpe). Maryborough to host Vic. Council of Churches Conf . . . Sympathy extended to Nicholls family. Stan was church property steward . . . Minister attended seminar at Monbulk . . . Speaker from Leprosy Mission.

ESSENDON (A. Clark, J. Keatch). Recent guest speaker A. B. Clark . . . Mrs Lil Orr, Mrs Margaret Reid, Mrs Dot Murphy, Neal Cheal and Vin Collins on sick list . . . 50 spent Queen's Birthday holiday at Riddell as guests of Mr and Mrs Stewart Strack . . . Three at World Convention . . . C.W.E.F. heard Mrs Ivy Grant on life at Fair Haven W.A. mission for Aboriginal girls . . . Fun and games night at home of Mr and Mrs Jim Nissen.

WARRAGUL (B. Crowden). Merrilyn Rochford (Winterton) in hospital . . . Mrs Ivy Berbyshire will soon be in hospital.

WARRACKNABEAL, BRIM, DIMBOOLA (R. W. Marshall). Circuit visited by Jeff Deuble, Lindsey Dewberry, Andrew Smith and Linda Beaver at Y.P. social at Brim, services, P.S.A. at Brim, church anniversary — items by Robyn Baum, Heather Edmonds and David Ashfield . . . Mrs Marshall spoke at Brim Uniting Women's Fellowship and W'beal Civilian Widows . . . Brim C.W.F. conducted stall at football . . . Farewell and commissioning service held for David and Robyn Harmer at Horsham. W. Marshall and W. Gibney taking part . . . Mrs Vera Parsons admitted to hospital.

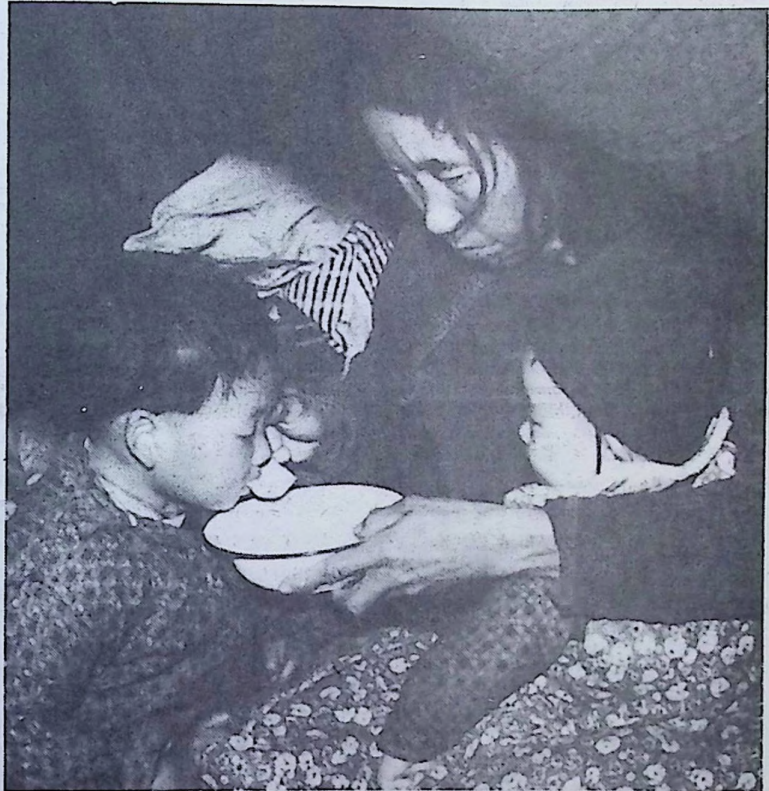
HARTWELL (E. B. Clapp). Service of Induction for Bruce Clapp conducted by K.W. Barton, interim minister for past 10 months. Mayor and Mayoress of Camberwell joined visitors in service, luncheon, and dedication of new manse. Official opening and dedication conducted by R. Elbourne, Conf. Pres. . . Church saddened by death of Mrs Ethel Body member for 57 years . . . Annual offering for Overseas aid reached \$462.

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Ambrosia

by Chris Ambrose

INSPIRATION

Each fortnight I have to sit down to write this column. Sometimes it is easy as there is an idea that is worrying me and I just have to express myself on the subject in some way. I am lucky in that I have a national forum and at times this makes me cautious of the way I express my thoughts. Other times this column comes after research as with the series on the cults. These involve interviews and an amount of reading both pro and anti and then an attempt to write on the group with a definite word restraint and also a need to explain clearly to people the points at which we disagree with the cults.

I have been musing on the way people are inspired and guided by God. I am not claiming the inspiration of the writers of the Bible. That would be stupid of me and I know that I am only just scratching the surface in my relationship with God.

Look at the Biblical writers. Isaiah had a tremendous vision of God which even in reading is awe inspiring. Luke wrote to give an ordered account of the life and teachings of Jesus and the early church. Paul wrote letters often in the heat of the moment to people in churches for whom he was passionately concerned.

Ezekiel had one of the weirdest visions ever — far better than most science fiction creations today.

All the biblical writers were inspired by God in different ways. Their personalities were involved in that inspiration and this can guide us today.

When I look at a subject or an issue today I am looking for guidance as to the best way for me as a Christian to act or to deepen my faith in God.

How then can I obtain guidance. For me a very small booklet "Guidance" by Oliver Barclay (I.V.P.) has proved extremely helpful. The first source of guidance for the Christians should be the Bible. Here we need to look at the whole of the material in the context in which it is written to see the way that God is guiding in various areas. For us living in the 20th century there are some issues that were unknown in the time of the writing of the Bible. By careful examination of the Bible we can gain insights into the broad principles of the will of God which we must then conscientiously apply to the specifics.

But in what other ways can we gain guidance? God gave us a brain and the ability to use it thus we should use our own wisdom and common sense. We should be careful not to rush into actions and thoughts that are based solely on emotions and first thoughts but consider all our beliefs and actions fully.

Advice from fellow Christians whom we respect and who have exhibited should also be obtained. We should never be so proud that we do not ask others what they would do.

Apart from these factors such things as obvious signs should not be avoided. This does not mean we run around carrying out tests like Gideon all our lives. Our feelings should not be ignored as they may well be prompted by God's Spirit within us. Often the circumstances in which we find ourselves will also guide us.

In all that we do however, we should try and place the honour of God first.

THE LAST WORD

To learn to think we must therefore exercise our limbs, our senses, and our body organs which are tools of the intellect; and to get the best use out of these tools the body which supplies us with them must be strong and healthy.

Rousseau

Three-Year-Old-Paints

All morning on the shady side
He worked, while the day grew hotter,
With a brush exactly one inch wide
And a paint can full of water.

Queenie Davison Miller

★ ★ ★

Tourist: "How close are we to land?"

Captain: "About two miles."

Tourist: "In which direction?"

Captain: "Straight down."

★ ★ ★

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